



Volume 15

CITY OF ST. REGIS PARK

NEWSLETTER

September 2013



Number 9

Dear Fellow Residents:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! St. Regis Park was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Kentucky as a 4th Class City on August 18, 1953 – 60 years ago. The majority of its first residents were reportedly transplants from up east, relocated with the opening of General Electric’s Appliance Park. In fact, our City supposedly owes its name to the favorite hotel of one of its founding fathers – the St. Regis Hotel in New York City.

As a 4th Class City in Kentucky, St. Regis Park has control over zoning and development within its boundaries, the ability to raise revenue through taxation, and also has police powers. Yes, many residents can still remember when we had our own police force. There are 610 homes and two vacant lots within the .35 square miles encompassing our City, and according to the July 1, 2009 Census, at that time the population was 1,672. Although there have been many changes during the past 60 years, what hasn’t changed is the fact that the City of St. Regis Park continues to be a great place to live. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Several capital projects have recently been completed within the City. Repairs are being made to some trouble spots in our roadways. Sidewalk repairs have also been made. The installation of new traffic control street signs throughout the City should occur within the next few weeks. These will be in compliance with new federal regulations, mounted on 10 foot poles, 7 feet above the surface. The City is also continuing to explore a tree program, consulting with a certified arborist and with neighboring cities.

Councilman Talbott Allen and his committee continue to move forward with the planning for December’s *Light Up St. Regis Park*. Preparations have also been finalized for the annual *St. Regis Park Citywide Yard Sale* on Saturday, September 7 beginning at 8:00 a.m. As a reminder, parking will **NOT** be allowed on the side of the streets where fire hydrants are located. This will allow access for emergency vehicles. **“NO PARKING”** signs will be posted on Thursday evening, September 5. There will be an increased police presence during the yard sale to insure everyone’s safety, and yes, the police will be issuing citations when necessary.

I also want to address several resident concerns. There have recently been a number of “break-ins” of cars, either at night or early morning. In most instances, these cars were left unlocked, either parked on the street or in a driveway. I encourage everyone to be vigilant and deny these perpetrators targets of opportunity. If you have a garage, keep the garage door closed. Park your car in the garage,

and make sure the garage is locked. If you don’t have a garage or for some other reason you must park either on the street or in a driveway, always make sure your car is locked, even though it may be unattended for only a short period.

Second, as many of you know, a tree trimming contractor employed by LG&E recently passed through the City. Although trees must be pruned sometimes to avoid interference with utility lines, in many instances the topping of trees was indiscriminate. The City filed a complaint with LG&E. In the future, before such pruning occurs, the City will confer with a certified arborist.

Finally, with the recent transition from Insight Communications to Time Warner Cable, the City has received several inquiries regarding AT&T U-verse. As a result, we have learned our entire City does not yet have fiber optic cable. Consequently, you may or may not be eligible for this service. We have been given a website for you to determine eligibility www.att.com/u-verse/availability/ or you may want to contact AT&T direct.

As always, if you have concerns, please let us know. Feel free to contact me or any of the Council Members.

Sincerely,
Brandt Davis, Mayor

<u>IMPORTANT DATES</u>	
SEPTEMBER 2	LABOR DAY
SEPTEMBER 3	CITY COUNCIL MEETING (McMahan Fire District @ 7:30 PM)
SEPTEMBER 4	ROSH HASHANAH RECYCLING PICKUP
SEPTEMBER 8	GRANDPARENTS’ DAY
SEPTEMBER 11	PATRIOT DAY
SEPTEMBER 13	YOM KIPPUR
SEPTEMBER 17	CONSTITUTION DAY RECYCLING PICKUP
SEPTEMBER 20	POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY
SEPTEMBER 22	FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN
SEPTEMBER 29	GOLD STAR MOTHER’S DAY

CITY OF ST. REGIS PARK
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, August 6, 2013

Following are the Minutes of the monthly Council Meeting for the City of St. Regis Park, held at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, August 6, 2013, at 4318 Taylorsville Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40220.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Davis, Allen, Dietz, Graves, Hoard, Schweickhardt, Wheatley, Willett.
Absent: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Brandt Davis informed the Council that applications to obtain Neighborhood Development Funds (NDF) from the Louisville Metro Council had been submitted. The applications were being reviewed by District 18 Metro Council Representative, Marilyn Parker. The applications were for two separate projects, sidewalk repairs and new street signage. Mayor Davis asked City Engineer Mel Milburn to provide additional information on the sidewalk rating system to Ms. Lisa Chapman, Legislative Assistant to Ms. Parker.

Ms. Parker was able to attend the St. Regis Park City Council Meeting following a Town Hall Meeting she had hosted on the Shelby Campus earlier that evening. She advised her office could assist on the sidewalk funding application but felt the new street sign project would not be subject to funding. Ms. Parker explained there seemed to be some ambiguity regarding federal regulations and the implementation of new traffic signage nationwide. She will continue to update the Council on the status of the NDF applications.

Mayor Davis canvassed the Council on a property tax issue regarding a parcel on Lowe Road. The property owner felt the vacant lot was not in St. Regis Park, however, annexation documents and the Jefferson County Property Valuation Administrator (PVA) showed the property as taxable by St. Regis Park. Because the parcel is a vacant lot, no sanitation fee is applicable. The City property taxes are negligible. The property owner has not been assessed St. Regis Park taxes for the past several years. It was the consensus of the Council St. Regis Park taxes should not be imposed at present, but should the property be sold or developed, City taxes would then be applicable.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Charlie Veeneman, the City's accountant, presented

the Financial Report for July 2013. Total revenues for the month were \$49,252.28, and the General Fund's total revenues for the year-to-date were the same. Total expenses for the month were \$23,683.49, and the General Fund's total expenses for the year-to-date were a like amount resulting in excess revenue over expenses of \$25,568.79. The Operating Fund balance as of July 31, 2013 was \$594,933.38.

Revenues for the Road Fund were \$3,467.17 as of July 31, 2013 with no incurred expenses during the month. The Road Fund balance as of July 31, 2013 was \$57,259.04. Complete financial reports are posted on the City's website at www.stregispark.net.

Mr. Bob Graves made a motion to accept the Financial Report as presented. Mr. Talbott Allen seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:

Ms. Cheryl Willett made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held July 2, 2013. Mr. Frank Wheatley seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

POLICE REPORT:

LMPD Officer Kenneth Betts, representing Kentuckiana Law Enforcement (KLE), presented the July 2013 Small City Activity Report, to be published in the monthly newsletter. Officer Betts also delivered a Traffic Safety Tip Sheet. He wanted to remind the Council and all residents there would be increased traffic patrols with schools resuming and to obey all traffic laws.

In addition, Officer Betts advised there has been an increase in car break-ins in the area. Residents should keep their cars locked, remove all valuables, and keep exterior house lights on at night.

Mr. Graves commended Kentuckiana Law Enforcement for their House Watch Program. He encouraged all residents to take advantage of the program if they will be away.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT: MEL MILBURN

Mr. Milburn reviewed the following projects:

Flynn Brothers repaved the intersection of Mount Vernon Road and Aintree Way at no cost to the City. In addition, there are several streets that have cracks in the pavement in need of sealing. Flynn Brothers began the repairs and will continue to address the issue in August. Mr. Milburn requested no payments be made to Flynn Brothers until the sealing was complete and he had inspected and signed

off on the project.

The sidewalk grinding project is complete. The contractor will begin in August replacing damaged sidewalk sections identified as unsafe. Sidewalk repairs are now paid for by the City unless damage is caused by the property owner.

CITATION OFFICER'S REPORT: DREW AMON

Mr. Amon reported 91 miles were patrolled during the month of July and twelve (12) Hi Neighbor notices were issued. Mr. Amon and Mr. Singler continue to address issues of an inoperable vehicle in a resident's driveway. Discussion followed regarding the City's approach to possibly fining the resident as well as the legality of towing the vehicle from the driveway.

Mr. Amon reported the two unpaved driveways have now been paved. The property owners are in compliance. In fact, there are presently no unpaved driveways in the City of St. Regis Park.

There were several reports of solicitors recently canvassing the City. They were asked to leave. Residents are reminded St. Regis Park has a *No Solicitation* ordinance.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: JOHN SINGLER

Mr. Singler has attempted to contact the representative for the Bullitt property regarding the ditch and the access road that leads to the field at the end of Lincoln Road. The gravel in the ditch washes out during heavy rains and presents problems for an adjacent homeowner. Both Mr. Stephen Hoard and Mr. Milburn have inspected the area and recommend removing the existing small aggregate (#3), replacing it with a larger aggregate (#57). Mr. Singler will attempt to discuss this possibility with the Bullitt property representative before the September 3 Council Meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS:

PUBLIC WORKS – LOUIE SCHWEICKHARDT

Mr. Schweickhardt anticipates the new street signage will be installed in August. The old signs will be recycled. The proceeds will be returned to the City's General Fund.

Mr. Schweickhardt has invited a certified arborist and a Councilperson from the City of Druid Hills to attend the September Council Meeting. A tree plan similar to several other small cities in the Louisville area is being developed. He will also contact Walsh Brothers to have graffiti removed from the sound barrier behind Hedgerow Court.

SPECIAL EVENTS – TALBOTT ALLEN

The annual yard sale will be held on Saturday, September 7. Several residents have expressed their desires for the City to continue the yard sale in the future. These comments will be taken into consideration when the Council discusses the future of the City sponsored yard

sale during the October Council Meeting.

Mr. Allen will contact the Ascension Youth Coordinator for assistance in assembling the luminary supplies for *Light Up St. Regis Park*.

PUBLIC SAFETY – CHERYL WILLETT

Ms. Willett reviewed the monthly police report. She has also scheduled Kentuckiana Law Enforcement to patrol the City during the September 7 yard sale. **NO PARKING** signs will be placed throughout the City on Thursday evening, September 5. For access of emergency vehicles, there will be no parking on the sides of streets where fire hydrants are located. Police will be issuing parking and other applicable citations during the yard sale.

BUILDING PERMITS – STEPHEN HOARD

Mr. Hoard reported there were no building permits requested/issued during July.

MARKETING/IT – FRANK WHEATLEY

Mr. Wheatley is installing a secure link on the City website that residents can use to request a house watch while away. The Council Members' information on the website has been updated, biographies and photos.

COMMUNICATIONS FACILITATOR – BOB GRAVES

Mr. Graves has made several changes in the monthly newsletter to include recent home sales in the City by address, selling price, and date of closing. The September newsletter will include a 2013-2014 Rumpke Recycling Calendar and a reminder tax bills were mailed to all property owners in July.

Mayor Davis commended Mr. Graves for the content, timeliness, and effectiveness of the newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Allen distributed a proposed nuisance ordinance, *An Ordinance Concerning Restriction of Nuisances*, (Ordinance 3, Series 2013-2014), for a First Reading. Mr. Allen made a motion to accept the First Reading of the proposed ordinance. Mr. Schweickhardt seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Graves abstaining. Any appropriate changes will be made during the September Council Meeting. It is anticipated a final draft of the proposed ordinance will be published in the October newsletter, prior to the ordinance being submitted for a Second Reading at the October Council Meeting.

The City Council will be reviewing proposals for the annual financial audit which must be completed by February 2014. The City Clerk will forward all proposals to Council Members for their review prior to the September 3 Council Meeting.

The City has "No Parking" signs available for use by residents who host large gatherings. Residents may call City Clerk Bill Hodapp at 491-7777 for information regarding the use of these signs.

NEW BUSINESS:

AT&T U-verse (fiber optic) is offered in some parts of the City, but at present, not to the City as a whole. A resident inquired as to whether the City could assist in having fiber optics made available to everyone. The City of St. Regis Park and its City Council have no control over the local cable services. Mr. Wheatley will place a link on the City's website so residents can determine whether or not they are eligible for AT&T U-verse fiber optic service.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Bill Holton of Dannywood Road attended the meeting. Mr. Holton asked if the Council had considered installing an enhanced proximity lights warning system for stop signs in the City, particularly along Woodmont Drive. The Council has not considered any type of enhanced system for the upcoming new sign installation but will keep that option open for the future.

ADJOURN:

Ms. Willett made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hoard. The motion passed without dissent. The meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Submitted by Bill Hodapp, City Clerk
(These Minutes are considered unapproved until signed by Mayor Brandt Davis.)

Approved:

Brandt Davis, Mayor, City of St. Regis Park
The City of St. Regis Park allows a public comment section during its meetings. These public comments are summarized in the City Council Minutes. The views expressed do not necessarily represent the views of the City of St. Regis Park.

ST. REGIS PARK CITY-WIDE YARD SALE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 8:00 AM - ?

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YARD SALE DAY

IF YOU ARE PARTICIPATING

- Try to set up in your driveway or yard close to the street to be more visible.
- Please park your personal vehicle further up in your driveway so that you do not take space on the street in front of your house and thus help keep the area on the street in front of your home open for traffic and allow parking for buyers coming from outside the City. Any suspicious behavior should be reported immediately, so if possible, have a cell phone nearby.
- People come early, so plan to set up as early as possible.
- Extra police will patrol that day. For any problem, contact them immediately and try to get the license plate number and a car description of an offender's vehicle.
- Join with neighbors and hold a multi-house sale at one location for a larger sale.

IF YOU ARE NOT PARTICIPATING

- Please park your vehicle(s) off the street, but close to the street to avoid your driveway being used as a turn around point.
- Report any suspicious or unusual activity to the police patrolling the City during the yard sale.
- If possible, keep your garage door closed during the hours of the yard sale so that it will not attract attention.

There will be **NO PARKING** on the sides of the streets where fire hydrants are located. "No Parking" signs will be posted on Thursday evening, September 5. Police patrols will ticket those vehicles who do not comply.



Brandt Davis Insurance Agency

"I would like to compete for all of your insurance needs. If I can't give you a better value or better service, I won't ask for your business."
Brandt Davis, Mayor of St. Regis Park

2821 S Hurstbourne Pkwy, Unit 5
Louisville, KY 40220
Tel 502-499-6567
Cell 502-297-2820
Nationwide.com/BrandtDavis
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ST. REGIS PARK RESIDENT



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INFORMATION TO IMPROVE HOMEOWNERSHIP

RETIREMENT WITHOUT A MORTGAGE

Planning for retirement is obviously important and many times, an activity plagued by procrastination. Some people plan to have their home paid for by that magical date so they won't have payments after they retire. It makes sense to eliminate a large recurring expense before they quit working.

One strategy would be to make regular principal contributions in addition to the regular payments so that it will eliminate the debt by the target retirement date.

Let's say that a homeowner refinanced their \$200,000 mortgage at 4% last year with the first payment due on May 1, 2012. Under normal amortization, the home would be paid for at the end of the term; 30 years in this example.

By making additional principal contributions with each regularly scheduled payment, it would accelerate the payoff on the home. An extra \$250.00 per month would pay off the mortgage in 20 years. \$524.55 extra with each payment would pay off the loan in 15 years; and \$796.23 extra would pay off the loan in 12 years.

Having a home paid for at retirement has the obvious benefit of no house payment. It is also a substantial asset that could be borrowed against or sold if unanticipated events should occur.

Another strategy might involve purchasing a smaller home now to use as a rental that you intend to live in when you retire. Maybe you're not ready to move into it but that doesn't mean you shouldn't take advantage of the present opportunities to acquire the home you want to live in during retirement. The combination of the low interest rates, reduced prices and lower competition may never be this good again in our lifetime.

The rental market is strong and a tenant could pay for your retirement home. The cash flows are attractive and the yield is bound to be stronger than what you're currently earning. Even if you don't retire to this home, it could be a placeholder to control the costs of the home you do move into.

One thought would be to finance it with a 15 year loan that will have a lower rate than that of a 30 year loan and it will obviously amortize in half the time. Even if you don't have the home paid for by the time you retire, your equity will be larger.

Ideally, if you sell your current home when you move into this retirement home, you may be able to take up to \$500,000 of tax-free gain for a married couple. That profit could be used to fund your retirement. With home prices and mortgage rates certain to rise, this may be one of the best decisions you can make.

HOUSES SOLD IN ST. REGIS PARK IN 2013 YEAR-TO-DATE

4428 Dannywood Road	\$249,900.00	2/27/2013
4313 Statton Road	\$223,500.00	4/10/2013
2706 Foxy Poise Road	\$257,000.00	4/12/2013
4404 St. Regis Lane	\$214,500.00	4/26/2013
2604 Mt. Vernon Road	\$207,500.00	5/23/2013
4419 Mt. Vernon Road	\$205,000.00	5/24/2013
4301 Mt. Vernon Road	\$226,000.00	6/18/2013
4320 Statton Road	\$220,000.00	6/24/2013
4316 Dannywood Road	\$223,500.00	6/28/2013
4316 St. Regis Lane	\$255,900.00	6/28/2013
4515 Lincoln Road	\$212,000.00	7/08/2013

Before you list your home for sale, consult a professional. Make certain you know the TRUE VALUE of your home. It's best to get several estimates.

PUBLIC SAFETY CORNER

SECURITY ON THE STREET

STAY WITH THE CROWD

- Stay on populated, well-lit streets.
- Avoid secluded, dark or deserted areas and businesses.
- Avoid shortcuts through alleys or vacant lots.
- On public transportation, sit near the driver.
- If you have taken a ride in a cab or from a friend, ask the driver to wait until you are safely inside your destination.

PAY ATTENTION

- Walk confidently. Look around. Be aware of your surroundings. Make eye contact. Make it difficult for anyone to take you by surprise.
- Be cautious about revealing cash or credit cards.
- Don't wear headphones that may block your ability to hear someone approach you.

BAGS -- PACKAGES

- Try to limit the number of items you carry.
- Carry handbags or packages close to your body so they can't be easily grabbed.

BE READY TO ACT

- Trust your instincts, and don't hesitate to remove yourself from any situation. Be willing to make a scene or create a disturbance if necessary. Your safety may depend on quick and decisive action.
- Carry something that can make a loud noise that can scare off possible attackers.

SECURITY WHEN TRAVELLING

STAYING AT HOTELS

- Be aware of all emergency exit locations.
- Sleep away from street side windows.
- Arrange knock signals for entry.
- Answer telephone "hello." Do not use your name.
- Leave lights on when room is vacant. Pull curtains.
- Look before you exit.
- Keep your room key in your possession at all times.
- Do not give your room number to strangers.

AT AIRPORT TERMINALS

- Pass through the airport security checks as quickly as possible.
- Don't wear or carry metal objects that trigger the metal detector gateway. Don't place your bag on the x-ray scanner until you are sure you can clear the gateway. Watch your bag and retrieve it quickly.
- If possible, sit with your back against a wall in open areas.
- Be a "people watcher." Be alert to suspicious persons or activity.
- Never leave bags unattended even for a few minutes.
- Never agree to watch bags for strangers.
- Notice emergency fire exits near you.
- Be aware of how to use the internal airport telephone system to contact emergency personnel.

STAY ALERT! THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN.

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OR CALL 911.



Council Member Meeting Attendance 2013

Name	Meetings Held	Meetings Attended	YTD%
Brandt Davis	8	6	76%
Talbott Allen	8	8	100%
Greg Dietz ***	2	2	100%
Bob Graves	8	7	88%
Stephen Hoard **	3	3	100%
Louie Schweickhardt	8	8	100%
Frank Wheatley *	7	7	100%
Cheryl Willett	8	8	100%

* Appointed February 5, 2013.

** Appointed June 4, 2013.

*** Appointed July 2, 2013.

ORDINANCE OF THE MONTH

SOLICITATION PROHIBITED

Chapter 112: DOOR TO DOOR SALES

Solicitation without a permit is prohibited in the City of St. Regis Park. Even if solicitors have a permit from Jefferson County, an additional permit is still required from the City of St. Regis Park.

112.01 PERMIT REQUIRED.

It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business of door to door sales of any merchandise or services of any type within the City without first applying for and obtaining a permit to do so from the City.

112.02 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

Application for a permit to engage in the sale of merchandise or services door to door in the City shall be made in writing to the Mayor, City Clerk, or Citation Officer and shall include the name, address and telephone number of the person so applying, along with a description of the goods or services to be sold and whether the person applying will be conducting sales themselves or through their agents. The application must also contain written documentation that a permit for such door to door sales has also been granted by Jefferson County. Such sales shall only be allowed between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and one half hour prior to the official sunset as published daily in *The Courier-Journal*.

(City of St. Regis Park Ordinances can be viewed on the City's website, www.stregispark.net.)

If approached by a solicitor, tell them there is NO SOLICITING in St. Regis Park, ask them to leave, then notify the police at the non-emergency numbers of 311 or 574-2111.

2013-2014 Recycling Calendar

Your recycling will be collected during the highlighted weeks. For more information about curbside recycling, please call Rumpke at **1-800-678-6753** or visit www.rumpke.com.

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Acceptable for Recycling

Plastic: Bottles and jugs

Glass: Bottles and jars (container glass only)

Paper: Newspaper, glossy inserts, magazines and catalogs, cardboard (broken down into 2' x 2' pieces), mixed office paper, junk mail and paper bags

Cans: Aluminum and bi-metal beverage cans, steel food/tin cans, empty aerosol cans

Labels do not need to be removed. Please rinse and flatten everything possible.



If one of the following holidays falls on a weekday on or before your collection day, service will be delayed one day during that week: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. If the actual holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, service will not be affected. Visit www.rumpke.com for complete holiday schedule.

These items are NOT acceptable for recycling: Plastic bags, toys, building materials, paint, medical sharps and syringes.



1-800-678-6753
www.rumpke.com

TREE CARE

INFORMATION

Why Topping Hurts Trees

Topping is perhaps the most harmful tree pruning practice known. Yet, despite more than 25 years of literature and seminars explaining its harmful effects, topping remains a common practice. This article explains why topping is not an acceptable pruning technique and offers better alternatives.

What Is Topping?

Topping is the indiscriminate cutting of tree branches to stubs or lateral branches that are not large enough to assume the terminal role. Other names for topping include "heading," "tipping," "hat-racking," and "rounding over."

The most common reason given for topping is to reduce the size of a tree. Home owners often feel that their trees have become too large for their property. People fear that tall trees may pose a hazard. Topping, however, is not a viable method of height reduction and certainly does not reduce the hazard. In fact, topping will make a tree more hazardous in the long term.

Topping Stresses Trees

Topping often removes 50 to 100% of the leaf bearing crown of a tree. Because leaves are the food factories of a tree, removing them can temporarily starve a tree. The severity of the pruning triggers a sort of survival mechanism. The tree activates latent buds, forcing the rapid growth of multiple shoots below each cut. The tree needs to put out a new crop of leaves as soon as possible. If a tree does not have the stored energy reserves to do so, it will be seriously weakened and may die.

A stressed tree is more vulnerable to insect and disease infestations. Large, open pruning wounds expose the sapwood and heartwood to attacks. The tree may lack sufficient energy to chemically defend the wounds against invasion, and some insects are actually attracted to the chemical signals trees release.

Topping Causes Decay

The preferred location to make a pruning cut is just beyond the branch collar at the branch's point of attachment. The tree is biologically equipped to close such a wound, provided the tree is healthy enough and the wound is not too large. Cuts made along a limb between lateral branches create stubs with wounds that the tree may not be able to close. The exposed wood tissue begins to decay. Normally, a tree will "wall off" or compartmentalize the decaying tissues, but few trees can defend multiple severe

wounds caused by topping. The decay organisms are given a free path to move down through the branches.

Topping Can Lead To Sunburn

Branches within a tree's crown produce thousands of leaves to absorb sunlight. When the leaves are removed, the remaining branches and trunk are suddenly exposed to high levels of light and heat. The result may be sunburn of the tissues beneath the bark which can lead to cankers, bark splitting, and death of some branches.

Topping Creates Hazards

The survival mechanism that causes a tree to produce multiple shoots below each topping cut comes at great expense to the tree. Those shoots develop from buds near the surface of the old branches. Unlike normal branches that develop in a socket of overlapping wood tissues, these new shoots are anchored only in the outermost layers of the parent branches.

In some species, the new shoots grow quickly, as much as 20 feet in one year. Unfortunately, the shoots are prone to breaking, especially during windy conditions. The irony is that while the goal was to reduce the tree's height to make it safer, it has been made more hazardous than before.

Topping Makes Trees Ugly

The natural branching structure of a tree is a biological wonder. Trees form a variety of shapes and growth habits, all with the same goal of presenting their leaves to the sun. Topping removes the ends of the branches, often leaving ugly stubs. Topping destroys the natural form of a tree.

Without leaves (up to 6 months of the year in temperate climates), a topped tree appears disfigured and mutilated. With leaves, it is a dense ball of foliage, lacking its simple grace. A tree that has been topped can never fully regain its natural form.

Topping Is Expensive

The cost of topping a tree is not limited to what the perpetrator is paid. If the tree survives, it will require pruning again in a few years. It will either need to be reduced again or storm damage will have to be cleaned up. If the tree dies, it will have to be removed.

Topping is a high-maintenance pruning practice, with some hidden costs. One is the reduction in property value. Healthy, well-maintained trees can add 10 to 20% to the value of a property. Disfigured, topped

trees are considered an impending expense. Another possible cost of topped trees is potential liability. Topped trees are prone to breaking and can be hazardous. Because topping is considered an unacceptable pruning practice, any damage caused by branch failure of a topped tree may lead to a finding of negligence in a court of law.

Alternatives To Topping

Sometimes a tree must be reduced in height or spread. Providing clearance for utility lines is an example. There are recommended techniques for doing so. If practical, branches should be removed back to their point of origin. If a branch must be shortened, it should be cut back to a lateral that is large enough to assume the terminal role. A rule of thumb is to cut back to a lateral that is at least one-third the diameter of the limb being removed. This method of branch reduction helps to preserve the natural form of the tree. However, if large cuts are involved, the tree may not be able to close over and compartmentalize the wounds. Sometimes the best solution is to remove the tree and replace it with a species that is more appropriate for the site.

Hiring An Arborist

Pruning large trees can be dangerous. If pruning involves working above the ground or using power equipment, it is best to hire a professional arborist. An arborist can determine the type of pruning that is necessary to improve the health, appearance, and safety of your trees. A professional arborist can provide the service of a trained crew, with all of the

required safety equipment and liability insurance. When selecting an arborist,

- check for membership in professional organizations such as the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA), or the American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA). Such memberships demonstrate a willingness on the part of the arborist to stay up to date on the latest techniques and information.

- check for ISA arborist certification. Certified Arborists are experienced professionals who have passed an extensive examination covering all aspects of tree care.
- ask for proof of insurance.
- ask for a list of references, and don't hesitate to check them.
- avoid using the services of any tree service that
 - advertises topping as a service provided.

Knowledgeable arborists know that topping is harmful to trees and is not an accepted practice.

- uses tree climbing spikes to climb trees that are being pruned. Climbing spikes can damage trees. Their use should be limited to trees that are being removed.

For additional information, contact the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), a non-profit organization supporting tree care research around the world and dedicated to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees.

PROPERTY TAX BILLS MAILED

The City of St. Regis Park Tax Bills for fiscal year 2013-2014 were mailed to all residents in early July. Unless otherwise noted, the total amount of your Bill includes both your Property Tax and Sanitation Fee.

- All payments are due no later than October 31, 2013 by postmark.
- Payments postmarked after October 31, 2013 will be assessed a 15% Late Penalty and an additional 1% per month interest compounded monthly, retroactive to November 1, 2013.
- All payments postmarked no later than September 30 may take a 5% discount on the Property Tax.

This is explained on your Tax Bill.

Please include the Tax Bill number on your check. All payments should be sent to:

**RIVER CITY BANK
ST. REGIS PARK TAX ACCOUNT
2501 BARDSTOWN ROAD
LOUISVILLE, KY 40205**

If your Tax and Sanitation Bills are paid from an escrow account, it is your responsibility to forward this information to the appropriate financial institution.

If you have **NOT** received a Tax Bill, you should immediately contact the St. Regis Park City Hall either by phone at 491-7777 or by email at cityofstregispark@mcmahanfire.com.



CITY OF ST. REGIS PARK

NEWSLETTER

4318 Taylorsville Road
Louisville, KY 40220-1519

Prsrtd Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Louisville, Ky
Permit No. 1498

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Louisville Metro Police – 911 Emergency

574-2111 or 311 – Non-Emergency

www.louisvilleky.gov

McMahan Fire District – 911 Emergency

491-4745 – Non-Emergency

2013 CITY COUNCIL

Brandt Davis, Mayor – 297-2820

MEMBERS

Talbott Allen, Special Events – 451-3776

Greg Dietz, Finance – 807-7894

Bob Graves, Communications Facilitator – 451-2047

Stephen Hoard, Building Permits – 931-7004

Louie Schweickhardt, Public Works – 639-7731

Frank Wheatley, Director of Marketing/IT – 452-2343

Cheryl Willett, Public Safety – 458-8386

CITY EMPLOYEES

Bill Hodapp, City Clerk/Treasurer – 671-9469

Andrew Amon, Citation Officer – 724-7782

CITY NUMBERS

St. Regis Park City Hall – 491-7777

499-5501 (Fax)

E-Mail – cityofstregispark@mcmahanfire.com

Website – www.stregispark.net

Rumpke Waste Removal – 568-3800

ST. REGIS PARK COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month,
7:30 P.M., at the McMahan Fire Station

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Printworx of Louisville – 491-0222

E-Mail – orders@printworxoflouisville.com

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

Business ad space is available in the newsletter. Please contact the City office at 491-7777 if you are interested in placing an ad. Ads must be camera ready and be sent electronically. The rate schedule is as follows:

1/8th page	\$300/year	\$150/six months
1/4th page	\$600/year	\$300/six months
½ page	\$1000/year	\$500/six months
Full Page	\$1800/year	\$900/six months



The McMahan Fire Protection District Board of Directors meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the fire station, 4318 Taylorsville Rd.
THE PUBLIC IS INVITED.

Small City Activity Sheet



City: **St. Regis Park**

Month/Year: **July 2013**

Traffic Stops: DSS Speeding RD Other Arrests Warnings
Location:

Woodmont/Lincoln	4					1
Lynnbrook/Aintree	1			2		
Foxy Poise/Lynnbrook		1				
Woodmont/Mt. Vernon	2					
Dannywood/Browns		7				1
Browns/Lincoln		8		2		1
4600 Block Lincoln						
Browns/Brookhaven		3				
4100 Block Lincoln						
Dannywood/Woodmont	3	1		2		1
Statton/Woodmont			1			1
Woodmont/St Regis						
St Regis Ln	1					1
Browns/Lowe		6		5		1
Mt. Vernon	2	4		3		3

Total:	13	30	1	14	0	10
YTD Total:	82	137	1	67	5	51
Resident:	3	7	1	0	0	10
Non-Resident:	10	23	0	14	0	0
YTD- Resident	27	43	2	13	1	42
YTD-Non-Resident	55	96	0	54	4	9

Suspicious person/vehicles/other activity:

Suspicious Vehicle -
Stranded Motorist -
Council Meeting - 1

Suspicious Person -
Medical Response -
Aid in Collision -

Officer Assist - 3
Business Check - 53
Burglar Alarm -

House watches:

St. Regis Lane - 8
Stormon - 3

Lincoln - 18
Foxy Poise - 8

Mt. Vernon - 1
Woodward - 5

Warrant Attempts: -

Summons Attempts: -

Abbreviations:

DSS= disregarding stop sign
SPD= speeding
RD= reckless driving

Join us for our annual

**\$ St. Regis Park
Citywide Yard Sale
Saturday, September 7th
8:00 a.m. until ??**

Clear clutter from attics,
basements, and garages.

Make some cash and
be a part of the fun.

Sponsored by
St. Regis Park



Police Officers will enforce
traffic regulations and
extra police will patrol this day!

