

HIGHLANDS-DOUGLASS NEIGHBOR

PUBLISHED BY THE HIGHLANDS-DOUGLASS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

HIGHLANDS-DOUGLASS REFORESTATION PROJECT UNDERWAY 75 NEW TREES PLANTED OCTOBER 25-26

During the weekend of October 25-26, the Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association, with help from Boy Scout Troop 40, undertook Phase I of its Reforestation Project. Fifteen neighborhood volunteers, along with 20 Boy Scouts, planted and mulched 75 trees, ranging in size from four feet tall to over 14 feet tall, throughout the Highlands-Douglass neighborhood. They planted several varieties of oaks, tulip poplars, American Lindens, bald cypresses, and Princeton Elms. Although it was hard work, 12 hours each day for some, it was well worth the effort to see all of the new trees in our neighborhood. I would like to thank all those involved for their hard work and donation of materials that

made this project possible.

The Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association offset the cost of this project by subsidizing the cost of the trees. Homeowners had the option to purchase trees for \$25 (HDNA members) or \$35 (non-members), as well as the opportunity to upgrade to a larger tree for an additional cost, which was significantly below retail.

On average, HDNA spent \$45 per tree. The total investment totaled \$4,900 and included saplings, tree tags, water bags, mulch, and other supplies.

In addition to these 75 trees, Councilman Tom Owen's office has agreed to match HDNA's planting with one of their own.

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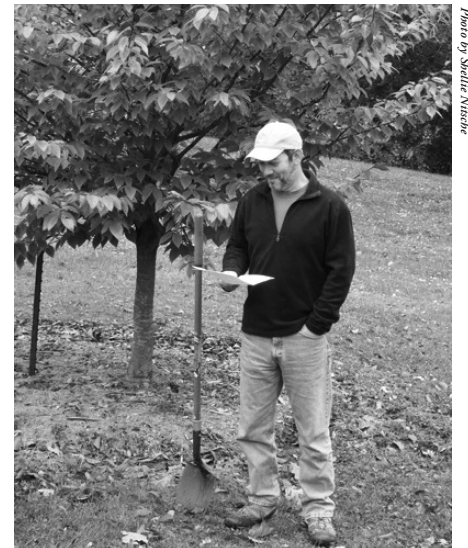


Photo by Sherry Connell

Erik Siegel, HDNA Beautification Chair, makes his remarks before the first groundbreaking.

– HDNA Ad Hoc Committee to Help Douglass Community Center – UNCERTAIN CHANGES LIE AHEAD AT DOUGLASS COMMUNITY CENTER

In June, HDNA learned that Metro Parks was planning to close the Douglass Community Center this fall. Thanks to efforts by Councilman Tom Owen, \$50,000 was allocated for the community center, earmarked to bring the fire alarm system up to code and to allow the facility to remain open during the next fiscal year, through June 30, 2015.

Metro Parks accepted HDNA's invitation to speak at the July board meeting regarding the Center's possible closure. Many concerned neighbors, along with Councilman Owen, attended and their presentation was followed by a question and answer session. Representing Metro Parks were Jason Canuel, Ben Johnson, BJ Levis, Erika Nelson, Marty Storch, and David Wilding.

Hoping for a transparent, straightforward exchange between the board, members of the neighborhood and Metro Parks representatives, many of Metro Parks' responses left more questions than answers regarding the Center's long-term neglect and its future.

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The Douglass Community Center

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Fall 2014 edition of the Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association's (HDNA) newsletter, *The Neighbor*.

This year, the Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association's board of directors has had an influx of many new board members who have brought an exciting new energy to our organization, resulting in increased membership, new events and projects. In my 9 years of serving on HDNA's board, this year's group is one of the most diverse and well-rounded, creating a beneficial impact on our association. Developing new ideas and letting go of old, limited interests have us ready for next year with even more neighborhood centric programs and events planned. As space is limited here, I cannot possibly name everyone – board members, volunteers and neighbors – who have contributed their valuable time, making this year such a huge success. Thank you all for your contributions!



Jay Douds, President

I hope you have enjoyed each of our HDNA sponsored events this year – the Highlands-Douglass Movie on the Lawn and the Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social. You may have also recently noticed many new trees (75) that have been planted throughout the neighborhood as part of our Reforestation Project. In order to preserve one of the features best associated with our neighborhood – tree lined streets, we are funding the Highlands-Douglass Reforestation Project and have just completed Phase I of our three-part plan.

We always welcome new ideas and volunteers for new programs and events. Please send us an e-mail at info@highlandsdouglass.org, attend a committee meeting or our Annual Meeting this January (see page xx for details). As we are exploring new options to fund our yearly sponsored events and programs, I am asking you to join or renew your membership (and even make an additional contribution), with the enclosed remittance envelope. Dues are just \$12 per household per year and run January through December. While the events and projects we fund are open and free for your and your family to enjoy, they cost money and your dues help fund them. 🍁

—JAY DOUDS

Won't you be our Neighbor?



In this issue, you'll find a convenient membership envelope enclosed. For just \$12 per household per year, you can renew your existing membership (if you joined before September 2014) or become a new member of the Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association. Not only will you make new friends and connections, but your membership will help us serve our community by:

- Working with your Metro Council representative to improve our neighborhood
- Promoting safety and security in our area
- Maintaining and improving the integrity of our park side neighborhood through the Highlands-Douglass Reforestation Project and more
- Bringing neighbors together by sponsoring free neighborhood events such as the Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social and the Highlands-Douglass Movie on the Lawn

Memberships run January through December and include your entire household.

Simply fill out the enclosed envelope with your check and mail today! We're thrilled to have you! 🍁

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Are there neighborhood happenings, big news, a good neighbor or something you would like to share or learn about on our pages in *The Neighbor*? We'd love to hear what you have to say!

Please contact us at newsletter@highlandsdouglass.org with your story ideas and leads.

We look forward to hearing from you! 🍁



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YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS VITAL TO US!

As Chair of the Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association (HDNA) Membership Committee and a long-term board member, I want to share with you why membership in your neighborhood association is of vital importance to our community.

Your membership creates a sense of community among those who live within our neighborhood boundaries, and your annual dues help provide entertainment opportunities for you and your family. Our most recent free events included the 10th annual Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social in Douglass Park and the Highlands-Douglass Movie on the Lawn. These are only two examples, but our Events Committee is working diligently on new ideas as we move forward into a new year and would love to hear your ideas.

Highlands-Douglass is considered one of the most beautiful neighborhoods in the city due largely to our abundant tree canopy. However, because of age and forces of nature, a large number of our trees have been lost over the years. The Beautification Committee is currently working on a program to replace our tree canopy through reforestation and preservation. Your annual dues help buy new saplings at a minimal cost for property owners, and provide education on care and preservation. The flower garden at Douglass Park is also maintained with your annual dues, as is the rose garden on Bardstown Road.

Safety is always a concern. Members of our Safety Committee work hand in hand with Councilman Owen and our Fifth Division police officers to ensure potholes are filled, stop signs are replaced, graffiti is removed and damaged sidewalks and streetlights are repaired. Our Safety Committee can also assist in developing a block watch program in your area, and help address neighborhood questions and concerns.

Another perk of membership is the publication of our free newsletter, *The Neighbor*, which helps keep you informed and up-to-date with people, businesses, and events that are a big part of our neighborhood. The Communications Committee works diligently with member volunteers to deliver the newsletter to your doorstep twice a year. If your hobby is photography or you enjoy writing articles, you are always welcome to join us! The Communications Committee also maintains our Facebook page ([Facebook.com/highlandsdouglass](https://www.facebook.com/highlandsdouglass)), and creates and distributes external communications for the association.

If you are new to our neighborhood or have not yet joined our Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association, I hope this information will encourage you to become involved. If you have questions or would like information regarding any of the above committees, please feel free to email me at info@highlandsdouglass.org. 🍁

—MURIEL HANDMAKER

CHAIR, MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

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A PRIMER TO TREE HUGGING: TOP THREE REASONS TO PLANT A TREE

I will begin by saying that I'm a tree hugger, pseudo-literally. So, I could go on and on about the benefits of trees for our environment, our neighborhood, our health, and especially our souls. However, out of respect for your valuable time and the limits of your patience, I will stick to three key points: **heat island effect**, **property value**, and **crime**.



and the results are due at the end of this month. The long-term goal will be to match Atlanta's 45% tree coverage. Currently only five of 70 Louisville neighborhoods studied meet that goal. Sadly, Highlands-Douglass is not one of them.

HEAT ISLAND EFFECT

Heat island effect is a term that is new to me. As defined by the EPA, it "describes built up areas that are hotter than nearby rural areas." This is basically due to the ratio of trees to cement. In a city such as Louisville, the temperature can be up to 5.4°F higher than surrounding rural areas. That difference can climb to 22°F by the time evening falls. Maybe you're cold-natured like me, and you're thinking, "The warmer, the better!" Well, the problems associated with that difference, regardless of your internal thermostat, include increasing energy demand, air conditioning costs, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, heat-related illness and mortality, and water quality. In fact, heat island effects affects all of us, especially in Louisville. A 2012 book by Brian Stone of the Urban Climate Lab at Georgia Tech evaluated data collected from America's fifty largest cities. Louisville, KY ranked number one in heat island effect. Stone found that in addition to problems associated with being located in the Ohio River Valley, Louisville's tree canopy was "one of the sparsest of any city I have seen in the country." Tree cover in our larger metro area was around 30% compared to 45% in Atlanta. Margaret Carreiro, a Uof L Biology professor, found that Louisville lost 9% of its tree cover from 2004-2012; 8% were lost in back-to-back wind and ice storms in 2008 and 2009. That's 12 acres of tree canopy a year or 735 trees annually. The Tree Advisory Commission has been studying the problem

HIGHER PROPERTY VALUES

I've known at least three families in the past few years who wanted to live in the Highlands, but chose other neighborhoods because they could get more house for the money. That means our property values are high – we have architecturally appealing older homes in an eclectic, artsy area convenient to downtown, with great local shopping and parks, and we are adjacent to restaurant row. However, another significant factor is our mature landscape. Although we do not meet the 45% goal yet, the stately trees that we do have are appealing to home buyers. FrontDoor.com reports, "Several recent nationwide surveys show that mature trees in a well landscaped yard can increase the value of a house by 7-19%." The USDA Forest Service conducted one of those surveys, finding on average, a 10% bump in property value due to healthy, mature trees; and in 2007, a Portland, OR survey revealed that homes with street trees, trees between the sidewalk and street, brought in an average of \$7,130 more than homes without. So when we say we want to "green" our neighborhood, we're not just talking about leaves!

LOW CRIME RATES

More studies in the past decade have also shown a connection between trees and low crime rates. A Baltimore study conducted by the U.S. Forest Service and the University of Vermont showed a strong association between trees and a decreased crime rate. "Neighborhoods with 10% more tree canopy cover experienced 11.8% less crime." Trees show criminals that you care about your neighborhood, and that you're not going to be an easy mark.



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"Several recent nationwide surveys show that mature trees in a well landscaped yard can increase the value of a house by 7-19%."

— FRONTDOOR.COM

A 2001 University of Chicago study of public housing projects found that buildings with more vegetation had 52% fewer total crimes and 56% fewer violent crimes. Even when controlling for other variables that may affect crime rates, the link between trees and lower crime rates held. Some people may think that trees give criminals a place to hide. Both the Baltimore and Portland studies addressed this and found that low growing, unkempt vegetation such as scrub trees and brush were associated with an increase in crime rates, however, taller trees with a broad canopy strongly correlated with a decrease in crime. The researchers all concluded that scrub brush allows a criminal to skulk about and hide while mature trees show that a homeowner cares about their property and is subject to more effective authority. My thinking is a little simpler – trees have an authority of their own. They are stately and strong – a comfort to a climbing child or anyone on a hot summer day, but their presence is not so welcoming to someone with ill intent.

PLANT A TREE WITH US!

The Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association Reforestation Project is currently underway. A thorough survey of our neighborhood has been conducted, and prime locations for tree plantings have been identified. Our first big planting just took place at the end of October, and Phase II begins next fall. Please contact us at beautification@highlandsdouglass.org if you are interested in a tree for your yard, or if you'd like to help the effort by donating or volunteering. 🍁

—SHERRY CORNELL

YOU'RE INVITED TO HDNA'S 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

Join us as we elect our 2015 Board of Directors and Officers.
Check our website at highlandsdouglass.org for more details.

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HIGHLANDS-DOUGLASS REFORESTATION PROJECT UNDERWAY

75 NEW TREES PLANTED OCTOBER 25-26

Continued from front page

Mr. Owen's office has pledged to plant another 22 trees in public right-of-way areas by the end of the year, bringing the total number of new trees to almost 100 in our neighborhood. It has been decades since that many new trees have been planted.

This has been the first year of a multi-year plan to reforest our neighborhood.

In the next few years,

HDNA hopes to plant several hundred more trees, eventually moving from canopy trees, like the ones planted in October, to understory trees. These smaller trees will be used on more difficult sites, like under power lines or in small yards.

There are many benefits to adding more trees to our neighborhood. A good tree canopy helps decrease energy bills during the summer, increases both aesthetic and property values, and improves the environment by providing cleaner air and reducing heat islands. Perhaps most importantly, reinitializing our tree canopy will provide future generations with a extraordinary neighborhood to live in. 🍁

—ERIK SIEGEL

HDNA BEAUTIFICATION CHAIR



Saplings await planting.



Photos by Shellie Nitsche

Above, from left to right: Beautification Chair Erik Siegel, Marcus Grady (from Boy Scout Troop 40) and Reforestation Project Chair Joshua White ready a spot for one of the project's saplings at a Highlands-Douglass neighbor's home.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:

Joshua White, *Committee Chair*

Barbra Berman
Boy Scout Troop 40
Ellen Bufche
Matt Chisim
Larry Coones
Sherry Cornell
Jordan Davis
Melinda Durbin

Marcus Grady
Matt Grady
Shellie Nitsche
Erik Siegel
Chase Shelton
Lisa White
Robert White

And everyone else involved...

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– Join or Renew Your Membership Online –
HDNA NOW HAS A WEBSITE!

Now there's another way to stay in touch with Highlands-Douglass neighborhood. HDNA is excited to announce their new website is up and running. You can join or renew your membership, find information about HDNA sponsored events, block watches, the Highlands-Douglass Reforestation Project, HDNA board members and meetings, and much, much more. Visit highlandsdouglass.org to see what we're all about! 🍁

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THE FIRST HIGHLANDS-DOUGLASS MOVIE ON THE LAWN: PIRATES, VILLAINS, AND GIANTS VISIT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

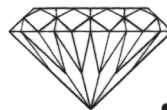
This past summer, the Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association debuted its first ever Movie on the Lawn event. Blankets and chairs covered the front lawn of Woodbourne House on the evening of Friday, June 27, as neighbors enjoyed a free screening of *The Princess Bride*. While watching the adventuresome cult classic, attendees snacked on popcorn, candy, popsicles, and delicious grub from the Bánh Mì Hero food truck. The Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association hopes to continue this event on an annual basis, so keep a lookout for more information on our next screening in the spring.



Photo by Jordan Davis

*Highlands-Douglass Neighbors filled the lawn in front of Woodbourne House for HDNA's outdoor screening of *The Princess Bride*.*

The Highlands-Douglass Movie on the Lawn couldn't have been possible without the generous assistance of both our volunteers and sponsors. A big thanks to all of the Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association members for their hard work. Another big thank you goes to our amazing sponsors: Douglass Boulevard Christian Church, Great Flood Brewery, Park Community Credit Union, and Vines and Canines. 🍀



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2014 ICE CREAM SOCIAL SUMMER FUN!

Free ice cream on a hot summer day—what could be better? How about face painting, snow cones, a bouncey house, and the Bubble Bug? All of this and more was included in this past summer's Highlands-Douglass Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social.

Laughter filled the air as neighbors came together at Douglass Park for an afternoon of family fun. In fact, a record number of friendly faces were present at this year's event, and a good time was certainly had by all.

Perhaps you missed out this year? Luckily, this is a free annual event entirely funded by our Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association, so be sure to mark your calendar for next year!

A special thank you to volunteers Rich Campbell, event chair and founder, and board members Jordan Davis, Valarie DeSalvo, Barbaro Dorf, Jay Douds, Malinda Durbin, DG Mawn, and Erik Siegel. We'd also like to thank Ed Lloyd, Jeff Hogue, and Sally Niehoff for their hard work.

Lastly, a big thank you to Ed Fallon and Park Community Credit Union for providing popcorn for the event. 🌿



Dorothy Danak and her granddaughter Madeline Danak enjoy ice cream and snow cones.




Lilly Cornell, right, gets her face painted by artist Molly Peters, who is also a Highlands-Douglass Neighbor.



A long line forms at the Haywood Dairy ice cream truck, waiting for their free ice cream cones, compliments of Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association.



Above: The Bubble Bug is always a hit! Left: Pat McKiernan (left) and George "Rock" Coddington (right), perform as the band Stone Free (named after the Jimi Hendrix hit). The band members joked that they'd both passed kidney stones, so they were now "stone free."



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– THE LITTLE GREAT IDEA THAT COULD – ONE FOR ALL STORE

All of us have Great Ideas – things we think we could do or would like to do, but then the thought passes and the idea fades.

Back in 1994, Les Downs, a member of the board of Community Health Trust (CHT), had the idea that there should be at least two permanent sources of revenue to support agencies working to raise awareness of and provide health services to persons living with and affected by HIV and AIDS. While the revenues raised from the Louisville AIDS Walk (begun in autumn of 1994) were strong, he felt a second source of revenue should be developed.

Les' Great Idea was to develop a retail store built on the thrift store model (gently used donated items), combined with a consignment store, with the profits benefitting Community Health Trust (then) and House of Ruth and Glade House (now), all local HIV/AIDS charities. To ensure a higher quality of merchandise was offered, not all items brought to the store would be accepted by the store for sale.

His business background and research led him to conclude that just one person would be needed as the final decision maker – thereby treating the store as a business, rather than a fundraising project. This person would also be responsible for upholding the store's vision, keeping everyone focused on the store's goals, and managing its day to day operations.

Les raised the necessary start-up funds through a focused fundraising campaign. A well-heeled friend hosted a cocktail party that included her other well-heeled friends, along with Community Health Trust's top donors, where each guest was asked to make a personal donation, as well as enlisting others by signing a fundraising letter drafted by Les.

Les and members of the CHT board then selected a site on Bardstown Road near Douglass Blvd., located in the back half of the former Simmonds department store.


The lease was secured in September 1995, and the doors opened in January 1996, with much fanfare and plenty of media buzz.

Now, nearly 20 years later, Les remains as the only paid staff, with a volunteer crew of 12. Jayne McClew, a volunteer for almost 18 years, said the secret for returning is both the joy of

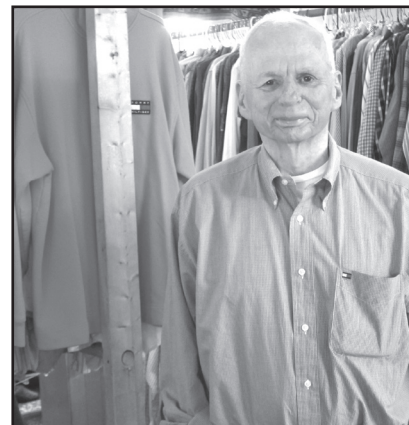
the work atmosphere led by Les' inspiration and the joy of helping such a great cause. The cause is still the same – providing support for those living with and affected by AIDS and HIV.

The non-profit store continues to operate as a business, with volunteers applying to work at the store and being assigned hours and responsibilities like any other paying job. In

lieu of pay, volunteers can see new merchandise on the sales floor first. As Jayne told us, "There are always great deals to be found, with a lot of value in many of the items offered for sale."

As you clean out your closets in preparation for the winter, think about donating your best gently used items to the One for All store. And while you are in the store, take a look around – you may find that perfect vintage treasure, a unique gift for someone on your list or something special for your own home. Your donations are tax deductible and your purchases help others in need. 

– DG MAWN



Les Downs, One for All's founder and manager, stands near the men's clothing racks. One for All features one of the largest selections of quality gently used men's clothing in town.

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ABOUT HOUSE OF RUTH AND GLADE HOUSE

HOUSE OF RUTH is an association of persons caring for men, women and families affected by HIV/AIDS.

House of Ruth owns 17 scattered-site permanent housing rental units, giving approximately 80 clients the opportunity for safe, affordable housing through subsidized rent and intense case management.

The Children's Program at House of Ruth provides extensive services for children (ages 0-17) both infected with and affected by HIV and AIDS.

House of Ruth offers gently used clothing to clients free of charge. One for All donates all off season clothing to House of Ruth for its use.

GLADE HOUSE offers residents a safe, drug and alcohol free supportive communal living environment. Glade House residents also have access to the benefits and services available to individual House of Ruth housing program clients.

ACTIVITIES ABOUND AT DOUGLASS COMMUNITY CENTER!

The Douglass Community Center is a thriving part of Metro Parks and Recreation. It is open six days a week, with something going on at almost every hour of the day until they close – which is at 9:00 P.M. most days. Check out a few of their activities:

Senior activities include Senior Archery (*for ages 50 and older*), Senior Luncheons, Rockerettes Senior Dance, Silver Sneakers Fitness Class, Douglass Den Book Club, and Craft Classes.

Sports and fitness activities available include Deaf Volleyball, Adult Archery Young Adult Archery, Little Globetrotters, a weight room and open gym, Wheelchair Basketball (Junior and Adult), Assisted Wheelchair Basketball, and Transformation Boot Camp.

Classes and social events held include Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association Meetings, Angletree Folk Dancers, square dance lessons, Coffee Talk Book Club, and Stroke Support with Frazier Rehab.

The Douglass Community Center is always adding new activities, classes and events. To check on the latest offerings, go to their website www.louisvilleky.gov/government/parks/recreation. You can also sign up for emails by calling (502) 456-8120.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- If you have a treadmill, free weights or any other fitness equipment not in use, you may donate them to the Center.
- If you have ideas for additional services that could be offered that you would also be willing to volunteer at, please contact us at info@highlandsdouglass.org 🍁

CHRISTMAS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

Christmas Pageant & Reception, 4:00 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

Blue Christmas Service, 6:00 p.m.

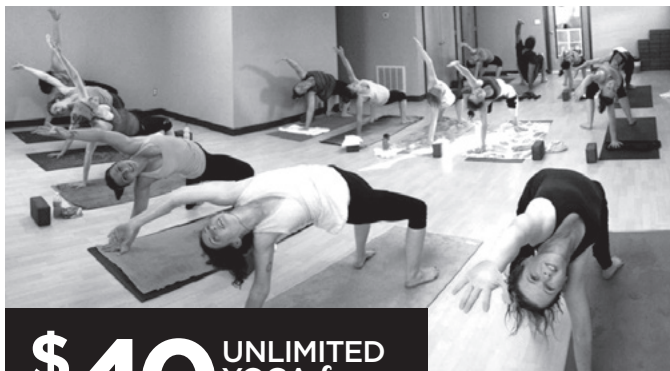
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Services
4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. (*with choir*)



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IT'S TIME TO WINTERIZE YOUR GARDEN!



If you haven't started to prepare your garden for winter, there is still time. Here is a list of the ten most important things you need to do this fall.

1. **CLEAN UP YOUR GARDEN** by removing dead plant material, after the first killing frost. You can compost the dead leaves and stems, but if they're obviously infected with insects or disease, it is best to discard them.
2. **WEED.** Although most people think that weeding is a spring or summer activity, before the first freeze is also a good time to remove invasive or unwanted species from your garden, especially before they can reproduce (go to seed).
3. **DIVIDE PERENNIALS** that call for fall division. It is best to divide them a month or more before freezing weather.
4. **MULCH YOUR BEDS.** Doing so will help keep your plants, especially newly planted or transplanted ones at a more constant temperature. Leaves make an excellent mulch, once they have been shredded.
5. **COVER YOUR CONTAINERS.** If you have pots that cannot be emptied or moved to a more sheltered place, you should cover them. This will extend their life by preventing freeze caused cracks.
6. **BRING IN OR STORE** your garden hoses and sprinklers. Leaving a hose attached to a spigot can lead to a broken pipe and expensive plumbing bills.
7. **ATTEND TO YOUR TOOLS.** Fall is a good time to clean, oil and sharpen your tools. If the finish has worn off wooden parts, rub them with tung or linseed oil. Read labels carefully as some oils contain heavy metal drying agents and toxic solvents.
8. **DRAIN YOUR WATER FEATURES.** This includes in-ground watering systems.
9. **PLANT TREES AND SHRUBS.** Make sure to put several inches of mulch around them to protect them during the winter. For young trees, you might want to consider a light colored wrap to prevent sun scald.
10. **PLANT BULBS.** Make sure to plant your bulbs before the ground freezes. If the ground remains unfrozen it is still possible to plant bulbs. 🍁

— ERIK SIEGEL

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– HDNA Ad Hoc Committee to Help Douglass Community Center –

UNCERTAIN CHANGES LIE AHEAD AT COMMUNITY CENTER

continued from front page

Mr. David Wilding, an architect with Metro Parks, reassured everyone, “we’re going to remain open, and we’re going to be discussing with the Councilman Owen, President King, the neighbors, and the administration what’s the best course of action for the facility.”

HDNA’S AD HOC COMMITTEE FORMED TO HELP SAVE OUR CENTER

At the July board meeting, Metro Parks indicated they welcomed and valued community input. An ad hoc committee was formed to liaison between the neighborhood and Metro Parks. Chaired by HDNA board member and secretary, Sherry Cornell, the ad hoc committee includes other HDNA board members and concerned neighbors. The committee, along with Councilman Owen, has been working to obtain a better understanding of what repairs are needed to secure the physical sustainability of the three structures that comprise the Douglass Community Center, in addition to other uses for the Center.


While the Douglass Community Center will remain open, concerns have arisen regarding the future of the Adaptive Leisure Activities, which accounts for many of its programs. Some of the current individuals that benefit from the Adaptive Leisure Activities have been attending since the 1970s and have commented that they feel “at home” at the Center and that is “comfortable and home-like,” unlike the Cyril Allgeier Community Center, where these activities are proposed being moved to. However, no plans have been confirmed as to the future of these widely used long-term programs.

At the time of publication, Metro Parks has still NOT begun the work on the needed upgrades to the Center’s fire alarm system, which they had previously expressed as the Center’s most urgent priority in order to remain open this year.

A walk-through of the Center has been scheduled for mid-November to inspect needed repairs and renovations and to determine their priorities. Metro Parks has shared no information with the ad hoc committee and has been very slow in responding to the few requests for information.

The committee would like to thank Kentucky General Assembly Representative Mary Lou Marzian, Metro Council President Jim King and Councilman Tom Owen, who have begun to work with the committee to obtain the answers to these lingering questions.

We also need your help to sustain the Center’s usage. Please write to Councilman Owen, Metro Council President King and Representative Marzian and let them each know how important the Douglass Community Center is to our area and thank them for their continuing efforts to help sustain our community center.

If you would like to find out more about HDNA’s ad hoc committee to save the Center, or would like to receive email updates, please contact Sherry Cornell at info@highlandsdouglass.org. 

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YOUR VOICE MATTERS – SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK!

Contact Councilman Owen’s office:

Phone: (502) 574-1108 Fax: (502) 574-1170

Email: Tom Owen: Tom.Owen@louisvilleky.gov and
Terra Long: TerraL.Long@LouisvilleKy.gov

Contact Councilman King’s office:

Phone: (502) 574-1110

Email: Jim.King@louisvilleky.gov

Contact Representative Marzian:

Mail: 702 Capitol Ave., Annex Room 357E
Frankfort KY 40601

Phone: (502) 564-8100 Ext. 643

Email: MaryLou.Marzian@lrc.ky.gov

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HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT, BECOME A PUBLIC DIPLOMAT

As president of the Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Association, I am privileged to meet many interesting people. Recently, as I was talking to Steve Randall, an employee at Breadworks at the Douglass Loop, I discovered he also has a part-time job coordinating foreign exchange students for Forte International. As I was once a former exchange student, and have hosted several exchange students throughout the years, I thought learning about hosting a foreign exchange student in our neighborhood would be of interest. This article details a particular company's processes, but there are other resources that can be used to arrange an exchange student stay.

Regulated by the U.S. Department of State, Forte has partnerships with overseas agents that carefully screen and select students with the appropriate age, background, English language skills and attitude. American host families are screened thoroughly, including a criminal background check, home inspection and host family interview.

Students come from about 20 different countries, ranging from 15-18 years old and possess proficient English language skills and a strong desire to learn about our culture. Most importantly, the exchange student spreads the word of their experience with family and friends back home.

Host families need to provide the student with their own bed (rooms can be shared with same gender siblings), three meals per day, and be financially able to host a student for five to 10 months. After all, another family across the world is putting their child into the hands of a complete stranger.

Louisville and Highlands-Douglass neighborhood are a great fit for exchange students and I hope you will consider the challenges, fun, and opportunities you can share with a young person from another country. If you are interested in participating, contact Steve Randall at SteveR@forteexchange.org. 🍁

—JAY DOUDS



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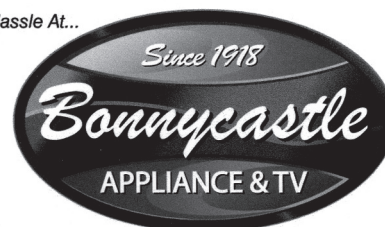
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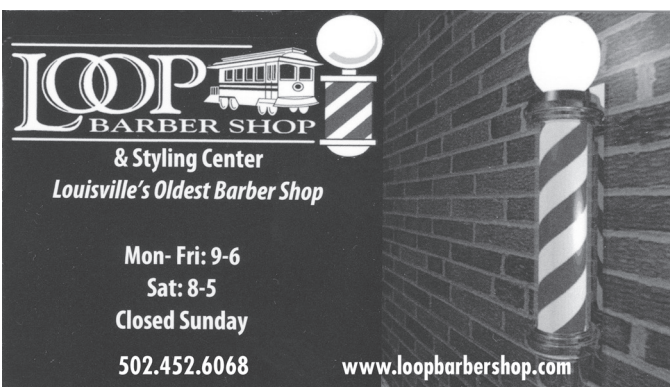
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There are three ways to opt-in. Visit our website at highlandsdouglass.org and click on the link on the home page, which will take you to the opt-in form, where you can easily set preferences to receive emails only about the topics that interest you.

You can also opt in by visiting HDNA's Facebook page at [Facebook.com/HighlandsDouglass](https://www.facebook.com/HighlandsDouglass). Simply click on the email app icon and fill out our opt in form. Not online? Check the opt-in box on the enclosed membership envelope when you join or renew your membership by mail.

Even though we'd hate to see you go, you can opt out at any time. 🍁



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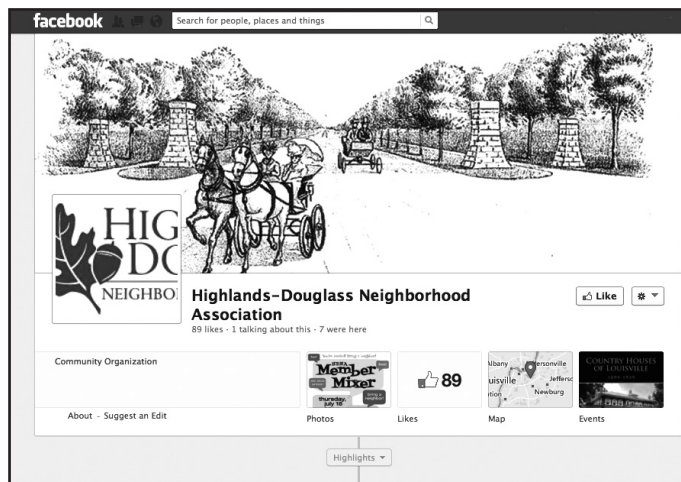


HDNA IS ON FACEBOOK

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www.facebook.com/highlandsdouglass



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Louisville Police (LMPD)	574-7111
Fifth Division	574-7636
MetroCall	574-5000 or 311
Louisville Gas & Electric	
Customer Service	589-1444
Power Outage	589-3500
Transit Authority of River City (TARC)	
Customer Service	585-1234
Metro Animal Services	361-1318
Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD)	
Customer Service	540-6000
Board of Elections	574-6100
Metro Council District 8, Tom Owen	574-1108

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Jay Douds D.G. Mawn

Term Ending January 2016

Barbara Dorf Malinda Durbin
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Term Ending January 2017

Jordan Davis Ed Flynn
Meghan Greenwell Muriel Handmaker
Erik Siegel Joshua White

Board meetings are held at 6:30 P.M. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Douglass Community Center, 2305 Douglass Blvd., for members and residents to plan neighborhood activities and present and address neighborhood topics. At each meeting, you will speak directly with your Metro Councilman, Tom Owen or a member of his staff and discuss safety concerns and receive updated crime reports from our fifth district officers.

Questions? Email us at info@highlandsdouglass.org

HIGHLANDS-DOUGLASS NEIGHBOR NEWSLETTER STAFF

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Jordan Davis, Jay Douds, Malinda Durbin, D.G. Mawn,
Erik Siegel

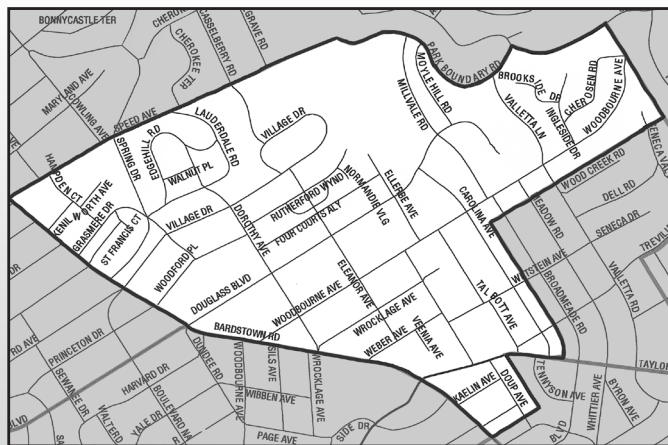
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