



# 5th District e-Newsletter

News and announcements from  
around our community



175th Edition

Details for the District

March 13, 2015

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## Bullet Points of Interest:

- The Kenwick Community Center will hold its spring flea market from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday. There will be plenty of bargains to include household items, children's toys and books. Hotdogs and soft drinks will be available for purchase. This is a rain-or-shine event that is held inside the center (313 Owsley Avenue). For more information, including how to rent a table, call (859) 266-6405.
- Because of the exciting St Patrick's Day Festivities on Saturday, March 14th the Lexington Farmers Market will be in a special location under the Lincoln Mural at 200 Water Street.

## When the Snow's Away, the CATS Will Play!

**D**ear Neighbor,  
With the 17.1-inch snow deluge, there was no e-newsletter last week. I believe all of that is behind us now, and I for one am looking forward to spring!

Thanks to many of you for your patience during this last snow event and know that the mission of this Council office is to help as many as possible. Whether via call or e-mail, to the office, to me or to 311, we worked to make a difference for all.

As of now it looks like the Council will work on updating the snow plan in May.

There will be plenty of after-event information to consider. I believe the shape and style of our snow responses will change dramatically. The changes in Lexington's streets will be accounted for, and it is my hope that we can even tailor our responses to the type of event (snow versus ice, for example) that occurs. This issue is in the Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee, which I chair, so all of the calls received will add to that discussion, and your continuing suggestions will only help. For now, I'm so glad to put aside layers of clothing and boots—but especially that now well-used old snow shovel!

The picture here shows local attorney Fred Irtz with me and with Commerce Lexington's Bob Quick at the Shriners Hospital groundbreaking this week at the University of Kentucky medical campus. It was outdoors on the South Limestone

site and that by itself was special. The hospital has been a part of Lexington since 1926, and this will be the third hospital on a third location. The current Richmond Road facility was first opened in 1955 and updated in 1983.

As the scale of care has changed so has its delivery. The new five-story building will have three floors exclusively for children's care for which the group is famous. Helping children in need at no charge. The new building will be ready in about 20 months and will leave both the Shriners and the neighborhood surrounding its current location on Rich-



*The Shriners Hospital groundbreaking set the stage for their move in 2017.*

mond Road time to find the next best use for that signature property. When we first broached this subject the likely path then was for the Masonic Homes of Kentucky to purchase, and then hopefully change, the use to more of an elder care

facility like others the Masons have here in the Commonwealth. As this change begins I will be glad to keep you updated and involved.

Because of the snow, next week offers a true rarity of two "full" Council meetings in one week. Our schedule, like others, has changed based on the weather, necessitating both a Tuesday and Thursday 6:00 p.m. meeting! Here's to warmer weather and a return to the comfort of a regular schedule.

When you have questions or needs please let me know. For now GO CATS!!!

My best,  
Bill

## LexCall Hits Big Numbers in 2015

In the 20 working days of the month of February, LexCall answered 17,980 calls and initiated 6,748 service requests. Additionally, LexCall answered 143 calls for the Council Office and 240 calls for the Mayor's Office. LexCall 311 also received 68 iPhone/Android e-mails and 520 web-mails that were entered into the LexCall program as service requests.

Let's add last week's snow event. **LexCall took in 4,943 phone calls between March 2nd through the 6th alone.** The requests for snow removal, salt requests, reports of slick spots and all other sorts of mayhem were taken in stride by LexCall's staff, who kept lines of communication running between the various divisions that support city services. For that, the 5th District Office is quite grateful.

Now back to February. The number one service request for February was "request for snow removal." There were 1,727 for Streets and Roads and 1,086 for Sewer Line Maintenance. The divisions that generated the most service requests for the month were as follows:

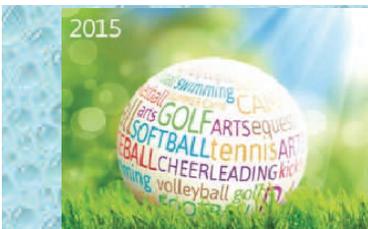
◦ Waste Management	3,272
◦ Streets & Roads	1,803
◦ Water Quality	1,170
◦ Code Enforcement	249
◦ Traffic Engineering	110

Pat Tatum, Manager of LexCall offers this tip on how to request a pothole repair using LexCall 311: "If your LexCall 311 customer service specialist asks what appears to be a lot of questions, it is because we must relay all the details to the responding division who will in turn use the information to do their jobs. For example, if we simply report that there is a pothole at Upper and Main streets, we may place it on the regular schedule for repair not knowing there is a much larger issue. Additional questioning would reveal that the pothole is actually in the main flow of traffic and is enormous. So we ask for your patience as we ask multiple questions which may not seem necessary to you, but could have a large impact on the resolution of the request."

Many times the recognizable teams that support city services ride on garbage trucks, wear neon vests or hardhats. The staff at LexCall wields a phone system, friendly temperaments but are otherwise invisible. The next time you call LexCall, thank them for their tremendous value!



Chief Administrative Officer Sally Hamilton provides insight to the inner workings of LexCall. Click the play button to hear more.



This year's Parks and Recreation Fun Guide was recently released as a special section in the *Lexington Herald-Leader*. View the guide by clicking [here](#) and learn all about great recreational opportunities in 2015!

## UK Puts the Goods On Your Plate

Steak and potatoes and a green vegetable. Simple enough, right? In the hands of "culinary evangelist" and Lexington chef Dan Wu, these staples become the building blocks for an inspired lesson in plating design. Watch Dan reveal the secrets of structure and sensibility, helping to make your next dinner party an event to remember. Free to members of The Art Museum at the University of Kentucky or \$8.00 otherwise, Dan Wu will host a plating design demonstration on Friday, March 20th from 6:30 until 8:00 p.m. Call (859) 257-5716 for more information.



University of Kentucky alumnus and chef Dan Wu competed on the fifth season of the reality show competition *MasterChef*.

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## Details for the District

### Tours Offer Glimpse At College Life

The Youth Services Center at Gainesway Community Center (3460 Milano Road) will host a college/career camp for middle and high school youth during spring break week (March 30th - April 3rd). There's no better way to learn about college than through a campus visit. When you visit a campus you can see a residence hall, the university recreation center and library, classroom buildings, attend an academic information session about the majors, meet admissions counselors and get a student's perspective on campus life.

- Monday - March 30th - Berea College
- Tuesday - March 31st - Morehead State University
- Wednesday - April 1st - University of Louisville
- Thursday - April 2nd - Kentucky State University
- Friday - April 3rd - University of Kentucky

For more information call Jack Walker at (859) 971-3068 or (859) 246-4323. Partners for Youth also offers a number of spring break activities, geared toward all ages. Click [here](#) for more information about those events.

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### St. Patrick's Day Turns Downtown Green

St. Patrick's Day Parades have been a long and important tradition in the United States and throughout the world by both Irish and non-Irish people alike. Irish-American immigrants brought the first St. Patrick's celebration to Boston in 1737 and General George Washington allowed his soldiers of Irish descent in the Continental Congress a holiday on March 17th to thank them for their service.

This Saturday will mark the 36th Anniversary of Lexington's St. Patrick's Day Parade, which will be accompanied by an Irish Festival that will extend the celebration throughout the day. Festivities will include youth activities as well as continual Irish entertainment with dancers, pipers, musicians and more.

The festival will begin at 11:00 a.m. and will continue until 7:00 p.m. The Parade will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Main Street and travel to Midland Avenue to Mill Street.

Whether you are Irish, of Irish descent or merely indulging your "inner Irish" come and celebrate all things Irish downtown this Saturday!