



# 5th District Newsletter

News and announcements from  
around our community



One Hundred Tenth Edition

Details for the District

August 23, 2013

## Seasonal and Senior Moments a Focus in the 5th

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### Bullet Points of Interest:

- From community garden volunteers to the neighborhood crime and prevention meeting at the Kenwick Community Center on August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m., the Kenwick Neighborhood Association has a lot going on. Click [here](#) to stay informed about the Kenwick neighborhood.
- We're still working on the Time Warner Cable transfer; it has been as much fun for us as it has been for those of you impacted by the switch. If you still need us to change your contact e-mail address, click [here](#). It is helpful to include your old e-mail address along with your new one. With over 1,500 changes, we appreciate your patience.
- It's almost that time of year again—when the leaves start dropping in the 5<sup>th</sup> District, which is the most heavily canopied district in the city. Streets and Roads has job opportunities available for those looking to work during “leaf season.” Click [here](#) for more information. We will provide you with the leaf collection schedule in a future newsletter.

**D**ear Neighbor,  
It's been a busy week and with UK move-in day, the whole of Lexington seems more revved up!

#### Kenwick's Dinner

On Tuesday evening after excellent Council meetings (more about that below), I stopped in to the neighborhood dinner at the Victory Christian Church. This affair was held to specifically let neighbors and church goers alike enjoy the fruits (and vegetables) of their labor in the new community garden located on the church grounds to benefit of all of Kenwick. I had a small plate featuring wonderful cucumbers (seeds removed!), a small mixed salad with other garden items in it. The most delightful was Sara Constantine's entree that my wife Kim makes with an old Dawahare recipe using grape leaves wrapped around a savory center. Sara wrapped hers in collard green leaves from the garden. Delicious. Only made better because it was all so neighborhood local. I know there's an upcoming harvest dinner and a bigger event at the church in September. Go if you can. We'll have details for you in an upcoming newsletter.

#### Idle Hour Opportunity

As some of you know the Administration and Council have been on a quest to place and build a new Lexington Senior Citizens Center. The current building is landlocked, outgrown and 30 years old. Originally an outside consultant was used to determine some possible locations. I know that a husband-and-wife consultancy team made at least two reports before Council to what I would call a ho-hum reception. Their picks tended to be Springs Inn/Turfland Mall centered with

a few other possible spots. Just before the Summer Recess the Council tasked the Administration with inventorying possible places for the center to be located that our government already owns. During our time away, they worked diligently. At one point during their sorting process, our Chief Administrative Officer, Sally Hamilton called me one afternoon to ask me if it would be alright to include Idle Hour Park in their consideration. I agreed not thinking much of it as several Council Members, in my opinion, had expressed avid interest in having the center located in their districts. After all, \$5 million has been initially budgeted for the 36,000 square foot facility.

On a separate track you also need to understand that every time this issue is discussed, the Council Chamber is packed with seniors. After having them join us several times Council Members got ever more focused on this decision.

Tuesday's presentation was enlightening. The highest number of seniors in Lexington live in the 40502, second most in the 40503. The work CAO Hamilton and Commissioner of Social Services, Beth Mills did yielded four potential locations: Idle Hour Park, Liberty Park, somewhere at Turfland and adjacent to the Northside YMCA by the Legacy Trail. When I went to The Worksession Tuesday, I was ready to listen to the report and discussion. After many Council Members had spoken and no motions were entered, I asked a few questions and for purposes of discussion motioned for the adoption of the Idle Hour site. After more questions and con-

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## Fairway Addresses the Fair Way to Slow Speed on Henry Clay

You may have noticed new white traffic lines on the 400 block of Henry Clay Boulevard. Some Fairway Neighborhood Association (FNA) neighbors, in consultation with FNA Board Members, have been working with the city to deal with the excessive speeding that occurs on Henry Clay Boulevard. The following is a report from the Fairway neighbors who have been involved, which will also appear in the upcoming FNA neighborhood newsletter; to visit the FNA Facebook page for updates, click [here](#).

“Last year the Division of Traffic Engineering had a speedometer set up on a specific property to record speeds—and the numbers were shocking. We have been working on this issue for a year. In an effort to convince the city to “trigger” the stoplight at Menifee so that it defaults to red on Henry Clay Boulevard at night and on the weekends, the Division of Traffic Engineering said that they must “exhaust all other passive speed control options” before spending the capital (approximately \$20,000 of our tax revenues) on the issue. Their recommendations, in sequential order, are listed below:

- Put in place passive speed controls (red speed-limit borders and parking lines to narrow Henry Clay Boulevard).
- Collect another set of speed data in September.
- Analyze the data to see if the passive controls were effective in reducing speed.
- If passive controls were ineffective, escalate to other measures, such as perhaps activating the light at Menifee Avenue.

“We know that there have been some complaints regarding parking along Henry Clay Boulevard, as additional parking potentially may restrict the line of sight for some residents backing out of their driveways. We understand your concerns. Along with the city, we are exploring some additional actions that the city could implement to limit the number of cars

parking and the times when they may park. Our ultimate goal is to convince the city to activate the Menifee Avenue traffic light so that it defaults to red during evening and weekend hours—when, according to the previous data, the fastest and most dangerous drivers pass through our neighborhood.”

“Please remember that the Division of Traffic Engineering, not the Fairway neighbors or the FNA, required the new white parking lines as the first step in the traffic calming measures. We hope to continue to work with both residents and the city to resolve this important issue for our neighborhood. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.”

The 5<sup>th</sup> District Office would like to thank the the FNA for clarifying this issue and we are available to answer any questions you might have about this important roadway. Over 10,000 cars travel this street per day. Please watch your speed—in this and all neighborhoods—and be aware of neighbors who are backing out of their driveways.

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versation the motion was approved unanimously. Yes, there will be a place for seniors but also for all the sports and leagues that are there now—only new. The only thing pushed out of the park will be apathy and worn equipment. I will keep you updated on this tremendous win-win because if all goes well we will all go there!

I am happy to know now that a board member from the Idle Hour Neighbors Alliance will be assigned to the Senior Center Work Group, as has been my aide, Jessica Gies. We will take a hands-on approach to this development and you will stay informed throughout the process. As always, please contact me with any questions you might have.

My best,  
Bill

## Looking Out for Each Other

This man has been, to quote a victim, “paralyzing” businesses and neighbors most recently in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Districts. If you see him and feel intimidated, immediately call the police. He has been deemed incompetent to stand trial by the court system and is therefore not summarily charged for his crimes. Do not approach him. Make sure your doors and windows stay locked. This is in no way an effort to incite fear; this is simply a reminder to be vigilant neighbors. The police non-emergency number is (859) 258-3600.



## With Roots Already Deep, Idle Hour Goes Deeper

This week's Gem of the District has planted seeds of community outreach through communication. From cultivating support to maintaining growth between the government and the neighborhood association, Annette Castle has deepened the roots in the Idle Hour neighborhood. This week, we sat down with Annette and asked her what's in her watering can. This is what she had to say.

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

**A.** My name is Annette Castle. My husband and I moved to Idle Hour in August, 1968, thinking we would be here only a couple of years or so, but we love our location and our neighbors and couldn't leave. I am currently the President of the Idle Hour Neighbors Alliance and have the privilege of working with a Board of Directors that is very active and concerned.

**Q.** Tell us about the community garden you're planting in Idle Hour Park. How is that going?

**A.** Using a grant we received from LFUCG, we are in the process of preparing a community garden in Idle Hour Park. Nick Redmond, our Vice President and Chair of the Community Garden Committee, has worked with Parks and Recreation to identify a location and a water source, and with Columbia Gas to mark off safe spots for placing fence posts. Volunteers have placed boundary-marking timbers, landscape cloth and mulch. We are awaiting the installation of water, which will be done by Parks and Recreation staff. We expect to complete the raised beds and plant a cover crop this fall with garden crops to be planted in the spring by community gardeners; although the timing of this may be in question in view of the recent announcement that a new Senior Citizens Center will be built in our park.

**Q.** The garden isn't the only initiative the Idle Hour Neighbors Alliance has taken on to better the community. Last week, we were able to congratulate you on the St. Ann median and plantings being chosen as



The Idle Hour Neighbors Alliance is working to install yet another community garden in the 5<sup>th</sup> District.

a Monarch Butterfly Waystation by Monarch Watch. How do you plan to expand on that effort elsewhere in the area?

**A.** Using another LFUCG grant, Beate Popkin, one of our board members, designed and oversaw the updating and planting of the St. Ann median. She chose native plants, which are maturing into a spectacularly beautiful garden. (The attached picture doesn't capture everything—it's worth a trip to see such natural beauty.) Part of her plan included plants that are necessary for the Monarch butterfly's survival—milkweed and nectar sources. As a result, our little garden was certified as a Monarch Butterfly Waystation by Monarch Watch. (This picture of a beautiful Monarch butterfly was taken in her own garden.) We have begun to look at a



Not just a stock photo, this beauty was caught on camera in Beate Popkin's back yard.

“NO-MOW ZONE” in the back of our park as a possible second waystation, but need to further investigate issues, such as plant sustainability, maintenance and availability of the area for planting. We will also be planning a similar garden for the St. Margaret median in the spring.

**Q.** Tell us about the I Grew Up In/Live In the Idle Hour Facebook page.

**A.** The I Grew Up In/Live In Idle Hour FB page is used often for communications among neighbors. In addition, we have a webpage developed by David

Beck, our Treasurer, and David Lyons, our Webmaster, which includes current and historical information about happenings in our neighborhood. We encourage everybody to visit our website at [www.idlehourna.com](http://www.idlehourna.com).

**Q.** Do you have any questions or concerns for the 5<sup>th</sup> District?

**A.** We have had wonderful support in our endeavors to enhance our little portion of Lexington, including major projects started to improve our storm drainage. We look forward to having input into the planned building of the Senior Citizen Center in Idle Hour Park. We see the construction of the SCC as an opportunity to re-envision our park with better recreational facilities and with more extensive natural areas. It is our hope that the city will work with us on these goals. (And we will! As of yesterday, Sally Hamilton, Chief of Administration for LFUCG, has enthusiastically agreed to have a member of the IHNA on the Senior Center Work Group!)

FROM THE OFFICE  
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## Details for the District

### Working Hard—In the Right Place

While our office is always willing to respond to requests that you have, there are district boundaries that are invisible to the naked eye. For example, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Districts “share” High Street; one side of the road (Fontaine Road) is in the 5<sup>th</sup> District. The other side of High Street, where Chevy Chase Plaza is located, belongs to the 3<sup>rd</sup> District. Therefore, technically, questions about Euclid Avenue should be directed to the office of Council Member Diane Lawless. It can be confusing, but we aim to please.

To view a map of the 5<sup>th</sup> District, click [here](#). To view a map of the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, click [here](#). Contact information for both offices is listed under both links. While we do keep you up to date on 5<sup>th</sup> District happenings, we also want everyone to explore Lexington as a whole. District offices often work together to resolve issues. Don't be hesitant to ask questions, no matter the location; we'll get you to the right person. For information about local and state districts, go to [whatsmydistrict.org](http://whatsmydistrict.org). There you will find a bevy of information that will prove useful across the board.



### A Community That Cares Together, Saves Trees Together

If you care about Ashland and have a few hours to help on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 until 4:00 p.m., you can make a difference during Ashland Community Care Day at the Henry Clay Estate. Volunteers are needed to remove weeds from around trees as well as some light pruning. Wear work gloves and protective clothing, and bring clippers, rakes or pruning tools if possible. Dave Leonard and Ross Raterman of Dave Leonard Tree Specialists will give direction on pruning and what is needed.

Ashland receives no city, state or federal funding and is not a city park. Support comes from donations and volunteers to preserve this national historic landmark and 17 acres of grounds, trees, gardens and walking paths that are open to the public 365 days a year. Please join in. Your help in needed and welcomed. For more information, click [here](#).



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

## CHEVY CHASE Street fair

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24th  
4:00pm til 10:00pm  
\*RAIN DATE AUGUST 31st\*

Featuring: **FOOD, DRINK, SHOPPING & ENTERTAINMENT**

