



9TH DISTRICT NEWS & NOTES NEWSLETTER



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5 JUNE 2013

IN THE NEWS AND IN THE DISTRICT...

There has been a lot of things going on recently at City Hall and in the 9th District.

Earlier this month, the Council ratified a general fund budget of \$299 million for FY 2014. Revenue for 2014 is expected to total \$297.2 million—an increase of \$2.7 million over FY 2013. The main sources of revenue for the City are withholding taxes from people who work in Lexington, net profit taxes, insurance taxes and franchise fees.

The 2014 fiscal year begins July 1. Highlights of the new budget includes funding for new firefighters and to replace and improve essential public safety equipment, and \$5 million dollars to purchase land and design a new senior citizens center to replace the current facility on Nicholasville Road.

In the district, Parks and Recreation is presently building four multi-use fields off West Reynolds Road adjacent to Shillito Park for soccer, lacrosse, flag football, and other sports. Parks expects to be finished with the

ground work in the next couple of weeks and to have grass on the new fields by fall.

In addition, speeding complaints are on the rise. See page 6 for more information and regarding accidents occurring at the West Reynolds Road Roundabout.

Please share this newsletter and have a safe and happy July 4th holiday!



FOOD TRUCK PILOT PROGRAM APPROVED

At the June 20th Council meeting, Lexington's Urban County Council unanimously approved a 6-month pilot project allowing food trucks to set up in public street parking spaces in downtown Lexington.

The pilot program has been discussed and debated for more than two years. Participating Food Trucks are restricted to selling

in six specific downtown zones during the pilot program.

The approved ordinance designates that after 5 p.m. weekdays, food trucks may park in any metered parking spot that is at least 100 feet from an open business or a residential area. Food trucks can set up on any city street between 7 a.m. and 3 a.m. on week-ends. *(Continued. See Food Trucks, p.2)*

CALENDAR:

July 2: Great American Pie Contest.

July 4: Downtown Street Festival, Parade, Fireworks.

July 4: Stonewall Community Association Independence Day Parade at Stonewall Elementary School.

July 11: Wellington Home-owners Association Quarterly Meeting, 7 p.m. at Ashland Avenue Baptist Church.

View the [City Calendar](#)

To have your upcoming event noted in a future newsletter, e-mail the information to:

rbolson@lexingtonky.gov

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FOOD TRUCKS (CONTINUED)

The pilot program is intended to evaluate the impact of food trucks operating in the downtown area.

The Bluegrass Food Truck Association (BFTA) announced their support of the modified Food Truck Pilot Program presented by Councilwoman Shevawn Akers on June 20, noting "This program presents a compromise that should enable food trucks to operate using metered parking spaces in Lexington."

There are an estimated 15,000+ food trucks in operation across the U.S. Some of the fare offered by food trucks in Lexington includes bagels, paninis, cheese steaks, blackened chicken

nachos, grilled pizzas, chicken sandwiches, barbecue, Portuguese sausage, beef curry, hot dogs, strombolis, chicken parmesan sandwiches, bruschetta, Caribbean cuisine, gourmet cookies, ice cream, and more.

To operate and participate in the pilot program during these times, a one-page application is required along with a \$25 fee.

The application form is available from the Division of Revenue at 200 East Main Street. For more information, contact the Division of Revenue at 859-258-3340.



"This program presents a compromise that should enable food trucks to operate using metered parking spaces in Lexington."

FOURTH OF JULY FESTIVAL EVENTS PLANNED

Make plans to celebrate Independence Day at Lexington's Fourth of July Festival in downtown Lexington.

Events include the Great American Pie Contest, on July 2; a free Patriotic Concert at 8 p.m. on July 3 on the lawn of Old Morrison at Transylvania University with the Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra and the Lexington Singers; the Bluegrass 10,000 and Fun Run on July 4; and the annual downtown street festival from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on July 4.

Free entertainment during the day will be pro-

vided at five different sites in the downtown area from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The annual parade will occur at 2 p.m. and there is a special Central Bank Thursday Night Live! free concert from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Fifth-Third Pavilion in Cheapside Park.

A fireworks display will occur over downtown Lexington at 10 p.m. presented by RJ Corman.

Lexington's Fourth of July Festival is produced by Downtown Lexington Corporation and the city.

For more information, visit the Downtown Lexington Corporation [website](#).



FREE SUMMER PROGRAM FOR FEMALE YOUTH

A free summer program for female youth will begin on June 29 at the downtown Lexington Public Library at 140 East Main Street. The program is "Molding of Generation Divas," sponsored by Partners for Youth and Sisters Road to Freedom Inc. It is for female youth ages 10-18 and their caring female adults.

The first of three sessions will be held 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 29. The session, "Healthy Minds, Bodies and Souls" focuses on mental wellness, nutrition and fitness. The second session, "Divas Etiquette Tea Party,"

will be held July 21 and focuses on grooming, table etiquette, nutrition and fitness and includes a fashion show.

The final session, "Divas Back to School Bash," concentrates on social networking in and out of the classroom and includes a giveaway of back-to-school supplies.

To register, e-mail Dawn Angarone at d_angarone@insightbb.com or call 859-351-2642. For more information, contact Therese Warrick at 859-536-7677.



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d_angarone@insightbb.com

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ROBINWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

Rick Hawthorne of Robinwood Neighbors Association has volunteered to organize a committee to create a Robinwood "Neighborhood Watch" program. Robinwood Subdivision was established in 1969.

Rick is gathering e-mail addresses from Robinwood neighborhood residents in order to notify residents as quickly as possible if close neighbors have been burglarized or vandalized.

If you would like to be a part of the Robinwood Neighbors Association Watch team or participate in the Robinwood Neighbors Association Watch Alerts, you should e-mail Rick

at jrickh@gmail.com or call him at 859-223-5421.

If you would like to join the Robinwood Neighbors Association, contact Robin Young at robinwoodneighbors@gmail.com.

For more information, visit the Robinwood Neighbors Association website at www.RobinwoodNeighborhood.com.



Robinwood Neighbors Association is launching a new Neighborhood Watch Program.

1999 LFUCG COUNCIL HONORED BY HRC

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission honored the 1999 Urban County Council, of which I was a member along with current Vice Mayor Linda Gorton and Councilmember Bill Farmer, on June 20, in recognition of outstanding achievement in promoting diversity, human rights and equal opportunity.

The 1999 Urban County Council passed Local Ordinance 201-99, more commonly known as the Fairness Ordinance, on July 8, 1999. The Lexington Commission on Human Rights was created in June of 1963.



Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission 50th Anniversary Dinner and Awards Ceremony at the Grand Reserve.



IN THE NEWS: PETS LEFT IN HOT CARS

It takes only minutes for a pet left in a vehicle on a warm day to succumb to heatstroke and suffocation.

Most people don't realize how hot it can get in a parked car on a balmy day. However, on a 78-degree day, temperatures in a car parked in the shade can exceed 90 degrees - and hit a scorching 160 degrees if parked in the sun.

Even when the outside air temperature is in the 60s, temperatures inside some vehicles can reach the danger zone on bright, sunny days.

Animals are not able to sweat like humans do. Dogs cool themselves by panting and by sweating through their paws. If they have only overheated air to breathe, animals can collapse, suffer brain damage and possibly die of heatstroke.

Just 15 minutes can be enough for an animal's body temperature to climb from to deadly levels that will damage the nervous and cardiovascular systems, often leaving the animal comatose, dehydrated and at risk of permanent impairment or death.

If you see a dog left in a car on a warm day, even with the window down, please call the Lexington Humane Society at 859-233-0044.



Never leave a child or dog unattended in a vehicle, even if it's only for a short time.

NEW LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT FOR LEXINGTON

At a recent news conference at Fire Station #1, Mayor Jim Gray, Fire Chief Keith Jackson, and CSEPP Program Manager Tammy Liebenauer announced the purchase of state-of-the-art new life-saving equipment, the LUCAS 2 Chest Compression System, for use by Lexington's Fire/EMS personnel.

Hundreds of times each year, Lexington's Fire/EMS personnel respond to calls involving suspected heart attacks. In many of those cases, manual chest compressions keep the victim alive until they arrive at a hospital emergency room. Even under the best conditions, proper CPR is exhausting for a first responder. The battery-powered and portable LUCAS 2 Chest

Compression system is a pneumatic chest compression tool that delivers CPR to a patient while maintaining a fixed and steady rate of compression. It allows EMTs to focus on other lifesaving efforts while the Lucas handles the CPR.

The system provides 100 chest compressions a minute. The City has had one unit in use for two years, but five more were recently purchased with funding made available through the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP).

The units are carried by district majors in the Division of Fire and Emergency Services. The majors respond to emergency medical calls involving suspected heart attacks.



Lexington Fire Department now has new "LUCAS 2" life-saving equipment available for use by Fire/EMS personnel. Photo courtesy of Joile.

TIPS FOR A SAFE FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY

Most everyone likes to enjoy fireworks for the Fourth of July and attending organized fireworks displays throughout Lexington is the safest way to view them.

If you decide to use fireworks at home, follow these tips from the Lexington Fire Department to have a safe and injury-free Fourth of July.

- Buy fireworks only from a licensed store or stand.
- Follow directions on firework packaging. Do NOT combine multiple types or light many fireworks at one time.
- Never allow young children to handle fireworks.
- Only use fireworks outdoors and away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose nearby to extinguish sparklers and malfunctioning fireworks.
- Never throw sparklers or fireworks at other people. Stand at least 6 feet from other people while using sparklers.
- Spectators should keep a safe distance from the firework shooter. The firework handler

should wear protective glasses.

- Do not carry fireworks in your pockets.
- Alcohol and fireworks are a dangerous combination. Do not drink and handle fireworks.

Fireworks that have wings, fins or other parts which would cause them to fly are prohibited for general consumer use in Fayette County.

Additionally, fireworks are illegal if they carry a cautionary label which includes in their description any of the following terms: explosive, emits flaming pellets, flaming balls, firecracker, report or rocket.

Ground and handheld sparkling devices and other fireworks that make noise or smoke are permitted. A good rule of thumb: if it blows up or goes up, it is more dangerous and thus illegal in Fayette County.

For those caught with illegal fireworks, fines range from \$250 to \$1,000.

The Lexington Fire Department urges everyone to use caution and care around fireworks so you can have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July.



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“SHARE THE ROAD, PEOPLE” CAMPAIGN

Ride safely. Drive safely. That’s the message to from city and community safety partners this season. The LFUCG Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Lexington Police, the University of Kentucky and the County Attorney's Office are joining forces on an ad campaign to educate citizens about what each of them can do to keep our roads safe.

The “Share the Road, People” campaign ads are already appearing on buses and billboards around Lexington. These ads drive home the following points to cyclists and drivers:

- Ride in the direction of traffic
- Stop for red lights
- Be visible
- Share the Road. Be courteous and respectful of cyclists’ right to ride
- Give safe passing distance (at least 3 feet)
- Watch for cyclists when turning



PERFECT SCORE FOR PARKS AND RECREATION

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), the leading advocacy organization dedicated to the advancement of public parks, recreation and conservation, has awarded Lexington’s Parks and Recreation Department a perfect score on a review test of 144 standards, putting it in the top 3 percent in the country.

The Urban County Council recognized Parks and Recreation at the June 18 meeting for their high level of success in completing application for national re-accreditation by the NRPA.

Parks completed its nearly 200 page self-assessment, which was followed by a national team of parks executives visiting Lexington to review evidence of the completion of the 144 standards. The visitation team reported to NRPA that Parks and Recreation had met or exceeded all 144 of the standards. Lexington is one of a small number of park agencies that is fully accredited, demonstrating its close following of best practices and industry standards of conduct across its financial, programming, maintenance and public outreach and planning efforts.





FROM THE OFFICE OF
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The number one complaint my office has received lately is about speeding in our neighborhoods. It is a problem that is occurring throughout Lexington. Speed is involved in about one out of three fatal crashes, according to the NHTSA. It is the third leading contributing factor to traffic crashes. But while injuries and fatalities due to other dangerous behaviors, such as driving while impaired and not wearing seatbelts, have been significantly reduced, speeding is still a challenge.

Surveys find that although people name speeding as a threat to their safety when other drivers around them are speeding, the majority say they also speed when driving. There are many reasons why people speed:

- They're in a hurry.
- They're inattentive to their driving.
- They don't take traffic laws seriously; they don't think the laws apply to them.
- They don't view their driving behavior as dangerous.
- They don't expect to get caught.
- Some or all of the above.

Speeding is a habitual driver behavior. I will continue to work with the Division of Police to monitor our neighborhoods for speeders and aggressive driving in an effort to enforce applicable traffic laws.

REYNOLDS ROAD ROUNDABOUT ACCIDENTS

According to the 2012 Traffic Analysis Summary & Comparison report issued earlier this year by Lexington's Division of Police, the West Reynolds Road Roundabout was ranked number one in intersection collisions in Lexington with 36 collisions.

Accordingly, I have been in discussions with the city's Traffic Engineering Department and with the Division of Police to examine the factors and conditions contributing to the situation.

From all indications, speed and driver inattention or improper driver behavior are the leading factors in the accidents that have occurred at the Reynolds Road Roundabout.

The Roundabout averaged three wrecks a month in 2012. The second most accident-prone intersection on the list, Richmond at Fontaine Road, averaged approximately two.

At first glance, the number may seem high, but an estimated 18,000 vehicles travel on West

Reynolds Road daily, on average, and the accidents at the Roundabout are generally minor "fender-benders" in nature as the design of the Roundabout actually provides fewer chances for severe collisions to occur.

The recommended speed at the Roundabout is **15 m.p.h.** however many drivers are traveling much faster and refuse to yield the right-of-way as they enter the Roundabout. Traffic in the Roundabout always has the right-of-way.

In a recent traffic survey conducted by the Division of Police on West Reynolds Road, several motorists were observed approaching the Roundabout with speeds in excess of 70 m.p.h.—nearly *twice* the posted speed.

Monitoring and enforcement will continue.

For more information, please watch my recent "Council Comment" segment on the Reynolds Road Roundabout, [click here](#).



Taping a GTV3 segment of "Council Comment" with Officer Alvin Cook at the Reynolds Road Roundabout.



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