

*FROM THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER JENNIFER MOSSOTTI  
SERVING THE PEOPLE OF LEXINGTON'S 9TH DISTRICT*



## 9TH DISTRICT NEWS & NOTES NEWSLETTER

VOLUME II, ISSUE 8



AUGUST 2014 EDITION



View a [map](#) of the district [here](#).

Dear 9th District Neighbors,

All Lexington residents have a common interest in the quality of life of their neighborhood and a shared concern about issues such as traffic, sewers, parks, streets, schools, public safety, waste management, and similar issues.

Accordingly, I am always grateful for an opportunity to meet with 9th District residents and talk about the issues that are important to our families and neighborhoods.

Most recently I attended the Southpoint Neighborhood Association meeting (see photo at right) along with Fayette County PVA David O'Neill and Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent Tom Shelton. I was pleased to see such a

terrific turnout. Congratulations to Jeff and Candy Wolfe and Alisa Spraggins for coordinating the meeting and encouraging attendance.

Neighborhood associations and HOAs such as Southpoint, Stonewall Community, Stonewall Equestrian Estates, Copperfield, Higbee Mill, Magnolia Run, Plantation, Robinwood, Wyndham Meadows, Willow Oak and Wellington offer an excellent opportunity for citizen participation in addressing relevant issues.

They also encourage responsive and responsible local government and provide the opportunity for residents to provide input on timely topics and to work together to improve their neighborhood and the community.

A neighborhood organization can help establish a unified voice—not only to enhance services but also to help others better understand a neighborhood's unique needs, and to celebrate and champion its strengths.

One crucial factor in achieving success is the willingness of the residents who make up the association's board of directors and provide ongoing leadership and direction. I applaud their willingness to dedicate the time and energy to make a difference.



In addition, I encourage you to consider volunteering to be a part of your association's board if applicable.



Offering a few hours of your time each month can have a huge impact.

If you are uncertain if there is an association in your neighborhood available for you to join, please contact me or my office and I will be happy to help you find out.

As always, please forward this newsletter to anyone who may have an interest in receiving it. Thank you.

My best,

P.S.: Fayette County Public Schools open on Wednesday, August 13. Please drive extra carefully in our school zones and around buses!

### CALENDAR:

**Aug. 13:** Fayette County Public Schools open. Watch for children.

**Aug. 14:** Jacobson Park Playground Public Meeting; 6 pm, Southland Christian Church, Richmond Road at New Circle Road.

**Aug. 16-17:** Woodland Art Fair.

**Oct. 18:** Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Drop-Off Event. Details: TBA. (See page 6)

View the [City Calendar](#).

All Council committees, Work Sessions and Council Meetings are cablecast live on GTV-3 on Time-Warner Cable and available at [www.LexingtonKy.gov](http://www.LexingtonKy.gov).



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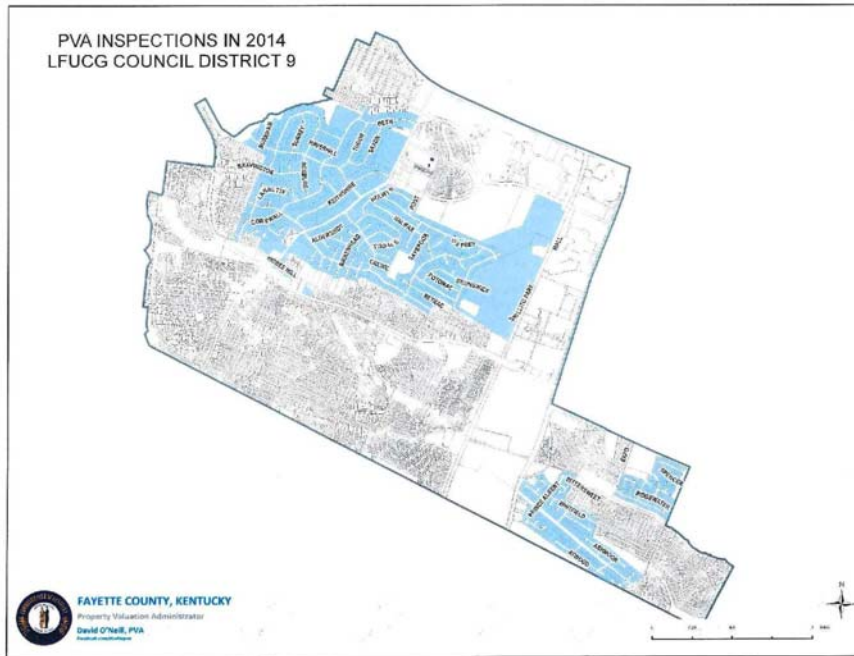
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## PVA INSPECTIONS UNDERWAY IN AREAS OF 9TH DISTRICT



*Areas shown in blue are to presently being inspected by the PVA's office.*

The Fayette County PVA's office is presently inspecting parcels of real property in several areas of the 9th District. By law, the PVA is required to inspect every parcel in Fayette County at least once every four years.

The map at left from the PVA's office shows the specific areas to be inspected (shown in blue).

These areas include the neighborhoods of Monticello, Southpoint, Stonewall Community, and Stonewall Equestrian Estates.

For more information on the inspections, visit [www.FayettePVA.com](http://www.FayettePVA.com) or call (859) 246-2722.

## CITY JOINS EFFORT TO END HOMELESSNESS FOR VETERANS

The City of Lexington is joining a nationwide effort to end homelessness among military veterans. Mayor Gray recently announced his commitment to the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness, an initiative recently unveiled at the White House.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates there are 58,000 homeless veterans nationwide. Lexington homelessness providers conduct an annual count of the homeless population each January and this year found 78 veterans experiencing homelessness who were staying in emergency shelters. But these numbers change day to day.

In addition to joining the Mayors Challenge, Gray also announced an expansion of rental assistance available to local veterans who are homeless.

The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Housing Authority will receive 51 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers from HUD. The

vouchers, administered in partnership with the Lexington VA Medical Center, provide rental assistance and critical support services to help get veterans off the street.

Earlier this year, the City committed \$3.5 million to affordable housing and homelessness and created a new Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention. Charlie Lanter, director of the office, said part of that funding will be used to launch a Housing First pilot project.

The Housing First model provides homeless individuals with permanent housing first, and then works to surround the participant with supportive services they need to remain in the home.

Creation of the homelessness office and using the Housing First model were two recommendations made in a 2013 report of the Mayor's Commission on Homelessness.

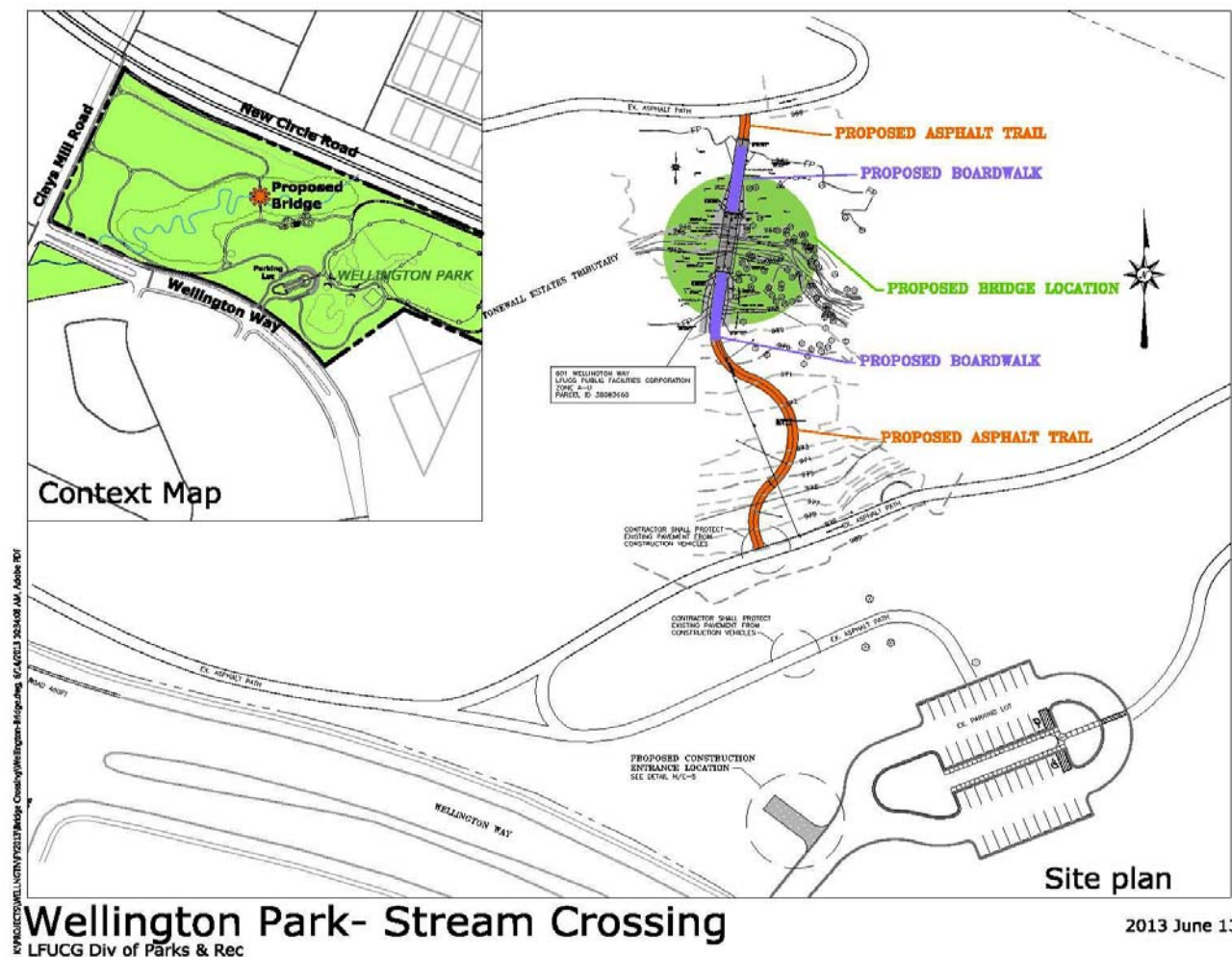
Source: Mayor's Office



# BACK TO SCHOOL

Fayette County Public Schools open on Wednesday, August 13. Please slow down in school zones and watch for bicycles, buses, and children heading back to school.

## WELLINGTON PARK TO GET NEW WALKING PATH BRIDGE



While walking in Wellington Park in 2013, I discovered a “bridge to nowhere.” In researching why the bridge was being stored at Wellington Park I determined that it was, once upon a time, part of the Legacy Trail Project in North Lexington and the decision had been made several years ago to place it at Wellington Park when it was no longer to be utilized on the Legacy Trail.

Further review however revealed that due to the subsequent economic downturn, the bridge was never installed at Wellington Park to fulfill the intended purpose—to add connectivity to the current trail system. Instead, the bridge sat idle for a couple of years in the rear of the park. (See photo at right.) So when the opportunity presented itself to fund the bridge’s installation using the fund balance surplus in the previous fiscal year’s budget, I worked to make that a reality and the funding was later approved by the full Council.



I am pleased to report that soon the bridge will be installed and enhance the connectivity to the trail system at Wellington. Completing the trail system should attract more visitors. The bridge will cross the Stonewall Estates Tributary of the South Elkhorn Creek and create a shorter trail for walkers/cyclists. In addition, it will allow for an architectural elevation feature that would be seen from Reynolds Road as well as New Circle, adding color and height to the space and give the park a stronger visible presence. It will also allow children to explore the wet area and the storm water retention elements of the ‘dam’ which is already on site. This project is a good way to ‘repurpose’ an existing asset, originally purchased with federal dollars.

Actual installation and related landscaping is now slated for this fall and I will continue to update you on the project. Once in place, Wellington Park will be an even more inviting place to visit and enjoy.





## PLANTATION NEIGHBORS GATHER TO CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Plantation Neighborhood Association held its 1st annual 4th of July parade this year and it was deemed a huge success. An estimated crowd of nearly 200 children, parents, grandparents and friends decorated themselves, bicycles, tricycles, and wagons to march behind the Engine 15 fire truck through the neighborhood. The parade ended at the home of the association's president Mike Henderson to enjoy popsicles, watermelon and fellowship.

If your group or association has photographs from a district-related event, please e-mail them along with a description of the event to: [jmossotti@LexingtonKy.gov](mailto:jmossotti@LexingtonKy.gov).

## FAYETTE COUNTY 4-H STUDENTS VISIT CITY HALL

Fayette County 4-H students recently visited City Hall to learn more about local government. They asked some really great questions.

If your group or organization would like to visit the Government Center for a tour, please e-mail me at [jmossotti@LexingtonKy.gov](mailto:jmossotti@LexingtonKy.gov) to arrange a visit.



## YOUTH SERVICES OFFERS FREE PROGRAMS YEAR ROUND



The Division of Youth Services provides specialized casework services to families who are experiencing disruptions and strives to improve home, school, and community life. Services offered are designed to strengthen family life, prevent family breakdown, and facilitate the development and social functioning of young people.

Families who are residents of Fayette County with children under 18 years of age are eligible for services. The family may request services or they may be ordered by the court. Families who request services must be willing to participate during all phases of service delivery. There are no fees for services provided.

One program, Path to Success is a year-long program serving 16-21 year olds that have dropped out of high school. Services provided by the program include: Assistance in obtaining a GED and gaining employment, job and life skills workshops, financial incentives, career guidance and assistance applying for college.

For more information, contact DYS at 859-246-4354 or visit: [www.facebook.com/DYSTeenExpress](http://www.facebook.com/DYSTeenExpress).

## NEW RADIO SYSTEM PROVIDES FOR BETTER PUBLIC SAFETY

Lexington is taking another step forward in public safety this year with the installation of a digital radio system that will allow seamless emergency communication among first responders, including police, fire, corrections and airport officials, while covering 98% of the county.

Police, Corrections, Enhanced 9-1-1 and the Airport are already using the system. Fire will come on line later this year. In a cost-savings measure, the City is leasing existing towers instead of buying land and erecting towers, and also negotiated the new tower leases and bought the radios using a reverse auction process that also drove the price down.

Total cost of the federally mandated improvements was originally estimated at \$17 million. Robert Stack, Director of the Division of Enhanced 9-1-1 said the City was able to cut the cost to \$10.1 million. Bluegrass Airport also paid for its share of the new system.



*Lexington's new digital radio system will allow seamless emergency communication among first responders, including police, fire, community corrections and Bluegrass Airport—covering 98% of the county.*

## WORK BEGINS ON ISAAC MURPHY MEMORIAL ART GARDEN

A memorial for the most successful jockey of all time is officially under construction in Lexington's East End. Ground was recently broken for the Isaac Murphy Memorial Art Garden, which was once the site of Isaac Murphy's home and will honor the contributions of African-Americans in the horse racing industry.

Located at Third Street and Midland Avenue, the Isaac Murphy Memorial Art Garden is a trailhead for the Legacy Trail. Original artwork selected by the community will be prominently featured in the park. Storyboards depicting the lives of Murphy and other African-American horsemen will complement the artwork.

Isaac Burns Murphy (1861-1896), was the first jockey elected to the National Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame. He was the first jockey to

win the Kentucky Derby three times and he won more than a third of his mounts and is considered by many to be the greatest American jockey of all time.

Blue Grass Community Foundation is facilitating ongoing fundraising efforts for the garden. The park will also include seats made of native stone, a sunken amphitheater, bike racks and native plants. Visitors will even be able to see the foundation of Isaac Murphy's house.

A mix of federal, state, local and philanthropic dollars is funding the \$700,000 project. Construction is expected to be complete by November.

To learn more about the project, visit:

<http://isaacmurphy.org/IMMAG/Home.html>



## BREYERFEST 2014

Recently I attended the opening ceremonies for BreyerFest 2014 at the Kentucky Horse Park and presented a proclamation on behalf of Mayor Gray to Anthony Fleischmann, president of Breyer/Reeves International, proclaiming the day as "BreyerFest Silver Jubilee Day" in Lexington.

More than 10,000 people were here for the popular three-day event which is held annually at the Kentucky Horse Park—and what an appropriate setting as Lexington is known around the globe as "Horse Capital of the World."

The annual economic impact is significant and clearly they love coming here each year and enjoying everything our community has to offer.







FROM THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER JENNIFER MOSSOTTI  
SERVING THE PEOPLE OF LEXINGTON'S 9TH DISTRICT

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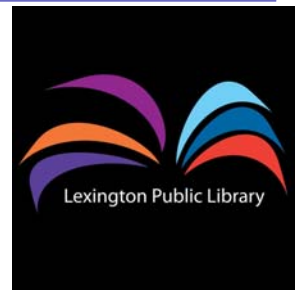
## OTHER INFORMATION OF NOTE...



**Clays Mill Road Widening Project Update:** The latest update from the City's Senior Design and Construction Engineer is that due to design changes, the extreme winter conditions from this past winter, and change orders for the project, the new projected completion date has been moved slightly, from August 8 to August 20. The good news is, the end of this phase of the project is near!



**Another Phone Scam in Lexington.** A resident of Magnolia Run recently received a phone call from someone of foreign decent indicating that their name was "Officer Alex Brown" from the Federal Crime Investigation Legal Department. He stated there was a legal complaint filed against the person and that they should make an urgent call to 1-800 645-7765 or risk facing an officer at the doorstep or place of employment. A call to police revealed that it was a phone scam. Do not fall for it! Always check with Police or the BBB.



**In the community.** The Lexington Public Library offers many free classes each month for both children and adults, on topics such as computers, photography, reading, writing, genealogy, storytelling and much more. View the August/September calendar [here](#).

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

<b>LexCall</b> (City Hall)	311
<b>Police</b> (Non-emergency)	258-3600
<b>Fire</b> (Non-emergency)	231-5600
Columbia Gas	800-432-9345
Fayette County Clerk	253-3344
Fayette County Sheriff	252-1771
Garbage Collection	425-2255 or 311
Health Dept.	252-2371
Humane Society	225-9033
Ky. Utilities	255-0394
Ky. American Water	800-678-6301
Lexington Public Library	231-5500
Senior Citizen Center	278-6072
Time-Warner Cable	514-1400
Traffic Hotline	258-3830
Voter Registration	255-8683
United Way	211

## NEW STOP SIGN IN SOUTHPOINT

The Division of Traffic Engineering recently installed multi-way stop signs and pavement markings at the intersection of Southpoint Drive and St. Elias Lane. Motorists should use caution in the area while traffic adjusts to the change.



**New street lights for Kelli Rose Way and Loblolly Way area.** KU and LFUCG Traffic Engineering continue to work aggressively to eliminate the backlog of uninstalled street lights in the community. No new addresses will be assigned to the Full Urban Services area for new street lights until the current backlog is caught up.

Lexington's next **Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Day** will be Saturday, Oct. 18, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 1630 Old Frankfort Pike. Watch for a new web page link coming soon at [LiveGreenLexington.com](http://LiveGreenLexington.com) for more information about the event and a listing of which items will be collected and which items will not be accepted.



*Share the news! Do you know someone who might also enjoy reading this monthly newsletter? Please forward a copy to them. If you are not currently a subscriber, please e-mail [rbolson@lexingtonky.gov](mailto:rbolson@lexingtonky.gov) to be added to the e-mail list. Did you miss an edition? View previous editions of the 9th District Newsletter here: <http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=364>*