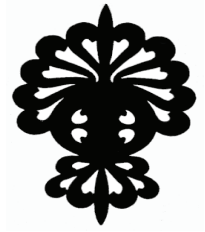




The Hyde Parker



Volume 38, Issue 10

A publication of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

October 2011



Under new hands-on management:

Academie Lafayette to reopen Longan in 2012

When Academie Lafayette Board President David Cozad got the word that the KCMSD had approved the charter school's Longan lease plan on Wednesday Aug. 24, he knew it was time to get rolling — with his lawnmower.

Cozad, an EPA lawyer, was on the school's Cherry St. grounds in North Hyde Park the following Saturday morning mowing tall weeds. The really hard work was finally accomplished—working through a year's worth of negotiations for a lease-purchase deal that will turn the vacant school into a new site for Academie Lafayette's kindergarten through 2nd grade students.

As many as 350 students and 20 teachers and support staff are likely occupy the school by August 2012, says Katie Hendrickson, Academie Lafayette's communications director. School leaders will first clean and renovate the facility, remove old carpets, repaint, reconfigure the playground, rewire to enable WI-FI access and add more air conditioning and new signage reflective of the school's French immersion approach to learning.

"We are thrilled to be getting started," Hendrickson says.

Currently the 49,523 sq. ft., 56-year-old building lacks central air conditioning in its 16 classrooms but it is considered by the school district to be in better structural shape than many other closed KCMSD schools. Last year's Armour Corridor Redevelopment study found that the 2.4 acre Longan campus, closed since June 2010, exhibited several factors that the study's urban planning consultant authors said contribute to Armour area blight.

Continued on page 4

Inside

Help your garden beat next year's heat with native plants

MAC's Kenwood plans

Above: Non-invasive coral honeysuckle can thrive in urban environments.

Photo by Becky Erickson



Illustration by Cecelia Dillon

Way of the Santa Fe

History's Hyde Park path

Pat Alley and Dona Boley are writing a book about Hyde Park since the 19th century. This includes the its history as a campsite along the Santa Fe Trail, as well as chapters on area houses, people, churches, schools, parks, and businesses.

The map to the left shows how the trail progressed through Central Hyde Park from the National Eagle Scout Memorial, gradually turning right at 88 Janssen Place, through what is now the garage at 3727 Holmes, east on Glee Terrace. The trail then turns north on Harrison St and then diagonally north and east across Troost Ave toward Independence, the trail's original starting point. You can help uncover more about North, South or Central Hyde Park or your home. E-mail Pat

HPNA member August-September honor roll

We regularly recognize new and renewing Hyde Park Neighborhood Association members. Three levels are offered: Commercial, \$100, Patron, \$50 & Household \$35.

Households: Rick & Kathy Blanchard;; Thomas & Laura Zahner; Bill & Jacquie Slusher; Rosalyn & Robert Wilson; Anna, Jordan and Brandon Hershell & Alyssa Cox; Rita & Gerald Schafer; Michael Sutherlin; Terry & Tamara Miller; Gretchen Gradinger & John Lynch; Kit & Carolyn Kubis; Sandra Rowland & Rita Gustin; Jeanette Evans-Hamilton; Wes Hanson; Gene & Judy Morgan; Lisa & Daniel Gooden; Kevin Sullivan & Les Zimmerman; Earl Ward

Patrons: Jeb & Leslie Bayer; Pat & Jane Alley; Jane Osborne; Linda & John Yates; Crystal Williams & Richard Speidel

Commercial: Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc.; Peter & Carol Bachhuber

Nominating Committee offers recommendations to HPNA Board

The HPNA Nominating Committee has recommended the following HPNA members for the respective offices shown below. Nominees shall be introduced at HPNA's November General membership meeting and elections will be held at that time.

First Vice-President

Chris Harper

Treasurer

Clara Keller

Corresponding Secretary

Mark Dillon

Historian

Wayne Tompkins

North Hyde Park Representative

Abigail FitzGerald

Central Hyde Park Representative

Ben Nemenoff

South Hyde Park Representative

Rosemary Kocher, Jessica Hogencamp

Terms begin after elections.

For more information on the responsibilities of each position, see www.hydeparkkc.org.



The Pilgrim Run just around the bend..

Enter today to Walk Or Run a 5K.

5K run/walk to benefit children's programs at Pilgrim Center.

Date: Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 24 **Time:** 9:00 am

Location: Start & finish at Pilgrim Chapel 38th St. /Gillham Rd.

Price: \$25 until Nov. 12.; \$30 Nov 13 - Nov 23. \$35 race day (family discounts available)

Course: Gillham Park, Harrison Parkway and historic Hyde Park; Chip timed and certified by the USATF. **T-Shirt:** Long sleeve

Awards: Overall male and female winner, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place age group winners. **Post-Race:** Food and drink, live entertainment

For more info, visit www.pilgrimrun.org

Questions? E-mail info@pilgrimrun.org

Volunteer now E-mail volunteers@pilgrimrun.org

Exciting new products to protect you, your family & your lifestyle.

- Health insurance
- Dental coverage
- Vision insurance
- Life insurance
- Hospital indemnity insurance
- Cancer insurance
- Critical illness coverage
- Long term care
- Fixed annuities

Call your local MarketPOINT representative:



GHA07VXE512

Lisa Ruskanen

816-878-5472

9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday – Friday

HUMANA.
MarketPOINT



*A welcoming, justice seeking
congregation
invites you to worship with us
Sundays 10:30 a.m.*

Central Presbyterian Church

3501 Campbell ♦ Kansas City, MO 64109
816 931-2515 ♦ www.centralpreske.org

Heidi Peterson, Pastor

Plan ahead for spring

Create a city-friendly, drought-tolerant native plant garden now

*By Dr. Nadia Navarrete-Tindall
Native Plant Extension Specialist
Native Plants Program, Lincoln University*

Fall is the best time to establish a native plant garden for the following spring. Missouri is home to more than 1,000 native plants, from wildflowers to trees, which can be found from prairies and glades to woodlands. Many of these can thrive in a Hyde Park front yard or backyard.

Whether you are planning to include native plants in your garden for beautification, for butterflies, birds and other wildlife, or maybe to eat some of them, you have many choices. About 200 species can be purchased from garden centers and nurseries/ The Grow Native! website (www.grownative.org) offers detailed descriptions with photos and many suggested landscaping arrangements. Species not available commercially can be grown from seed collected in fall or winter.

In nearby Manheim Park, there are more than 50 species of native plants at the Manheim Community Garden at 4233 Forest Ave. Established by Lincoln University's Native Plants Program and Urban Agriculture Program, the gardens are easily accessible, and provide an opportunity to learn to identify native plants. Visitors can also observe native pollinators, butterflies and birds depending on these plants for food or cover. Garden tours and training sessions about native plants are offered throughout the year upon request.

Getting started

To establish your garden, first get rid of weeds. If the area is small, the area can be covered with a plastic or fabric tarp to kill the vegetation. Unless the area is large with persistent weeds, it is typically better to avoid the use of herbicides. In early spring, after danger of frost is over, the area should be covered with a thick layer of mulch, to control annuals, followed by planting in the spring. If water is available, seedlings could be established from April to June. Groupings are better for gardens in the city. Organic fertilizers should be used only for woodland species.

Some of the plants you'll find at Manheim that you may want to consider for your garden include shade tolerant species that are established under a large black walnut tree, including:

- wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*) Native Americans consumed it as a spice. Flavor and smell resemble commercial ginger
- black cohosh (*Cimicifuga racemosa*)
- columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)
- pussytoes (*Antennaria parlini*)
- wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*)
- downy skullcap (*Scutellaria incana*) and
- sweet Williams (*Phlox divaricata*).

These shade tolerant plants will do well in formal to semi-formal gardens with good soil. To fight giant ragweed (*Ambrosia trifida*) – the source of late summer allergies for many people -- elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*), coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera serperivirens*), golden glow (*Rudbeckia laciniata*), ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*), common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), hairy mountain mint and slender mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum pilosum* and *P. tenuifolium*) plants are at the Manheim garden. These plants provide habitat for pollinators. Some are edible.

Coral honeysuckle is a native species to the southern parts of Missouri, and differs from the non-native honeysuckle varieties that Hyde Park volunteers have labored hard to remove in parks along Gillham Road and 39th Street. Take care, though. Coral honeysuckle is not as aggressive as Japanese and shrub honeysuckles.



Above: Slender Mountain Mint plants. It is said to make a good tea.

Fraternite escole: A new life for Longan

Continued from page 1

Specific financial terms of the one-year lease with an option to buy deal with KCMSD have not yet been released. However, Hendrickson says Academie Lafayette assumed immediate responsibility for grounds maintenance, including lawn care, snow removal and utilities, which historically have amounted to around \$4,700 a month when school was in session.

“This agreement is wonderful for our neighborhood” says Pam Anderson Gard, an Academie Lafayette board member and realtor who resides in Hyde Park.

Class sizes will not increase as a result of the expansion plan, which may involve moving K-1 students from Academie Lafayette’s Wornall Avenue and Oak Street campuses to Longan as early as the start of the January 2012 school term, Hendrickson says.

The exact timing of the move depends on the scope of building renovations that are needed and pace of construction, says Academie Lafayette Board member Chad Phillips. The board is seeking an engineering firm to do a pro bono evaluation of the campus’ needs.

Some 30% of families with children at Academie Lafayette already live in North, Central, South and Old Hyde Park or adjacent neighborhoods, according to Phillips. The school serves K-8 students and two years ago became the state’s first charter school to earn a Gold Star School award for academic progress by Missouri’s Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The KCMSD school district’s new interim superintendent—R. Stephen Green— had been an Academie Lafayette board member prior to his appointment last month to replace John Covington.

After months of negotiations and the rejection of an initial proposal last autumn, the district board voted 6-to-1 to permit the lease-purchase agreement on Aug. 24, the only dissenter being KCMSD board member Duane Kelly. In July, Kelly told *The Kansas City Star* that he opposes the sale of any KCMSD property to a charter school, characterizing it as “helping people who are trying to hurt us.”

The Kansas City School District Building Corp., technically the owner of the Longan site, also approved the deal following the district vote. As of press time, individual school district bondholders were also being asked to “sign off” on the deal given that that the Longan property serves as collateral for a district municipal bond issue that matures in 2014.

Academie Lafayette At-A-Glance

Classes K-8 564 students in 2010

- Highest performing charter school in Missouri
- Among Top 10 Missouri public schools in Communication Arts, Math and Science
- MAP scores exceed state averages Grades 3 through 8
- #1 ranked Missouri public school 6th & 8th grade math (out of 173 schools)
- Average teacher salary \$45,542

Academie Lafayette’s board has not set a budget for improvements, but a 2006 school district report estimated HVAC upgrades alone at that time would have cost more than \$1 million. Under district stewardship, air conditioning was limited to the school’s administrative offices, library and computer room.

“We’d like to have central air rather than window units in classrooms,” Hendrickson says. “It creates a better learning environment with a lower noise level and that’s important for our language immersion program.”

For Hyde Park, Academie Lafayette’s plan continues a neighborhood commitment to education that began 180 years ago with the founding of a nearby Mormon school in 1831. Prior to 1899, Hyde Park was part of the City of Westport, which operated the Hyde Park Elementary School near the Longan school’s current location. The Victorian era school was torn down by the KCMSD in the early 1950s to make way for Longan.

4419 Harrison St. in South Hyde Park \$199,500



PAM ANDERSON GARD

“Knows how to SELL Hyde Park”

Hyde Park Resident

pamgard@prukc.com

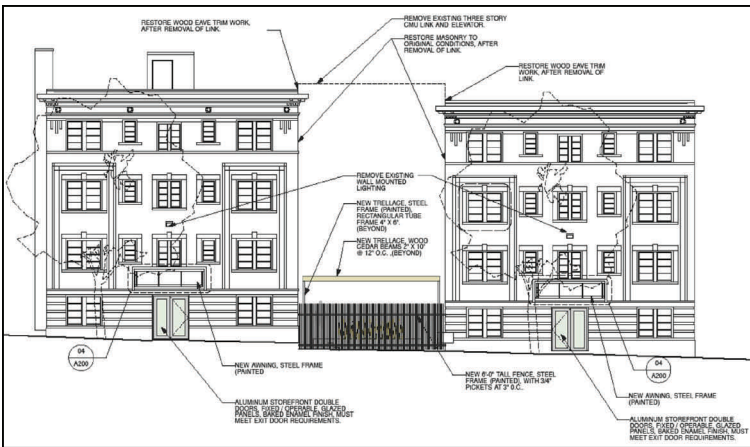
Cell 816.729.1241

Office 816.410.5481



©2011 An independently owned and operated member of Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc. Prudential is a registered service mark of The Prudential Insurance Co. of America. Information is deemed reliable, but not guaranteed. All rights reserved.

MAC Properties begins new phase of Armour rental restoration work



The above rendering shows New Jersey developer Antheus Capital plans to reconfigure the former Kenwood Apartments at 615-621 Armour Blvd. into two separate mid-rises. Using federal historic rehabilitation tax credits, the parent of MAC Properties (operating as Kenwood KC LLC) would take out a connecting section and elevator shaft to restore the structures to their original look. Antheus Capital purchased the property, along with 500 E. Armour and 3421 and 3425 Locust, last August for \$1.425 million, Jackson County records show. The four-building complex had formerly been Section 8 rentals and is being upgraded to market rate rentals.



Hyde Park 1831?

The above 1844 illustration is called *Commerce of the Prairie* and is on exhibition at the University of Wales in the United Kingdom. It was created by Josiah Gregg, an explorer, naturalist, and author who worked for nine years from 1831 as a trader along the Santa Fe Trail from Independence, Mo. to New Mexico. While not specifically identified as the Missouri River in the distance, this work of art depicts a Santa Fe Trail camp scene looking west about 180 years ago. Native Americans are on horseback in the distance.

Plant now for a greener future

Continued from Page 3
Edible options

Elderberry and common milkweed flowers and milkweed green pods can be eaten as vegetables, golden glow spring greens are tasty, and a sweet and aromatic tea can be prepared with the leaves of hairy and slender mountain mints.

Small trees such as wild plum (*Prunus americana*), serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*), spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), and paw paws (*Asimina triloba*) are planted at Manheim to provide forage for caterpillars and for humans if an occasional raccoon or possum do not find the fruits before!

In a larger area with full sun for 6 to 8 hours, prickly pear (*Opuntia humifusa*), false wild indigo (*Amorpha fruticosa*), partridge pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*), shining blue star (*Amsonia illustris*), black-eyed susan (*Rubdeckia hirta*), garden phlox (*Phlox paniculata*), and rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*) thrive.

Dr. Navarrete-Tindall is based in Jefferson City. To volunteer at Manheim Community Garden contact her at navarrete-tindalln@LincolnU.edu or 573.681.5392 or Hyde Park resident Tina Wurth at WurthT@LincolnU.edu or 816.841.3960. More about Lincoln University's Native Plants Program can be found at lincolnu.edu/web/programs-and-projects/native-plants.

Practically neighbors - let's be friends!



NOW OPEN 4-9 pm SUNDAYS
Beginning October 2, 2011 (Closed for Private Event 10/23)

Lunch, Cocktails & Dinner
Mon-Friday: 11 AM to 11 PM
Cocktails & Dinner Only
Saturday, 5 PM to Midnight
Sunday 4 PM to 9 PM

• Kitchen closes 10 PM Mon-Thu, 11 PM Fri & Sat, 8:30 PM Sunday.



www.cafetriokc.com

816.756.3227 • 4558 Main St. KCMO

Important Meetings

Monthly Meetings —

Central Presbyterian Church, 3501 Campbell

HPNA Board: Second Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

General Membership Third Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.

Crime and Safety The Kansas City Police's Central Patrol offices on Linwood Ave has responsibility for Hyde Park. These officers can be reached at 816.719.8297 daily, Officers meet with neighbors monthly at 7pm on the last Thursday of each month from January to October.

The HP Playgroup: Every Friday at 10:00 a.m. Please contact Steffany Kerr at skerr500@gmail.com or Amelia McDaniel at amelia.mcdaniel@gmail.com for more information.

Friends of Gillham Park are holding their monthly meetings and park clean-ups on the last Saturday of each month. Check their website for information: www.friendsofgillhampark.org.

Reach nearly 2,000 households in the heart of KC. Advertise in *The Hyde Parker*. Email mglendillon@aol.com or see our website for details.

Your 2011 Board Members

President	David Kimmis	561.7766	president@hydeparkkc.org
1st Vice President	Kevin Sullivan	913.231.4873	1stvp@hydeparkkc.org
2nd Vice President	Kerrie Tyndall	561.7339	2ndvp@hydeparkkc.org
Treasurer	Clara Keller	960-4669	treasurer@hydeparkkc.org
Historian	Pat Alley	531.7777	historian@hydeparkkc.org
Recording Secretary	Nancy Lowdon	753-8664	recordingsecretary@hydeparkkc.org
Corresponding Secretary	Gene Morgan	753.5336	correspondingsecretary@hydeparkkc.org
North Area Directors	Joe Denes Abigail FitzGerald	853-8557 785.383.2566	northrep@hydeparkkc.org
Central Area Directors	Paul Stevermer Ben Nemenoff	756.3422 665-5993	centralrep@hydeparkkc.org
South Area Directors	Chris Harper Open seat	547-7308	southrep@hydeparkkc.org

Share your viewpoint

email editor@hydeparkkc.org or mglendillon@aol.com

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 1754
Kansas City, MO

The Hyde Parker is a monthly newsletter published by the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Hyde Park Neighborhood Assoc., Inc.
P.O. Box 32551
Kansas City, Mo 64171