Vol. 18, No. 4 August 2015

Lakeland currents

Bi-monthly news magazine

BOC

LSB

Michele Dial

Larry Pardue

Teresa Henry

Geoff Hicks

Josh Roman

Justin Smith

Susan Miller

Mica Partain

Lakeland Votes 2+2

It is election time in Lakeland and traditionally Lakeland Currents asks questions of each candidate running for office and publishes their responses in the August issue.

Election day is from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 17, and location is determined by precinct. Voting day will NOT be at Lakeland Elementary School (LES). Also on the ballot will be the questions about wine and liquor sales in the City.

Early voting will be at the Shelby County Election Commission at 157 Poplar Avenue from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 28 to Sept. 12 except Sundays and Labor Day. There will be one day of early voting at LES on Sept. 12, also from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The deadline to register to vote is Aug. 18.

Eight citizens are running for two Board of Commissioners slots and two Lakeland Board of Education positions.

Questions posed to the candidates with answers inside, start on page three. Candidate responses to the questions are published as submitted.

1. What is your vision for Lakeland or the Lakeland School System over the next four years?
2. What is the major issue for Lakeland or the school system now and how do you solve it?
3. Why are you the person needed to guide the City's or school system's future?
4. Describe your involvement in the Lakeland community.

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PTA Forum for LSB candidates Aug. 24

All four candidates running for two Lakeland Board of Education (LSB) seats have been invited to participate in a forum sponsored by the Lakeland Elementary School (LES) PTA.

Open to all Lakeland residents, the forum will be at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 24 in the LES cafeteria.

Cat Wright, former LES PTA president, will emcee the event. Casey Condo will video the forum.

Lakeland citizens are invited to submit questions to the PTA. Two to four questions will be selected and asked of all four candidates. In addition, each candidate will select four or five questions from a drawing and answer those questions. Candidates will have 90 seconds to answer each question.

For more information about the forum or to submit questions, please contact Krista Pearce, PTA president, kristapage@hotmail.com Deadline to submit questions is Aug. 10.

Forum for BOC Candidates is Aug. 25

The Northeast Shelby Republican Club will host a BOC candidate forum/debate at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 25 at LES. Amber Mills, president of the Club, said the group typically sponsors a debate for Lakeland commissioner races. Frank Colvett will be the moderator. Questions will be posed to candidates at the event. For information contact Amber at marlowmills@gmail.com.

Partnership Lakeland Forum for all candidates Aug. 31

As is traditional with the organization, Partnership Lakeland (PL) is hosting a candidate forum at 7 p.m. Aug. 31 at the Refuge Church, 9816 Huff N Puff Rd. It is open to all Lakeland residents.

PL, a non-partisan political action committee, invited all candidates seeking two commissioner seats and two school board seats to participate in this forum. It will be divided in two sections to separate positions: commissioner and school board. Each candidate per section will be given two minutes for an opening statement. Then candidates will answer written questions generated from attendees upon their arrival, according to Margaret Brown of PL.

Questions may be directed to one or more candidates. This portion will be limited to 45-minutes per section. After the questioning segment, all candidates will given two minutes for a closing statement.

Candidates have been asked to interact with audience members before and after the forum.

Partnership Lakeland is pleased to bring this non-partisan, informational Forum to Lakeland residents so they will be informed voters, said Margaret. "Exercise your privilege to vote early on Sept. 12 at Lakeland Elementary School or regular voting day Sept. 17 at your usual voting location," added Margaret.

Lakeland residents who wish to join PL can do so that evening by paying a $10 per person membership fee.

LAKELAND CURRENTS

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Michele Dial – BOC Candidate

Vision

My vision is that Lakeland will flourish as a progressive city that will make all citizens proud. That vision can be realized through smart growth in terms of commercial development, so citizens can spend their money in our city resulting in sales tax dollars staying at home. We need to sponsor well-planned and organized events for business owners, showing first hand Lakeland's potential for growth and development. My vision includes continued strategic, well-planned population growth, and a within budget completed Middle School drawing families to our city. I want to see Lakeland become more competitive with other municipals.

Issue

The major issue for Lakeland is that our citizenry is divided over schools and taxes. Since the tax is in effect, and school plans are underway, I will stress being frugal with residents' tax dollars, providing fiscal management and oversight, and ensuring they are being spent as an investment in our city's future. I want all citizens to be able to see evidence of their tax dollars at work, and know where and how they are spent. Projects improving infrastructure and amenities need to be pushed through to fruition, publicized, and celebrated. We can find innovative, transparent ways to keep citizens informed of progress that their tax dollars provide.

Capabilities

I have a great desire to be a community leader utilizing my positive attitude, approachable demeanor, and realistic views of current issues to guide our city. Our future depends on leaders who are progressive, forward thinkers as I am. During my 26-year career, 14 spent at Lakeland Elementary, I positively connected with hundreds of families by whom I am well respected, admired, and trusted. Since the biggest financial outlay that Lakeland has ever undertaken has occurred for building a middle school, my expertise as a teacher and administrator will be incredibly valuable when making fiscally responsible decisions during construction. I possess the intellect to understand the complex inner workings of city government, am detail oriented, and always listen to both sides of an issue before making an informed decision. With the leadership, communication, and organizational skills I possess, the time is now for me to become a Lakeland Commissioner.

Involvement

Throughout my life, I have taken on volunteer roles to benefit the community as well as to grow as a leader. I was the committee chair of the Watch D.O.G.S. Dads program, recruiting and educating volunteers for safety, security, and a positive presence in the school. I formed the "Go Green Team" for awareness of recycling responsibility. I volunteered as a community reader, for campus beautification work, Relay 4 Life, collected donations for neighborhood fire victims, and earned the PTA Lifetime Achievement Award for service as a parent and a teacher. I have been a member of the church Congregational Cares Committee visiting in hospitals, led Bible studies, volunteered for Trunk or Treat, fall carnivals, sports and rec concessions, and Vacation Bible School. I have modeled in Methodist Women's fashion show fundraisers and chaperoned youth group events and trips.

Early Voting: September 12 ----- Election Day: September 17

Michele Dial

for

Lakeland Commissioner

- **Lakeland resident since 1999**
- **Masters Degree in Administration and Supervision**
- **26-year educator**
- **Served LES families from 2001-2014**
- **Assistant Principal w/BCS**
- **Conservative values**
- **Critical thinker**
- **Problem solver**

I am proud of what Lakeland is today and what it can become tomorrow. Vote for me to be a leader for Lakeland's future!

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Michele Dial

Contact Information: (901)-487-8130 email: dialmichel@aol.com website: dial4boc.com

Larry Pardue – BOC Candidate

Vision

Lakeland is primarily a bedroom community and that's not a bad thing. We know our neighbors and we feel safe in our community. I do believe that we need to grow our city in a controlled reasonable manner both in new neighborhoods and in commercial development. I would work hard to reduce the very high tax burden and debt being placed on our residents. Under the present structure, we will have a difficult time achieving new growth. My vision for Lakeland over the next four years is a reduced the tax burden, lower debt, and create a more competitive Lakeland in reaching out for new development. I would work to better our relationship with our neighboring communities. With growth and attention in these areas, we can have all the services our city should provide, such as fire, police and a great school system. The present Mayor and BOC have moved totally in the opposite direction with a tax and spend approach. I will fight to turn that ship around!

Issue

Our major issue now and in the future is the high property tax and debt. I would move to lower the taxes and reduce the debt. Taxes and debt stunt our ability to have any new development. No municipality will survive long term with a tax and spend approach. I'm a true conservative and a marketing professional and will use my skills and experience to position Lakeland for new growth. With new growth comes new revenue for the city and that is the reasonable way to achieve our goals.

Capabilities

The present administration has divided our city and has hurt our relationship with our neighboring communities. I will rely on my experience as a business owner and a marketing professional to restore confidence in the Commissioner's office and restore our relationships. I've served on a number of boards, both local and national. During my thirteen years as a member of the Bartlett Planning Commission going through a period of rapid growth I gained knowledge of what went well and mistakes that were made. When appointed to the Lakeland Municipal Planning Commission I helped guide a restructuring of our codes and regulations and used that knowledge in an effort to keep Lakeland from making the same mistakes. I will use my education and years of experience to guide our city with a conservative, fiscally responsible approach to making Lakeland a city in which we can all be proud to live.

Josh Roman – BOC Candidate

Vision

I would like to see us live up to our motto that "Quality of Life is a Way of Life" and do it in a way that makes everyone proud to be in Lakeland. Granted 4 years is not a long time when it comes to city planning, but there at least a few areas I would like to see us make progress. 1. Define our roll in Shelby County and West TN. Right now we have a struggle between those that want to see us become an upscale destination for families and sales tax revenue versus those that want to do away with all city services to be a low cost tax haven bedroom community. The problem is that ignores a large part of the population and ultimately put the responsibility on neighboring communities to offer us services even the essential ones. I favor a unified approach that defines city priorities and money management strategies to get us there.

2. Gateway Project. This is a project that has been ongoing, but needs a boost. I would like for people to know when they are in Lakeland as well as have a greater sense of community. Signs that easily direct you around and through our city with a unified logo as well as well marked entry points from the many main streets will go a long way to branding ourselves to citizens and visitors alike. 3. Recreation. Former commissioner Don Barber was championing a green space project for sports programs and a safe place to exercise. Right now many of our citizens have a tough time utilizing the walking trails at IH Clubhouse. This project needs to be revisited.

Issue

We are a growing city with growing needs on a limited budget; no different than most of our households. We need to find a way to bring life back into the Factory Outlet mall to create significant sales tax revenue. This area is an eye sore that could be our greatest asset. This will allow us to move down our city's priority list while taking pressure off of property taxes.

Capabilities

On the Board of Commissioners it takes 3 votes for an item to pass. My vote would take into consideration all of Lakeland. As a congressional appointee to the 2005 White House Council on Aging, I have shown that my work with retirees is equally important as my role as a Financial Risk Manager to families.

Involvement

Over the last 10 years I have strived to follow in my families military footsteps through service to the Lakeland Community. In 2005 former Mayor Carmichael appointed me to the Economic Development Commission where I served until Mayor Bunker appointed me to the Lakeland Development Corporation which I am now the Chairman. As treasurer, I helped Melissa Kimbrough, Shelly Cheng and Mark Lawrence resurrect the Chamber of Commerce. I graduated from the only Leadership Lakeland academy held. I 'm also proud to associate myself as one of the organizers of the first grass roots effort to keep local control of education in Lakeland.

TOP 9 REASONS TO VOTE

JOSH ROMAN

FOR LAKELAND COMMISSIONER

1. I will focus on generating new revenue not from Property Taxes
2. I will Protect the Look and Feel that makes our city Unique
3. I have experience running an award winning small business. I understand how to get results and stay on budget
4. I don't mind rolling up my sleeves to find creative solutions. Education: University of Memphis, BBA & Babson College MBA
5. I was recognized for my work with Retirees and those on a fixed income with a Congressional appointment to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging
6. I helped set Lakeland apart as a leader in the region for quality of life by sponsoring a request to add Free WiFi to City Hall Park; As far as I know we are still the only city in Tennessee to offer this benefit.
7. I support the compromise of a much needed Middle School for our community
8. I support No New Property Taxes
9. I am the best candidate for election to serve our City on the Board of Commissioners.

VOTE FOR JOSH ROMAN AS LAKELAND COMMISSIONER

NO NEW PROPERTY TAXES, ECONOMIC LEADERSHIP, PRO LAKELAND

WWW.JOSHFORLAKELAND.COM

Paid for by Committee to Elect Josh Roman

Justin Smith – BOC Candidate

Vision

I don't anticipate an overabundance of new commercial or residential growth due to our disproportionate tax rate and the current trend of county growth declining. We will continue to provide a distinct and beautiful community unlike any other in Shelby County. I would like to see us ensure a steady, strategic growth that allows the city to flourish at a more natural pace with a citizen supported government that will allow us to maintain a community unmatched by others. I will work diligently to lower our effective tax rate in hopes of bringing additional revenues through commercial growth that is beneficial to the community, residents, and unique appeal of Lakeland.

Our elected officials have voted in direct opposition to the demands of the tax paying citizens they have been put in office to represent. This must be stopped!

It is my objective to bring government back to the people of Lakeland. Isn't that what we are supposed to do? It is imperative that we put aside outside interests and make informed decisions based on factual data, and careful planning. It is imperative we establish reasonable debt limits, take a true conservative approach to spending, and conscientiously direct how we progress as a community.

The future of Lakeland is at stake. I endeavor to represent the citizens of Lakeland and be a respectful voice of the people and embody the values they hold close to their hearts. The citizens will be the ones to guide the city's future and I will represent them with their cooperation and input to make the best decisions possible for the city as a whole.

Involvement

With 18 years as a Firefighter, community involvement is part of who I am. It's about building and maintaining relationships in the area you live, work, or socialize. I don't seek to have my name in print but for others to know they can count on me, that's respect and trust. My involvement includes active participation in the bond referendum and making it possible for residents to view the BOC meetings online, but that's not relationships to me. Helping a neighbor take pride in building a fence, meeting a child at the bus because their parent was late getting home, or putting out a neighbor's kitchen fire, shows value and concern for others. We can all be a part of community involvement, which starts at the center of what makes Lakeland what we want, great neighborhoods and people we trust.

Teresa Henry – LSB Candidate

Vision

To maintain the academic standards that parents have come to expect from LES. Build on the programs currently offered to students to enrich their educational opportunities. Continue building the technology program that will enhance the educational opportunities for the students. While doing these tasks, we will also have to work on the plans for the new middle school. We will need to continue to operate a lean system so that we will have a healthy reserve fund as we have this inaugural school year.

Issue

Offering a guaranteed educational path for Lakeland children. The majority of the individuals that voted in the Lakelands April referendum have spoken that they feel we cannot afford a complete K-12 system at this time. Starting with a Middle School is the first step in reaching this goal. With this plan, we show residents that we still have a vision for the K-12 system as a long term goal when the student educational need is there. Until we have a complete K-12 system, a cooperative agreement with Arlington Community Schools will be required for our high school students.

Capabilities

As a school board member you take an Oath of Office to place the interests of children above all others in every decision that is made. I have a proven track record as an advocate for children's education. I have served as a PTA and Booster board member for ten years. For the past four years I have fought for Lakeland schools. As a school board member for the past two years, I have worked toward building the Lakeland School System and have gained a knowledge base of the system that a new member would not have. My past professional work experience as a Medical Office Manager & Employee Benefits Manager gave me the knowledge to work with budgets. Both involved looking for creative ways to accomplish goals while staying on budget. After seeing the Lakeland School System financial and academic results, we definitely have reason to celebrate our inaugural year

Involvement

I grew up in Bartlett and moved to Lakeland in 2005. We moved to Lakeland to keep my son in LES. My involvement in the community started as a room mom when my son was in kindergarten. Since that time I have stayed actively involved in the schools through numerous positions as a PTA and Booster Board Member. I served on the Partnership Lakeland Board before running for the Lakeland School Board. I actively campaigned during both Vote Yes for Lakeland Schools to create our own municipal school system. I served on the on the Lakeland School Transition committee. I was elected to the Lakeland School Board in 2012 & 2013.

RE-ELECT TERESA HENRY

Cell Phone: 901-486-6923
Email: tlh@thenry.net
Teresa Henry – Lakeland School Board
http://teresahenry.webs.com

- **FIRST-TERM ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**
  - Researched and developed all policies for the start-up of Lakeland School System
  - Lakeland School System banked approximately $600,000 in reserves for FY 2015
  - Increased academic achievement levels
- Conservative exploring all options
- Consistently sought to make children's educations the #1 priority
- Always accessible to Lakeland residents
- Will ensure the best educational opportunities for Lakeland students; will continue to work to strengthen inter-local agreements with our educational partners
- Four years' experience with Lakeland School System & two years' TN School Board Assoc. training
- Over 10 years' experience as an education advocate
- Resident of Lakeland for 10 years', mother of three and grandmother

Paid for by Teresa Henry

Geoff Hicks – LSB Candidate

Vision

My vision for the Lakeland School System over the next four years begins with being elected to and serving on the school board. As a board member, I would advocate that additional computer technology be allocated to Lakeland Elementary. Additionally, I would oversee the construction and opening of the approved middle school. Although the framework for a middle school has been laid out by the current administration, many decisions will need to be made. Each phase of the middle school's construction will require careful monitoring.

Issue

The major issue for the school system is that it is not yet complete. We rely on Arlington Community Schools in the near term for grades 6-12 and in the long term for grades 9-12. With the opening of a middle school in Lakeland our contract with them will need to be renegotiated. We must maintain a mutually beneficial working partnership with ACS to preserve the continuity that students and parents want while both systems continue to grow. This issue can't be solved in four years; it can only be managed. Open and frank dialog, as well as agreed upon contractual standards, are the best ways to maintain a healthy relationship with ACS.

Capabilities

I'm the person to lead the school system because I'm passionate about education and have experience as a leader and teacher.
In the last four years, I have been a PTA board member and volunteered hundreds of hours for numerous PTA programs such as Fitness Club, Campus Beautification, Watch D.O.G.S., PTA auction, and the Health Expo. I can offer that same time and dedication to the school board.
My teaching and leadership experience come from my careers in the Navy and at FedEx. I led a department of more than 200 sailors in which our goals were "on target, on time, on budget." I have also taught extensively in classrooms, flight simulators, and airplanes. Understanding teaching techniques and learning modalities are important when making school board decisions about facilities and policies.

Involvement

My involvement in the Lakeland community has been on the boards of both LES PTA and the Oakwood Homeowner's Association. I have also attended BOC and BOE meetings and strongly advocated for a new Lakeland middle school. My goal has always been and will continue to be the betterment of my neighborhood, our schools, and our community.
My wife and I have moved numerous times over the last 20 years and have lived in seven different states. We settled here four years ago so I could be closer to my job and have more time at home with my family. We specifically chose Lakeland because of LES. We are deeply invested in the community and plan to raise our family here. I would consider it a great honor to serve on the school board.

Geoff Hicks
for
Lakeland School Board

- FedEx pilot, 24-year Navy veteran
- Thousands of hours of aviation teaching experience
- 2014-15 LES PTA board member

Find me on Facebook:
Geoff Hicks for Lakeland School Board

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Geoff Hicks

Susan Miller – LSB Candidate

Vision

My vision for the Lakeland School System over the next 4 years is for it to continue to provide the best education and extracurricular offerings to all of the students in Lakeland. I want to see LSS engaged deeply with our educational partners to make sure that the Lakeland students in their system are getting the opportunities that LSS provides currently to LES. I envision the Lakeland School System focusing on community engagement, and keeping the residents of Lakeland openly informed of the happenings of the school system, which is currently lacking today.

Issue

I believe that the biggest issue for the Lakeland School System is the perceived damage that has been done to the relationship with our educational partner, Arlington Community Schools. When the citizens of Lakeland voted for our own school district, we did so knowing that we would need to share our 6-12 grade students with our neighboring school districts for their educational needs. We still need Arlington Community Schools to educate our students, even if the proposed Lakeland Middle School is built. To solve this, the Lakeland School System needs to renegotiate the Inter-Local agreement now, and lock in what the options are for each school system so that we do not risk the educational opportunities our children have guaranteed access to now. The "what-if" scenarios should all be addressed before we build or give notice, so that regardless of the outcome of new school facilities within Lakeland we have secured educational resources available for the remaining students of Lakeland.

Capabilities

Regardless of my personal positions, I am very open-minded. I want to engage the community to get their input on what they want from the Lakeland School System. This isn't just from existing parents of LES students. This means the involvement from all of the community. Parents of students at DES, AMS and AHS need to be engaged, even though they are under the Arlington system. This also includes non-parents as well, since we live a community that has a lot to benefit our children. LSS needs to make sure we have a proportionate say in their education, much like any parent would. These are our kids, and we need to be their voice. I will be that voice for them, our community, and for Lakeland School System.

Involvement

Communities start with neighborhoods, which is where I have focused my efforts and attention since moving to Lakeland in 2000. I have helped out our HOA as much as possible to help keep our neighborhood an inviting place to live and grow. I have supported fundraisers at LES when my son attended and continue to do so. I've been a proud supporter of St. Jude and the Ronald McDonald house. I'd like to further my community involvement through being elected to the Lakeland School Board, and helping pull our community back together through insuring the excellent education of all of our children.

Mica Partain – LSB Candidate

Vision

I would like to see us doing everything we can as a Board of Education to insure the best educational experience possible over the next decade and beyond for the Lakeland School System, including our shared schools. I would like to strengthen and improve communication and involvement with the community so that we are able to provide the best learning experience possible for our children. My goal is to ensure we continue to offer a competitive choice for education that will attract families to Lakeland.

Issue

One of the issues that stands out the most to me is the deterioration of the relationship between LSS and ACS. It is imperative that we work hard to re-open the lines of communication between the Arlington and Lakeland School Boards so that we can get on the same page and work together for the benefit of both communities and the children. I would work hard to help mend those fences.

Capabilities

I believe we all want what is best for our children and our community while offering a superior educational experience at LSS. Even those who do not have children attending LSS want to see our students excel. Taking on this role as a Lakeland School Board member I hope will give the community a real voice they can trust and count on to balance the desires of our community with our educational needs. The biggest difference I believe I can offer is the ability to listen while seeking the truth.

Involvement

My husband and I have been involved in several civic and charitable missions in our area and outside of Lakeland for several years to include Le Bonheur, AutoZone Liberty Bowl, St. Jude, The Blues Foundation and several home owners associations. Since moving to Lakeland a few years ago (2012), I have attended several of our government and local association meetings. I have initiated or helped neighborhoods in Lakeland get connected with social media to stay informed. It is my hope that I can continue supporting our community by being elected to the board of LSS.

Leaders That Listen!

FOUR FOR LAKELAND

FOR COMMISSIONER

LARRY PARDUE

Lakeland needs true leadership that will represent the people. With my experience in city planning and conservative fiscal values I believe I can help guide our city through the challenges of the next decade without placing an ever-increasing tax burden on our residents.

JUSTIN SMITH

I am running for office to represent the people of Lakeland in a conservative way through true transparency and accountability. I will be a strong voice for the people and will govern in a way that puts Lakeland above any special interest.

FOR SCHOOL BOARD

MICA PARTAIN

My objective is to help reunite the Board and the community, so that the citizens are confident in the School Board's ability to carry out their mission in the best interest of our children. I will pay special attention to our economic and population growth as that is the sensible way forward.

SUSAN MILLER

I want to provide a voice for all of the children and parents in Lakeland, including those zoned to Donelson. We are endangering our relationship with our educational partner (ACS), and as a result we are risking opportunities for our entire educational system.

All Endorsed By The Leaders of Concerned Citizens Of Lakeland!

We Stand Against High TAXES and Enormous DEBT!

VOTE on September 17th
To Return Sanity To City Hall

You can learn about the candidates or ask questions by going to www.LeadersThatListen.com,
or check out our facebook page 'Lakeland TN Leaders That Listen'
Also, catch up on the issues buy going to www.ConcernedCitizensofLakeland.com
or join the facebook group 'Concerned Citizens of Lakeland'

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT LARRY PARDUE COMMISSIONER Linda Neyman, Treasurer
PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT JUSTIN SMITH COMMISSIONER Justin Smith, Treasurer
PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT MICA PARTAIN TO LAKELAND SCHOOL BOARD Ron Partain, Treasurer
PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT SUSAN MILLER TO LAKELAND SCHOOL BOARD Susan Miller, Treasurer

Stonebridge Golf Club - New and Improved

Sam Lencke

Lakeland residents know it's there. They see the water tower next to I-40 near the Highway 64 exit and occasionally pass by some of the holes as they drive along Davies Plantation Road south of I-40. It is Stonebridge Golf Club (SGC) and it's been a part of Lakeland for 42 years. Opened in 1973, Stonebridge was designed by George Cobb, who is most well-known for "Amen Corner" at Augusta National, home to the Masters.

Stonebridge was purchased in May, 2013 from Textron Financial and is now owned locally by Golf Nation LLC. The ownership group consists of Robert Mears and Mark Lovell. When they purchased SCG, Robert and Mark, who also serves as general manager, announced that they were committed to improving the overall golf experience by making improvements to the clubhouse facilities, customer service and the overall look of the golf course.

Eric Howard, SGC director of sales and marketing states, "Our market share at Stonebridge has remained strong and is steadily gaining momentum due in part to the renovations and improvements over the last four years. With the number of courses to select from, we have had to raise the bar in our level of guest services to compete and keep our share of the available revenues."

Eric pointed to the extremely competitive nature of golf in the surrounding area with the recent closure of the Cordova Club course and Colonial Country Club considering the closing of their North Course. Stonebridge is on track to host 50 or more golf events this year, which provides a good balance between outings, leagues and general play.

Unlike most other public "links style" courses in the area, there are no two holes paralleling each other as the course meanders through residential developments south of I-40. While a golfer may hit an occasional stray shot into someone's back yard, they won't be dodging errant tee shots from other holes. Also, Stonebridge has five sets of tees, including "super senior" tees that give golfers a different view and playability factor from each set of tee boxes.

SGC has renovated the clubhouse, restroom and shower facilities and the lounge and cafe areas. The Pro Shop was redone as well to carry the latest in golfing equipment, accessories and apparel. The maintenance department has acquired newer equipment and continues to update and improve the golf cart fleet.

Robert states, "We continue to repair and replace structures, golf course signage and landscaping to take Stonebridge to the next level."

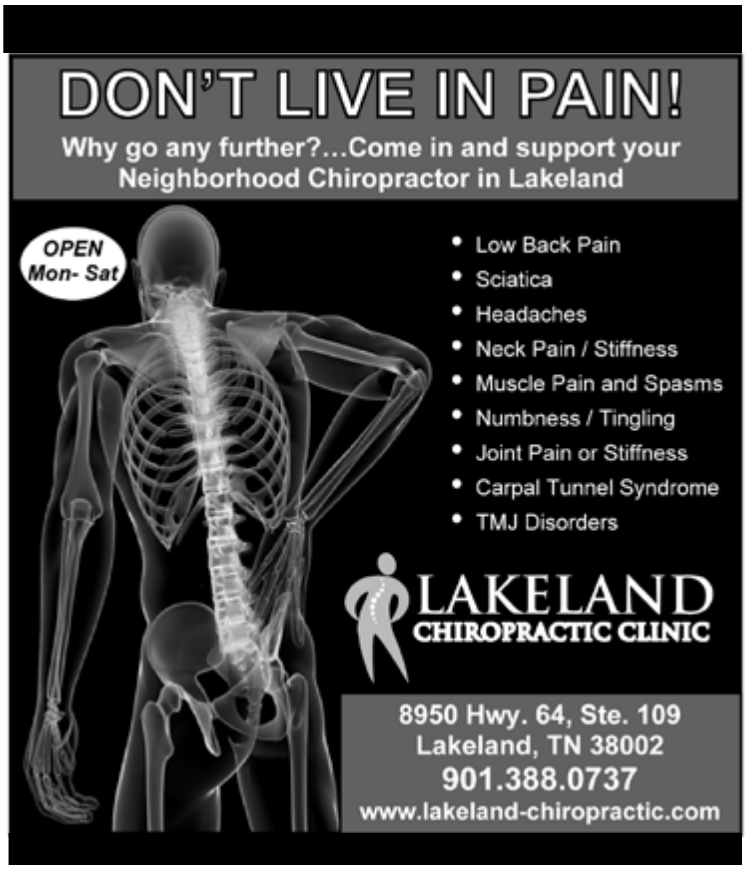
Long time Lakeland resident Jim Ward has played the Stonebridge course off and on for nearly 40 years. At the recent Lakeland Chamber of Commerce golf outing, Jim stated, "This course is in the best shape it has ever been in. The new ownership has done a great job on everything. Stonebridge is an excellent place to play golf."

Stonebridge has also installed brand-new, full-service kitchen equipment to provide a full catering service for social events. Pink Flamingo Catering & Events operates from the SGC clubhouse.

SGC is located at 3049 Davies Plantation Rd. To learn more about Stonebridge, membership options or to book a tee time through their Fore Reservation system, visit: www.stonebridgegolf.com or call 382-1886. There is also a Facebook page. For catering info, visit: www.pinkflamingocatering.com or call 827-3877.

Photos (by Sam Lencke) are from the Lakeland Chamber Classic Golf Tournament May 29 at Stonebridge Golf Club. Randy Smallwood won the $100 putting contest.

Have a feature story idea? sjwmphs@comcast.net



Lakeland Elementary Principal Joretha Lockhart Talks LES

Sam Lencke

With the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year rapidly approaching, Lakeland Elementary School (LES) principal Joretha Lockhart is truly excited. After the first year for LES in the new Lakeland School System, Joretha answered questions from the Lakeland Currents staff.

LC: What were your accomplishments for the 2014-2015 school year?

Joretha: The 2014-15 school year was momentous because it was our first year as our own school system. One of my goals was to ensure a smooth transition from the previous year to the current year. Another goal was to maintain and ultimately improve upon our academic success. Also, I wanted to make sure our wonderful parents knew that they were a valuable resource to the continued success of our school. The students of LES hold a special place in my heart and I stand by my motto: "Mrs. Lockhart loves you and your teacher does too."

LC: What are your goals for the upcoming year?

Joretha: My goals for the upcoming school year are to maintain a high level of academic accountability as well as focus on the arts and activities that enhance instruction. As we seek to provide a positive learning environment, we also want to provide enriching and engaging activities that help our students display "Lion Pride". We currently offer several before and after school clubs and this year want to expand those offerings to include more students in all grade levels (K-5). By providing a balance between school, home and community, we promote good citizens that take great pride in their school as well as being a Lakeland Lion!

LC: What are any new courses, technology and/or equipment that you will be introducing?

Joretha: Because of our exceptional parental support this past school year, we were able to replace all of our desktops in both of our computer labs. Next year's Tennessee Ready Assessment will be administered solely on the computer and the purchase of these desk top computers enables us to efficiently administer the test, but also practice in preparation for the assessment in the spring.

LC: What are some key groups of parents that contribute to the success of LES?

Joretha: As I mentioned previously, parental support is key to our overall success as a school. During the 2014-15 school year, our PTA purchased Chromebooks, tablets and interactive projectors and white boards for our classrooms. The Lakeland Education Foundation also awarded a substantial amount of grants to our teachers for use in their classrooms. Both of these groups were integral in updating our technology needs as well as supporting our students, teachers and school needs.

LC: What do you envision for the future of LES?

Joretha: With the continued support of our school system, school board, community stakeholders and parents, LES' future is limitless. This already awesome school will continue to show academic gains as well as provide every student with an exceptional educational experience. Our teachers work extremely hard to meet our students' academic needs. They provide the foundation for our academic gains and contribute to the overall success of our school. I cannot thank them enough for their dedication and commitment to the place we call home - Lakeland Elementary School.

The following teachers and staff are new to LES for 2015-16: Sara Garner, assistant principal; Carly Creighton and Brandy Summers, 3rd grade; Jessica Bailey, 4th grade; Katie Dane and Amanda Jones, 5th grade; Raven Freeman, preschool; Nicole Thornton, APEX (Academic Program for the Exceptional); Jill Lee, SPED (special education) paraprofessional; and Debbie DeBerry, school psychologist.

Joretha Lockhart, principal, right, with Sara Garner, new assistant principal. Photo by Jim Willis

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Jerry Chism

Lakeland Chamber of Commerce News

Ginny Dunn,
economic development coordinator

Ginny Dunn

Family Expo

There will be loads of fun for the family. Lakeland Family EXPO is from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 15 at Lakeland Elementary School. Businesses will offer demos, samples and specials. There will also be giveaways, inflatables, face painting, dunk tank, Memphis Kendo Show and much more. You can even purchase lunch items for the family. Admission is free.

Chamber Luncheon

University of Memphis Athletic Director Tom Bowen will be the guest speaker at the Chamber luncheon Sept. 16 at the Delta Blues Winery, 6585 Stewart Rd. Lakeland. Lakeland Chamber members are $10, non-members are $20. To attend, register online at www.mylakelandchamber.org.

Gateway Tires

The Lakeland Chamber hosted a ribbon-cutting for Gateway Tires grand re-opening celebration July 17. The newly renovated Gateway served up burgers and dogs for customer appreciation day that weekend.

Coming in October

The Lakeland Education Foundation along with Bricks and Minifigs, 9755 Hwy 64 Suite 103, will host a Wine and Cheese Pairing fund raiser with the help of the Delta Blues Winery.

Lakeland Neighborhood Reports, News

The July 5 fireworks show was fantastic. Thanks to Stephanie Lefler for all her hard work. Next year's date has already been set for July 2.

Please do not put anything into the lake without approval of Lake Management Association (LMA). This includes crappie beds in shallow water, leaves or buoys. **Garner Lake Association** is a voluntary, non-political organization concerned with the well being of Garner Lake and its surrounding neighborhoods. If you are new to Lakeland, membership in GLA is easy. Annual dues are only $20. Please visit our website http://www.garnerlake.com/ to learn more about us.

*****

Windward Slopes Homeowner's Association hosted the Nineteenth Annual Children's Independence Day Parade for Lakeland July 4. Bikes, pets, children and adults were decorated in red, white and blue for the one-mile parade through the neighborhood. The Shelby County Sheriff's Office provided an escort. Refreshments donated by Windward Slopes HOA and Kroger in Windward Slopes Park immediately following the parade. Organizers were Veronica Wennekamp, Jaycee Killian, and Cindy Davis.

*****

The **Oakwood Neighborhood** had a Fourth of July Parade complete with ice cream at the Clubhouse. There will be a back-to-school event Aug. 29 and Guys Poker Night Oct. 3. The pool closes Sept. 30.

*****

In **Winstead Farms** the pool closes Sept. 20. Anna Grace is the agent for the neighborhood and is the contact if you have questions about remaining houses.

*****

Nicci Osborne is the new executive director for Herons Ridge. nosborne@level1management.com 321-6744. Herons Ridge Summer Social was July 25.

Meet A Lakeland Business

Sam Lencke

If you do a good job, then word of mouth is a great form of advertising. That's what Joanna (JJ) Harwood found out when she decided to pet-sit for some lady friends back in 2001. As her business grew through referrals, and with the encouragement of one of herdaughters, JJ and husband Richard formed Your Neighborhood Pet Sitters.

The Harwoods have been Lakeland residents for over 20 years. They are originally from Trenton, TN. They have been sweethearts since the first day of first grade and recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Joanna graduated from Murray State and Richard graduated from UT Martin. After Richard's four -ear Navy enlistment, the Harwoods moved to Memphis. They have two daughters and five grandchildren.

In describing their business, Richard states, "Our goal is service. We not only take care of and LOVE on our clients' pets when they are out of town, we also make their home seem as if they never left. With the animals as our top priority, we also will bring in the paper, mail, and garbage cans, turn lights on and off, etc. Our fees are very competitive; charges are typically based on the number of visits per day. As our ad says, we REALLY paws to please!"

To reach the Harwoods, customers can either text or call 340-0261, or email to: rich0302@gmail.com

Richard and JJ are regular advertisers in Lakeland Currents. See their ad below.

Support Lakeland businesses and business owners

Your Neighborhood Pet Sitters
We "PAWS" to Please
Joanna J. Harwood (JJ)
Richard Harwood

5335 Saffron Springs Dr.
Lakeland, TN 38002
Cell: 901-340-0261
Cell: 901-734-5665
Rich0302@gmail.com

Windward Slopes 4th of July Parade

Inside the BOC Meetings (Board of Commissioners)

Ken Glazer

Lakeland School System's new middle school financing package was approved by the BOC at the July 21 meeting. The vote was 4 -1 with Commissioner Nicholson voting no.

The funding source will be Capital Outlay Notes (CON) which require full repayment within 12 years and will not exceed $20 million. This shorter repayment time saves the City roughly $12 million in interest when compared to 30-year bond. With a fixed interest rate, the annual repayment amount will be less than the estimated $2.1 million stated in the initial example presentation, which was based on five percent interest and would have required 72-cents of the $1.40 property tax. This amount was covered by the 55-cent property tax increase, 10-cents of the current 85-cents and 8-cents from the half-cent local sales tax option which went into effect in 2012. The City is now expecting an interest rate of three to three and one-half percent which will result in a lower annual payment.

The contract with BFI Inc./dba Republic Waste Service, was amended to allow unlimited bagged (yard) waste for an additional $3.80 per month. Under the terms of the existing agreement, as a result of an unexpected drop in fuel cost, BFI/Republic was required to reduced the base monthly fee by 60-cents. After hearing Republic's offer, Mayor Bunker requested his proposed resolution for sending BFI the required termination notice be removed from the agenda. The proposal mentioned July 21 was to add a Friday pick up day for yard waste.

Commissioners also approved a new contract and funding resolution for the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce at $12,000 a

BOC – Continued on page 16

BOC members at June 4 work session.

Commissioner Clark Plunk

Mayor Wyatt Bunker

Commissioner Randy Nicholson

Mayor Sherri Gallick

Commissioner Gene Torrey

The Garner Lake Association thanks you for supporting the

Garner Lake Fireworks Spectacular

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Windward Slopes Homeowners Association $500
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SPM Real Estate/The Pointe $1,250
Garner Lake Association $2,000

...thanks to all the sponsors who made this event possible. See you next year!

BOC – Continued from page 15

year or $1,000 monthly. The Chamber had requested $18,000 but Commissioners concluded the free office, reception and telephone services plus office equipment use at City Hall was worth more than the $500 they cut. The Chamber agreed to the Commission's request for quarterly accounting and monthly activities reports documenting their activities and expenditures. Commissioner Gene Torrey said the Board could revisit the funding issue if the reports support the need.

City Manager Jim Atkinson introduced Dennis Wolf with the University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) who presented the projected costs to run a Lakeland fire department. The study showed current fire fees would come close to a break-even situation with one fire station, pumper truck, gear, personnel and operating expenses. But a large gap looms when a second station is built. Commissioners decided to go back to Arlington to possibly move something forward for a joint fire service. http://www.lakelandtn.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4504 Link to the study.

New personnel at City Hall include Tom Skehan, planning director and Robbie Spencer, parks and recreation director.

Besides approving the funding for the new middle school for grades 5-8, the Board passed a resolution adopting policies and procedures for the administration of federal tax-exempt debt obligations and obligations subject to the requirements of Rule 15c-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The action is required when issuing capital outlay notes.

The BOC passed, on first reading, an ordinance amending the fiscal year 2015-16 annual budget to show the $20 million middle school funding. It approved a resolution to hire Bass, Berry & Sims as outside council to handle the CON disclosure document on a four to one vote with Commissioner Nicholson voting no.

A proposed new interlocal agreement with Arlington to maintain Chambers Chapel Road was discussed in great detail, then withdrawn, to be held until the Mayor, City Manager and City Attorney can discuss the terms of acceptance to maintain the northern portion of the Road. Arlington is slated to maintain the southern portion. Shelby County wants to push the maintenance to the two cities whose boundary lines end at the road's right-of-way. Commissioners agreed there should be negotiations with the county before any take-over.

A "Do Not Knock" list was suggested to keep commercial vendors from roaming Lakeland neighborhoods, unsolicited. The discussion included creating an ordinance that would require vendors to register at City Hall and be given a list of residents who do not want to be bothered with door-to-door sales.

An ordinance for term limits for BOC members was discussed and could be put on a spring ballot for a referendum vote.

In his report to commissioners, Jim said a Krystal restaurant is expected to open by the end of the year on Highway 64 east of Walgreen's. There are still plans to build a new McDonald's between Walgreen's and the planned Krystal.

Jim said the southern-most median on Canada Road would be spiffed up by the end of next week including repairs to the sprinkler system. The second, third and fourth medians will be completed in the next few weeks, all done by in-house labor.

Sherri said she cannot attend the October regular meeting so it is to be changed to Oct. 20. The work session is still on the calendar for Oct. 1.

There was no discussion or action on the following items from the June 11 work session: a request to the Shelby County Election Commission to make Lakeland Elementary the early voting location; a change to the City's sign regulation to allow businesses to put banners on poles on their property; the establishment of a process and timeline for the Board to follow when evaluating the City Manager; the formation of a Christmas Tree Lighting Committee; and lastly a method to communicate to the citizens the status of the City's major/important projects.

A recap of the BOC's actions in June include:

- Approved the annual budget and property tax rate for fiscal year 2015/2016.
- Increased the property tax rate to $1.40.
- Unanimously approved the Lakeland School System Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan and restricted the 55-cent tax increase to the funding of school capital improvements.
- Approved an ordinance establishing a debt service fund for the City.
- Approved on first reading an ordinance to amend the official zoning map of the City for the property located at 10360 Highway 70 from agricultural to neighborhood business.
- Approved all eight consent agenda items including a personnel pay plan for fiscal year 2015-16; authorization of non-interest-bearing Lakeland School System fund revenue/tax anticipation interfund loan notes not to exceed $300,000; authorization for the Mayor to execute a cooperative agreement with Shelby County regarding the Urban County Designation; authorization for the Mayor to return the LPRF (Local Parks and Recreation Fund) grant and begin the grant replacement process; and appointment of Bristol Roberts to the Shelby County Municipal Solid Waste Planning Board.

Candidate Forum
CITY OF LAKELAND MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Monday, August 31 at 7:00 PM
the Refuge Church
9817 Huff N Puff Rd, Lakeland, TN 38002

Partnership Lakeland will host a forum for the following candidates in the City of Lakeland Municipal Election*:

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MICHELE DIAL
LARRY PARDUE
JOSHUA ROMAN
JUSTIN SMITH

SCHOOL BOARD (Vote for two)
TERESA HENRY
GEOFF HICKS
SUSAN MILLER
MICA PARTAIN

All Lakeland residents are encouraged to come out and meet the candidates.
***Election Day is September 17, 2015**

Partnership Lakeland

For more information, please visit:
www.PartnershipLakeland.org

LSB update (Lakeland School Board)

Jay Dorning, Ken Glazer and Darla Mangan

Dr. Ted Horrell, Lakeland School System (LSS) superintendent, was recognized July 13 with an extension of his contract and a merit bonus of $5,000.

At the regular LSB meeting, Ted's contract was extended to June 30, 2019, giving him four more years as superintendent of LSS. The two-year extension is the maximum allowed by the state which has a four-year limit. All LSB members concurred that Ted's first year had been exceptional and thanked him for being willing to wear all the different hats he had worn. Ted thanked the Board for the support they gave him during the first year.

Chairman Kevin Floyd suggested that Ted's commitment to LSS and his successes, including creating a $600,000 reserve to begin the 2015-16 school year, merited a bonus of $5,000. At least four of the six new municipal school districts have approved bonuses for their superintendents. Board member Kelley Hale offered an amendment to Kevin's motion, that an additional $5,000 bonus be offered if Lakeland Elementary School (LES) was designated as a Reward School, a top five-percent state category. The Board agreed the additional bonus would be earned if LES is named a Reward School. Kevin's motion was amended and approved.

Other tasks completed by the LSB during June and July included hiring Southern Education Strategies (SES) as the project manager for the building of the new middle school and repairs to the roof and HVAC systems at LES. The contract with SES was terminated in June because it related to the proposed high school plan, Lakeland Prep. Funding for that campus was rejected in an April referendum vote.

Approved items include the Lakeland Extended Activities Program (LEAP) budget. This is a self-funding program for before and after school care which is being moved in-house this school year. The policy covering the extended school day and line item transfer authority within the budget were approved. Moved to the August agenda was the policy on designating official school support organizations. The motion on the Board's annual agenda was amended to move the committee appointments to November after the general election; added an item for the State's legislative agenda in December and the TSBA convention in September.

The nominations for the Ethics Committee are Board members Kelley Hale and Teresa Henry as well as citizen Wesley Wright.

The nominations for Hearing Officer are Sam Jackson and Latasha Dexter.

Vice Chair Laura Harrison, Member Matt Wright and Chair Kevin Floyd at June 3 work session.

The Board changed its regular September meeting to September 1, 2015 because Ted will be at the state annual superintendents' meeting in Gatlinburg, TN on the originally scheduled date. There will be no work session in September.

At the July 6 work session, Lou Melton asked about the status of the money approved by the Shelby County School (SCS) Board for repairs to the LES roof and AC system. The approved money of $990,000 for the roof and AC units is being held by SCS and will be paid as reimbursement when done within the two-year period. Both are on the calendar to be completed next summer within the two-year deadline.

The system has filled three administrative positions in LSS and all open teaching positions at LES.

Ted said all municipal school districts are reviewing their 2014-15-budget expenditures with the state. He announced that LSS is starting the 2015/2016 school with over $450,000 in reserves. If you add the anticipated property and sales tax that started in July, by the time school starts the reserve is anticipated to be about $600,000. The normal and healthy reserve percentage for starting the school year is between five and ten percent of the stated budget and LSS will start with about eight and one-half percent. Ted thanked Linda Millhouse for being so diligent about trying to get the best prices in any monetary amounts spent for LSS. He thanked the LES PTA for donating computers and tablets. All computers in the two computer labs have been replaced and the old computers from labs and teachers have been repurposed and put in classrooms for students to use.

Dr. Jim Mitchell of SES reported on the construction and planning of the middle school noting there is good progress made for the 94-acre site. The executive committee and lawyers

LSB update - Continued on page 18

Dr. Jim Mitchell addresses LSB at June 3 work session.

Teresa Henry,
LSB Member

Kelley Hale,
LSB Member

LSB update - Continued from page 17

have put together and presented the owners of the property a contract and are confident it will be accepted and approved. Matt Wright, LSB Board member, and Jim said the developers are still eager to build homes and possible retail development that will bring economic growth for the community. Both the developers and LSB want this to be the best it can be to enhance Lakeland in the best possible way.

During the June 3 LSB session, a revised Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) was unanimously approved by the Board which includes the 900-student capacity middle school for grades 5 through 8 targeted for school year 2018. Estimated cost is just under $20 million including land, utilities, private road, construction, construction contingency, architects and engineers, furniture, fixtures and equipment. The acreage was originally discussed as the site for Lakeland Prep, a grades 6-12 school.

In discussing the revised CIP, Ted said he felt it is in the best interest of LES students because of the capacity issues at Arlington Middle School (AMS). He noted that the cost of the new middle school is $30 million lower than the original plan to build a grades 6-12 school.

Kevin asked Jim and Dr. Tim Fite of SES to share their feelings about the proposed school. With many years of experience with schools in Shelby and Tipton Counties, both agreed that the plan is a good one and said optimum size for a middle school is 700 to 900 students. Currently AMS is just over 1,200 students.

Link to the CIP is listed here. http://lakelandk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Lakeland-Middle-Presentation.pdf

Happening In Lakeland

Monthly Litter Pick Up in Lakeland

Keep Lakeland Beautiful (KLB) started a regular litter pickup last month. The dates are the second Wednesday and second Saturday of each month, from 8 to 10 a.m. Rain will cancel the litter pickup.

At the KLM regular meeting, a new location will be selected for the next month which will be led by a different KLB member and announced to Lakeland citizens. For the latest information, check http://www.lakelandtn.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=285 website address for KLB litter pickup. Details also posted on City Facebook page, Channel 19 and Next Door.

Residents are encouraged to volunteer for these cleanups, said Rhonda Fink, community services representative for the City. No advance notice required. Just come to the site on the appropriate date.

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Lakeland: Your City, Your History

Alexa Tutor

Alexa Tutor

Located on Huff N Puff Road, Cafe Lakeland (or Lakeland Cafe, depending on who you ask), was THE place to get your grub in Lakeland. Louis Garner opened the restaurant in the 1970s, and it quickly became a favorite for truckers and travelers passing through due to its proximity to I-40. It was also the City of Lakeland's polling place during elections.

I had the great pleasure of sitting down with Willow Clausel, who managed the restaurant for over 20 years, and she enlightened me to what life was like inside the walls of Cafe Lakeland.

The restaurant boasted both a buffet and a full-menu, where you would find southern food staples such as: fried chicken, baked ham, catfish, seafood, cornbread dressing and even fried frog legs. Ms. Clausel - who started as a cashier and worked her way up to manager - made homemade yeast rolls in muffin tins, and she recalled how she never could keep enough peach cobbler (with homemade crust, of course) in the tins on the buffet line! Mr. Garner took pride in the fact that his restaurant used fresh produce and meat in their recipes, so, as manager, Ms. Clausel would go buy produce on Scott Street or off of Summer Avenue almost daily.

Jan, Louis's wife, was also instrumental in the life of the Cafe Lakeland. She had a banquet hall added onto the space, converted one area of the dining room into a large party room, and had a bar top put in the restaurant, where regulars like Ms. Shirley Henley would sit and eat daily. The last party Ms. Clausel recalls having in the restaurant was a Christmas party for Old Time Pottery, then located in the Belz Factory Outlet Mall, for 92 people!

Ms. Clausel warmly remembered the generosity Mr. Garner possessed for his employees and patrons alike. He even bought her a house in Arlington after a scary incident at her previous home in Whitehaven.

Life at Cafe Lakeland became a family affair when Ms. Clausel's granddaughter, Stephanie, began waiting tables there as a teenager. She recalled the nice, friendly patrons, and the many celebrities that frequented the restaurant, such as Ricky Van Shelton and Jimmy Dean.

The restaurant unfortunately closed in the mid-90s, and the building now houses the Refuge Church.

Fun fact!: Does the lion in the photo look familiar? He's been all around our great city for decades! He was once located in the amusement park, moved to the front of Cafe Lakeland (as pictured), and then was placed in storage at the IH Clubhouse after the restaurant closed. Shortly before its opening in 2001, he was graciously donated to Lakeland Elementary School, where he still greets our Lakeland Lions daily!

What is your favorite memory about Cafe Lakeland? E-mail me at: alexaktutor@gmail.com.

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Lakeland Elementary School (LES) PTA News

Krista Pearce, LES PTA president

Krista Pearce

We are so excited for the upcoming school year! We have so many great things planned for your kids and your family. The PTA theme for the 2015-2016 school year is "LES Rules".

We hope that you all will take the time to join the PTA this year. We hope to have 100% membership again this year! This year the membership form will be online. You can go to our website www.mylakelandpta.com and fill out the form and bring your payment (check or cash) with you on registration day. An individual membership is $6 and a family (up to 4) membership is $24. Please contact our VP of Membership, Alexa Tutor, at alexaktutor@gmail.com with any membership questions.

On Aug. 8, the PTA has planned a meet and greet for families new to LES. Come out to City Hall Park at 2 p.m. and meet some new friends and connect with other new families before school starts. LES PTA representatives will be on hand to answer questions.

The Boo Hoo Breakfast for parents of kindergartners will be at 9 a.m. Aug. 17.

Christian Brothers Automotive at 2859 N. Houston Levee will be continuing their ongoing Spirit Event with LES PTA! Mention LES and a percentage of the sale will benefit our school. This locally-owned and operated business offers a FREE local shuttle, ASE certified technicians and two-year/24,000 mile warranty. This is your one-stop shop for complete auto care on all makes and models! Call 221-0052 or visit ChristianBrothersAuto.com to schedule your services.

Mark your calendars!

Sept. 1 - Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) Orientation, 6 p.m.

17 – Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4 p.m.

19 – PTA Campus Beautification Day, 9 a.m.

24 – PTA General Assembly Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (4th grade performance)

25 – PTA Family Movie Night

29 - Oct. 8 – Boosterthon (PTA fall fundraiser) Pep Rally 9/29 and Fun Run 10/8

Curriculum Nights:

Kindergarten – August 13 @ 5:30-6:15 p.m.

1st Grade – Aug. 17 @ 6:15-7 p.m.

2nd Grade – August 17 @ 5:15-6 p.m.

3rd Grade – Aug. 18 @ 6:15-7 p.m.

4th Grade – August 18 @ 5:15-6 p.m.

5th Grade – Aug. 20 @ 5:15-6 p.m.

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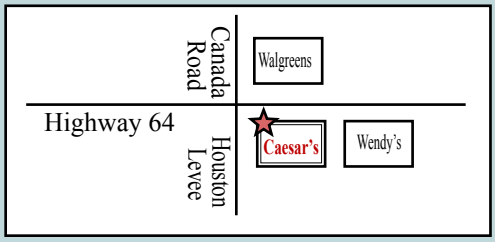

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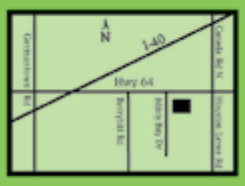

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Crime Report for Lakeland - SCSO

Crime activity for May 4 to May 31 increased in only one category among the 10 incidents reported: larceny other from zero to one. One category showed a decrease: vandalism misdemeanor/felony. Aggravated assault, burglary business, burglary construction, burglary residential, motor vehicle theft, robbery individual, theft from buildings and theft from vehicles all stayed the same. During the preceding month, there were 12 incidents reported. The most frequent day for crime was Thursday and most active time of day was between 2 and 10 a.m.

In his report to the BOC June 11, Lt. Terry Lomax noted there are about five vacant houses in Lakeland at any given time. During the May meeting he reported 400 vacant homes, but those are throughout Shelby County not just in Lakeland.

CALENDAR

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

August

3 - LSB work session
4 - LES Registration 3-7 p.m.
6 - BOC work session
7 - 9 - Annual Sales Tax Holiday in Tennessee
8 - Monthly City litter pickup day
10 - LSB regular meeting
First day, Lakeland Elementary School (LES)
11 - Parks meeting
12 - Monthly City litter pickup day
13 - BOC regular meeting 15 - Family Expo - 11 a.m. 2 p.m. LES
17 - Board of Appeals 20 - Municipal Planning (MPC) meeting
24 - PTA Forum for LSB candidates, 6:30 p.m. LES gym
27 - Lakeland Development Corporation(LDC) meeting
28 - Sept. 12 - Early vote for Lakeland election - downtown Memphis
31 - Partnership Lakeland Candidate Forum, 7 p.m., Refuge Church

September

1 - LSB regular meeting
3 - BOC work session 7 - Labor Day, no school, City Hall, Senior Center closed
8 - Parks meeting
9 - Monthly City litter pickup day
10 - BOC regular meeting
11 - Senior Happy Fall Ya'll Dinner, 6-8 p.m. IH Clubhouse
12 - Monthly City litter pickup day
Early vote day at LES, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.- one day at LES
16 - Lakeland Chamber business luncheon
17 - MPC meeting
21 - Board of Appeals
24 - LDC meeting

October

1 - BOC work session
5 - LSB regular meeting
10 - Monthly City litter pickup day
12-16 - Fall break, LES
13 - Parks meeting
14 - Monthly City litter pick up day
15 - MPC meeting
20 - BOC regular meeting

Kelley Hale

Lakeland School Board member

Kelley Hale

Lakeland Elementary is closed for the summer, but the school has been busy with activity. The great teachers of LES have been involved in a variety of training sessions to sharpen their skills in technology use, collaboration and effective instruction. This will certainly enable them to be better teachers for their students.

LES has had an amazing technology boost that will further the IT/ Technology goals of LSS. The two computer labs at LES have been fully updated. This was made possible by the money earned from the Ty and Maddie's Popcorn Fundraiser. The teachers have also been given updated laptops. The IMacs from the labs, as well as the teachers laptops that were replaced, have been refurbished and will be put in classrooms for student use. The network also has been upgraded this summer for faster speed and more coverage, which should serve the networking and broadband demand for many years to come. The influx of technology will give students additional avenues for learning and will enhance their overall academic experience.

Julie Reagan, one of the LES assistant principals, accepted a principal position at Sycamore Elementary in Collierville. We are very excited for her to have this great new opportunity. The new assistant principal is Sara Garner and she comes from Elmore Park Middle. She has been the assistant principal there for several years and brings a wealth of knowledge to Lakeland. Due to out-of-state relocations and promotions, five new teachers have joined the LES faculty as well. Principal Lockhart is pleased with the new teachers and feels they will be a good fit for the school.

The before and after school program formerly run by Y-Care has been brought in-house. This new program is called LEAP (Lakeland Extended Activities Program) and will have similar fees and operations to last year. We hope to add some extracurricular and expanded programs in addition to the before and after school care. Amy Phillips has accepted the LEAP coordinator position and is not a stranger to Lakeland families. She brings lots of childcare experience and is very excited about being a part of the LSS.

The School Board is anxiously anticipating the addition of Lakeland's first middle school. It was approved by both the School Board and the Board of Commissioners. By the time of publication, the final purchase contract for 94 acres located at the corner of Highway 70 and Canada Road should have been considered. This purchase will provide a premier location that's centrally located and will contain the middle school initially. In the future, a high school will be needed and the land will be ready for construction. The middle school is projected to serve kids in grades 5-8 with a population of 785 students when phasing-in is complete. The School Board feels this will be a comparable size to other legacy SCS middle schools such as Millington Middle (497 students), Germantown Middle (665 students), Bon Lin Middle (725 students), Houston Middle (862 students), and Collierville Middle (871 students). All of these schools are successful and offer many programs and we feel our middle school will as well. This new school will not only benefit the children of Lakeland, but the entire community as well.

There are so many positive changes for the students in Lakeland. It should be an exciting 2015-2016 school year!

Newsworthy Around Lakeland

Ted Horrell Releases a New CD

Lakeland School Superintendent Ted Horrell released a new CD of original music, Sputnik, at a Delta Blues Winery event July 18.

Ted's newest band, The Monday Night Card, played their first show in January 2013 at a location in Midtown. https://www.facebook.com/MondayNightCard . He said the band was basically him, a drummer and bass player from his original band, Central Standards. "We only played five shows before recording the new record in November of 2013," said Ted. "Then things got put on hold when I got the job in Lakeland and our drummer moved to Birmingham shortly after. We have not played any shows since then, although I have played a few acoustic sets around town."

The Central Standards played from 2001 to 2008 and recorded three albums during that time (Refrain, Can't Remember the Last Time, and The Central Standards' Folly). "We also played the opening set at Beale Street Music Festival in 2006 and were the winners of the Rock 103 "Great Unsigned" contest that same year. We played more than 75 shows around Memphis and the Mid-South during our time together as a band as well as shows in St. Louis, Chicago, Kansas City, and Iowa City." Jeff Capps, the other songwriter, singer and guitarist from that band, joined Ted at the CD release party for the Central Standards reunion.

Pictured is Ted with his Central Standards Band, above and the new group which played at the Winery.

Photos by Sam Lencke and courtesy of Ted Horrell.

Cub Scout Trip

This year's summer trip for Lakeland Cub Scout Pack 455 was to visit the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park in Mobile. The group toured the ship as well as the submarine, the USS Drum. The group also spent the night aboard the ship which gave the Scouts a taste of life as a Navy seaman. Scout Mom Sandy Flood organized this trip for the Pack. Photo courtesy of Laura Harrison

*****

Steve Laster has joined the LC staff and is reporting BOC meetings on Twitter. He moved to Lakeland in 2013 from Cordova and serves on the Lakeland Development Corporation Board. He is graduate of the University of Memphis and works for FedEx Services in Collierville. He and his wife Diane have a three-year-old son James and they attend Grace Community Church.

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Local children reeled in the first fish caught in the annual Lakeland Fishing Rodeo June 6 at the IH Park Lake. Carter Hein, a 10-year-old student at Lakeland Elementary School, was the first boy of the morning to catch a fish. He came with his brother, Davis Hein, a recent graduate of Arlington High School, and both are sons of Darrin and Angie Hein of Lakeland. Rachael Miller, an 11-year-old student at Arlington Middle School, was the first girl to catch a fish. She is the daughter of Bernard and Karen Miller of Lakeland and is pictured with Roy McMillen with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. Also fishing that morning were Haley Simons, 8 and Trey Simons, 6 from Lakeland. They are the children of Hayden and Laura Simons and were accompanied by sister Avery, age 3.

Trophies were given to Ayden Wing, 6 years old, most fish caught, boy; Maya McCreary, 9, longest fish, girl; Kaylee Elizabeth Grunden, 5, most caught, girl; and Trey Simmons, longest fish.

The annual event is for children ages 4-12

... Photos by Jim Willis

New Staff Members at Lakeland City Hall

courtesy of Jennifer Rezba, public relations assistant, City Hall

Robbie Spencer

Robbie Spencer is the new Lakeland Parks and Recreation Director effective last month. He becomes one of the youngest parks and recreation directors in the state of Tennessee at age 27.

He has a bachelor's degree in recreation management from Ohio University and most recently worked as the recreation program supervisor/sports director for the Sheridan, WY Recreation District. After three years Robbie almost tripled the participation numbers and revenue in both adult and youth programs from the existing 15 years before him.

Robbie plans to bring a lot of energy and ideas to the Parks and Recreation Department. "You have to at least try and do something new or exciting. If it fails, it fails but you have to at least try it. Nothing will ever develop if you don't try, " said Robbie. From sponsorships to more advertising, one of the main goals is to bring the community closer. "In recreation, it's all about the community, the businesses and the residents. If you involve the local businesses and help partner with them, you can have that local community spirit, which will in turn bring in more numbers," he added.

Robbie also plans to start new youth programs including flag and tackle football as well as improve upon the existing soccer, basketball and baseball programs. It's about making the programs better and more fun for the kids. "If we give the youth a great experience, not just to go out and have fun but to coach them in the right ways, this will prepare them for the next step and in life," he said. "From better uniforms and equipment, organization, and a great playing atmosphere, people will want to bring their kids to the City of Lakeland to participate in our programs."

Robbie also plans to start new adult programs as well. His ideas include an adult basketball, flag football and with a potential new athletic complex, a slow pitch softball league. "Recreation is about serving everyone and that's what I plan to do. Every age should have opportunities to get out and be active and to also relive their glory days."

Robbie and his wife Brittany have a one-year old son, Jett, and a dog named Tahoe.

Tom Skehan

Tom Skehan, AICP, is the new Lakeland planning director and oversees development and codes for the City. He reviews all plats, site plans and zoning requests submitted to the City to ensure compliance with development standards. Tom staffs the Municipal Planning Commission, Design Review Committee and the Lakeland Development Corporation.

"I'm very excited about this opportunity to serve as Planning Director," said Tom.

He served as regional planner for Southwest Tennessee Development District almost four years. He was with the State Local Planning Assistance Office for nearly nine years providing planning services for many cities and counties in West Tennessee before accepting the position with Lakeland.

He is a graduate of Texas Christian University with a bachelor of science in social work and a master of science (MS) in urban studies. He is also a graduate of the University of Memphis with a MS in city and regional planning. Tom is a certified planner (American Institute of Certified Planners) and is active in two state professional organizations serving as section director for the Tennessee Chapter of the American Planning Association and secretary of the Tennessee Chapter of the Association of State Floodplain Managers.

Tom currently lives in Dyersburg with his daughter and four grandchildren.

Other City staffing

Crystal Bell is the new receptionist and Kim Odom is now a grants administrator.

Lakeland Parks and Recreation

Robbie Spencer

IH Clubhouse - 4523 Canada Rd.
Robbie Spencer, parks and recreation director - rspencer@lakelandtn.org
Visit www.lakelandtn.gov for the latest information or contact Parks & Recreation 867-2717

2015 Adult Flag Football League
Adult flag football season starts this fall including stat keeping, website for league leaders, individual and team awards and more. The league will consist of a 10-game season with playoffs and a championship. Each player will receive a custom team shirt and shorts.

** Registration - through September 3 online at www.Leagues.bluesombrero.com/lakelandparksandrec or sign up in person at City Hall - 10001 US Highway 70
** For those interested in playing, a meeting will be held August 26, 5:30 pm at Lakeland City Hall
** Season will begin Sept. 7.
** Games will be played at Lakeland City Hall fields.
** Fees are $400 per team maximum 12 per team or $40 per individual player.
** Each team will be assigned colors. First come, first serve on color of uniform
Contact Robbie Spencer for more information or a league packet.

Women's Tennis
The Lakeland Women's Tennis Group plays from 9 - 11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays (weather permitting), at Windward Slopes Park, 9822 Beverle Rivera Dr. For more info, contact Lisa Edwards at 412-3303.

Sponsors Needed
If you're interested in becoming a sponsor for Lakeland's Parks and Recreation Programs and Special Events, please contact Robbie Spencer. Future programming will include youth flag and tackle football, youth cheerleading, basketball, baseball and soccer; adult flag football, basketball and softball; plus four special events.

Lakeland Fitness (Cardio, Yoga, and Calisthenics) Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. IH Clubhouse
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 Halloween Festival 2 - 9 p.m. Oct. 24 Lakeland City Hall fields
This is an all-day event packed with spooky activities and Halloween contests. Bring your whole family for this ghoulish Saturday.
Activities will include: inflatable bounces, face painting, hayrides, trick or treating, costumed characters, spooky baked goods and more.
Contests will include: costumes, pumpkin carving, pumpkin pie eating, pumpkin bake-off, sack race, picture coloring and more. Contest times will be announced in September. Activities and contests are subject to change.
To enter the pumpkin carving or bake-off contests, bring your items the day of the event. For rules for the contests check www.lakelandtn.gov and go to recreation.

Lakeland Senior Programs 55+

Marilyn Parker

Lakeland Senior Center (LSC) - 4527 Canada Rd; IH Clubhouse - 4553 Canada Rd.
746-8195 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. M-F; 867-2717 after hours
Marilyn Parker - Senior Center manager mparker@lakelandtn.org

Lakeland welcomes all local area adults 55+ to the Center, located on the grounds of IH Park. It is a gathering place for friends to enjoy camaraderie through games, programs, seminars and special events. Visit www.LakelandTN.gov , watch Comcast channel 19 or drop by the Senior Center for a monthly calendar and info on Bunco, dominoes, Mah-Jong, Silver Sneakers and other activities like crafting, bingo or Bible study. Contact Marilyn to be on the email or snail mail list.

Final Planning Presentation - Aug. 7 - time to be announced
by Daniel Moore/Forest Hill/Northridge Funeral Home. Corky's lunch provided. RSVP to Marilyn.

Creative Crafting - 11 a.m. - noon - Aug. 10
Fall and Halloween crafts plus decorate the Senior Center.

Bible Study with Trudy Scholten - 10 - 11:30 a.m. Aug. 26
Topic: In Praise of a Noble Woman (Proverbs 31: 10).

Seniors 55+ Happy Fall Y'all Dinner - 6 - 8 p.m. Sept. 11, IH Clubhouse
Details forthcoming.

Book Club resumes in September

Clean Up in Lakeland

On a sunny May 30, a steady flow of cars, trucks and trailers brought items for disposal at Lakeland's Community Clean Up Day at Windward Slopes Park. Five city workers collected large cardboard, overgrown plants, lumber, furniture and sacks of leaves. Republic Services was on hand to haul the filled containers and Cyber Yard collected unwanted electronics and computers. Totals collected, according to Rhonda Fink: metal – 1,480 lbs.; trash – 5.63 tons (11,260 lbs.) and e-waste – 3,009 lbs. Pictured are City workers Jesse McCabe, Bobby Carpenter, Joey Carpenter, James Riley and Bristol Roberts.

Photos by Jim Willis

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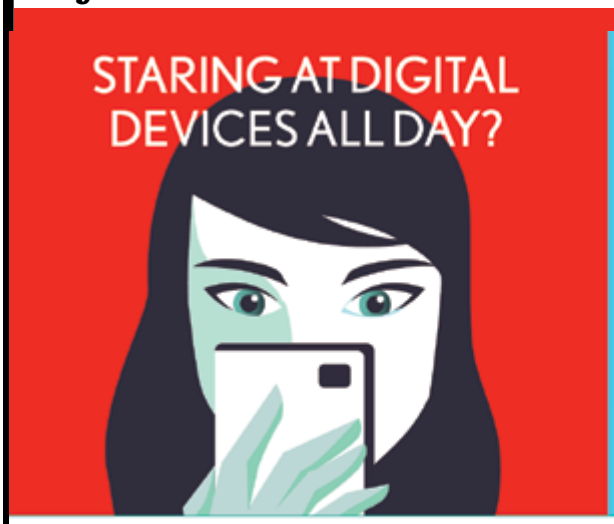

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References: 1. Results of an in vitro study in which Bausch + Lomb ULTRA®, ACUVUE OASYS, AIR OPTIX AQUA, and Biofinity contact lenses were placed on a model cornea with 0.18 µm of spherical aberration. Images were acquired every 10 seconds up to 30 seconds and analyzed using pattern matching algorithms. A score for each 10-second interval is determined by comparing how closely the test image matches the time 0 image. Mean scores over the 30-second interval were determined and compared. 2. Data on file Bausch & Lomb Incorporated, Rochester, NY; 2013. 3. Results from a 22-investigator, multi-site study of Bausch + Lomb ULTRA contact lenses with MoistureSeal technology, on 327 current silicone hydrogel lens wearers. After 7 days of wear, subjects completed an online survey. Subjects rated performance across a range of attributes. Preference comparisons represent only those subjects expressing a preference. Ratio is based on the average across the silicone hydrogel lenses represented in the study.

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