

Good times at the Ashland tree lighting!



5th District Newsletter

News and announcements from
around our community



Eighty-fourth Edition

Details for the District

December 7, 2012

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Bullet Points of Interest:

- On Sunday, December 9th at 6:00 p.m. at Immanuel Baptist Church, Kathy Troccoli will perform *A Night of Christmas*. Admission is free and open to the public. Doors open at 5:00 p.m.
- On Sunday, December 9th at 3:30 and 6:30 p.m. at Bates Creek Christian Church, the worship choir, church orchestra and hand bell choir will present *A Christmas Collage*. Guest musicians MetroGnomes, an 18-piece instrumental ensemble will also perform in big band and jazz style. Click [here](#) for more information.
- At 7:30 p.m. on December 15th at the Cathedral of Christ the King, Maestro Terrell will conduct Handel's *Messiah* with the Lexington Chamber Chorale and guest soloists. For tickets, click [here](#).
- On Saturday, December 15th at Centenary Methodist Church from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m., the resident brass quintet, the Victory Brass, along with organist Rob Vanover, and internationally acclaimed trumpeter Vince DiMartino will present an evening of Christmas music and carol singing. The program is free and open to the public.

Change of Plan, Change of Zone

Dear Neighbor,
We've received several calls in reference to what was to be the end of the 5th District's leaf collection last Friday; this week many of you had not yet received collection service. Collections in Zone A—which includes the 5th—were heavier than usual and the crews "are three to four days behind what we projected," according to LFUCG Arborist Rob Allen. In the meantime, be sure to call LexCall 311 for leaf collection bag coupons.

Following up on the Council's recent zone change hearing about a possible Hampton Inn on Southland Drive near Nicholasville Road, there is also a Development Plan that has been filed (see page 5) with the Planning Commission about part of the lakefront property once called Two Lakes. The new Lakewood Park redevelopment of Sonnet Cove has been both well done and well received. The newer development will feature townhouses along both the "duck pond" and Reservoir Number Two. The Development Plan asks for a six-story building with a three-story parking structure. Neighbors next door and across the water have questions and objections.

Here are some thoughts. The zone change was just that—a change taking the

subject property from B-1 to B-3. Some uses do overlap but different overall rules apply to each. In this instance the developer's case—that this more intense use is proper—had traction with the Council. In the end we voted to make the change to allow the development, but we also placed conditions that assure if the proposed Hampton Inn isn't built, only B-1 uses will be allowed.

With respect to the former Two Lakes property, the parcel was several apartment buildings before and as this developer is proposing a use inside the current zoning for the area, approval of the new plan is only required by the Commission and not by the Council. As with the Hampton Inn, I believe a compromise will prevail in the final analysis.

All of this leads to the broader conversation about our Urban Service Boundary and its use to keep the horse and farmland viable and separate from the city. In my view, we can sometimes say that we pay for that rolling green space with more density in each of our neighborhoods. The two examples above are both different but have the ability to focus interest on how we each determine what this Great American City looks like. I appreciate all the help I can get! Enjoy the weekend.

My Best,
Bill

Festival of Lights Begins

Whether you choose the spelling *Chanukkah* or *Hanukkah*, the first night of the celebration begins tomorrow night and with it festivities at two local synagogues: Ohavay Zion Synagogue (OZS) at 2048 Edgewater Court and Temple Adath Israel (TAI) at 214 North Ashland Avenue. Tomorrow night at TAI, participants will start the Festival of Lights with a Vodka and Latkes Party at 7:00 p.m. in the Temple's social hall. Signature cocktails and latkes made by the Temple Brotherhood will be served. On December 14th at 5:00 p.m., OZS will host the "Best Family Hanukkah Party Ever" with games, cookie decorating and contests for both the best homemade latkes and handmade menorahs made of found objects.

Mystery Explained in Kenwick

Thanks to David Freibert and his management team at Kentucky Utilities (KU), residents of the Kenwick neighborhood now have the answer to why frequent “outages” have occurred in areas reported to us last week. The information provided here will relate to two avenues that KU tracks: actual outages; and a study of how often the equipment designed to protect KU’s facilities and minimize the size or scope of outages “operates.” On the latter avenue, think of that equipment as circuit breakers or the little red GCFI safety measures on your bathroom power outlets; they trip to keep a fault from causing a fire or other damage.

KU’s records indicate that in the past two years, there have been only three outages affecting the Kenwick area:

- 03/17/11—The entire circuit (3089 customers) suffered a 54-minute outage as a result of a vehicle accident where a car hit a utility pole;
- 07/8/12—A transmission outage (5884 total customers on this circuit and one other) for 26 minutes because of a problem on KU’s transmission lines feeding the substation; and
- 07/18/12—A circuit outage (3377 customers) for 175 minutes during a storm; the specific cause was a tree limb on a power line.

All in all, there are no indications of a systemic problem, which would mean failure of the lines, mechanical devices and so on. There is no commonality in cause of these outages.

The first two are pretty rare incidents and hard to control, and KU expresses that they understand that customers get frustrated whenever problems occur. The third outage, during a storm that included

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LEXserv Drop Box Now on Main

If you’re still deciding the best payment method for your monthly LEXserv bill, you can now combine the ease of dropping your bill payment off with the convenience of staying in your car by using the new LEXserv payment box. You simply pull up to the curb and drop your payment in the box. The LEXserv payment box is located in front of the Government Center at 200 East Main Street. As you’re driving down Main Street, stay in the far left lane and pull up next to the curb just after the Kentucky Theatre marquee. You can’t miss the blue “pay here” arrow.

Please include in your envelope both your bill stub and your check or money order when you use the payment box. Payments made after 3:00 p.m. or on weekends or holidays will be processed the following business day. The payment box cannot take cash, but cash payments can be accepted in the Division of Revenue on the second floor of the Government Center, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. You can park for free in one of several spaces outside of the Government Center that are designated for LEXserv bill payment. These parking spaces have a 20-minute limit and are designated for LEXserv customers only.

The drive-up payment box is in addition to the other payment options. You can still sign up for AutoPay, mail in your bill, pay by phone, pay online or pay in person at the Government Center or at some Walmart locations (additional fees may apply at these locations). To explore how to pay your LEXserv bill, click [here](#). LEXserv is the billing program the city has established for existing sanitary sewer, landfill and water quality management fees. The same fees had previously appeared on Kentucky American Water bills.

Click Me!



Gem Makes Christmas Joy His Business

At this time of year, most of us are fortunate enough to find joy in not only the meaning of the season, but also in the giving of gifts to the ones we know and love. For many, however, circumstances prevent a great number of parents from providing their children such an experience. Toy drives can make a difference for those in need, and this week, we sat down with Michael McLaughlin to ask how his company has chosen to get involved. This is what he had to say.

Q. First of all, tell us who you are and what you do.

A. I am Michael McLaughlin, a native Lexingtonian, entrepreneur and partner in Hippo Crate Mobile Self Storage.

Q. Your company has been placing units around town this season for a special purpose. Tell us about that.

A. Hippo Crate Mobile Self Storage and the Catholic Action Center have teamed up again for the 17th Annual Faith and Community Christmas Store. Families are asked to clean out their toy chests, playrooms and closets to donate gently used, pre-loved toys, books and games to share with children in need in our community. Donations can be dropped off at any of the more than ten locations listed below, three of which are in the 5th District. Hippo Crates placed at these locations are all self service and available to receive donations 24/7. Simply open the door of the units, place your donations inside and close the door.

Over 15,600 children were shopped for at the Faith and Community Christmas Store in 2011. These are children who without the generous support of people in our community, would wake up Christmas morning to just another day without. The need is even greater in 2012. According to the latest census, over 25,000 children in Lexington live in poverty. Helping to share the joy of the season is easy; just clean out your toy chest and know that you've made a difference in the lives of chil-

dren in need right here in Lexington.

Q. How does the Faith & Community Christmas store work?

A. On December 21st through 23rd from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., adults only are allowed to shop in store. Each person is partnered with a volunteer personal shopper so adults with families in need can shop for gifts with dignity. All items are free. Shoppers are limited to two toys, one stuffed animal and one book per child. Gift wrapping and refreshments will be available. The Faith and Community Christmas Store is located on the corner of Midland Avenue at Second Street.

There are also volunteer opportunities that we hope people will become involved in; drop-in helpers are welcome. We need people to help set up the store on Saturday, December 15th from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.; Sunday, December 16th from 1:00 until 6:00 p.m.; and Monday, December 17th through the 20th from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Volunteer personal shoppers, inventory helpers and food servers are needed the weekend of the event as well. From Friday, December 21st through Sunday, December 23rd, shifts are from 8:00 a.m. until noon; noon until 4:00 p.m.; and 4:00 until 8:00 p.m. Children 6-years-old and up make great toy sorters and helpers; all children 14 and under must be accompanied by adults. Make this a family project!

Q. Do you have any questions or concerns for the 5th District?

A. One of the biggest issues that has faced the 5th District is storm and sanitary sewer flooding. Council Member Farmer has done more than anyone I know to find the desired solutions and more solutions are the way. I am glad to see long-term fixes become a reality rather than more band-aids.



All donations are tax deductible.

Romany Kroger - 344 Romany Road • Cathedral of Christ the King - 299 Colony Boulevard • Safeway Moving & Storage - 772 Winchester Road • UK Newman Center - 320 Rose Lane • St. Elizabeth Ann Seton - 1730 Summerhill Drive • Family Practice Associates of Lexington - 1775 Alysheba Way, Ste. 201 • Kroger at Brannon Crossing - 200 E. Brannon • Crossroads Christian Church - 4128 Todds Road • Lexington Christian Academy - 3082 Stanford Drive • Kroger at Beaumont - 3199 Beaumont Centre Circle • Sts. Peter and Paul School - 133 Barr Street • Crestwood Christian Church - 1882 Bellefonte Drive • Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church - 605 Hill n' Dale Drive • United Bank locations in Fayette, Jessamine, Scott and Woodford Counties • For more information on the Faith & Community Christmas Store, click [here](#) or email caclexky@insightbb.com. • For more information on Hippo Crate Mobile Self Storage, click [here](#) or email michael@hippocrates.com.

FROM THE OFFICE
OF 5TH DISTRICT
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falling trees and lightning strikes, caused a longer outage related to the “operations” KU has found on their equipment.

All the customers who reported their addresses to our office are fed downstream from a “recloser” that sits on Henry Clay Boulevard and Carolyn Drive. When KU last checked it in March of this year, it had “operated” 69 times in the previous 12-month period. After we contacted KU about Kenwick’s concerns, they checked and the recloser has operated another 11 times since March.

As Freibert puts it, “Under the heading of ‘more than you ever wanted to know about how electric systems operate’ a recloser protects our facilities by sensing a problem—such as a tree limb falling onto and then off of the power lines, a lightning strike or an animal intrusion into a transformer—briefly opening the circuit and interrupting the flow of power. It then attempts once, twice or even three times to reclose the circuit to resume flow of electricity. Even when it successfully recloses, customers will see one or more “blinks,” and may even have to reset some electronics. Not really an outage, but a hassle just the same.”

He went on to say that KU’s records indicate that many of you have reported these “blinks” in the past. Those blinks are most often caused by wind or storms either knocking down trees or limbs into the lines, or blowing limbs temporarily into lines. That seems to be the case here. Freibert said the silver lining is that when he checked with his forestry crew, who trim trees near KU’s lines to keep them clear, he learned that they are about halfway through trimming Circuit 95, which is the exact circuit in question. In fact, just last week they finished the Carolyn Drive area. He expects improvements and fewer blinks as a result.

We would like to thank Mr. Freibert for looking into this matter for us. It was a tremendous effort on his part, and we truly appreciate it!

The 5th District Newsletter is distributed via e-mail to any Lexington resident. I encourage leaders of the 31 active neighborhood associations in the 5th District to provide input for the newsletter and to distribute the newsletter to their members. Anyone wishing to receive the newsletter may contact the 5th District Council office via e-mail at bfarmer@lexingtonky.gov. If you wish to unsubscribe to the newsletter, e-mail jgies@lexingtonky.gov.

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natasha's bistro & bar Hosted by Rennie Neubecker
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