



PROSPECT CITY NEWSLETTER



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Volume 4, 2020

Most of the calls I get are about one or the other of two things: (1) what is the status of the two low income apartment proposed developments, and (2) complaints about construction activity and noise coming from the new subdivision underway behind Sutherland, called "The Breakers." As to the first, there is no recent news. "Prospect Cove," the proposed four story, 198 unit building along Timber Ridge Drive and near the Kroger gas station, which the City of Prospect and hundreds of our residents (as well as nearby residents) opposed, was turned down by Metro Council three years ago, and LDG then sued Metro seeking a judicial reversal. Prospect intervened in that suit as an additional party, and the case is now awaiting the court's decision. If, as I expect, Metro and Prospect win, that does not necessarily mean it will go away. LDG could start over, going through the

same process in the Metro Planning Commission and the Metro Council as it did in 2017. I do not know whether it will, or when. At the other end of Prospect, near Oldham County, along US42, LDG also proposes to build a 160 unit apartment development, apparently now called "The Veridian." News about this proposed development also has been quiet for many months.



Taylor Achieves Certification

Congratulations to City Clerk Laura Taylor, who earned her Certified Municipal Clerk designation in July. CMC status, awarded by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, requires extensive education and experience that demonstrates the clerk's ability to fulfill their responsibilities and meet the challenges of the complex role of a municipal clerk. Laura has served as Prospect's City Clerk since September 2015.

"The Breakers" is an

upscale residential development of 70 lots which currently is underway, situated on 50 acres (formerly the McCall Farm) between the rear of Sutherland and the River. The calls I get are from Sutherland residents who live immediately adjacent to the development, and primarily are about the noisy operation of heavy equipment before 8 a.m., which is contrary to Prospect's nuisance ordinance. I have issued one citation, and met and talked with the developer, and this seems to have calmed down. I get a report every day from our police, who check every morning. In addition, the Sutherland Homeowners Association (not the City) is in court over several issues it has with the development.

Another, but smaller, new upscale residential development, to be located between Hunting Creek Drive and Covered Bridge Road, has been proposed. It contemplates 13 large building lots. It will be called "Hunting Green." Construction has not begun. Construction traffic will be from Covered Bridge Road. When completed, its entrance will be from Hunting Creek Drive.

(Continued Next Page)



Coffee with the Mayor

Due to Covid19 "Coffee With The Mayor" will be conducted via WEBEX Friday, September 4th, from noon to 1pm. An email will be sent out prior to the meeting with an invitation via the city's email system "Citymail". If you are getting this via email link you are already signed up.

Internally, this is an interesting, even unique year. Because of an order from the Governor, our receipt of property taxes (which account for more than half of our yearly revenue) will begin occurring about 8 weeks later than usual. I recently met with Councilman Don Gibson, our bookkeeper Len Mariani (who also is a C.P.A.), and City Clerk Laura Taylor, and we determined that the City will not run out of cash to pay our bills. In addition, the City's revenues for the fiscal year just ended (June 30, 2020) exceeded its expenses by \$447,000, most of which were added to our reserves.

Another unique feature is that I now am operating under last fiscal year's budget while the City Council continues to determine the budget for the current fiscal year (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021). There are numerous capital items that need attention, such as new air conditioning on the second floor of City Hall, and a new cupola for the roof (the old one is leaking from age).

Speaking of City Council, the candidates will be on your ballot in November. The Council is elected every two years. Five of the current incumbents are seeking re-election, and two new candidates. So seven candidates are vying for the six positions. As they will appear on your ballot, they are: Doug Farnsley (new), Sarah Odell (new), and incumbents Frank Fulcher, Sandra Leonard, Don Gibson, Greg Huelsman, and Harold Schewe. The Council is very important. Its budgetary function SETS POLICY FOR EVERYTHING the City does or does not do. It also makes, or remakes our laws.

Finally, I want to publicly thank the great team we have at City Hall: Our entire highly professional police force, including Chief Jeff Sherrard and Assistant Chief Tony Denham and eleven officers and also their police secretary Jill Vidito (We have been ranked one of the five safest cities IN THE STATE for several years); Public Works Director Ron Cundiff, whose responsibilities cover our entire physical plant, from landscaping to the roof, from the parks to our streets, and who is a Man of the Renaissance (he also composes this newsletter and our annual calendar); our Public Works force, Rusty Waters and Bryan Whitlow; Mike Lesch, who not only issues the permits but also enforces our code, usually through persuasion; our courteous and friendly receptionists, Julie McGovern and Antoinette Dirksen; and, in particular, Laura Taylor, our City Clerk, but also my administrative assistant, who is on top of every detail. Prospect owes them all a great deal. We also owe thanks to the many volunteers who devote hundreds of hours, on the Forestation Board, the Parks Committee, the Ethics Commission, the Code Enforcement Board, and in the Library. These are the people who make Prospect a great place to live.

John E. Evans
John E. Evans, Mayor

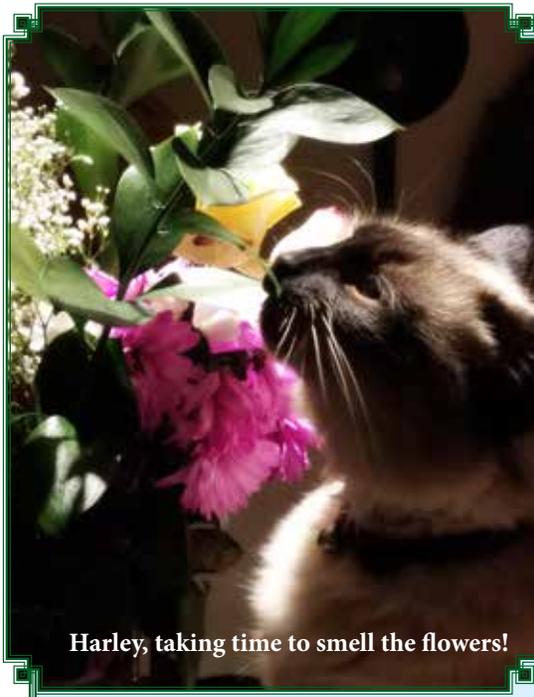
Summer Tree Care

Prospect's beautiful tree canopy is the result of care taken by the City and its residents to plant and protect our trees. Street trees in Prospect and many other cities occupy an unusual place – home owners plant them, water them, rake their leaves, but, unlike the trees in the back yard, they are subject to regulation by the city because they abut public sidewalks and streets. They benefit our community in many ways. They add character to neighborhoods, clean and cool our air, aid in storm water management, and add value to our properties. Home values are generally from 5% to 20% higher when trees are on the property.

You can make your trees happier and more beautiful by watering any "new" tree, one planted in the last two years, twice a week if Nature doesn't do it for you. Run your hose at a moderate flow rate for a few minutes until the root ball is saturated.

Walkers shouldn't need to duck as they walk under sidewalk trees (trim them to 8 feet above sidewalks) and drivers should not cringe as they drive under street trees (trim them to at least 13.5 feet above the street.) Note these ordinance requirements are intended for mature shade trees so that care should be taken to avoid over pruning young trees.

Be sure to contact the Forestation Board via City Hall (228-1121) before you remove any live or dead street trees or their roots. This is because street trees impact the appearance of the entire neighborhood. Tree service companies working along City streets need a Prospect Arborist permit. This ensures that the tree service has the proper liability insurance, a protection for the property owner. For more tree tips, pick up a copy of the Prospect Tree Guide from the reception area of City Hall.



Harley, taking time to smell the flowers!

2021 Already?.....

Well not exactly, but it is time to start thinking about is the 2021 City of Prospect Calendar! We have had multiple requests, so back by popular demand, next year's edition will again feature, **"The Pets Of Prospect"**.

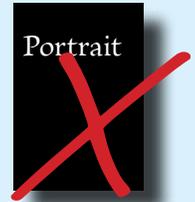
Do you have a picturesque pooch? A chromatic kitty? Flattering ferret? Or perhaps, maybe even a glamorous gecko? No matter what your "little buddy" is, we are asking for photos of him or her to feature in the 2021 calendar!

Pictures may be submitted to Ron Cundiff by either burning them to a disc and dropping them off at City Hall, or if under 10 meg in size, emailed to citymaint@prospectky.com. You **MUST** include your name, address and your pet's name with the submission.

Now the important part! All photos must be high quality digital photos in landscape format, that is to say oriented "long ways" not "up and down" as the diagram (left)



RIGHT!



WRONG!

shows. Remember your picture must be able to be blown up to roughly 8x10. If the quality is questionable small, it will look worse larger.

Pictures will be selected based on uniqueness, picture quality, overall cuteness and relativeness to the calendar. Deadline for entry is November 1, 2020. ABSOLUTELY NO PICTURES CONTAINING WHAT COULD BE CONSTRUED AS PUTTING THE PET IN DANGER OR DISTRESS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

Parks Update

This spring and summer, our community has embraced Prospect City Parks as never before. Especially now that many activities are restricted or canceled, our natural areas offer something for everyone—a place for physical activity, learning opportunities through observing plants and animals, and a way to socialize with family and friends outdoors with appropriate physical distance. Recent storms caused a fair amount of damage in the parks but city employees and the parks committee were quick to identify the damage and determine corrective actions. Professional repairs were rapidly completed to the erosion damage at the canoe launch in Harrods Creek Park, and to the land adjacent to the spillway of the dam in Putney Pond & Woodlands Park. City personnel cleared fallen trees that were blocking trails in all city owned parks. In two places, trails were rerouted around trees that were too large to be removed. Repairs to the Eagles Way Boardwalk in Little Hunting Creek Park have also been completed. Trail and boardwalk repairs were completed through the efforts of city employees and volunteers from the Prospect Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee. Our city is fortunate to have both employees and volunteers who are committed to making and keeping Prospect parks safe and available to all.



An unfortunate victim of the summer storms was the once state champion Kentucky Coffee Tree located in Putneys Pond and Woodlands. The tree was snapped off by apparent straight line winds that tore through the area.



The City of Prospect is also the beneficiary of many Scout Eagle Projects in our Parks. The most recently completed project is an information kiosk in the Harrods Creek Park parking lot, built by Amanda Dewey (see article page 4.) Two additional Eagle Projects are expected to be completed in the next few months.

If you have not visited our parks, I invite you to do so soon. If you are interested in volunteering with us, please call City Hall with your contact information, and a member of the committee will respond to you.

Linda Wardell, Chair Prospect Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee

Eagle Scout Project Benefits Harrods Creek Park

The City of Prospect would like to extend a hearty “Thank You” and an exuberant Congratulations to Ms. Amanda Dewey on completion of her Eagle Project and making the rank of Eagle Scout! An easy accomplishment by no means!

Troop 30 Life Scout - Amanda Dewey completed the construction of a new Kiosk adjacent to the parking lot at Harrods Creek Park. She is the first female Scout in her Troop to complete all of the requirements for Eagle rank.



The Dewey family has made additional contributions to Prospect Parks over the years as both Amanda's twin brother Collin and older brother Seth also completed their Eagle Projects here too.

Citizen Participation In The Age Of Covid-19

The coronavirus pandemic has disrupted our lives in many ways. Back in March, as infection rates grew, Mayor Evans ordered that City Hall be closed to the public, although City employees continued to report to work as usual. In addition, the regular City Council meetings in March, April, and May were canceled. Eventually, City Council was able to work out a plan that enabled them to resume their regular meeting schedule in such a way as to minimize risk of exposure to COVID-19 while also enabling the public's ability to observe and participate in those meetings.

First, while the majority of City Council members choose to attend meetings in person, some officials prefer to participate remotely via WebEx video conferencing. Those participating remotely do so using their computer microphones and cameras, while in the Council chamber our audiovisual system makes 2-way broadcasting possible. In addition, although social distancing guidelines limit the number of people who can attend City Council meetings in person, we also live-stream the meetings to YouTube so anyone can watch remotely, whether during the proceedings or after the meeting has ended. It typically takes approximately 24 hours for the meeting to post to YouTube after the live stream has ended. The link to our YouTube page is: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDMvzIGZUK_tpL2HXSagU7w/featured. Or you can click the link on the front page of the city's website.

City of Prospect residents may request a WebEx invitation for the purpose of addressing Council. To do so, email City Clerk, Laura Taylor at ltaylor@prospectky.com at least 24 hours before the meeting is scheduled to begin. **YOU MUST provide your name, address, and topic you wish to speak to. You must be signed into the meeting BEFORE the scheduled start time to be admitted. Due to sound quality issues ALL MICROPHONES MUST REMAIN MUTED UNTIL CALLED UPON TO SPEAK AND AFTER SPEAKING, FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN EXPULSION FROM MEETING. Please minimize all background noise before speaking.**

We hope you'll take advantage of these opportunities to keep apprised of City business. If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out to us at 228-1121 during regular business hours or email City Clerk Laura Taylor at ltaylor@prospectky.com.

Census Takers To Follow Up With About 56 Million Households Nationwide

AUG. 11, 2020 — This week, the U.S. Census Bureau began following up with households nationwide that have not yet responded to the 2020 Census. Based on the current self-response rate of 63.3%, the Census Bureau estimates it will need to visit about 56 million addresses to collect responses in person. Up to 500,000 census takers across the country will go door to door to assist people in responding to the 2020 Census.

Census takers began following up with households on July 16 in a limited number of areas and added additional areas each week thereafter. Starting Aug. 9, all remaining offices began following up with households nationwide.

“America has answered the call and most households responded to the census online, by phone or by mail,” said Census Bureau Director Dr. Steven Dillingham. “To ensure a complete and accurate count, we must now go door to door to count all of the households we have not heard back from. During this phase, you can still self-respond online (at 2020census.gov), by phone (at 844-330-2020), or by mailing your completed questionnaire.”

How to identify a census taker

In July, census takers began interviewing households around the country that have not yet responded online, by phone, or by mail to the 2020 Census. The U.S. Census Bureau is working to complete data collection as quickly and safely as possible, while ensuring a complete and accurate count as it strives to comply with the law and statutory deadlines.

Check their badge

All Census Bureau employees will present an official ID badge. It will include:

- > Their name
- > Their photograph
- > A Department of Commerce watermark
- > An expiration date

What to look for:



Official
2020 Census bag



Census Bureau
issued iPhone

If you are unsure, you can contact the U.S. Census Bureau:

Upon request, the census taker will provide their supervisor's contact information and/or the phone number for the local Census Bureau regional census center.

The regional census center supervises the activities of all census takers who canvass communities and specializes in answering questions about them.

How to avoid a visit from a census taker:

Most households have received an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. The best way to avoid a visit from a census taker at home is to complete the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail.

Connect with us:

@uscensusbureau

For more information:

2020CENSUS.GOV

D-FS-GP-EN-500

**Shape
your future
START HERE >**

United States[®]
**Census
2020**



Feeding The Deer? You're Not Doing Them Any Favors!

It has come to the City's attention that some residents are feeding deer from their yards. Besides the obvious effect of causing deer to lose their natural fear of man, there are several reasons why people shouldn't feed deer. Improper food, such as corn, can result in potentially fatal digestive problems such as rumen acidosis.

Feeding also encourages more deer than normal in a specific area. When deer are concentrated into one place, diseases that are spread by contact become an issue as well. Direct contact, or indirectly through contact with waste, food, urine and feces that accumulate at the feeding site are a major risk for the spread of diseases.

Also providing food too close to roadways can increase deer versus auto accidents. Rather than feed deer, land owners should plant native trees and shrubs that provide sustainable food (nuts and fruits) and cover (evergreens).

It's Your Newsletter, Tell Us What You'd Like!

Now that the newsletter has gone completely digital, we are no longer bound by "the rule of four." This limited page numbers to an even number and confined the amount of information that could be included in the publication with leaving blank space. This opens up room for a theoretically unlimited number of pages!

Now that being said, what would you like to see in the newsletter? What changes would you make? Suggestions may be sent to:

Ron Cundiff at
citymaint@prospectky.com.

Tell us what you like, or don't like, about the newsletter and help us improve it!

City Ordinance Reminder

Between the summer and covid many of us are planning new projects around our homes. Before beginning, please remember to review the Prospect Code of Ordinances to ensure you are up to date on any rules and regulations that may pertain to your projects, as well as any permits that may be required. Some examples such as pools, fences, decks and gazebos require a permit be issued by the City, a permit fee and a refundable deposit. Dumpsters and PODs also require a permit and deposit fee, and **must be placed in your driveway or yard**. All boats, trailers and RVs are to be stored inside of a garage except at times of loading, unloading, repair and/or maintenance, at which time a 72 hour permit may be requested at City Hall.

It is also the time of year that some of us may want to have a yard sale. All yard sale signs are to be under 1 square foot in area and may only be placed on the actual day of the sale. No signs of any kind are to be placed on public property as they are causing damage to our street signs and light posts. This includes signs for missing pets.

For more information on these and all of our city ordinances, please visit our website at <http://prospectky.us/prospect-ordinances/> or contact Prospect Code Enforcement Officer Mike Lesch at 228-1121 .

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 toters. Please also break down any cardboard boxes you may have.



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.....cityclerk@prospectky.com

Dir. of Public Works.....Ron Cundiff.....citymaint@prospectky.com

Code Enforcement.....Mike Lesch.....citycode@prospectky.com

Chief Of Police.....Jeff Sherrard.....chief@prospectky.com

Police Dept.....Jill Vidito.....citycops@prospectky.com

Mayor And City Council



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