



5th District Newsletter

News and announcements from
around our community



One Hundred Fourteenth Edition
Details for the District

September 20, 2013

Inside this Issue:

- Phone Scam Targets Lexington 3
- Tates Creek Road Sidewalk Project Update 3
- Shepherd's House Dedicates New Location on Fontaine 3
- Bourbon n' Toulouse Bowls It Out 4
- Things to Click 4

Bullet Points of Interest:

- Lexington Mayor Jim Gray and representatives of the Skuller family and the Historic Preservation Commission will "reset" the historic Skuller's clock in a ceremony at 7:15 tonight. The clock is on Main Street, between Limestone and Upper Streets. During the ceremony Mayor Gray will switch on the clock.

Fund Balance Discussion: Part Two

Dear Neighbor,

Last week, I gave clarification as to my feelings about the parceling out of the fund balance to individual Council offices. This week, before I turn over the front page to 5th District resident Connie Milligan, I want to share with you an e-mail that I am sending to my fellow Council Members this afternoon. I believe the focus is clear.

"Fellow Council Members:

As you are aware, I have voted against the allotment of funds from the fund balance to individual Council offices for capital purposes. It has been my goal to at minimum wait for a decision on the matter until further fund balance discussion on October 1st.

If it is the wisdom of the majority to take from the fund balance in this manner, I will, via subsequent action, pledge my portion back to the economic contingency fund for a use that will benefit the whole of Lexington.

I am communicating my intent prior to the October 1st meeting hoping that other Council Members will see the wisdom of my approach and either join me in it or vote the legislation down in its entirety."

I wish you a great weekend and hope to see you at Oktoberfest.

My best,
Bill

Homelessness and Mental Illness: What You Need to

Know *Contributed by Connie Milligan, LCSW*

Homelessness and mental illness have been in the news lately. In particular, a recent 5th District Council Newsletter highlighted a specific homeless person with a picture and comments about him "paralyzing business and neighbors." As one of many providers of services to people in such situations, I recognize the fear and confusion that can surround this issue and want to provide information to help improve our understanding and response. While we may wish this problem would go away, it is a symptom of many complex issues in our society and solutions are not easy or readily available.

Let's start with recognizing our human connectedness to people in this situation. Each one is someone's son or daughter, sister or brother, or loved one. Each per-

son in this situation has a story about why their life is so difficult. Each one has needs and a remedy that is specific to them. When we get involved person to person, collaborating across our systems of care, we can find solutions. We have work to do and hopefully the plans recently developed here in Lexington will bring improved outcomes for these folks.

Lexington is fortunate. We have a lower rate of homelessness than many cities with 1,316 people identified in shelter programs and 91 who were on the



Connie has lived in the 5th District for 30 years.

(Continued on page 2)

FESTIVAL LATINO de LEXINGTON 2013

Presented by: SUPERMERCADOS AGUASCALIENTES 7413 PARKS & RECREATION LEXINGTON, KY

Click Me!

MUCHAS CULTURAS... UNA CIUDAD... MANY CULTURES... ONE CITY

SEPTEMBRE / SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2013
PLAZA DE LA CORTEZ / COURT HOUSE PLAZA (Sept 20-21)
5/3 PAVILLION DOWNTOWN (Sept 21)
MASTERTSON STATION PARK (Sept 22)

(Continued from page 1)

street during the 2013 point-in-time count. We have an active coalition of service agencies, called the Central Kentucky Housing and Homelessness Initiative (CKHHI) that addresses the needs of people who are homeless. Equally significant, the LFUCG Mayor's Commission on Homelessness spent months examining the issues and developed a comprehensive report with solid recommendations the city expects to implement. To read the final report, please click [here](#).

Here is a review of ten salient issues, most of which are highlighted in the report:

- Lexington has a significant capacity to help homeless individuals and families with seven agencies offering 516 beds in emergency shelters and 16 agencies offering 816 beds in transitional housing programs. Almost all of these programs operate at or over capacity, even though each agency has criteria for the people they serve and some people have behaviors that limit their acceptance.
- Mental illness affects 20% of the people who are homeless and 15% have severe mental illness or co-occurring conditions with substance abuse. These folks often have the fewest resources available to help them.
- Treatment for mental illness works. Yet sometimes people have symptoms of such severity that it interferes with their ability to accept their diagnosis or maintain treatment. This is known as anosognosia. It can be a root cause of many of the problems that lead to homelessness.
- When people don't get treatment, the consequences can be life altering and life threatening. Unemployment, incarceration and homelessness create a vicious cycle of long term consequences, often leading to estrangement from family and loved ones.
- To force treatment against someone's will requires a court order because it takes away their civil liberties. Four very specific criteria must be met for a person to be "civilly committed" to Eastern State Hospital (or any of the state hospitals). In fact, 75% of the people who are evaluated at the hospital do not meet these criteria and must be turned away.
- Many people who are homeless and have a mental illness will come to the attention of the LFUCG Police Department for trespassing or loitering. These charges are misdemeanors with minor penalty. Remember, it is not a crime to be

homeless. Expecting the police to remove people is like asking them to conduct a man hunt without cause.

- The LFUCG Detention Center offers treatment services in its facility, but not everyone is there long enough to benefit from it.
- The rate of violence among people who are homeless and have mental illness is very low. In fact, they are more often the target of victimization. Compassion is needed. Showing kindness and a simple hello of recognition can elicit cooperation.
- Housing options for people with mental illness are limited. There are supportive housing services but the need far exceeds the capacity. The Mayor's Commission on Homelessness estimates that 100 more beds are needed in Lexington.
- Services that are helpful include assertive case management, supportive housing, supportive employment and peer mentoring. In Kentucky, these services are limited with woefully inadequate funding.

Changes are needed and should be coming soon. The Mayor's Commission on Homelessness expects to fund an Office of Homeless Prevention and Intervention. The intent is to coordinate services and interventions with all service providers. A new service delivery system, called the WayFinder Center, is being developed to bring the Catholic Action Center's homeless shelter, social services, mental health services and medical respite care under one roof at Lorrillard Lofts on Price Road. We invite you to be involved in the solutions to our community challenges. Any of the groups listed below would welcome the opportunity to provide education or discussion around these issues so your input can be heard. Support is needed for the strategies and interventions that are planned. You are welcomed to call Bluegrass.org , (800-928-8000) NAMI Lexington (859-272-7891), CKHHI (859-281-8402) or Catholic Action Center (859-255-0301) for more information or help.



Police Confirm Scam Alert

The Lexington Division of Police Financial Crimes Unit is warning citizens about two scams involving debit and credit cards. Investigators have received information from financial institutions indicating that customers' debit card numbers are being stolen and compromised by fraudulent means.

In the first scam the victim is contacted by telephone, through an automated system posing as the debit card company's "fraud monitoring department." The automated phone message tells the victim their debit card has been compromised, and then instructs the victim then to enter their debit card number; effectively stealing it. This phone number is showing up on Caller I.D. as 559-5.

In the second scam, the victim is also contacted by telephone. This time the automated message tells the victim, "Your debit card has been suspended. Press 1 to speak with a representative." Upon contact with the false representative (suspect) the card information is given.

You should never give any personal or account information to individuals who contact them via tele-



phone or e-mail asking for information. Most financial institutions will have a live operator that you can speak with. It is recommended that if you receive a phone call like this, that you hang up and contact your financial institution or debit/credit card issuer directly.

Tates Creek Road Sidewalk Project Weekly Update

Week ending September 19th, 2013

- The sidewalk has been installed to Old Dobbin Road with the exception of two parcels on the west side.
- The sod has been completed for Section 1.
- Work continued on the pedestrian signals at Alumni Drive

Plans for next week

- Crews will continue excavating and pouring sidewalk on the west side heading south to just past Old Dobbin Road
- Crews will cross over to Centenary Methodist Church and head back to Alumni Drive and continue working on the pedestrian signals at Alumni Drive
- Crews will start **grubbing** for the retaining wall across from Old Mount Tabor Road

Shepherd's House Dedicates the Joseph W. Minor House

In 1986, with the help of Lexington's Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Shepherd's House was conceived and began treating men with substance abuse issues. After working with over 1,400 individuals on their road to recovery, Shepherd's House now continues to meet the needs within the community with a permanent living facility, its fourth recovery house in Lexington.

On Tuesday, September 24th Shepherd's House will host a Dedication of The Joseph W. Minor House, which is named in honor of Joe Minor's son, a Shepherd's House graduate who passed away in 2009. The Minor House marks an incredible milestone made possible by generous private donations and public funding. "My son Joe was very involved at the Shepherd's House and was always supportive of the program. It is my hope that his memory will give inspiration to the young men who live here, and I'm sure he would be thrilled about this new project," Joe Minor said.

John McGregor, Chairman of the Board of Directors, officially opened the doors on September 13th. Minor House has 11 apartments that will house graduates of the Shepherd's House long-term residential treatment program.

"We are forever grateful for the donations, time and prayers that have sustained our clients and helped us provide hope for their recovery. Minor House is one-of-a-kind facility for our community that provides a safe and affordable place for these men to continue their physical, psychological, spiritual and social recovery," McGregor said. The Joseph W. Minor House is located at 2117 Fontaine Drive and the Open House, beginning at 11:00 a.m., is open to the public. Mayor Jim Gray will speak at the ceremony.



FROM THE OFFICE OF 5TH DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER BILL FARMER, JR.

5th District Council Member Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council 200 East Main Street Lexington, KY 40507

Phone: (859) 258-3213 Fax: (859) 258-3838

E-mail: bfarmer@lexingtonky.gov

Details for the District

Empty Bowls at Bn'T Benefits Moveable Feast

Kentucky Mudworks has been working for months making over 700 one-of-a-kind ceramic bowls to be sold at Bourbon n' Toulouse for only \$15 this Saturday from 11:00 a.m. until they are all sold. For each bowl you purchase, Bourbon n' Toulouse will give you a free plate of delicious Cajun food. All proceeds from the event will be donated to Moveable Feast Lexington (www.feastlex.org). Bourbon n' Toulouse is located at 829 Euclid Avenue.

According to owner Kevin Heathcoat, "We are so glad to be a part of Empty Bowls once again. This is a great win-win situation for our customers. For only \$15 they get a great piece of functional art and a free meal and will be helping raise a lot of money for a great cause in the process."

Moveable Feast Lexington prepares and delivers hot, freshly cooked meals, five days a week, to people living with AIDS/HIV-related illnesses as well as individuals who are patients of Hospice of the Bluegrass. For more information about Kentucky Mudworks' Empty Bowls at Bourbon n' Toulouse click here.

Empty Bowls A Benefit for Moveable Feast Saturday, September 21st. Saturday, September 21st 11am-SELLOUT at Bourbon n Toulouse (829 Euclid Ave). Cost \$15 minimum donation per bowl includes meal from Bourbon n Toulouse, & a handmade ceramic bowl from Mudworks. www.kentuckymudworks.com | (859) 389-9681. sponsored by: Kentucky Mudworks, Bourbon n Toulouse, Moveable Feast. POSTER BY: IVY BEAN

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

LIFE ADVENTURE CENTER WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAM RAFFLE TICKETS \$15. Life Adventure Center logo. RAFFLE TICKET WINNER MUST PRESENT PORTION TO RECEIVE. WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAM logo.

Extra KY Commissioners Tag Get yours today!

Help change the lives of the men and women who have sacrificed so much for this country.



100% of all ticket sales will go to support the wounded warrior program of the life Adventure Center.

For more information about the programs at Life adventure center, visit us online at lifeadventurecenter.org. You can purchase tickets by phone or by calling 859.873.3271 or by email at info@lifeadventurecenter.org.

Sept. 29th, 2013

Grand Prize

BONUS Kentucky Commissioners Buck Tag (allows hunter 2nd buck in Ky.)

Two day hunt on Life Adventure Center property.

Drawing held @ 5:00pm at Life Adventure Center property.



*winner need not be present to win.

Click Me!

Crave Lexington September 21 & 22 MoonDance Amphitheater Beaumont Center Food, Music, Fun for Everyone GRAVE LEXINGTON