Prospect Cove Revisited

Two football fields end to end – 600 feet – that’s the length of the now-proposed LDG apartment building on Timber Ridge Drive and it is 45 feet high. It is designed to hold 752 people – 188 on each of its 4 floors. All must be at least 18, so all of driving age, but only 211 parking spaces. This monstrous project comes back before the Louisville Metro Planning Commission again on TUESDAY, AUGUST 29th at 6:30, AT KENTUCKY COUNTRY DAY’S AUDITORIUM. The last hearing was on January 31st. At least 300 concerned Prospect area residents were there. Many spoke to the Commission, from 6 p.m. until midnight. Four members of the 7 member Zoning Commission said, on the record, that the project was “not compatible” with the surrounding area, and told the developer, LDG, to go back and try again. Now, LDG has, and the redesigned building (1) has cosmetic changes such as balconies and a pitched roof, but (2) is even larger, by 20,000 square feet, than the previous one, and (3) is a few feet taller.

The Louisville Metro Planning Commission hearings are the one and only place where the facts are placed in the record; so, whatever the Commission decides, those facts are the ones which will be the only facts before whatever deciding body may come later, such as the Metro Council and the Kentucky Courts. We believe we have made a good fact record so far. Now we are working on improving it. A group of residents are meeting to develop more testimony for the upcoming hearing, additional facts to show why this proposed development is so problematic for everyone. If you would like to discuss any thoughts or ideas you may have, please call me (228-1121 or 727-9729), Sandra Leonard (228-6657), or George Brutcher (939-6529).

Other than that, things are running smoothly. We again have been recognized as one of the safest cities in Kentucky. Our budgets for the fiscal year just begun are in place. We have substantial assets and essentially no debt. Our Fourth of July celebration a month ago was the best ever. Our landscaping efforts and results have improved, due very largely to the work of our contract horticulturist Andrea Hanlon. Our beautiful parks are increasingly popular, and our Forestation Board again has earned us the “Tree City” designation. Both our police force and our staff are doing a good job.

If a problem occurs when City Hall is closed – as happened last weekend when an irrigation system was leaking – you can call me any time at 727-9729.

John E. Evans – Mayor
Spare That Tree, Please

One of the many charms of Prospect is how green it is with many mature trees. The City is proud to have been awarded the Tree City USA designation by the Arbor Day Foundation for 9 years in a row. Prospect derives a variety of benefits from our many trees. Attractive landscaping with trees improves property values, and the whole community benefits. Trees help clean the air, and help combat climate change. We do not have the heat island issues found in several parts of Louisville. And the list of benefits goes on.

The City continues to treat ash trees for emerald ash borer, but it is challenging. Trees are lost every year, especially ash trees, which makes it very important to maintain existing trees and add to the tree population whenever possible.

Street trees are covered by Prospect City ordinance. Removing one of these trees is unlawful, and potentially subject to fine. A street tree is defined as a tree planted between the street and the sidewalk where there are sidewalks. When there are no sidewalks, it is a tree sited in the street right-of-way, which may extend into the front yard of the property. Removing failing or dead trees is another issue, but even then, ordinance requires that the tree removal first be reviewed by the Forestation Board of Prospect before any action takes place. Should a tree need to be removed, there are several things to consider. Any work being done to a street tree is to be done by a person or company who meets Prospect City criteria as outlined in the ordinances and holds a current Prospect Arborist permit.

The next step is, hopefully, that the lost tree will be replaced by a new one from the approved tree list. The list is available on the City web site or a brochure with other tree tips at City Hall. Consideration should be given to whether a sidewalk is present, which would suggest a smaller tree. Another consideration concerns the species and the owner’s responsibility for both new trees and existing trees to be limbed up. The required street clearance is 13 ft. 6 inches, and 7 feet above sidewalks. Additional planting guidelines are also included in the ordinances and in the Prospect Tree Guide available from City Hall. And, last but not least, many thanks to all residents for caring about our lovely tree canopy.

In Lieu Of A Loo The Park Won’t Do!

It is becoming an ever increasing problem in the city’s parks. We are talking about inconsiderate and low class pet owners who do not clean up after their dogs do their...umm... “business”, leaving it for others to deal with, or those think that the parks are their pet’s toilet and it’s ok to just leave it. When asked about the problem Prospect Parks and Maintenance Director Ron Cundiff said, “It really is amazing how crass and nonchalant some people can be about this. I was recently told by one resident that I had called down for letting his dog go in the landscaping, “If I could explain to the dog that he shouldn’t go in the landscaping I would, but the dog just doesn’t understand.” I was literally flabbergasted. You could tell he really did not care”

Please remember to clean up after your dogs while out for a walk! IT’S YOUR DOG, IT’S YOUR MESS! It’s not just considerate, it’s the law! According to City of Prospect ordinance §51.03, taking “Spot” out for a walk “without possessing a suitable device for the collection and sanitary disposal of animal waste” could cost you a fine.

Sign Up For “City Mail” Email Alerts

Through “City Mail” residents can be alerted to everything from meetings and city events to special situations that may require temporary street closings. Another advantage is that you can receive the city newsletter before it hits the mail.

One thing that makes “City Mail” so unique is that unlike the spam that you inevitably receive through your e-mail, “City Mail” can be directly responded to by simply clicking your reply button. This gives our residents yet another direct line of communication with City Hall.

Anyone who would like to sign up for this free service should e-mail Ron Cundiff at citymaint@prospectky.com with their name and street address.
Epistolary novels have a long history, beginning with Richardson’s *Pamela* in 1740. More recently, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society* was loved by many readers. Essentially, novels like that are a series of letters to friends or diary entries, so readers must suspend their disbelief as to how so many people, leading busy and often perilous lives, find the time to write long, detailed letters after narrowly escaping lecherous masters, Nazis, fire, flood, or heartbreak. The latest such novel, Jennifer Ryan's *The Chilbury Ladies’ Choir* features a brave little band of women in southwest England in 1940 as the men go off to war, and the Nazi bombers roar overhead. Each woman writes long letters or journal entries, complete with exact reproductions of dialog and with time to comment on the state of the roses or clematis. From the start an experienced reader can guess what the outcomes of each life will be, the interest is in how and when it all unfolds, I think this is a love it or hate it book. Diabetics might approach it with caution.

*Drinking Water* is all about something that, unless one lives in Flint, Michigan, isn’t something most people think much about – we wash our cars, water our lawns, we might, even, actually drink some straight from the tap. And what a miracle that is – imagine clean, abundant, cheap water. And Harrolds Creek and the Ohio River roll on every day, almost as invisible as air and just as critical to life. James Salzman’s book is actually a brief world history, from Biblical wells to Roman aqueducts, to Benjamin Franklin. If there is such a phenomenon as time travel, Franklin would be a good candidate. Along with his roles as kite flier, statesman, publisher, founder of the postal system, fire companies, and public libraries, he was prescient about water. In 1790, his last will left a 100,000 pound bequest to secure land around a creek above Philadelphia to build a dam to provide fresh drinking water to the city. It took New York City 30 more years, and thousands of deaths from contaminated water, to finally build the Croton Reservoir.

Sandy Tucci
City Hall............228-1121

City Hall, Police And Library Hours
Monday ..........................8:30 - 6:30
Tuesday - Thursday.........................8:30 - 5:00
Friday..................................8:30 - 3:30

Prospect Police Department (General Information)....228-1150
Prospect Police Dispatch.................................228-COPS(2677)
Police,Fire & EMS Emergency .............................911

Everyone owning property within the Prospect city limits should be receiving their 2017 city property tax bills within the next few days

- If you have not received your bill by August 25th, please contact City Clerk Laura Taylor at 228-1121 or citydesk@prospectky.com.
- Payment is due no later than Saturday, September 30. The postmark date will apply to mailed payments. Payment may be submitted by mail using the envelope included with your bill, in person during business hours, or by the after-hours drop box by the door behind the Gallopalooza horse.
- We accept payment by check or cash only.
- If your tax bill is paid out of escrow, it is your responsibility to forward the bill to your financial institution.
- If you need to change your mailing address or apply for a homestead or disability exemption, contact the PVA at 574-6380 (Jefferson County) or 222-9320 (Oldham County).

Each bill also comes with 2 City of Prospect car stickers. Affix the sticker to the bottom left corner of your vehicle’s rear window as you are facing it. While use of the stickers is voluntary, the City has found that they assist officers in determining the ownership of vehicles while patrolling neighborhoods. If you need additional stickers, please contact City Hall at 228-1121.