



Windy Hills

April 2015

A City of Historic Homes

www.cityofwindyhills.com

From The Desk Of Mayor Jim

To all the citizens of the BEST small city of the over 80 suburban cities in METRO, thank you for electing me as you new mayor. I look forward to continuing the progress made under the leadership of former Mayor Phillips.

My first day in office got off to an interesting start. First there was the sad and unfortunate homicide on Indian Ridge and then the need to fill the open position of Code Enforcement Officer. Fortunately things have gotten better.

I am pleased to report that **Helen Davis**, our new Council member with her excellent professional background, has jumped in with two feet to contribute to the work of your City Officials. Our new Code Enforcement Officer, **Kent Dayton**, an 8 year resident of Windy Hills with 25 years of experience with the Louisville Fire Dept. will be an asset in his new position. Last but not least, former Mayor **Lou Phillips** was elected Councilman. Lou's experience, knowledge and dedication will continue to be an asset to Windy Hills and especially to me. This administration will be a TEAM effort. I encourage you to contact your Council members and staff as well as myself with issues, suggestions and even complaints (hopefully few in number). City Official names, telephone number and respective area of responsibility are listed on the back of every newsletter.

Windy Hills continues to receive recognition for the successes of our Strategic Planning process begun in 2008 and our accomplishments of developing "The Green", branding efforts, sidewalk "Loop", etc. Last year I was asked to be on a Strategic Planning panel at the Kentucky League of Cities annual convention and this month Windy Hills is featured in the KLC publication KentuckyCity (see article on page 3).

Compliments to resident and our new snow removal provider **Adam Vogelsang**, owner of Brownsboro Lawn Care. After a snowfall of more than 8 inches in February and another 12 to 15 inches in March, the highest in years, Windy Hills neighborhood streets were plowed and passable in spite of the heavy snowfall. This is the first year we have used Adam and we have been very pleased with his performance.

Due to declining attendance at Calvin Presbyterian Church, the membership has decided to sell the property. Another religious community has made an offer and a sale is expected to be completed in the next 60 days. The three congregations that currently worship at Calvin will continue to hold their services there. We will keep you informed as more details are known.

Windy Hills Celebrates Third Arbor Day

This year Arbor Day will be celebrated on Sunday, April 19th at 3:00 on the Green. The Windy Hills Tree Board is planning an educational and fun event. There will be a drawing of ten trees for the residents of Windy Hills. The winners will have a choice of either a green gable black gum or a northern pecan. Descriptions and information about the trees will be available at the registration table. The city Arborist, **Mike Hayman** will even come by your home that day for placement advice and help with planting. Mike will demonstrate for us the proper planting of a tree by planting one on the Green that afternoon. He will also discuss and demonstrate the correct way to mulch a tree. Along with the tree give away there will be a raffle as well as a gift for the children in attendance.

The Windy Hills Garden Club will provide refreshments. Parking is available at the center across the street.

Operation Brightside Cleanup

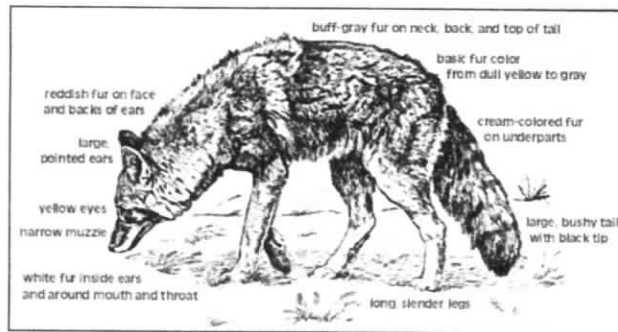
Saturday, April 18, is the semiannual Operation Brightside Cleanup. Volunteers should meet up in the parking lot by the Stock Yards Bank at 9:00 A.M., rain or shine. Gloves, trash bags, t-shirts, coffee, and doughnuts will be provided. This is your opportunity to contribute to the beautification of Windy Hills.



City Council Swearing-In ceremony.

Coyotes In Windy Hills

There have been coyote sightings in Windy Hills and surrounding neighborhoods. Coyotes weigh between 29-33 pounds, have a slender snout, erect ears and a droopy bottle-shaped tail. They vary in color from light yellow to yellowish-brown. They are solitary hunters but live as a family group (a mated pair and offspring). They live in woody patches and brush piles. They are, for the most part, nocturnal, but have been seen in daylight. Sightings are more frequent in spring when adults are seeking food for their pups and in the fall when young coyotes are establishing new territories. Coyotes are susceptible to distemper, hepatitis, mange, Parvovirus, and rabies. Their biggest threat in urban areas is an automobile. One was killed by a car on Hubbards Lane early this year. Their diet consists



mainly of rodents, insects, fallen fruit, well-stocked bird feeders, Canada geese, young fawns, food set out for outdoor pets, and small pets themselves. Coyotes rarely confront humans. Deterrents include loud noises, water spraying, bright lights, and objects thrown at them. Should one seem aggressive, it may be because you are near its pups. Do not run from them.

To discourage them from your property, clear any brush, don't put pet food outside, keep garbage cans in the garage or locked until right before collection. Don't chain your pets outside. If you have a fenced yard, keep the gate closed. It is unwise to put out traps that could harm coyotes as you could run the risk of catching a pet. Unfortunately, the bad news is that it is nearly impossible to eliminate them from our neighborhoods.

Meet Adam Vogelsang

Unless you were fortunate to have spent the months of February and early March in the tropics, you are aware of the paralyzing snows that hit the Metro. The last one was a humdinger dropping close to a foot. **Adam Vogelsang** is the man who has cleared our roads. He had the entire city plowed within 24 hours of the first flake but had very little sleep. The City had numerous phone calls and e-mails praising the job he did. In addition to snow removal, Adam also takes care of mowing Windy Hills Green and other common areas of the City.



Adam is an original Windy Hills resident, having grown up on Southview. His mother **Pam** still lives in the Southview home where Adam's late father was raised. Adam's wife **Kara** grew up on Ambridge in the house where her father **Steve Bergen** lives. Her mother and stepfather live on Bentwood Place. It was only logical for Adam and Kara to purchase a home in Windy Hills two years ago. The couple met in kindergarten at Dunn Elementary School. They have dated for 14 years and married 5 years ago. They have a two year old daughter **Hannah** and a four month old son named **William**.

Note to residents: When you have a snow such as this one, homeowners must be patient and realize that everyone can't be the first to have his street cleared. Refer to the December 2014 newsletter about the Windy Hills snow removal policy. If you threw it away or don't remember, go to the City website.

Latest Art Exhibit

The **Kentucky Water Color Society's** latest exhibit is entitled "**Lovin' Louisville**". The dates are April 11 to June 20. Located in the Brownsboro Shopping Center arcade, it is free to the public. Hours are 11-4 Wednesday through Friday and 11-3 on Saturday.

Notice From The Team for Community Caring

We believe all the **Aging in Place in Windy Hills** directories requested by residents who are 62 years old or older or are physically challenged have been delivered. We still have a few books left. If you have requested one and it has not been delivered, or if you have not requested one but wish to do so, please call **Suzanne Spencer** – (502) 721-8740.

Notice from Health and Fitness Committee

There's still time to "shape-up" for that new Derby dress!!! Strength training classes at Calvin Church, 9:00 – 10:00 A.M., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; Christ Church Methodist on Tuesday and Thursday at 9:45 to 10:45. Just show up for the first session – it's free. **Silver Sneakers** covers the rest if your insurance allows, but if you pay it's still a bargain – \$40.00 for 10 sessions. Bring a yoga mat, 2 or 3 lb. hand weights and an exercise band.

If you prefer Yoga, it's offered at Christ Church Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30. Again, the first session is free. Bring a Yoga mat and a bottle of water. For more information call **Suzanne Spencer** – (502) 721-8740.

Mayor Ising Elected To League Of Cities Post

Windy Hills Mayor **Jim Ising** was re-elected as Treasurer of the Jefferson County League of Cities. His term is for 3 years.

One Community Going Green

By Bobbie S. Bryant; Jim Ising, Mayor; and Councilmembers Lou Phillips and Suzanne Spencer

Being a neighbor to the former home of U.S. President Zachary Taylor, the City of Windy Hills (population approximately 2,400) takes great pride in being a city of historic homes and maintaining a desirable and attractive suburban city.

In 2008, city officials began working on a strategic planning process with local citizens on looking toward the future and planning for how the city should progress over time. Mayor **Jim Ising** said, "We put together a town-hall-style meeting and asked KLC's Community Consulting Services staff to facilitate the discussion. We had more than 100 residents tell us what was on their minds. We sent out a follow-up survey, and in addition to getting more feedback and helpful ideas, we asked for email addresses, which were added to the city's database."

Once the citizens' input was prioritized, city officials worked to research options, evaluate ideas and prepare recommendations for implementation. A priority for the city was to maintain two adjacent, vacant lots located in the highest-visibility area of the city and turn them into a single green space.

The two lots had come to be known as the "corner of discontent." The property had remained vacant and unused for several years after developers were prevented from building condos on the property. This property was located at the front entrance

The green space went from being a "corner of discontent" to a more usable and desirable place, now known as the Windy Hills Green.

to Windy Hills, at the busy intersection of Brownsboro Road and Rudy Lane. At the town-hall meeting, the citizens and neighbors of the property spoke passionately about the need for the city to maintain the property and ultimately purchase the land to create a public space for local residents. With that input, and when the city was offered the property at a price it couldn't refuse, the city was able to acquire the land.

Once the city purchased the empty lots, discussions ensued about what to do with the property once it was cleaned up and made presentable. The Windy Hills Garden Club hosted its own town-hallstyle meeting and invited prominent park and garden professionals to be on a panel and answer questions. A questionnaire was also distributed to residents to continue to gather public comments.

Eventually, a landscape architect was hired to design a walking park. In time, the green space went from being a "corner of discontent" to a more usable and desirable place, now known as the Windy Hills Green.

Kate Greer, a councilmember who is also a member of two garden clubs, noted that efforts to preserve the green space followed earlier efforts by a number of residents in the planting of many trees, particularly after so many were damaged by storms throughout the city. This was accomplished primarily through the Windy Hills Horticultural Advisory Group (WHHAG).

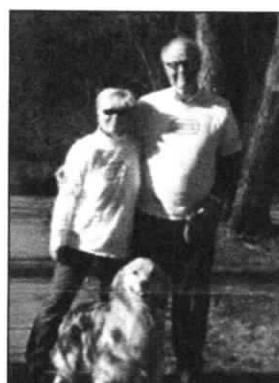
After the public provided input, the City Council asked Councilwoman **Suzanne Spencer** to lead a matching fundraising effort based on an anonymous gift challenge. The effort eventually raised \$20,000 for trees, shrubs and benches.

An early priority for the city was to complete sidewalks around the city creating the Windy Hills Loop, which is in constant use. You will always see people on the loop, and residents who complete the 3.5-mile walk are presented with an "I Walked the Loop" T-shirt by the city.

Another planning priority was to increase the identity and visibility of Windy Hills. A branding effort was undertaken to set the city apart from other Metro Louisville suburban cities. It was surprising for many residents to learn that there are six historic homes nestled in subdivisions and developments, dating back to the late 1700s and early 1800s. A brochure was developed that includes a city logo and

the city's tag line, "Windy Hills: City of Historic Homes." Promotional banners have also been added along main thoroughfares.

To further raise Windy Hills' profile, the city commissioned Mara Smith, a Seattle-based artist, to design three sculpted brick gateway entrances. These have been constructed, lit and landscaped for the principal entrances to the city.



Another priority established during the strategic planning meetings was to replace the tree canopy within the city that had been seriously damaged by wind and ice storms and general decline due to old age. A tree board was established and trees are being planted throughout the city.

All of these endeavors to reserve green space and enhance it with the addition of trees have paid off for the City of Windy Hills. Recently, the city received special recognition from two separate organizations. In the spring of 2014, the city earned the Tree City USA designation from the National Arbor Day Foundation, and in the summer, Scenic Kentucky (an organization that promotes beautification and preservation) awarded the community with the Community Excellence Award.

City officials continue to emphasize the importance of the sidewalks and the green space. "These two awards are terrific," former Mayor **Lou Phillips** said, "but I'm even more proud of the 'green' and the compliments from our local residents and the surrounding communities. There isn't a day that goes by that you don't see people out walking, enjoying the sidewalks. It's been a great addition for our community."

Windy Hills Garden Club

The newly elected officers are as follows: President - **Marianne Rademaker**; Co-Vice-Presidents - **Joyce Brown** and **Davy Dabney**; Secretary - **Tish Moore**; and Treasurer - **Lynn Renau**.

The club will have a perennial plant sale Saturday, May 23, at 2514 Windy Way, from 8 to Noon.

The Club meets the third Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at the Coach Gate Club House. If you are interested in joining the club contact **Marianne Rademaker** – (502) 896-1957.





CITY OF WINDY HILLS
4350 Brownsboro Road, Suite 110
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City Officials & Council Members

Mayor:

Jim Ising

Phone 897-3689

E-mail jimising3@aol.com

City Council:

Helen Davis (Finance/Ordinance)

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E-mail helen.davis@kctcs.edu

Kate Greer (Newsletter; Social Events; Tree Board)

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Mike Skelton (W.H. Green/City Beautification)

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Suzanne Spencer (Health & Fitness; Community

Caring; Welcome To Windy Hills)

Phone 721-8740

E-mail smsdesigner@bellsouth.net

City Clerk:

Sandy Moore 895-4778

City Fax 895-4757

Public Works/ Code Enforcement:

Kent Dayton 425-4429

City Attorney:

James Hodge 587-3064

Fax 584-3091

City Email: info@cityofwindyhills.com

City Website: www.cityofwindyhills.com

City Council meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month, 7:00 pm at Calvin Presbyterian Church, 2501 Rudy Lane.

Emergency – Fire – Police

EMS 911

Graymoor/Devondale Police 327-2677

Thru Sheriff Dept. Dispatch 574-5471

St. Matthews Fire District 893-7825

(Business)

District 7 Metro Councilwoman,

Angela Leet 574-1107

Small Cities Metro Liaison,

Tommy Clark 574-6822

Metro Call 574-5000

or 311

Animal Control Protection 361-1318

Dog or Cat Complaints 363-6609

Health Department 574-6520

Jefferson County Clerk 574-5700

(All branches can be reached at above number)

LG&E 589-1444

(To report street light outages)

MSD Customer Service 587-0603

Planning and Design Services 574-6230

Recycling Center 896-1293

St. Matthews/Eline Library 574-1771

Waste Management 1-866-237-7019

Give this account # 169216991

Should I Hire An Arborist?

If one or more of the following applies to your tree(s), you should consult a certified arborist:

- (1) Limbs are dying at the end. (2) There are cracks in the trunk. (3) Cankers or mushrooms are growing in the bark. (4) A storm has damaged a tree. (5) Limbs are in conflict with your house. (6) The leaves are getting smaller or are withering. (7) The buds are not sprouting.

Beware of "door-knockers"—especially after a bad storm. Opt for a certified arborist with an insurance certificate. Ask for an estimate. Certified arborists are not cheap. But remember trees can contribute to 15% of your property value. The arborist has invested in expensive equipment. You may be able to save if you can get several neighbors to get work done at the same time. The contract should state what work will be done and specify the type of cleanup involved and if you want any of the wood cut for firewood, etc. You may wish to hire an arborist to inspect your trees every year or every couple of years in order to catch any problems before they get too serious. The Windy Hills office has a list of certified arborists.

Reference "How to Hire an Arborist." Tree City, USA Bulletin #6 by Dr. James R. Tazzer, Editor



Quarterly Quote

"Obstacles are usually disguised as hard work, so most people don't recognize them."

— Ann Landers