Vol. 19, No.2 April 2016

Lakeland currents

Bi-monthly news magazine

Derby Day for LES April 15

page 4

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL

Cat Wright // REALTOR®

930 S. White Station Road // Memphis, TN 38117
Office: 901.261.7900 // Cell: 901.494.7450
cat.wright14@yahoo.com // **www.kw.com**

EACH OFFICE IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

kw KELLERWILLIAMS. REALTY

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Arlington, TN 38002
Permit No. 18

CONTENTS:

>> New Canada Road – page 2
>> Tour/Festival – page 5
>> Chamber Golf Classic – page 9
>> Fishing Rodeo – page 12

**RR
POSTAL
CUSTOMER
Lakeland, TN**

New Canada Road Closer to Reality

by Wesley Wright

Rendering of intersections, crosswalks, enhanced entrance features and brick fencing

Much has been said about the development of New Canada Road (NCR) based on conjecture and false information. Some residents living in the neighborhoods near the project believed it would never be built. Some residents do not know of the Road though there is clearly a plan that was started in 1992. But the project is indeed moving forward. Emily Harrell, city engineer, shared details of the Road.

It will begin at Beverle Rivera Drive and run north to U.S. Highway 70. Cost is approximately $12 million with 20 percent ($2,400,000) paid by the City of Lakeland. The balance will be paid by the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and through funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The City is currently in the process of acquiring the right-of-way for the new road, according to Mrs. Harrell. There are currently 14 tracts still in negotiations, which are expected to take a year to complete, she said. The timeline includes the following components:

- ✓ Utility coordination and relocation begins in 2018.
- ✓ Construction begins in 2020-2021.
- ✓ Completion will be in 2023-2024.

The New Canada Road website www.newcanadaroad.com reflects the current status of the project.

The traffic study anticipates a 30-year build-out.

In 2008, the City developed a stakeholder committee comprised of 15 residents that represent different areas along the new Road. After almost a year of meetings and numerous discussions on alignment and roadway sections, the committee reached a consensus with Alternate A modified. The road will be a four-lane divided "boulevard" type roadway with a 10-foot wide bike and pedestrian trails running parallel to the roadway. The speed limit will be 35-mph and will not have roundabouts or speed humps. Special concessions were made through Plantation Hills and Woodbridge Subdivisions including a narrower roadway section as a traffic calming measure to minimize speeders.

Also included are entrance features at each intersection which will be brick with names for Plantation Hills and Woodbridge.

New Canada Road will provide a safer route through our City which will be especially important with the increased traffic from the opening of the new middle school in the fall of 2017, according to Mrs. Harrell.

Check the New Canada Road website for a project schedule and downloads of all the stakeholder meetings as well as maps and images of the new alignment.

About the Cover:

Extravagant hats "rule" for the annual Lakeland Elementary School (LES) Spring Auction April 15 at Colonial Country Club. Principal Joretha Lockhart (center) and assistant principals Sara Garner and Debra Ball don bright yellow chapeaus for the Lakeland Derby. Story on page 4

Photo by Jim Willis

LAKELAND CURRENTS

Published bi-monthly by a volunteer staff with financial support from advertising. Lakeland Currents is protected by copyright and may not be reproduced without written consent of the editor.

Editorial Board : Gerry Burditt, Jay Dorning, Carl Helton, Steve Laster, Steven Snow, Alexa Tutor, Paul Vandiver, Jim Willis and Wesley Wright

Editor: Sherrye Willis
sjwmphs@comcast.net, 291-4125

Graphic Layout: Andrea Horta

Printing: HOT Graphics & Printing, Inc.

For advertising, contact:

Steven Snow 240-1338, stevesnowfitness@AOL.com

Wesley Wright 490-4988, wesley@wesleyalanwright.com

Circulation:
6,200+ addresses in Lakeland and the area.

Also available at Lakeland City Hall and various businesses.

/LakelandCurrents

@LakelandTNNews

Lakeland Projects, Subdivisions, Sales Tax Chart

Planning Projects Update		
Project	**Last Activity**	**Status**
Exxon Site Plan	MPC Approval	Building Permit Pending
Country Bridge Shopping Center Renovation	MPC Approval	Building Permit Pending
Parking Lot Lighting Replacement	Admin Approval	Building Permit Pending
Starbucks	MPC Approval	Building Permit Pulled
Kensington Manor (150 Lots)	MPC Approval	Awaiting Development Contract for Phase I - 24 Lots
Krystal Restaurant Site Plan	MPC/DRC Approval	Site prep work has begun
Lakeland Commons	MPC/BOC Approval	No recent action
McDonalds Restaurant (US HWY 64)	MPC/DRC Approval	Building Permit Pending
Oakwood Grove (156 Lots)	MPC Approval	BOC Reviewing Development Contract for Phase I - 20 Lots
Chapel Woods Rezoning (126 Acres)	MPC/BOC Approval	Awaiting Preliminary Plan
Land Development Regulations - Sign Ordinance	MPC Approval	BOC - 1st Reading Pending
Kaushiki Inc. Site Plan (Subway/Gas Station)	MPC Approval	Building Permit Pending

Courtesy of City of Lakeland.

Local Option Sales Tax

	2014	2015	+ / - from PY
January	43,914	48,386	10.2%
February	40,928	39,330	-3.9%
March	49,816	51,741	3.9%
April	40,956	53,332	30.2%
May	49,818	72,755	46.0%
June	48,867	76,879	57.3%
July	69,489	74,779	7.6%
August	38,314	63,711	66.3%
September	50,243	63,034	25.5%
October	51,908	58,514	12.7%
November	47,365	61,122	29.0%
December	56,252	68,425	21.6%

Provided by the City of Lakeland, Jessica Millspaugh

Subdivisions Approved*	Acres	Lots**
Arcadia	114.1	126
Equestria	86.3	119
Evergreen (79.6 AC / 150 lots)	79.6	150
Evergreen Square (MUPD)	25.2	30
Herons C & D (95.6 AC / 100 lots)	96.6	100
Kensington Manor (64.9 AC 103 lots	64.9	
Phase I (Development Contract Pending)		24
Phase 2		18
Phase 3		15
Phase 4		23
Phase 5		23
Lake Forest MUPD	45.2	657
Lakeland Commons	41.7	150
Meadows	118.6	180
Oakwood Grove (97 AC 156 lots)	97	
Phase I (Development Contract Under Review)		13
Phase IA		14
Phase 2		30
Phase 2A		14
Phase 3		24
Phase 3A		15
Phase 4		31
Phase 5		15
Villages at Waters Edge	52.7	55
TOTALS	**917**	**1,826**

*Projects are in various stages of approval.
See Planning Project Updates for specific activity.
**Single Family Lots

Courtesy of City of Lakeland.

GROOME & CO.
LLC REALTORS®
www.groomeco.com

Office: 901-465-7172
Fax: 901-273-1611
Cell: 901-461-5446

7390 Hwy 64
Oakland, TN 38060

Jeanna Groome
Principle Broker
groomeco1@comcast.net

Annual LES Auction Spotlights Derby Day

Don your colorful spring outfit, a chic hat, maybe a bow tie and come to the Lakeland Derby April 15.

The evening will be filled with food, music and auction items to benefit Lakeland Elementary School.

The annual event will be at Colonial Country Club. It is open to all and tickets are $25 per person, purchased through Ashley Red ashleyred@gmail.com. Dinner includes Teriyaki chicken, roasted pork loin, salad and vegetables along with a cash bar.

Tracy Jones, chair of the event, said this is the biggest fundraiser of the year. "Last year we raised over $30,000 and we hope to surpass that this year. The profit will go towards technology and special programs," she said.

There are 21 sponsors for the evening's success with many donations in the silent auction. "Everything from jewelry to furniture to gift cards to workshops to birthday parties," noted Mrs. Jones. Among the items are a $900 amethyst and diamond bracelet and Disney World tickets. Mrs. Jones also said there will be "Teacher Features" for auction with teachers donating their time for fun events with students like movies, the Zoo and even librarian for the day.

Among the live auction items will be jewelry and baskets plus donated fancy dessert items from bakeries and parents.

Lakeland Currents is media sponsor for the event.

Thank you to our wonderful sponsors!

Lakeland DERBY

Platinum Level

Allstate – Josh Roman, Baptist Hospital, Data Network Systems, Fireworks City, Wright Landscaping

Gold Level

A2H, Cajun Vending LLC, The Floyd Firm, Smith Plumbing, Trustmark

Silver Level

Keith Morris Family Dentistry, Keller Williams Realty – Cat Wright, Lakeland Chiropractic, Orange Theory Fitness, Southern Paint Pros, State Farm – William Ashworth, Wendy Thompson Team – The Bank of England

Bronze Level

Brink Family Dentist, The Marston Group, Methodist Healthcare (Lakeland Family Medicine), Renaissance Group

Pet Health Center

VETERINARY SERVICES

PROFESSIONAL GROOMING

LUXURY BOARDING

PRESCRIPTION DIETS

9765 Highway 64
Arlington TN 38002
(901) 382-0330
www.pethealthcenter.net

Mon-Fri 7:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday 7:00 am – Noon
(Closed the last Saturday of the month)

20% OFF your pet's first visit.

Excludes Grooming. Cannot be combined with any other offer, coupon or discount.

10% DISCOUNT for Military, Police, and Firefighters.

Excludes Grooming. Cannot be combined with any other offer, coupon or discount.

Lakeland Neighborhood Report

Garner Lake Association is a voluntary, non-political organization concerned with the well-being of Garner Lake and its surrounding neighborhoods. Someone recently asked one of our Board members "Why should I join? What does GLA do?" I'll try to answer. GLA members maintain the weir that drains the lake during high water periods. GLA maintains and funds the pump to the lake which is very essential during some years when the lake level is low. Pumping water during those times costs approximately $100 a day just to try to maintain the water level. GLA members clean the levee and the lake from debris. GLA maintains the website where information such as lake events, water level and local weather can be found. GLA is the title sponsor of the Fourth of July fireworks. Membership in GLA is easy. Membership forms have already been mailed out, or are available on the Contact Us page of our website. Annual dues are only $20. Please visit our website http://www.garnerlake.com/ to learn more about us.

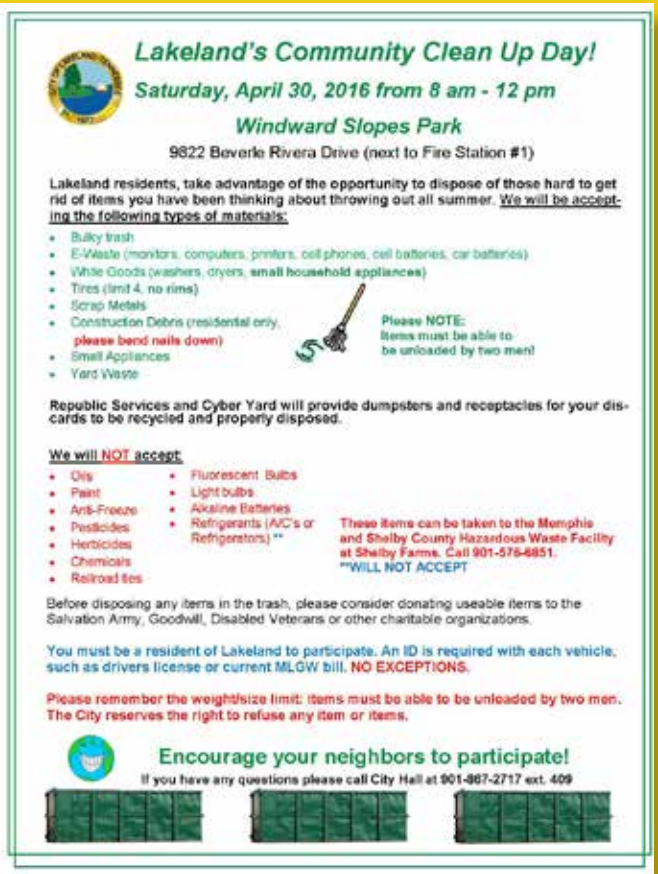
5k Run for LES

The second annual Lakeland K-5 5K will be at 8 a.m. April 23 starting at Lakeland Elementary School (LES). Pre-register by April 9 for $25 and receive a free T-shirt. Late registration is $30. Sponsored by the Lakeland Education Foundation, the Run benefits LES. A Kids Fun Run will follow the 5K with no fee and all children will receive a medal. For information www.supportlakelandschools.org

Happening In Lakeland

There will be a **community-wide Lakeland Yard Sale** April 30 in various City neighborhoods, organized through NextDoor.com. This event is not sponsored by the City, but is promoted via survey for those who want to sell items on that day. Wesley Wright, City ND volunteer liaison, said selecting a particular day helps generate interested buyers for the one-day sale. Participants should do their own advertising and signs.

There is also a **Community Clean Up** the same day in Windward Slopes Park.



Lakeland's Community Clean Up Day!

Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 8 am - 12 pm

Windward Slopes Park

9822 Beverle Rivera Drive (next to Fire Station #1)

Lakeland residents, take advantage of the opportunity to dispose of those hard to get rid of items you have been thinking about throwing out all summer. We will be accepting the following types of materials:

- Bulky trash
- E-Waste (monitors, computers, printers, cell phones, cell batteries, car batteries)
- White Goods (washers, dryers, **small household appliances**)
- Tires (limit 4, no rims)
- Scrap Metals
- Construction Debris (residential only, **please bend nails down**)
- Small Appliances
- Yard Waste

Please NOTE: Items must be able to be unloaded by two men!

Republic Services and Cyber Yard will provide dumpsters and receptacles for your discards to be recycled and properly disposed.

We will NOT accept:

- Oils
- Paint
- Anti-Freeze
- Pesticides
- Herbicides
- Chemicals
- Railroad ties
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Light bulbs
- Alkaline Batteries
- Refrigerants (A/C's or Refrigerators) **

These items can be taken to the Memphis and Shelby County Hazardous Waste Facility at Shelby Farms. Call 901-575-6851. **WILL NOT ACCEPT

Before disposing any items in the trash, please consider donating useable items to the Salvation Army, Goodwill, Disabled Veterans or other charitable organizations.

You must be a resident of Lakeland to participate. An ID is required with each vehicle, such as drivers license or current MLGW bill. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Please remember the weight/size limit: items must be able to be unloaded by two men. The City reserves the right to refuse any item or items.

Encourage your neighbors to participate!

If you have any questions please call City Hall at 901-867-2717 ext. 409

Your Neighborhood Pet Sitters

WE "PAWS" TO PLEASE

Joanna J. Harwood (JJ)
Richard Harwood

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

Tour de Lakeland

by Steven Snow

While we have thousands of 18-wheelers rolling through Lakeland on I-40 daily, next month it will be the small wheels dominating the roads. May 14, the Delta Blues Winery will be the starting point and the finish line for the First Tour De Lakeland: three separate bicycling events (5, 25 and 50-mile routes) touring the scenic, historic and cultural highlights of our community. Being held in conjunction with the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce's Family Spring Festival, there will be plenty of activities for non-riding friends and family members. Tour organizer Alan Johnson hopes this will become an annual event for Lakeland.

The main goal of this family-friendly event is to get outdoors, be active and have fun. There will be inflatables, face painting, and an obstacle course for children and shopping, food, music and hot air balloon rides.

The courses will tour historic landmarks, natural highlights and local businesses, such as the covered bridge at ChrisLeigh Farm, the new Lakeland Middle Preparatory School site, Garner Lake, the new Lakeland Commons development and the Trinity Farms Stables.

Supporters of this inaugural event are title sponsor Fireworks City; gold level sponsor Tim Hogan Floor Coverings; and silver level sponsors HealthyHere, Lifesigns, Lakeland Leatherworks, Wil Ashworth State Farm Agency, Fitness Solutions, Wright Landscapings and Brook Smith Real Estate

Entry fees are $25 individual or $50 family up to six riders until April 15 and will increase to $30 individual and $55 family after that date. Each rider will receive a sized T-shirt and a packet with freebies and coupons from participating businesses. For additional information or to enter, go online to www.tourdelakeland.racesonline.com. Date-of-event registration also will be available.

Lakeland Family Spring Festival

The Lakeland Spring Festival will pair with the Tour de Lakeland May 14 for a day of activities for the entire family at the Delta Blues Winery, 6586 Stewart Rd.

The featured activity will be tethered hot air balloon rides from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Ginny Dunn, economic development coordinator for the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce, said the balloon will rise 50-feet and is open to ages five and up.

Other events include a live band, face painting, hay rides, food trucks, children's obstacle course and more.

"Reserve your time slot for a balloon ride before May 7 by prepaying online at www.mylakelandchamber.org ," said Mrs. Dunn. "Any available time slots not filled will be available on a first-come first-serve basis at the event. Costs are $15 per person or $45 for four. Thank you to Durham School Services for sponsoring the balloon ride. All ticket sales to go to the Lakeland Education Foundation," she added.

INSIDE THE BOC (BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS) MEETINGS

During February and March BOC meetings, plans were announced for a new community park, upgrades to IH Park and Clubhouse and a Keep Lakeland Beautiful Advisory Board.

The proposed new park would be on 18 acres on U.S. Highway 70 and fronting the new Lakeland middle school property and would include sports fields, picnic and play areas and a walking path. Landscape architect for the Community Park is Ritchie Smith Associates.

The first steps in the process were to apply for a $500,000 LPRF grant (Local Parks and Recreation Fund) and buy the property from Jones Gilliland Group LLC. The grant must be submitted by April 22.

Jim Atkinson, Lakeland city manager, said he hopes the City can buy the property early this summer and construction will start on the park later this year. There is money budgeted in park acquisition funds to buy the land. Link to site plan: http://tn-lakeland.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/5114

Contemplating future needs, commissioners questioned whether the park would accommodate tournament sports play. Wyatt Bunker, mayor, suggested some of the adjoining property, currently owned by Harding Academy, might be purchased to increase the space of the park.

Mr. Atkinson suggested the City might partner with the Lakeland School System to utilize anticipated space for athletics at the high school site. He will investigate both avenues to expand the park area.

Sherri Gallick, commissioner, asked what will happen to the City-owned land on Memphis-Arlington Road. Mr. Atkinson said the property could be sold and proceeds used for the new park.

At the March 10 meeting, all items on the consent agenda were approved including the first reading on a change in the BOC agenda format, allowing public speaking at the top of the meeting. Commissioners unanimously approved a $3,000 quarterly agreement with PFM (Public Financial Management, Inc.) for financial advisory services. The Keep Lakeland Beautiful (KLB) Advisory Board was approved on a four-one vote, with Mayor Bunker voting no. Commissioner Gallick was appointed to be the liaison to that Board.

The first reading of an amended sign ordinance was approved but Mayor Bunker asked that the Germantown sign ordinance be reviewed and perhaps some of that language could be added to the Lakeland ordinance. Specifically mentioned were signs with neon or LED lights, which the Mayor dislikes. Current businesses with such signs would be grandfathered, but any new businesses would not be allowed to use the brightly colored signs. Instead the ordinance would allow feather signs which are currently prohibited. “I want to set us on a direction of consistent high standards,” said the Mayor.

A proposed mowing contract drew a lot of conversation among commissioners but in the end was approved unanimously. It is with Delta Lawn and Landscaping for $54,900. The one-year contract includes mowing, trimming and bush hogging along roadway rights of way, City parks, the wastewater treatment plant, sewer lift stations and miscellaneous City-maintained properties.

At the regular February meeting, the BOC approved the following:

>> A construction contract for the City wastewater treatment plant.

>> An IH Park improvement plan which will include window repair/redesign to the Clubroom, expansion of a deck adjacent to the Clubroom, additional gravel parking on the gas easement, outdoor lighting and terracing of seating area by the new stage.

>> An amendment to the fiscal year 2015-16 budget.

>> The membership of the Economic Development Commission (EDC) and selection of Commissioner Josh Roman to be the BOC liaison.

Commissioner Michele Dial said the Parks and Recreation Board met with resident Paul Zoccola about changes to the Plantation Hills Park and a prioritized list was made for improvement to that area. She also said a member recommended naming the new stage the Lakeland Amphitheater and calling it The LAMP as an acronym.

Among the three residents who spoke at the BOC meeting in February, one each addressed the recent City audit (David Abbott) and another the litter and tree-trimming in Lakeland (Arnie Holcomb). A third (Lou Melton) asked about a new City park.

During the March work session Mr. Atkinson shared the following information:

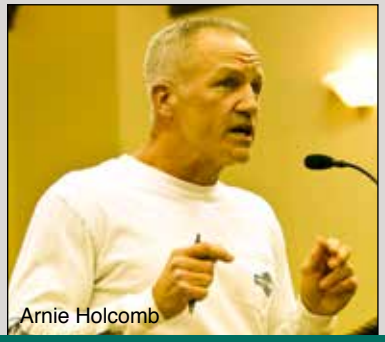
>> The EDC met for the first time and recommended the City authorize a planning study for the I-40 interchange area. It would examine all four corners of the interchange and create recommendations and designs that could be adopted by the City.

>> The Flood Mitigation Grant/Higdon Property is awaiting a final review from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency).

>> A four-point litter control plan was proposed that includes collection, education, enforcement and partnerships. Among the ideas are to reduce by five the 19 road cycles (list of City streets) that are currently cleaned by City crews, explore using a litter vacuum to reduce collection time and increase efficiency, expand volunteer involvement and create a civic pride campaign targeted at business owners. Another idea was to install security cameras at known dump sites in the City.

Public speakers at the March work session included Mr. Abbott who spoke about the City audit; Mrs. Melton who questioned the need to hire PFM; Delphine Rose who asked about I-40 sound barriers, lights on new gateway signs, dangers of Huff N Puff Road and MLGW tree-cutting; and Mr. Holcomb asking about signs at exit 20, I-40.

Four Lakeland citizens spoke at the March 3 BOC work session. *Photos by Jim Willis*


Arnie Holcomb

Lou Melton

David Abbott

Delphine Rose

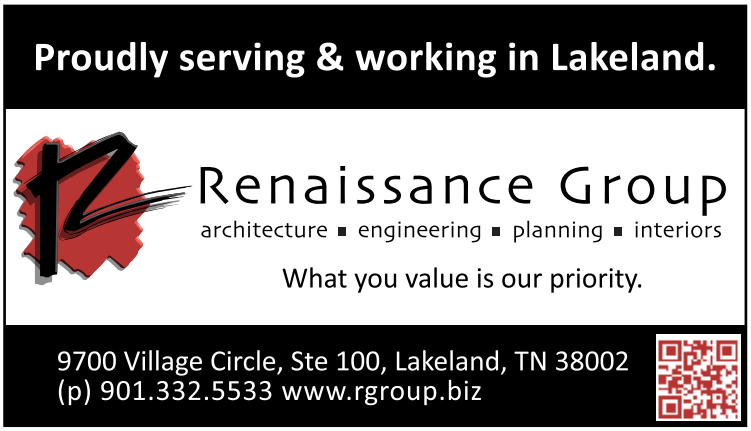
LES (LAKELAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL) PTA NEWS

by Krista Pearce, PTA president

The school year is coming to a close but the LES PTA has lots going on before the end of the year! Our biggest fundraiser, the Spring Auction, is April 15! This is always a fun night so get your tickets if you haven't! We have several Spirit Events planned to wrap up the year. Please plan on attending those as a portion of the proceeds comes back to the PTA. Our final General Assembly meeting, which will be a volunteer appreciation dinner, will be April 21. We will be sprucing up the LES Campus at 9 a.m. April 23 for our final Campus Beautification event of the year. Please plan on joining us for that. The Spring Family Dance will wrap up our year with a big bang! Plan on attending the Glow Party-themed dance May 6! There will be pizza, snacks, drinks, a DJ and a photo booth!

Christian Brothers Automotive at 2859 N. Houston Levee has an ongoing Spirit Event with the LES PTA. Mention LES PTA and a percentage of the sale will benefit our school. This offer is valid year-round! Thank you Todd Few and Christian Brothers Automotive for your continued support of the LES PTA!! Call 221-0052 or visit www.ChristianBrothersAuto.com to schedule your services.

April 7 - Zaxby's Spirit Event 5-9 p.m.
8 - Fit Club 8:15 a.m.
15 - Auction 6:30 p.m.
18 - Three Guys Pizza Spirit Night
21 - PTA General Assembly Meeting
April 22 - Fit Club 8:15 a.m.
23 - Campus Beautification 9 a.m.
May 3 - Lenny's Spirit Event
6 - Spring Dance



Newsworthy Around Lakeland

Lakeland was designated a **Tree City USA Award Recipient** in February, the tenth time for the award. The recognition is for cities that have made it a priority to plant, preserve and protect tree resources as well as engage the community in environmental stewardship, according to Robbie Spencer, director of Parks and Recreation.
To achieve this status, cities must meet five standards: Have a tree advisory committee, a tree care plan, dedicated annual expenditures for its program, an Arbor Day observance and service learning projects. The Tree City USA Growth Award is awarded by the Arbor Day Foundation to recognize higher levels of tree care by participating Tree City USA communities. It highlights innovative programs and projects, increased commitment resources for urban forestry and provides an opportunity to share new ideas and successes across the country. Lakeland has received the Growth Award eight times.

The Tenessee Health Services and Development Agency by 6-3 vote denied the **CON (Certificate of Need)** request to build a free-standing emergency medical facility in Lakeland. The hearing was Feb. 24. Board members denied the request of Baptist Memorial Hospital and Regional One Health saying there may be a need for the ED, but citing concerns the facility may have a negative financial impact on Saint Francis Hospital Bartlett and Methodist Healthcare.

Brandy Ortiz of Lakeland Elementary School was named a Tennessee Lottery Educator of the Week Feb. 22 by News Channel 3. Brandy teaches 5th grade Math and Science

---

Lakeland Elementary School (LES) second grader **Morgan Maske** has received a state "Award of Merit" for her entry in the National PTA Reflections Program, according to Angie Farmer, LES PTA. Morgan placed first in the LES primary division for literature and received a trophy for the honor. She will be given a medal from the Tennessee PTA for her state win. State-wide, up to three Awards of Merit are given for each category of each division. Theme for the competition was "Let Your Imagination Fly." Students competed in either primary (preschool-2) or intermediate (3-5) and awards at LES were in visual arts, 3D visual arts, literature, photography, dance and music. Thirty LES students submitted entries.
List of all LES winners include:
Visual arts primary - Madison Clemens, first; Elise Lohnes, second; Ella Reynold, third.
Visual arts intermediate - Louis Catalina, first; Shelby Emerson, second; Audrey Crossgrove, third.
3D visual arts intermediate - Jeena Bhakta, first; Abby Johnson, second.
Literature primary - Morgan Maske, first.
Literature intermediate - Haley Simons, first; Patrick Beckham, second; Gabby Krepela, third.
Photography intermediate - Olivia Hicks, first.
Dance intermediate - Isabella Genovesi, first.
Music intermediate - Julia Hardee, first; Maya McCreary, second.

Lakeland resident **Reed Cannon** is the first freshman at Arlington High School to place sixth in his weight class (106 pounds) at the February TSSAA Individual Wrestling Championships in Franklin, TN. Son of Joe and Lisa Cannon, Reed is only the second wrestler to reach this level of competition. He was undefeated at regional competition and was named "Freshman of the Year" by coaches in his region. He is an honors student with a 4.3 GPA.

Ginny Dunn, economic development coordinator for the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce, received the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce Executives Institute Diploma.

Wanda Terral, instructional specialist at Lakeland Elementary School, was selected as the Lead PBS Learning Media Digital Innovator for the state of Tennessee. The program recognizes educators nationwide who are incorporating digital media in classrooms. She is one of 52 Innovators representing all the U.S. states and territories.

Three Lakeland students placed nationally in UCA (Universal Cheerleaders Association) All Start Nationals in Orlando. Ensley Gordin, fourth grade at Lakeland Elementary School, won seventh place in the youth 2 division; her sister Sydney, a seventh grader at Arlington Middle School (AMS), won second place in the junior 3 division, along with Avery Molnar, eighth grade at AMS. Parents are Toby and Ashley Gordin and Deidre Hartley. All compete through Memphis Pride All Star dance and cheer.

The Do-Not-Knock Registry has 343 addresses. To access the site go to www.LakelandTN.gov/knock.

A group of about **60 students** from Lakeland Elementary School traveled to the state capital March 16 to tour the Senate and House Chambers, Old Supreme Court, Tennessee State Museum and learn some State history. Making the bus trip were members of the Honor Society, Student Council and Student Ambassadors. Nancy Harrell with Trustmark Bank in Lakeland donated $300 for student lunches.

Lakeland Chamber of Commerce News

by Ginny Dunn
Economic Development Coordinator

The annual Lakeland Chamber Golf Classic will be May 20 at Stonebridge Golf Club, 3049 Davies Plantation Road.

Check-in is 12:30 with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Cash prizes will be awarded for the longest drive, distance to the pin, putting and raffles worth $1,300. Food will be catered by Pink Flamingo Catering and Events.

Contact Ginny at 438-4873 or ginny@mylakelandchamber.org.

The next business luncheons will be April 20 with Memphis Business Journal sponsored by Pop-A-Lock and June 15 with State Rep. Ron Lollar, sponsored by St. Francis Hospital Bartlett.

ANNUAL CHAMBER DINNER

Dinner, awards and entertainment were part of the annual Lakeland Chamber of Commerce banquet Jan. 30 at The Refuge Church in Lakeland.

Speaker was Cary Vaughn, chairman of the Shelby County Chamber Alliance, and music was provided by The Dantones.

Wil Ashworth, seated center, is the new Chamber president and is pictured with Yolanda Watkins and Ginny; back row, Jimmy Moore, Carl Bumgarden, Billy Rodgers and Kevin Bailey.

Award winners were Delta Blues Winery, Tourism Business Award; Trustmark Bank, Customer Service; A2H, Business Excellence; Safety Nails and Massage, Business Growth Award; Diana Crenshaw Travel Agency and Silpada Jewelry, Home-Based Business Champion of the Year; Sprouts Farmers Market, New Business of the Year; Bricks and Minifigs, Innovation Award and Gateway Tire and Fireworks City, Community Outreach.

Ken Lipkowitz, outgoing Chamber president, was recognized with a Distinguished Service Award for his 2012-15 tenure.

Photo by Jim Willis.

WINE AND LEGOS

A Feb. 26 event benefiting the Lakeland Education Foundation (LEF) featured wine, cheese --- and Legos. Guests were encouraged to create a "Legoized" version of themselves while sampling cheese and crackers and sipping wine donated by Delta Blues Winery in Lakeland. During the evening, guests were divided into teams for a Lego creation from three kits. The store, on the south side of the Highway is owned by Patty and Mark Guttensohn of Lakeland. Pictured are from left Nancy Tompkins, Kevin Blevins, Don Barber and Cecil Tompkins.

Photo by Jim Willis.

NEW TO LAKELAND

A new business in Lakeland is Carroll's Roofing and Construction at 10036 U.S. Highway 70. Owned by the Carroll family for 75 years, Derrick Carroll is now running the business which specializes in commercial, industrial and residential construction. Derrick said they handle new construction as well as renovation. Pictured with Mr. Carroll is his wife Sonya; son Derrick II, who is 11-years-old; and twins Milan and Maxwell, 10. The ribbon cutting was Feb. 17.

Photo by Jim Willis.

LSB (LAKELAND SCHOOL BOARD) UPDATE

by Jay Dorning *and* Carl Helton

Lakeland Middle Preparatory School. It's the name of your new middle school and was selected at a March 14 LSB meeting.

There were many suggestions on the name and reasons for the titles but the majority of School Board members wanted to include the word "Prep" or "Preparatory" in the official name of the school.

Dr. Ted Horrell, superintendent, offered the name of Lakeland Middle School that would tie into a motto: "Prep for Life." But that idea was defeated along with other configurations including Prep and Middle during the hour-long conversation.

In other matters at the March meeting, Dr. Horrell announced bids have gone out for Lakeland Elementary School (LES) HVAC units through Bartlett Shared Services. He said a new flat screen TV is in the lobby of LES compliments of the Lakeland Education Foundation. To date, there is only one teaching position open for the 2016-17 school year. And the cell tower is still planned, with City zoning requirements being studied. The facilities master plan (with amendments) was approved and the link is below:
http://lakelandk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/LSS-Facilities-Master-Plan-3.pdf

Dr. Jim Mitchell and Dr. Tim Fite with Southern Educational Strategies reported on the middle school project and shared photos of the site work on Campus Drive and Lions Crest Drive. Dr. Fite said they are doing "value engineering" which allows architects and engineers to get a great product and save money. There is a target date of the third week in May to open construction bids with a goal to have the project to a general contractor June 1. The school is to be ready for the 2017-18 school year, 12 months sooner than originally anticipated. Dr. Horrell said he has informed the Arlington Community School System of this change.
The Board approved a contract with Public Risk Insurers to save money on insurance premiums (20 to 40 percent on commercial) and get better coverage. Laura Jungmichel presented information to the LSB. Also approved was a resolution to replace Chris Patterson as attorney for LSB. Kevin Floyd, chairman, said Mr. Patterson is not being fired. Rather Mr. Patterson feels his law firm can no longer provide the type of service needed by the school system and has recommended other legal services. He will continue to represent the City of Lakeland for legal matters.

School Board Appreciation

It was School Board Appreciation Night at the Feb. 1 Lakeland School Board meeting. All were treated to a Lenny's Sub Shop dinner before the evening meetings and students from Lakeland Elementary School presented each with gifts and thank you cards. *Photo by Jim Willis.*

LSB members expressed opposition to proposed Tennessee legislation requiring school systems with available space to take students outside attendance boundaries, no questions asked.

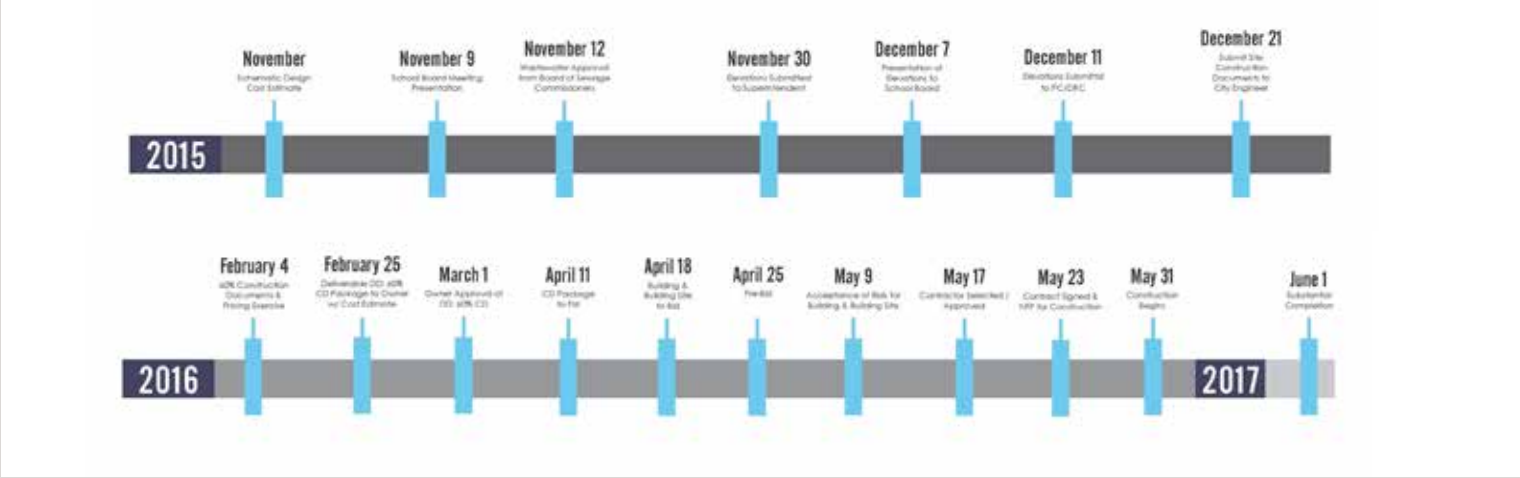
Other action taken during February and March meetings:

>> Dr. Horrell said the LES cafeteria had January 2016 revenues of $98,154 and expenditures of $88,070 compared to January 2015 revenues of $84,393 and expenditures of $101,000.

>> Jolly Roofing was awarded the re-roofing project at LES.

>> Dr. Valerie Crabtree, a licensed psychologist and certified in behavior sleep medicine, presented a Power Point on the impact of school start times. She is also working with Arlington High School about the 7 a.m. school start time.
Full presentation:
http://lakelandk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Impact-of-school-start-times-on-adolescents-1.pdf

>> Dr. Horrell announced that current student registration for 2016-17 went online for the first time.



Project schedule for Lakeland Middle School

Lakeland: Your City, Your History

by Alexa Tutor

ChrisLeigh Farm is only 1.5 miles from U.S. Highway 64, but it feels worlds away. Located on 92 acres off Monroe Road just south of I-40, it is home to the only covered bridge in Shelby County. After entering the property and passing the large blackjack tree, you cross the covered bridge while approaching a beautiful two-story log home (one of only a few left in the county) with an outdoor seating area complete with a fire pit off to the left. From the circular driveway by the garage, you see a quaint barn, decorated nicely with lights. There's a pond with turtles and Canada geese, and you might even see some goats, resurrection donkeys and deer while you are there as well!

I had the pleasure of sitting down with Sean and Debbie Aldridge, the owners of the farm, to talk about the farm's history as well as what they are up to now. They met at church when Sean was an Eagle Scout and have now been married over 33 years. By day Sean is in commercial real estate and Debbie is an accountant, but they both have a passion for making their property a retreat away from the hustle and bustle of the city.

In the mid-1980s Debbie's father Mark Gregory had just retired and wanted to pursue the dream he'd always had - he wanted a nice little farm with animals and a log home. He saw a photo of a large log home in a magazine, and being an engineer by trade, he altered the design and scaled it down. By 1986, he'd built the log home, barn and covered bridge and opened the farm under the name Gregory Farms. They started out breeding quarter horses. Her parents lived on and took care of the property for almost 20 years before they developed and built a house in The Pointé.

When her parents moved out, Sean and Debbie took over management and renamed the property ChrisLeigh Farm after their two daughters, Christen and Leigh. They meticulously manicure roughly 16 acres of the property, and about four years ago they decided they should share their little slice of paradise with everyone. They tried their hand at hosting a friend's wedding at the farm as a test run. The event was a success, and since Debbie loved to plan parties and events, they knew they'd found their niche. They started to market the farm as an outdoor event venue, and business has taken off since that first wedding four years ago. They now average between 10-15 weddings a year. Their largest event was a wedding with 325 guests!

Aside from weddings, they've also hosted family reunions, corporate

events, church and school functions, rehearsal dinners and birthday parties. They offer an "Amazing Race" birthday party, which is aimed at children 10-14 (they also have an adult version for those young at heart). Just like the reality TV show, the competitors must solve riddles, complete challenges and decipher clues to advance to the next "station" as they travel the farm.

Upon reading the testimonials on their website, it's clear to see why The Bridge at ChrisLeigh Farm is a great place to plan your event - Sean and Debbie make you feel like family. From thinking of things the host might not have thought about, to saving the day from snafus and mix-ups, Debbie goes above and beyond to make sure her events are spectacular and that her clients are well taken care of. You can visit their Facebook page at "The Bridge at ChrisLeigh Farm" or go to their website at www.thebridgeatchrisleighfarm.com.

FUN FACT!

The first annual Tour de Lakeland bike ride, scheduled for Saturday May 14, will stop by The Bridge at ChrisLeigh Farm! You can get more information on this event at www.LakelandTN.gov/tour.

Do you have any fun memories about Lakeland you would like to share? E-mail me at: alexaktutor@gmail.com

EDCO
Title & Closing Services, Inc
Anywhere Anytime

Full service real estate closing and title agency since 1978

- Residential Real Estate Closings
- Refinances, Leases, Contracts, etc.
- For Sale by Owner
- Remote closing services – we come to you
- REO Property Closings, Relocations

Call today for more information
901-382-0470

6510 Stage Road, Suite 1, Bartlett, TN 38134

www.edcotitle.com

CRYE-LEIKE REALTORS
#1 in the Mid –South

LISA CANNON
Sales Leader Crye-Leike Lakeland
Arlington Office

Your trusted agent in the Lakeland Community

Lisa Cannon
Affiliate Broker

901-497-7176
Office: (901) 260-4780
Fax: 901-260-4799
http://www.lisacannon.crye-leike.com

lisa.cannon@crye-leike.com

9943 Highway 64 • Arlington, TN 38002
www.crye-leike.com

CRYE-LEIKE® REALTORS®

Lakeland Parks and Recreation

City Hall - 10001 Highway 70

Robbie Spencer, *Parks & Recreation Director,* rspencer@lakelandtn.org

www.LakelandTN.gov/sports for sports; www.LakelandTN.gov/parksandrec for events and other news

867-2717

LAKELAND ANNUAL CHILDREN'S FISHING RODEO

Children ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult are invited to the annual Rodeo at 8 a.m. June 4 at IH Park Lake, 4523 Canada Road. Pre-register to avoid the long line at on-site registration which starts at 7:15 a.m. Forms for pre-registration are available at City Hall and at www.LakelandTN.gov/events.

The Rodeo includes seven 15-minute sessions. Victors will win a prize at every session. Trophies also will be given for the longest fish, most fish caught - boy and most fish caught - girl. Lakeland appreciates the First Baptist Church of Lakeland for allowing participants to park in the Church parking lot for this event. For more information, call City Hall at 867-2717 or kodom@lakelandtn.org. Bring a pole and bait to participate.

Contact **Robbie Spencer** at **867-2717** or **rspencer@lakelandtn.org** for questions about any of the following sports programs through the City Parks and Recreation Department.

To register for any of the programs:

In person at Lakeland City Hall 10001 Highway 70.

Online at www.LakelandTN.gov/leagues 24/7.

Call the City of Lakeland office 867-2717 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

YOUTH BASEBALL

This baseball program will focus on teaching children the fundamentals, teamwork and understanding of the game. Don't worry if your child hasn't played baseball because this is the program to learn.

Registration: Through April 18.
Late Registration: April 19 – 26.
Practices: Start the week of May 2. Age
Groups: 4-5 year-old T-Ball and 6-8 year-old coach pitch.
Fee: $95 includes hat, jersey, pants, belt and socks.
Late Fee: Sign-ups after April 19 will be $120.

The new Lakeland Lions emblem is on the football helmet for the new program.

YOUTH FOOTBALL

Youth Football and cheerleading are coming to Lakeland this season. Show your Lakeland City pride by playing and representing your City for the first time ever. Come participate in something great for the City of Lakeland.

Registration: April 9 – June 24.
Late Registration: June 25 – 30.
**Tackle Football – Only the first 60 children will be allowed to play. Others will be placed on a waiting list.
Practices: See timeline below.
Age Groups: 5-6 Flag, Tackle 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12.
Fee: Tackle $275 . A $350 check deposit will be held and returned at the end of the season.
Flag $70. A $30 check deposit will be held and then returned at the end of the season.
Late Fee: Sign-ups after June 24 will be $350.

YOUTH CHEERLEADING

Registration: April 9 – June 24.
Late Registration: June 25 – 30.
Practices: See timeline, below.
Age Groups: 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12.
Fee: $100. Fee includes full uniform with shoes.
Late Fee: Sign-ups after June 24 will be $150.

YOUTH FOOTBALL SKILLS CAMP

The first annual Football Skills Camp will teach the basics and advanced skills. The two-day camp will be taught by former college Division I and professional football players.

Registration: April 9 – June 18 or the day of the Camp at City Hall fields.
Dates and Times: Sat. June 18 and Sun. June 19; from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. for 5-8 years-old; 3-6 p.m. for 9-12 years-old.
Age Groups: 5-12 years-old.
Fee: $60 includes camp T-shirt.

2016 YOUTH FOOTBALL AND CHEERLEADING TIMELINE

April 9-June 24 – Youth Flag and Tackle Football and Cheerleading registration.
April 9 - June 18 – Youth Football Skills Camp registration starts.
June 18-19 – First Annual City of Lakeland Football Skills Camp.
July 7 – Helmet and shoulder pad fitting, 6 p.m. at Lakeland City Hall.
Week of July 11 – General conditioning starts for tackle football.
July 18 – Flag Football practices start
Week of July 25 – Tackle football official practices start, shirts and shorts, equipment and uniform handouts.
Week of August 1 – Tackle football helmet-only and cheerleading practices start.
Week of August 8 – Tackle football full pads practices start.
August 15 – Flag football games start.
August 20 – Tackle games start. Location will be on schedule.

Adult Basketball

Congratulations to our first annual adult basketball winner, The Brodies. *Photos courtesty of Lakekland Parks and Recreation Department.*

Youth Basketball

On January 8, the Lakeland youth basketball participants were treated to a Memphis Grizzlies Basketball Experience. They attended a pre-game shoot-around, stood in front of the players during the National Anthem and played at halftime in front of a crowd of 17,500 fans. *Photos courtesty of Lakekland Parks and Recreation Department.*

Nancy Highland, D.D.S.

Smile Enhancement Dental Center

9621 Davies Plantation East
Lakeland, TN 38002
Phone: 901-383-2345
e-mail: info@smileedc.com

SMILE ENHANCEMENT SEDC DENTAL CENTER

Greg Renfrow, ABR, GRI, e-Pro, SRS
Your Real Estate Consultant

Marx-Bensdorf REALTORS® Since 1868

Memphis Most

Associate Broker of the Year, 2014
Voted 2014 and 2015 Memphis Most Best Realtor !

Office **(901) 682-1868** • Cell **(901) 283-2899**

www.GregSellsMemphis.com

Serving the Lakeland Community for Over 20 Years

For all the reasons you need a bank, come to Trustmark, one of the South's oldest and strongest banks. Trustmark combines the strength of a regional bank with the personal touch of a neighborhood bank. We know that's the way you like to do business because, after all, we've been your neighborhood bank in Lakeland since we opened our doors.

Nancy Harrell
Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager

Let Nancy Harrell and her staff put our experience to work for you.

3714 Canada Rd. 901-377-3868

www.trustmark.com

Member FDIC

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

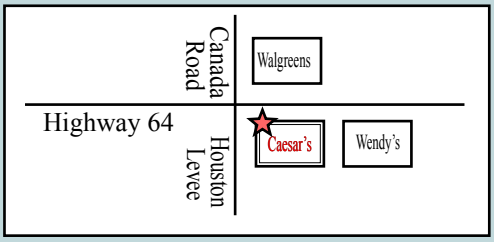
Trustmark Bank
People you trust. Advice that works.

Water on Stewart Road

Multiple days of heavy rain in Lakeland caused a road closure March 10 on Stewart Road and parts of Brunswick Road, along with flooding on U.S. Highway 64 at Canada Road, Chambers Chapel Road and Monroe Road. *Photo by Jim WIllis*

CAESAR'S
WINE & LIQUOR

Locally owned and operated



9959 Highway 64
901-382-3212

We will match all Memphis competitors' ads.
We now have a very large selection of wine accessories, party supplies and bar equipment

Monday – Ladies' Day 10% off all wine
Tuesday – Case Day 15% off all cases of wine
Wednesday – Man Day 10% off 750 ml bottles and Premium cigars (excludes sale items)

NEW Walk-in Humidor with BIG Selection

Worth a Special Visit!

CALENDAR: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (BOC), LAKELAND SCHOOL BOARD (LSB)

APRIL

1 LSB work session
4 LSB work session
7 BOC work session
8 Lakeland Seniors Variety Show, Dinner, Fundraiser
11 LSB regular meeting
12 Parks/Natural Resources (P/NR) meeting
14 BOC regular meeting
17 Free Bridal Open House - Stonebridge Golf Club 1 - 4 p.m.
18 Board of Appeals/Stormwater (BA/S)
20 Lakeland Chamber Luncheon
21 Municipal Planning Commission (MPC)
23 Second annual Lakeland K-5 5K
28 Lakeland Development Corp. (LDC)
30 Community Clean Up Day - Windward Slopes Park
Citywide Garage Sale in Lakeland neighborhoods

MAY

2 LSB work session
5 BOC work session
9 LSB regular meeting
10 P/NR
12 Town Hall Meeting
BOC regular meeting
14 Tour De Lakeland, Spring Festival
16 BA/S
19 MPC
20 Lakeland Chamber Golf Tournament - Stonebridge Golf Club
26 LDC
27 LES school out
30 Memorial Day - City offices closed
31 BOC work session

JUNE

6 LSB work session
9 BOC regular meeting
13 LSB regular meeting
14 P/NR
15 Lakeland Chamber Luncheon
16 MPC
20 BA/S
23 LDC

Lakeland Neighborhood Crime Report - SCSO

There were 36 incidents reported for January 2016, according to Lt. Terry Lomax. Some however were multiple offenses at the same location. The most frequent day for crime was Sunday and time of day was from 2 to 6 p.m. Most frequently reported crimes were simple assault/domestic violence, five and vandalism/misdemeanor, five. He said the most dangerous incidents were two robbery reports. One was a homeless man who was robbed by his companions, alleging he was hit in the back of the head with a baseball bat. The other was an attempted robbery at the Sonic Drive-In at 9696 U.S. Highway 64 of a car hop. Her apron with money was grabbed by the assailant and when she said “no” and stepped back, a gun was pointed at her. She was able to get away and so did the driver.

For February there were seven incidents with no increases in any categories. There was a drop in theft from buildings, theft from vehicles and vandalism, misdemeanor/felony. Most frequent days for crime were two each on Mondays and Thursdays with time of day between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

TERESA HENRY

Lakeland School Board

The Board would like to say thank you to the staff and administration for the great job they did with administering the first part of TNReady test. They were flexible with the test schedule changing and preparing the children for the change in moving from computer to paper and pencil test. Parents thank you for being patient with the school through this change. After our visit to Nashville, it was announced that Gov. Bill Haslam signed a resolution that the teachers could make individual decisions to use the TNReady results in their annual evaluations or not. The School board has approved that the student scores would not be calculated into the students' final grade for the 15-16 school year.

The new Middle School is becoming a reality! At the March Board meeting, the Board voted to name the new school Lakeland Middle Preparatory School (LMPS). On Feb. 18, the contractors started moving dirt to create the Canada Road entrance to the school. The dirt work for both entrances and the building site should be complete when we are ready to start the construction of the building. The Board will start the bid process for the construction of the building in April and start construction in June. A big thank you to SES (Southern Educational Strategies), A2H, Renaissance Group and Dr. (Ted) Horrell for having the insight to break-out the bid process so that we are able to open a year sooner than originally anticipated.

There have been questions regarding the transition plans and programs that will be offered at the Middle School. Due to the way the bid process has been broken out, the Board approved to change the opening date of the school to the 17-18 school year. Although it has not been approved by the Board, the plan is for all the children in grades K-8 to be zoned to Lakeland schools without a rolling transition. All students in grades 5-8 will attend the new Middle School and all students in grades K-4 will attend Lakeland Elementary. This plan will be ratified once the negotiations for a new inter-local agreement for grades 9-12 with Arlington Community Schools are finalized.

Campus Drive at Canada Road facing east. Photo of middle school site work, courtesy of Paul Medlin with A2H

Pending approval from the School Board, the superintendent will interview and hire a principal this spring with a July 1 start date. The teachers and staff will be hired in the spring of 2017. During this next school year, the principal will develop courses and programs using the information that was obtained during the public meetings at Lakeland Elementary last year. Students can expect to have the core course offerings as well as APEX, band, orchestra and art. LMPS will have state of the art science labs and makerspace. This will promote STEM applications and allow students to gather to create, invent and have a hands-on learning environment for a wide variety of concepts. Students will use digital devices, digital textbooks as well as have a choice of digital and physical library books. Sports programs will include basketball and cheer that will be handled by the school. Football and cheer will likely be handled through Lakeland Parks and Recreation. Depending on the budget, the principal can add additional courses, programs and sports. In the design of the building, we put student safety as a priority since the library, stage and gymnasium will be offered for community use.

EMILY HARRELL

Lakeland City Engineer

The City of Lakeland is on the move with two large transportation projects underway. These projects will provide a safer and more efficient route into our City while also adding aesthetic value. While construction may be inconvenient, the end result will be well worth the wait.

I-40/Canada Road Interchange

The contractor is nearing completion of the west side of the interchange. Over the next few months the west-bound on-ramp and east-bound off-ramp will be paved and work will begin on the east retaining walls. The west half of the bridge is also near completion. Be sure to check out the upgraded details that were incorporated into the walls and railings. Once the west side of the bridge is complete, traffic will be diverted onto the new bridge. The old bridge will be demolished and construction will begin on the east side of the new bridge. The project completion date is May 2017. The Huff N Puff Road closure at Canada Road as well as various driveway relocations will be made near the end of the project.

Huff N Puff Road/Beverle Rivera Drive Extension

In coordination with the I-40/Canada Road Interchange project, the City is extending Beverle Rivera Drive to tie into Huff N Puff Road. The construction plans have been submitted to TDOT (Tennessee Department of Transportation) and are awaiting approval to proceed with bidding. The project is expected to begin summer 2016. The construction should take approximately one year to complete.

If you have questions about these or any other projects being con*duct*ed in the City of Lakeland, feel free to contact me at 867-2717 or eharrell@lakelandtn.org

Meet A Lakeland Business

by Steven Snow

After graduating from college at Iowa State University, Bart Powell had a vision of the future, and his passion for the vision of others led him to enroll at the Southern School of Optometry in Memphis. Over 20 years later, Dr. Powell is still following his vision and passion at the Optometry Group, 2961 Canada Rd, Suite 104, located in the shopping center on the northwest corner of Canada Road and Highway 64.

The Optometry Group is the only local eye care clinic that provides complete optical and medical care. Their services go beyond just prescribing and fitting patients for glasses. They also provide specialty-fitted contact lenses, bifocal contact lenses and even color contacts. Medical care services include glaucoma, red eyes, dry eyes, injuries and the co-management of LASIK and cataract surgery. Maintaining an on-site lab and large inventory of contact lenses, they are able to provide their patients with rapid turn-around service. In addition they also assist the Lakeland Lions Club by serving as a collection for donated eyeglass frames to assist people who can't afford glasses.

Perhaps second only to his decision to go into vision care was Dr. Powell's decision to move his family to Lakeland in 2007. He was, as are so many, attracted by its peaceful and natural suburban environment combined with a unique access to urban shopping and entertainment. It's hard to match his enthusiasm for his adopted community. As he says, "This is an exciting time to live and work in Lakeland!"

An avid runner and weekend "duffer" (golfer), Dr. Powell can also be found court-side at the FedEx Forum with his wife and son cheering our two roundball teams, the U of M Tigers and the Grizzlies.

Dr. Powell and his professional staff of six are available each Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30 a.m. -5 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.; and Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. once monthly by appointment. They can be reached at 380-2020 or on Facebook as The Optometry Group. See his ad on page 20

Support Lakeland businesses and business owners

Lakeland Senior Programs 55+

Lakeland Senior Center (LSC): 4527 Canada Rd.; IH Clubhouse: 4553 Canada Rd.
746-8195 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. M-F. M–F; 8; 867-2717 after hours after hours - Mimi Beard

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/seniors, watch Comcast channel 19 or drop by the Senior Center for a monthly calendar and information on Bunco, dominoes, Mah-Jong, Silver Sneakers and other activities like coffee and chat, piano and popcorn, and bingo.

The Lakeland Senior Center (LSC) has scheduled two new events for April:

LAKELAND SENIORS 55+ VARIETY SHOW & DINNER FUNDRAISER - from 6 - 9 p.m. April 8 - IH Clubhouse

Purchase tickets from the LSC Office or from a member of the Center. Tickets are $15 before April 2 and $20 thereafter. Talent will feature local musicians, comedian, soloist, sing-a-long, jazz sax, dancers and more. Bring all your family and friends. Have a talent to share? Please call 746-8195 for more information.

CREATIVE COLORING CLUB - second and fourth Wednesdays beginning in April

Coloring is all the rage right now. Anybody can do this! It is virtuous to be quiet and still, to disconnect from constantly screening the internet, phone, and television and to focus on just one activity. Historically, coloring is linked with children, a more creative, freer state associated with less stress. The Club will meet from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on the assigned days and anytime space is available. The activity is free by calling 746-8195.

Spectacular Spring Trees

As spring arrived in Lakeland, many Bradford pears were in full bloom around the City. *Photos by Jim WIllis*

Easter Activities

The annual Lakeland Easter Egg Hunt March 19 offered multitudes of young children 1,000+ multi-colored plastic eggs scattered across IH Park. Organized by the City Parks and Recreation Department, the event was sponsored by the Lakeland Lions Club and Trustmark Bank. Ande Payne of Lakeland was the Easter Bunny for the sixth year and greeted many adoring fans. Fancy Easter bonnets and hats were donned by residents Bobbi Cornett, Betty Ratcliff and Alison Ely. *Photos by Jim Willis*

Drive home the savings.

Don Stewart, Agent
9998 Hwy 64
Lakeland, TN 38002
Bus: 901-753-5441
don@donstewartinsurance.com

Car and home combo.

Combine your homeowners and car policies and save big-time.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

CALL ME TODAY.

StateFarm™

0901133.1 State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company; State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company; State Farm General Insurance Company; Bloomington, IL

LAKELAND AREA'S ONLY FULL-SERVICE EYE DOCTOR!

We are proud to announce

COACH EST. 1941 NEW YORK

Ray-Ban

eyewear available now!

OPTOMETRY GROUP

YOUR EYES. OUR PASSION.

Dr. Bart Powell

2961 Canada Road, Suite 104
Lakeland, TN 38002
901-380-2020

Red eyes Glaucoma
Dry eyes Cataracts
LASIK management
Contact lenses

Call Today!