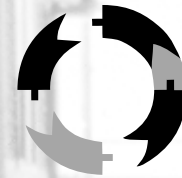


THE VIEW

The Villages of Park DuValle

Jan/Feb 2004 Volume 3, Issue 3



The Community Builders, Inc.

Home for the holidays in Park Duvalle



There was no place like home for the holidays when we kicked off our third annual Park DuValle Holiday Festival and Home Tours on Saturday, December 13th. The crowd was down from the 1,000-plus participants last year but everyone seemed excited. The special events committee had been planning since January and hosted a great array of events for young and old alike. Mother Nature cooperated by covering the event with a white blanket of snow that fell all day but didn't dampen the enthusiasm of this year's participants.

The Saturday festival began with a mini-parade or "Holiday Stroll." The parade contingency was small but included Louisville Metro Police and Fire Departments, the River City Drum Corps, Park DuValle area youths, the old-fashioned TARC trolleys, Home Depot's mascot and Santa. Following the parade TARC trolleys circulated the neighborhood making stops at a whole new slate of homes for the Holiday Home tours.

The DuValle Education Center was home to Santa's Cookie Factory—

where every child decorated a holiday cookie to take home. This was a huge hit last year and equally as fun this year.

More than a dozen holiday baskets featuring themes from romantic evenings to holiday parties to bath and body were in the silent auction at the DuValle Center.

Builders and lenders provided information on how to build a home in Park DuValle during the Homeownership Fair.

Santa moved to the Southwick Community Center this year where he passed out a special present to every child that came to visit.

Residents of the Weathers Apartments for Seniors displayed holiday items they had made during arts and crafts classes. The Park DuValle Community Health Center hosted a public open house, and the employee choir performed for visitors.

Doors were decked out and houses were ablaze in their holiday splendor, just in time for the door decoration contest. Prize winners were:

1st Place: Joan Bailey and Sherman Biddix

2nd Place: Mary Smith

3rd Place: Owen Sitgraves

Weathers Apts.: Doris Stroud

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Moving Forward



Mayor Jerry Abramson

As we move into our second year of merged government, we are continuing our work to ensure that Louisville Metro is among the most progressive, efficient and effective cities in the nation.

Neighborhood revitalization is one area where Louisville continues to shine. I'm proud to look back to when, in 1995, I worked with the federal government and what was then the Housing Authority of Louisville to develop a roadmap for rebuilding one of our community's most important and historic neighborhoods. Today, Park DuValle is a model neighborhood for our entire community – an example of what we can do when we work together.

That success has been realized because of the many involved people who supported efforts to create a healthy community, one that you're proud to call home. It isn't easy to stay committed and focused on long-term goals, but you did, and you are our city's best example of dreaming big and doing things right.

It takes people, not just buildings, to make a community. Park DuValle is one of our city's premiere destinations because of you. That's what we celebrate – the care and support that makes our community great.

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Continued... Home for the holidays in Park DuValle

The West Louisville Boys Choir, nattily attired in their dark blazers, sang a beautiful medley of traditional carols and holiday swing music. They were the hit of the day, and were called upon for an encore performance.

The day culminated with the tree-lighting ceremony on the clubhouse lawn. Our evergreen tree planted in 2001 continues to grow and prosper, just like the community.



Continued... Moving forward

As we move forward in 2004, we should recommit ourselves towards meeting our ambitious community goals to transform neighborhoods and the lives of our citizens. There's still work to be done. That work is continuing at Park DuValle, which is still growing and evolving into a neighborhood that offers great housing options and the services and amenities that families look for in a community.

I know you are up to the tasks before us in Park DuValle and in our new Louisville Metro. I look forward to continuing to work with you and share the successes we'll certainly see throughout this year and beyond.

It's almost time...Spring Forward at the Community Garden

Spring is coming...and you can join the Park DuValle/Kennedy Montessori Community Garden in its fifth gardening season. According to Sheman Biddix, the Community Garden Manager, the garden has 15 participants, but there is room for more, especially this year as JFK Montessori has been kind enough to provide more space for additional garden beds. The Community Garden will also continue to work with the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club on a youth gardening program to teach kids how to grow flowers and fresh vegetables.

Community Garden Details

- There is a \$5.00 fee to obtain a garden bed. The Community Garden will furnish all the cultivating tools. Master gardeners will provide gardening tips and information as needed.
- Plant whatever vegetables or

flowers you want. Past seasons' plantings have included tomatoes, broccoli, greens (kale, collard, turnips), green onions, green beans, okra, strawberries, cucumbers, tulips, day lilies, hostas, and "beneficial flowers" which attract good insects that prey on harmful insects.

- The Garden is for the most part organic, mainly using compost, not chemical fertilizers. Chemical pesticides are also limited due to the garden's proximity to a school.
- Operation Brightside has provided in-kind donations including compost, wood chips, and a watering source.
- Please note that accessible garden beds will be available for anyone requiring special assistance.

If you are interested in growing your own fresh produce, please contact Sherman Biddix at 640-3845 or Joan Bailey at 776-4208.

Home Depot comes to Park DuValle

No, it's not a store, but it's probably the next best thing. Home Depot has been conducting home improvement clinics right here in the neighborhood, and they're open to all homeowners or anyone just interested in learning some home improvement skills. The Dixie Highway store has been gracious enough to lend us their in-store expert, Dennis Wren, and other licensed professionals to teach workshops on weatherization, painting, plumbing, and home electrical systems. Each workshop consists of instruction and hands-on experience. There's even a drawing each time for beautiful hardback home improvement books that would be a great addition to any homeowner's reference library.

"The folks who have attended have really enjoyed the workshops and walked away with very practical knowledge they can put to use right away. We have even seen a loyal following of homeowners who attend several workshops," says Ampy Lee Cogswell, Director of Community Outreach and Homeowner Services with the Louisville Real Estate Development Co., who has organized the workshops with Home Depot.

A spring schedule with an expanded topic list will be published in the next issue of The View. For further questions, please call Ampy Lee Cogswell at 515-1979.

Park DuValle Community Health Center, stronger than ever at 35



When it opened in 1968, the Park DuValle Community Health Center, Inc. (PDCHC) was one of the first federally funded private non-profit community health centers in the USA! Ahead of the times and innovative from its inception, PDCHC gave birth to the first public ambulance service (Louisville Metro EMS) in Louisville. In addition to providing quality health care services, PDCHC provided job training to low income residents of the Park DuValle neighborhood.

PDCHC has evolved over the years from a neighborhood health center to a large primary care practice with four locations in two counties! No one is denied treatment and everyone is welcomed. Insured, as well as uninsured patients, from all over Louisville and Spencer County use Park DuValle Community Health Center, Inc. for their primary medical and dental health care needs. Transportation to and from appointments is available for eligible patients.

Until 2002, the center's primary facility was located in several converted public housing units in the former Cotter Homes housing development. A brand new state-of-the-art facility was constructed as part of the Park DuValle revitalization plan.

The beautiful new facility, located at 3015 Wilson Avenue, offers primary health care services for adults, teens,

infants and children. X-ray, laboratory, pharmacy services, an eye clinic, WIC and Social Services are also available. Hours of operation are 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday – Friday and 12 Noon – 4:00 PM Saturday.

DO YOU KNOW...

Where women 40 and over get a Mammogram

In collaboration with the James Graham Brown Cancer Center, the Park DuValle Community Health Center, Inc. offers free or low cost mammograms the first Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each month by appointment at 3015 Wilson Avenue. Call 774-4401 for more information or to schedule a mammogram appointment at Wilson Avenue.



Services are available for patients with Diabetes

As part of the Southeast Cluster Diabetes Collaborative, Park DuValle Community Health Center offers free Diabetes Education classes to any individual with diabetes. You don't even have to be a patient to attend. Family members who may need to hear the same information are also welcome to attend. The classes are held on the second Thursday of each month from 9:30 – 11:00 AM in the large classroom on the second floor at 3015 Wilson Avenue. Call 774-4401 for more information.



Where to get medical help if you are pregnant

Come and visit our free Prenatal classes on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 8:30 AM. (You have to be a patient to attend). Husbands, significant others, parents and grandparents or other adults are also welcome to attend. Classes are held in the first floor Specialty Clinic Classroom. Call 774-4401 to get more information about Prenatal Class schedules, topics and space availability.

Do You Want to Stop Smoking?

In collaboration with the Community Health Project and the Metro Louisville Health Department, Cooper-Clayton Method of Smoking Cessation classes are held at 3015 Wilson Avenue in the 2nd floor classroom. Call 774-4401, extension 1201 for more information about upcoming classes. You can quit smoking!

PDCHC wants to be the patient's first choice in primary health care! Come and visit Park DuValle Community Health Center, Inc. soon. All of the four locations accept new patients and they want to reacquaint former patients with the services provided. PDCHC is a Joint Commission Accredited, State Licensed, CLIA Certified Primary Care Center serving Louisville Metro and Spencer County. Call us for more information (502) 774-4401.

Additional PDCHC, Inc. Centers

Park DuValle at Newburg Health Center; 2237 Hikes Lane
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday – Friday

Park DuValle at Spencer County Health Center;
52 Reasor Ave., Taylorsville, KY
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM Monday – Friday
and 10:30 AM – 7:00 PM Tuesdays

Park DuValle at CityView Health Center; 1015 West Chestnut, Suite A
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM Monday – Friday

For appointments or more information call (502) 774-4401.

Welcome back “Blue”

Officers and staff recently returned to the substation on Bohne Avenue at 34th Street. The building had been vacant while a crew worked to alleviate a problem with mold. Many residents are pleased and excited to see the officers return.

“We have a good relationship with district officers. Not only does their presence deter crime but they are good corporate citizens and great supporters of this community,” says Rhoda Haskins of Russell Lee Drive.

Residents of the 4th District, which includes the Park Duvalle community, now have another avenue for addressing concerns and issues. The Louisville Metro Police Department, under the direction of Major Darice Wiley, has formed a 4th District Advisory Board to address citizen concerns from crime-related issues to abandoned houses. Advisory board members will work on developing solutions to problems affecting the entire community.

Joan Bailey, a Southern Avenue homeowner has been asked to serve on the board. The first meeting was held on September 11. Subsequent meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month from 6-7 PM at the Nia Center. Residents may contact Major Darice Wiley at 574-2478 for additional information.

Who's new at The Community Builders

Tina H. Findley is the newest Community Builders' employee. She works on the Community Health Project team as an Outreach Coordinator. Tina will work with individuals, families and community organizations who are interested in participating in the project. She will also continue to assist the development staff. Tina serves as an Associate Minister at Canaan Christian Church.

Welcome back to **Michelle Higgins** who has rejoined The Community Builders. She currently works as Youth Services Coordinator on the Community Health Project team. Michelle coordinated the 2002 Summer Youth Program at the Villages Clubhouse, and most recently served as a customer service representative with a local banking institution.

Rhoda Haskins has joined the property management staff as an Assistant Property Manager working with market rate applicants. Her background is in banking.

Jillian Hale is the new Administrative Assistant in the property management office. In addition to her administrative duties, Jillian is available to assist with tenant information and the application process.

Welcome back to **Donald Trotter** who joined the TCB team as a full-time maintenance technician. Donald formerly worked in maintenance at Louisville Metro Housing Authority.

Patrick Moore was recently hired as a maintenance technician. He is a former Louisville Metro Housing Authority employee.



Park DuValle Youth selected for IDA Program

Louisville Metro Housing Authority recently introduced a Youth IDA (YIDA) program to assist youth in developing financial understanding and skills early in life. Ten youth from Park DuValle were selected to join 20 other youth residing in public housing at the January kickoff.

YIDA is a partnership between the Louisville Metro Housing Authority, the Center for Women and Families and The Community Builders. The program provides individual development account training and opportunities for community service. The total cost of the program is approximately \$29,475.

Here's how the program works in Park DuValle:

- YIDA will match \$4 to every \$1 saved by program participants over a two-year savings plan.
- Participants must be members of the Park DuValle Youth Council and complete a community service obligation for which they will receive a \$40/month stipend.
- Participants must save a minimum of \$5 every month
- While saving, participants must complete a Financial Skills Building Workshop.
- Participants must meet with their case manager on a monthly basis.
- At the end of the program, participants will receive a re-built computer. Savings may be used toward the purchase of a computer or higher education.

Earned Income Tax Credits could mean more money in your pockets

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a tax credit for people who work and have earned income under \$34,178. If you qualify, you will have more money in your pocket. The tax credit reduces the amount of tax you owe and you may receive a refund. Earned income credit is not used when determining eligibility for Medicaid, Social Security Income, food stamps or low income housing. People who file for the earned income credit usually increase their tax refund.

Qualifying children must live in the household for more than half of the year to qualify for EITC. A qualifying child is considered biological, adopted or a step-child; under 19 years of age or, under 24 if a full-time student. Totally and permanently disabled children of any age may qualify. Foster children may qualify if they have lived in the household for more than six months and if they were placed in the home by an authorized government or private place agency.

The Child Tax Credit (CTC) is a federal credit for families with dependent children under the age of 17. Most families who qualify for this credit will also be eligible for the earned income credit. The EITC and CTC can provide a significant income boost.

The EITC income eligibility guidelines and maximum credit amounts for tax year 2003 are listed below:

Families with one child who **earn less than \$29,666** in 2003 (or less than **\$30,666** for married workers) are eligible for a credit of **up to \$2,547**.

Families with two or more children who **earn less than \$33,692** in 2003 (or less than **\$34,692** for married workers) are eligible for a credit of **up to \$4,204**.

Workers without a qualifying child who **earn less than \$11,230** in 2003 (or less than **\$12,230** for married workers) are eligible for a credit of **up to \$382**.

Investment Income Limit = \$2,600.

Child Tax Credit = up to \$1,000 per child

Workers must earn over \$10,500 in 2003 to qualify for the CTC refund.

When you file for your refund, be sure to ask about the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit. As a special incentive, residents who present proof of filing for the EITC and CTC will be entered in a drawing to receive \$100. The drawing will be held April 16. Residents must complete an entry form to qualify for the drawing. Entry forms are available at the Villages Clubhouse, in the Property Management Office.

The Louisville Asset Building Coalition provides free tax preparation assistance to Louisville families with annual incomes less than \$35,000 and individuals who annually earn less than \$15,000. Tax sites close to the Park DuValle community include:

Louisville Central Community Center Miniversity West

631 S. 28th Street

778-2613

Tuesdays: 3:00 – 6:00 PM

New Zion Community Development Corp

3629 Virginia Avenue

778-7711

Mondays 12:00 noon – 8:00 PM

Saturdays: 10:00 AM– 2:00 PM

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