

5th District Newsletter

News and announcements from
around our community



149th Edition

Details for the District

July 18, 2014



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Bullet Points of Interest:

- The unfortunate shooting on Coburn Boulevard this week has more to do with narcotics than the neighborhood, but when illegal transactions go bad we all seem to pay the price with a lessened sense of security. You can be reassured that the Lexington police are doing a great job for us all when crimes like these do happen. The goal here is to stop the flow of drugs and the risks that go along with them. We'll update you here as we are able to.
- The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has selected Lexington for a creative placemaking project aimed at enhancing quality of life and promoting equitable access to arts and culture. On Wednesday, Mayor Jim Gray announced that Blue Grass Community Foundation and North Limestone Community Development Corporation were awarded a \$75,000 Our Town grant from the NEA. Click [here](#) for the rest of the story.

A Call to Artful Action

Dear Neighbors,
In anticipation of a quiet Council summer recess I thought we would have an e-news schedule to match but too much has been going on not to update you. Events in Chevy Chase this past weekend brought focus to the Art Bar on Euclid Avenue and its operation. As the Ashland Theatre and later the Chevy Chase Cinema, the building in the center of the 800 block of the avenue houses many great memories for several local generations. So many incarnations have been and gone that even I lose track. Suffice it to say the current state of affairs is untenable. When one business hampers the operation of others and all are left to pick up the mess, we all demand better.

Next Friday, the Board of Adjustment (BOA) will meet at 1:30 p.m. in Council Chambers to review the conditional use permit for the property and business. In the past couple of years, the board granted a change in the use allowing the "club" to move its closing time from 1:00 a.m. to 2:30 a.m. That was done with some promises of better management. That and the folks in charge have all changed in the meantime and the so called "Art Bar" has become the center of attention in the

police Central Sector. In essence, no matter how many police are on patrol on Saturday nights into Sunday mornings, more than half of them remain on duty in and are around in the shopping area. Picking up trash is one thing. Picking up shell casings is another.

While I know that many folks want to be at the BOA meeting next Friday please also know that petitions have been sent to area neighbors for people to sign. I know that one is posted at Donut Days in Chevy Chase if you want to stop in and sign it to help the board see the wisdom of changing the closing hour back to 1:00 a.m.

Ours is a welcoming community but as with any community, conduct and decorum are not just asked of but expected. When businesses close early and folks choose to stay in rather than enjoy their neighborhood, it's time for a change.

On a more positive note, please do take time to read page two as it contains information from LexArts regarding a "call to artists" for the Euclid Avenue Kroger. We can render good input if we try! Enjoy your weekend.

My best,
Bill

Sister Cities a Win for Lexington

Lexington Sister Cities was the volunteer non-profit at Thursday Night Live last night and I was joined by Bill DiOrio and Jerry Monahan to help pour beer at this event to help raise money through tips for Lexington Sister Cities programs. Lexington Sister Cities recently received the Sister Cities International's 2014 Best Overall Program Award for a city with a population between 100,001 to 300,000. Click [here](#) for more information.



Thank you to Jerry Monahan (right) and Bill DiOrio (left) for helping me raise awareness for the Lexington Sister Cities program.

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 OF 5TH DISTRICT
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Euclid Avenue Calls for Artists

The Euclid Avenue Kroger store is being built at lightning speed. The good folks at Kroger are eager to build bridges with the community with which they serve and to that end, they would like to incorporate local art into the fabric of the new space.



Because of experience with public art and because they are building their own bridges within the community, LexArts has been asked to organize and facilitate the process. This is an opportunity for rich collaboration between key components of our cultural fitness, art, food and community.

LexArts will soon put out a call to over 600 artists for work on an outside mural (60' x 7' facing Marquis Street) and work for two large inside spaces, which can either be a mural or framed artwork. LexArts' review committee will have overall responsibility for selecting the artists based on their submissions. The committee will also include several Kroger representatives who will be named over the next week. LexArts expresses that this is both an exciting project and process for community and corporate collaboration and one that could be a model in the future.

The timeline is swift:

- Call to artists: Goes out this week through August 13th
- Review committee meets: Wednesday, August 27th, 3:30 at ArtsPlace
- Artist notification: Friday, August 29nd
- Finalize composition: Friday, September 26th
- Work completed: Friday, October 31st

To contact LexArts for more information, click [here](#).

LexCall Releases June Data

In the 21 working days of the month of June, LexCall answered 19,208 calls and initiated 8,035 service requests. Additionally, LexCall answered 204 calls for the Council Office and 288 calls for the Mayor's Office.

This month, LexCall received 87 iPhone/Droid e-mails that were entered into the LexCall program as service requests. The number one service request for June is "Mattress Pickup" with 526 requests.

The divisions that generated the most service requests for the month were as follows:

- Waste Management: 5,942
- Code Enforcement: 738
- Streets & Roads: 422
- Water Quality: 353
- Traffic Engineering: 175
- Public Works Administration: 84

For more information about LexCall or to report an issue online, click [here](#).

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.

