

Give blood! I did!



5th District Newsletter

News and announcements from
around our community



One Hundred Twentieth Edition
Details for the District

November 15, 2013

Here, There and Everywhere

Dear Neighbor,
It has been a couple of weeks so there is plenty to talk about.

Crime Talk
Following the recent homicide in the Lansdowne-Merrick neighborhood, some neighbors have asked for a meeting about issues relating to safety. That meeting will be next Wednesday night in the Chapel of Immanuel Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m. If you or your neighbor would like to join us, please do. Representatives from the Division of Police will be there. Our Mayor is previously scheduled but someone from the Administration will also be in attendance.

Ashland Fall Meeting
The Ashland Neighborhood Association met in the Caretaker's Cottage at the Estate last Sunday just before the basketball game. After their annual meeting we talked about several issues. We are working on curb replacement at the "point" of Fincastle and McDowell. It has become a low spot that collects water. Also, trying to plug a hole in the Slashes median between Irvine and McDowell is of some concern. As the game approached the meeting ended quickly!

Idle Hour Neighborhood
I went to the Idle Hour Neighbors Alliance meeting on Monday evening at Southland Christian Church. This neighborhood benefits from the many investments along Richmond Road and from their wonderful sense of community. The Fazoli's has reopened with some changes and upgrades. All are happy about that. Southland is asking for an amendment to the Richmond Road corridor plan to bring a restaurant to the new site across the driveway from the old BP station. The neighborhood has done a

great job on landscaping both the St. Ann and St. Margaret medians, and their attention now turns to the Idle Hour Drive median. Here's hoping for great things there too!

Fairway Neighborhood
This was the second Monday night meeting! The Mayor was supposed to be there but being sick sent Commissioner of Planning, Derek Paulsen. The neighborhood will host its fall clean-up on Saturday the 23rd at 9:30 a.m. They have done fine work on their medians and indeed the Henry Clay bridge itself. This clean up will benefit all those efforts.

Traffic through the neighborhood on the minor arterial that is Henry Clay Boulevard was a central point of discussion. Henry Clay along with Walton Avenue and New Circle Road are the only three places to cross the railroad tracks. Of the three, the boulevard is—at least in Fairway—exclusively residential. Speed had been restricted. Signs are more pronounced. Extra lines have been painted and "through trucks" have been prohibited. All of these measures should have had a cumulative effect. Thus far that's simply not the case. The neighborhood views it as a matter of respect for them and especially those who live on the front line. Jim Woods from the Division of Traffic Engineering estimates the signal could be upgraded to "semi-automated" for between \$10,000 and \$20,000 thousand. However a new signal system with off-hour programmable options would be about \$150,000.

That new signal is my new goal. Here's to that success in the next budget! And here's to a slightly warmer weekend.

My best,
Bill

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Bullet Points of Interest:

- A public hearing date has been set to discuss issues regarding Time Warner. Mark your calendars for December 9th at 6:00 p.m. to meet with neighbors in Council Chambers. This meeting will also be televised live on GTV3.
- On Sunday from 3:00 until 4:30 p.m., the Morris Book Shop welcomes Lexington attorney and local historian Foster Ockerman, Jr., as he signs a new book produced by the Lexington History Museum entitled *Historic Lexington: Heart of the Bluegrass*. *Historic Lexington* is a narrative history of our fair city, richly illustrated with a century's worth of photographs and insightfully written by Ockerman, a native Lexingtonian and seventh-generation Kentuckian. Proceeds from the sale of this book will benefit the Lexington History Museum.

Honest Abe Finds a Seat Downtown

Brazilian artist Eduardo Kobra created quite a stir last week by painting a mural of Abraham Lincoln on the back wall of The Kentucky Theatre. Kobra was welcomed to Lexington through PRHBTN, which was founded three years ago by John Winters and his wife Jessica Case. The giant portrait of Kentucky-born president depicts the familiar image of Lincoln in his memorial in Washington in living color. The project is a prelude to the third annual PRHBTN art festival, which gets fully underway this weekend at Buster's with live art, music and demonstrations. For more information about PRHBTN, click [here](#).



Watch the process via time lapse photography by clicking [here](#).

Vice Mayor Takes a Bow

Vice Mayor Linda Gorton announced yesterday that she will not run for re-election in 2014, her 16th year on the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council and the year she will become the longest-serving Councilmember since merger.

"I love my job and I love this city. It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to be elected by the people of Lexington," Gorton said. "I have been thinking about this for a long time. This is the right time for me to step down and focus on family." Gorton is a new grandmother and she said she wants to retire with her husband, Charlie, travel and write.

Known for her fairness and for listening to citizens' concerns, Gorton has championed some of the most important legislative initiatives of recent years, including sweeping environmental reforms like clean indoor air and water quality ordinances, a land preservation program and the fairness ordinance, to name just a few. She has consistently fought for fiscally responsible budgets. And she is a co-founder of the Friends of the Dog Park. The organization supports popular fenced acreage, where dog owners can allow their pets to run without a leash.

"Our city is making tremendous progress and I've been honored to have a ringside seat and the opportunity to contribute," Gorton said.

Gorton has served with four Mayors: Pam Miller, Teresa Isaac, Jim Newberry and, now, Jim Gray. She spent her first eight years on council representing the Fourth District, and will complete her second eight next year as an At-Large Member. In the 2010 election she was the top vote-getter among At-Large candidates, making her Vice Mayor, a post she has held since 2011.

"While it may be time for me to move on to pursue opportunities in my life outside of government, I will leave with a great feeling of optimism," Gorton said. "We have worked hard to strengthen Lexington's solid foundation for the future."

If you would like to e-mail the Vice Mayor to thank her for her years of service, click [here](#).

Tates Creek Road Sidewalk Project Weekly Update

Week ending November 15th

- The contractor continues to move at a rapid pace. To date, 86% of the sidewalk has been installed.
- Outbound: The sidewalk has been poured to end of project, with some gaps.
- Signal heads were hung at Albany Road.
- Sidewalk has been poured in front of Good Hope Church.
- Crews excavated for ramps at Dove Run Road.
- Crews poured ramps at Alumni Drive.
- Inbound: Crews excavated from Lansdowne Road to Central Bank.

Plans for next week

- Crews will start on the retaining wall across from Old Mt. Tabor Road and will finish the segmented wall.
- Crews will pour sidewalk in the gaps and install sod and ramps.



The Bourbon Barrel Project on Town Branch
CLOSING CELEBRATION & BARREL AUCTION

11 · 16 · 13

BUSTER'S BILLIARDS & BACKROOM
899 Manchester Street



Gem Serves a Taste of the Past with a Dash of the Present

This week's Gem of the District has been a Lexington legend since 1951. Recently, the restaurant has crossed over to the 21st century and without losing a bit of its flair. The landscape of New Circle Road would be empty without the restaurant's iconic sign, and its menu will leave you anything but. This week, we sat down with co-owner Randy Kaplan to see what's new about the old at Parkette Drive-In Restaurant. This is what he had to say.

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

A. Who we are: We are the World Famous Parkette Drive-In Restaurant, located at 1230 East New Circle Road. Our founder Joe Smiley opened Parkette in 1951. Joe was a pioneer in the food industry. He created the Famous Kentucky Poor Boy, our Double-Decker Cheeseburger with tons o' fixin's. From the research that I've done, it may have been the 2nd Double-Decker burger ever created in the country. Bob's Big Boy in L.A. was the 1st in the 30s. The Poor Boy was 2nd in the 40s. He also created our fried chicken batter recipe that we still use today. We hand-dip and hand-roll our fresh chicken and of course we still fry our fried chicken in lard—the only real Southern way! It's awesome! (We use zero trans-fat oil for all other stuff.)

What we do: We feed folks, make them happy, transcend history, sustain memories and create new ones.

Q. You've completed an expansion to Parkette. What differences will we see when we come in?

A. Our Dining Room is awesome and folks love it, but it is small and people were leaving because they could not get seated timely enough, especially on weekends. So, we covered and enclosed our back patio and created an awesome Retro 50s full-service Garage-diner. It has retro-and garage-style memorabilia all over, and it's surrounded by six garage doors that we put up when the weather is nice. But we also have full heating and air conditioning when the weather is not so nice. And in the Bluegrass, that could change by the minute! We added 90 seats, so we can finally provide room for large parties and even host parties, meetings and the like, things we could not do in the past.



From left to right, the Parkette Burger, Hot Brown and Bopper leave no taste bud unturned.



Much has changed at Parkette since 1951.



kette's very own "Fillin' Station."

Q. Your menu is legendary and has even been featured on *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives* with Guy Fieri. But you've recently added a few things. Make our mouths water and tell us what they are.

A. *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives* was a wonderful experience! We will forever be grateful for that opportunity. When we opened the new Garage, we wanted to add a little "upscale" to our very large menu. We added three new certified Angus four-ounce beef burger menu items. They are bigger than our regular burgers and taste great. Our "Parkette Burger" is a big version of our Famous Kentucky Poor Boy; two certified Angus beef patties, American cheese, lettuce, Parkette sauce, mustard, tomato, pickle, and a slab of onion on a toasted bun.

We also created our "Big Mouth-Bourbon BBQ-Bacon-Burger." We call it the "Bopper." It has two certified Angus beef patties, two slices of American cheese, two slices of bacon topped with an onion ring and covered in our new Bourbon BBQ sauce on a toasted bun.

AND then we did it! We created our very own version of the Kentucky Hot Brown. On a toasted bun, we place American cheese, a four-ounce certified Angus beef patty, three slices of oven roasted turkey, two slices of bacon and thick Alfredo sauce, topped with a slice of tomato. It's sooo good!

Q. In renewing your look, you're also renewing public interest. What do you have lined up that will attract our attention in the next few months?

A. We have the honor of being featured on the TV show, *Secrets of Bluegrass Chefs* this Sunday, November 17th at 11:00 a.m., on ABC. We also have a very special event coming up this month, that unfortunately, I am not at liberty to talk about at the moment. What I can tell you, is that I will be cooking on a nationally syndicated TV show, with two world-famous chefs. I can promise that anyone familiar with the culinary world will know the names of the folks that I will have the honor of cooking with and for. As soon as I get the all-clear, I will forward more details.

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

A. I would like to see a better, smoother flow of traffic on the main arteries, i.e. New Circle Road Richmond Road.



FROM THE OFFICE
OF 5TH DISTRICT
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Details for the District

Good Ideas From Thoughtful People

Bourbon n' Toulouse has teamed up with Matt and Laurie Preston, who happen to have an extra pair of premium, pre-sale reserved seats to see The Avett Brothers in concert next Saturday at Rupp Arena. Instead of selling the extra set of tickets, which are going for around \$200 a piece on Stubhub.com, the Prestons decided to turn these tickets into something good: They've created a raffle raise \$1,440 for The Ronald McDonald House of the Bluegrass.

When Matt Preston bought the tickets, he had an opportunity to buy a second pair of premium seats and jumped at the chance thinking he would either sell them to friend or on the internet for a little extra cash. On their way to a UK Football game, the Prestons walked past the Ronald McDonald House of the Bluegrass and they started them thinking. Matt said, "We started discussing how lucky we are that we have two beautiful, healthy twin girls and we fortunately have never had a need for a place like the Ronald McDonald House, but we are very thankful that the option is there. That's when it clicked. Hey, let's try to use the extra set of tickets to run The Ronald McDonald House for an entire day!"

They did their research and found out that there are twenty private bedrooms in the house and it costs around \$72 per night, per bedroom to run the Ronald McDonald House. Preston went on to ask, "How amazing would it be that having a extra set of tickets to see one of our favorite bands could provide the \$1,440 needed to run the Ronald McDonald House for an entire day?"

Matt approached Bourbon n' Toulouse and West Sixth Brewing Company for help. Both places were more than willing to donate gift certificates or merchandise as extra prizes. They will also be selling the raffle tickets at their businesses. Bourbon n' Toulouse has even created a way for people to buy raffle tickets on their website at www.ilovecajun.com/Avett.html.

"We were blown away when Matt and Laurie approached us with their idea to run Lexington's Ronald McDonald House for an entire day. We're excited to give our patrons an easy opportunity to do good while having a chance to win these amazing tickets. What a truly selfless act of kindness!" said Kevin Heathcoat, co-owner of Bourbon n' Toulouse.

Until closing tonight, Bourbon n' Toulouse will be giving \$2.00 off any meal for patrons who purchase a raffle ticket in the restaurant. West Sixth Brewing will also be giving away free Sunrise Bakery Pretzels for anyone who buys at raffle ticket at the brewery tonight. For more information about the raffle you can contact Matt Preston at (859) 940-2567, Kevin Heathcoat of Bourbon n' Toulouse at (859) 797-5087 or click [here](#). The drawing for the tickets will be held Thursday evening at Bourbon n' Toulouse.

The Unified Trust Company Ice Rink is now open through January 5th. An admission and skate rental fee of \$10 will allow guests to enjoy 90 minutes on the ice. Scheduled hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 4:00 until 9:00 p.m., Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 until 10:00 p.m. When Fayette County Schools are not in session, the Unified Trust Company Ice Rink will be open Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.



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.