

A monthly publication from the office of Lexington, Kentucky
Councilmember Jennifer Mossotti.

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Councilmember Jennifer Mossotti's 9th District News & Notes Newsletter

April 2013 Edition

Volume I, Issue 3

Mayor Presents Proposed Budget to the Council

The Urban County Council will vote on the Mayor's Proposed Budget in June

Mayor Gray presented his proposed budget to the Urban County Council on April 9. The proposed FY14 Budget is a \$297 million spending plan; a 2.7% increase over the FY13 forecast and includes many proposals that the Council has made.

There were \$309.7 million in funding requests overall. Unfortunately, all of the requests could not be funded.

Proposed FY 14 Budget highlights include:

- No broad-based tax increases.
- Funding for 35 new firefighters and the addition of another emergency medical ambulance.
- \$5 million to purchase land and design a new senior citizens center.
- \$150,000 for multi-use fields at Shillito Park to accommodate soccer, football, field hockey, lacrosse and more.
- Funding for youth activities including the "I Do" initiative and camps for children with mental and physical disabilities.
- Continued full funding of the rainy day fund.
- 2 percent salary increase for our civil service employees.

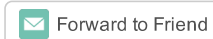
Public Safety

To improve public safety, the proposed budget includes funding for increasing strategic police overtime funds for our neighborhoods, and the money to upgrade emergency warning sirens and for the city to continue to prepare a new, more affordable Emergency Operations Center and improve public safety equipment including new police cruisers, fire trucks, emergency medical ambulances, radios, clothing, cardiac monitors and more.

About the Budget

There are several ways in which one can look at how the LFUCG will spend its budget this year. The finances of the government are segregated into funds in order to account for specific activities in accordance with special regulations or restrictions. The total budget is organized as follows:

- **General Services District Fund:** supports basic services such as police, fire, planning and zoning, parks and recreation, libraries, and other community services. This fund is financed primarily by employee withholdings/net profits license fees and property taxes.
- **Tenant Relocation Fund:** accounts for relocation assistance to eligible low-income tenants displaced by the rezoning, redevelopment, or change in use of property.
- **Urban Services Districts Fund:** accounts for refuse collection, street lights, and street cleaning services provided by the government. These services are funded by an additional property tax paid only by the property owners in the respective service districts.



Upcoming Events:

April 20: Free Household Waste Disposal Day. 6 am-2pm. 1505 Old Frankfort Pike.

April 21: Lexington's Women's Garden Work Day at Wellington Park. 2pm-4pm.

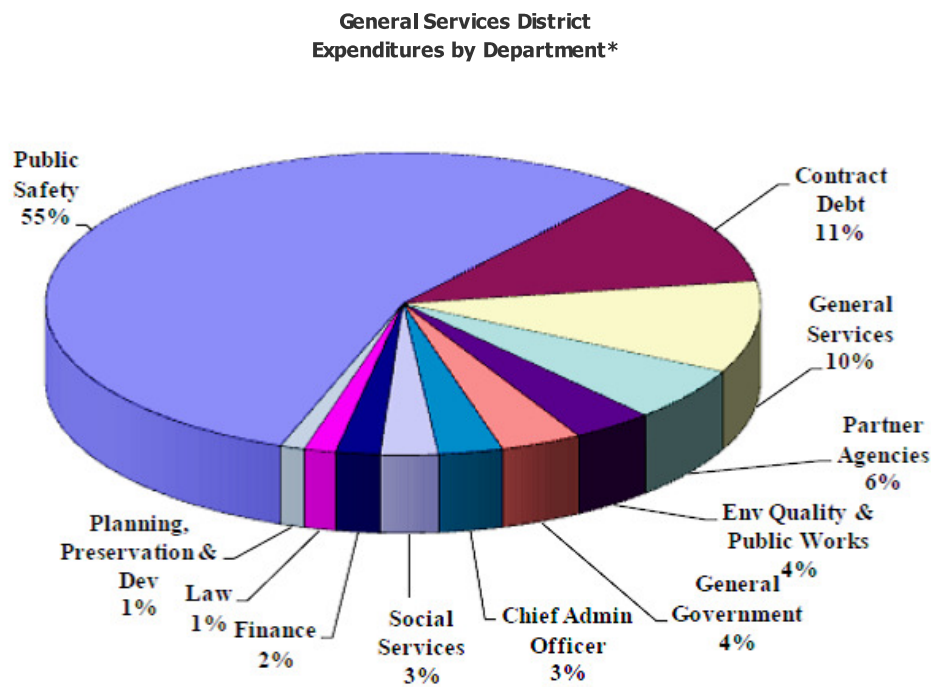
May 9: Annual Rabies Vaccination Clinic at Third Street Fire Station, 6 pm-9 pm.

May 11: Great American Cleanup Event at Stonewall Park. 9:00 am

- **Special Revenue Funds:** accounts for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted for specified expenditures, such as Police Confiscated-Federal, Police Confiscated-State, Public Safety, Municipal Aid Program, County Aid Program, Mineral Severance Fund, Coal Severance Fund, Miscellaneous Special Revenue, Police Confiscated Treasury, and state and federal grant funds.
- **Capital Projects Funds:** accounts for the receipt and disbursement of resources used in major capital and construction projects.
- **Enterprise Funds:** self-supporting through charges for services. LFUCG enterprise funds include Sanitary Sewers, Water Quality Management, Landfill, Right of Way, Extended School Program, Prisoner's Activity, Enhanced 911, LexVan, and Public Corporations.
- **Fiduciary Funds:** accounts for assets held by the government in a trustee capacity. Included are the Public Library Corporation Fund, the City Employees' Pension Fund, and the Police and Fire Retirement Fund.
- **Internal Service Funds:** accounts for the financing of services by one fund to another fund or funds of the government. Included here are the government's self-insurance funds.
- **Personnel** accounts for well over half of the total General Services District Fund budget. This category includes wages, overtime, and fringe benefits.
- **Partner Agencies** are non-governmental programs such as the Library and various economic, legal, and social service organizations that receive full or partial funding from LFUCG.
- **Debt Service** is for payment on long-term and short-term debt incurred to finance public projects and portions of the unfunded liability in the Police and Fire Pension Fund.
- **Capital** includes payments for capital improvement projects such as parks construction, safety equipment, and copier leases.

Expenditures by Department or Service Area

Governmental departments are unique units with specific responsibilities, generally defined in the LFUCG Charter.



*FY13

General Services is the third largest area of the budget, comprising approximately 10 percent of the General Fund budget. The largest department within the General Services Fund is Public Safety,

to noon.

May 11-12: 19th Annual Mayfest Arts Fair, Gratz Park & Transylvania University.

May 18: Robinwood Neighborhood Yard Sale.

July 11: Wellington Homeowners Association Quarterly Meeting. 7 pm at Ashland Avenue Baptist Church.

To have your upcoming event added to a future newsletter, e-mail the information to rbolson@lexingtonky.gov.

accounting for more than half of the budget.

Contract Debt comprises approximately one-tenth of the General Fund budget. This budget is for payment on long-term and short-term debt incurred to finance public projects and portions of the unfunded liability in the Police and Fire Pension Fund.

The Urban County Council will vote on the Mayor's Proposed Budget in June.

For more information on the budget, click [here](#).



Corridors Neighborhood Match Grant Program

The Corridors Commission is currently accepting applications for the Corridors Neighborhood Match Grant program. The program's objective is to partner with neighborhood and other community-based groups to enhance the corridors leading into and out of Lexington and to increase awareness of corridor enhancements.

To be eligible for these funds, applicant groups must be either incorporated, active neighborhood/ home-owner associations or a federally recognized non-profit organization 501(c)3. Cooperation between applicant groups is encouraged. For FY 2013-2014, the entire fund is capped at \$10,000, with a \$10,000 match. It is anticipated there will be multiple awards for this round of funding.

Applications will be evaluated by a review board appointed by the Corridors Commission. Funds will be awarded by June 30 of the award year and participants will have one fiscal year to complete the projects.

Those interested in applying for the funding must apply by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 10, 2013. Instructions (including activities that are eligible and ineligible) and an application are available on the [Corridors Commission website](#).

For additional information, contact Elizabeth Mortenson at (859) 266-1572 or elizabeth@bgpride.org.





Downtown Lexington Traffic Movement and Revitalization Study

Using a \$465,000 federal grant, the City hired Stantec consulting engineers in May of 2012 to develop detailed plans for potentially converting several one-way downtown streets to two-way, including Main, Vine, Upper, Limestone, Second, Short, Maxwell, and High.

The study will assess the ability of downtown's street system to accommodate current and future traffic if these streets are converted. The study should also help determine whether or not conversion can reduce driver confusion and improve access to downtown businesses.

The Downtown Lexington Traffic Movement and Revitalization Study would like to get your thoughts about how the potential conversion of some or all of downtown Lexington streets might affect your business. Click the link below to find out what's happening with the study, to examine case studies of two-way conversions in other cities, and to provide your thoughts.

To go to the survey, simply [click here](#).

Three public meetings will be held during this study. Dates for individual meetings have not been set at this time.

As always, I welcome your feedback on this or any other issue facing our community. What are your thoughts on this matter? E-mail your comments to me at jmossotti@LexingtonKy.Gov.





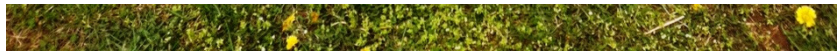
In the neighborhood...

Speaking at the Wellington Homeowners Association meeting at the Ashland Avenue Baptist Church.

Thank you to Lynne Lawrence, President of Wellington Homeowners Association and to the Wellington Board for the opportunity to attend and speak at their recent membership meeting. Representatives from the Division of Police Community Services Department, LexCall 3-1-1, and the City's Urban Forester also spoke at the meeting.

If you are not currently a member of a neighborhood association, I urge you to look into joining in order to take advantage of the many benefits membership offers.





Volunteers Needed

The Lexington Women's Garden will have its first garden work day of the year at Wellington Park on Sunday, April 21 from 2 pm to 4 pm in collaboration with Keep Lexington Beautiful and the Great American Cleanup. Volunteers are invited to join in and "play in the dirt!"

For more information: contact Victoria Meyer at (859) 806-4665.



Seniors invited to take part in the City's Government Intern Program

Lexington residents 50 and older are invited to learn more about their local government by enrolling in the 2013 Senior Intern Program. The program, which is free, offers seniors the opportunity to talk with key decision makers in city government participate in class activities and visit several government facilities.

Several sessions are devoted to field trips to outlying government operations that include the Corrections, Emergency Operation Center Fire & Emergency Services, the Division of Police and others.

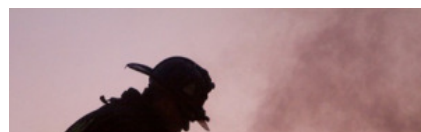
This year's program will be held June 10-June 14. The program concludes with the annual Alumni Luncheon/Graduation. Space is limited to the first 45 eligible people who apply. Only those people who have not previously attended may attend.

If interested in participating in the program contact:

Kristy Stambaugh
200 E. Main Street, 3rd Floor, Room 328
Lexington, KY 40507
859-258-3806
kstambaugh@lexingtonky.gov

Mulch Fires on the Rise in Lexington

Due to the number of recent mulch fires in the community, the Lexington Fire Department asks residents to use caution when it comes to landscaping mulch. These fires can start out small and undetected, but can eventually grow into larger fires, causing major damage to buildings, homes, and other structures.



buildings, homes, and other structures.

Be careful not to pile mulch too deeply, no more than a few inches, as it can build up heat and spontaneously catch fire. Decorative lighting should not be installed too close or inside mulch, as they can heat it up and cause a fire. Other contributing factors include below average rainfall, dry conditions, warm weather, and wind.



The most common cause of mulch fire is human carelessness through discarding of smoking products. Cigarette and cigar smokers often discard lighted smoking materials, including matches, into the landscaped areas as they enter and/or exit a building.

To help prevent a mulch fire, please follow these safety tips:

- Become aware of this fire safety problem and use smoking materials responsibly. Use only approved receptacles for matches, cigarettes and cigars.
- Recognize that hot and dry spells allow mulch fires to start more readily.
- Maintain at least 18 inches of clearance between the edge of the mulch bed and combustible building materials, such as exterior vinyl siding and decks.
- Keep mulch beds as moist as possible.

For more Fire Safety Tips from the Division of Fire, click [here](#).



Lexington is first community in Kentucky to offer "Carrier Alert" program

Do you or someone you know live alone in Lexington?

Two city departments are partnering with several postal agencies to offer citizens who live alone without family a new service.

The service, called "Carrier Alert," allows postal carriers to alert local authorities when someone in the program has an unusual accumulation of mail. Lexington is the first community in Kentucky to offer the program.

The program is a joint project between the city's Departments of Social Services and Public Safety, the United States Postal Service, the National Association of Letter Carriers, and the Postal Consumer Advisory Council.

Lexington will be the first community in Kentucky to offer this program."

The program works this way:

A person living alone without family or friends who regularly check on them can register for the program.

The letter carrier then places a Carrier Alert sticker in their mailbox. The mail carrier watches for an unusual accumulation of mail as indicated on the registration form.

The mail carrier reports the unusual accumulation to postal officials, who notify the Lexington Department of Social Services. Social Services attempt to contact the person by phone.

If the person cannot be reached, Social Services calls the emergency contacts on the registration form. As a last resort, Social Services notifies 9-1-1 and a public safety representative is sent to the home to check on the resident.

Registration forms are available at any Lexington post office or by calling LexCall 3-1-1 at 3-1-1 or 425-2255 or by visiting www.BeReadyLexington.com.

To register, fill out the form and give it to your letter carrier, take it to your local Post Office, or mail it to the Department of Social Services, 200 East Main Street, Suite 328, Lexington, Ky. 40507.

Stonewall Park Great American Cleanup Event is May 11

Stonewall Community Association will conduct their annual Stonewall Park Cleanup event at Stonewall Park on Cornwall Drive on Saturday, May 11, from 9 am to noon. All assistance is welcomed!

Activities will include stream cleanup and removal of invasive plants near the stream and on the hillside.

There will be free pizza for volunteers afterward. Look for the banner at the park for further details.



Parks & Recreation 2013 Fun Guide Now Available

Download your free copy of the new LFUCG Parks & Recreation "2013 Fun Guide" by clicking the [link](#) below. It's filled with useful information on the city's terrific parks and programs for activities such as swimming, basketball, camping, walking, football, softball, Frisbee golf, and much more.

Be sure to "LIKE" the Parks and Recreation page on Facebook to keep up with the latest news and information about our various public parks.

Download or view the Fun Guide by clicking [here](#).

Dispose of your excess medication

The Division of Police and Kentucky American Water began a partnership in 2010 to give citizens a means of disposing of unused medication in a safe manner. The Med Toss Event is held twice a year and has been a successful program.

The Division of Police is continuing their partnership to provide citizens with another option to dispose of unused medication.

A drop box has been donated by Kentucky American Water for this purpose. It will be located in the lobby of Police Headquarters at 150 E. Main Street. This drug collection unit is another service provided to citizens that will help keep unused medication out of the hands of children, pets and those who would abuse the medication. It also keeps it out of our water supply.

The box is available seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Accepted items in the box are prescription pills, patches and vitamins.

Items that are not accepted in the box include thermometers, needles, aerosol cans, inhalers, liquids or lotions. This box is for private citizen use only and not meant for businesses or clinics.

It is recommend that labels with personal information on medication are either removed or marked out.

Source: [LFUCG Public Information Office](#).





Street Light Out? Street Light Repair?

Kentucky Utilities services street lights for the Fayette County area. If you have a light out or other street light problem, their automated phone system can be reached by calling 1-800-981-0600. Blue Grass Energy also provides service for a portion of the county, and street light problems in their coverage area can be reported at (859) 885-4191.

Kentucky Utilities offers online reporting by [clicking here](#).

You can also report a street light outage to LexCall 3-1-1.



Division of Police: New Graduates and New Uniforms

Photo: Chatting with Police Chief Bastin at the recent Division of Police Graduation Ceremony for Graduating Class 82012. What a terrific turnout.

The Division of Police now has 31 new officers on the job. Best wishes to each and every new officer!

Note that Chief Bastin is wearing the Division's new duty uniform (including a new sleeve patch) which replaces the traditional "French blue" uniforms that the Division has worn since 1974 when the city and county government's merged creating the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Division of Police. Quite a milestone in the Division's history.



LexCall 3-1-1 is the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government's centralized service and information call center. The service was initiated

can center. The service was initiated in 1997 to make it easier for citizens to access their local government. To call LexCall 3-1-1 from outside the geographic boundaries of Lexington-Fayette County or, if dialing 3-1-1

Instructions

LexCall

Camera
Settings

About

Free LexCall 3-1-1 App Available for "Smart Phones"

Get the Lexington 311 on the App Store by clicking the link below. Lexington 311 is a smartphone application for reporting non-emergency issues in Lexington. The Lexington 311 app works with iPhone to enable you to report concerns such as graffiti and potholes to LexCall 311, Lexington's centralized service and information contact center.

[Download the app here.](#)

Mowing Safety Tips from the Division of Fire and Emergency Services

MOWING IS FOR ADULTS ONLY

There are approximately 180,000 lawnmower accidents per year. The American Academy of Pediatrics estimates that about 10,000 children require care in the emergency room each year because of lawn mower accidents, including about 2,500 kids who are under five years of age. In starting to follow these types of accidents, it is surprising how often these lawn mower accidents cause serious injuries, including lost legs and severe lacerations, and how often they are fatal.

The leading cause of lawnmower accidents is contact with its rotating blade. While the danger from this cause may seem obvious, it is an established fact that people will place their fingers near the blade, generally in an attempt to clear away a clump of grass or other undesired matter. Most of these accidents occur when the person reaches under the "skirt" of the mower, or reaches into the discharge chute.

Another cause of accidents is the throwing of objects, such as small stones, by the blade. The tip of the blade can be moving as fast as 200 miles per hour, and can project small, hard objects as far as 50 feet. These objects can travel in any direction, depending on the angle at which the blade encounters them, and can injure nearby persons.



nearby persons.

Some of the causes of tragic accidents highlight the importance of raising awareness of lawn mower safety, including that:

- Children not operate a walk-behind power mower or hand mower until they are at least 12 years of age or a ride-on mower until at least 16 years of age
- Young children must not be allowed to play in or be adjacent to areas where lawn mowers are being used
- Children younger than 6 years should be kept indoors during mowing

Most importantly, don't let your child ride on your lap while you are mowing the lawn.

Lawn mower accidents are an all too common tragedy, especially this time of year. With an increased awareness of the dangers that can lead to these accidents, parents can hopefully take steps so that they are less likely to happen to their kids.

Health Department to hold annual rabies clinic on May 9

Lexington pet-owners seeking a low-cost rabies vaccination will have their chance at a special clinic next month.

The Lexington-Fayette County Health Department's annual Rabies Vaccination Clinic will be held 6-9 p.m. Thursday, May 9, at the Third Street Fire Station, 219 E. Third St. Vaccinations will cost just \$3. All cats must be in a carrier and all dogs must be on leashes.

Rabies, a viral disease of humans, pets and wild animals, is transmitted from animals to humans by the saliva of a rabid animal, usually from a bite.

Rabies vaccinations typically cost about \$20.

State law requires that all dogs, cats and ferrets maintain a current rabies vaccination. The health department gave 403 rabies shots during the May 2012 clinic. The LFCHD Rabies Control Program received 872 animal bite reports last year, with LFCHD staff making sure each animal was up to date on all rabies vaccination shots.

The clinic also provides pet owners with the opportunity to purchase an animal license, which costs \$8 if the animal has been spayed or neutered. A license costs \$40 if the animal has not been fixed or the owner has no proof of alteration. Lexington-Fayette Animal Care and Control is also sponsoring the clinic.

For more information on the annual



For more information on the annual Rabies Clinic, call the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department's Division of Environmental Health at (859) 231-9791.

Source: [LFUCG Public Information Office](#).

Free household waste disposal day is Saturday, April 20

Fayette County residents can dispose of household waste for free on Saturday, April 20. This is for non-hazardous household waste and does not include hazardous materials such as paint, pesticides and motor oil.

Residents can drop off a pickup truck load of bagged household waste and up to four off-the-rim tires for free between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the transfer station located at 1505 Old Frankfort Pike. No tire rims will be accepted.

Once again, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government is partnering with the Bluegrass Waste Alliance Transfer Station to offer the free disposal day. The city offers the free disposal day four times a year: January, April, July and October, always on the third Saturday of the month.

It normally costs residents \$60.50/ton to dispose of household waste.

Paint will not be accepted. Please take latex paint to the ReStore Habitat for Humanity store, at 451 Southland Drive. You should contact ReStore at (859) 252-2224 before taking the paint to Habitat for Humanity.

Appliances will not be accepted at the transfer station. Appliances should be taken to Environmental Recycling, Inc., located at 3899 Winchester Road.

Electronic devices, such as computers, printers, cell phones, microwave ovens and televisions, should be taken to the E-waste recycling facility at 1306 Versailles Road.

The guidelines for the free disposal day are:

- Participants must have a valid Fayette County drivers' license;
- All loads must be level with the bed of the truck;
- All loads must be covered by a tarp;
- Only household waste will be accepted;
- No more than four tires will be accepted and they must be off the rim;
- No tire rims will be accepted;
- No appliances will be accepted;
- No commercial vehicles allowed;
- No hazardous materials or free-flowing liquids.

For more information on the free disposal day, call LexCall at 3-1-1 or 425-2255. For more information on recycling opportunities in Lexington visit www.Lexingtonky.gov/recycle

* * *

Keep up with the Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LiveGreenLex and on Twitter at www.twitter.com/LiveGreenLex.

City to treat significant ash trees for Emerald Ash Borer

Contractors for the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government are expected to begin a program this spring to treat some of Fayette County's significant ash trees for the Emerald Ash Borer.

The city received a grant from the Kentucky Division of Forestry to treat



Kentucky Division of Forestry to treat some of the blue ash and white ash trees in the city parks with insecticide to get rid of the small exotic pest. Part of the money is also for public education.

The Emerald Ash Borer has been responsible for the death and decline of millions of ash trees in the United States and Canada and threatens a significant number of trees in Lexington and Fayette County.

To prevent the spread of the pest, Fayette and other counties are under a quarantine that prohibits the transportation of firewood, nursery stock and other ash wood products that can spread the insect infestation.

The grant from the forestry division continues the treatment that started about two years ago to save ash trees in the parks.

The treatment involves injecting a systemic pesticide into the trunk of the tree through an IV system.

The work will be performed as soon as the leaves start appearing on the trees Queary said. Orange dots will be placed on the trunks of the trees that are to be treated.

A lot of time went into identifying the trees to be treated. They were checked for structural defects and other signs of aging that could result in their loss.

Ash trees to be treated include some at Castlewood Park, Douglass Park, around Bell House and Gratz Park, Woodland Park, Ecton Park, Dixie Park, Transylvania Park at East Maxwell Street and Fincastle Road at McDowell Road.

For more information about the Emerald Ash Borer or about the treatment program, call Tim Queary at 859-258-3404.

Source: [LFUCG Public Information Office](#).

More great information in this month's edition of "The Messenger"

Read the April edition of the Lexington Senior Center newsletter, "The Messenger," by clicking the link below. The Lexington Senior Center offers numerous free programs, events, and lectures. If you have never visited the Lexington Senior Center (1530 Nicholasville Road, in front of Commonwealth Stadium), stop by soon and check out all of the activities that occur there.

Read and/or Download "The Messenger" [here](#).



Follow Councilmember Mossotti on Facebook, [click here](#).



Useful Telephone Numbers

Police/Fire/Ambulance Emergency...9-1-1
Police Non-Emergency.....258-3600
Fire Non-Emergency.....231-5600

LexCall/City Hall.....3-1-1 or 425-2255
Animal Control/Humane Society..... 255-9033
Better Business Bureau.....259-1008
County Clerk.....253-3344
Crime Stoppers.....253-2020
Senior Citizen Center.....278-6072
Family Services.....288-4040
Waste Collection.....3-1-1 or 425-2255
Fayette Co. Health Dept.....252-2371
Fayette Co. Sheriff.....252-1771
Public Library.....231-5500
Social Security Administration..1-866-530-7754
Kentucky State Government Info..502-564-3130
Kentucky Utilities.....255-0394
Insight Cable.....514-1400
Kentucky-American Water Co.....800-678-6301
Columbia Gas Co.....800-432-9345
Voter Registration.....255-8683

United Way 2-1-1.....2-1-1
Available 24/7 in a multitude of languages, 211 connects callers with available resources so people can find food, housing, health care, senior services, child care, legal aid, volunteer opportunities, and much more.

Did you miss recent editions of the 9th District News & Notes Newsletter?

To read/download the March 2013 edition, [click here](#).
To read/download the February 2013 edition, [click here](#).



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By e-mail:

jmossotti@LexingtonKy.gov

Council workshops and Council meetings occur at 200 East Main Street at the Government Center and are open to the public. You may also watch the proceedings on local Cable Channel 3, GTV3 or online at www.LexingtonKY.gov.



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