



The Neighborhood Bridge

September
2009

Tyler Park Neighborhood Association

Fall 2009 Newsletter

Tyler Park Neighborhood Association

Annual Meeting: Thursday, Oct. 22nd at 7:00

Tyler Park Neighborhood Association meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22nd at 7:00 pm in the meeting room of the Highlands/Shelby Library in the Mid City Mall. The purpose of the annual meeting is to elect directors, review the association's performance during the immediate past year, and carry out such other business as may come before the meeting.

**We Want You:
To
Attend!**



The directors shall be elected from those candidates nominated by the nominating committee of the Board of Directors as well as candidates, if any, nominated by the members present at the annual meeting. Only members can vote. The members of the Association shall consist of annual dues-paying households, individuals or commercial entities who reside in, own property, or operate a business in the Tyler Park Neighborhood.

There will be 3 guest speakers at the annual meeting. **Mimi Zinniel is the director of Louisville Olmsted Parks Conservancy.** She will be speaking on the importance of re-planting trees quickly, before invasive species take hold, and the importance of volunteers from neighborhood organizations. She will also speak on helping the Olmsted Conservancy, and meeting its goals. The second speaker is **Doug McGee** who will speak on **vacant properties**: a tool to turn neighborhood liabilities into assets. The third speaker is **Jack Trawick, the executive director of the Center for Neighborhoods** who will speak on Tyler Park and the history of the neighborhood.



Tyler Park Neighborhood Boundaries

North: Winter Ave., Grinstead Dr.

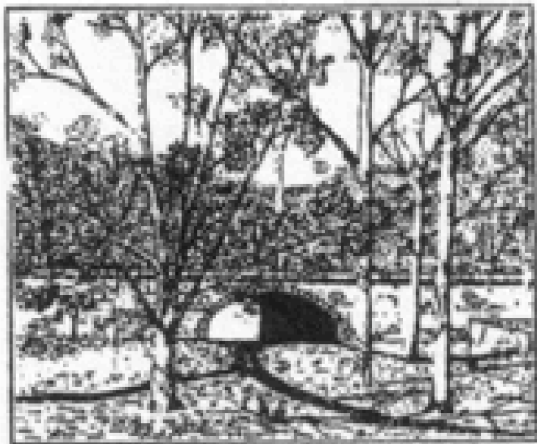
South: Eastern Pkwy, Royal Ave.

East: Bardstown Rd.

West: Barret Ave., Beargrass Creek

Tyler Park neighborhood is three miles southeast of downtown Louisville, Kentucky, USA. It is part of the larger Highlands area. Its boundaries are Winter Avenue to the north, Bardstown Road to the east, Eastern Parkway to the south and Beargrass Creek to the west.

View from the Bridge



Summer is rapidly passing from the scene here in Tyler Park Neighborhood. Just another in this year's amazing weather seasons. I hope we've seen the high water mark!

In June we had another **successful garden tour**, "The Gardens and Pools of Tyler Park." Many thanks to Jeanette Westbrook for heading up that fun event.

Over the summer, LMPD and Metro Parks with the assistance of Councilman Tom Owen have beefed up security in the park to try to stem the rash of **graffiti vandalism**. Security cameras have been installed and only two instances of graffiti have occurred since, shortly after the cameras were installed and before a media spot was aired by WLKY TV. Please report any vandalism that you may discover immediately. We may have turned the tide on this problem (assuming that we don't have any more 6 inch rain storms!)

The **park master planning** process continues with the preparation of several alternative plan proposals to be presented for comment at a **public meeting on October 6, 7PM at St. James School cafeteria**. Please plan to attend to see and hear about the proposals and to give Metro Parks and the planning consultants your feedback upon which a final proposal can be completed.

Also coming up this fall is the **Tyler Park Annual Meeting on October 22, 7PM at the Highlands-**

Shelby Park Branch Library in Mid City Mall. The Neighborhood Association will be **electing its officers** for 2010 and may make some changes to the Association By-Laws. Nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer are now open for eligible members of the Association. Also at the meeting will be **speakers on the history of Tyler Park and the neighborhood**. The members of the TPNA Board encourage neighbors to become involved in the Association. We are in need of new members to help with the activities that the Association sponsor and organize. By the way, I have reminded the members of the Board that just as we have seen that there is no "Mayor for Life," there is no "President for Life" - if for no other reason than he will be term-limited after 2010!

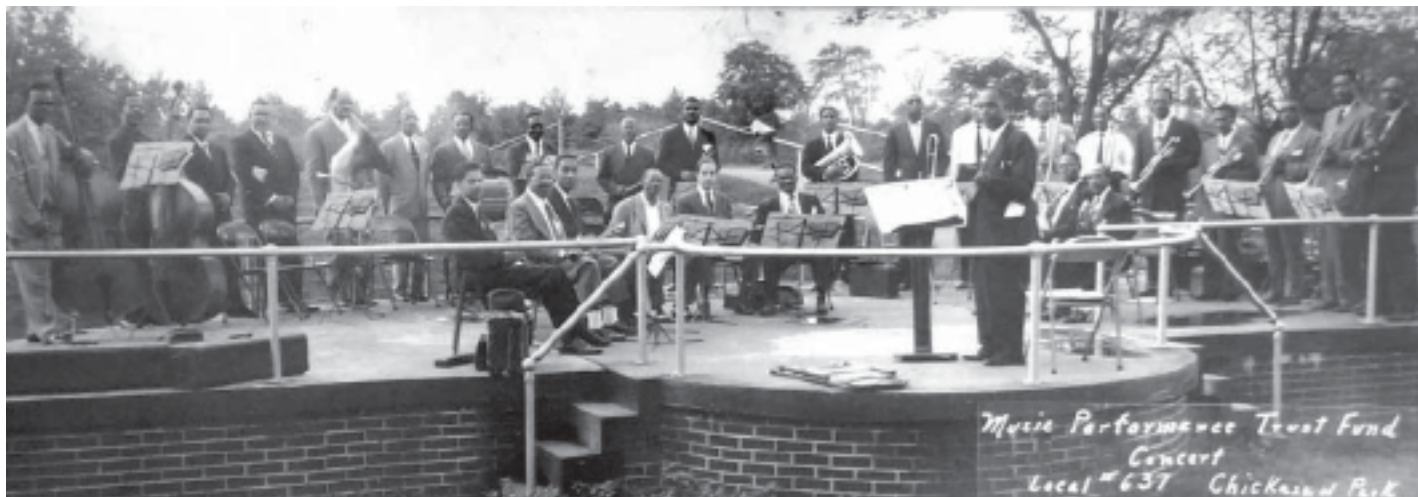
Finally, a heads up for a good time. Joan Dubay is hard at work preparing for the annual **Tyler Park Wine Tasting on January 31st at Mid City Mall**.

Mike Gramig, President
Tyler Park Neighborhood Association

TPNA Contacts info@tylerpark.org

President - Mike Gramig - 459-6582
Vice President - Rebecca Watson - 456-4320
Treasurer - Manny Carralero - 451-5198
Secretary - John French - 452-9031
Newsletter Editor - Florence Saltzman
florenceky@gmail.com

TPNA meetings are the fourth Thursday of each month (except November and December) from 7 to 9 pm at the Highlands/Shelby Park branch of the Louisville Free Public Library inside the MidCity Mall. All neighborhood residents and business neighbors are welcome to attend.



LOOKING BACK...BY GARY FALK **Bandstands In The Parks**

*Reprinted with permission from the author
Originally published in The Archives
Louisville Historical Society, Inc.
April, May, June 2009*

<http://www.louisvillehistoricalleague.org/uploads/4-2009.pdf>

Louisville is fortunate to have an excellent system of parks placed strategically throughout the city. The Olmsted Park system has beautiful bridges and many excellent pavilions, gazebos and monuments dispersed throughout the system.

In the late 1800s, bandstands became a staple in parks all over America. Louisville had many excellent examples of such performance areas, from open pavilions to structures that were somehow incorporated into the existing landscape or buildings. Few examples remain today. I would like to reminisce about two that are no longer standing.

In Chickasaw Park there was a free standing pavilion that served the community for concerts and live theatre for many years. It was an open affair, made of conventional brick with a concrete upper portion. It was fully enclosed by a banister that surrounded the entire perimeter and a stairway with a railing to access the deck portion. In the photo above, a band concert was underway, sponsored by the local musician's union on September 10, 1950. The bandstand was still intact in 2001, but for unknown reasons it is no longer a part of Chickasaw Park.

In June of 1924, a superb structure that contained a bandstand and rest station was completed in Tyler Park near where Baxter and Castlewood Avenues intersect. The rock overpass across Baxter Avenue served as a backdrop for the edifice which was built of Kentucky rock that would integrate the entire structure. It was built to "be in keeping with the natural amphitheatre which forms the park." The floor of the bandstand was hand laid with broken rock

in a tile effect. There were footlights adjacent to the performance area which was accessed from stairs on one side. In 1924 there was a Tyler Park Club that organized events in the park and managed the affairs of the park generally.

On September 6 of that year there was a dedication ceremony for the new bandstand featuring a concert given by the Louisville Industrial School Band. A representative of Mayor Huston Quin (1921-25) made an address, along with members of the Park Commission and the Tyler Park Club. The park was decorated with festoons of Japanese lanterns and "red torches were burned above the high rock wall" which formed the backdrop for the new structure.

It is quite surprising that as "permanent" as the structure appeared (see below), it is no longer a part of the park and very little is known about when it was removed. The current free-standing service building in the park has rest rooms and a canopy-like structure that allows for public events. One can only assume that it is adjacent to where this original bandstand was located.

*Sources: The Louisville Post, June 28, Sept. 6 and 25, 1924,
Louisville Herald-Post, June 26, 1927. Chickasaw Park photo part of the Durlauf family music collection.*



Keeping Alleys and Sidewalks Safe, Neat and Graffiti Free

The excessive rains of the past few months have promoted the overgrowth of plants and weeds along the alley ways. Many of our alleys have become unsightly and in some areas the overgrowth is so intense that cars cannot pass through without suffering scratches.

This may come as a shock to some of you, but the property owners adjoining the alley ways are responsible for keeping their sections clear of debris and vegetation. The same rule applies to sidewalks. Please be advised that you may be cited and possibly fined if your alley section or sidewalk is deemed improperly maintained or if you permit graffiti to linger on your garage door or walls.

Some of our neighbors are elderly or simply may not be aware of the status of their alleys. If you are cognizant of such situations please be a good neighbor and speak to them. Offer your help if the situation merits it.

The TPNA board has volunteered and cleaned the worst alleys in the neighborhood and has donated a lot of sweat to this endless task over the years. We



plan on having another clean-up event in November but we need many more volunteers. **If you can spare a couple of hours on a Saturday**, please contact any of the board members or officers. The officers' names and phone numbers are listed

in this newsletter.

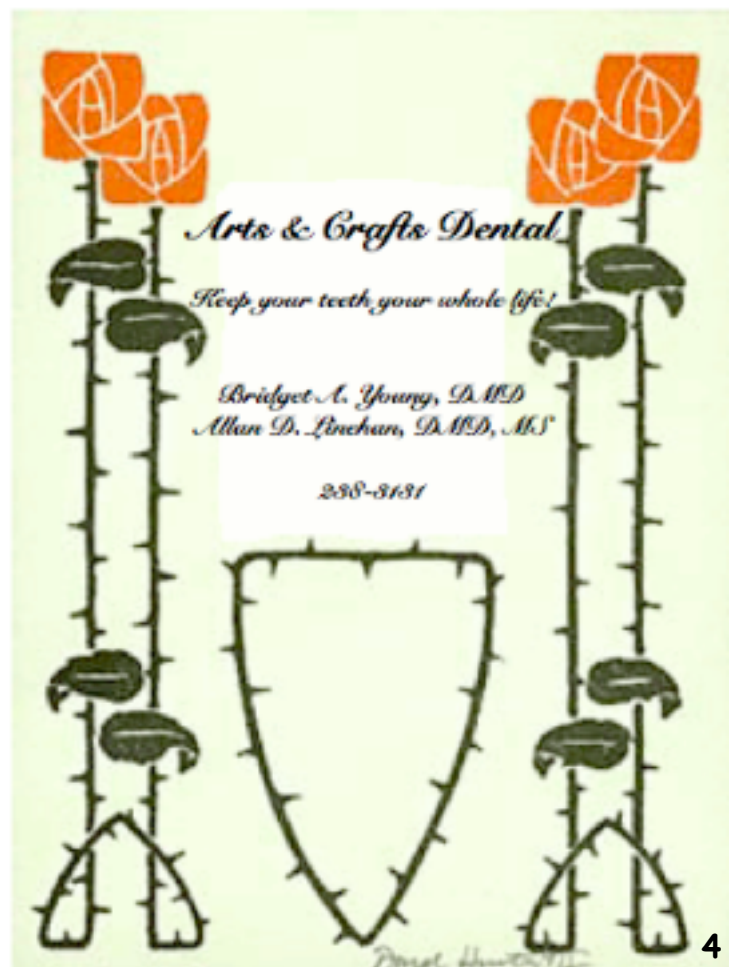
Please show pride in our Tyler Park community by keeping your alley and sidewalk in tip top shape and by removing any unsightly graffiti from your garage or property!

Side Walk Repair Update

In our last newsletter we reported that federal stimulus monies had been designated for sidewalk repairs. Many of you have noticed white marks on sidewalk segments along several of our busiest streets. These are the segments designated for repair.

Councilman Tom Owens's administrative assistant, Terra Long, tells us that the requests are currently at the state level for submittal and review by the federal administrators of the program. Terra tells us that things are moving fast considering the bureaucracy involved.

Timing for the repairs is still undetermined but we believe that it is safe to say that we should see the start of repairs in the first half of 2010. We'll keep you posted as we learn more so stay tuned.



Vacant Properties: A Tool to Turn Neighborhood Liabilities into Assets

Please join us, we currently meet the third Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7:30 PM at Presbyterian Community Center, 701 S. Hancock.
Contact us at (502) 584-6858 or doug@metropolitanhousing.org .

Mark your calendar and plan to attend:

Tyler Park Master Plan meeting
Tuesday, October 6th, 7-8:45
St. James Auditorium

Tyler Park Neighborhood Association's
Annual Meeting with elections and guest speaker
Thursday, October 22nd at 7 pm
at the library in the Mid City Mall
4th Annual TPNA Wine Tasting Event
Mid City Mall
Sunday, January 31st, 5-7:00

Keep up-to-date with your neighborhood.
Check out www.tylerpark.org regularly!



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5301 Mitscher Avenue in Iroquois Manor - 361-9285
205 Oakbrooke Drive, Mt. Washington, KY - 955-9563

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Tyler Park Master Plan Update

On May 21 the second in a series of park master plan meetings was held at the Highlands-Shelby Park branch of the library at the Mid-City Mall. Project consultants Mike Smiley of Environs Inc. and Patricia O'Donnell of Heritage Landscapes presented a detailed map of the existing conditions at the park. Their talk, entitled The Olmsted Plan-How is it Doing?, was a close look at how the park has changed over time. There was a detailed review of the inventory and assessment phase of the master plan project. A discussion session followed with questions and conversations about drainage, access, landscaping and security issues at the park.

The results of the park user's survey were also presented. Please visit the project website to review this fascinating information about the park.

<http://www.louisvilleky.gov/MetroParks/cityofparks/projects/tylerparkplanning.htm>

Currently, the Tyler Park Planning Committee is completing a set of recommendations for use by the consultant team. The recommendations will be based on the community input received through the surveys.

The consultants will prepare alternative plans for the park based on the feedback received so far, their field observations, and study and the recommendations of the Tyler Park Planning Committee. The alternative plans will be presented at the next public meeting.

Please plan to attend the next public meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 6 from 7:00 until 8:45 at St. James Auditorium.

See you there!

Martha Berner, Landscape Architect

Looking to the Future: Tyler Park Wine Tasting Sunday, January 31, 2010 5:00-7:00 Mid City Mall

Save the date for the 4th Annual Tyler Park Neighborhood Association Wine Tasting on Sunday, January 31st from 5:00-7:00 at the Mid City Mall.



Thanks to Sandy Metts for providing the space. Thanks to Gordo and Claudia Jackson of The Wine Market for their continued expertise, assistance with pouring, and discounted wines. Thanks to ValuMarket for the donated smorgasbord of appetizers.

Tickets are \$20.00 each and will go on sale at the Wine Market on December 1st, just in time for holiday gift giving.

Last year we made a profit of \$1,295.70 to help implement the Tyler Park Master Plan. Please join us for a fun filled evening. Again we plan on a sell out crowd of 200!



We need volunteers to help at the event. We are looking for accomplished musicians willing to donate an hour to entertain Tyler Park residents at The Wine Tasting.

Call board member, Joan Dubay, 458-8783.

Don't forget to renew your TPNA membership and to support our advertisers!



Grass Roots Gala

Tyler Park had a booth at The Grass Roots Gala on Friday, September 11th. The gala was in the beautiful TARC Atrium at Tenth and

Broadway.

The event was sponsored by BBC, LEO, TARC and WFPL and featured a silent auction, neighborhood booths, Tyler Park's own Tom Owen and a keynote speech by the editor of the LEO, Stephen George.

The TPNA banner was on the front of our table. There was a dvd on the history of Tyler Park, cookies, t-shirts, and decals. Membership applications were also available.



Check Your Mailing Label!

A reminder . . . TPNA board members have combined our mailing list with the membership list. Please look at the mailing label on this newsletter. Members who have paid within the past year will have their name listed on the label with a date showing when we received your membership payment. Businesses should look for the date beside their names to show that they have joined.

If your name is not on the label, **please , please, please join your neighborhood organization!** Details for joining are on the back of the newsletter.

Of course, there is always the chance that we missed your payment. If that is the case, let us know and we will gladly include your information on the mailing li

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage | <input type="checkbox"/> Litter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

I would like to serve on a committee concerning _____

I would like to work on the membership committee.

I would like to be on the Board of Directors.

E-mail your thoughts to info@tylerpark.org



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