



Check calendar on other side for upcoming events....

Alpha Block Watch News

BLOCK WATCH MEETING RECAP

The last Alpha Block Watch meeting was held in mid-June after a spate of property crimes affected area residents. There were several residents at the meeting, and it was also attended by Lt. Chavous of LMPD 2nd Division, as well as District Resource Officer Corey Robinson and beat Officer Katie Graham.

A number of concerns were raised, including large numbers of juveniles who don't live in the area roaming the streets and alleys at night, often past curfew. The LMPD representatives agreed that this was an area-wide problem and therefore agreed to step up patrols in the vicinity to raise visibility. Curfew enforcement was requested, and the police agreed to address curfew violations.

Property crimes appeared to be high on the list of concerns as well, with garage break-ins and thefts being the most prevalent.

One problem that was addressed was the consistent vandalism of a house under renovation. A coordinated effort between the property owner, contractors, police and block watch members was instrumental in putting an end to the vandalism at this location.

The owner and workers at the house were grateful for the proactive efforts made by everyone; they were very complimentary of the block watch.

This is just another example of how effective a block watch is when everyone pulls together!

CURFEW ORDINANCE

Did you know Louisville has a curfew ordinance? Maybe it doesn't seem like it, but there is one.

Under metro Ordinance Chapter 137, curfew and school attendance requirements are outlined in detail. It would seem pretty obvious that kids under the age of 18 would be expected to be at home at a decent hour, but what's "decent" may be a matter of opinion. In any case, it's debatable that there's any good reason that a 10-year old should be allowed to be outside roaming the streets much after dark, let alone after the legal curfew of 11 p.m. on weeknights, or 1 a.m. on Saturday or Sunday morning.

What may be less well known is the financial consequences of breaking curfew. If a minor is out after curfew, according to paragraph 137.04, a police officer may ask the minor his/her name and age, and the address of the parent or guardian where the minor lives. However, under paragraph 137.99, if the police officer determines the minor is breaking curfew, the adult responsible for the custody of that minor "shall be subject to a fine of no more than \$500." This is to remind parents and guardians of their responsibility for their children's whereabouts.

With the high number of juveniles in the area, please be aware that this block watch, and others in the Shawnee area, have asked the police to strictly enforce the curfew laws, including the citation process.

Upcoming Events....

August 5	National Night Out Against Crime - LMPD 2nd Division: 3419 Bohne Ave. Free refreshments, health checkups, job & program info for youth, fire prevention & safety tips, Urban League voter registration, more! LEAVE THE FRONT PORCH LIGHT ON!!!
August 7	Safe & Healthy Return to School - sponsored by the Shawnee Weed & Seed's Prevention, Intervention & Treatment Committee. Neighborhood Place Northwest, Shawnee High School. Free school supplies (while they last), but you MUST attend a Talk Shop to qualify. 2-6 PM
August 8	Outdoor Family Film Festival - Shrek the Third - Shawnee Park: 9 PM. Free popcorn; bring a lawn chair & bug repellent.
August 11	Junk Pickup Day - don't put junk out before August 8...THANK YOU!
August 15	Outdoor Family Film Festival - Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns - Shawnee Park 9 PM. Free popcorn; bring a lawn chair & bug repellent
August 16	Youth Summit - Kids age 11-15 - Yearlings Club: 4309 W. Broadway. Free breakfast & lunch; cool door prizes at the end of the workshop. 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.
August 22	Crime Action Forum - a dynamic, fast-paced session on gun crime & youth in West Louisville. Family Life Center, 2115 Garland Ave. 6 p.m. Free.
September 13	District 5 Community Celebration & Molly Leonard Community Service Awards. There will be lots of food, music, exhibitors and family fun. Free!

SHAWNEE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The Shawnee Neighborhood Association recently elected a new board of directors. High on this new board's list of priorities is property maintenance.

This issue is so important for a number of reasons: well maintained homes are worth more, create pride in ownership, and create a safer environment. Vacant properties are not only unsightly, they are a magnet for criminal activity.

The Shawnee Neighborhood Association will be working hand-in-hand with Weed and Seed and the department of Inspections, Permits & Licenses to crack down on neglected properties, occupied AND vacant. If you are a renter, you are still responsible for the maintenance of the property. See next page for common violations; be aware that IPL is becoming very aggressive in their requests for compliance: the days of long grace periods are over!

Thank you for doing your part to improve the way our neighborhood looks!

ALLEY PAVING NEWS

At last...a budget that finally approves money for paving the alley between N. 39th and N. 40th Streets!

If you live on the west side of N. 39th (even numbered houses), please take special note. It will be necessary to make sure all plant growth is properly cut back, including grass, weeds, shrubs and low hanging branches to allow access for the paving equipment and to maximize space for the pavement.

There should be NO JUNK or trash in the alley behind your house...that actually goes for everyone, not just the even numbered houses. To avoid a citation and possible fine, please make sure there is no junk or trash behind your house after Junk Pickup Day.

The alley pavement is the responsibility of the city; the weeds and trash are the responsibility of the occupant or property owner, up to the center line of the alley. Keeping the alley clean is just as important as keeping the street side clean. Thanks for your cooperation!