Vol. 19, No.4 August 2016

Lakeland currents

Bi-monthly news magazine

Under Construction – Your LMPS

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Ceremony Planned for LMPS Campus Soon

The second campus in the Lakeland School System is on target for opening in a year, with a ceremony commemorating the construction tentatively planned in August. Lakeland Middle Preparatory School (LMPS) will educate Lakeland students in grades 5-8 with a planned opening of August 2017.

Dr. Ted Horrell, Lakeland School System superintendent, said, "We are tentatively planning to have a ceremony to commemorate the school construction sometime in the last two weeks of August. We are working with the contractor to determine what activities would be safe and appropriate for our guests.

"At the least, we anticipate that guests will have the opportunity to walk around the building pad and get a sense of the location of key areas. They will also be able to get a nice sense of the environment surrounding the building itself. There will be plenty of parking at that time as several of the roads have been built up as gravel roads and will allow guests to park near the site."

Located near the northeast corner of U.S. Highway 70 and Canada Road, the 94-acre campus property was purchased in October 2015 for $1 million from Jones-Gilliland Group, LLC. The expansive, wooded site has space to add a comprehensive high school facility if and when Arlington High School can no longer accommodate students from Lakeland.

Address for the new school is 5020 Lions Crest Drive, as the Lion is the official mascot for the school system. Other streets are Campus Drive (main entry) and Lions Ridge Lane (mainly for buses and service).

Two staff members have been selected for LMPS: Matt Adler, founding principal (see accompanying story, page 3) and Corrie Martin, the first assistant principal. Ms. Martin was recently named middle school teacher of the year for the Germantown Municipal School district and also served as a Master Teacher conducting teacher evaluations. Among other skills, she brings a background in educational technology and was chosen to help pilot her district's 1:1 blended technology program.

Initially modeled after Collierville Middle School, Dr. Horrell said the school was actually designed around the property. "While we used the most recently built legacy Shelby County middle school, Collierville Middle, as an initial model to program the building, our final layout was developed to accommodate the property itself and our specific desires for the school," he said.

"While not unique, two-story middle schools like ours are not common in the area. We also designed the school with community access to facilities in mind which is also unlike most schools. Much of our decision making was based on the idea that the building will eventually have a high school addition which impacted our overall design."

Further discussing the unique LMPS property, Dr. Horrell added, "Our environmental study area will allow students and teachers to study in and around a naturally occurring landform that we believe has been undisturbed on the property for hundreds of years. We hope it will be a gathering place for students to sketch, study, discuss, and learn."

Commenting on the rainy spring weather and the construction schedule, Dr. Horrell said the school is on target to open as planned. "We are absolutely still on target to open Lakeland Middle Preparatory School in August of 2017. Despite the wettest April on record, our site contractor, Pro-Site, took great advantage of the time that he did have and only lost a few weeks of working days. Our general contractor, Chris Woods Construction, has taken responsibility for the building pad and is currently laying footings. We feel very comfortable about our current position in terms of being able to open on time."

Dr. Horrell added, "We are so grateful for the ongoing support of the Lakeland community."

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About the Cover:

Standing in the construction zone of Lakeland Middle Preparatory School are Matt Adler, left, principal, and Corrie Martin, assistant principal, for the new school. They are close to the estimated location of Mr. Adler's new office nearthe front of the campus off of Canada Road.

LAKELAND CURRENTS

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Matt Adler on the Job for LMPS

As founding principal for Lakeland Middle Preparatory School (LMPS), Matt Adler has a litany of job responsibilities and the school isn't even close to completion.

The Michigan native, operating out of Lakeland Elementary School (LES) during the LMPS construction, was named principal July 1 and one of his first duties was to pick an assistant principal. Corrie Martin was formerly with the Germantown Municipal School System and in July was named the first assistant principal at LMPS. Mr. Adler said his beginning tasks include monitoring construction progress, curriculum development and alignment, staffing, resource procurement, development of school policies and procedures, and registration and developing community partnerships.

He attended the University of South Carolina with a degree in marine science and went into marine science research. "I realized that I had a passion for teaching," he said. "I started my education career by teaching a variety of science courses at Hilton Head High School in South Carolina for a total of four years where I met my wife Amy." They moved to Memphis in 2003 when he began teaching at Bolton High School (BHS).

For 12 years he was a chemistry teacher, department chairperson, master teacher and International Baccalaureate Program coordinator. He earned master's degrees in curriculum and instruction and educational leadership. He was named vice-principal of BHS in 2014.

He and his wife moved to Lakeland in 2005 and their son David is a first grader at LES.

Mr. Adler said a unique feature of LMPS will be a makerspace where interdisciplinary project-based learning can occur. "The school will have interactive boards in each classroom, students will have access to Google Chromebooks and one-to-one instructional initiatives will be in place." He said plans for community use of the facility are still being developed. But the goal is to allow the Lakeland community to use the gym and library to the extent possible in a school setting.

What will greet parents when the new school opens in August 2017?

- Clubs and extracurricular activities to develop the whole student, helping find his/her particular niche.
- Inviting, caring school personnel.
- Open communication, transparency.
- Advances in instructional technology similar to LES.

"My goal is to establish a school that fosters academic excellence and develops young people who care about individual and community success," said Mr. Adler.

Among his aspirations as LMPS goes forward, Mr. Adler hopes that students reach their highest potential while preparing them for success in high school and beyond. He anticipates developing a comprehensive curriculum including but not limited to an integrated STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). He added, he hopes "to develop learners who actively participated in school and community service while understanding the importance of helping others."

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NEWSWORTHY AROUND LAKELAND

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is teaming up with MTAS (Municipal Technical Advisory Service) to offer **training classes** on the National Flood Insurance Program. Local options include:
- August 17 in Jackson at MTAS Jackson office.
- August 18 in Memphis at Office of Talent Development.

The sessions are four hours and will cover various topics of floodplain management including flood maps/studies, elevation certificates and recent legislation affecting flood insurance. All of the sessions are free. Participants only need to register on the MTAS website. http://www.solutionpoint.tennessee.edu/TPOnline/TPOnline.dll/Public%20Course%20Classes/COURSENO=COUR201508191552540527011 9&ACTION=Apply

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The **gridlock on Canada Road** at the I-40 interchange will continue into the fall, according to officials with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). In July, Nichole Lawrence, region 4 community relations officer, said, "The on-ramp westbound from north on Canada Road is estimated to be complete and open by mid-fall. This will help eliminate the gridlock because traffic regains a right turn lane. Until then motorists should seek a possible alternate route or give themselves plenty of time. The overall project is still estimated to be complete May 31."

TDOT official Jason Moody (region 4 traffic) commented July 13 when asked about the gridlock on Canada Road southbound to the I-40 interchange. He said once the roads shifted during construction, the wires for the road were on a preset timer and did not have detectors to measure volume and adjust accordingly. Unless the contractor hires a technician to fix the wires and add detectors, gridlock will not change until the westbound ramp is complete in the fall. Mr. Moody is relaying the issues at the intersection to Katie McGinnis, operations district supervisor for TDOT. Ms Lawrence agreed to look into the traffic light timing.

There is confusion about **turning right on red** at the intersection of Canada Road, going south, for the westbound ramp to I-40. You must stop at the red light and NOT turn onto the interstate ramp until the light changes to green, according to Sgt. Jeremy Finch, motor unit – traffic division, Shelby County Sheriff's Office. "I looked at the intersection at Canada Rd and I-40 and, just as I thought, the stop bar is far enough back from the intersection that traffic cannot make a right on red without entering the intersection first, and violating the red light. Also they have placed a sign at the location indicating to stop there on red," said Sgt. Finch. This directive will be in place during the I-40 construction.

Joining the **Lakeland Currents (LC) staff** this month are Dorris Snow and Casey Condo. Mrs. Snow is a Martin, TN native and lives in Lakeland with her husband, Steve who is also on the LC staff. She has a master's degree in English and education from Memphis State University (University of Memphis), has four granddaughters and is on the board of New Neighbors. She enjoys reading and playing tennis. Mr. Condo has volunteered to shoot photos. He and his wife Cheryl moved to Lakeland three years ago from Cordova and they have a two-year-old son Christian. Casey owns an IT technology firm in Memphis, Final Source where his wife also works. He is on his HOA board and the technology committee for a local private school.

After an electrical **substation 68 failure** July 11, MLGW asked Lakeland and Arlington customers to voluntarily curtail power usage during peak hours of 3 to 8:30 p.m. The substation at 10600 U.S. Highway 70 was severely damaged in the early morning hours as residents heard explosions and saw balls of fire from miles away. The cause is under investigation. The restriction was lifted July 24 after the substation was partially restored ahead of the Aug. 8 target date, eliminating the risk of rolling blackouts. It should be six more months before substation 68 is completely repaired, according to MLGW. There may be some temporary outages over the next few weeks as MLGW reconfigures the substation's circuits.

Rhonda Fink with Lakeland City Hall reminds residents that on Fridays, **yard waste** pick-up is unlimited bags, under 35 pounds, limbs cut four feet and piles of 35 pounds or less -- no charge. For **bulk pickup**, call Republic at 794-3800 to furnish a cell phone photo of items to discard or have a supervisor review the bulk items. Republic will generate a quote. Mrs. Fink said 11 bags and more are $5 each; mattress, box springs, couches and recliners - $50 per piece Other items not described such as carpet, wood and furniture (tables, chairs, etc.) smaller than 4 feet weighing less than 35 pounds will require a picture to provide estimate for bulk pick-ups. The bulk pick-up should match the picture when Republic arrives to service. If there is more than what was pictured Republic will not service until they can get an accurate estimate. It will be serviced on your regular service day.

The **Keep Lakeland Beautiful Advisory Board (KLB)** was busy May through July trimming and mulching trees on Canada Road and adding new flower urns and flowers at City Hall. Lakeland residents joined the mulch work including Richard and Alison (member) Ely, Randy and Sherri (BOC liaison) Gallick, Jim Major and daughter/member Kendall Major, C.A. Cupp, Kurt Wagner, Stephanie Lefler and Mark Leger, Larry Pardue, Aimee Felkner (member) and Jim and Sherrye (member) Willis. Appointed to the Board were Ms. Major to a one-year-term and Mrs. Felker, a three-year-term. Asya Bradley, who was recently appointed to KLB, moved from Lakeland and vacated her seat. Mrs. Felker was elected chair of the group. To help with volunteer projects to beautify the city, contact Kim Odom, kodom@lakelandtn.org

Amy Felker

Kendall Major

MICHELE DIAL *Commissioner*

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members have been actively involved addressing old and new business taking its programs and parks to the next level. As my first year as the BOC liaison to this Board comes to a close, I'd like to share the highlights of our accomplishments.

*Parks and Rec Board member participation and attendance has increased and each member has chosen an active sub-committee role; securing volunteers for events, fund raising, assisting with sports programs and securing sponsorships.

*A long-range **IH Park master plan** was developed, including an expanded parking lot, party pavilions, disc golf area, fishing piers, expanded walking trails, natural playground area and restrooms. The BOC has sent the plan back to the P&R advisory board for some revisions. If you would like to submit suggestions for utilizing this park, please email me at mdial@lakelandtn.org.

***Community Partnerships**

-Received website and recreation software ($30,000 value) from Dick's Sporting Goods.

-Collected $18,000 through sponsorships and private donations and approximately $10,000 from in-kind sponsorships.

-Partnerships have been formed with Memphis Grizzlies, University of Memphis Athletics and Intramural Department, Memphis Redbirds, Bellevue Baptist Church Recreation Ministries, and other Shelby County Municipal Parks Departments.

***Comprehensive plans** for facilities, parks, events, funding, parks maintenance and programs have been developed. The plan for a proposed athletic complex is included.

***Multiple programs** for youth and adult leagues have been created.

-Youth baseball, basketball, tackle football, flag football, soccer and cheerleading

-Adult flag football and basketball. When the new athletic complex is complete, adult softball will be offered.

-Currently there are 74 participants in the youth tackle football program and with the registration fees paid, the BOC investment of $20,000 has been recouped. Profits can be used to grow programs in the future.

-Youth basketball league numbers have doubled from last year.

-Youth tackle football games will be played at facilities in Bartlett, Germantown, Collierville, Arlington, and possibly at Lakeland City Hall Park.

***Advertising and Marketing** of all programs and leagues is being conducted through partnerships with apartments, HOAs and businesses, newspapers, radio, local magazines and social media sites.

-An annual program magazine will be sent out to the public providing detailed information about our parks, sponsorships and special events. Watch for this coming soon to your mailbox!

***Lakeland Amphitheater** – The LAMP is being prepared for a concert series provided to the public. These family-friendly events are open to the public with hours of 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. Dates and bands as follows:

July 30 – Swinging Leroy
Aug 27 – TBA
Sept 24 – The Dantones and Ted Horrell and the Monday Night Card
Oct 22 – TBA

As you can see, the Lakeland Parks and Recreation Department is in full swing, offering many improved programs, facilities and events for our community. I am proud to be an integral part of the growth and development of this department, which provides an essential component of a quality community!

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Inside the BOC (BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS) Meetings

Aimee Felker

The budget for 2016-17 was approved June 9 with amendments appropriating more funds to a full-time recreation coordinator ($7,500) who also will oversee the Lakeland Senior Center; additional drainage funds ($375,000); street paving ($500,000) and the parking lot at the IH Park ($50,000). Commissioners decided to rent a portable restroom trailer for upcoming events at the IH Stage (The LAMP) until a decision can be made on the cost to build permanent restrooms. The rental cost is $1,400 per event and Jim Atkinson, city manager, expects to have four events this year, likely six events in 2017. Budget link: http://lakelandtn.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5499 .

At the July 7 meeting, Kyle Wright from PFM (Public Financial Management) explained the fund balance saying it acts like a personal savings account. It ensures sufficient reserves are available for unanticipated expenditures or revenue shortfalls and provides flexibility to make program-funding adjustments.

He said the fund balance policy is based on two criteria: the City's credit rating (which is Aa3) and GFOA (Government Finance Officers Association) recommendations. "A strong fund balance can lower borrowing costs for issuers by contributing to earning better credit ratings," he said.

From Mr. Wright's slide presentation:
Consider adopting a minimum policy level with a practice of maintaining reserves in excess to avoid a need to replenish.
Consider a minimum policy level consisting of multiple factors.
Consider restricting uses of excess fund balance to include:

- Cash funding capital projects
- Covering temporary revenue shortages due to seasonal fluctuations
- Reducing fees and expenses

Based on the research included herein, the following (see box below) is a potential consideration for the factors to be addressed as part of the City's policy.

Josh Roman, vice mayor, commented that establishing the fund balance "Is very important to all of us on this Board."

At the July meeting, Jerry Collins, MLGW President and CEO, explained the loss of substation 68 July 11 and the power supply issues. Mr. Collins said MLGW has never seen such a catastrophic failure where it affects the breaker, transformer and the control house. Mr. Collins added that the timing for such a loss with higher temperatures and pool equipment running is not ideal. Mr. Collins further encouraged the BOC and residents to continue to conserve energy as it will take at least four weeks to get things running as usual and six months to fully restore the substation.

MLGW is using stations located on Brownsville Road and U.S Highway 64 to supply Lakeland and Arlington with power. MLGW is attempting to keep things running, however; they are faced with low voltage issues and are working daily to install four new voltage regulators. MLGW said rolling blackouts are still a real possibility.

Commissioner Michele Dial, questioned if these issues will be resolved before the start of the school year. Mr. Collins reiterated they were working daily and hoped to have the station in a better working condition in the next four weeks.

Mr. Joyce

As public discussion opened, resident Tim Joyce (the substation is over his back fence) was concerned that materials incinerated with the explosion might affect citizens who were directly in the ground zero zone. Mr. Collins said that the breaker was made up of a sulfur compound and crews were out there to neutralize the area right after the incident and that the transformer uses a mineral oil. These shouldn't have any harmful effects on the residents or environment.

Mayor Wyatt Bunker asked of the likelihood of this happening again and Mr. Collins mentioned that these things are unforeseen most times and feels confident that we'll never see this happen again. Mayor Bunker thanked MLGW and its staff for explaining to the Board and residents in greater detail what had happened. It was also suggested to MLGW that Mr. Atkinson be included in any future occurrences and details.

A final reading of two ordinances pertaining to residential sewer user rates was approved, with three commissioners voting yes and Commissioner Gallick abstaining. Mayor Bunker left the meeting to participate in the Sea of Blue commemoration in Memphis.

Mrs. Gallick questioned the mechanics of the increases and requested clarification from Emily Harrell, city engineer. Link: http://lakelandtn.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5452

Policy		FY 17	Project FY 17 Unassigned GFB	Actual as % of Minimum
20%-30% of General Fund Revenues	*Approximately*	2,600,000		
Cash flow purposes		1,000,000		
Variable Rate Exposure		100,000		
Approximate Min Policy Level		**3,700,000**	**9,499,728**	**257%**

A pie-in-the-sky vision for IH Park on Canada Road was presented to the BOC at the July work session, with an estimated cost of $1.2 million. The Master Plan, as recommended by the City Parks and Recreation Department, was presented by Dean Thomas and Sam Henry from Dalhoff Thomas Design Studio. Mr. Thomas said the plan is "pie-in-the-sky, a vision." Mr. Thomas said there is a lot of land not being utilized by the current park. Link to the plan: http://lakelandtn.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5547 .

But don't plan an outing just yet. Mr. Atkinson said this is a vision for a full build-out and may be a 25-year plan. He recommended the BOC adopt the plan, get the vision in place and prioritize the improvements. "You can update it annually and make amendments," he said.

Mr. Collins

Commissioner Gallick posed several questions including the cost to maintain the area and how to keep people out of the park at night. Mr. Thomas said some cities use volunteer park rangers to monitor park areas. Mr. Atkinson said maintenance costs would be figured in the plans and some of the areas could be gated at night. Mrs. Gallick also said she would like to see a dog park and a fitness and workout station. Ultimately the resolution was referred back to Parks and Rec Advisory Board.

At the June 9 work session Yehuda Netanel, Gilad Development Corp., sought approval of an outline plan for The Lake District planned development at I-40 and Canada Road. Mr. Netanel said, "It's getting better. The colors, the details, it's more fun. We're not changing the character or the density of the project. It will be everything you bargained for and better. We're very excited and moving along great." The development on about 160 acres is to include restaurants, a grocery, farmers market, performing arts center, two hotels and residential living. Mr. Netanel expects construction to start next year and take two years to complete.

Mr. Netanel

Mr. Atkinson said two items had been discussed with Mr. Netanel: consideration of moving a component of the plan and language that encourages the City to work with Mr. Netanel and review the project as it moves through the process. The Lake District outline plan was approved unanimously.

Mr. Atkinson announced four new City Hall employees including Martin Perez, who was introduced as the new public works supervisor. There is an opening on the volunteer Board of Appeals. Mr. Atkinson noted new sports programs starting this fall including youth football. Commissioner Gallick opened dialogue in regards to charging non-residents a larger fee for participating in the Parks and Recreation program. Mrs. Gallick felt that even if the fee is only $10 to 25 more that it could be an opportunity to create more revenue for the program. Mayor Bunker and Commissioner Dial said that the Parks Board wanted to build participation and in a few years after we've established a greater program it's possible to implement a higher fee for non-residents.

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LSB (LAKELAND SCHOOL BOARD) UPDATE

Jay Dorning *and* Carl Helton

With glowing praise and a myriad of compliments, the LSB extended the school superintendent's contract by one year.

At the July 18 meeting, Dr. Ted Horrell's contract was extended to 2020. State law limits the term to four years, according to Kevin Floyd, LSB chair.

Vice chair Laura Harrison said she appreciates how many hats Dr. Horrell wears: HR, CFO, superintendent, "I could go down the list," she said. "He made sure we have been successful and that is important to the community, students and parents. When things became divisive in Lakeland, he remained neutral. I totally support extending it for four years," said Mrs. Harrison

Member Kelley Hale said she echoes Mrs. Harrison's comments and added, "With a new school starting, we need to keep him in place. I appreciate all he has done."

Teresa Henry, Board member, said, "Dr. Horrell, you've done an amazing job in continuing the growth we've seen. You are what we look for in a superintendent."

Among other items at the July session:

• The Tennessee Department of Education has recommended a reduction of testing time by 30 percent.

• A report on Shared Services with other municipalities for the 2017-18 year should be available at the August meeting.

• The annual agenda was amended and approved. The amendments include adding TSBA (Tennessee School Board Association) regulations in August and the preliminary legislative agenda in September.

• In discussing the ACT Suite of Tests and substituting them for TNReady tests, the Board seemed in unison to support changing the tests. Mrs. Henry and Dr. Horrell will continue to work on the resolution and bring it to the Board in August.

• The November work session was cancelled and there will only be a regular meeting in November.

• Policy Committee members were approved: Sharonda Rose, Tiffany Bowers, Belinda Palmer, Matt Adler and Laura Harrison.

A required manual for the Lakeland School System was approved June 24 by the LSB during a special called meeting. The internal control manual was mandated by the state comptroller's office with a June 30 deadline. It was also approved by the City of Lakeland.

Jessica Millspaugh, City finance director, said, "We were informed by our auditors in early June that the Controller has required that all municipalities and educational entities adopt a system of internal controls that addresses the five components of internal control."

She remarked the City has had an internal control policy since 2011, "However, the Controller preferred a specific format and additional guidelines. So we (City and School) developed new manuals based on the recommended format provided by MTAS (Municipal Technical Advisory Service)."

The manual provides that governments and other entities establish and maintain an adequate internal control system for financial reporting, managing operations and legal compliance.

At a June 6 called meeting, Dr. Horrell asked the Board to approve an additional $15,400 for the HVAC installation contract with Roy May Heating and Air Company Inc.

Dr. Horrell said the additional money was still well within the original budget of $990,000 appropriated by the Shelby County Commission for HVAC and roofing work at LES. The work should be finished by the school start date of Aug. 8.

The 20th Annual Children's Independence Day Parade was July 2 in the Windward Slopes neighborhood. Organizers were Veronica and Curt Wennekamp. Refreshments were served at Trustmark Bank at the end of the parade by Nancy Harrell and her bank staff. ... photos courtesy of Craig Keller.

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Steven Snow

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Close Trak and its staff of 15 are not just in our community, but involved in our community. The company sponsors or has served in leadership roles in the Memphis Bar Association, Memphis Board of Realtors, Memphis Investors Group, and West Tennessee Home Builders' Association. Close Trak is also a member of several Chambers of Commerce, including Lakeland.

A graduate of the University of Memphis, both undergraduate degree and law school, Mrs. Hughes was raised in Bartlett, but always knew she wanted to live in Lakeland. When she married and started her family over ten years ago, she and her husband Alex, realized their dream of living on Garner Lake with the ever present swans, geese and deer. It is not just the natural surroundings, but the friendly people and short commute to work and family that she finds appealing. But, as excited as she is about the present, she is even more excited about where the future is leading with Lakeland Prep, The Lake District and plans for the New Canada Road. "We are really pumped about the new Youth Football League that my boys, ages 6 and 8, will be playing this year."

When not working out, swimming, boating, watching her boys play sports or just enjoying life in Lakeland, she can be reached at Close Trak, phone: 333-1357; on the Internet, www.closetrak.com; email: robin@closetrak.com; and on Facebook: Close Trak Title and Closing.

LES (LAKELAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL) PTA NEWS

Brittney Buchanan, PTA president

The 2016-17 school year is just around the corner! Students start school Aug. 8. August begins our PTA donation drive and it's easier than ever to donate to the PTA! Simply send your check or cash to the school with your child or mail to the school at: LES PTA, 10050 Oak Seed Lane, Lakeland, TN 38002.

If you have any questions, please contact Alexa Tutor at alexaktutor@gmail.com. The following PTA events are scheduled for the start of the school year:

LES registration day is Aug. 2. The PTA will host a New Student Orientation from 6 to 7 p.m. Aug. 4 immediately following school supply drop-off. The event will be in the LES cafeteria and will include a Q & A session with members of LES staff, a school tour and end with a Popsicle social. This will be a great opportunity for new families to ask questions and meet other new students. This event is open to families of incoming kindergartners and all other families new to Lakeland Elementary. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Emerson at 647-5582 or texas-transplants@msn.com.

Kindergarten parents are invited to attend the Boo Hoo Breakfast at 9 a.m. Aug. 15 in the LES cafeteria to either mourn or celebrate your babies embarking on their kindergarten adventure!

On Aug. 25, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Oakwood Clubhouse, the Lakeland PTA will host its first ever PTA Market Night. Moms, this will be a fun, back-to-school event with all vendors giving back 20 percent of sales from that evening to the PTA! Vendors will include: Kendra Scott, Pink Zebra-Brittney Buchanan, Beautycounter-Tiffany Maclin, Sister Couture Boutique, Plexus-Krista Pearce, Plain to Pretty and Nautilus Pottery. Hope to see you there!

Also on the 25th, mark your calendar for our first Zaxby's spirit night of the year. Zaxby's, 9104 U.S. Highway 64 in Lakeland, is generously donating 20 percent of ALL sales to the LES PTA. Write your student's name, grade and teacher on your receipt and turn it in at Zaxby's. The classroom with the highest participation will win a Popsicle party!

It's family movie night at LES at 8 p.m. Sept. 23. Come join us as we bring the hit movie Zootopia (rated PG) to the big screen. Popcorn, candy and drinks provided. Bring the family out for a fun, free evening!

LAKELAND: *Your City, Your History*

Carl Helton

Some of my earliest memories of Lakeland beyond the beach and the race track was a log cabin located on Canada Road. When my dad purchased seven acres in Lakeland in 1977, he dreamed of moving back to a place that reminded him of his granddaddy's place in Tishomingo County, MS. Before we finally moved to Lakeland in 1982, we spent many Sunday afternoons visiting the property on which stood an old tiny four room shack and an outhouse surrounded by thick woods. On those trips I remember looking out the truck window and passing by a beautiful log cabin that was just built down the road from our property. The cabin had huge hand hewn structural logs, a wood slat porch, a split rail fence, and red rose bushes all lined in a row. It is what I envisioned Abraham Lincoln's childhood home looked like from a book I had read in Mrs. William's 5th grade class.

It wasn't until this past year while doing a history search of Lakeland that I learned its history was not new at all, and what I learned surprised me. The main portion of the log cabin was originally built in the 1830s, near what is known today as Lexington, TN. Even though one of my fellow high school classmates, Jeff Reed, lived in that cabin I was unaware of its story. The cabin was originally built by Jeff's great-great-great grandfather, and it remained in the same family all those years.

When Tony Reed, Jeff's father, showed interest in the cabin it had been vacant for a couple of decades. His interest was to move it to property he owned in Lakeland. He inquired and purchased the old log cabin from a relative and started the process of relocating it to its current location. The cabin had served as home for several generations of family before him. At some point the logs were covered with plank boards to fit current architectural style of that time along with a tin roof.

Once Tony purchased the house for $1,000, he had to peel off the old plank boards and disassemble the cabin. And he had to strip off a century's worth of dirt from the large logs. Several were damaged with age and they were replaced by logs from an existing structure on the same property that probably served as a barn. Another task was finding older material to match portions of the house in need of repair. Besides returning the cabin back to its natural state, Tony had to add additional square footage to the house to meet the minimum 1,600 square-feet requirement by the City of Lakeland for new construction. The original roof and the interior flooring were replaced with newer material. He also included sky lights in the new roof in order to bring in more natural light. The porch and its gable roof were not salvageable and a new porch and overhang was constructed at its new location in 1978. The main portion of the cabin that is visible from the road is similar to what the house would have looked like during the Civil War era. The addition to the cabin to meet the square foot requirements is located behind the original structure making the overall footprint of the structure in the shape of a "T".

Right after our graduation the Reeds moved because of Tony's job. I recently talked with Jeff and he stated his grandparents, Hugh and Maxine Reed, acquired the house several years after they moved in the mid-80s and lived there several years before selling it to another family member. Tony Reed now lives in Florida, and his son Jeff lives in Georgia. The log cabin hasn't changed much in the last 38 years and still looks as beautiful today as it did back in my childhood and I still like to look at it through my truck window when passing by.

Lakeland Chamber of Commerce News

Ginny Dunn

Lakeland Elementary School will transform the gym into a blue curtain of booths for a day. Thirty-five+ Lakeland Chamber businesses will provide information, demos, samples and special offers. There is something for the whole family. There will be face painting, a balloon twister, 501st Legion (Star Wars characters) and Lakeland Middle School cheer leaders. The 501st Legion Characters love photo ops with their admirers. Sandwiches, drink, and snack foods will also be available for purchase. Two Lakeland teachers will each receive a $100 gift card for highest attendance from their students and friends. The Lakeland Family EXPO is sponsored by Hicks Convention Services.

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Lakeland Groups Had Joint Meeting

Aimee Felker

Three Lakeland groups met in May to further build on their relationships and set goals: the Board of Commissioners (BOC), Economic Development Commission (EDC) and the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce (Chamber).

Wil Ashworth, president of the Chamber, started the meeting by asking what the long-term goals were from the LDC (Lakeland Development Corporation). Members on the LDC also serve on the EDC. Joseph Laster, LDC, stated that their team is encouraging businesses that will complement already existing establishments. Mr. Laster further explained that a lot of their recent energy has been focused on the four corners surrounding the new exit and interstate area at I-40 and Canada Road.

Mr. Bailey, left, Mr. Purifoy

Josh Roman, Lakeland vice mayor, said where past attention from the BOC has been on the schools, roads, savings and budgets, the emphasis is now on how to look to the future vision of Lakeland. What can they do as a group to build Lakeland and achieve those goals?

Alan Johnson, EDC, reiterated how Lakeland has the potential for growth and now is the time to set goals and expectations.

Sherri Gallick, Lakeland commissioner, stressed how important it is that everyone including the BOC, LDC and the Chamber all know their expectations and continue to communicate. Ginny Dunn, economic development coordinator for the Chamber, expanded by saying all members of each group need to discuss potential new businesses. Commissioner Gallick stressed how imperative it is that they all agree on the type of targeted commerce.

Kevin Bailey, secretary of the Chamber, suggested they organize a team to represent Lakeland when reaching out to a prospective company exploring the Lakeland area.

Mrs. Dunn requested that the City put together a marketing trifold for Lakeland. The trifold should include information to future residents, which would highlight assets and encourage them to consider Lakeland as their new home.

Ton Skehan, city planner, Billy Rodgers, Yolanda Watkins, Mrs. Dunn

She also mentioned there should be a separate folder or package to emphasize why Lakeland is a great locale for business opportunities. Mr. Johnson agreed to handle the print side and Matt Wright, EDC, said that he will help with the online branding of Lakeland.

Mayor Wyatt Bunker suggested that the BOC continue to make a presence to both the state and local representatives. Mayor Bunker also mentioned further emphasis on Lakeland is needed to EDGE (Economic Development Growth Engine) and to highlight Lakeland as an area to acquire Tax Increment Financing (TIFs) & PILOTS (Payment In Lieu of Taxes). There was also talk about establishing an industrial component to Lakeland, but no site has been defined.

Ronald Purifoy, LDC, suggested a team be formed to better place Lakeland on the forefront of the Shelby Commissioners. Mr. Johnson agreed to be the liaison between the groups to keep discussions flowing.

As the meeting wrapped up, the general consensus was that there is a need for further communication, possibly in the way of quarterly meetings.

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Robbie Spencer, *Parks & Recreation Director*, rspencer@lakelandtn.org - 867-2717

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

ADULT FLAG FOOTBALL

Season two of adult flag football will start Sept. 12 at City Hall fields. Features again include stat keeping, website for league leaders, individual and team awards, music and more. The league will consist of a 10-game season with playoffs and a championship.

Registration – was to end July 31 - online www.LakelandTN.gov/leagues or visit City Hall

Fees:. Pay per person or by team. $70 per person, 12 players maximum per team. Fee includes custom Under Armour team shirt with numbers, 10 games, playoffs, stat keeping and two referees per game. First come first serve on uniform selection. $30 deposit will be held and returned at the end of the season. Visit www.LakelandTN.gov/leagues for more information.

LAKELAND CHILDREN CATCH FIRST FISH

Two Lakeland children were the first to catch fish in the annual Lakeland Fishing Rodeo June 4 at IH Park Lake with 102 participants registered for the event. Carter Hein, 11 an Arlington Middle School student, was a repeat winner on first fish caught for a boy. He took the same prize in 2015. He is the son of Darrin and Angie Hein and was with his brother Davis, age 19.

Taking honors for girls, first fish caught, was Haley Simons, dauhter of Laura and hayden Simons and a fourth grade student at Lakeland Elementary School.

Parents, grandparents and children lined the lake shore under cloudy skies that gave way to light rain for the event coordinated by the City of Lakeland Parks and Recreation department, City staff and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA). Th e Lakeland Lions Club volunteers provided shuttle service from First Baptist Church across the street.

Trophy winners were Hadley Herron, 4, most fish caught girl; Leo Kimery, 6, most fish caught boy. There was a tie for biggest fish caught: Charles Triplett, 7, and Jackson Brown, 6. Brody Woodall, 9, won a tackle box with accessories for guessing how many fish were in a jar filled with Goldfish crackers. There were 966 crackers in the jar. Brody guessed 967.

Pictured are first-fish-caught winners Carter Davis and Haley Simons with Andy Tweed, TWRA.

FIRST LAKELAND LIONS FOOTBALL CAMP IN JUNE

Nineteen children ages 5-12 participated in the first ever Youth Football Skills Camp June 18-19 at City Hall Fields. Coached by former collegiate and high school football players, the camp was sponsored by the Lakeland Parks and Recreation Department.

Robbie Spencer, director of the Department and a former wide receiver for Ohio University, said the camp allowed participants to get a head start for a newly formed municipal football alliance. Lakeland, Arlington, Bartlett, Collierville and Germantown plan to form teams with games starting the end of August. Every team in three age brackets (7-8, 9-10 and 11-12) will play each other twice during the inaugural season, participate in post season games and finish with championship title competition.

The younger players in the Camp will play in Lakeland's Youth Flag Football Program.

YOUTH TACKLE FOOTBALL UNDER-WAY IN LAKELAND

Conditioning started in July for the newly formed youth tackle football in Lakeland. Games are to start Aug. 15. Robbie Spencer, director of the Parks and Recreation Department, said there are 46 signed for tackle, 28 for flag football and 25 for cheer.

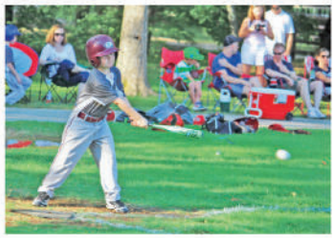
Photos by Casey Condo

SUMMER T-BALL AND COACH PITCH LEAGUES

Lakeland Parks and Recreation's Youth T-ball and Coach Pitch league was a grand slam this year. The program wrapped up July 28 for youth participants, ages 6-8. T-ball participants, ages 4-5, finished their league earlier in the month.

The League carried more than 60 youth with two T-ball teams playing against each other and three coach pitch teams that competed against each other throughout the month of June and July. Each team played a total of eight games, all hosted at City Hall Park.

"This league is a learning experience for youth participants. It's all about teaching kids fundamentals," said Parks and Recreation Director, Robbie Spencer. "It's not so much about winning or losing at this stage. Our coaches did a great job working with the young athletes. You have to learn the game and fundamentals of the game before you can win games."



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

AUGUST

1 – LSB (Lakeland School Board) work session
4 – BOC (Board of Commissioners) work session
8 – LSB meeting
First day, Lakeland Elementary School
9 – Parks/Natural Resources – P/NR
11 – BOC meeting
15 – Board of Appeals/Storm water – BA/S
18 – Municipal Planning Commission - MPC
22 – Keep Lakeland Beautiful - KLB
25 – Economic Development Commission –EDC
Lakeland Development Corporation - LDC
20 – Lakeland Chamber Business Expo
25 – Spirit Night for LES, Zaxby's Restaurant Lakeland
27 – Concert at The LAMP 7-10 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

1 – BOC work session
5 – Labor Day holiday
8 – BOC meeting
12 – LSB meeting
13 – P/NR
15 – MPC
19 – BA/S
22 – EDC, LDC
25 – Lakeland Chamber luncheon with Dr. Ted Horrell and Joretha Lockhart
23 – Movie night at LES, Zootopia
24 – Concert at The LAMP
29 – KLB

New Staff for Lakeland Elementary School

Angie Delloso is director of instruction, special education and accountability. Ms. Delloso has an extensive special education background and worked as a district supervisor over exceptional student education in the Germantown Municipal School District. In addition, she is a Board Certified behavior analyst and a published author on educational issues.

Sharonda Rose is Lakeland Elementary School's newest assistant principal. Ms. Rose has served as a homebound teacher for both regular education and special education students, and has teaching experience in both elementary and middle school settings. Ms. Rose comes from the Bartlett City School student services department where she was involved in numerous areas of student support including discipline, district registration processes and teacher evaluation.

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Larry Pardue

Fireworks Team:
Stephanie Lefler
Bert Faller
Geoff Nixon
Doug Golden
Michelle Cook-Hicks

Dock Lighting Contest Winners:
#1 Jan and Chip Averwater
#2 Angela Rutland
#3 Chris and Jonathan Richards

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

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

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. Enjoy Bunco, dominoes, Mah-Jong, Silver Sneakers and other activities like coffee and chat, piano and popcorn and bingo. Link to daily activities at the LSC, watch Comcast channel 19 or visit the Center for a monthly calendar.
http://www.lakelandtn.gov/index.aspx?NID=208

PIZZA PARTY AND ELVIS MUSIC – NOON AUG 12

Put on your Blue Suede Shoes and gather with friends as we honor Elvis Week! There will be snacks, drinks, Elvis music and a few other surprises. Win a prize for best-dressed Elvis costume or apparel. If you'd like to bring a favorite Elvis dish, contact Kim Odom.

Bring your Elvis memorabilia and share your favorite Elvis stories.

MOVIE MATINEE – 10 A.M. AUG. 17

Let's to Go the Movies! Have a movie you would like to watch with friends? Contact Kim Odom to suggest a movie... We'll have popcorn and drinks and enjoy a movie in the comfortable setting of the LSC.

FINANCIAL FRIDAY: MAKING YOUR MONEY LAST – NOON AUG. 19

Keep your finances on track. Join Mark Louderback for lunch and discussion. RSVP by contacting Mark Louderback at 867-1141 or Mark.Louderback@edwardjones.com .

FREE BINGO WITH PRIZES – 1 – 2:30 P.M. AUG. 26

Free Bingo is back! There will be standard Bingo, four corners and more. First to fill a card will have plenty of neat prize giveaways to select. For more information, contact Kim Odom.

SENIORS 55+ HAPPY FALL Y'ALL DINNER – 6 P.M. SEPT. 16

More details to follow or contact Kim Odom.

Krystal-time began in Lakeland July 5 when the restaurant opened at 9986 U.S. Highway 64 to standing-room only crowds. The eatery, just east of Canada Road is managed by Shaun Suggs who anticipated a grand opening the end of July

Rendering of Starbucks and Marco's Pizza, new out- building in Country Bridge Shopping Center on U.S. Highway 64.

The one grocery in Lakeland, Sprouts Farmer's Market, began wine sales July 1. Local wine is available at Delta Blues Winery at 6585 Stewart Road in Lakeland.

LSB Retreat Focused on New School

For two and one-half hours June 15 the LSB (Lakeland School Board) discussed the under construction Lakeland Middle Preparatory School (LMPS), outlining suggestions, goals and rough projections for the grades 5-8 facility.

Discussing operations, LSB vice Chair Laura Harrison brought up school start times and Chairman Kevin Floyd said there should be three considerations: the best interest of the children, financial implications and cooperating with other school systems as well as sharing buses.

Dr. Ted Horrell, school superintendent, said the shared services contract with other municipal school systems ends with the 2016-17 school year.

He suggested the elementary school could start earlier than the middle school and buses pick up all ages of children per neighborhood/area instead of separate buses for elementary and middle. He said it would be easy to drop off elementary students and then the middle school students 15 minutes later. "If all are on the same bus, we could save a ton of money," he said. Seats would be assigned by age, starting with kindergarten students at the front of the bus with eighth graders at the rear.

Dr. Horrell mentioned that picking up families of children at one time means older children are with their siblings both for the morning pickup and return in the afternoon.

LSB member Geoff Hicks said, "Maybe we do bus service alone if there is significant savings." Mrs. Harrison said it's an interesting concept and would "take some getting used to."

Among goals offered by Dr. Horrell was a Chromebook for every LMPS student and no physical textbooks necessary at LMPS. "When students leave the school, they would not take books," he said. Mrs. Harrison said lectures could be downloaded to the device to take home.

To facilitate this plan, Dr. Horrell said the textbook budget could be used to pay stipends to teachers to create the material, links and videos for students. He said the Maryville, TN school system already has such a plan in place and offered its material to the Lakeland School System (LSS).

Suggestions for curriculum included more emphasis on writing, reading and opportunities for gifted students, required physical education and academic credits carried to high school.

LSB member Kelley Hale asked about fifth grade and recess. Dr. Horrell said he is aware of the sensitivity of transition of the fifth grade to the new school. Mrs. Harrison talked about the makerspace and how it would be used. Dr. Horrell said it would be a place for art, science labs, a place to get messy and try things.

Extracurricular activities might include a club for military family children, an option for service hours and the typical sports venues. Mr. Floyd said to think outside the box. "Maybe we could partner with the City Parks and Recreation (Department). They are doing a lot of these things anyway. We could partner with them."

Mr. Hicks said service hours would not be a requirement but rather "like a sense of responsibility. If you see trash, pick it up. Set expectations."

Mrs. Harrison said service could just be to the school initially. "Start there, then go outside the school."

Mr. Hicks added, "Endear the School and the System to the community. Show that the kids are being taught right, to give back (to the community.)"

See accompanying slides for current plans of LMPS, goals and rough projections.

LAKELAND SCHOOL SYSTEM

Goals

- LMPS will open with a one to one program that gives every student access to a Chromebook.
- The use of physical textbooks will not be necessary at LMPS.
- LMPS will offer most if not all of the courses and extracurricular programs available at AMS though structures may vary.
- LMPS principal will work with AHS leadership to be sure curriculum is vertically aligned to 9-12.

LAKELAND SCHOOL SYSTEM

Assuming Cohort Size of 160

Scenario	LMPS Enrollment	LSS Enrollment	Students/ School
All 5-7 Students Attend No 8th	480	1351	675
All 5-7 Students Attend and 50% of 8th Grade Students	560	1431	715
All 5-7 Students and 75% of 8th Grade Students	600	1471	735
All 5-8 Students Attend	640	1511	755

LAKELAND SCHOOL SYSTEM

Rough Projections

- K-4 enrollment of Lakeland students is projected to be 871 in 2017-18 (Current enrollment at LES is 944)
- 5-8 enrollment of Lakeland students is projected to be 687.

Happening In Lakeland

Lakeland Parks and Recreation Department says "save the date", Oct. 29, for the **Halloween Festival** at IH Park

Lakeland residents Veronica and Curt Wennekamp are coordinating the Third Annual **Hallelujah Helen Memorial Fund Evening** Sept. 17 at the IH Clubhouse in Lakeland. Mrs. Wennekamp said proceeds allow local children to attend overnight summer camps. Tickets for the dinner are $20 in advance or $25 at the door. Childcare will be available for $15 per child, reserved in advance. Contact number is 286-1750. The speaker will be a mother who received scholarships for her two children to attend camp this year.

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