

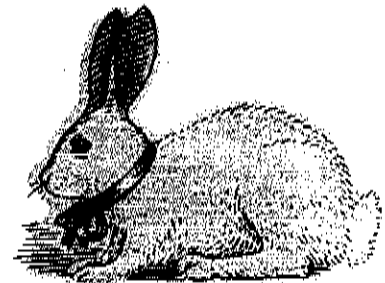


THE HUB

March 2008



Easter Egg Hunt March 22nd



It's that time of year again! Spring is in the air and just around the corner is the ever-loved Easter Egg Hunt. This year, we are planning the hunt for **Saturday, March 22 at 11:00 am in Trolley Park.**

The Egg Hunt is open to children ages 10 and under. This delightful event is available to all Park Hills residents and their grandchildren. The kids will be organized into three age groups. Over 700 eggs filled with goodies will be hidden throughout the Park for the children to find and keep. There will be a few special eggs that bring special prizes for the fortunate children who find them. Rumors of the Easter Bunny abound. This will be a fun event and a great opportunity for meeting friends and neighbors. Crocus and early tulips may be blooming (assuming winter ever ends) which would make for great pictures.

To make your reservation, call Amy Lantz at 581-0137 or at or fill out the registration form and mail it in!

Be on time and don't forget to bring your Easter basket!



REGISTRATION FORM
PARK HILLS 2008 EASTER EGG HUNT
Saturday March 22 at 11:00am

The following children will be attending the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday March 22nd:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Parents or Grandparents names: _____

Mail to: Easter Egg Hunt
C/o Amy Lantz
611 St. Joseph Lane
Park Hills, KY 41011

Amy at 581-0137 or Amykilgore18@hotmail.com
Shannon at 431-1136 or shan_gem@hotmail.com

Having already used the blizzard date, there will be no rain date this year.

Go Native

Pamela Spoor

The 2007 drought proved to be a strong foe of trees. Many evergreens have already succumbed to the punishments of last summer. Arbor vitae, white pines, yew, boxwood, spruce and other conifers have fallen in large numbers. As Spring unfolds, we will see more damage in our yards from the heat and dryness of 2007. The question arises—“what should we replace them with?”. Given the extremes of our climate, it is worth considering indigenous plants. These are native species that are already adapted to our less than ideal weather patterns. Many of these trees and shrubs boast lovely spring flowers. The native species may not be as showy as some Asian varieties, but they are more resilient and more able to tolerate drought. Of course, the location dictates the plant, but here are a few to consider.

Dogwood : There are about 50 species of dogwood. Our native is the *cornus florida*. It is a small understory tree which grows to about 30 feet high. It likes to grow under the shade umbrella of larger trees and likes to have good drainage. It particularly likes to be planted into a hillside. It blooms in early May, rarely gets frosted and comes in several shades of red, pink and white. The wild dogwoods are almost exclusively white. These trees do not like to have their roots disturbed by mowers or weedeaters so it is good to underplant them with lily of the valley or ferns. They are prone to a disease called anthracnose which is caused by a fungus which thrives in high humidity. This disease is treatable. Dogwoods provide year round interest with spring bloom, summer layered shade, autumn crimson color and winter red berries. They do not require trimming. Park Hills is an especially good area for dogwoods. The Hillcrest condominium area contained, at one time, a large copse of mature dogwoods

Catalpa: The catalpa is a deciduous tree of the family Bignoniaceae. It is distinguished by

Huge heart shaped leaves, showy white magnolia like blooms and ultimately long green seed pods. The hardy variety for our area is called *Catalpa Speciosa*. The name derives from the Catawba Indians who used the tree for their sacred totems. The tree is extremely hardy, drought tolerant and long lived. The largest living Catalpa is on the lawn of the Michigan state capitol where it was planted in 1873. The tree is very popular in English gardens where it is treated as an ornamental.

Black Cherry:

The black cherry is another lovely sun loving native. Its official name is *Prunus Serotina*. It has white flowers, clusters of cherries which are a favorite of birds, orangish fall color and a straight growth habit. Grass will readily grow right up to the trunk as its roots are very deep. Its wood is valuable in furniture making and is known as the North American mahogany.



Tulip Poplar:

The tulip poplar is a grand tree, the tallest tree in the eastern forest. Its official name *Liriodendrum Tulipifera*. It has beautiful yellow, tulip shaped flowers that cover the tree in late April. The only drawback is that its rapid growth produces a weaker wood that can lead to breakage so you would not want to locate it too close to the house. It is very hardy and produces significant shade rapidly.

There is only one native evergreen, the *Juniperus Virginiana*, known commonly as a red cedar. It may not be the most graceful shrub, but it has its own beauty which is enhanced by age. It bears blue berries and is quite hardy. These trees have fragrant wood that repels insects. They make an excellent windbreak or screen. They fear no drought.

All of these natives can be obtained at local nurseries from growers who specialize in indigenous plants and make them available in container form. This is the preferable form as it will not suffer transplant set back.

Hospitality in Park Hills



!!!HELP WANTED!!!

We have a dilemma that we need your help with. The Hospitality Committee of Park Hills wants to personally visit each new resident of our city. In order to visit them, we have to know about them. This is where you come in. If you are a new resident, or you know of anyone who has recently moved to Park Hills, please contact us so we can visit them and drop off a welcome basket full of donations from local businesses and helpful city information.

Please contact: Millie Fangman
Hospitality Committee
Member
Phone: (859) 581-0022

Help us welcome our new neighbors that the Hospitality Committee has recently visited:

Eric & Jill Chalfant –
Amsterdam Road
Robert & Karen Clarke
Lawton Road
Joseph & Amy Clark –
Lawton Road
Zach & Rachael Fait --
Terrace
Alex & Amy Gray –
Morgan Court
Brian & Lela Jaynes –
Scenic
Joe & Linda Ransom –
Jackson Road
Tom Reese – Parkcrest
Bob & Teresa Sheehan
– Jackson Road
Frank & Marilyn
Trusty – Parkcrest

Vehicle License Tags



VEHICLE LICENSE TAGS

The Park Hills Vehicle License Tags were due in the month of February. If you have not already done so, you may purchase your tag at the City Building, Monday thru Friday from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. The fee is \$15.00 per vehicle and is payable by cash or check. You may also mail your payment to the City Building at 1106 Amsterdam Road. Please include your car's year, make and license plate number along with a self addressed stamped envelope so that we can mail your tag to you. If you have any questions regarding the fee, please contact the City Clerk at



Animal Tags

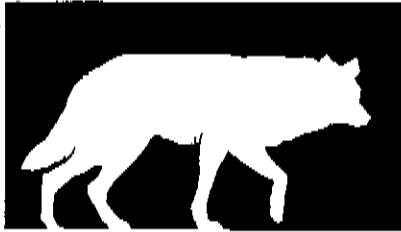
Animal licenses are due and payable at the City Building during the month of May. The fee is \$5.00 per dog and/or cat. The city has a limit of five pets per household. Please remember to clean up after your pet during walks and obey the city's leash law by not letting your pets run at large.

KEEP INFORMED!

Please check out the city's website for up to date city information, contacts and phone numbers at cityofparkhills.net.



Outrageous Animal Sightings



Wild kingdom reports continue to pour in to the Hub. The latest is a mysterious creature first sighted on Cleveland Ave in January. The witness was awakened from sleep by a blood curdling scream/howl. He originally thought it came from a person in distress and ran to the window. There he saw a huge dog like animal loping away. Photographs of paw prints suggested that this was neither a dog nor a coyote. Another sighting in February of the same creature occurred on Montague Rd. The sighting was again at night and precipitated by the spine chilling howl. The witness ran outside to protect her dog and glimpsed what is described as a timberwolf loping into the park. The Hub will publish any photo actually taken of this creature.

On the milder side a Baltimore Oriole was spotted on March 8th. The heavy snow really made the birds desperate for food. Many migrating species were caught by the winter storm. Skunks continue to be a problem in Park Hills. The following website claims to have a product which repels the stinky little creatures:

<http://www.critter-repellent.com/skunk/how-to-get-rid-of-skunks>

Skunks can cause real problems for pet owners and are carriers of a number of diseases such as rabies, leptospirosis and roundworm. Raccoons are also overly represented in Park Hills. They too are a major carrier of rabies, leptospirosis, roundworm, hanta virus, fleas, ticks, and distemper. Humans can get sick from contact with their feces or water which they have used.

Their natural predators includes wolves so maybe their numbers will decline with the advent of our mystery creature. Raccoons are a particular hazard to humans because they like to feed on human garbage and therefore come

With Sympathy

Len McDonough, husband of Dottie McDonough

Laura Cardosi's father

Marian Gasper

William Schulte, father of Jude Schulte

Diane Gabbard's father



Congratulations

Joe and Stephanie Lawry welcomed a baby girl in November

Justin and Emilee Brasell welcomed a baby boy in January

Please inform the Sunshine Committee of any deaths or births within Park Hills by sending emails to shan_gem@hotmail.com Try to provide names when known. Thanks!



Village Green Committee

Submitted by Pamela Spoor



***We do not ask what useful purpose the birds do
sing, for song
is their pleasure since they were created for
singing. Similarly,
we ought not to ask why the human mind
troubles to fathom the
secrets of the heavens...The diversity of the
phenomena of Nature
is so great, and the treasures hidden in the
heavens so rich,
precisely in order that the human mind shall
never be lacking
in fresh nourishment.***

- Johannes Kepler, *Mysterium Cosmographicum*

Going green. This is a popular current refrain, but how does it apply to our personal lives? Obviously there are many answers to that question which range from fuel conservation to alternative energy. One immediate way that we could greatly impact our local environment is by limiting the dangerous chemicals that we place into our immediate ecosystem. Chemicals which we wash into our drains, place on our lawns or plants or use to limit pests all end up in our air and water. Some of these cannot be avoided, but some are optional and might bear closer consideration. One major source of water and air pollution that I would like to scrutinize is that of chemical lawn treatments. A lush lawn is a delight. It sets off the home, provides a recreational area for families and prevents erosion. In our quest to obtain a weed free, green lawn, many of us have turned to lawn services who, on a routine basis, apply fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. The result is lush and green, but is it safe for us, our children and our pets? Many in the scientific and ecology communities say no. I personally quit using lawn services many years ago because I noticed that the children would get terrible hives after playing baseball in the grass.

I decided that all that weed free green was not as good as it looked. A bit of research revealed that pesticides used to kill grubs and other lawn pests were particularly hazardous. They remain in the soil for a long time and are tracked into the home on shoes and pets. They also drift and settle during application and can waft into windows, cars and air conditioning systems. They are readily inhaled and absorbed through the skin. These chemicals act upon the central nervous system. Symptoms of pesticide poisoning include: headaches, breathing trouble, blurred vision, nausea, rashes, coughing, dizziness and high blood pressure. Long term consequences of repeat exposure can be potentially dangerous and include miscarriage, birth defects, heart damage, cancer and memory loss. The National Academy of Sciences has reported that one out of seven Americans is significantly harmed by pesticides each year. Frighteningly, the EPA has reported that a very high percentage of the pesticides used in lawn treatments are potential carcinogens.

The herbicides used in lawn care products are also of concern. Triazine herbicides and phenoxyacetic herbicides (2 4 D) and organophosphate insecticides like diazinon have all been linked to disease. The chemicals enter the groundwater and drinking water systems where they linger as contaminants. Wildlife, particularly fish and birds, are adversely effected as well. Our pets pick up these chemicals on their paw pads and then lick their paws to get rid of the smell or sting. They then ingest the poison.

You can protect yourself and your family by education. Read the label on everything. If you feel a lawn service is needed, demand to read their labels. If you see 2 4-D, Captan, Diazinon, Durspan, Dachthal, Dicamba, or Mecocrop be concerned. For example, Diazinon, which has recently been banned for use on golf courses and sod farms, is still widely used in lawns and gardens. It is an organophosphate neurotoxin which disables certain enzymes essential for nerve transmission.

Chemicals add salt to the soil and kill beneficial nitrogen fixing bacteria. Synthetic fertilizers kill earthworms who naturally aerate the soil. Each quick fix of chemical green creates a dependence for the next. While it looks great

There are many ways to achieve a healthy lawn without the chemicals. Recycle your grass clippings which return essential nutrients to the soil. Aerate the lawn. Pull weeds that are unsightly. Remember that some things that we consider weeds were once valued and cultivated such as clover. Clover used to be deliberately sown into lawns because it fixes nitrogen. It is also good for honey bees. Even dandelions are of high nutritional value. Lawns don't have to be perfect to be beautiful.

There are many sources available on natural management of the lawn. One of the best can be found at the National Wildlife website. A green lawn without chemicals is safer, cheaper and healthier.



Notre Dame Honor Roll

Congratulations to the following students:

Megan Good	First honors	Grade 10
Jessi Russo	First honors	Grade 10
Julia Bayer	Second honors	Grade 11
Rachel Cannon	Second honors	Grade 9
Suzy Cardosi	Second honors	Grade 11
Ashlee Foster	Second honors	Grade 10
Morgan Hungler	Second honors	Grade 12
Molly Johnson	Second honors	Grade 12
Kylie Newman	Second honors	Grade 12
Katie Russo	Second honors	Grade 10
Maria Schaffstein	Second honors	Grade 10
Maggie Weber	Second honors	Grade 10

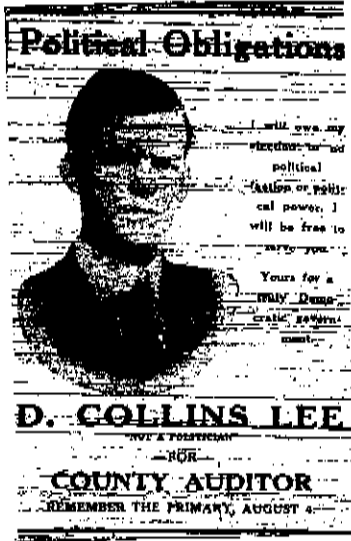


Park Hills History

Iris Spoor

The development of Park Hills did not begin in earnest until D. Collins Lee, another Covington lawyer, purchased a plot of land (now Emerson Road) in 1922. Lee, like Simmons, was also well known. He was born in Covington, Kentucky on October 11th, 1888. He was educated in Covington Public schools and the Rugby Military Academy (also in Covington). He received his A.B. at Centre college in 1908, his M.A. in 1909, and his L.L.B. in 1912. He was admitted to the Kentucky bar in 1911. He started his own law firm in 1918 which he closed in 1924 when he began to develop Park Hills. Lee married Grace Barbee on June 9th, 1915; she would be an important influence and advisor during the development of Park Hills. He was a man of the arts as well, enjoying "reading, art, water color and pen sketching, and woodcarving and was a student of horticulture and an authority on trees and shrubs". These talents and interests are worth noting since they permeate the Park Hills aesthetic and brochures produced by his company.

The plot of land that Lee purchased, the one on Emerson road, was actually owned by Ed Renz and Robert Simmons. He purchased the property for \$2000. One can understand why a man like Lee, so interested in horticulture and natural beauty, would be drawn to the property which was heavily wooded and situated on a high bluff overlooking the Ohio and Licking valleys. At the time, though, there was no city water, gas or road access to the land. Many suggest that it was Grace Lee's insistence on having these conveniences that led Mr. Lee to create the Park Hills subdivision. Perhaps he simply realized the massive potential of the property. Whatever his cause, Lee began purchasing land surrounding the site of his original purchase. As mentioned above, Simmons was an adjoining landowner and interested in developing the site, so a partnership between the two seemed natural. They formed the Lee & Simmons Development Company and purchased more land.



Send me your information and pictures and we will introduce your pets to Park Hills. Iris Spoor
At atlantis@fuse.net



"When the Man waked up he said, 'What is Wild Dog doing here?' And the Woman said, 'His name is not Wild Dog any more, but the First Friend, because he will be our friend for always and always and always.'" - Rudyard Kipling

Hub Advertising

Amy Zerhusen is looking for help and/ or a replacement to take over ad solicitation for the Hub. She can be contacted at 291-0910.

Park Hills Pet Profile

Park Hills has an abundance of spectacular pets. They can be seen walking the streets with their owners, hiking in the park and sunning themselves on the lawn. We are going to inaugurate a regular column devoted to our Park Hills pets. Since no one else knew about this, I will have to begin with my own fabulous friend Rudyard. He is a massive red poodle. He weighs in at about 100 pounds and is about 30 inches tall at the withers. He is originally from British Columbia. He is a very happy fellow who likes to smile when he sees a friend. He enjoys search and rescue training, exploring the park, eating, sleeping and eating. He really loves the snow. He likes squirrel chasing and football. Naturally his favorite time of day is the mail arrival. He likes to get presents that squeak.



Hub Deadline:

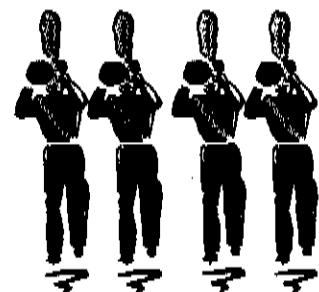
Articles for the May issue of the HUB are due **May 2, 2008**. Articles must be submitted electronically via e-mail (preferred) to nebula@fuse.net or disk (MS-Word compatible)


This will allow the HUB to drop in mailboxes **around Monday, May 22, 2008.**

The HUB is a quarterly publication of the Park Hills Civic Association. The HUB is supported and paid for through Civic Association dues and advertising, and is distributed to all households in the city of Park Hills. Please contact Iris Spoor at 512-2357 for information related to the HUB.

Memorial Day Parade

Just a reminder that the Memorial Day Parade is just around the corner. Now is the time to prepare your floats!






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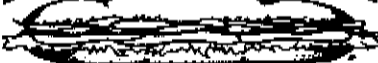
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