



# 5th District Newsletter

News and announcements from  
around our community



156th Edition

Details for the District

September 19, 2014

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## Bullet Points of Interest:

- The Kenwick Neighborhood Association General Meeting will be September, Tuesday 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Kenwick Community Center.
- Thousands of years ago, people spent hours gazing at the night sky. They found that by connecting the stars like dots, patterns emerged that resembled animals, people and things. Come out to Raven Run at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday for the Stargazing program and learn about the star patterns, constellations and other things found in the night sky. The Bluegrass Astronomy Club will be onsite with their telescopes. Please remember to call (859) 272-6105 to make sure the program is still taking place before you head out to the nature sanctuary; especially if there is inclement weather in the area.

## The Rest Before the 'Fest

Dear Neighbor,

We had an active Work Session on Tuesday that saw the Council take unanimous action to approve that the Kentucky League of Cities issue tax exempt bonds for the parking infrastructure at the Centrepointe block. We had to formally pledge the Tax Increment Financing income from the project to the league for the purpose of bond repayment. The bond holders will bear any risk and when the bonds are paid, that income can then have other uses. When you peer between the slats at the foundation work going on, this block when redeveloped will remake Lexington in an exciting way with great jobs added for all.



The new escalators have arrived at the Euclid Avenue Kroger and will provide rooftop service for buggies.

I sat in last night on the Commercial Corridor Study meeting of Euclid Avenue and South Limestone Avenue at Woodland Christian Church. Neighbors and merchants alike were there. This study should be finished by the year's end and will give insight on how best this vital street can change. With the

advent of the new Kroger at one end and thousands of new students near Limestone and Woodland in new facilities built by the university, one thing for sure is that many folks consider "Greater Chevy Chase" as a place to in which to take pride.

Remember to be safety conscious around your home. We had an early report this morning of someone going through a car in a garage on Blairmore Road. I myself noticed that the containers in my backyard that usually cover the side door to our garage had been moved. None of us moved them leaving the likelihood that someone had walked up the driveway and tried to gain entrance. Lock everything.

Keep valuables out of sight. Add motion sensing lights. In short, work as hard to keep your things as you did to get them in the first place.

Christ the King's Oktoberfest is tonight and tomorrow! Go and enjoy this 5th District tradition.

## Almost 200 Years Later, We're Still Making Noise

Ashland, The Henry Clay Estate will host a Living History Day on Saturday, September 27th from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. featuring the War of 1812 and the Bicentennial of the Treaty of Ghent with 1812 Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery, Regency clothing, agricultural and livestock, craftspeople, special exhibits, mansion tours and more. This is a hands-on and interactive history event for the whole family. Tickets are \$14 for adults and children 17 and under are \$7. Family groups are \$35. Go to [henryclay.org](http://henryclay.org) or call (859) 266-8581 for more information.



Way-back Weekend, so to speak, will take place next weekend at Ashland, The Henry Clay Estate.

## Needling Your Way Through the Line Just Became Easier

Roll down your window and roll up your sleeve. That's how easy it is to get protected from the flu this fall and winter, thanks to the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department. Free flu shots will be given from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m. Thursday, October 9th, at Imani Family Life Center, 1555 Georgetown Road. This will be a drive-thru event, meaning those who want to fight the flu won't even have to leave the comforts of their car.

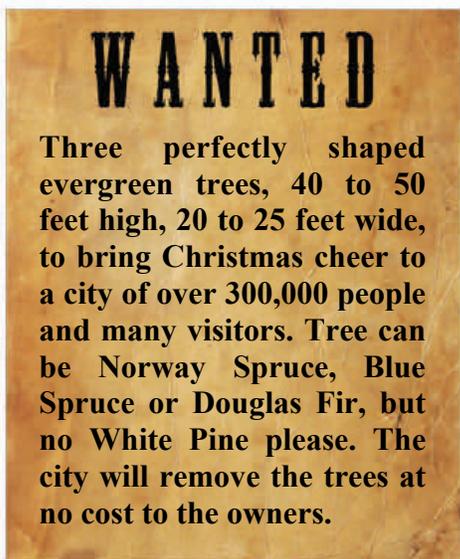
"An annual flu shot is the best way to fight the flu and stay safe during the fall and winter months," said Kevin Hall, LFCHD spokesman. "By hosting a drive-thru event, we can give up as many as 2,000 shots that afternoon, which not only protects Lexington residents, it also allows us to test our emergency preparedness skills by giving several shots in a short time span."

Complete details, including a map of the site and advance registration forms, are available at [www.LexFluCrew.com](http://www.LexFluCrew.com). "By making these available online, anyone wanting a shot that day can print the form and fill it out ahead of time, which will help our staff get them through the line with a free flu shot as quickly as possible," Hall said.

The seasonal flu shot is recommended to all people ages 6 months and older. Last year, Lexington had 109 confirmed cases of the flu. The health department provided more than 3,100 flu vaccinations throughout the season. Last year, the health department provided more than 1,900 shots at last year's free flu shot clinic. Flu shots are otherwise available beginning October 2nd on Tuesdays and Thursdays for \$30 at the Public Health Clinic North at 805A Newtown Circle.

## That Time of Year? It's Almost Here

The city is looking for three evergreen trees this year that owners are willing to donate for use as community Christmas trees in three prominent downtown locations. "All trees will be inspected to determine if they are suitable," said Jeff Giles, Landscape Supervisor for the city. "If your tree is chosen, the city and Kentucky Utilities will remove it at no cost on either November 17th, 18th or 19th." Stump grinding will be provided after removal.



The trees will be placed in Triangle Park at Main Street and Broadway; Isaac Murphy Park at Third Street and Midland Avenue; and in front of the KU Building on Quality Street. They will be decorated by the city and lit beginning Friday, November 29th.

The trees must meet the following guidelines:

- Have a pyramidal shape, with fullness especially at the bottom;
- The body of the tree should have few or no holes;
- The tree should not be growing into a house or other trees;
- Access must be provided with clearance of at least 10 feet in width, with no power lines growing in the tree;
- There should be no other obstacles, such as buildings preventing access;
- Must be able to back a low-boy trailer up to the tree and place KU trucks on either side.

If your tree is chosen, you will be contacted with details of the removal. "This is a great way to honor a tree, by donating it for the pleasure of the community," Giles said. Please call LexCall at (859) 425-2255 before October 30th if you feel you have a candidate.



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## Details for the District

### Tom Shelton Wants “Immediate Action”

Tom Shelton, Superintendent of Lexington County Public Schools, recently released as statement based on the audit of the school system’s finances. In case you missed it, here it is.

“Dear Key Communicators:

As Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent, I recognize that winning back the trust of our constituents will require swift and bold action. Although it’s good news that no money is missing and there was no illegal activity, we must immediately begin addressing the shortcomings identified in today’s Auditor of Public Accounts review of budget and finances in our school district.

One of the state’s leading finance experts will temporarily join our school district team to advise us on how to overhaul and restructure our budget, staffing and finance operations as well as strengthen our policies, procedures and practices.

Kyna Koch, who oversaw finance, data, facilities, transportation and school food service as the Associate Commissioner of District Support Services for the Kentucky Department, will assist me in developing a comprehensive action plan that will go to the school board for approval and then be sent to the Auditor of Public Accounts within 60 days. Implementing the recommendations in the audit report will be my primary focus.

To address the dysfunction and toxic relationships that have developed within and between the budget and finance departments, organizational behavior expert Mike Thompson will provide support in conflict resolution and team building. Thompson’s focus will first be with the budget and finance departments, but he will work with other district office teams as needed.

I fully embrace the recommendations in the audit and I feel strongly that arguing about inaccurate information in the report is counterproductive. But I do have to reassure you that it is simply not true that district level administrators received a 24.7 percent raise while teachers received a 9.88 percent raise between 2010 and 2014. Every employee who worked for the district during that time period

and stayed in the same position received the same raises. Staff members in schools and in district departments who changed jobs, took on additional duties or earned advanced degrees would have received different compensation in accordance with the salary schedule. We are working with the Fayette County Education Association, the organization that represents our employees, to pull specific data to give everyone a full picture of pay increases over the past five years.

Despite what the auditor said today, it absolutely is about kids in the Fayette County Public Schools. The vast majority of employees in our school district approach their work as a calling and commit themselves every day to making a difference in the lives of children.

The behaviors, habits and culture in our district’s central office will change to consistently reflect our core values. As your superintendent, I take full responsibility for the operations of the district and I will do everything I can to move us past this turbulence to refocus my entire team on serving the children and families of the Fayette County Public Schools.

Visit [www.fcps.net/audit](http://www.fcps.net/audit) for more details. Watch our press conference at <http://www.youtube.com/user/fcpsnet>.”

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).

### Whose Farm To Whose Table?

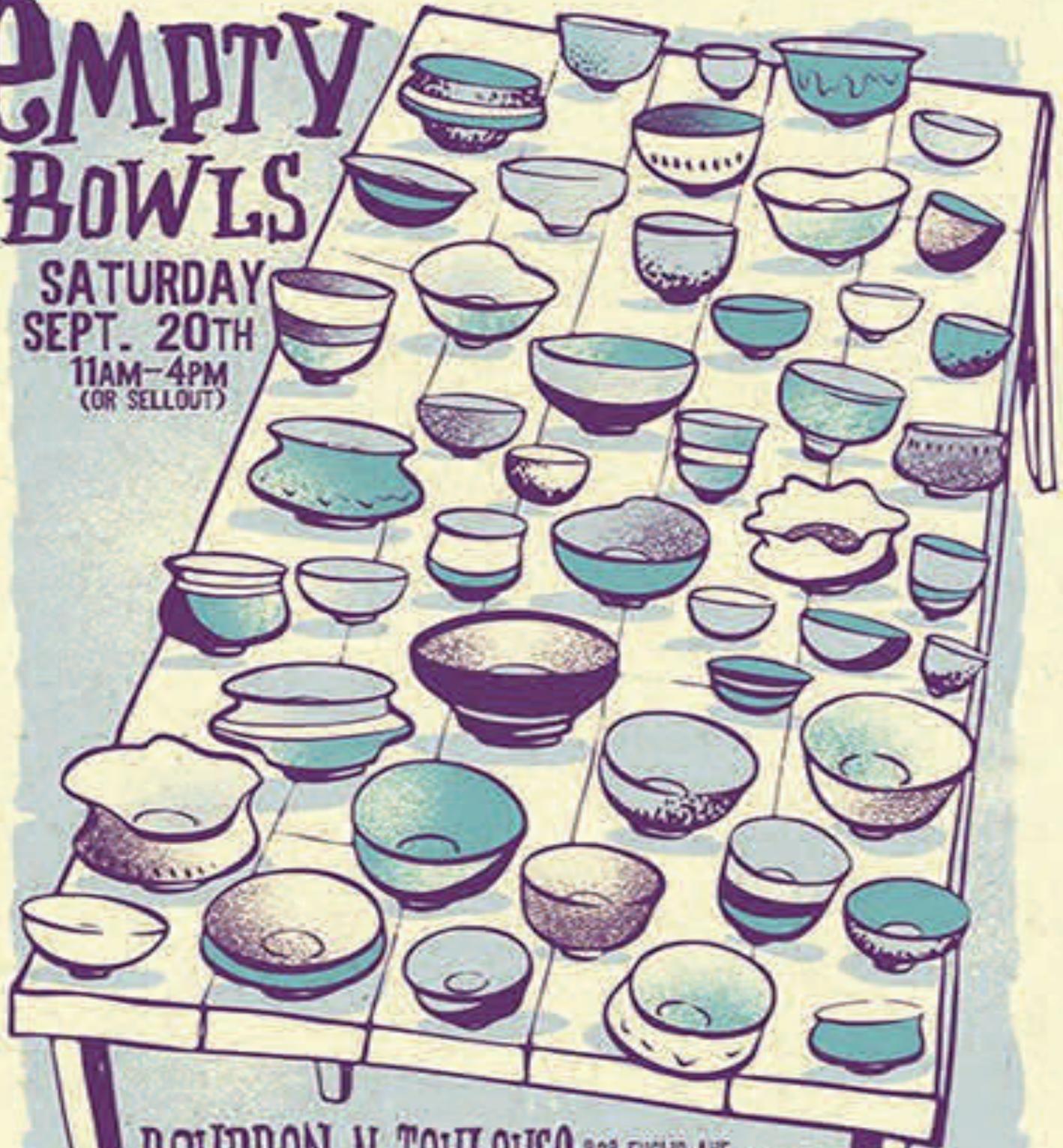
The University of Kentucky’s Gaines Center is hosting three seminars around the issue of local food. The first is Wednesday, September 24th, 5:30 p.m. at the Lyric Theatre featuring Robert Egger’s “Revealing the Power of Food.” Learn more by clicking [here](#).



Click [here](#) for the full seminar schedule.

# EMPTY BOWLS

SATURDAY  
SEPT. 20TH  
11AM-4PM  
(OR SELLOUT)



**BOURBON N TOULOUSE** 829 EUCLID AVE.  
LEXINGTON, KY 40502

\$15 DONATION GETS YOU A HANDMADE BOWL AND A MEAL FROM BnT.  
PROFITS FROM THE EVENT GO TO MOVEABLE FEAST OF LEXINGTON

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE EVENT OR ONLINE AT:  
[KENTUCKYMUDWORKS.COM/EMPTYBOWLSCHARITYEVENT.HTML](http://KENTUCKYMUDWORKS.COM/EMPTYBOWLSCHARITYEVENT.HTML)

CRICKET  
PRESS

