

Lakeland Citywatch

Vol 17, No. 2
April/May 2014

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

Cool Springs HOA, Creekside Manor HOA, East Shores HOA, Garner Lake Association, Heron's Ridge HOA, Lakeland Area Chamber of Commerce, Lakeland Estates HOA, Lakeland Lions Club, Lakeland Lakeshore Ladies Club, North Lakeland Community Association, Oakwood HOA, Plantation Hills HOA, Sterling Place HOA, Windward Slopes HOA, Winstead Farms HOA, Woodbridge HOA, Woodland Park HOA

IH Clubhouse, 4523 Canada Road • Senior Center, 4527 Canada Road • Lakeland City Hall, 10001 Highway 70



The multi-talented Lakeland superintendent Dr. Ted Horrell visited LES in February and shared guitar-playing and song writing with the Guitar Club. Under the direction of teacher Dianne Davis, the students shared the lessons they learned and listened to original music from Dr. Horrell. The PTA financially supports the Club and thanks the teachers who make it possible.

April 26 is Lakeland Yard Sale Day

After much deliberation, date-changing, emails, phone calls and a survey, one-day yard sales throughout Lakeland will be at 7 a.m. Apr. 26.

The City of Lakeland is not sponsoring or organizing this yard sale and there is no official coordinator or marketing plan. Via a February survey created by Plantation Hills resident Wesley Wright, it was determined that residents in varying neighborhoods would have their own yard sales on the same date but coordinate, market and execute in their own fashion.

Participating neighborhoods are Oakwood, Plantation Hills, Ivy Creek, Lakeland Estates, Evergreen Hills, Woodbridge, Cool Springs, Woodland Park, Windward Slopes, North Lakeland Community Association and Creekside Manor.

The Lakeland Yard Sale will be marketed via COLA Twitter, COLA Facebook and various social media. There has been a lot of interest from people who want to see and those who want to shop, so it has potential to be successful." So, remember, April 26th, etch it in stone, and pass on the word," said Wesley.

Spring Comes to Lakeland

Lakeland Easter Egg Hunt

10 a.m. Saturday, April 12 First Baptist Church of Lakeland, 4500 Canada Road (Across from IH Clubhouse)

Gather your children and/or grandchildren and Easter baskets for the annual spring event the weekend before Easter. In addition to egg hunting, there will be crafts, games and face painting for children. Co-sponsored by Lakeland Lions Club and Lakeland's Trustmark Bank. For more information, contact Lakeland Parks and Recreation 867-2717.

Community Clean Up May 3

It's time for the semi-annual community cleanup day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 3 at Windward Slopes Park. Take advantage of the opportunity to dispose of those hard to get rid of items you've been thinking about throwing away. The following items will be accepted:

- bulky trash
- white goods, such as washers and dryers (no refrigerators or A/C units)
- tires (limit of 4, no rims)
- scrap metals
- construction debris (residential only)
- small appliances
- yard waste

E-Waste, such as televisions, monitors, computers, printers, cell phones and batteries will be collected by TheCyberYard.com.

Dumpsters and receptacles will be provided for your

recyclable discards or items to be disposed of.

Household garbage or these hazardous wastes will NOT be accepted including oils, paint, antifreeze, herbicides and chemicals. These items can be taken to the Memphis and Shelby County Hazardous Waste Facility at 6305 Haley Rd. in Shelby Farms Park. It is open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.. Call 222-7729 or visit their website: <http://www.shelbycountyttn.gov/?nid=439>

Due to EPA rules, we cannot accept any appliances with refrigerants in them.

Before disposing of any items in the trash, please consider donating usable items to charitable organizations.

Windward Slopes Park is located on Beverle Rivera Drive just east of Fire Station #1. You must be a resident of Lakeland to participate.

For any questions, call Evan Boulanger 867-2717 ext. 410.

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Lakeland Went to the Hill in Nashville This Winter

They are just fifth graders, but no matter. Students from Lakeland Elementary School visited the state capitol Feb. 12 and had a chance to debate topics and cast votes, just like their elder representatives and senators.

Seventeen representatives from Student Council, National Elementary Honor Society and APEX attended the annual "Storm the Hill" program sponsored by the state PTA. They met with Rep. Ron Lollar, Sen. Mark Norris, Rep. Mark White, Rep. Larry Miller and Rep. Curry Todd. They toured the Capitol, visited the old supreme court, the governor's office and both the House and Senate chambers. They sat in legislators' desks on the house floor, participated in two mock debates and cast votes like the pros.

Also attending the Feb. 12 program were eight students from Arlington High School, including Lakeland residents Abigail Aguilar, Rahm Bakshi, Jake Henry and Ronald Young. They were able to meet with Rep. Miller and Sen. Norris as well as participate in a mock legislative session. A few were able to shake Gov. Bill Haslam's hand or get his autograph. They were also able to explore the Capitol building, the War Memorial museum, and the Tennessee State Museum.



Arlington High School students with Sen. Mark Norris of Collierville

CITYWATCH

Published bimonthly by The Council of Lakeland Associations (COLA)

- Chair: Cecil Tompkins (Lakeland Estates HOA)
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1/2 page ad:	\$250	6 issues- \$225 per issue
1/2 page - back cover	\$350	6 issues- \$325 per issue
Full page ad:	\$500	6 issues- \$450 per issue
Full page ad - back cover:	\$660	6 issues- \$600 per issue

Circulation: 5,500 homes and businesses in Lakeland and neighboring communities. Also available at City Hall



LES fifth graders with Rep. Ron Lollar from Bartlett.

This was the first year for both schools to participate in this yearly program.

Less than a week later, the adults made the drive to Nashville for Tennessee School Board Association Day on the Hill. Attending for LSS were Dr. Ted Horrell, superintendent; Kevin Floyd, chair of the Lakeland School Board; and members Kelley Hale, Teresa Henry and Matt Wright. All of the new school districts were recognized by TSBA at a breakfast. They were able to meet with Sen. Norris, Sen. Brian Kelsey, Rep. Lollar and Rep. White. They were also able to attend the House Education Committee session and the House Education Sub-committee session



LES students at the State Capitol.



Kevin Floyd, school board chair, receives a Tennessee School Board Association membership plaque from Tammy Grissom.

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City Finances Outlined at Partnership Lakeland Meeting

During the annual Partnership Lakeland meeting Feb. 20, Mayor Wyatt Bunker shared three sheets of city financial data with attendees.

He explained that the recent terminations, dismissals and departures from Lakeland staff are not personal, but he feels it is important to hold the line on taxes. He hopes to create a \$700,000 savings in the operating budget which would be 25 percent of the budget. He said the three-page handout would be posted on the Lakeland website.

He believes we can pay ourselves out of debt in one of two ways.

—We can reduce our property tax and take ourselves out of debt.

—We can live within our budget, have no tax increase, invest money, and move to the next level.

“This is a very historical time, not just because of schools but because we are at a crossroads. Not many cities are looking at these possibilities.”

He said he is elated about the possibility of Lakeland becoming the Brentwood or Franklin of West Tennessee.

Preceding the budget review, Wyatt said most moved to Lakeland for three reasons:

*****low taxes ***low crime *** high performing schools**

“I hate waste in government,” he said. “As mayor and commissioners we are focused on trying to maintain these ideals for Lakeland.” He noted that Lakeland is very solid financially.

The meeting also included election of officers and board members for PL: Chairman Robert Blandow robertblandow@me.com; Vice Chairman Phil Pilcher; Treasurer Mitzi Pilcher; Secretary Marilyn Piccatto; Directors Bill Smith, Leslie Fleming, Margaret Brown, Denny Kocial and Carl Sohns. Ken Glazer is chairman of the advisory board and is currently recruiting members Glazerk63@gmail.com.

Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell spoke at the meeting and said there are four pillars the county government supports: low taxes, low crime, high performing schools and economic development and job growth. He congratulated Lakeland on what it is doing.

LSS School superintendent Dr. Ted Horrell took the floor when asked about education. He said the school system will be operating on a budget of \$6.9 million to \$7.2 million and the part from Lakeland will be about \$460,000.

Most of the money comes from Shelby County property and sales tax. When asked if the school system could be autonomous from federal or state funding, he said that is not beyond the realm but state and federal money are especially important in certain areas, like special education.

Is Lakeland just getting the building or property inside the school? Everything under the roof comes with the agreement unless it's leased or it's some special education equipment. That includes technology, desks, computers, everything.



LSS Update

- Lakeland has 2,258 students and a population of 12,622; Arlington 2,958 with a population of 11,686.
- Lakeland children at LES: 850; AMS: 344; AHS: 633.
- Total budget of \$7.21 million includes teachers/staff \$5.09 million, central office \$317,163.
- A feasibility study indicates Lakeland comes out about \$200,000 in the black.
- Current LES 5th graders will all go to Arlington Middle.
- Bon Lin Middle School: Lakeland students currently zoned for Bon Lin Middle School will be “phased in” at Arlington Middle School starting with 2014-15 sixth grade students. Students entering seventh and eighth grade in 2014-15, who are currently Lakeland residents and zoned for Bon Lin Middle School, will continue to attend BLMS. However, according to the agreement, they will receive Educational Services by the Arlington Board “on a priority basis to the extent capacity is available.”
- Donelson Elementary: Lakeland students currently zoned for Donelson Elementary School will continue to attend Donelson Elementary School.
- The interlocal agreement with Arlington was effective March 1 and covers seven school years, until June 30, 2021. Students residing within the existing Lakeland municipal boundaries are guaranteed Educational Services, specifically including transportation, by the Arlington Community School Board. The Lakeland School System will pay a per student Seat Fee equal to the Town of Arlington per student local contribution. The Lakeland School System may terminate the agreement with an advance notice of three school years. A similar agreement was reached with Bartlett for Lakeland students going to Bon Lin School. It is a two-year agreement covering students in sixth and seventh grades and provides transportation to those students.
- Arlington Community School Board representative to Lakeland is Kay Williams. Laura Harrison is the Lakeland rep to Arlington.
- Board member Matt Wright worked with Dr. Ted Horrell, superintendent, to create the new logo which incorporates the city of Lakeland and the mission of the school system. The star in the corner represents the guiding principal which is the child benefit. The sailboat

is sailing toward the star and the child benefit.

The water is a bit rough to signify it will not be an easy task and the colors represent the lake. The L in the logo represents Lakeland supporting S for school. The slogan is learn - grow - lead. The boat is moving forward guided by the star. It is hard to lead but is worth the effort. The crest is not a typical shape but rather mimics a sail on a boat.

- The 2014-15 school calendar was approved with a start date of Aug. 4 ending May 22. It mirrors other municipalities except Shelby County whose calendar includes a holiday for Presidents Day.
- By sharing services with the other municipalities, Lakeland will utilize 23 employees for \$60,000 a year.
- LES start times will be determined as soon as transportation routes are decided.
- A request was presented to the BOC Mar. 6 for \$238,237 representing the school board's start-up budget on the new school system. Ted said LSS still has a \$25,000 balance on the \$100,000 allocation earlier provided by the BOC and that balance would apply to the interim budget request. He said the interim budget includes salary and benefits for any employees required before the start of school as well as the LSS share of shared services with other municipal school systems and some line-item things. He said he expected the 2014-15 schools budget request to be submitted within a couple of months. The budget was approved at the Mar.13 BOC meeting.
- Linda Milhouse has been hired as secretary to the superintendent. She previously worked with Shelby County Schools central office and at Collierville High School. She has a background in special education and payroll.
- The LSS Board will have a retreat to discuss the strategic vision of the school system at 4:30 p.m. Apr. 11.
- The special education and accountability interlocal agreement with Arlington Community Schools was approved.

LES students Sophie Gilliland, left, won a second place award and Madison Hughes won first in the Shelby County February Reflections photography competition. Emma Nguyen (not pictured) won second in literature in the County competition.



Lakeland Studying Bolton Area Annexation

Although temporarily halted, a feasibility study about the Bolton area annexation is in progress at City Hall.

A bill with amendments passed in the Tennessee General Assembly the end of March, allowing the study to proceed although residents in the area organized opposition to the idea and there was concern the bills might stop annexations.

All considered legislation impacted Public Chapter 1101, a growth policy act, which allowed annexation by ordinance. The petition presented to Lakeland in February requested annexation by referendum.

Approved by the Board of Commissioners 4-1, the study is to be finished late spring. If the BOC decides it is feasible to annex the area, there would be time to get the matter on the ballot so Bolton area residents can vote by referendum if they want to be annexed or not.

Chris Price, who lives near Bolton High School in unincorporated Shelby County, came to the BOC Feb. 18 to speak in favor of annexing the area into Lakeland, which represents 1,026 homes and about 4,500 people. "We need representation, we see our property values declining," he said. Dr. Butch Carruthers, a former principal of BHS and neighbor of Chris, said it boils down to a choice of "... where we want to be." Butch said he thinks incorporation into a town like Lakeland would give residents in his area a voice concerning schools and programs for students and would like the study to go forward.

Added Chris Price, "What do the schools look like once Shelby County has had them for a couple of years and the 900 Bartlett kids that make up nearly 35 percent of the total population currently are gone? This leaves a huge hole in our attendance and affects our programs such as AP Honors courses, the IB program, sports programs, band, orchestra and how all of this negatively impacts our property values."

Four Bolton-area residents spoke against annexation at that meeting and at a called meeting Feb. 25, eight spoke against the move, three in favor. In a special meeting March 23, about 100 Bolton-area residents attended a meeting at Harmon Grove Church to solidify opposition to a Lakeland annexation.

Reasons against annexation include Lakeland fees and property taxes, codes and ordinances, and no guarantee Shelby County will surrender Bolton High School and Barret's Chapel Elementary buildings to Lakeland.

In addressing constituents at the Feb. 25 called meeting, Mayor Wyatt Bunker said, "I endorse the process they are following. I am not in favor of annexation by ordinance, forcing you into a city. We will study the issue. There is nothing more American. You get a choice."

Inside the BOC Meetings (Board of Commissioners)

Lakeland has consolidated six volunteer commissions into three and named 15 citizens to these boards. In addition, four employee positions were eliminated, bringing the total to 11 departures since October, including five who left voluntarily.

According to Chris Thomas, city manager, the City has focused on streamlining to more efficiently provide services for its residents as well as to prepare for the future demands brought on by economic development.

The Board of Appeals and Storm Water Appeals were merged naming new members Ryan McDaniel and Patrick Kitchens, both two years, and Ken Collins and Francis Agunonye, both three years. Parks and Recreation and Natural Resources Board were merged with six selected for that Commission: Brenda Lockhart, Nancy Koch, Mark Donley, two-year terms; Janice Allen, Wesley Wright and Mark Mangone, three year terms. Gene Torrey is the BOC liaison to both groups.

Municipal Planning and Design Review merged and those named to that group are Jerry James, Sal Feraci, Don Barber, Ann Hale and Phil Pilcher. Clark Plunk will represent the BOC and Randy Nicholson will be the designee for the Mayor.

Lakeland eliminated four positions in February including J. Higbee, city planner and growth management director; emergency management director Claude Talford; human resources administrator Karen Mosley; and Joy Cloud, a coordinator for the city's Parks and Recreation Department. "The reason quite frankly is there are too many people at City Hall," said Mayor Wyatt Bunker. "It is what it is. We're not a jobs program. This will enable us to keep our taxes low in Lakeland." He said it is his goal to reduce Lakeland's personnel cost from about \$1.77 million to just under \$1 million in the next 24 months.

In the fall, city attorney David Lakin and city manager Bob Wherry were terminated; the natural resources director Eric Bridges and city engineer Emily Harrell left voluntarily; James Roberts, code enforcement officer, retired the end of the year. Philip Stuckert, city engineer, announced his resignation last month, as did Thad Jablonski, executive coordinator.

Jim Atkinson, who has been with Lakeland since 2005, was promoted to director of planning and administration. Jim's responsibilities include managing the planning department, and overseeing code enforcement, permitting, inspections, GIS and general administration. He reports directly to the city manager.

BOC Meetings (Continued on page 5)



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In other City Hall news:

- ✓ 30-foot buffer was added to Kensington Manor Subdivision after residents behind the property spoke of the lack a shield to their home. This new neighborhood will be bordered by Evergreen, Memphis Arlington and Chambers Chapel Roads and U.S. Highway 70.
- ✓ Speaking at a February meeting, Melissa Bast, vice president of Light*Em Up Fireworks, encouraged Lakeland to end the monopoly of only one vendor to sell fireworks in all of Shelby County, which is in Lakeland. Wyatt is in favor of other vendors coming into the city if it can be done legally meeting state guidelines. The sole Lakeland vendor spoke against it as did a spokesman from the Fire Marshal's office. Wyatt says currently there are fireworks stands on every border of Shelby County (Desoto, Crittenden, Tipton and Fayette.) "Why shouldn't Lakeland have that revenue?" he said.
- ✓ Chris Thomas, city manager, reported that Lakeland staff members worked hard to get roads cleared of fallen branches and trees following the ice storm that hit March 2. He estimated the cost to the City at about \$6,900, including overtime to City workers, equipment costs and the use of contractors in instances where trees blocking roads were too large for City workers to handle. He said Lakeland will pursue grants from EMA for debris removal, although Lakeland residents were able to help themselves to the fallen trees/branches along rights of way for firewood.
- ✓ Tye Gwin, the Memphis-area representative for Nation Green, the City's new grass-cutting contractor, was introduced at the Mar. 6 BOC meeting and answered questions about services covered by the contract, which includes four mowings of rights of way during the summer season. When questioned as to whether four mowings would be sufficient, he said his crews would use a growth inhibitor so that only four mowings would be necessary. The growth inhibitor will be applied by HerbiSystems, a sub-contractor. He assured those present that Nation Green crews would not mow over debris on the side of Lakeland roads; instead, removing debris in advance of the mowing crew and, as necessary, following along behind the mowing crew to clean up any hidden debris mowed by the crews. This was approved Mar. 13.
- ✓ Through December, 67 percent of Lakeland residents paid their property taxes, compared to 52 percent of Shelby County overall. Sales tax revenue to Lakeland has dramatically decreased since 2009 and now stands at about \$500,000, according to David Lenoir, county trustee.
- ✓ The renovations at City Hall for the school system, which were to cost up to \$150,000, are off the table now. Chris announced there is vacant space because of recent City staff reductions. Thus the two-member LSS staff is now housed at on the west side of City Hall without any construction changes.
- ✓ The grant money for "Get Caught Recycling Program" ended but Lakeland hopes residents will continue to use the recycle bins for the right reasons. Recycling reduces the amount of waste deposited in the Shelby County landfill and is included in trash service fees.

Lakeland is ranked as one of ten top cities for home ownership in Tennessee, according to information released from NerdWallet. The link details the information.
<http://www.nerdwallet.com/blog/2014/best-cities-homeownership-tennessee>

Three Now Handle Advertising forCW

The bi-monthly publication has formed a three-person advertising team calling on Lakeland businesses to bring readers local ads and deals throughout the Lakeland area.

In February, Larry Pardue and Josh Roman joined with tenured advertising specialist Margaret Brown to coordinate advertising space in Citywatch. All are volunteering their time to better the publication and are part of the COLA Board.

Margaret was the director five years and has lived in Lakeland 27 years. She and her husband of 46 years are parents to three daughters and six grandchildren. Their pregnant daughter and sixmonth old granddaughter were killed in 1997 by a drunk driver at US 64 and Canada Road. She initiated and coordinated Lakeland's 25th incorporation anniversary in 2002 and was active in the Lakeland Civic Club and craft fairs at the Lakeland Outlet Mall and worked Funfest as an ambassador. Her email is mbrown@dbrown.com

Larry is the founder and owner of Idex Creative Marketing, an advertising, marketing and graphic design agency. Idex has produced marketing materials for Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Smith Nephew, Thomas & Betts as well as many more large and small clients. His career spans more than four decades and involves work at all levels of marketing. Since moving to Lakeland, he served on the Municipal Planning Commission and has supported the Economic Development Commission in its efforts to bring more commerce to Lakeland. He and his wife live at The Pointe. Larry can be reached at lpardue@idexcreative.com.

Josh is the owner of Roman Financial Group, an Allstate Agency, and is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) with over 15 years experience in the financial services field. He has been the chair of the Economic Development Commission and has been treasurer of the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce, chairman of Partnership Lakeland, a member of the 2005 Lakeland Leadership class and Leadership team of the Vote Yes municipal school efforts. He and his wife Ursula (director of marketing for Fred's Inc.) have two daughters (Baylor and Mallory) and live in Lakeland Heights. joshroman@yahoo.com

Your input is invaluable. If you would like to advertise in this strictly Lakeland newspaper, contact Larry Pardue or Josh Roman. If you can volunteer to write "good news" stories, please contact Sherrye Willis, 291-4125, sjwmpshs@comcast.net

Crime Report for Lakeland

February was very unpleasant weather-wise but perhaps it helped reduce the crime rate. The number of incidents was reduced from 13 in January to 10 in February. Thefts from buildings as well as from autos were down. There was vandalism at The Delta Blues Winery, which is still under construction. This is unfortunate considering the setbacks and delays they have encountered. All in all, it is always encouraging to see crime trends on the decline.



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Jim Atkinson

director of city planning/administration

Below are highlights of some of the big issues occurring in our great city.

Commitment to High-Quality Development

Lakeland prides itself on great neighborhoods and has a reputation for high-quality residential development.

Recent commercial projects have followed suit and several more are upcoming that will prove to be great additions to Lakeland. There has been an increase in construction activity in Lakeland that we expect to continue. There are also several new exciting projects that have been discussed that will be moving forward in the next several months.

To take advantage of the increased development interest, several changes are proposed to various City ordinances and regulations to help make the City's development process more efficient, while maintaining a commitment for high-quality development.

Lakeland Development Corporation

The City is establishing an Industrial Development Board to replace the Economic Development Commission in spearheading the City's economic development activities. The name of the corporation will be the Lakeland Development Corporation (LDC), which was selected based on its historical significance in Lakeland. Some may know that Louis Garner founded Lakeland Development Corporation as a means to open "Lake Land", the amusement park that once encompassed the area surrounding Garner Lake. Mr. Garner's corporation is now long gone, but the name will live on.

The new LDC will have a series of tools at its disposal, including the ability to create tax increment financing districts (TIF), tax abatements, and other methods of spurring redevelopment of existing areas and bringing new, high-quality commercial development to Lakeland.

The City has a litter problem!

A quick way to give a 'face-lift' to several areas of the city is to control the litter problem. Besides being an eyesore, litter hurts our economic development efforts – new businesses will hesitate to locate here if they believe that the litter problem could harm their reputation.

"Keep Lakeland Beautiful" is the newest affiliate of Keep America Beautiful program and only the second in Shelby County. A huge 'thank you' to the Natural Resources Board and our local coordinator, Lakeland employee Evelyn Okunbor, for getting this program going. This will be a great resource for fixing our litter problem and beautifying our city.

We can all do our part to help by (1) not littering, (2) picking up litter when you see it, and (3) finding ways to get involved in City-wide clean-up efforts. If you would like to get more involved, contact Evelyn at 867-2717.



Jim Atkinson

Canada Road/I-40 Interchange

Construction on the I-40 Canada Road interchange is scheduled to begin July 1. This project will be constructed in several phases and will take approximately two and one-half to three years to complete the entire project.

As part of the same project, Beverle Rivera Road will be extended from Windward Slopes Park to connect with Huff 'N Puff Road directly east of the ATV Parts Store. A traffic light will be added at Beverle Rivera Road and Canada Road, and direct access to Huff 'N Puff will be limited. This will result in a much safer environment for those travelling from the east side of Garner Lake and connecting with Canada Road. In addition, a north/south road will be constructed directly west of Motel 6 to connect Huff 'N Puff Road to Beverle Rivera Road. This will provide better access to the businesses located on Huff N Puff Road.

The Grand Outlets (formerly Lakeland Outlet Mall) has been approved to begin reconstruction of the entire site. The main mall building will be razed and replaced with a series of smaller building fronting an outdoor pedestrian area. The existing annex building will remain but be completely renovated to match the new construction on the site. Construction is expected to begin this year and coincide with construction of the interchange.

At this point, all existing businesses near and within the construction zone are planning to remain open. There is a vacant lot (former gas station) at the northwest corner of the interchange that will become part of TDOT right-of-way and no longer developable. Otherwise, no existing properties will be condemned by the State. Some businesses, however, will be affected by reconfiguration and/or loss of current access points but will remain open.

Dr. Ted Horrell

LSS superintendent

I cannot tell you how exciting it is to be participating in what, I believe, will be remembered as one of the most important developments in the history of the City of Lakeland. With the recent dismissal by Judge Hardy Mayes of all remaining complaints in the lawsuit challenging the creation of municipal school systems in Shelby County, a major hurdle was removed from the race to open schools in August. There are many decisions left to be made and boxes that must be checked off, but we are making great progress in the creation of our own school system.

On March 18, Lakeland parents had the opportunity to officially enroll their students in Lakeland Elementary and the Lakeland School System. Other Lakeland parents enrolled their students in Donelson Elementary, Arlington Middle, Arlington High, and Bon Lin Middle through formal agreements with Arlington Community Schools (DES, AMS, and AHS) and Bartlett City Schools (BLMS). The excitement of the parents was evident as many commented on the smooth organization

Dr. Ted Horrell (Continued on page 7)



Ted Horrell

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of the evening and their anticipation to be part of these new systems. Teachers and administrators volunteered their time and reported their excitement as well at the sense that we were finally moving into something new and exciting.

One of the first official actions of the Lakeland Board of Education was to commission a survey of Lakeland residents to learn more about their priorities and desires for LSS. More than 550 individuals took the survey over the course of about a month. Parents shared that they believe the priorities of the district should be academic programs/curriculum, teacher quality and technology enhancements. They also shared a desire for Lakeland School System to eventually educate all of the students within the Lakeland borders. Whether that dream becomes a reality in five years or 25 years, we are fortunate to have great partners in Arlington Community Schools and Bartlett City Schools to educate our more than 2,100 students in the meantime.

Perhaps one of the most exciting aspects of creating a small school system is the opportunity to get true input from those who are doing the real work in educating our students—the teachers. Six teacher-led committees are meeting to offer input and insight into areas like student policies, technology, academic policies, curriculum, professional development and program enhancements. Literally every teacher who wanted a voice in the decision-making process in those areas has the opportunity to share opinions and ideas. This level of participation would be impossible in a much larger system and even a slightly larger system! When their work is finished, the teachers and administrators will have had unprecedented opportunity to shape their school and their school system.

It has been my pleasure so far to work with our outstanding school board, Lakeland Elementary School staff and the other municipal superintendents in planning for next year. I believe we will have a system of which every Lakeland resident will be proud. Personally, I appreciate your support and involvement in the process so far. While I believe creation of the Lakeland School System will bring benefits to numerous segments of the Lakeland community, our children will be biggest and most important beneficiaries of this work.

You Voted — We Heard You

Seventy-two Citywatch readers responded to a February survey to make the publication more user-friendly, including suggestions to change the name and offers to advertise and volunteer. Stats from the survey include:

- 58% Always read Citywatch
- 31% Read it most of the time
- 66% Read City government stories
- 59% Like homeowner association news
- 54% Peruse school news
- 51% View parks and recreation stories
- 59% Patronize Lakeland businesses when possible

Among the comments were ideas to add electronic coverage, provide more “good news” stories, include Lakeland history and do a better job on layout and graphics. Residents care about this community and want more coverage of schools, local businesses and even crime reports.

According to results, the City should provide more activities for children and young families and offer a way to access agendas and minutes of public meetings. The editorial board is listening and hopes to make many changes to the publication in the coming months including a name change this summer.

Electronic coverage is now available with new Facebook and Twitter pages and we are tweaking a website for COLA.

We actively seek and solicit “good news stories” from Lakeland residents.

We continue our partnership with City Hall and the Lakeland School System to bring you up to date details on all that is happening with your government and your tax dollars.

Wesley Wright, new to the Citywatch editorial board, created the survey. He lives in Plantation Hills, owns Wright Landscapings and is the author of “The Memphis Book,” a story of the city, its history, its culture, its people and its potential. He was formerly a restaurant manager, FedEx Agent and full time middle and high school teacher. His wife Joyce is project manager at AutoZone and they have a daughter.

In addition to creating the survey, Wesley coordinated the new Facebook and Twitter pages for COLA. He can be reached at wesley@wesleyalanwright.com

Nancy Highland, D.D.S. **Smile Enhancement Dental Center**

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Two Lakeland homes part of Garden Tour in June

Two Lakeland residents are among five who will open their gardens 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 7 for the fifth Memphis Area Master Gardeners "Through Our Garden Gates" public garden tour.

At 10252 Oak Levee Dr., Pam Caruso's charming yard boasts year-round interest with low maintenance plants and clever projects made from recycled materials. It is a Certified Wildlife Habitat and Monarch Way Station with many nectar and butterfly host plants. An outdoor kitchen and a hidden potting area make this outdoor living space complete.

Enter Denny Garner's gate at 4213 Herons Pond Lane and you are greeted with a sweeping view of his informal, whimsical garden. Denny has turned a very steep hill into an asset with terraced beds and a waterfall. The garden includes a wide variety of plants and other features with several designated areas: "Enchanted," "Frogs and Friends," Asian, "Wings and Things," and a prayer garden.

Garden hosts will be at each garden to answer questions and provide plant lists. Demonstrations at various gardens include photography, leaf casting, plant propagation, and making glass flowers. Experts on different aspects of gardening will be available to answer questions at each site.

The three gardens in East Memphis are 410 Goodwyn Street, 4525 Barfield Road and 354 Sequoia Cove. Visitors can start their tour at any of the gardens. Maps will be available at website www.memphisareamastergardeners.org and at each garden. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

COLAand Lakeland Network Via Online Sites

by Wesley Wright

Some Lakeland residents adamantly reject social media, avoid it like the plague and simply survive the new age of communication. This article probably won't sway that particular crowd but the demographic this article is addressing are those on the fence who are curious and want to know more and may very well want to join. Furthermore we want those who use Facebook and Twitter to see our new COLA pages.

Both www.Facebook.com/COLATN and <https://twitter.com/lakelandcola> have gained popularity and relevance as Lakeland's primary news source online.

Finally, we want Lakeland residents to use Nextdoor.com as their main conduit to communicate Lakeland specific issues relevant only to residents. Both Twitter and Facebook are open to the public in most cases, too transparent for onlookers, secure more personal information than needed and do not require you to be a Lakeland neighborhood resident to have access.

Nextdoor.com is not full of ads, is very secure, practical, minimal posts, requires you actually live in Lakeland, and has already surpassed Facebook, emails and Twitter as the primary form of neighborhood communications and networking in many communities including Lakeland. I have acted as the liaison with the City and Nextdoor.com. The hope is to latch the City into the network of ten communities (and growing): Plantation Hills 137, Woodbridge 57, Lakeland Estates 46, Windward Slopes 66, Cool Springs 76, West Stonebridge 15, Oakwood 89, Ivy Creek Lakeland 21, Lakeland Heights 18, and Evergreen Hills 50. Please join.

From the COLA/Citywatch staff, thanks to the neighborhoods and organizations who support the bi-monthly publication by paying their annual fee. If you haven't remitted your money to Jo Ann Cohen, treasurer, please send this month.

Homes Currently for Sale in Mr. Rodgers' Neighborhood!



10200 Ivy Oak
Oakwood
\$429,000



4460 Ravenwood Oak
Oakwood
\$409,000



10197 Oak Levee
Oakwood
\$434,900



10246 Gillespie Oak
Oakwood
\$385,000



4482 Coltwood
Oakwood
\$375,000



10225 Oak Levee
Oakwood
\$437,000



10076 Carly
Winstead Farms
\$439,000



4305 New Canada Road
Woodbridge
\$289,000



4614 Maple Glen Ct.
The Grove
\$353,880



4083 Cedar Point Road
Lakeland Estates
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Adopt a Street in Lakeland

A one-man team of Henry Gotten is among those who have adopted Lakeland streets to clear them of litter.

The Memphis native and resident of Lakeland for nine years picks up trash on Cobb Road between Highway 64 and Bentbrooke Drive every six to 10 weeks. "I got sick of looking at it," he said, and he just decided he would take his own plastic trash bags and collect the discards mostly from drive-in meals. "I think it's the kids who go to the drive-ins and just throw out their garbage instead of taking it home," he noted. Also among the items are beer cans and even three tires in a creek which runs through his neighborhood on Plantation Woods Road.

He drops the three or four sacks of refuse along the road, then returns with his car to pick them up and put in his own trash and has been doing this about a year and a half.

He and his wife Evelyn aren't completely focused on trash collection, as they take hiking vacations to such places as the Canadian Rockies, Alaska, Iceland, and the Alps. He said the neighborhood walking keeps him in shape for travel and hiking.

Lakeland offers a community engagement initiative to allow residents to "adopt" portions of city streets and keep them clean.

The goal in Lakeland is to increase community participation in beautification and environmental efforts by allowing residents to assist the city in cleaning up roadside litter. Since its inception, four groups have adopted streets:

- The Salem Ranch Pickers clean Stewart Road between Palomino Drive and Highway 385.
- The Herons Ridge HOA adopted Seed Tick between Beverle Rivera Drive and Herons Ridge Lane.
- The Lakeland Natural Resources Board chose Seed Tick between Memphis-Arlington and Oakseed Lane.
- The Holcomb Family has adopted two stretches of Seed Tick Road: one between US 70 and Memphis-Arlington and the other between Oakseed Lane and Cool Springs Boulevard. Groups conduct cleanups at least four times per year, although some groups (such as the Holcomb family) conduct cleanups every weekend. Over the course of the past two years, 1,644.6 pounds of roadside litter have been collected by the volunteers!

If your homeowners association, group, or civic organization would be interested in adopting a street in the city, contact the Evelyn at City Hall 867-2717 ex 409.

Lakeland Annual Fishing Rodeo - June 7 8 a.m.

This yearly event at IH Park Lake is for children ages 4-12 accompanied by an adult. Remember to bring poles and bait. Registration is from 7:15 to 7:55 a.m.. Avoid the lines and pre-register at City Hall or www.Lakelandtn.gov

The Fishing Rodeo includes seven, 15-minute sessions. Winners will win a prize at every session. Trophies will also be given out for the longest fish, most fish caught - boy, and most fish caught - girl.

For more information, contact Parks & Recreation at 867-2717. Lakeland appreciates the First Baptist Church of Lakeland allowing participants to park in the Church parking lot for this event.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

April

- 3 - BOC work session 6:30 p.m.
- 7 - LSB work session 6:30 p.m.
- 11 - LSB retreat, 4:30 p.m.
- 12 - Lakeland Easter Egg Hunt, First Baptist Church of Lakeland
- 14 - LSB meeting 7 p.m.
- 15 - BOC regular meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 16 - May 1 - early vote for Shelby County Primary
- 18 - SCS holiday, Good Friday
- 24 - LES PTA General Assembly 6 p.m.
- 26 - Yard sales throughout Lakeland neighborhoods 7 a.m.
 - River City Boppers 25th anniversary party and dance. 7-10:30 p.m., IH Clubhouse. Catered meal \$25 per person, payable in advance to ensure enough food for all

May

- 1 - National Day of Prayer 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. IH Clubhouse. BOC work session 6:30 p.m.
- 3 - Lakeland Clean Up Day, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Windward Slopes Park.
- 5 - LSB work session, 6:30 p.m.
- 6 - Shelby County Primary Elections including district attorney general, Shelby County mayor and district 3 commissioner representing Lakeland.
- 8 - BOC regular meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 12 - LSB regular meeting, 7 p.m.
- 17 - River City Boppers dance. 7-10:30 p.m., IH Clubhouse. Mexican (Cinco de Mayo). Bring a dish to share.
- 23 - Last day of school for SCS students
- 26 - Memorial Day. City Hall and Senior Center Closed. Garbage and recycling pickup delayed one day.

June

- 2 - LSB work session 6:30 p.m.
- 5 - BOC work session 6:30 p.m.
- 7 - Fishing Rodeo 8 a.m. IH Park Lake
 - Fifth annual public garden tour by Memphis Area Master Gardeners 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. including two in Lakeland, 10252 Oak Levee Drive and 4213 Herons Pond Lane.
- 9 - LSB regular meeting 7 p.m.
- 12 - BOC regular meeting 6:30p.m.

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Newsworthy around Lakeland

Arlington High School Swim Team won its first fifth place team trophy at the 2014 Shelby County Swimming Championships Feb. 1 and the men's team won a 5th place trophy for the second year in a row. Brett Holloway, a social studies teacher at Arlington High School, is the swim team sponsor. The team coach is Sam Gaddie and the assistant coach is Nina Bailey.

Laura Harrison, Lakeland School Board vice chair, received the GEM (Going the Extra Mile) award at LES for the outstanding job in organizing the 5th grade trip to Nashville for Day on the Hill. The monthly award is new this school year.

In late February Lakeland resident **Michael Stansbury** uploaded a video to Facebook of him and his six-month-old daughter, Lily Ann, doing a "work out." The video of Michael copying his daughter's movements was viewed over 500,000 times in four days in a YouTube segment.

It was picked up internationally by a newspaper in Ireland, The Daily Mail UK, Yahoo News, and was followed by a Skype interview on CNN and broadcast on The Today Show. Michael is a health and wellness coach at Advocate.

The Arlington High School Boys Basketball Team made it to the state tournament for the first time in the school's 10-year history. Although they lost in the semi-finals to Oak Ridge Mar. 14, they finished the year with a 29-5 record.

Lakeland Business of the Month

Every month, a Lakeland business will be featured on the City homepage: www.LakelandTN.gov. The Business of the Month archive will be at www.lakelandtn.gov/index.aspx?nid=262. Supporting local businesses helps the City in many ways including generating revenue.

The Learning Tree was featured in March and Fayette Pool Supplies and Home Energy Store in April.

For questions or to nominate a business, please contact Ginny Dunn with the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce at Ginny@mylakelandchamber.org. The Chamber's website is www.mylakelandchamber.org

SCS/Lakeland Elementary School

PTA News

Christye Gilliland, LES PTA

Hello from Lakeland Elementary! It's hard to believe that we are wrapping up another school year.

We had a busy March with spring break, our Spring Fling Dance, and our famous LES-opoly Auction Dinner.

This year's auction was another huge success and proceeds will be a great support to the newly forming Lakeland School System.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers, classroom parents, LES staff, and many businesses that continue to make this amazing fundraiser possible. Also, we want to say a big thank you to our sponsors many of whom have supported us year after year.

Sixth Annual LES PTA Auction Sponsors:

Platinum Status: Allstate – Josh Roman. Gold Status: A2H Design Firm, Trustmark, Wright Medical.

Silver Status: Edward Jones Investments – Mark Louderback, The Floyd Firm, Lakeland Chiropractic, Marketvex, State Farm – Angela Hargrave and Sharon Wilson, St. Francis – Bartlett.

Bronze Status: CTSI – Global, Keller Williams Realty – Cat Wright, The Travel Agency – Heather Scobey.

Our PTA General Assembly meeting will be at 6 p.m. April 24. There also will be a show that evening with framed art by the LES students. Families may purchase the art the evening of the show. Please plan on joining us!

School will let out for the summer on May 23



Christye Gilliland

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HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Megan Wylie, account executive



Megan Wylie

Many homeowners have been out and about during this wonderful spring weather! We are enjoying every minute of this sunshine. Hope everyone had a great spring break, I know the kids did!

It is nice to know you live in one of the top 10 cities in Tennessee! Lakeland, TN ranked #6 in the top 10 list for best cities in Tennessee by Movoto. It is the help of the neighborhoods and their HOAs as well as the citizens of the city that make this possible. Great job Lakeland!

Thank you to all the homeowners who supported the HOA at the annual meeting. It is always great to hear from the homeowners and what they would like to see done in their neighborhood.

With summer upon us we remind everyone to submit any and all new projects for approval from the board before they start! You can email those requests to mwylie@level1management.com or 321-6766.

Please take the time to go to the City of Lakeland website at www.lakelandtn.gov for the latest events such as the school board meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, April 14, Lakeland Community Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. Saturday, April 12 at First Baptist Church of Lakeland and many others to help you know more about what is going on in your city.

Hope everyone has a wonderful and safe Easter holiday.

SCS/Arlington High School PTSA News

Angie Donnelly

Arlington High PTSA is looking for volunteers to serve on the 2014 - 2015 school year Board of Managers. Please Visit our webpage: www.arlingtonhighptsa.org

You will find a link with descriptions of each position and the application which will need to be mailed to the school as soon as possible. Arlington High School, 5275 Airline Road, Arlington, TN 38002 Attention: PTSA

If you have any questions, contact Michelle Pearson at pearson8147@bellsouth.net Be sure follow our Facebook page for more information.

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Megan Wylie,
Account Executive



Megan Wylie

The Board of Directors would like to thank all the residents who came out to help with the Adopt a Street program in March. A full truck load of trash was picked up off the sides of Seed Tick and Beverle Rivera. This is great for our community.

Volunteer participation is needed for the upcoming pond projects. If you wish to volunteer your time please contact Megan with Level 1 Management at mwyllie@level1management.com. Additional members/volunteers are needed for the Architectural Committee and the Social Committee. Please contact Level 1 for more information or if you wish to join.

Just a reminder to all residents with daylight saving time recently occurring and spring around the corner, we remind everyone that children play in their yards and on the sidewalks AND the speed limit is 25 mph. Speaking of spring, the City of Lakeland's annual Easter Egg hunt will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 12 at First Baptist Church of Lakeland, located at 4500 Canada Rd.

We encourage all homeowners to become a member of our website www.heronridgehoa.com as we as join our Facebook page. This will keep you up to date on all events in the neighborhood and your community.



Volunteer clean-up crew for Herons Ridge.

Plantation Hills HOA

Wesley Wright

Plantation Hills has had many things going on of late. Thanks to Nextdoor.com Nextdoor/social media our interaction and participation as neighbors has increased, we have a yard of the month competition starting this month, the neighborhood sign is being spruced up, we have a cookout/quarterly meeting at 4 p.m. Apr. 12 on Wren Hill (see <https://plantationhills.nextdoor.com> for details) and many other things in the works.

Our quarterly meeting in January was well attended and we hope to have more participation and discussion about what we want collectively as a neighborhood. A survey was put out, via Nextdoor.com for residents to determine what they want for Plantation Hills. Some of the comments were to have a sidewalk, add streetlights or fix the common area off Hadley Drive most people do not know about. We have reiterated there has not and will not be a mandatory HOA fee but rather voluntary donations that are project-based.

These projects, which were discussed in the previous quarterly meeting and listed by residents in the survey will be discussed in the agenda for the quarterly meeting. Basically we are having the quarterly meeting first at 4 p.m. then the cookout. If you want to contribute, have a voice and/or want to know what is going on, please make sure you do these things: join Nextdoor.com, fill out the survey under the April Cookout Event, then attend April 12 at 4 p.m.



Wesley Wright

Event Cancelled

Lakeland has cancelled its third annual Lakeland Outdoors Festival, originally planned for May 3 at IH Park. "We are unfortunately cancelling the Lakeland Outdoors Festival because there simply is not enough time to do it the way that we think it needs to be done. We hope to have a bigger and better Outdoors Festival in 2015," said Chris Thomas, city manager.

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Contact: 901-573-2632 or
SIMMONSBOC3@GMAIL.COM



North Lakeland Community Association (NLCA)

Chris Barnoud, President



ICE STORM 2014 brought down limbs, trees and power lines while residents waited hours and days for electricity and even longer for removal of fallen debris and repair of damages! The weather has been brutal for residents, livestock and wildlife alike.

Another well-attended March meeting indicated that our Association continues to grow, build community and engage resources that foster our quality of living. Attending were Lakeland Mayor Wyatt Bunker, City Manager Chris Thomas, Shelby County Mayor's Officer Steve Shular and guest speaker John Zeanah, general planner & program manager, Memphis & Shelby County Office of Sustainability, who gave an excellent presentation regarding the Hwy 385/ I-269 Economic Development and Land Use Plan and The Green Print Study.

The potential of Lakeland business development at the intersections of 385 at Brunswick and Stewart Roads appears remote well into the future and there are opportunities for "green use" development in the form of recreational trails, particularly around the Loosahatchie River. Mayor Bunker assured his support of North Lakeland remaining agricultural. Rural services and expectations were discussed.

Unfortunately, residents in Salem Valley Woods are experiencing teenage delinquent behavior similar to other places in Lakeland and at the Brunswick Loosahatchie River Bridge. Steve Shular activated measures with NLCA and City Hall, Shelby County Public Works, Health Department and Law Enforcement to correct conditions.

Our next meeting is at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 15. For more information, contact Chris Barnoud, president at 488-2900 or Chrisbar99@aol.com.

Lakeland Estates HOA

Sharon Helms



Sharon Helms

Has Spring sprung? We hope so! If our timing is accurate, you should be receiving this right before the LEHOA Spring General Meeting from 12:to to 3 p.m. Sunday, April 13, at the IH Managerial Park Building, 4523 Canada Rd. So, mark your calendar!

Our program will be packed! We will start with a scrumptious light lunch and will then be honored to have Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell as our opening speaker! He will discuss events happening within Shelby County and how they affect us in our community!

Following Mayor Luttrell we also will be honored to hear from Lakeland Mayor Wyatt Bunker, City Manager Chris Thomas and Lakeland School Superintendent Dr. Ted Horrell. They will address current events pertinent to our city and our future! A question and answer time will follow.

The final portion of our meeting will focus on LEHOA...addressing both old and new items of business. A vote by LEHOA membership to increase our annual dues will be held. You won't want to miss this important meeting! All members are encouraged to come...forms will be available to pay your dues at this time (cash or check)!

For questions, call Sharon Helms... 674-6717.

Broadband Survey

Help Lakeland work towards the expansion of high-speed broadband internet in the City by taking a short survey: <http://www.connectedtn.org/broadband-inquiry> The survey addresses lack of internet access, most notably north of Highway 70 as well as the southern part of the city.

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Megan Wylie,
account
executive



Megan Wylie

The results are in from our last election and Geoff Hicks will be joining our HOA Board of Directors. Billy Rodgers was reelected to the Board of Directors. We'd like to thank Rick Davidson for his service as an HOA BOD this past year. Visit our website for complete list of our Board of Directors and their contact information.

Many Oakwood residents attended the Oakwood Wine Tasting Party and a great time was had by all! This was the second year for this event. We had a great turn out and may make this an annual event for our residents!

The events committee is working on our annual kids Easter party scheduled from 2 to 4 p.m. April 12. We will have train and pony rides, a petting zoo and many more activities for the children to enjoy. Visit our neighborhood website and Facebook page for more details.

Other upcoming events include the pool opening May 1, our neighborhood yard sale April 26, as well as a clean-up day to be determined at a later date. Check Facebook and the website for more information.

Have you joined the new Oakwood Website? We encourage all Oakwood residents to join the new site designed with residents in mind. You can check on upcoming rentals, get the latest neighborhood news and view upcoming events. Join today at www.oakwoodlakeland.com

Woodland Park

Jo Ann Cohen & Marilyn Piccatto

Mark your calendar for Woodland Park's annual meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 20 at the IH Clubhouse on Canada Road across from First Baptist Church. We will be voting to fill two Board positions. Our speaker will be an officer from the Shelby County Sheriff Department's Neighborhood Watch Program who will give us a report on crime statistics in our area and answer questions and concerns.

Woodland Park HOA dues assessment for 2014 is \$214. Invoices will be mailed the first week of April with payment due May 1.

Is there a budding writer/reporter in our neighborhood? A volunteer is needed to write or help write the Woodland Park articles for this paper.

The Yard of the Month committee also would like your help with suggestions. YOM selections are made the first of each month beginning April.

If you have nominations for YOM or can write or help with articles, contact Marilyn Piccatto at 266-4180 or MarilynWPHOA@aol.com.

Woodland Park will participate in the Lakeland's city-wide Spring Yard Sale Saturday, April 26 (our rain date Saturday, May 3). If you would like to participate or if you would like more information, please call Marilyn Piccatto.



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Windward Slopes HOA

Steve Gurley

Greetings to all Windward Slopes neighbors! It has certainly been a long and cold winter this past year.

Everyone is ready for spring so we can all resume those outdoor activities we enjoy during the warmer times of the year. This is a good time to recall some safety practices that protect us all. Please remember to watch your vehicle speed. The speed limit in all areas of Windward Slopes subdivision is 20 mph. Remain watchful for children playing in our neighborhood, either on foot or riding bicycles. And also remember our Neighborhood Watch program. If you see something suspicious, report it!

I would also like to highlight the results of our February WSHOA Annual Meeting. The meeting itself was lightly attended. I strongly encourage every Windward Slopes homeowner to become more involved in your HOA.

We want and need your help! Todd Barber, Larry Brown, Steve Gurley, Dennis Raggianti, and Ken Weinburg were elected to the Board of Directors, Steve Gurley was elected President. A subsequent Board meeting was held with the following results: Ken Weinburg will serve as Vice-President and Todd Barber as Secretary/Treasurer.



Steve Gurley



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Lakeland Parks and Recreation

Jennifer Rezba, public relations assistant IH Clubhouse - 4523 Canada Rd.
Visit www.lakelandtn.gov for the latest information or contact Parks & Recreation 867-2717

Summer Sports Camps

Quick Start Tennis Camp 9 - 10:15 a.m. June 2 - 5. at Windward Slopes Park. Ages 5-10. Quick Start tennis uses a larger ball, lower nets and a shorter court for beginner-level players. Full courts available for oldest campers if needed. Bring your own racket. All other equipment plus popsicles provided. Fee is \$90. Upon completion, participants will receive a certificate and a racket.

Beginner and Intermediate Tennis Camp 9 - 10:30 a.m. June 9 - 12 at Windward Slopes Park. The camp is designed for beginners and intermediates ages 11-17 or younger experienced students. Includes full court instruction, fundamental drills, and competitive games. Fee is \$90. Each participant receives a certificate and tennis racket overgrip.

Junior Golf Clinics June 16 - 19 at Stonebridge Golf Club, 3049 Davies Plantation. Ages 6 -11 will be from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.; ages 12 - 18 will be from 10:30 a.m. - noon. During the clinic, the following aspects of the game will be covered: golf etiquette, full swing analysis, putting, chipping, pitching and more. Students must bring their own clubs; golf balls will be provided. Fee is \$80. The clinics will be led by Stonebridge Golf Professional Jonathan Holden. Every participant will receive a sleeve of golf balls, bag of tees, a Certificate of Completion and other written information about golf.

Memphis Grizzly Basketball Camp 9 a.m. to noon June 23 - 26. at St. Paul's UM Church. Ages 5-12. Fee is \$90. Each participant receives a T-shirt, basketball and other giveaways.

Smartycat Kids Summer Mini-Camps are Back!

IH Clubhouse 1 - 4 p.m. Monday -Friday

Creative Kids Summer Program June 23-17 K-grade 5

Campers have creative control to explore tools and materials and participate in exciting activities.

Junior Scientists Summer Program July 7-11 K- entering grade 5

These hands-on science projects combine indoor and outdoor activities and experiments.

More information

Children will be grouped by age, and friends/siblings can be grouped together upon request. Both mini-camps cost \$165 for a 5-day program (15 hours total). Sibling discounts available.

Flyer available at www.LakelandTN.gov. Register at www.smartcatkids.com. For more information, call Smartycat Kids at 732-762-5022.

Stonebridge "Ladies on the Links"

The Stonebridge Ladies League plays on Thursday mornings through September. All skill levels are welcome! The kickoff meeting was March 27. Fees/Admission: \$25 to join league. \$26 for 18 holes with cart each week.

To sign-up, contact Pam Duke or Beth Chandler at stonebridgell@yahoo.com. Call the Golf Shop at 382-1886 for more information. Website: www.stonebridgegolf.com

Stonebridge Golf Club Selected to Host

AAU Youth Golf Championships

Stonebridge Golf Club in Lakeland will be the home of the AAU 2014 Golf Regional Qualifier this year! Competition will begin at 8 a.m. June 20. All ages from 10U and 18U are welcome to participate.

Awards will be presented after completion of each round and the male and female overall winners earn the automatic entry of choice to 2014 or 2015 National Championship. Prizes of golf clubs and Bridgestone golf balls will be awarded to silver and bronze medalists. Lunch will also be included for all athletes.

The entry fee to compete is \$50 per athlete and this tournament will only accept the first 96 members who register. Spots will go fast, so don't procrastinate! Completed entry forms, with entry fee, must be received by June 17.

Event registration form and information can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/pqocjyh> or www.LakelandTN.gov.

Stonebridge Golf Club (www.stonebridgegolf.com) is proud to have been selected as the host site for the AAU Youth Golf Championships, for a period of three years, starting in 2015 through 2017. This will bring all of the top male and female youth golfers, plus their families, to Lakeland from all over the United States.

Lakeland Senior Programs

Senior Center - 4527 Canada Road

The Lakeland Parks & Recreation Department invites adults 55+ to the Lakeland Senior Center. RSVP or advance notice is not required to attend most programs unless otherwise noted. For the latest Senior Center activities, including calendar updates, visit www.lakelandtn.gov.

Genealogy Classes second Friday monthly from 10 - 11:30 a.m.

April 11 Courthouse records

May 9 Preserving records & family documents, obits, cemeteries, & city directories

June 13 Using the Internet for genealogy

Jamming at the Senior Center every Monday 2 - 4 p.m.

Jamming gives seniors a chance to have fellowship and play acoustic music (no microphones or amplifiers) including spiritual, country, blues and bluegrass.

Live! Jam Sessions - Every Wednesday except the first Wednesday From 2 - 4 p.m. Ken Gurley hosts Live! Jam Sessions at the Senior Center for players and singers or come for the entertainment of various musical genres.

NEW! Ice Cream Social & Forum - 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. third Thursdays The event will recognize seniors who have birthdays that month as well as encourage comments and suggestions for the Center.

Introduction to Digital Photography 6 - 7 p.m. April 24

Aimed at introducing digital photography and designed for new camera owners with little or no previous knowledge. The course will cover all technical aspects of digital cameras, from point-n-shoot to digital SLRs. The functions of all camera features will be discussed. Upon completion of this class, you will have a firm understanding of the function of each button, dial and camera setting. This class will be taught by Roger Cotton and he will stay after class if there are any questions.

Digital Photography Techniques 6 - 7 p.m. May

This class, aimed at the photographer with an understanding of how their digital camera functions, will expand upon existing knowledge and teach how to take better photos. The course will examine practical examples of various camera modes such as aperture priority and shutter priority and how each can benefit photography. The exposure triangle, as well as design and composition, will be discussed in-depth. This class will be taught by Roger Cotton and he will stay after class if there are any questions.

Retirement Analyzer Common Sense Retirement Strategies
6 - 7 p.m. April 29

Stephanie Lefler (Lefler Financial and Insurance Services) is hosting this free educational seminar. Lefler Financial is an agency committed to educating and being a resource for local seniors. Stephanie will discuss retirement issues and answer questions to help you make the best decisions for your specific situation. She will also answer questions about Medicare supplements and Advantage plans. No plans will be marketed or sold. There will be light refreshments and a door prize. Stephanie Lefler can be reached at 305-7488.

Book Club 2 - 3 p.m. first Wednesdays, May 7, June 4

Lakeland resident Jeannine Dillard (331-2839 or jdillard@bigriver.net) convenes this group for opinions on a given book. The person who selects the monthly book acts as the host/hostess for the discussion. New members are welcome.

Computer Basics Classes

3:30- 5 p.m. May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 10, 17

Along with an experienced assistant, Lakeland resident Howard Chick will provide instruction for beginners keyboarding, email, Internet, and Microsoft Word. Participants will learn how to communicate with family via email, including sending photos, write letters using MS Word, search the Internet for news, weather and recipes. Participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops as there are a limited number available via reservation, 867-2717

Advanced Computer Training 3:30 - 5 p.m. June 24

By request, Lakeland resident Howard Chick and an assistant will provide instruction including Powerpoint, Excel, etc. Howard has taught at the college level 14 years as well as maintained all of the City of Memphis software including the Mayors' Citizens Services Center, Traffic Violations Bureau, MPD, CARTS, etc. If available, bring your own laptop. To reserve one of a limited number available laptops, call 867-2717.

FREE Hearing Screening & Seminar 12:30 - 1:30 May 21

Joe Pickler & Gary Dixon from Zounds Hearing Centers will have a free seminar on the facts and effects of hearing loss on lifestyle and health. Free hearing screenings will also offered. There will be a complimentary lunch provided (Lenny's Subs). Please RSVP at least a week in advance, if possible, to 867-2717. The support of health-related programs ensures other providers will continue to offer free health clinics at the Senior Center.

Lakeland Seniors 55+ Getaway

Out West Tour- August 20 - 29. This 10 day/9 night getaway includes two nights in Yellowstone National Park, one night at a casino resort in Las Vegas, a dinner show and rodeo at The Cody Cattle Company, one Chuckwagon dinner & show at Frontier Movie Town, a visit to Mount Rushmore National Memorial, and the Crazy Horse Memorial (the world's largest mountain carving located in the Black Hills of South Dakota). Also on this tour: Historic Deadwood, the Tatanka Museum, Jackson Hole, the Grand Tetons (including a boat tour on Jenny Lake), Cody, WY to explore the Buffalo Bill Museum, Salt Lake City, Bryce Canyon National Park, the Grand Canyon, and Zion National Park.

Costs include standard taxes, meal gratuities & hotel baggage handling, round trip airfare, and motor coach transportation while touring. The cost for this getaway is \$2,399 per person (double occupancy). Single rate available. Travel protection can be purchased at the time of initial deposit for \$259 per person double occupancy. Itinerary Subject To Change & Modifications.


Please note: This trip is contingent on the number of participants, so please communicate interest in Lakeland Senior Getaways to the Lakeland Parks & Recreation Department and tell your friends about the program, which is open to all seniors 55+!

For reservations or more information, contact Senior Programs at 867-2717 or go to www.lakelandtn.gov (search "getaways"). Flyer available online and at Senior Center.

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