



# City of Rolling Fields

SUMMER 2024

## Mayor's Message *By Dan Tafel*

### Happy Independence Day, Rolling Fields!

Independence Day holds a special place in the hearts of all Americans. Here in Rolling Fields, we celebrate with our annual parade. As we gather to commemorate the service, bravery, and determination of our forefathers who fought for freedom, we also celebrate our unity, recognizing that we are all Americans.

As a child, Independence Day was one of my favorite holidays. It was the middle of summer, which meant no school, swimming pools, hanging out with neighborhood friends, cookouts, lightning bugs, and, of course, the big, colorful fireworks lighting up the sky on a summer night. It's a day full of celebrations, but we must also reflect on our responsibilities as citizens of the United States and our service to the Republic.

Independence Day unifies all Americans. Proudly flying the American flag and being patriotic is not about arrogance; it's a celebration of coming together as Americans, despite our different backgrounds. We're on the same team, "One Nation, Under God, Indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for All." The

Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Pledge of Allegiance all serve to remind us of our common core values.

Independence Day is also about service. Our founding fathers came together to build a more perfect Republic—a limited Federal government with respect for local autonomy and governance. The City of Rolling Fields is an example of the type of local governance our founders envisioned. We are governed by a democratically elected Commission that allows for opportunities to make a real impact. I encourage you to serve your community in some manner. By doing so, you fulfill your responsibility as a citizen, set a great example for your children, and make a meaningful contribution to the City we call home.

This Independence Day, I encourage you to fly your American flag, come out to our city celebration, and say the Pledge of Allegiance together. Commit to service in Rolling Fields and enjoy the benefits of improving the city we all call home. Celebrate our unity and service this Independence Day, and remember, we are all Americans on the same team.

## Rolling Fields Art Show

Calling all art enthusiasts and creative minds in Rolling Fields! We are excited to announce the upcoming Rolling Fields Art Show on Sunday, October 20th, from 1-4 PM at 416 Rolling Lane. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your artistic talents and enjoy the creative works of your neighbors.

### Important Details:

- Event Date and Time: Sunday, October 20th, 1-4 PM
- Location: 416 Rolling Lane

Artists who wish to participate in the show are requested to drop off their artwork to Barbie Horton on Saturday, October 19th, from 1-4 PM. This allows us to prepare and display your pieces beautifully for the community to admire.

Whether you're an artist or an art lover, we encourage everyone to come and support our local talent. Mark your calendars and join us for an afternoon filled with creativity and inspiration. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Friday In The Fields



# Meet Taylor Ekman: Rolling Fields Social Media & Communications Coordinator

In this day, in which online communication, technology, and media converge and permeate daily life, we can be grateful that Taylor Ekman serves as Rolling Field's Media Coordinator. Taylor communicates with the neighborhood through email and texts, plus she oversees the Rolling Fields' Facebook page [<https://www.facebook.com/groups/RollingFieldsKY/>]. She reminds us of community events and sends out important information to keep us connected as a neighborhood, and most importantly, as neighbors. We interviewed Taylor to learn more information about her and share some neighborhood communication tidbits.

## Tell us a little about yourself:

I live on Rolling Lane with my fiancé, Graham, and our golden retriever, Moose. I grew up in North Carolina and am a NC State graduate, where I studied Nutritional Sciences. I was a gymnast growing up, and I cheered in college. I came to Kentucky in 2018 and have lived in Rolling Fields for three and a half years. I've worked in the health and fitness community for 15 years and also own and operate my very own bakery, Taylor'ed Goods & Company, where I specialize in custom cakes! I'm a very active person and you have probably seen me walking the neighborhood with our dog, Moose.



## What are some of your favorite things about Rolling Fields?

Rolling Fields is so welcoming! I have great neighbors, who look out for one another. Rolling Fields is an active, safe neighborhood where you see kids playing outside together and building community. This neighborhood is a place where people can thrive!

## How did you get involved with helping out with our neighborhood communications?

In the beginning, I was asked to help communicate the 'Friday in the Fields' Food Truck events. Then, I began helping as the neighborhood Facebook page moderator.

## What is your current communications role?

As the Media Coordinator, I send out community text messages, alerts and/or posts to Facebook all Rolling Fields events to help remind everyone in the neighborhood of these important occasions. I also share on these platforms any pieces of information that would be helpful. For example, this might be information to share from Chief Spratt, an alert from a MSD water leak or LG&E power outage, a found or missing pet, etc. I help report items that help our community remain safe and connected!

## Do you have any pieces of advice for the neighbors of Rolling Fields?

Use the tool of Facebook to communicate information within our inner community that would be helpful to update others, such as security alerts or other community-based events. For example, this is a great platform to post a playground set that you are wanting to sell or give away. Need a dog walker or baby sitter? Our neighborhood Facebook members might have recommendations for you.

Please contact me directly at [tmekman26@gmail.com](mailto:tmekman26@gmail.com) if you need more information to join!

# Beyond the Fields: Henry Wood and Liam O'Connor, Dedicated Volunteers

In this summer issue, we spotlight two exceptional young men from Rolling Fields who have devoted significant time and energy to volunteering in Louisville. Henry Wood (Class of 2024) and Liam O'Connor (upcoming Class of 2025), both with roots in Trinity High School, show a deep commitment to service.

## Henry Wood

Henry graduated from Trinity this past May and will be attending the University of South Carolina (USC) this fall as a Capstone Scholar, with an interest in the International Business Program. He is the son of Melissa Duley, and Yandell and Tarah Wood and lives on Tiffany Lane. Henry has called Rolling Fields home for several years.

Outside of academics, Henry enjoys playing golf and spending time with friends. His favorite classes at Trinity included biology, video production, and entrepreneurship.

Henry's volunteer journey began in grade school with Hand in Hand Ministries, where he participated in home renovation projects for families in Appalachia. During his sophomore year, he started volunteering at The Cabbage Patch Settlement House, a youth-serving organization in Louisville, encouraged by his grandfather, David "Pops" Wood.

Henry spent much of his time tutoring students there and found great satisfaction in seeing their progress and forming connections. Reflecting on his experiences, Henry said, "I am very fortunate, and my advice to others is to go deeper and get involved." He plans to continue his community engagement at USC through the Capstone Scholars Program.



## Liam O'Connor

Liam O'Connor is a rising senior at Trinity. Active in the Key Club, Beta Club, and National Honor Society, Liam excels in Social Studies, History, and English. He lives on Rolling Lane with his parents, Fritz and Leslie O'Connor, and has been a resident of Rolling Fields for 10 years.

In his free time, Liam enjoys playing soccer and following his favorite team, Bayern Munich. He is passionate about learning new cultures and aspires to study international relations and diplomacy.

Liam's dedication to community service is partly inspired by the values instilled by the Catholic School system. While service is a requirement at Trinity, the support from the Catholic Community has allowed Liam to participate in numerous volunteer activities, including Hand in Hand Ministries, St. Joseph Society, and the Muhammad Ali Center Council of Students (MACCS).



The MACCS program focuses on social justice and nonviolent social change, guided by Muhammad Ali's core principles: confidence, conviction, dedication, giving, respect, and spirituality. At the Muhammad Ali Center, Liam also assists with summer camps and works with children in the after-school program. Known for his empathetic and positive personality, Liam believes in stepping out of his comfort zone to make a difference.

Both Henry and Liam exemplify the spirit of service in Rolling Fields, inspiring others with their dedication and commitment to making a positive impact in their community.

# Neighborhood Update: Middle Housing Initiative *By Harvey Willis*

**Meeting Summary** On Monday, June 17th, Rolling Fields residents gathered at 2nd Presbyterian Church for a public meeting organized by the Rolling Fields Commission. The purpose was to discuss proposed changes to expand “Middle Housing” in Louisville.

Approximately seventy attendees, including concerned residents, several municipal city mayors, leadership from the Jefferson County League of Cities, and State Representative Ken Fleming, participated in the meeting. Mayor Dan Tafel opened the session by introducing Metro Council Representative Scott Reed, who explained the concept of “Middle Housing.” Mr. Reed highlighted that this initiative represents a significant change in Metro Government’s land-use code but emphasized that current proposals are still conceptual.

**What is Middle Housing?** In March, Metro Louisville released recommendations to modify the Land Development Code to allow for Middle Housing, a term describing housing options between single-family homes and larger apartment complexes. The primary goal of this initiative is to increase the amount of affordable housing available in the city.

Middle Housing units are densely spaced, owner-occupied, or rental units that could be developed anywhere under Metro’s zoning authority. Currently, Rolling Fields is protected from high-density developments by single-family zoning. However, Middle Housing would remove these protections, potentially allowing high-density developments in Rolling Fields and surrounding areas such as Mockingbird Valley, Riverwood, Glenview, and Northfield. This change means neighbors or investors could convert homes into multi-family units without considering local concerns, parking, or services, dramatically altering the character of our community.

Initially, Metro Louisville planned to introduce the bill to the Metro Commission this summer with a vote later in the season. Fortunately, State Legislators have amended the timeline, deferring implementation until April 15, 2025. This delay allows for more dialogue between the State, Metro, and affected neighborhoods. Opposition to the Middle Housing initiative was nearly unanimous, as indicated by a show of hands after former Mayor David Dunn’s request.

## **What can you do to protect single-family zoning in Rolling Fields?**

- Learn about the proposed changes in the Land reform code, how it impacts you, and your home.
- Talk to your friends and neighbors to increase awareness of this proposed change in zoning.
- Communicate to your state and city representatives to let them know your position on changing the zoning of current homes and neighborhoods.

## **Next Steps?**

- Metro City Council will review and vote on the recommended changes to the code, which could go into effect as early as April 2025.
- Jefferson County League of Cities, which Rolling Fields is a member, may take a position against the changes and lobby the Metro council to revise the current recommendations.
- The City of Rolling Fields could partner with other cities to take legal action against Metro Louisville over the authority to change zoning on existing homes and neighborhoods.
- The State Legislature may restore zoning authority to smaller municipalities in Louisville. (currently municipal cities within Jefferson County, KY under 3,000 do not have zoning authority)
- The City of Rolling Fields may request annexation by a contiguous larger city (Indian Hills) to which exceeds the 3,000 resident threshold allowing for zoning authority.

**Post-Meeting Actions** Following the meeting, Mayor Tafel addressed the Jefferson County League of Cities Board, noting widespread opposition to removing single-family zoning protections. The Rolling Fields Commission has formed a committee, led by Kevin Smith and Harvey Willis, to explore steps to preserve the character of Rolling Fields.

SCOUT

ProRehab

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Oils & Vinegars

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Calvin Mitchell Salon

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CLARE MILLER



Wild Flower  
salon

St. Matthews Jewelers

## Fields & Hills Garden Club

Exciting news for gardening enthusiasts in the Rolling Fields and Indian Hills neighborhoods! A number of residents have shown interest in forming a combined neighborhood Garden Club, and we are thrilled to explore this possibility.

If you have a passion for gardening and would like to be a part of the new "Fields & Hills" Garden Club, we would love to hear from you. Please email Lee Maddox at [LRM503@msn.com](mailto:LRM503@msn.com) to express your interest. Lee is collecting feedback from the community and will be organizing an inaugural meeting soon.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with fellow gardeners, share tips and ideas, and enhance the beauty of our neighborhoods together. We look forward to seeing you in the garden!



# Trees & Trails with Fritz O'Connor

The Rolling Fields Tree Program has been an excellent way for our neighborhood to reestablish a beautiful tree-lined canopy on our streets. Neighbor Fritz O'Connor is leading the program in 2024, and we caught up with him about the details. In addition, as an avid outdoorsman, Fritz shared insights on a recent Courier Journal article that featured area hiking spots, aptly titled "Worth the Drive."

## Tell us a little about yourself.

We've lived in Louisville for 21 years, and for the past ten, we've called Rolling Fields home. My wife Leslie and I have two boys, Colin and Liam. Colin just graduated from Loyola University Chicago, and Liam is about to begin his senior year at Trinity High School. Leslie works as an independent college counselor, while I serve as the Vice-President of Marketing for Ironman4x4, based in Portland, Oregon and Melbourne, Australia.

In my free time, I love being outdoors. I'm particularly fond of vehicle-based camping (Overlanding) and exploring unmaintained roads around the country. One of my favorite spots is Kentucky's Daniel Boone National Forest, where there are hundreds of miles of roads which make up the Daniel Boone Backcountry Byway and the Kentucky Adventure Tour. When I'm home, my favorite activity is walking our two Labrador Retrievers, Seamus and Molly. It's a wonderful way to connect with my neighbors, either in the neighborhood or in Cherokee Park.

## How did you get involved in the Tree Program?

I got involved in the tree program last year by offering to help. It's been a busy but rewarding endeavor. This March, we planted 13 trees, comprising 8 different species across ten different streets. We usually garner interest and commitment at the end of October, and the planting takes place in February/March while it is still cold, which allows the trees to slowly acclimate to their new home. By mid-March, the trees have established themselves which improves survival rate. For the program, all trees are required to be planted in front yards, eighteen feet or less from the road. My role is mainly as the coordinator. Homeowners choose the tree species from a list compiled by an arborist. The trees are planted by a separate landscaping firm. I also help coordinate utility safety and remind the residents to mark sprinkler heads. With a reasonable price of \$150 for the homeowner, it's always a good time to consider a new



tree for your front yard. Please say hi or stop me to ask any questions if you see my dogs and me on our daily walk, or look me up on our webpage and send me an email or text message.

## With summer here, hiking is on many minds. What's your take on the local trails mentioned in the Courier Journal?

**Jefferson Memorial Forest:** "It's a hidden gem just south of the city—dramatic, steep, and stunning. Plus, you can camp there!"

**Harrods Creek Trail/Park:** "A unique spot ideal for fishing, often feeling overgrown and almost tropical. It's not far from home and perfect for kayaking."

**Bernheim Arboretum & Research Forest:** "Absolutely stunning, offering outdoor education, environmental stewardship, and captivating art, despite being a bit of a drive."

**Hoosier National Forest:** "Just over an hour away in Indiana, it's great for camping and high on my list to explore more."

**Cherokee Park:** "A versatile, quasi-urban area with horseback riding and excellent mountain biking trails. Features like Big Rock and Dog Hill make it a favorite. You can get there on a bike in just 10 minutes from here."

**Other Recommendations: The Parklands of Floyds Fork:** "This massive 4,000-acre park is incredibly accessible and aims to create an uninterrupted trail around the city."

**Seneca Park:** "Often overlooked but a fantastic entry point to Cherokee Park from St. Matthews, with several enjoyable mountain biking trails."

## “Solarizing” in Rolling Fields *by David Tachau*

My name is David Tachau and my wife, Susannah, and I live at the southeast corner of Rolling and Fairway Lanes (in the house I grew up in back in the Middle Ages). Susannah has a good friend who has been installing solar panels for more than 15 years, so he got me curious about how affordable and practical they really are. In my research, I learned about a Metro Government program called “Solarize Louisville” which is active again this summer (and easy to google).



Here’s how it worked: an outfit called the Kentucky Solar Energy Society, together with a nonprofit called the Louisville Sustainability Council, have partnered with Metro Government to organize a program promoting solar panel installation by arranging bulk purchasing for homeowners, and by selecting reputable and reliable installers.

The bulk purchasing means a 12-18% discount in the cost of the panels and installation. (On top of that, you get a 30% federal tax credit – a direct offset against your tax liability.) The selection of reputable installers means you don’t have the headache of trying to decide who will do a good job at a reasonable price. The company we were assigned to (Icon Solar) were knowledgeable, very pleasant and responsive, completely transparent in pricing, and remarkably efficient.

From start to finish, it took slightly less than three months for our installation – and that’s including my slow information gathering and decision-making, our delaying the installation until we first replaced our 22 year-old roof which was nearing its expiration date, and our scheduling the roof replacement and then solar panel installation around vacations and weather events.

We are lucky to have a nice wide southern exposure to mount the panels on. If you walk or drive by, you’ll see the panels are pretty unobtrusive (at least I hope so). We probably won’t ever fully recover our expense in lower energy costs, but the installation will cost us less than \$20,000.

We decided not to install a separate battery, so the energy we produce feeds directly back into the LG&E grid, and we then get a credit on our bill offsetting our electricity and natural gas charges. I haven’t yet deciphered how those calculations really work but we’re definitely getting some reductions in our monthly invoices.

We were also linked up to an appealing phone application that let’s me see how our panels are performing and how much electrical energy we’re generating hourly, daily, monthly and from inception. (From late October until the end of May, we’ve generated eight total megawatts while using six total megawatts for all of our electricity needs.) I’m no expert, but I’ll be glad to answer any questions if anyone wants to know more about our costs and our experience.

# Meet Thomas Mercer: Story of an Elite Swimmer

The upcoming Summer Olympics are upon us, but here in Rolling Fields, we have our own rising star to celebrate in the world of competitive swimming. Since moving to Rolling Fields in 2017, Thomas Mercer has shown exceptional dedication and skill, making waves both locally and nationally. This Saint X senior is set to make a splash at the University of Virginia and beyond.

## **Tell us a little about yourself:**

We moved to Rolling Fields in 2017. I have two sisters: one is a junior at Vanderbilt, and the other is a sophomore at Sacred Heart High School. My parents are Todd and Mary Lois. I'll be a senior at Saint X this year and have committed to swim for the University of Virginia after I graduate.

## **When did you start swimming, and what initially attracted you to the sport?**

I was drawn to swimming because my older sister swam at LCC in Lakeside. I started swimming when I was three or four, and by seven or eight years old, I joined Lakeside.

**Can you describe the moment or experience when you realized you wanted to pursue swimming at a competitive level?** It was during the 10 and under state championships. I won every event I entered, and I realized that swimming was my passion.

**How do you stay motivated during tough training periods or after disappointing performances?** I look back on past successes, which reminds me that I have the potential to succeed.

**What goals did you set for yourself when you first started competing seriously, and how have those goals evolved?** With swimming, it's a case of growing into bigger and bigger meets. My goals have evolved from competing at state level to national and even Olympic trials. Deciding where to commit for college was a significant milestone, and after a detailed process, I committed to UVA last October.

**Can you describe your typical training regimen and how it has changed over the years?** When I first started, I had three practices per week for 45 minutes. By eighth grade, I joined the national group, and started doing double practices (two per day) three times a week. Now, I have daily practices, with doubles four times a week, plus three hour-long strength training sessions.



**What are some of the biggest challenges you face in training, and how do you overcome them?** Consistency is key for me, which means focusing on everything outside the pool as well. This involves proper recovery, nutrition, and all the little things that add up to make a big difference.

**How has your family and friends supported you throughout your swimming career?** My family, especially my mom, has been incredibly supportive. She helps me wake up early and maintain the consistency I need in my training.

**Have you had any mentors or coaches who played a crucial role in your development as a swimmer?** Coach Mike from Lakeside has been my coach for seven years. He knows what it takes to succeed at this level and has been very supportive of me.

**What role does teamwork and camaraderie with fellow swimmers play in your success?** Teamwork is vital in swimming, even though it's often seen as an individual sport. We spend 99% of our time with the team and only 1% racing.

**How do you handle the pressure of high-stakes competitions?** Preparation is crucial. It's like having money in the bank; you can rely on it when you need it, which brings consistency.



## Meet Thomas Mercer: Story of an Elite Swimmer

**What are some life lessons you've learned through competitive swimming?** I've learned that hard work pays off. Swimming has also taught me a lot about friendship and being a good teammate.

**How do you see your swimming career evolving in the next few years?** Are there any specific achievements or goals that you are aiming for? I'm looking forward to my final high school year and then moving on to college. I'm excited to be part of UVA's recruiting class, which is potentially one of the best. Our goal is to win a national championship.

**With the Olympics in France in July, what is your perspective on the chance for success of the American swim team?** I believe we'll do very well, especially in

relays. We have depth that many other countries lack, with strong swimmers across both men's and women's teams.

**Do you have any thoughts on which individual swimmers are the ones to beat in this Olympics?**

From the US, the Walsh sisters, Gretchen and Alex, and Caeleb Dressel, who holds the world record in the 100 Butterfly, are ones to watch. The Australian women are especially tough in relays, and their men excel in sprints.

**If you make it to the Olympics someday, what will you be swimming?** My best events are the individual medley races, either the 200 or the 400. Competing at the Olympic Trials in Indianapolis last month was a great personal experience.

## Meet Your Commissioner: Abby Scherer

Hello, my name is Abby Scherer and my family and I have lived on Country Lane since 2005. My husband, EP, and I have three children Winn (18), Rhodes (16) and Hank (13). We adore this neighborhood and plan on being here for many years to come. Rolling Fields has brought us so much joy over the years, introduced us to many friends and families and is a place I love coming home to everyday! I have served on the Rolling Fields Commission for the past 6 years. It has been a great experience and has taught me so much about what it takes to make our city a beautiful and safe place. Many thanks to Danny and the team that worked so hard to create our new park that clearly seems to be enjoyed by so many. Everyone that I have served with over the years has been absolutely lovely to work with and has put so much time and effort in to making this a thriving community. I have decided to step down from serving on the commission and allow someone else a chance to serve! Thank you for letting me be a part of this special place for so long!



**Find your street number & first two street letters somewhere hidden in the newsletter to claim a \$50 gift card. Contact Dan Tafel for your prize.**

## *Greetings, Neighbors!*

Your law enforcement department is committed to keeping Rolling Fields a secure and welcoming place for everyone. We also believe that safety is a shared responsibility, and by working together, we can create a safer environment for all. As we dive into the summer months and we enjoy the warmth, outdoor activities, and community events, there are specific summer safety tips that can help keep you, your family, and your property secure. Here are some essential safety tips tailored for the summer season.

### **1. Secure Your Vehicles**

So far in 2024, the only crimes reported in the City of Rolling Fields have been vehicle-related. Many of these crimes are being committed by several individuals entering a neighborhood and checking for unlocked vehicle doors, with the hopes of finding key fobs, firearms, or credit cards left in the vehicles. The offenders are also using the garage door openers in these vehicles to access garages to continue their search.

Always lock your vehicles and keep your garage doors closed and locked. Do not leave valuables in plain sight, whether in your home or vehicle. Bicycles, tools, and other valuable items should be stored securely.

### **2. Vacation Security**

If you're going on vacation, take steps to secure your home. Ask a trusted neighbor to keep an eye on your property, collect your mail, and park a car in your driveway. Consider using timers for lights to give the impression that someone is home. Also, contact us and enroll in our free House Watch Program while you are away. Go to [www.indianhillsky.org/police/](http://www.indianhillsky.org/police/) and enroll.

### **3. Fireworks Safety**

Fireworks are popular during summer celebrations, but they can be hazardous. Attend professional displays rather than using fireworks at home. If you do use them, follow local laws, keep a safe distance, and have water or a fire extinguisher on hand.

### **4. Pool Safety**

If you have a pool, secure it with proper fencing and a locked gate. Never leave children unattended near water, and make sure they know how to swim. Keep a first aid kit and flotation devices nearby.

### **5. Preventing Burglaries**

With many families traveling, summer can see an increase in burglaries. Keep doors and windows locked, and don't advertise your absence on social media. Install doorbell and security cameras or systems if possible.

### **6. Stay Informed About Weather Conditions**

Summer storms can be unpredictable. Stay informed about local weather conditions and have an emergency plan in place.

### **7. Get to Know Your Neighbors**

A strong sense of community can greatly enhance neighborhood security. Take the time to meet and get to know your neighbors. Watch out for each other's homes and properties, especially when someone is away.

### **8. Stay Vigilant and Report Suspicious Activity**

Our officers work twenty-four hours a day to observe for criminal activity and to respond to your calls for service. We utilize several methods and pieces of equipment to protect the public, but some of the most effective assets are the members of the public that we serve. Please continue to secure your property and report suspicious activity by calling 911 (emergency) or 502-893-2677 (dispatch).

### **9. Stay Informed**

Stay updated on local crime trends and safety information by signing up for our law enforcement alerts by sending your name and email address to [police@ihpd.org](mailto:police@ihpd.org). You can also follow the Indian Hills Police Department on Facebook and Twitter @ihpdky. Knowledge is a powerful tool in preventing crime.

We hope these tips help you enjoy a fun, safe, and memorable summer. If you have any concerns or need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.



**Follow the Indian Hills Police Department  
On Facebook and Twitter @ihpdky**

# Exciting Summer Activities for Our Community!

As summer rolls in, it's the perfect time to explore the rich culture, history, and natural beauty our region has to offer. Whether you're looking for educational adventures, family-friendly outings, or a peaceful retreat in nature, there's something for everyone. Here's a curated list of summer activities developed by neighbor Susan Snyder: Museums and One-Day Destinations

1. **Louisville Science Center** - Dive into interactive exhibits that make learning about science fun for all ages.
2. **Louisville Zoo** - Enjoy a day with the animals and learn about conservation efforts.
3. **Frazier History Museum** - Discover Kentucky's rich history through engaging exhibits and artifacts.
4. **Speed Art Museum** - Marvel at an impressive collection of art spanning various cultures and eras.
5. **Louisville Slugger Museum** - Explore the history of baseball and see how the famous Louisville Slugger bats are made.
6. **Muhammad Ali Center** - Celebrate the life and legacy of Louisville's own boxing legend, Muhammad Ali.
7. **Kentucky Derby Museum** - Experience the excitement of the Derby all year round.
8. **Thomas D. Clark Center for KY History (Frankfort)** - Delve into the story of Kentucky from past to present.
9. **Old State Capitol (Frankfort)** - Step back in time at this historic site.
10. **Shaker Village (Between Harrodsburg and Danville)** - Explore the unique lifestyle and history of the Shaker community.
11. **International Museum of the Horse (Lexington)** - Learn about the history and impact of horses in culture and sport.
12. **Old Friends Thoroughbred Retirement Farm (Georgetown)** - Visit retired champion racehorses in their forever home.
13. **Kentucky Horse Park (Lexington)** - Discover the world of horses through live shows, museums, and more.
14. **Toyota Plant Tour (Georgetown)** - Get an inside look at how Toyota vehicles are manufactured.
15. **The Great American Dollhouse Museum (Danville)** - Delight in intricate miniatures and historical dollhouses.
16. **Newport Aquarium** - Explore an underwater world and meet aquatic creatures from around the globe.
17. **Bernheim Forest** - Enjoy the serenity of nature with miles of hiking trails and scenic views.

## Explore Kentucky This Summer!

For those looking to immerse themselves in the natural beauty and cultural heritage of Kentucky, consider visiting local parks and tourist sites. Plan your adventure at Kentucky Parks and discover more exciting activities and destinations at Kentucky Tourism.

These activities offer a wonderful opportunity to create lasting memories with family and friends. So, grab your sunscreen, pack a picnic, and set out to explore the wonders of our beautiful state this summer!

Enjoy your summer adventures and make the most of what our community and state have to offer. Happy exploring!

## Weekend Gardener: The Trees of Rolling Fields *by John Hubbard*

The tree tour of Rolling Fields on May 27th drew 25 participants, turning into a delightful social event where neighbors mingled and connected. We had the pleasure of admiring two majestic trees: a White Oak located at 449 Swing Lane and an American Beech at 3702 Fairway Lane. By the end of the tour, it became evident that our preferred shade trees are Oaks, Beech, and Tulip Poplar, with Oaks of special note due to their significance in supporting wildlife.

During the tour, we explored a method for estimating a tree's age, demonstrated on the special White Oak mentioned above. Here's the method: we measured the circumference at a height of 4.5 feet above the ground, divided this figure by pi (3.14), and then multiplied by the tree's specific "growth factor" (which, for example, is 5 for White Oaks). These calculations revealed an astonishing age of 314 years for this tree! Further research using a 1931 map indicated a large, solitary tree shadow that likely belonged to this Oak.



For those interested in assessing their own trees, different species have varying growth factors: Tulip Poplar (4), Red Oak (4), American Sycamore (4), Red Maple (4.5), White Pine (5), Sugar Maple (5.5), and American Beech (6).

Kentucky hosts a variety of native Oaks, including White, Red, Pin, Willow, Chestnut, Bur, Chinkapin, Bur, Black, and Shingle, with eight of these found within our neighborhood. On our tour, participants learned to distinguish Red Oaks from White Oaks by the presence of tiny bristles on Red Oak leaves. While the Swamp White Oak isn't native to Kentucky, it's celebrated for its rapid growth and beauty, rivaling the White Oak with a lifespan of 300-350 years.

The City of Rolling Fields has been dedicated to expanding our tree canopy for years, with a special acknowledgment to Cy Radford, who publicly expressed pride in our tree program's contributions. Each year, \$3,000 is allocated to this effort, overseen by Fritz O'Connor, who coordinated the planting of 13 trees this year. Available species include Swamp White Oak, Bur Oak, Red Oak, Bald Cypress, and the state tree of Kentucky, Tulip Poplar. To participate, a one-time fee of \$150 and marking the planting site with a provided white flag is all that's required, with trees to be planted at least 15 feet from the street in front yards.

Reflecting on our tree walks, I've counted approximately 132 trees planted over the last 12-15 years through individual efforts and the Rolling Fields tree program. Species include Willow Oak (37), Tulip Poplar (31), Red Maple (30), Red Oak (8), Sycamore (6), Black Gum (5), American Beech (5), Sugar Maple (4), Swamp White Oak (4), Bur Oak (3), White Oak (2, one grown from seed by an owner), Bald Cypress (2), Ginkgo (2), and Pin Oak (1).

## Weekend Gardener: The Trees of Rolling Fields by John Hubbard

Personal insights and recommendations emerged from these experiences:

- Swamp White Oaks at 3729 Swing Ln & 523 Tiffany Ln have deepened my appreciation for this species.
- The Bur Oak, nearly as stunning and durable as the White and Swamp White Oaks, boasts a lifespan of 200-400 years.
- While Willow Oaks are attractive, ensuring tree diversity is crucial amid rising tree diseases.
- Red Maples offer vibrant fall foliage but have shorter lifespans compared to the striking orange and yellow leaves of Sugar Maples (80-100 vs. 300-400 years).
- Black Gums are celebrated for their stunning fall colors and graceful branching patterns.
- Sycamores provide robust shade and striking bark, particularly beautiful in winter.
- In addition to expanding Swamp White Oaks, increasing the presence of Bur Oaks is essential.
- Though not native, Ginkgos captivate with their bright yellow leaves.
- While our current White Oaks boast a lifespan of 500-600 years, it's crucial to plant more.

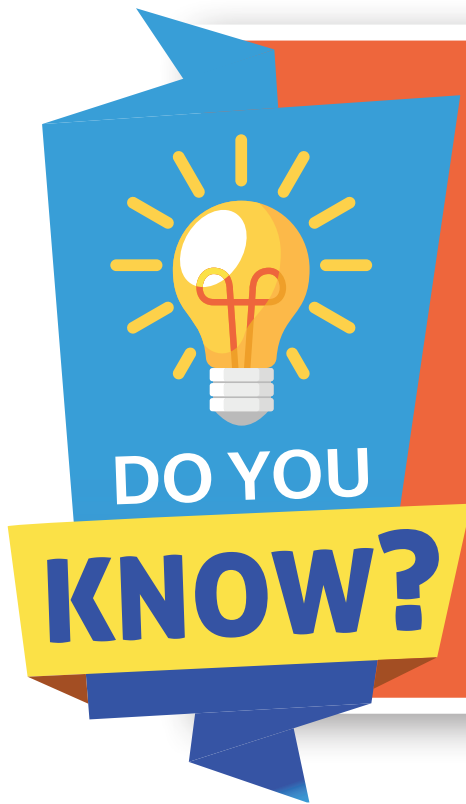
My fascination with neighborhood trees was sparked by Penn Kemp's classic article that was included in the 2017 Winter Edition newsletter, recalling the grand Beech Trees near Swing & Club Lanes during the 1940s. Penn was a character and Pennington Lane was named after him.

Let's build on our accomplishments in tree care and diversity, continuing to enhance our neighborhood's natural beauty.

***"The true worth of a person is measured by those who plant trees under whose shade they will never sit." - Author Unknown***



### *Enhancing Community Beauty in Rolling Fields*



Did you know that Rolling Fields is committed to maintaining its picturesque charm by encouraging responsible vehicle storage? Since 1999, an ordinance has been in place to ensure that overnight parking on city streets is prohibited. This initiative aims to preserve the neighborhood's aesthetic appeal, with each home ideally equipped with its own garage for vehicle storage out of sight from the road.

“Our city was meticulously designed to showcase expansive green spaces, creating a serene environment for residents and visitors alike,” explains the ordinance. By keeping vehicles off the streets, Rolling Fields maintains its scenic beauty whether you’re walking, biking, or driving through our neighborhood.

We kindly request all residents to utilize their garages and driveways for vehicle parking whenever feasible. While we understand that some households may have more vehicles or occasional guests, we appreciate your cooperation in avoiding street parking as a regular practice. This effort not only enhances the visual appeal of our community but also ensures safer and more efficient traffic flow.

In support of this initiative, the Rolling Fields Police Department will increase awareness and enforcement efforts, starting with warnings and progressing to citations when necessary. Together, we can continue to uphold the charm and integrity of our beloved Rolling Fields.

Second

# Presbyterian Church Welcomes You!

## SUNDAYS

**Sunday Morning Worship:** 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary/Livestreamed  
(through Labor Day Weekend)

**2PK Cookies and Lemonade** at 11 a.m. - Families are welcome to gather at the playground (weather permitting) for a time to get to know one another over cookies & lemonade.

## Summer Music Events

**Vespers@Second:** August 11, 6:30 p.m. under the trees in the Chapel Circle - Come enjoy the Latin Ensemble Acordel Refreshments provided - all you need to bring is a chair or blanket & a friend!

**Vespers@Second:** September 8, 6:30 p.m. "A Night of Praise"

**Summer Music Blast:** July 29-31, 5-7:30 p.m. - Music fun for kids 4 through completed 5th grade (with dinner) - Register on our website!

## Summer Programs

**Vacation Bible School:** July 8-12

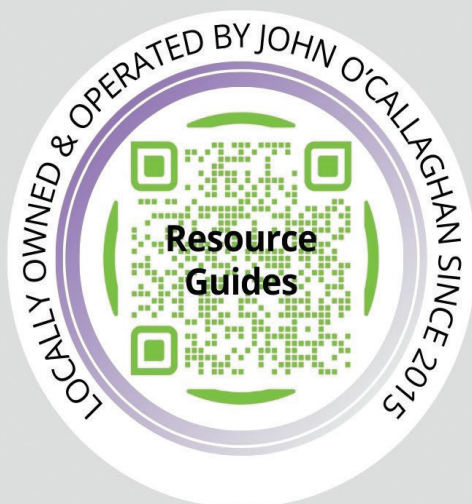
**Project Serve:** July 8-12

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# Rolling Fields City Officials

## City Website:

[www.rollingfieldsky.com](http://www.rollingfieldsky.com)

## Mayor

**Danny Tafel**

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502-417-8260

## Commissioners

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**Cy Radford**

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**McCauley Ricketts, Safety/  
Long Term Planning**

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**Abby Scherer**

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## Committee Chairs

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**Newsletter**

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