Vol 17, No.4 Aug/Sept 2014

Lakeland currents

Bi-monthly news magazine sponsored by the Council of Lakeland Associations (COLA)

Julie Reagan, assistant principal, greets students *(photo by Jim Willis)*

Historic First Day

Lakeland School System - Aug. 4, 2014

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Town Hall Meeting Aug. 19

Attend a joint meeting Aug. 19 of the BOC and LSB at Lakeland Elementary School. Learn details about a tax increase which will fund a grades 6-12 school and campus for Lakeland. Start time for the meeting is 6 p.m. Stories page 4,5.

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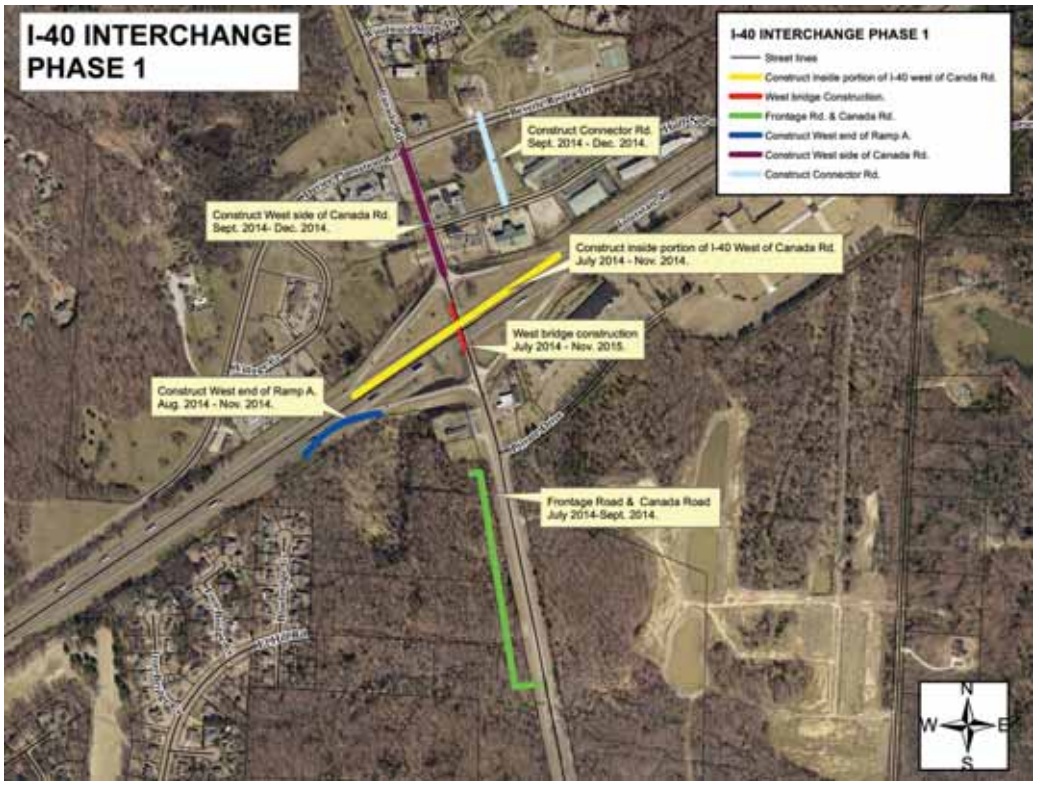
Long Awaited I-40 Work Underway

The construction is evident around Canada Road and I-40. Phase 1 of the $28 million improvement of the interchange continues this month after starting in mid-July. The project was designed to handle higher traffic flow from increased commercial and residential development at the interchange.

Fred Clayton, project manager for Bell & Associates Construction, said Phases 1, 2 and 3 of the project will involve a median on I-40, piers for the western half of the bridge over I-40 and ramps west of Canada Road.

A part of Phase 1 will be to connect Huff N Puff Road to Beverle Rivera just west of the Motel 6. The temporary connection will allow traffic from subdivisions at and north of Beverle Rivera Drive and Seed Tick Road to access Canada Road further north and away from the construction activity. Huff N Puff will be closed at Canada Road, although there will be access to the Shell gas station and the Waffle House restaurant.

Work on I-40 (continued on page 3)



Projected Time Spans, Images for I-40 Interchange

The top drawing shows 2014 target dates for work around Canada Road and the interchange. It was created through the office of Jim Atkinson, director of planning and administration at City Hall. The two other graphics show two views of the interchange and were generated by TDOT. The pedestrian path on the I-40 bridge will extend to current bridges on Canada Road, south of I-40.

LAKELAND CURRENTS

Published bimonthly by The Council of Lakeland Associations (COLA)

City of Lakeland, Cool Springs, Creekside Manor, East Shores, Garner Lake, Herons Ridge, Lakeland Chamber of Commerce, Lakeland Estates, Lakeland Lions Club, Lakeshore Ladies Club, Oakwood, Winstead Farms, Winward Slopes, Woodbridge, Woodland Park, The Grove at Lakeland.

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Work on I-40 (continued from page 2)

Several among the approximately 100 Lakeland residents attending a July briefing expressed concern that construction activity on the interchange would exacerbate an already difficult traffic issue with vehicles westbound on Huff N Puff stacking up because of the difficulty of turning left onto Canada Road at the intersection regulated only by a stop sign on Huff N Puff. The City sometime next year will extend Beverle Rivera Drive to connect with Huff N Puff.

Clayton and TDOT officials were asked if a traffic control signal would be installed at Beverle Rivera and Canada to address the heavy traffic trying to turn left onto Canada Road once Huff N Puff is blocked. Clayton said he was not sure when a traffic control signal would be installed at the intersection. He said, however, that the suggestion to go ahead and put one in makes sense.

The ramp connecting southbound traffic on Canada Road to westbound lanes of I-40 will be built to the north of the current westbound entrance ramp, which will remain open to traffic during the construction of the new ramp. Likewise, the current ramp from the eastbound lanes of I-40 to Canada Road will remain open while a new ramp is built further south for southbound traffic on Canada Road.

Several Lakeland residents attending the meeting said they were concerned about noise levels from I-40 in their neighborhoods and asked if sound barriers would be erected as part of the project, although the project does include retaining walls. They were told sound barriers are not in the plan as studies did not show a need for them. TDOT officials present said they were not sure when or how the sound level study was done, but they said they would get that information to those who had expressed concern.

Phase 1 of the project will continue through fall of this year. Phase 2, involving construction of the western half of the widened Canada Road bridge over I-40, will commence by winter of 2014 and is scheduled for completion by summer of 2015.

Phase 3 includes completing the widening of Canada Road at Beverle Rivera Drive and should be finished by fall of 2015.

The first three phases of the project will not affect traffic to businesses along Canada Road, but once Phases 4, 5 and 6 begin during the winter of 2015, driveways to businesses on Canada Road will be closed in some instances and temporary driveways will be built in others.

Jim Atkinson, director of planning and administration for Lakeland, said the pedestrian path on the I-40 bridge will be extended to the pedestrian bridges on Canada Road and will extend north to eventually connect with New Canada Road. The bridges south of I-40 became known as "the bridges to nowhere" but always were planned to continue over I-40 once the new interchange was built.

Clayton said the funding is in place from TDOT for the project and he believes the project will be completed on schedule by spring of 2017.

Nichole Lawrence, TDOT community relations, said the agency will provide updates on the project as construction proceeds. Link to status of interchange projects. http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/i40-240memphis/

– Jim Willis

Construction Crews Busy on Highway 64, North Lakeland

Interstate work isn't the only construction undertaking around Lakeland. LA Fitness is out of the ground and restaurants are about to start, according to Jim Atkinson, director of planning and administration for Lakeland. Delta Blues Winery in north Lakeland is on the cusp of opening.

LA Fitness expects to be open by the end of the year. The facility on Highway 64 near I-40 will have an indoor pool, mainly for classes and lap swimming.

The Delta Blues Winery expects to open this fall, although Jim is not sure of an actual open date. "They are going back to the Board of Appeals in August to request a few minor changes to the original permit involving future events," he said.

McDonald's will start construction this fall. "I have not heard an open date from them," noted Jim. The new McDonald's will be located on Highway 64 just east of the Lakeland Walgreen's and will replace the location on Canada Road.

Waffle House has one more approval step before it can proceed to construction. "I anticipate construction starting this fall," said Jim. The new location for this restaurant will be on Highway 64 to the east of Auto Zone. The current Waffle House may or may not stay open, depending on traffic disruptions associated with the I-40 interchange construction.

The Subway location just south of I-40 may relocate. "No word from Subway, but they are fully approved other than the building permit, said Jim. A new Subway will be behind the State Farm office which is on Canada Road at Beverle Rivera Road.

The new tenants for the old Kroger building on Highway 64 at Fletcher Trace are scheduled to do a reveal in November. However, the business has been encouraged by the City to make the announcement sooner than later.

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LSB Update (Lakeland School Board)

Ken Glazer

The day everyone thought would never come, the first day of school for the Lakeland School System, arrived Aug. 4 and came off without a hitch. Buses and carpools ran; meals were served; students found their rooms. Eight hundred and thirty-five students met their teachers and classmates. Principal Joretha Lockhart, Asst. Principal Julie Reagan and staff made the day as perfect as it could be for new students and parents.

All the classrooms were decorated to excite the students. At the end of the day students loaded on buses, climbed into cars, got on their bicycles or walked home with so many stories to share. Teachers, who were equally excited, went home feeling pride in knowing the job was well done.

Superintendent Dr. Ted Horrell commented on how well the day had gone. He noted all the planning and preparation made for a very smooth first day. The smile on his face said he was very proud of all the exceptional work the Board, the principal, her staff and teachers had done to make it such a successful day.

Announced on this historic day through Laura Harrison, vice chair of the LSB and an LES parent, was a significant technology purchase for students. Through donations of parents, citizens and businesses, six carts of 120 Chromebooks and 40 Google Nexus Tablets are coming to LES.

At the LSB meeting the evening of Aug. 4, Chairman Kevin Floyd, Laura and Board members Matt Wright, Kelley Hale and Teresa Henry listened to Ted's report of the first day with pride and satisfaction for a well done job. Ted thanked the Board. The Board thanked Ted and the school staff. "Did you think today would ever come." he asked. "It was really special to see it take place."

A greatly anticipated item on the Aug. 4 agenda was a discussion of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Dubbed "Lakeland Prep" by Board of Education member Matt Wright, the project calls for $50 million to build a combined middle/high school in Lakeland.

Kevin said he sees no way to fund a new school building for grades 6-12 without a tax increase. The CIP proposal calls for a school to be completed within five years with a capacity of 1,750 students. It is hoped, however, that the school will be completed within three years so all 1,300 middle and high school students, as well as the city's elementary students, will attend their own Lakeland schools.

Initially presented to the BOC July 7, the plan was enthusiastically endorsed by Mayor Wyatt Bunker who said, "We get the opportunity to build the school how and where we want. The Lakeland School Board and superintendent were wise to design it to compete with top private schools because much of our population are able to provide their children an opportunity to attend those schools."

On August 7th Ted presented the CIP to the commissioners. The BOC response to the presentation was extremely positive. Commissioner Randy Nicholson reminded everyone in attendance that the citizens had twice voted to have their own municipal school district with the knowledge that the district is required by law to educate all of its K through 12 students. This means Lakeland has to provide buildings. The commissioners agreed this plan for a combined middle / high school offers so many efficiencies and cost benefits that it is the best for Lakeland.

The Mayor commented that while he favored holding a referendum on the issue of raising property taxes to fund the school, City Attorney Chris Patterson informed him that only an action by the Board of Commissioners could legally bring about a special tax to build the school.

Given this legal requirement, the agenda called for an ordinance for a special property tax brought forward by Commissioner Gene Torrey with the tax used exclusively to pay for the school building debt. The tax would sunset upon paying off the bond. The special property tax rate, if approved on final reading, will be 55 cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation, making the City's total property tax $1.40. It was noted that of the original 85 cent tax only 15 cents goes to school operations, 10 cents to a school reserve fund and 60 to the City for capital expenses. It was noted that if the City does not fund the CIP, and the seven year interlocal agreement runs out with the City of Arlington, Lakeland students would most likely be forced to return to Shelby County Schools.

Speaking about the proposed building, Kevin stated, "We are very excited about the educational opportunities that building our own facility will bring to our students. As you know, the proposed building will be a combined middle and high school facility with all of the amenities of a typical high school: fields, gyms, labs and auditoriums. The facility will be designed in a manner that will allow us to keep middle and high students separate, while still sharing the same campus."

Kevin recommended a town hall meeting to discuss Lakeland Prep. The meeting, open to all Lakeland citizens, is planned for 6 p.m. August 19 at Lakeland Elementary School. On the Mayor's suggestion, the Board of Commissioners will join the Board of Education at the town hall meeting.

In a word, officials agreed, the school will be outstanding. Wyatt stated he believes this is the only acceptable way to plan and build the school. Ted and Kevin agree. The goal of the CIP is to create a college preparatory school, within the Lakeland School System, which offers unsurpassed educational opportunities; a school and a school system which will bring immense pride and new growth to the Lakeland community.

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Regional Bike, Walk Path Suggested for Lakeland

Kyle Wagenschutz' job is to get you interested in bicycling and walking throughout Lakeland. Toward that goal, he came July 22 to City Hall for input from Lakeland citizens on a regional bike path. As a bicycle and pedestrian coordinator with the Memphis Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Kyle gave an overview of the program and its services.

He and the other staff members for MPO help plan for future needs for these paths within the cities, but do not build anything. They help create a regional network of paths and coordinate among citizens in Shelby, western Fayette, DeSoto and northwest Marshall Counties. "We don't secure funding, we only provide guidance and reference," he said.

In the three years since a plan was created in 2011, 300 miles of biking/walking paths have been created in the regional area. Now, in 2014, the MPO is "reshuffling the deck" on further goals for the group. They started in January going to all the jurisdictions for studies, which will be completed next month. After analyzing the data, a new document will be created with the goal of adopting a new plan by November.

Those attending the public meeting were asked to share their ideas at three stations: bicycle and pedestrian comfort and safety; bicycle and pedestrian travel calculator; and transportation spending.

If you were unable to attend the public session, you can go to the website http://www.memphismpo.org/ for more information and share your opinions.

Inside the BOC Meetings (Board of Commissioners)

Lakeland residents have an opportunity to attend a town hall meeting Aug. 19 at Lakeland Elementary School to learn about a proposed tax increase for Lakeland Prep.

During the Aug. 7 BOC work session, Dr. Ted Horrell, superintendent for the Lakeland School System, presented a power point vision for the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) also known as Lakeland Prep.

The $50 million facility would combine middle and high school students in one building with separate entrances but shared services like a plant manager, principal, staff and equipment.

Commissioner Gene Torrey sponsored an ordinance establishing a special property tax. Other commissioners and Mayor Wyatt Bunker agreed it was the right way to go. The first reading for the ordinance was to be Aug. 14, followed by the town meeting Aug. 19, a public hearing Sept. 4 and the second and final reading in September, date TBA.

Lakeland officials were busy with other projects this summer with rehab of the old Kroger building a continuing topic. Chris Thomas, city manager, reported that a new vendor is slated to open next spring at the Highway 64 location but he has not been authorized by the tenant to share the name of the business.

Also on the BOC summer agenda were a liquor referendum, parks grant, new budget and the gateway corridor.

Also at the Aug. 7 work session, the mayor and commissioners recommended taking a resolution to the Shelby County Election Commission for a Nov. 4 referendum. Lakeland voters would decide for or against consumption of alcohol in the City.

Chris Patterson, Lakeland city attorney, said to sell wine in grocery stores each jurisdiction must first hold a referendum among its residents. However, a prerequisite to holding the wine in grocery stores referendum is a requirement that the jurisdiction must first have a referendum to sell alcohol. This can be either the liquor by the drink form, or package store type. This is required before grocery stores can sell wine.

"For Lakeland, the law on this part is exceptionally complex in that it involves the possible application of the 1969 Shelby County referendum. While I think we have some arguments that perhaps the 1969 countywide referendum applies to Lakeland (thereby foregoing the need for a preliminary referendum to sell alcohol), I don't have a lot of confidence in that position because the City didn't even exist then."

He noted that the wine in grocery stores law doesn't take effect until Jan. 1, 2016, which gives Lakeland time to run both referendums without the City missing any real opportunities. Further, the initial referendum will not require a petition effort, as the referendum can be placed on the ballot by the election commission after a simple resolution by Lakeland's Board of Commissioners that is passed by a 4/5 vote.

A parks grant was approved to allow the Mayor to notify the Tennessee Department of Environment and Recreation of the City's intent to proceed with a modified LPRF (Local Parks and Recreation Fund) grant for $250,000. The money could be used to prepare City owned property on Memphis-Arlington Road, just east of Canada Road, for athletic fields. Of the 100 acres at that location, only about 20 acres would be suitable for development. The grant money could be used for electrical, irrigation, French drains, and site preparation for use as ball fields and other recreational endeavors. It would be about two years before anything was actually finished at that site.

The grant requires matching funds from the City, but Wyatt suggested that the value of the land could be used as the match. There will be an opportunity to apply for another $250,000 grant in 2016.

In a 4 to1 vote June 16, Lakeland approved the 2014-15 budget for the City. It includes hiring a full-time parks director, a part-time Senior Center director and giving some employees a 2 percent pay increase. Mayor Bunker cast the lone nay vote saying parks and senior facilities are nice, but not true needs of the City right now.

There were two budgets presented: option A was a product of City Manager Chris Thomas and option B was offered to meet the requests of Board of Commissioner members.

Total non-capital revenue in the budget is $2.2 million; capital revenue is $7.7 million. Expenses are $7.7 and even adding the pay increase for some employees, Chris said the budget will still be balanced.

The gateway corridor to Lakeland on Canada Road continued to be a concern for commissioners and residents. What is the best way to economically repair the existing irrigation system and improve visual appeal? Among the suggestions are replacing mulch with sod and using a water truck for irrigation during non-rainy periods instead of repairing the sprinkler system. Commissioner Clark Plunk is to sponsor a resolution on repairing the sprinklers.

Other BOC topics:

• Recycling and litter control took center stage as new 96- gallon recycling bins were delivered to all City residents. In addition, recycling is only collected every other week, while trash and yard waste weekly pickups remain the same.

Residents can put yard waste and household trash in either the green or blue can, as those materials are taken to the same dump site. Complaints have been numerous and the City will monitor the situation to determine any changes to the new system.

• Litter pickup is handled by "Clean Memphis" that does spring and fall cleanups of the City plus three times monthly street litter and charges $10,000. The package includes a school program designed to teach students ways they can participate in keeping the City beautiful.

• A2H was approved as a consulting engineer for the City for $82,000 plus negotiated lump sum prices for additional work.

• The Commission agreed to a loan to the Lakeland School System for $2 million to use before state monies are received.

.• A $500 fee for Garner Lake fireworks was waived and a $50 fee was approved for non-commercial shows and $500 for commercial.

• Lakeland amended the fee schedule for IH Clubhouse rentals including a $50 fee for non-profits using the facility.

• For the Kensington Manor planned development, Mayor Bunker and Commissioner Randy Nicholson both agreed they would like to see the siding maximum for the new houses less than the planned 30 percent. The property is owned by the Bank of Bartlett and Regency Homes is considering developing the property. Currently the projected homes could be up to 30 percent siding.

Sherri Gallick

vice mayor

Sherri Gallick

There is a lot happening in Lakeland. Jessica Frye recently joined the Lakeland city team as our new finance director and she also will act as the chief municipal finance officer. Jessica brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in finance, human resources and risk management to our City. The City also has hired two seasonal workers to assist with mowing and public works.

Lakeland also will receive a grant for $250,000 to develop land for an athletic park. The sports park will be located off Memphis Arlington Road on land that the city currently owns. Five days prior to the final city budget hearing, the board found out that the state would allow the city to utilize the land as a match for the grant. Planning and coordination on the project is crucial so we have an immediate need for leadership in Parks & Recreation. The past Lakeland Parks and Rec Director, Brenda Lockhart, will be managing the grant project and she will help the city create a Parks and Recreation Department. Brenda has agreed to assist until we hire a new parks and recreation director in 2015.

KEEP LAKELAND BEAUTIFUL became an official affiliate of the Keep America Beautiful program in July. As part of this national program, Lakeland will have an opportunity to apply for grants that are available only to official KAB affiliates. To date, Shelby County has only two KAB affiliates, with Lakeland being one. The program will supplement the City's beautification, recycling and litter efforts and is a subcommittee working under auspices of the City's Parks and Recreation Board.

Litter costs the taxpayers thousands of dollars every year. People do not throw money out of car windows, but we see them litter our roadways. KEEP LAKELAND BEAUTIFUL works by educating the public and promoting individual responsibility, ownership and pride in our city. The way your city looks sends a message to potential business and the community. A clean environment that is aesthetically appealing is essential for Lakeland's future economic development.

I have received many questions about what is going into the old Kroger space on highway 64. The future Lakeland business has requested that the city stay silent because the company wants to announce the business in November. I am thrilled that we will have a new business in our city so I will not be saying anything until November.

Lastly, an update on the construction of the Canada Road/I-40 interstate exchange. The first construction phase has started and TDOT will be concentrating on the I-40 median and the areas west of Canada Road. There are six phases with the final target completion date in May 2017. While the construction may be cumbersome over the next few years, the end result will be fantastic. The new interstate exchange will accommodate increased traffic demands and put a new and improved face on our City with retaining walls, pedestrian walkways and decorative concrete. If you would like to see a diagram and a video on the future interstate exchange, this is a TDOT link http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/i40CanadaRd/.

Kevin Floyd

LSB Board Chair kfloyd@lakelandk12.org

Kevin Floyd

Open for Business!

They say it takes a village to raise a child. Well, I'm here to tell you it takes a City to start a school system. We wouldn't be where we are today without the support from you, the citizens of Lakeland, and our City staff, mayor and commissioners. Dr. Horrell, Mrs. Lockhart and her staff have worked tirelessly to get us to this point as well. Words truly can't express the amount of energy, effort and work it took from everyone to get us here. On behalf of the Board of Education, I'd like to say, "Thank You!"

As I've said before, this is not the end of our vision but is the beginning. While the board has been working to make sure the school opened on time, we've also had our eye on the future. We approved a five-year Capital Improvement Plan that calls for a combined middle and high school facility. The project has been named Lakeland Prep. The facility will be designed in a manner that will allow us to keep middle and high school students separate while sharing the same campus. We believe this design will create efficiencies and savings by reducing the amount of overhead expenses you would normally have if you built two separate campuses (one for middle and one for high) and bringing all of our students back to Lakeland. Lakeland Prep will be designed to compete with public and private schools throughout the State. We plan to begin the land acquisition and design process this year. Stay tuned for more to come on Lakeland Prep!

As we begin this new school year here's some contact information that may be helpful:

Lakeland School System
www.lakelandk12.org - 867-5412

Lakeland Elementary School
www.lakelandk12.org/les - 867-7071

Arlington Community Schools
www.acsk-12.org - 389-2497

Bartlett City Schools
www.bartlettschools.org - 202-0855

Your School Board is committed to making sure all of our students receive the best educational experience possible. We appreciate your support and involvement. Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me or any of the other board members.

We are looking forward to a great school year!

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New Faces at Lakeland City Hall

A newly hired finance director is among recent hires for Lakeland City along with a community services representative and two public works employees.

Chris Thomas, Lakeland city manager, announced that Jessica Snell Frye is the finance director for the City She will serve as general accountant and auditor of the City and will oversee preparation of the annual budget and capital budget for all funds. She also will help assure that financial operations are performed in compliance with applicable local, state and federal laws.

She was city clerk for the City of Brownsville almost four years. Jessica prepared, analyzed and executed the annual budget and oversaw all financial operations for Brownsville. She also acted as human resources manager and risk manager.

She is a graduate of Haywood High School and graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BBA in accounting from the University of Memphis. She is a Certified Municipal Finance Officer, a Certified Municipal Clerk and Recorder, and a member of the Tennessee Government Finance Officers Association.

Jessica has one daughter, Aubrey, and is a lifelong resident of Haywood County.

Syma Collins is the temporary community services representative but may become permanent after the first of the year, according to Chris. She formerly worked for MCI WorldCom Communications and for Shelby County Schools with almost 28 years of customer service. She is a native of Memphis. She has two sons, Daniel who works for the City of Memphis and Gabriel, who is a campus police officer in Nashville.

Of the two public works hires, one may be permanent in 2015, said Chris. The City also is looking for a temporary sewer plant employee, entry level.

Brenda Lockhart is serving as interim parks director as a volunteer, overseeing a state grant to fund an athletic park near Memphis- Arlington and Canada roads. She will work about 20 hours a week through December. She also is chair for Parks and Recreation and Natural Resources.

She is a native of Gregory, AR and moved to Memphis at age seven. She graduated from the University of Memphis, majoring in parks and recreation administration. She worked for the Memphis Park Commission and retired after 30 years of service. She later worked five and one half years for Lakeland.

Two applications have been received for the Senior Center position, but a person has not yet been named.

Cecil Tompkins Honored as Citizen of the Year

Left to right standing: Brenda Gibson, Margaret Brown, Cecil and Nancy Tompkins, Stephanie Mulder (daughter). Left to right seated: Charlene Bateman, Marla Elliott, Ande Payne, Jenny Ellis. Photo by Barbara Taylor

The Lakeland Lakeshore Ladies Club surprised Cecil Tompkins and named him Citizen of the Year during its spring meeting at Rosebriar in Eads.

In making the announcement, Margaret Brown, president of the group, said Cecil has made Lakeland a better place because of his unselfish dedication to service.

He and his wife Nancy moved to Lakeland in 2005 and became active in the community. He is former president of the Civic Club and was a member of the municipal planning commission for Lakeland. He served a four-year term as Lakeland commissioner from 2009 to 2013 and is the former president of the Lakeland Lions Club.

"After our citizens voted to form our own school district, Cecil took it upon himself to research information on school board models," said Margaret. "He invited all candidates for the school board to join him to study the models to ready them for their task at hand." He helped form and is chair of the Lakeland School Foundation.

He and his wife recently celebrated 51 years of marriage. They have two children, Stephanie (Todd) Mulder and Clay (Teresa) Tompkins and four grandchildren.

He is an accomplished singer, a soloist at his church and has recorded a CD.

Nancy Highland, D.D.S.

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Newsworthy around Lakeland

School Board vice chair Laura Harrison was awarded the Five Star Award from Federal Express. It is the highest honor awarded to FedEx employees and the second time for Laura to be so recognized. She is a project engineer in Postal Transportation Management with the Memphis -based firm. When asked about the honor, she said, "It has been a very busy year with the project I have been working on so the recognition by the company for the work is so very appreciated. I did win the FedEx Five Star Award 10 years ago for project work I had done in 2003-2004. I really love working for FedEx and want to do a good job to help the company be successful and try to make sure that shows in every way. I feel the same passion for the Lakeland School System and want to do everything I can to help make it amazing not only for the children of Lakeland but also for all citizens of Lakeland to be proud of. "

Dr. Ted Horrell, LSS superintendent, shared with Board members a bit of financial good news for a Lakeland business. He advised the other municipal districts that Signs First Digital, a Lakeland business, had nicely resurfaced TCA (Tennessee Code Annotated) -required security signs in front of Lakeland Elementary School. Germantown Municipal School District took the hint and used Signs First to resurface the signs at their five schools as well. "Go LSS," he commented to the Board in noting this is an example of supporting local business and bringing outside dollars into Lakeland. The company is located at 8950 Highway 64, suite 113.

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Be "Current" with Lakeland news and events via the COLA/ Lakeland Currents Twitter and Facebook pages. "Like" the following sites from the Council of Lakeland Associations/Lakeland Currents, your bi-monthly Lakeland news magazine and online source for everything Lakeland.

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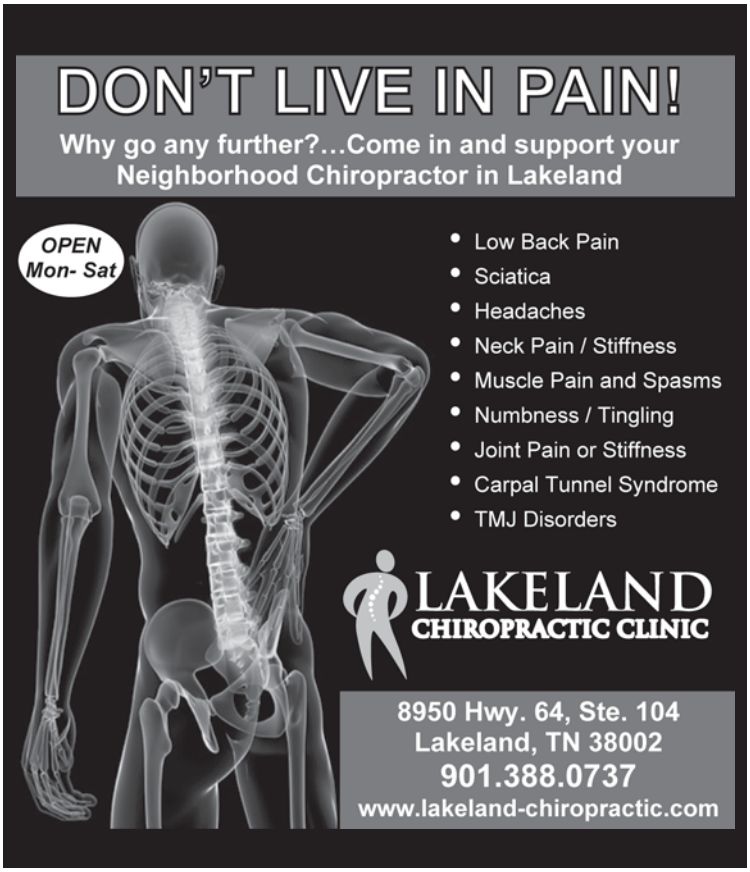

Lakeland: Your City, Your History

Cecil Tompkins

Cecil Tompkins

I have a question for you, readers: What do the 1958 Brussels World Fair, a sandy beach and a race car have in common? For those of you who have lived in Lakeland from the beginning, you know the answer. The surprising answer is that those three items are part of your heritage as citizens of Lakeland. That came about as the result of Lakeland Amusement Park, formed in 1959 and ultimately became the site of a new city.

The cable cars, imported from the Brussels World Fair, stretched across an area four times longer than the original cable cars in operation at Disneyland. The sandy beaches were on what is now East Shores and the race cars were in operation at the Lakeland Drag Strip located behind the current outlet mall. You would be hard pressed to find a more unusual beginning of a city. What may be just as interesting to some is that Lakeland was almost part of Arlington. In late 1976 the Board of Aldermen in Arlington proposed to annex the area that is now Lakeland. The annexation issue had already passed on two readings. On the night of the third reading a delegation consisting of Louis Garner, the owner of Lakeland Amusement Park, Dale Jones and Bob Murphy attended the Arlington Board meeting. They pled with the Board not to annex Lakeland, but give the residents of the community a chance to form their own city. Surprisingly, the aldermen agreed to forgo the annexation. So, in June 1977, after some debate, residents voted to become Lakeland, a city of 612 citizens. The population consisted of three areas of the newly formed city: the lake area, the mobile home area and the remaining rural areas. A commissioner was elected from each of these sections, and those commissioners elected a mayor and a vice-mayor for the City.

The early boards were presented with some interesting decisions. It was proposed that Lakeland annex a portion of land south of the intersection of Highway 64 and Houston Levee. Today that would be where Bank of Bartlett, CVS Pharmacy and other businesses are located. Davies Plantation was also in the annexation plans that were proposed before the laws allowing the larger cities to have priority or establish annexation reserves. The Lakeland boards declined to take in those two areas, which were basically vacant land. The City would certainly have a different look today if that had occurred.

Thanks to former Commissioner Dale Jones for his help in supplying some fascinating historical moments.

Go to You Tube to see some videos of the original Lakeland Amusement Park.

Mark Q Louderback
Financial Advisor
2868 Summer Oaks Drive Ste 110
Bartlett, TN 38134
901-382-0590

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Lakeland Resident on Davies Manor Board

Betty Chinery of Lakeland serves on the Board of neighboring Davies Manor Plantation and encourages Lakeland families to visit the oldest private home in the County.

The house is on the National Register of Historic Places and is just outside Lakeland City limits at 9336 Davies Plantation Road. Docent-led tours offer tidbits of history and group tours are tailored for children and church groups

The largest quilt show in the Mid South is Nov. 7-9.

Among features of the property are a garden maintained by area master gardeners with vegetables donated to MIFA; bee and butterfly gardens with honey for sale; Civil War Re-enactments throughout the year and home of Hillwood , a quaint venue for weddings.

To preserve history and become a member, go to daviesmanorassoc@bellsouth.net. Memberships start at $25. Perks include free admission, invitation to the Christmas Open House, receipt of the monthly newsletter and other amenities based on membership level. The home also has a Facebook page.

Crime Report for Lakeland - SCSO

Six incidents were reported April 7/May 4, including one burglary/residential; two larceny/other; and one each theft from building, theft from vehicle and vandalism misdemeanor felony. The only category to increase was larceny which went from zero to two. Other categories remained the same or decreased. There were eight incidents in the previous reporting period, March 10/April 6.

For the next reporting period in May and June, there were eight crimes reported with an increase in only one category, larceny/other which went from three to four. Again, all other areas remained the same or decreased.

In June one forcible rape was reported. Statistically for this period, most of the crime occurred on Tuesdays and the most active time of day is from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

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Gratis at City Hall
To Keep the City Cigarette Butt-Free

Lakeland residents are urged to reduce cigarette litter, thus helping the City pare clean-up costs, keep taxes low and incorporate the City into a national beautification effort.

Free portable ashtrays are available for the taking at City Hall to help in this endeavor.

"Keep Lakeland Beautiful" is giving away free pocket ashtrays as well as ashtrays that fit in a car drink holder. Residents can pick-up these free items at City Hall.

Sherri Gallick, vice mayor, said, "We also have been working diligently to educate the public on the cost of litter because keeping our City clean is essential to economic development. Nobody would throw money out of a car window, but people throw out litter. Litter cost the taxpayers thousands every year. I am confident by adding focus on litter prevention, our City will become the beautiful vibrant city it is meant to be."

In the spring of 2014, "Keep Lakeland Beautiful" began the journey to become an affiliate of the Keep America Beautiful program as only the second city in Shelby County to do so. This program supplements the City's beautification, recycling and litter efforts and works under auspices of the City's Parks and Recreation/Natural Resources Board.

In the spring, "Keep Lakeland Beautiful" conducted a community appearance index, a visual assessment of the overall appearance of Lakeland through indicators such as litter, illegal signs, abandoned/junk vehicles and outside storage. The goal of the index was to gather data and develop a local plan to change attitudes and behaviors regarding litter and related community improvement issues.

A team of community, business and government representatives conducted the visual analysis using a scoring system ranging from one to four, with "one" being the best "four" the worst. The litter index for Lakeland rated over a 2, which is classified as "slightly littered" to "littered."

"Involving community volunteers in this process has been vital," said Sherri. "It is so important to achieve partnership solutions by educating and promoting individual responsibility, ownership and pride in our city."

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Lakeland Elementary School PTA News

Christye Gilliland, LES PTA

Christye Gilliland

We hope that everyone had a great summer. School has started and we have set sail for a great year!

The PTA has made some exciting new technology purchases for the school. We have ordered four carts with 30 Chromebooks (120 total) and two carts with 20 Google Nexus Tablets (40 total.) We can't wait to see the children put these purchases into action.

Please come and join us for the Lakeland Expo at our school from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16. It is sponsored by Hicks Convention Services and the admission is free.

Our new PTA website is www.mylakelandPTA.com You can find any upcoming PTA events on this site.

Please remember our Spirit Nights. Proceeds go to our school.

Aug. 18 - Papa John's Pizza, 9160 Hwy 64
Aug. 28 - Chuck E Cheese's, 1636 Germantown Pkwy
Sept. 7 - Three Guys Pizza Pies, 9045 Highway 64
Sept. 22 - Buffalo Wild Wings, 8385 Highway 64
Oct. 2 - Baby Jack's BBQ, 7610 Highway 70

Garner Lake Association Lakewatch

Dennis Sossaman

The residents of the subdivisions surrounding Garner Lake were blessed this year with a wonderful fireworks show on July 5. Stephanie Lefler did a fantastic job in her first year heading up this project and we applaud her work. Garner Lake Association was again the presenting sponsor of the show. Membership in GLA is easy and annual dues are only $20. Our next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8 at the IH clubhouse, 4523 Canada Rd. Visit our website at www.garnerlake.com for more information.

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Arlington High School News

Teresa Henry, publicity, AHS Band

"The Raven" was selected this summer by the Arlington High School Tiger Band to present at the 2014 football games and four fall competitions.

After two weeks of band camp, the students performed their selection for parents July 25. Music was composed by Robert W. Smith and arranged by Taylor Anderson with excerpts from Edgar Allen Poe's poem, "The Raven."

Donations to band camp included: two large tents, Marie Holyfield from Lakeland and Michael Tidwell of Amerispan Tent in Arlington; refreshments from Faith Baptist Arlington and Bellevue Baptist Church; and time and Gatorade from band parents.

Come support the AHS Tiger Marching Band this year at football games and competitions. You will see all the hard work and they promise a few surprises.

Lakeland band students include Ibssa Abdo, Alex Backer, Joshua Barnes, Courtney Bennett, Landon Bradford, Ryan Brightwell, Eli Burks, William Chapman, Chloe Christion, Daniel Chu, Sarah Crayton, Kaylie Dawe, Jacinda Drenckpohl, Molly Fullick, Laura Gargus, Annalise Gibson, Leighton Gillian-Tapp, Kelsey Green, Parker Greene, Jake Henry, Allie Hinson, Shelby Holden, Hank Irby, Cameron Johnson, Ayden Kataka, Korey Knighton, Rachel Laney, Rebecca Laney, Andy Lum, Michael Lum, Justin Maxwell, Bruce McCombs, Mashara Miller, Daniel Milligan, Jake Milligan, Grayson Molnar, David Nickodem, Riley O'Mearns, Daniel Orelans-Lindsay, Josiah Orelans-Lindsay, Keri Ortiz, Addison Pate, Josue Reyes, Patrick Robbins, Nolan Robinson, Carrie Ross, Monica Schwab, Caleb Taylor, Makayla Tierney, Hunter Vickers, Taylor Washington, Sarah Whitcomb, Selena Xue and Kian Ziai.

Megan Wylie, account executive

Megan Wylie

The end of the summer movie and picnic event went well! Thanks to all the residents who came out to this event. We hope to do more of these in the future. Adopt the street program has had some great volunteers, but we are still looking for many more. If you wish to learn more about this or join the Board as they clean up our neighborhood streets please contact Level 1, 321-6744.

As the school year has started once again, just a reminder to everyone to keep a watchful eye out for the children as they come to and from the buses each day. We want to remind everyone to please join our Facebook page as well as become a member of the Herons Ridge website www.heronsridgehoa.com. This will keep you up to date on all events happening in our neighborhood as well as any alerts or concerns homeowners may have. With the fall weather coming soon, please remember to submit any projects to the ARC committee for their approval. You may submit your request to mwylie@level1management.com or contact Level 1 for more information. Hope everyone has a great start to the new school year.

WINSTEAD FARMS
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Megan Wylie

Megan Wylie, account executive

Hate to say it but the summer is coming to an end. School has started and the increase in traffic through Winstead is sure to follow! Please remember to watch out for children and the extra cars as you come and go from your home. If you haven't noticed we installed three "Slow children at play" signs throughout Winstead. We are hoping this will help with some of the fast traffic we have been having through our streets. If you see anything that needs to be reported please contact Level 1 or the Shelby County Sheriff's Office.

The pool will close Sunday Sept. 21. Please take the little time you have to enjoy a day relaxing by the pool. If you did not receive your new pool key this year, please contact Level 1 at 321-6766 to find out how.

Just a reminder to all homeowners, per our covenants, all projects have to be submitted for approval before you can start. You can email Megan at mwylie@level1management.com for a copy of the forms. If you have any questions or concerns about our HOA please contact us at 321-6766. Hope everyone has a great start to their new school year!

The Grove at Lakeland

Robert Ahokas

Robert Ahokas

About 40 enthusiastic and energized homeowners of The Grove at Lakeland attended an informational meeting July 15 at IH Park to discuss and plan the transition of the HOA from developers Allen Richardson, Tammy Navarre and Allen Banes to the homeowners. Also in attendance were Lakeland Mayor Wyatt Bunker, Vice Mayor Sherri Gallick, City Planner Jim Atkinson, City Manager Chris Thomas and City Engineer David Smith. They offered their support, answered questions and discussed the remaining obligations of the developers before the City of Lakeland can release the subdivision bond.

Jim Atkinson made a presentation illustrating which common areas in the The Grove that the HOA would then be responsible to maintain and which areas Lakeland would maintain. David fielded questions and concerns about drainage problems. Eddy Chester of Property Solutions Management Company resigned effect July 31 and The Keith Collins Property Management Co. was unanimously recommended by the homeowners in attendance to take over management of the HOA.

Volunteers Dean Hansen, Gary Tiggs, Joe Deeley and Rob Ahokas were selected to join Chris Haynes in re-establishing the Architectural Review Committee. Additional meetings have been scheduled to further plan the transfer of the HOA to the homeowners. David also presented an update on the Interstate 40/Canada Road interchange project which is expected to be completed in May 2017. This project will cause major traffic problems in that area and residents were urged to plan alternative routes out of Lakeland. Kim Scott is compiling a spreadsheet of the contact information of all homeowners in The Grove so If you have not already done so please email her your information at tigerfankim@yahoo.com.

WOODBRIDGE
Homeowner's Association

Brian Haines

Brian Haines

Good things are happening in Woodbridge. In a world where everything is designed on a crash course towards entropy, good things happening can only mean that there is a force behind them making them happen. While I'm sure you have noticed, the jungle of privet hedge and poison ivy that had encroached upon the walking trail at the gazebo area has now been cleared back to its originally designed limits. We had our first HOA social cookout at the gazebo area in 2001 as it was spacious enough to accommodate a portion of our 97 families. But we've been growing and so has the jungle! I'm looking forward to returning to the area for another cookout and neighborhood gathering in the fall.

Most recently, the area has been improved with new asphalt on the walking trail from Canabridge Road, beyond the wood bridge and up to the Lake Bridge stairway (to heaven). I often joke about that stairway since if you don't stay on the "straight and narrow" there, you will end up in the abyss that is progressively eroding around the stairs. While the repair of this, too, has been on the HOA's agenda for years, earlier this year our HOA wrote a RFP, interviewed contractors and released one to commence with the filling of the chasms around the stairway. After further investigation on the other side of Lake Bridge Drive, the contractor strongly encouraged us not to pursue the repair until the massive erosion around the city's storm drain is addressed on the south side. This one is still in the works.

Our freshly refurbished mailboxes and street signs are holding up well and our landscape contractor is continuing to do an excellent job maintaining the common areas and the greenbelt through Woodbridge. All of these things along with your efforts in beautifying your yards and homes contribute to the positive vibe flowing through our neighborhood. While we continue to struggle with a few homeowners routinely parking vehicles on the street and all of us are adjusting to the new waste, recycling and yard waste system, overall good things are happening in Woodbridge.

Nevertheless, there are many more projects and opportunities to enhance our neighborhood in the HOA hopper but none of this would happen without the leadership and volunteer efforts from the HOA Board. Those serving at this time include: George McDowell, president; Mike Sexton , treasurer ; and Debbie DeCrow , secretary. Board members are Bob Brunner, Helen Carter, Brian Haines, Amy Kraehmer and John Lucas.

Good things are happening in Woodbridge because good people are behind these efforts. Please consider joining us and contributing your gifts and talents in helping to keep Woodbridge a great place to live. For more information and to join our neighborhood watch efforts, search for our progressive online neighborhood group at www.WoodbridgeTN.Nextdoor.com or e-mail me at BHaines@mac.com .

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Rich0302@gmail.com

Lakeland Estates HOA

Sharon Helms

Sharon Helms

WOW ... 2014 Garner Lake Fireworks were great! Thanks to Stephanie Lefler for coordinating this huge task! And thanks to everyone for demonstrating your community support through your generous donations! It couldn't be done without you!

Say ... what has happened to those steamy hot days of summer? Is it just me or have the rest of you been missing those days that encourage boating, swimming and fishing at every possible opportunity? Just saw on the news that July 2014 has set a new record for cooler days this year! Seems like "April showers brings May flowers" and the "dog days of summer" have gotten all mixed up! But, just hang in there and enjoy them as they come ... we are still truly blessed!

Since our last publication we've experienced some vandalism in our community. The Lakeland Estates street signs at the corners of Canada Road and Green Spruce, Blue Spruce and Pine Point have all been damaged. We are currently having these replaced. Anyone who sees anyone doing damage or who recognizes damage already done, please contact me so we can address this issue. If you're on a corner lot and have a security camera which has recorded this activity, we would very much appreciate your letting us know!

Don't forget our annual dues of $15 per homeowner were due in March/April. If you haven't paid, you may still do so. Just send a check or cash to Edgar Currier, 4185 Cedar Point Road with your name, address, phone and email. For any questions, call me at 674-6717.

Our fall general meeting is from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19 so mark your calendars and join us!

North Lakeland Community Association (NLCA)

Chris Barnoud, President

Nice summer 2014!

It is a quiet time in North Lakeland. The association is on vacation ... as we did not have a meeting in July. The neighborhood watch is not on vacation, however, and some good observation and reporting contributed to an effective sheriff follow-up very recently. So please, continue to watch for unusual activities and promptly report it to any member of the association leadership.

At our last meeting, we talked about a few cows who liked to walk down our public roads from time to time. A few residents, our City staff and yours truly joined quickly to work on this unusual challenge and find a good path forward. For unrelated reasons, the cows have needed to take a vacation at a new resort. Should they decide to return, things should be better. Our new City leadership is continuing to review our City ordinances to facilitate a controlled economic growth while keeping the exceptional nature of the city. That applies to our very rural North Lakeland. Should you have any comments or concerns, let us know. We enjoy a good cooperation with our City Hall leadership. Our next meeting is 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18 (third Thursday of the month). For more information, contact Chris Barnoud, president @ 488-2900 or chrisbar99@aol.com .

Plantation Hills HOA

Wesley Wright

Wesley Wright

Plantation Hills had its quarterly meeting Aug. 9 at the Lakeland Cracker Barrel Old Country Store. An event invitation was sent out but few responded.

Prior to the meeting 60 residents completed a SurveyMonkey questionnaire posted on Nextdoor.com. The survey assigned percentages to questions about street lights, sidewalks and speed bumps. To the first question, "Do you want to pursue having sidewalks in Plantation Hills?" 25 percent approved and 75 percent did not approve. The second question asked, "Do you want to pursue having street lights in Plantation Hills?" 30 percent approved and 70 percent disapproved. By these results, even though only 60 people did the survey, it would be safe to say further discussion on these two projects in the coming years would not be necessary. Maybe this is something to be revisited in five years or more.

However, on the topic of installing speed bumps and increasing police presence to help with speeding, the majority of participators did want to pursue something. Streets such as William Little will increasingly be used as a major thoroughfare in light of the construction at I-40/Canada Road. Davies Plantation also will notice an increase. We will need to have a meeting to flesh out what actions we would like to take. The next quarterly meeting will be in November. The Yard of the Month competition has helped spread the word of our neighborhood organization and Nextdoor.com which is the main conduit of communication for our community. Plantation Hills has by far the most participants (164 at this time) of the 14 participating Lakeland Nextdoor network neighborhoods and will strive to keep that standard.

Oakwood

Megan Wylie, account executive

Megan Wylie

Thanks to the Events Committee for putting on another great Fourth of July parade for our Oakwood residents! We celebrated our nation's independence by decorating bikes and wagons for the parade through the neighborhood then everyone enjoyed an ice cream treat at the Clubhouse. The next neighborhood event is our annual Back to School Social. Check our Facebook & website www.oakwoodlakeland.com for more details.

The new school year has arrived and with that is an increase in neighborhood traffic, especially around 9 a. m. and 4 p. m. All residents are reminded to slow down, obey all crossing guards and be extra watchful around these times.

As summer comes to an end the pool will be closing Sept. 30. Continue to enjoy the pool during the time left, but please always pick up after yourself and ensure all children 14 and under are supervised by an adult.

Volunteers are needed for every Oakwood committee including Neighborhood Watch, Welcoming/Benevolence, Beautification, Architectural Review, Events, Pond and any other committee I have not mentioned. If you are interested in making our neighborhood even better by leading or just helping please contact Level 1 at 321-6742.

Just a reminder that the covenants require residents to submit an architectural review request prior to starting any construction of any structure or improvement on any lot to assure conformance with design standards. These must be approved by the Board before construction can start. You can submit plans or any questions to Level 1 at 321-6742 or mwylie@level1management.com.

Meet a Lakeland Businesswoman

Angie Kelley knows Lakeland a lot better than many of us. She is a Crye-Leike Realtor, serving Lakeland customers who want to buy or sell real estate and also an advertiser in Lakeland Currents.

A resident of the City for 15 years, Angie has been in the real estate business almost 10 years. She believes Lakeland will become a smaller version of Franklin, TN and feels home values are increasing. She noted that people are still leery of the whole school consolidation with a fear of the unknown. "Once proven (the schools' success), there will be a lot of positive out there and definitely more will want to move to the area," she said. She represents a home builder in The Grove and sells in all of Lakeland.

She and her husband Mike, have two boys in grades two and five at Lakeland Elementary. "I feel like LES is run like a private school. It's a very safe, secure environment with caring teachers. Lakeland is in a convenient location, small, but close to City conveniences.

She is a member of the LES PTA. Her professional affiliations include ABR (Accredited Buyers Representative), CRS (Certified Residential Specialist) and e-Pro (an internet marketing professional.) She has been in the Multi-Million Dollar Club for Crye-Leike as well as for the Memphis Area Association of Realtors.

She can be reached at 828-8919 cell, 872-1181 office, angie.kelley@crye-leike.com or www.angiekelley.com She works out of an Atoka office as well as 9943 Highway 64 in Arlington.

CALENDAR

(BOC/Board of Commissioners; LSB/Lakeland School Board)

August
18 - Spirit Night for LES, Papa John's, all day
19 -Town Hall Meeting at LES on tax increase
28 - Spirit Night for LES, Chuck E Cheese's, 3 to 9 p.m.

September
1 - Labor Day - City Hall, Senior Center closed; trash/recycling pickup delayed by one day
4 - BOC work session
7 - Spirit Night for LES, Three Guys Pizza Pies, all day
8 - LSB regular meeting
12 - Happy Fall Y'all Senior Dinner, 6 p.m.
18 - LES parent conferences
19 -Professional Development Day - LES - holiday
22 -Spirit Night for LES, Buffalo Wild Wings, noon to 8 p.m.

October
2 - BOC work session
Spirit Night for LES, Baby Jack's BBQ
3- LES End of the 1st Quarter
6 - LSB work session
6 - 10 - Fall break - LES
9 - BOC regular meeting
13 - LSB regular meeting

November
3 - LSB work session
6 - BOC work session
7 - Dessert Mystery Theater, Senior Center, 7 p.m.
10 - LSS regular meeting
11 - Veterans Day - holiday in Lakeland
13 - BOC regular meeting
26-28 - Thanksgiving holidays - LES

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Annual Lakeland Parade

Bicycles, scooters, children and pets paraded from Windward Slopes neighborhood to Trustmark Bank July 4 for the 18th annual Independence Day Parade. Escorted by seven Shelby County Sheriff's Department motorcycles, about 100 red, white and blue-clad participants made their way to the Lakeland bank parking lot for snow cones, flag cake and goody bags donated by Trustmark.

Nancy Harrell and bank staff have been sponsoring the parade since 2008 and she loves doing it. She was joined by Chris Jarvis from the bank on Houston Levee, Carolyn Markin, Matthew Hurt and Shannon Schilling from the Lakeland office and Lauren Coles from the Memphis main office. "No one is paid to come on a holiday to do this," said Nancy. "Enthusiasm is infectious and it's a really neat thing (to do the parade.)"

Flags lining the route were donated by Cotton Cabin and Scott's Nursery participated with their big red wagon filled with flowering plants and participants. Mark and Nancy Hartz are the parade organizers.

Chamber Luncheon with Governor

Lakeland and Arlington Chambers of Commerce jointly sponsored a luncheon July 23 featuring Governor Bill Haslam at Stonebridge Golf Club. Speaking to a packed room, Gov. Haslam praised the two communities for crossing boundaries and working together. From left, Eric Howard, manager at Stonebridge and the Governor. Ginny Dunn, economic development coordinator for the Lakeland Chamber, and Wyatt Bunker, Lakeland mayor. Photos by Rosemary Dunn.

Lakeland Parks and Recreation

Jennifer Rezba, public relations assistant IH Clubhouse - 4523 Canada Rd.

Visit www.lakelandtn.gov for the latest information or contact Parks & Recreation 867-2717.

Stonebridge "Ladies on the Links" League Through September

The Stonebridge Ladies League plays weekly on Thursday mornings through September. All skill levels are welcome! Tee off is at 9 a.m. Fees/admission: $25 to join league. $26 for 18 holes with cart each week. To sign-up, contact Pam or Beth at stonebridgell@yahoo.com. Call the Golf Shop at 382-1886 for more information. Website: www.stonebridgegolf.com

Lakeland Fitness (Cardio, Yoga, and Calisthenics)

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. IH Clubhouse. Suitable for ages 35+. The first class is free, each additional is $5 or participants may purchase a 10-class card for $30. A mat is required for class. For more information, contact Sherri Gallick at 867-2345 or sgallick@lakelandtn.org.

Lakeland Women's Tennis Group

The Lakeland Women's Tennis Group will continue to play Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 - 11 a.m. through October at Windward Slopes Park, 9822 Beverle Rivera Dr. Games will resume in spring 2015. The group's goals are to exercise, play tennis and improve participants' games. For more information, please contact Peggy Young at peggyyoung7@comcast.net or 606-8269.

Fall YMCA Youth Soccer

Registration has ended but accepting late registrants.
Age groups 5-6, 7-8 and 9-11.
Cost is $90 which includes a practice T-shirt, game uniform and trophy. Games at Lakeland City Hall Park, 9959 Highway 70 Practice begins the week of Aug. 25. Games Sept. 13 - Nov. 1 (Dates are subject to change).
If you have any questions about YMCA soccer, please contact Michael Moore, YMCA-Millington program director, 873-1434 or mmoore@ymcamemphis.org or call Lakeland City Hall 867-2717.

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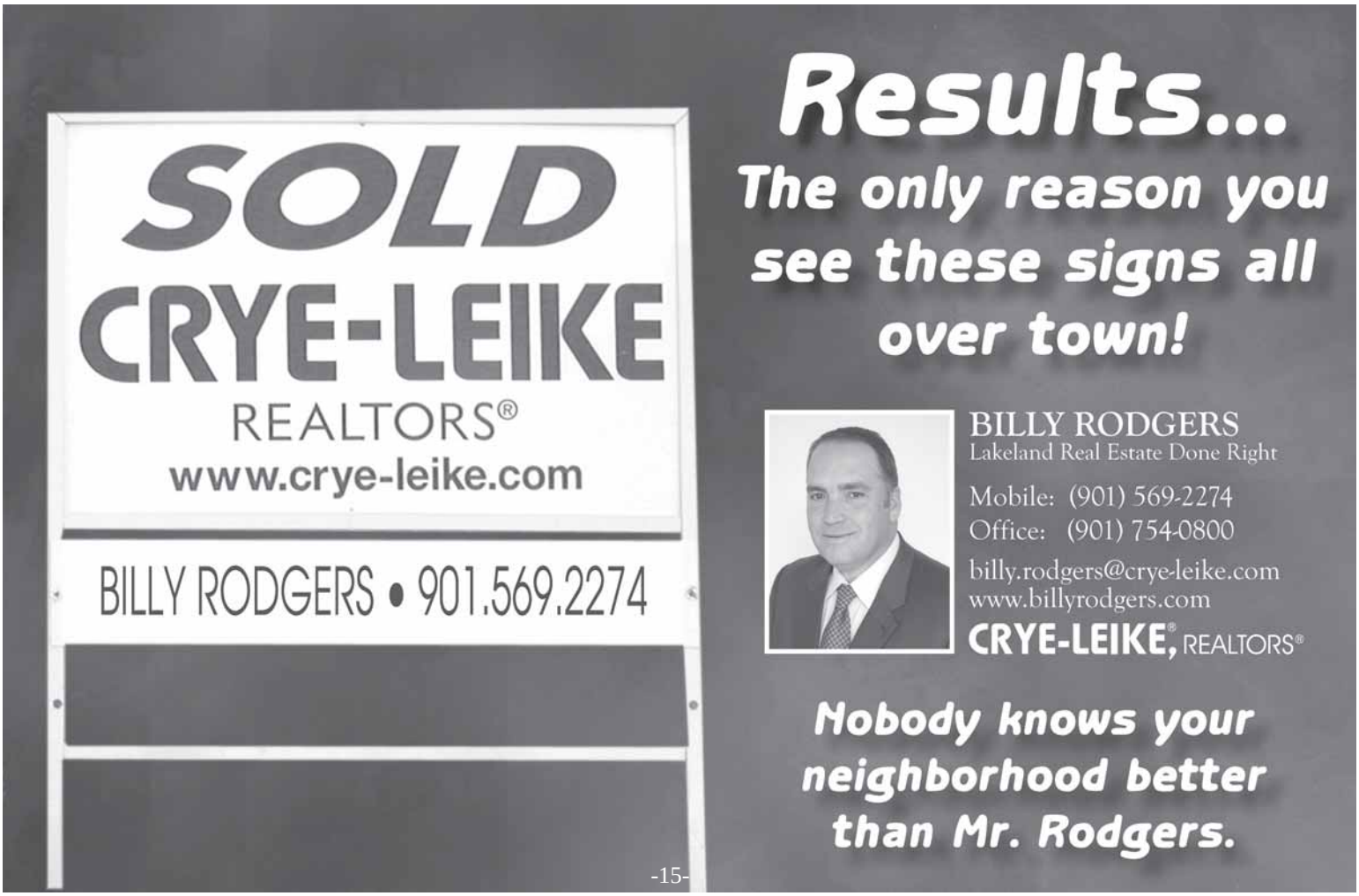
E-mail: jerry@dogwoodmemphis.com

Jerry Chism



Lakeland Senior Programs 55+

Senior Center - 4527 Canada Road

The Lakeland Parks and Recreation Department invites adults 55+ to the Lakeland Senior Center. RSVP or advance notice is not required to attend most programs unless otherwise noted. For the latest Senior Center activities, including calendar updates, visit www.lakelandtn.gov . View dates and times for Bunco, Mexican Train Dominos, Bridge and Silver Sneakers.

New This Fall - Dessert Mystery Theater:
"Dastardly Deed at Dry Gulch"

Fri. Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. - IH Clubhouse, 4523 Canada Rd.
Who "kilt" the sheriff? Was it the mail-order bride? Was it the gambler? Or was it the bandito? It could even have been the saloon gal, the dear old doc, who drinks just the littlest too much, or even ... the school marm!
Join us for an evening of laughs and guessing as we travel back to old west times to solve this mystery. Wear your best cowgirl/cowboy look, if you like, and enjoy a delicious dessert on us. Door prizes will be a special bonus. Admission: Donation. For more information, email Jeanne at cakie_hamilton95@aol.com or call senior programs.

HHappy Fall Y'all Seniors 55+ Dinner 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12th IH Clubhouse, 4523 Canada Rd

Seniors 55+ are invited to the Happy Fall Y'all Dinner celebrating National Senior Center Month. The dinner will include salad, Italian food, dessert and drinks. The cost of the meal is $10 per person, payable at the door. The traditional country music duo of Doug and Sandy Bowles/Mill Creek, will be the entertainment. Bring a friend, make a friend and spend a wonderful evening eating great food, enjoying conversation and a laugh or two with fellow seniors. Make your reservation by contacting Rhonda Fink at 867-2717 or email rfink@lakelandtn.org.

Ice Cream Social and Forum
Thursdays: 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Aug. 21, Sept. 18 and Oct. 16

Is your birthday this month? The Lakeland Senior Center hosts a monthly ice cream social on the third Thursday. The event recognizes seniors who have birthdays falling in that month and allows seniors to provide comments and suggestions for future Senior Center programming. All local-area seniors 55+ are welcome... even if it's not your birthday!

During the August social, there will be a smoke detector check and battery replacement event only for senior citizens. Fire Marshal Jake Haley or a representative of the Shelby County Fire Department will lead a program and have a sign-up sheet for the free battery check and detector replacement program. The goal is to provide proper detectors or check and replace batteries in homes, if needed. To participate, contact Syma Collins, Lakeland community services representative, 867-5409 or scollins@lakelandtn.org. This program is made possible by an annual grant to purchase batteries and detectors to give to Lakeland seniors.

Lakeland History Talk with Jim Atkinson
1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3

Back by request! Jim Atkinson, director of planning and administration for Lakeland, is coming back to the senior center to give one of his talks about local history. He will also give an update on current projects in Lakeland.

Canasta

Noon first and third Tuesdays. Beginners welcome.
Contact Marie Wells 386-7880

Discussion on hearing loss – 10:30 -11:30 Sept. 24

Thrive Hearing & Tinnitus Solutions with Casie Keaton, doctor of Audiology. Please join us for refreshments and discussion on hearing loss, tinnitus (ringing in the ears), and the latest treatment options available. Attendees will receive a coupon for a free hearing screening and discount toward hearing care services. Please RSVP to 867-2717.

Among regular activities at the Senior Center are a book club, bingo, Bible study, a driver safety class and jamming sessions. Stop by the Center for a schedule or call.

from left, Jeanne Boyd, Ken Glazer, George and Joy McDowell and Edgar and Barbara Currier

Marvelous Bertha Payne

Stephanie Lefler and her husband, Mark Leger

Linda and Ken Vilag, Scottie and John Simpson, Janice and Mike Volner and Cope and Angie Williams

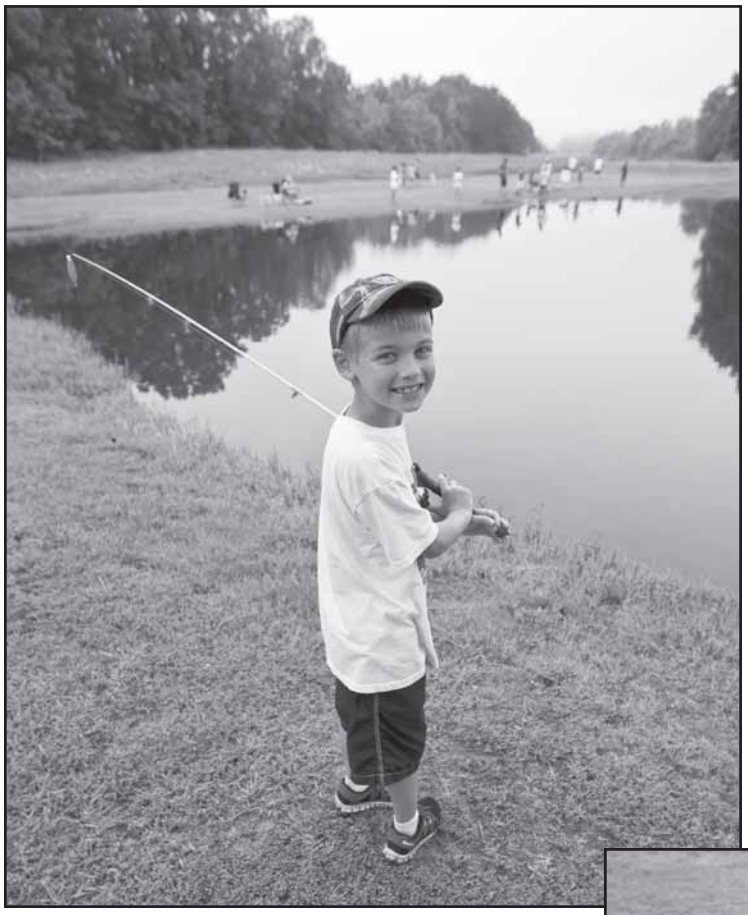
Seniors Celebrate Fourth

Close to 100 senior citizens and staff attended the Lakeland Stars and Stripes Barbecue dinner June 27 at the IH Clubhouse. "Marvelous" Bertha Payne from Lakeland entertained with urban soul, rhythm and blues and door prizes were awarded from Gateway Tires, Dunkin Donuts, Safety Nails and Papa Murphy's Pizza. The event was sponsored by Lefler Financial and Insurance Services.

(photos by Jim Willis)

Annual Fishing Rodeo

About 100 children ages 4-12 and their families participated in the annual Fishing Rodeo and Fun Fest June 7 at IH Park Lake. Winners included: most fish/girl - Jordan Miller; most fish/boy - Leo Kimery and Joseph Opferman; biggest fish/girl - Laree Carter; and biggest fish/boy - Warner Quin. Mayor Wyatt Bunker and Commissioner Gene Torrey planned and facilitated the event; Lakeland Lions Club provided assistance and First Baptist Church of Lakeland offered parking in their lot.



Pictured, above: Jacob Curtis, eight-years-old who was with his father Robert Curtis; top right, Molly Magness, 6, with her father Parker Magness; and Avery Fleming, 5, daughter of Leslie and Jason Fleming, with Rachel Forbes, 6, daughter of Brian and Melissa Forbes.

(photos by Jim Willis)

The Garner Lake Association

thanks you for supporting the

Garner Lake Fireworks Spectacular

on July 5th, 2014!

Special Thanks to:

Garner Lake Association
High-Tech Special Effects
City of Lakeland
Karen Woodward
Lakeland Tiger Cleaners

Bev and James 'Rusty' Rutherford
The Golden Family
Victory Lane BBQ
Cotton Cabin
Brian Peters, DJ

...and a very special thank-you to Stephanie Lefler of Lefler Retirement for coordinating the entire event!

Thanks to all our donors:

*** indicates $100 and above**

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*Tim Smith
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*Michael & Karen Smith
*Patricia & Elmer Phelps
*David & Linda Hogan
*John & Janice Boreni
*Robert Averwater

Competition For Adopt A Street

Compete with your neighbors to make Lakeland beautiful and display a colorful banner for your team's efforts.

Syma Collins, community service representative for Lakeland, announced the Adopt A Street contest this month to get more residents involved in litter pickup and beautification of the City. It is to start in early September.

"The teams will pick up trash as many times as they choose," said Syma. "The group that maintains the cleanest adopted street will hold the banner."

She will drive the adopted streets several times a month, using a point system on appearance and number of bags of trash collected. Details are in process but will be completed this month and given to teams in writing.

The banner will be displayed at an area designated by the team. Syma said there will also be an end-of-the-year event like a day in a park, banquet or a meet and greet. This will recognize the efforts of all volunteers with Adopt A Street to encourage continued support and to bring new teams on board to expand the beautification of Lakeland. Recognition also will be given to the most creative team name.

Contact Syma to register, scollins@lakelandtn.org or 867-2717.

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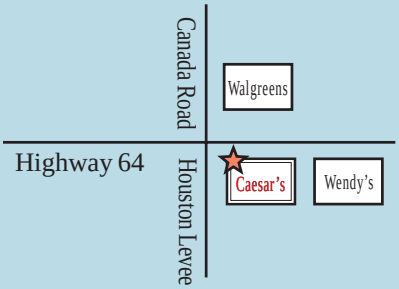

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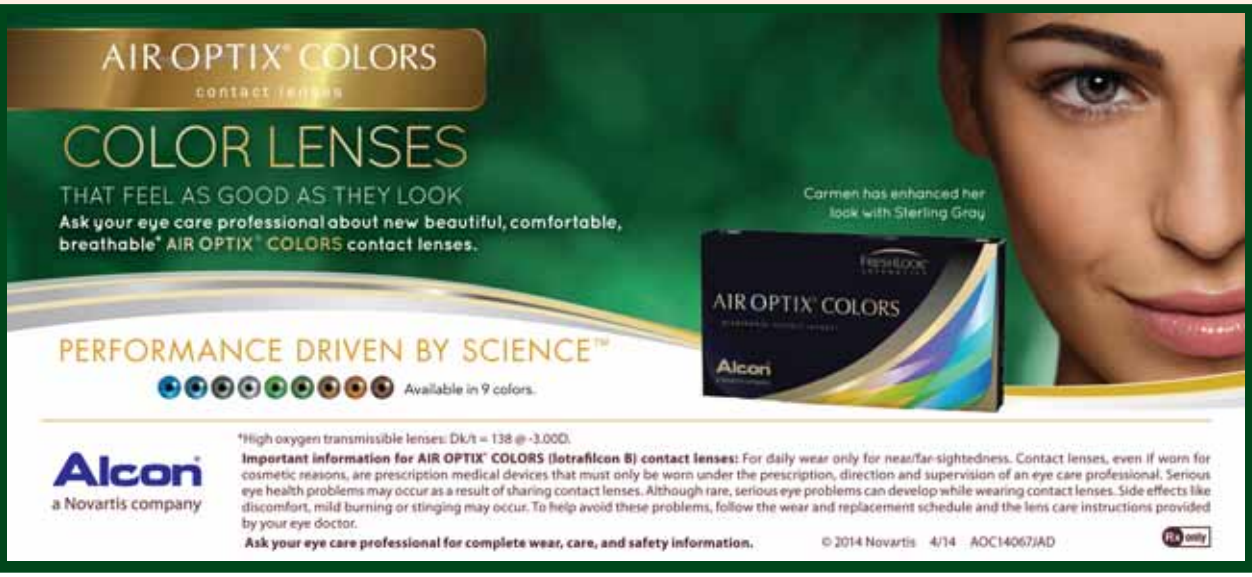

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