



## Newsletter

*Volume 1, (Issue 5)*

Visit our  
Website



### May 2023

#### Hello friend,

One word describing the Arboretum right now is undoubtedly green. The trees are showing an entire display, and the plants in our gardens are becoming complete and lovely. May is bridging spring and summer, and taking it in is glorious. We have been excited to get new plants in the ground, and all of the spring to-dos marked off our checklists! I hope you take in the a-"may"-zing views and opportunities at Mahr Park Arboretum for nature, self-care, recreation, and memorable moments. Slow down, take it in, and enjoy each day.

"May you always be the one to see the light in the little things" - Morgan Harper Nichols

## 2023 Community Garden



Community Garden prep has begun! Special thanks to Independence Bank, Scott Deahl, Stephanie Benson with Benson Farm, MNHHS Agriculture students and the Mahr team. ☐☐







## NEW! Data Counts

Monthly data counts of our roads and trails will help us analyze patterns, and efforts to better serve you. We can use this data for potential grants to help with future development.

### Average Monthly Counts

<u>Month</u>	<u>Trail</u>	<u>Road</u>
March	4,175 people	13,731 vehicles
April	5,977 people	17,868 vehicles

### Facility Events

<u>Month</u>	<u>Total</u>
April	21



## Art at the Arboretum

Our first Art at the Arboretum was a success. Student artists were led by local artist Dawn Moore and her husband to create masterpieces inspired by Eastern Bluebirds that inhabit the Arboretum.

Be on the lookout for an adult Art at the Arboretum this fall!

## Mahr Legacy

We have been working on a Mahr Legacy video featuring Shirley Peyton and Dr. Jack Hamman. This video features highlights of the Mahr's extraordinary life, love, and memories. Stay tuned for this special piece!



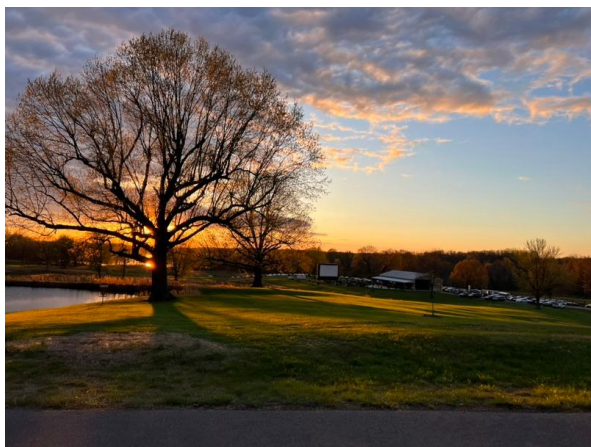
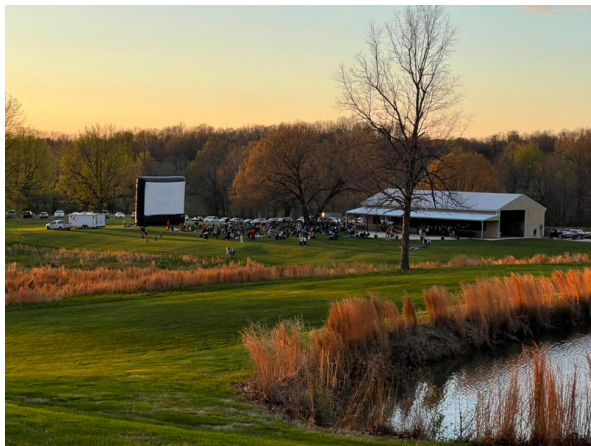
Pictured Above: Shirley Peyton, wife of Glema Mahr's Farm Manager, Danny Peyton.

Pictured Below: Glema Mahr





## Lights, Camera, Action!



## Outdoor Movie

All enjoyed the Outdoor Movie series presented by the City of Madisonville with the support of sponsors last month. The sunset was breathtaking and our community and beyond came out enjoying a fun presentation of Jurassic World. We appreciate the help of volunteers serving.

Check out the line-up of Madisonville Outdoor movies [here](#).

[Outdoor 2023 Movies](#)





## Field Trip Time!

We have seen ample use of the park and Nature Play Area for field trips. Pictured is Dawson Springs Independent School first-grade students. They had a memorable time and enjoyed simply being outside and experiencing this unique area for the first time!

This month we have over ten guided field trips and look forward to showing off this unique land and opportunities for education, recreation, and nature.

## The BUZZ at the Aboretum!





Bee volunteers have got our bees transferred and settled into their new apiary. They continue regular checks and monitoring—such a great educational new program. We look forward to keeping you updated with progress in continued efforts with bee conservation and ensuring our food, flowers, and farms have these essential pollinators.



## Eastern Bluebirds are hatching!

Birding volunteers have been busy with counts and data collection. As of 4/26/23, we had 36 nestlings and 51 total eggs. Weekly nest checks continue to take place, and we are thankful volunteers are dedicated to these beautiful birds that call Mahr Park Arboretum home.

## Pennyroyal Master Gardeners 9th Annual Lawn and Garden Fair success!

### Lawn and Garden Fair 2023

Master Gardeners, Pennyroyal hosted an excellent Lawn and Garden Fair at the Danny Peyton Outdoor Educational Pavilion on April 29th.

Educational presentations from Nathan Strange,





Arboretum Manager at Bernheim, Larry Stone (Bees), and Julie Robichaud (Herbs). Vendors, crafters, artisans, and farmers sold excellent products. The Tree Giveaway was a huge success!

[Read More](#)







## NEW Drinking Fountain!

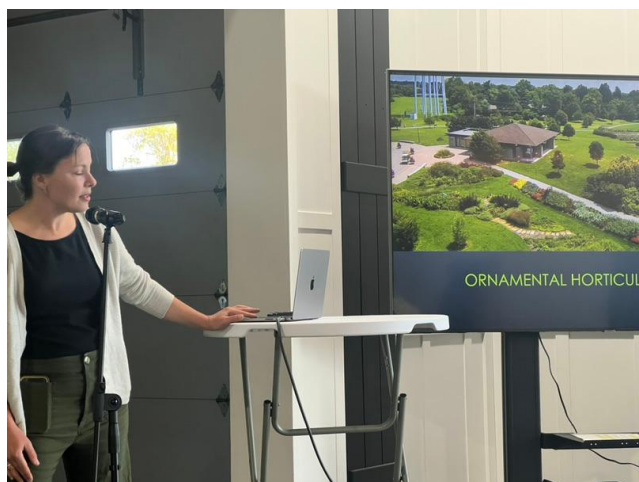
Be on the lookout for a new drinking fountain installed this month along the trail that also features a dog bowl for your furry friends! We continue to look for ways to help our guests and make your experience exceptional.

Pictured: David Smith and Ted Chandler, Grounds Team



## UK Arboretum visits!

We enjoyed having The Arboretum, State Botanical Garden of Kentucky Jess Slade, visiting with us. We are excited about their partnership with us as we continue to grow. □ Jess and Neville Crawford were able to collect plants and seeds for their unique Walk Kentucky Area that features our Shawnee Hills region and many plants and boulders from our area.



## Projects

It is a busy season for all, and we are thankful for each person on our team to make sure our guests enjoy exceptional services.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so

much." – Helen Keller



## April 2023 Star Party

We appreciate the Workman and Williams families for bringing their telescopes and volunteering their time to lead these special events.

Congratulations to our Star Party Art Contest winners□□□:

1st place, Nyles Tapp

2nd place, Asher Brewer

3rd place, Parris Tabor

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They were presented with an award by Lead Volunteer Chip Tate today.

Thanks, Pride teachers Mrs. Kelly Gates and Mrs. Staci Clark, for your support!



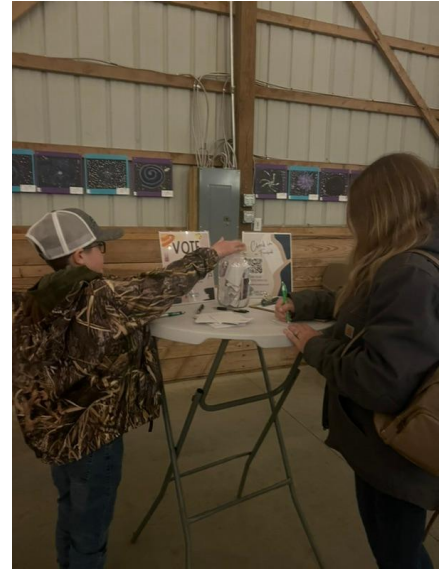
➡: Star Party dates of 2023:

May 27, 2023

August 26, 2023

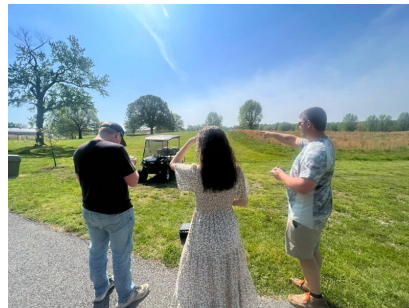


October 21, 2023  
November 18, 2023



## MCC Agriculture Program

Madisonville Community College Agriculture Department, Computers in Ag Environment class used Mahr Park Arboretum as their classroom, hands-on with drones for field surveys. This program is exciting for Madisonville and our region; we are happy to partner with them and instructor April Duncan. [Learn more about the MCC Ag Program!](#)







## Celebrating Earth and Arbor Day!



Wes Dement with the Kentucky Division of Forestry led us on an informative tree hike at the Arboretum. ☐☐ Learning more about our unique trees and enjoying the natural beauty of Mahr Park Arboretum was a treat. ☐☐



**Enjoy Mahr Park Arboretum from Lake Pee Wee!**

**Rent kayaks from our Welcome Center!**

**Single: \$20.00  
Tandem: \$30.00**



## Staff Spotlight: Ted Chandler



Ted Chandler is a vital employee of Mahr Park Arboretum. The love and pride he takes in his work do not go unrecognized. Ted is always looking for ways to build on his skill set. From special projects, construction, landscape, control burns, general maintenance, or anything that needs to be done to make Mahr Park successful, he is willing. Always dependable and looking for innovative ways to make a task more efficient. Ted loves to be outdoors, mowing and landscaping. He finds joy in seeing regular visitors and kids playing. He loves that anyone can come and enjoy Mahr Park Arboretum.

We are thankful for his hard work and dedication to enhancing the beauty of Mahr Park Arboretum daily.

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## Volunteer Spotlight: Kelly Gates



"Service, in general, is a core ethic I live by; we, as stakeholders in our community, must perform service if we are to positively impact others and inspire people today who will be the future helpers of our community tomorrow. Mahr Park Arboretum is a legacy gift from the Mahr family that will be cherished and protected to continue becoming all Mahrs desired for future generations.

I love Mahr Park Arboretum because it is a place of beauty, a celebration of nature, and a living classroom accessible to the entire community and region. It's a gift that keeps on giving as families and groups take pleasure in all it has to offer while making memories there. Those memories will inspire others to come back and enjoy the legacy the Mahr family intended their

gift to be for this community.

### **Educational Volunteer Work at the Arboretum includes:**

#### **2018 Earth Day Tree Planting w/ PES Courtyard of Curiosity by invitation of Mayor Cotton**

Members from grades four and five planted trees alongside the members of our community.

#### **Educational Programming**

In 2019, I collaborated w/High School Teachers Maria Bailey and Kim Shaw to pilot the first Nature Fest (an outdoor event featuring environmental education stations led by high schoolers, community agencies, and Mahr Park volunteers). The following year we participated as a whole grade level, and then it launched into a county-wide event alternating between elementary schools.

#### **2018 Earth Day Tree Planting w/ PES Courtyard of Curiosity by invitation of Mayor Cotton**

Members from grades four and five planted trees alongside the members of our community.

#### **Sponsored a Fundraising Booth with Courtyard of Curiosity at the First Annual Harvest Fest**

This booth offered daylilies, fresh-picked rosemary, and baked goods to fund gardening activities at the school.

#### **Haybale Competition for the Harvest Fest**

Courtyard of Curiosity members has created nature-themed hay bale entries for the annual Harvest Fest for the last two years.

Entries focused on species found at Mahr Park.

#### **Mahr Park Educational Programming in 2018**

I worked collaboratively with 16 educators from Hopkins County Schools from each level of our school system to develop a field trip curriculum on-site so that teachers and other educational groups could conduct experiments and have access to ready-made educational kits."

-Kelly Gates

Kelly continues to partner with us on many educational events through Hopkins County Schools and individually. Her unique, creative, and hands-on approach to learning is valued, and we appreciate her heart, dedication to students and her community.

## **Mark your Calendar!**

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### **Upcoming Events**

**05/06/23**, Hopkins County Farmers Market

Opening Day

8 AM- 1 PM

Pennyroyal Master Gardeners Plant Swap

2-4 P.M.

**\*Danny Peyton Outdoor Education Center**

[Learn More](#)

**05/06/23**, Journey Wellness presents Yoga at

Mahr Park Arboretum

[Learn More](#)

\*Jan.richey@journeywellnessllc.com



**05/13/23**, Junior Naturalists Class

10 AM

**\*Welcome Center**

**05/14/23**, Happy Mother's Day!

**05/18/23**, Woman's Club Madisonville presents  
Mental Health Awareness Walk

4-6 PM

**\*Kayak Launch Trailhead**

**05/27/23**, Star Party, presented by: Ross  
Workman, 8 PM

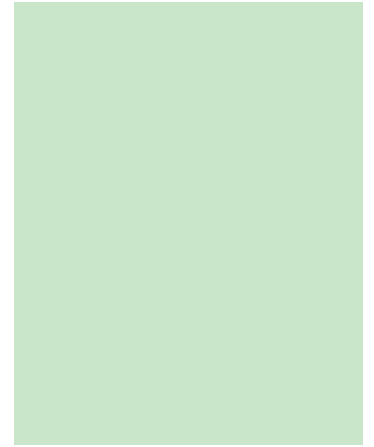
**\*Barn B**

**05/29/23**, Memorial Day



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The Mahr legacy lives on...



Tag us on social media or email  
your photos of your next visit to  
Mahr Park Arboretum! You may be  
featured in the following  
newsletter!

#mahr park /  
@mahrparkarboretum /  
mahrpark@madisonvillegov.com



Stetson and Grayson enjoying the Nature Play  
Area!





## Contact Us

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