



PROSPECT CITY NEWSLETTER



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Volume 1, 2018

Good Bye Holly! We Will Miss You!

The staff at City Hall wishes to say a big THANK YOU to Holly Height as she begins her new endeavor in Seattle. Holly came to Prospect via the City of LaGrange eight years ago as the City Clerk and has been the City Administrator for the last 4 years.

Under her guidance, the office has reached a entirely new level of efficiency and cohesiveness. Her touch in all the city's events like the 4th of July and the Fall Festival, which was her brain child, will be hard to top. From everyone at City Hall we wish you the best and want you to know you will be sorely missed by us all.

2018 State Of The City

The year 2017 was dominated by the City's fight to prevent the massive (501 feet, 4 stories) apartment building from happening, just a few feet from Prospect's northwestern border on Timber Ridge Drive and across the street from our Smithfield Greene neighborhood.

The development was announced to me in August, 2016 by the developer, LDG, and their attorney. It was to house up to 752 occupants in 198 apartments. Prospect's City Council promptly passed a unanimous Resolution opposing it and authorizing an initial \$100,000 for that fight. Because it was outside the City limits, by a few feet, it was in the jurisdiction of Metro Louisville. Metro's Planning Commission held two lengthy evening hearings, in January (over 6 hours), and again in August of 2017 (over 4 hours). More than 400 Prospect residents came to each of those hearings and many gave testimony. (The Metro Planning Commission members all are appointed by Metro Louisville's Mayor Fischer, who supported the project.) The Commission then voted 6 - 0 to recommend the rezoning necessary for the project to go forward.

The matter then moved to the Metro Louisville Council for a vote on the Planning Commission's favorable recommendation. Those 26 Council members were legally bound to consider only the facts which had been developed before the Planning Commission. The Council deliberated, and voted, on October 26th. Our Metro Councilman,

Property Tax Notice

Currently there are 27 properties in Prospect with unpaid 2017 city property taxes. Notices have been mailed to the address of the property owner of record for each of them. If you aren't sure if your city property tax has been paid for 2017, feel free to call City Hall at 228-1121. Liens will be filed with the county clerk on any remaining delinquent bills in early April.

Be advised that even if your address changed or the property changed hands, you are still responsible for making sure the bill is paid on time and for paying any late penalties if it is not. Address changes should be reported to the PVA of the county where your property is located:

Jefferson County: <https://jeffersonpva.ky.gov/>

Oldham County: <http://oldhampva.com/>

Scott Reed, presented an Ordinance to REJECT the Planning Commission's favorable recommendation, relying upon five facts in the record. Metro Council then voted 14 to 11 to reject the recommendation. 14 was the absolute minimum necessary, as it is a majority, not of those voting, but of the entire membership (26) of the Council. Mayor Fischer did not have a veto, but he refused to sign the ordinance. It went into effect without his signature.

Since then, LDG has sued both Metro Louisville and the Metro Coun-

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2018 State Of The City (Continued From Page 1)

cil, asserting that the Council's vote was arbitrary and not supported by any facts of record, among other allegations. Prospect has intervened in that suit, and most recently has filed a Motion to Dismiss the Complaint for failure to allege facts required by the statute which gives the right to complain about a zoning ruling by a fiscal court or, in this case, the Metro Council. Decision on that Motion is pending. Either way, it is my opinion that their suit will not succeed.

While all this was going on, the City continued to function smoothly and efficiently. Two years ago, I wrote the following: "Our City is in good shape in many ways. Our finances are sound. We consistently operate below budget. Our various neighborhoods are beautiful, each in its own way, and the City works hand-in-glove with the various neighborhood associations to keep them that way. Our City parks also are beautiful, thanks to foresight of the mayors and council members who initiated them, and the many volunteers who continue to work to develop and maintain them. A pair of Bald Eagles has been checking out Putney Pond. The new Orange Trail of Harrods Creek Park, just opened, is amazing! Annual community events such as the Fourth of July Celebration at Cowley Park and the Fall Festival at Little Hunting Creek Park are very popular and well attended. Various neighborhoods also have their own annual and even monthly events. Several of our neighborhoods have their own swimming pools, clubhouses, and tennis courts. The Hunting Creek Country Club, established in 1964, ten years before the City, provides the opportunity for an excellent 18-hole golf course, fine dining, a pool, tennis courts, and a beautiful clubhouse.

Your government, including the Police force, is running smoothly and effectively, with good people. The City Council of six operates openly with civility and sometimes good humor. Resident participation, in parks, library, forestation, environmental services, compilation of a Prospect History Book, code enforcement, and ethics compliance, as well as neighborhood associations, is high. Although not part of City government, the Harrods Creek Fire Department, located here, is a valuable, indispensable asset for both fire protection and emergency medical needs."

All of this is still true. Our residents continue to work on improving our already great community. The Community Plan Committee, headed by Councilman Luke Schmidt, is at work on planning for a mixed use path (in reality, a wide sidewalk) which will improve pedestrian, and bicycle, connectivity, and also is working with LG&E on a plan to install attractive street lighting along US 42. Our Parks Committee, headed by Linda Wardell, with Councilman Stuart Miles, has just completed a permanent canoe launch on Harrod's Creek. Our Library is used every day by many; anyone may join, Prospect residents for free. Councilwoman Sandra Leonard for years has spent many hours every week keeping it organized and well stocked, collecting amazing donations of books and conducting book sales, and presenting talks by noted (frequently local) authors. Susan Nicholson, the Council's newest member, and a practicing CPA, is providing valuable oversight of the City's finances, financial statements, and audit reports. Councilman Frank Fulcher keeps a sharp eye on what the City should, and should not, be doing, a valuable service to the City.

I have long believed that small governments which are close to their citizens work best, and Prospect is proof of that. Not only I, but every Council member, everyone at City Hall, is available to address any issue or problem. In a true emergency, of course, call 911. Short of that, if you want to speak with the on-duty police officer, at any hour, call 228-COPS and tell the dispatcher who you are, where you are, what the problem is, and that you need the Prospect duty officer. The City Hall phone is 228-1121, and is answered during working hours every weekday beginning at 8:30 a.m. Additionally, I continue to hold "Coffee With The Mayor" sessions at Starbucks every Friday at noon. Our Police Chief, Jeff Sherrard, is usually there with me. The monthly City Council meetings provide another opportunity for citizen input. They normally are held on the third Monday of the month at City Hall starting at 7 p.m., usually last about an hour, and the minutes of those meetings, and also the complete transcripts, are available to anyone.

John E. Evans John E. Evans, Mayor

Council meeting minutes available online

American Legal Publishing, which hosts the Prospect city code in their online library, is in the process of uploading our City Council meeting minutes as well. When they are done, all minutes dating back to the first City Council meeting on April 4, 1974, will be available online. To explore this fully-searchable archive, visit http://www.amlegal.com/codes/client/prospect_ky/ and click on "Meeting Minutes," or "View Code" if you're interested in city ordinances.

COMING SOON

Are You A Business In The City Of Prospect?

Due to the newsletter going digital we are no longer confined by the size and content constraints that previously prevented us from allowing local businesses to place ads in the city newsletter. Beginning with the next issue there will be a "Local Connection" page where Prospect businesses may place a small ad if they like. There will be no charge for this service. However, there are some guidelines that **MUST** be adhered to:

- ☛ Only businesses located inside the city limits *with a valid City of Prospect Business License* may advertise.
- ☛ All ads must be under 140 characters not counting spaces or punctuation (we reserve the right to edit for space).
- ☛ Due to the infrequency of publication, ads should **NOT** contain time sensitive data (IE: sales, promotions, etc.) The city is not responsible for missed deadlines caused by non-publication.
- ☛ Photos and/ or logos must be supplied in suitable format (.jpeg or .tiff preferred) and of suitable quality for reproduction. Photos and logos will be figured in to overall size of ad and will be adjusted for size.
- ☛ Ads submitted in photo form should be no more than 4"(wide) x 5" (height).
- ☛ All submitted ads will run without change in each upcoming issue until a new ad is submitted or we are told not to run it any more.
- ☛ Quality of items submitted must be suitable for reproduction. If it looks bad on your computer, it will look bad on everyone else's, so put your best foot forward. We reserve the right to add backgrounds or other edits for functionality and aesthetics.
- ☛ Ads will be placed in no particular order and it is solely up to the discretion of the editor as to final placement. The city reserves the right to not publish ads or to end this service completely at any time.

**ALL ADS MUST BE IN DIGITAL FORM
NO "HARD COPY" WILL BE ACCEPTED**

Advertisements may be emailed to:
Ron Cundiff at citymaint@prospectky.com

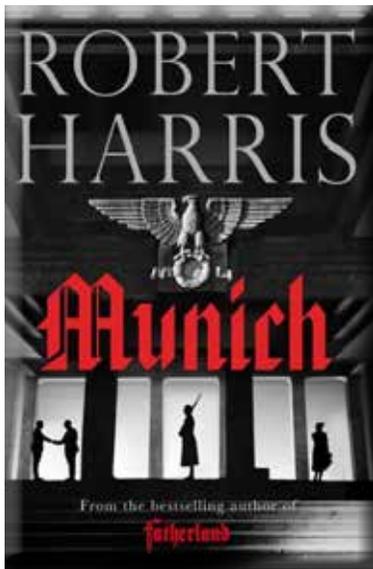
OR

Dropped off at City Hall on disc. (No thumb drives please)
Please include contact information in case of questions.

We are pleased to provide this free service to the city's businesses and if we can answer any questions please feel free to call at 228-1121 or email us.

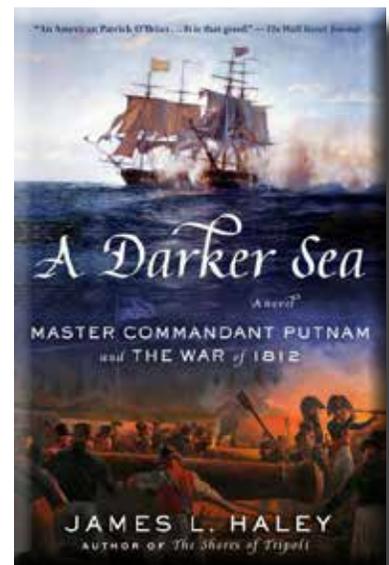
Prospect Library News

Reviews

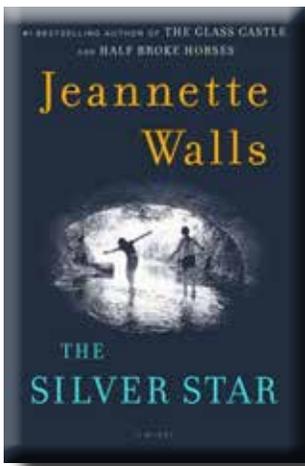


Lately, all of us have been experiencing “what ifs” moments. How could the shootings at the Florida high school been averted. We can think, regretfully, of scenarios that might have saved lives. Robert Harris’s latest book, Munich is like that, a fictional account of an attempt by a few figures in Germany and in Britain that might have managed to kill Hitler before he took over Czechoslovakia. What if they had? Harris evokes the old “pre-war” Munich with ardent crowds of Nazi worshipers, banners and flags with swastikas emblazoned on them, and the usual cast of actual players. Not only Hitler, but fact Goring with his flashy uniforms, Mussolini, Chamberlain are here. The key fictional characters are two old friends from Oxford university days, an Englishman from the Foreign Office, an expert translator, and his German counterpart and a plot to put evidence into Chamberlain’s hands proving Hitler’s long-term plan to begin a war so that Chamberlain wouldn’t sign the infamous “peace in our time” document. Munich has lots of atmosphere, derring-do, villainous SS officers, and, of course, failure in the end. Harris is an old hand at this kind of novel, mostly set in and around World War 11, but my favorite of his is Pompeii, set just before the volcano erupts, burying the city, and told from the viewpoint of an engineer, responsible for the water system, who notices, before the eruption, that fountains are drying up.

Good historical novels like Harris’s are a painless way to learn history. Bad historical novels are just a bore, which is sadly what James Haley’s A Darker Sea - Master Commandant Putnam and the War of 1812 is. Sometimes what a story needs is a good sidekick- Barney Rubble, Jackie Gleason’s Ed Norton, Sherlock Holmes Dr. Watson, Jack Aubrey’s Stephen Maturin. With no buddy to interact with, Haley’s Putnam is reduced to writing long letters to his beautiful young wife in Connecticut. In those letters, that barely include an “I miss you” or “how is the apple orchard doing?” He recounts benign slavery on a South Carolina plantation, the problems of impressment, etc. while he sails on various American war ships. There is a perfectly odious British officer, and several sea battles. I’m sure to anyone involved in one, each battle was different, but in Haley’s sea battles, cannons fire, ships are holed, masts collapse in a tangle of canvas, ropes, and heavy timber, and, down in the hold, a surgeon toils. One feels much like the other, and there are more than a few. The nautical side of the War of 1812 usually gets short shrift, focusing instead on the burning of the White House and Andrew Jackson’s Battle of New Orleans. So Darker Sea attempts to show the men, ships, and battles that take place in the Atlantic. But a side kick would have helped move this story along. *Sandy Tucci*



Jeannette Walls understands adversity, dysfunction, and the importance of love and acceptance. **The Silver Star** explores bravery, the everyday kind, where courage is needed each morning to carry on in the face of yesterday’s failures or difficulties. In a small community in California, in 1970, two sisters live with a maladjusted mother. Liz is 15. “Bean” is 12. Mom is an aspiring singer/actress, past her prime, but not past chasing her dreams. She often leaves the girls alone for several days at a time. They see and accept their mother’s limitations as a parent and they seem to have a loving, if not completely healthy, relationship. Mom fabricates stories, to flesh out her dreams when nothing is happening. After one involved fabrication, Bean realized Mom has lied to them for weeks and forces her mother to face the truth. Mom breaks down, taking her leave to “find herself”. Liz and Bean find a note the next morning, and some money for chicken pot pies, their one staple when they are cooking on their own. After several weeks and a scare with the local police, Liz and Bean decide to take their remaining pot pie money and travel back to Virginia, to the



home place their mother left, in anger, many years ago. In Virginia, new ties are forged to the family home and to Uncle Tinsley, their mother's only remaining relative. Bean, whose father never married her mother, discovers more family and a Silver Star, a medal awarded her father for bravery.

This book tells a story of conquering modern-day monsters, comparing truth to fabrication, and family restoration. When Bean gets her father's Silver Star, she tries, in love, to award it to someone she loves. The reader is left to consider who is the hero of the story. To whom should an award for bravery be given? Perhaps each over-comer is a hero. Sometimes the bravest action one can take is to stand, live and overcome. I thoroughly enjoyed this read and would recommend it. The absence of bad language and graphic scenes opens up this book to a wide age-range of readers.

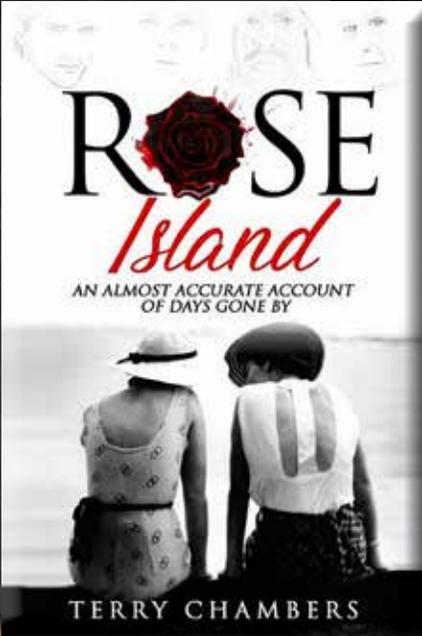
Jill Vidito

THE CITY OF PROSPECT PROUDLY PRESENTS

LOCAL AUTHOR

TERRY CHAMBERS

Meet the Author And Book Signing




Join us and learn the story about the old deserted amusement park located on the Ohio River and 14 Mile Creek in Indiana. Storyteller Terry Chambers both entertains and educates as she shares tales about the 'Story Behind The Story' in writing her historical fiction debut novel.

Friday, April 13

2:00 P.M.

OPEN TO PUBLIC
ADMISSION FREE

In the Lawrence C. Falk
Reading Center
Located at City Hall



Spring Wildflower Walks At Harrods Creek Park

Saturday, April 7 at 1PM (rain date-April 8)

AND

Saturday April 21 at 1PM (rain date April 22)

So you say you wouldn't know a May Apple from a Trillium? Well then you just may be interested in this upcoming event! Once again this year we will be offering not one but two **SPRING WILDFLOWER WALKS** at Harrods Creek Park! The walks will be led by Prospect residents Jaquelyn McGrail and Carolyn Embry and will showcase early flora common to Prospect's woodlands.

The walks will be held on Saturday, April 7th and again on Saturday, April 21st.

Anyone interested in attending should dress for the weather and wear sturdy walking shoes or hiking boots. Some sections of the trails may be muddy so a walking stick for balance might be a good idea as well. Interested parties should meet at the Montero Drive entrance, or if you are uncomfortable with the long hill and creek crossing at the beginning of the Blue trail, join up with the group in the parking lot at the bottom of the hill. Both walks are at 1PM and there is no charge for either. Call City Hall at 228-1121 with any questions.



RUMPKE REMINDERS

All trash, recycling and yard waste must be out for collection no later than 6:00 A.M. on the morning of your scheduled pick up day. Rumpke will not return for waste set out too late.

If you have a large amount of trash and/or recycling, it must be set out by the street. Rumpke will only take as much waste from your back door as they can fit in one of their 95-gallon totes. Please also break down any cardboard boxes you may have.

Looking For A Deal On Some Good Books?



Then you need to be at Prospect City Hall on **May 18th and 19th for the Spring Prospect Library Book Sale! 9am to 5pm**

We've got deals on HUNDREDS of gently used books, tapes and CDs.

Book donations are always welcome and are tax deductible! If you only have a few to donate (5 or less) they can be placed in the book drop. Please bring large donations in or ask at the front desk for assistance.

Parks Take Heavy Damage From Flooding



Above: Nearly 15 feet of water covered the lower section of what is normally the start of the Orange Trail and the new launch.



Above: Prospect's Parks and Maintenance's very own Rusty Waters (background) and Bryan Whitlow clear mud and debris from the Eagles Way Boardwalk.



Water, water everywhere.....to paraphrase the old saying. The recent historic flooding has taken a toll on a large area of Prospect and unfortunately the Prospect Park system was not excluded from the carnage. Now that the flood has receded the damage has become all too apparent.

Due to the huge amount of silt that accumulated, two of the four trails at Harrods Creek Park have had to be closed until it dries up enough for repairs to be made. The city is asking all residents and park visitors to refrain from walking on the Orange and Red trails until further notice. Walking in the silt, which is up to twelve inches thick in spots, is not only dangerous but causes irreparable damage to the trails themselves. The fewer foot prints left in the muck will result in a smoother surface after it dries making re-seeding and repairing much easier.

On the upside, although it is still a bit muddy of a walk to get to, the new kayak and canoe launch survived quite well and is fully operational. For the hikers the Blue and Green trails are high and dry and still open.

The Putney Pond and Woodlands Trails fared better with only minor damage to the recently completed Eagles Way Wetlands Trail. Please be patient and respect the TRAIL CLOSED signs as we work diligently to restore the trail system.



Left, above and right: Nearly 95 percent of the lower trails were inundated with between 2 and 12 inches of fine silt and debris. This has made navigating the red and orange trails nothing short of dangerous.



Above: Believe it or not, there is a boat launch under all that mud. Below: River levels rose so high that the dam at Putneys Pond was over run and submerged.



City Hall, Police And Library Hours

Monday 8:30 - 6:30
Tuesday - Thursday.....8:30 - 5:00
Friday..... 8:30 - 3:30

Contact Information

City Hall.....228-1121
Prospect Police Department (General Information)....228-1150
Prospect Police Dispatch.....228-COPS(2677)
Police, Fire & EMS Emergency911

Email Contacts

City Clerk.....Laura Taylor.....cityadm@prospectky.com
Dir. of Public Works.....Ron Cundiff.....citymaint@prospectky.com
Code Enforcement.....Mike Lesch.....citycode@prospectky.com
Chief Of Police.....Jeff Sherard.....chief@prospectky.com
Police Dept.....Jill Vidito.....citycops@prospectky.com

Mayor And City Council



John Evans
Mayor
mayor@prospectky.com



Jeff Stovall
333-5656
jstovall@prospectky.com



Sandra Leonard
228-6657
sleonard@prospectky.com



Susan Nicholson
228-3002
snicholson@prospectky.com



Frank Fulcher
228-5128
ffulcher@prospectky.com



Luke Schmidt
292-2898
lschmidt@prospectky.com



Stuart Miles
777-5042
smiles@prospectky.com