

5th District Newsletter

News and announcements from
around our community



136th Edition

Details for the District

April 18, 2014

Inside this Issue:

Sustainability Grants Expanding Options	2
Taking Time to Play	2
Do You Know These Bad Guys?	2
Gem of the District	3
Peony Sale!	4
Idle Hour Welcomes Volunteers	4

Bullet Points of Interest:

- The Council floor has received requests for an update regarding Police Officer Jeff Brangers, who you might recall shot and killed a Labrador Retriever, owned by his neighbor, in March of this year. The investigation into this behavior is on-going. According to Commissioner of Public Safety Clay Mason, "The preliminary inquiry was completed and has evolved into a full internal investigation. The Police are proceeding per the established disciplinary process. The deadline for completion is May 24th to have it on the Chief's desk." Justice may seem uncertain in this case, but as it unfolds, I will update you here.

Meetings of the Minds Make Progress

Dear Neighbor,
I'm refreshed and pleased by several good meetings this week. There is lots to talk about. The Administration's presentation about the currently developing homelessness and affordable housing plan during the Planning and Public Works Committee meeting on Tuesday was fascinating. In the works is a stepped-up approach to identifying the need on different levels and planning for responses that will make a difference in the community. This will provide a way to quantify need rather than just assign value based on emotion. I am appreciative and supportive.

In the same meeting, we also heard an update of the parameters for the Residential Parking Permit Program. The original ordinance dates back to 1990 and doesn't contemplate current modes of communication and civic involvement. We are working to update this issue and make more outreach possible as part of the implementation of these zones. I will update you here as that moves forward.

I also had a great meeting with the Idle Hour Neighbors Alliance about the rapidly approaching sanitary sewer replacement project in the area. This was a 2017 project

that got bumped up to accommodate the placement of the Senior Center in Idle Hour Park. First let me say the 5th District always turns out; whether to meet or vote, our folks participate. Of all the sewer meetings so far this one was more attended than several others combined.

With a good crowd came great discussion. The project will be helpful and will be done quickly by, weather permitting, October of this year. St. Ann will be closed for a few days in September in order for new larger pipe to be laid across the street. In addition, concerns were addressed regarding what will be removed from the park. Briefly, whatever comes out of the park for construction by way of amenity will return, but will be paced out over more than one budget year. Other issues such as speeding and noise in the park were raised as well; I am addressing those issues now and am happy to do so throughout the 5th District. The sharing of this kind of information is why these meetings are invaluable.

Enjoy the spectacular weather we have in store over the weekend. It's about time!

My best,
Bill

Mayor Jim Gray Puts Cheesiness To A Good Use

Some UK basketball fans at Lexington's Ronald McDonald House are still enjoying the Wildcats' run in the NCAA tournament with a special package of Wisconsin cheese. The gift box was sent to City Hall this week by Paul Soglin, the Mayor of Madison, Wisconsin.

Soglin and Mayor Jim Gray made a friendly wager on the Wisconsin-Kentucky game during the Final Four. UK beat the Badgers 74-73. The gift box includes sharp cheddar cheese, Marisa sheep milk cheese, shallot confit, artisan crackers and chocolate. Mayor Gray shared the winnings with Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Bluegrass, which helps children and families in times of medical need.



Lexington's winnings from Wisconsin paid off for families in need.

Neighborhood Sustainability Grant Program Expanded, Reopened

The eligibility requirement for Lexington residents to apply for a 2014 Neighborhood Sustainability Grant has been expanded to include 501(c)3 organizations other than schools. Until now, such organizations were excluded. The decision to expand who is eligible for a grant has prompted this year's application period to be reopened. In addition to nonprofit 501(c)3 organizations, public and private schools, neighborhood and homeowner associations, and churches can apply for a grant through the end of business on Wednesday, April 30th.

Groups who have already submitted a proposal do not need to reapply. Lexington's Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works offers the sustainability grants for residents to work collaboratively and creatively to improve the environmental health of Lexington.

"We are pleased to announce that we are now widening our grant program to include new worthy groups who share our appreciation for the environment and our sustainability goals," Susan Plueger, the director of the city's Division of Environmental Policy, said.

(Continued on page 4)



Romance Isn't Just for the Birds

Next weekend is the Life Adventure Center's First Play Date With Your Mate of the year. Who said that love is for the birds? This special event is a chance for bird loving couples to walk through a beautiful setting and enjoy nature together.

Held Saturday, April 26th from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at the Buckley Wildlife Sanctuary location, there will be coffee provided in the morning and lunch with refreshments will be available in the afternoon. Even if the weather decides to be chilly, you can warm yourself in the center's climate controlled bird blind.

The price is \$50 per couple. Call (859) 873.3271 or e-mail tracey@lifeadventurecenter.org for more information.

Footage Captures Thieves Burglarizing In the 5th District

Recent reports of burglaries and vandalism in the Lakewood area prompted local resident Craig McAnelly to install video surveillance equipment at his home. "I used the same crew that installed this equipment at my office, and that's how we were able to catch these photos," he said. Detective Garry Cottrell hopes that someone will recognize these thieves, who broke into the McAnelly home last weekend stealing jewelry and raiding the refrigerator. If these faces are familiar to you, please contact Detective Cottrell at (859) 258-3712. We have requested extra patrols in the area.

A good move on the McAnelly's part, theft deterrents, while not always 100% effective, do help assist both the police and the community in identifying criminals who target our homes. As always, be vigilant in keeping your garage doors down, an eye out for your neighbors and bring your valuables in from your car each day. No matter the crime, report non-emergency issues to the police at (859) 258-3600 or call 911 if you feel you are in danger.

A police notice from the Lexington Police Department, Division of POLICE LEXINGTON, Residential Burglary Unit. It features the heading 'BURGLARY SUSPECTS' in red. Below the heading are three surveillance photos: a man in a dark hoodie and cap, a blue Jeep Patriot SUV, and another man in a dark t-shirt and cap. Below the photos is the text: 'Assistance in identifying suspects and vehicle (possibly a blue Jeep Patriot) in a burglary at 1195 Lakewood Drive on 4/11/14.' At the bottom, it says 'contact Detective Garry Cottrell (859-258-3712) with any information'.

If you recognize either these thieves or their car, please contact Detective Cottrell at the number listed above.

Gem Writes History With a Flair for the Air

This week's Gem of the District is well known on the Council floor for his intense love of all things bacon but less well known by fellow 5th District residents for his writing achievements—until now. Rob Bolson, Legislative Aide to 9th District Council Member Jennifer Mossotti, was recently selected to contribute to a book about the history of Blue Grass Airport. A natural at the written word, Rob took on the opportunity and has himself therefore become a piece of history. This week, we sat down with Rob and asked him how this project made him sizzle. This is what he had to say.

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

A. I am Rob Bolson, life-long Lexington resident of Lexington and I have lived in the 5th District for 14 years now. I am currently a Legislative Aide to 9th District Council Member Jennifer Mossotti. Prior to becoming an Aide to Council I was corporate marketing director for Blood-Horse Publications and also a writer for the J. Peterman Company.

Q. You recently contributed a chapter to *Blue Grass Airport: An American Aviation Story*. How were you chosen to contribute to this historical piece?

A. Fran Taylor, owner and publisher of West High Publishing, LLC here in Lexington contacted me early last year during her search for area writers to collaborate on the book project. West High Publishing previously published several notable books on Keeneland Race Course and I was honored to be considered to be one of the writers for the creation of *Blue Grass Airport: An American Aviation Story*.

Q. Story Musgrave isn't exactly a household name. Tell us what interests you about the man who wrote the introduction to the book.

A. Former NASA Astronaut, Dr. Story Musgrave obtained his pilot's license at Blue Grass Field in the 1960s while working on two advanced degrees at the University of Kentucky. The introduction reflects his love of flying and the special connection he has to Lexington—which he considers his hometown. He went on to have a highly distinguished and decorated career as a 30-year NASA astronaut flying on six space missions. He is noted as being one of the first astronauts to repair the Hubble Space Telescope.

Q. What makes this tome a must read?

A. The book is 240 pages and features more the 400

engaging photographs—some never before published. It comprehensively details the previously untold history of aviation in central Kentucky. Remarkably, while it historical highlights repeatedly made headlines, the story of aviation in the Bluegrass remained under the radar in contemporary times and had not been captured in a single narrative. Lexington's aviation history is full of fascinating facts. Nationally known early aviators including Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart came to Lexington at the height of their fame. Other municipal airports preceded Blue Grass Field (the predecessor of Blue Grass Airport) and World War I flying ace and president of Eastern Airlines, Eddie Rickenbacker, dedicated it in 1946. Rarely seen photographs ranging from the early 1900s to contemporary times illustrate these fascinating stories.

The book also details Lexington's involvement in one the most notorious hijackings of all times and the behind-the-scenes complexities of flying people (and horses) at today's Blue Grass Airport. Comprehensive summaries of the aftereffects of September 11th and the Delta Comair Flight 5191 tragedy help readers understand the devastating impact of these events in the Bluegrass and the nation.

Q. It's no joke that you are a bacon master. What is your favorite way to eat this treat?

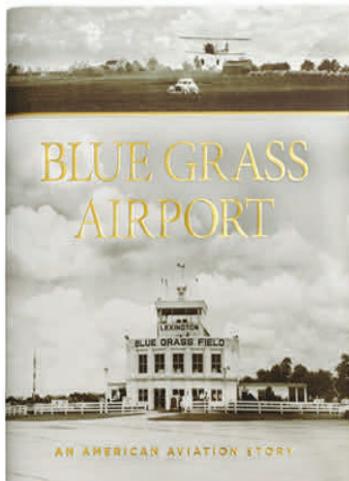
A. I am a "bacon purist." Using bacon to flavor other foods is fine for some, but I prefer it straight-forward: smoked, fried, baked or grilled. Bacon and eggs and a BLT are about as good as it gets. I'm presently on a quest to try Wild Boar Bacon. I've read that it is delicious.

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

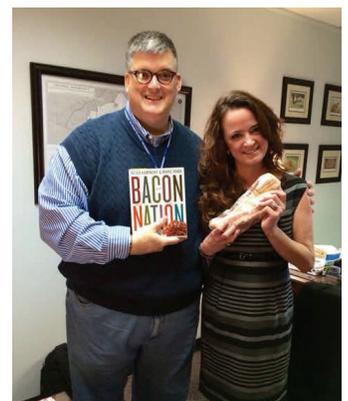
A. I love life in the 5th District and hope that the rich history, vibrancy, unique charm, and sense of community of the area can be preserved and enhanced for the foreseeable future. I look forward to the redesign and improved traffic flow of the Fontaine/East High/Euclid Avenue intersection.



*Rob Bolson:
Legislative Aide by day,
writer by night.*



*Information about Blue Grass
Airport: An American History is
available by clicking [here](#).*



*As my draw in last year's
office Christmas Swap,
bacon was a no brainer for
my colleague Rob.*

**FROM THE OFFICE
OF 5TH DISTRICT
COUNCILMEMBER
BILL FARMER, JR.**

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Details for the District

(Continued from page 2)

Grants are available for a wide range of projects including rain gardens, green roofs, community gardens, streamside restoration, recycling programs, beautification projects (outside only), rain barrel, illegal dumpsite cleanups, litter cleanups, street tree plantings and other projects that improve the environmental health of the community and meet the principles of sustainability.

Eligible applicants may apply for a maximum amount of \$2,500. These grants require a 100% match. A match can be materials, in-kind services or a combination of both. In-kind matches may include items such as documented use of vehicles or machinery, meals served to volunteers or volunteer hours worked. Documentation must be provided on the value of all in-kind supplies, materials and services.

More information and application materials about this grant opportunity are available at www.lexingtonky.gov/greengrants. Applications must be postmarked or submitted to the department's office by 4:30 p.m. on April 30th, 2014. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Please contact Louise Caldwell-Edmonds at (859) 425-2800 or via e-mail at louisec@lexingtonky.gov if you have questions or would like a copy of the grant application by mail.

Peony Sale! Bring Home a Piece of Ashland

The Ashland, Henry Clay Estate Peony Sale and Garden Tour will take place on May 4th from 2:00 until



4:00 p.m. and will feature 10 varieties of potted peonies from Kelly Nurseries, including three types of Saunders Peonies like the ones in the Ashland peony garden. Peony prices range from \$15 to \$85. It's a great time to enjoy the beautiful gardens at Ashland and bring home some beauty for your own garden too. All proceeds support the estate.

Volunteers Are Welcome On St. Margaret Island

Volunteers are needed the weekend of April 26th to help plant flowers, ornamental grasses and the like on St. Margaret Island in the Idle Hour Neighborhood. Planting times on Saturday are from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m. and Sunday from 1:00 until 3:00 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.



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