

Blue Ridge NEWS

BLUE RIDGE MANOR • DORSEY POINTE • DORSEY STATION • DORSEY VILLAGE • SHELBY POINTE SUBDIVISION



**Look Inside for
KEY Information:**
Important Upcoming Dates,
Which Commissioner to Call
for What & Phone Numbers?

More Information at:
blueridgemanorky.org



Thoughts From the Mayor

*Carla Kreitman,
Mayor
City of Blue
Ridge Manor*

Blue Ridge Manor is a home rule city in Jefferson County, Kentucky. It operates under a Mayor and Commission form of government. In addition to a beautiful residential area with various condo complexes, association and private homes, the City of Blue Ridge Manor also has a small commercial business area, as well as a wonderful quiet municipal park, known as Hardesty Park.

Most recently I've been approached by a few folks who have asked me how I like being Mayor. It's an interesting question. My typical quick quip response – "I knew it was a snake when I picked it up..." and then I smile broadly and acquiesce that most days, I love the job.

So, what's attractive about serving?

Well, among others, I like knowing what is going on, working with people toward a common goal, being engaged and, feeling like I am of service to others. Our neighborhood is an ideal place to raise a child (small enough to still know your neighbors and care about them, big enough to enjoy big city amenities). The small town feel is fabulous – a couple of grocery stores within walking distance and ample green space. Sure there are drawbacks to that neighborly community common knowledge, e.g. the lack of anonymity when you choose to walk to the mailbox unfit for public view, the curious probing phone calls when an unfamiliar car parks in your driveway, or the instant report (and not necessarily to you) when your child is seen doing something "interesting". I hear firsthand about skunks and deer and folks riding ATV's, and the dogs barking at the recycling pick up. I've chased the snowplow for a neighbor, in my pajamas no less. (Which was not a pretty sight. In all candor, had I already had a cup of coffee that morning, I might have reconsidered). These are all the joys and challenges of serving.

The next question that I'm asked is if there is anything surprising about being the mayor of a small city. Having served on the Commission for more than a couple of terms, I had a pretty good grasp on the responsibilities associated with being mayor. The meetings weren't particularly daunting, nor the budget process, nor the ordinance process. One unanticipated ripple was the number of calls I would receive daily. It is encouraging, if not a little flattering, to have a lot of folks who believe I might have the answer to their current problem (or who believe that I know more than I do)

Just this past month I served jury duty for the state courts. While somewhat ironic (since my office supervises jury pool administration in Jefferson County and I've actually conducted the orientation myself) it was my first opportunity to experience this process from a juror's perspective. The experience of sitting with 200 of my new friends in the jury assembly hall for hours and talking to them afforded me a great opportunity to revisit the concept of the responsibilities of citizenship. Civic responsibility – a great responsibility. Some of these jurors found it a burden. I find it a great privilege. This is what we are called to do when we cast a ballot and vote, what we are called to do when we are good neighbors to each other, what we are called to do when we step up to be part of the solution. This month we get to vote. I urge you to do so.

At a recent city meeting we had a boy scout there working on his government badge. Our agendas are fairly dry, and never particularly exciting, we review the minutes, review the report of the treasurer highlight budget expenditures and income, and then we update everyone about some current projects and try to address some concerns. All are welcome and while we do adhere to some structure, our format has been very welcoming and has invited feedback about what might benefit the city. At the last meeting we proposed a parking ordinance in response to many complaints received about folks parking on the streets around blind corners or directly in front of others mailboxes or driveways, or long term parking on the streets, making garbage pick up difficult. It was interesting to wonder what the young scout thought about our city based on the small slice he saw that night.

I am asking for your involvement. Please join us at our next meeting or next city event. Engage in our city. Propose and organize an event, write an article, tell us about an activity, take some pictures, introduce yourself to our neighbors. Be a part of the solution, because together we can do great things.

- Respectfully, Mayor Carla Kreitman

What's Up in Hardesty Park

— by Porter Lady

The park is looking good thanks to an above average rainfall. A fresh coat of paint has been applied to the playground equipment, making it a fun place to visit.

The annual Blue Ridge Manor picnic was well attended and a good time was had by all.

With all this, I am surprised a lot of our approximately 800 citizens don't know where the park is, or how to get there. There are plenty of nice fall days left to enjoy the park. Come with the young ones and pets and see one of the highlights of the city. (Remember to pick up after pets and kiddos...there are lots of trash receptacles all over the park, and recycling ones as well.)

You can find the park from Blue Ridge Road by way of a sidewalk marked by two flower pots between 122 and 124 Blue Ridge Road. There is off street parking available a short distance away at Trinity Presbyterian Church, these neighbors have always graciously welcomed our parking there.

The residents of Dorsey Point, Dorsey Station, Dorsey Village and Shelby Pointe that use Trinity parking lot will also find a small tot play area available at the Church as well.

The park address is 190 South Dorsey Way. This is the 10,000 Building entrance on Shelbyville Road. There is limited parking in the park (only six parking spaces) but the 10,000 building also has additional parking, easily accessible.

The park is open from 7 – 10:00 p.m. but as a safety feature, the parking lot is secured from sunset to sunrise.



Metropolitan Sewer District is in the process of making some draining improvements in the park. The overgrown eyesore with about 60 feet of open ditch has now been covered. The hope was to help our Jeffersontown neighbors with their flooding problems by doing this additional pipe and redirecting work.

Come pack a snack and enjoy the park. If you have any questions or concerns regarding Hardesty Park, please contact me, Commissioner Porter Lady at 245-4963.

Garbage & Recycling

Fall Junk Pick Up Day

Thank you to Commissioner Ken Conliffe for scheduling our Fall Junk Pick Up Day. Per our garbage contract we have two schedule junk pick up days a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. For questions regarding sanitation, please contact Commissioner Ken Conliffe at 245-7941.



Annual End of the Summer Picnic!

Thanks to all who joined us at the Annual End of the Summer Picnic! The weather couldn't have been more cooperative with gorgeous sun for the kids to run in the obstacle course bouncer and our little ones in their own bounce house. Music was provided by Jay Stewart (who you can hear many Fridays at Joe's OK Bayou) and the hot dogs, with or without sauerkraut, were delicious. At the picnic we visited with many neighbors and saw some grandchildren for the first time and heard about blue ribbon winners at the State Fair (yay Anna Mary!)

Fall Blood Drive!

In partnership with Middletown Fire Department and Trinity Presbyterian Church, we hosted our annual fall blood drive with the American Red Cross, October 17 from 9-1 p.m. The need is constant and our community steps up twice a year to help.



While the need is constant, the gratification is instant. Give blood. Please call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org.

Thank you to the Middletown Fire Department for hosting our fall drive and as always, Trinity Presbyterian Church for hosting our spring drive and promoting our events.

Update on Sidewalk Construction

We have signed a contract with Metro Louisville and TARC to complete a section of sidewalk along the Shelbyville Road corridor. The project expenses will be shared between our City (1/4), Metro Louisville (1/4) and TARC (1/2) and will run in front of the commercial properties connecting existing sidewalk, and should make it easier for our citizens to safely walk. TARC is also providing bus stop improvements within the public right of way. We have been notified that work will be underway soon.



We are working hard with Janna Van Over to update our website with the latest news and as we develop more events for community involvement, we hope to place these all timely on the website. But if you prefer to get an email announcement from us, to remind you of upcoming activities, you can go to our website and register to get email alerts from us. Please note it is not our intent to flood your email with frequent messages, (and if you think we are, you can always “unsubscribe”) but we want to offer another method of communication for those who would like.

So go to our website www.blueridgemanoroky.org, and register for email updates. While you are there, check out the site and familiarize yourself with our minutes, past newsletters, ordinances, and who does what. If you have suggestions for other information that might be useful to you or others on the site, feel free to contact: Janna Van Over at (502) 797-3804.

Please note that your commission is fielding regular concerns about parking on city streets and we are currently contemplating enacting an ordinance to address vigorously the continuing and growing problem. Parking on the streets, in many instances, creates safety hazards for your neighbors. While certainly understandable in the

short term (e.g. when entertaining visitors or occasional movement of cars) the consistent parking in front of mailboxes and others’ drive-ways creates a problem. Parking on the streets around blind curves is a problem. Our streets are well trafficked and in some instances it is difficult to see intersections, stop signs, joggers and other pedestrians the way cars have been left. Street parking can impede emergency vehicles, fire and ems, which require a wide berth, and also can create unnecessary damage to our roads (i.e. oil drips). Metro Ordinances which we are bound by already exist (e.g. prohibiting you from parking close to stop signs and in certain directions) and we may consider strengthening those limitations with more specific Blue Ridge ordinances to prohibit anything but the most incidental parking on our city streets.

While asking you to be respectful of your fellow neighbors by keeping your vehicles on your driveway whenever possible, I would also ask that you honor stop signs and speed limits. Frequently I witness drivers completely ignoring the stop signs at certain intersections. Please be reminded that these signs are not mere suggestions and are enforceable and I have asked our local patrols to be vigilant. We have children waiting for school buses, and some of middle-age types trying to improve our fitness. We recognize that some of these individuals may well be non-citizens.

The Latest News to your Email Stream and Parking Issues

New Office Updates

The City of Blue Ridge Manor has an established office and storage area within our city limits in the 10,000 Building, Suite 203.

We were able to move all the storage from the facility in Middletown to this office and consolidate all the official records of the city in one location, so that they are not scattered in individual commissioner’s homes. While still in the process of organizing, we have already received several generous donations to the city, to include two beautiful executive desks and credenzas from our neighbor in the building, Richard Thurman. He also donated several filing cabinets. We also received a beautiful executive chair from Judge Charlie Cunningham (who was consolidating and downsizing his home office) and four (4) additional chairs were surplussed by state government and met our needs exactly. The office is rudimentary, but our needs are not grandiose, primarily storage and accessibility needs are being met, but it is wonderful to have a singular address to receive mail. It’s a small space, not large enough to hold our meetings so we will continue to meet at the fire station, however, it is big enough for meetings with vendors etc.

Given the current size and needs of the city, currently I will have regular office hours every Wednesday afternoon from 1 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.



Brigade of Volunteers

That small dedicated group still puts on bright neon shirts, grabbing trash bags and sweeping through parts of the City in a volunteer effort to keep Blue Ridge Manor clean. (Well, not everyone wears the neon, it’s a bit much early in the morning, and while I know its considered a “safety color” but not really very fetching.) That being said, our city has a lot of unsung heroes that don’t hesitate to pick up a Slurpee Cup or pull an errant weed in the front entrances, but we always welcome more and we would love to recognize your efforts.

We encourage each resident and business to get better acquainted with their City and what it has to offer. Our monthly meetings are held at the Middletown Fire Station #2 at 7p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month. The City of Blue Ridge Manor belongs to you.

Carla Kreitman, Mayor
(502) 727-6468
mkreitman@att.net

**Hans Klose,
Mayor Pro Tem**
Public Property &
Finance
(502) 245-0250

**Ken Conliffe,
Commissioner**
Road Works & Sanitation
(502) 245-7941

**Porter Lady,
Commissioner**
Park & Recreation
(502) 245-4963

**Art Sims,
Commissioner**
Public Safety
(502) 244-1461

Pat Gramig, Clerk
(502) 254-5921

**Robert (Bob) Carter,
City Treasurer**
(502) 290-1630

**Stan Chauvin,
City Attorney**
(502) 619-0510

HELP WANTED:

Our City Clerk, Pat Gramig has tendered her resignation effective the end of 2015.

Pat has been a tremendous asset to the City of Blue Ridge Manor and has served with grace and efficiency, assisting us in a time of transition. Her skills and work ethic and her attention to detail will be hard to replicate.

We will be looking for a new City Clerk, if you are interested in serving in this capacity, please submit a resume to Carla Kreitman, Mayor, 10,000 Building, Suite 203, Louisville, KY 40233 by close of business November 20, 2015.



A special greeting to wish you and your family a happy Thanksgiving. The City of Blue Ridge would like to express their sincere appreciation for your trust in us to provide a safe and clean neighborhood. We are deeply thankful for the community we have and extend our best wishes for a happy and healthy Thanksgiving Day.