

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



9TH DISTRICT NEWS & NOTES NEWSLETTER

VOLUME III, ISSUE 1



JANUARY 2015



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

Dear 9th District Neighbors,

Happy New Year! I am honored to be back for a new two-year term and appreciate your support and the trust you continue to place in me to represent our terrific 9th District.

With the new year we have several new faces on the Council, including, Jake Gibbs (3rd District), Susan Lamb (4th District), Angela Evans (6th District), Fred Brown (8th District), Amanda Mays Bledsoe (10th District), and Richard Moloney (At-Large). I look forward to working with the new Council as we build on the momentum of the past two years. (See related story below.) District members are elected for two-year terms and may serve up to six consecutive terms. The At-Large members are elected for four-year terms and may serve up to three consecutive terms.

In new Council business news, earlier this month I was chosen to chair the Council's Planning and Public Safety Committee. It is indeed an honor and I am eager to take on this new role.

This standing committee, which meets the second Tuesday of each month and is made up of ten Council members, deals with matters relating to the Division of Planning and including, but not limited to, matters relating to housing, infill and redevelopment, purchase of development rights and historic preservation, and any related partner agencies and matters relating to the Department of Public Safety and its related divisions. These are clearly

topics and concerns that impact our city on many important levels. The meetings are open to the public and also broadcast on Lexington's cable channel 3 (GTV-3) and available live streaming online at www.LexingtonKy.gov.

In the district, As of this month, the new [president](#) of Copperfield Neighborhood Association is **Travis Overton**. Welcome Travis, and special thanks to **Jason Heck** for all of his hard work and numerous accomplishments as the previous president. Watch for a feature article on Jason in an upcoming edition of this newsletter.

If you have interest in joining or participating in a 9th District neighborhood association, please contact my office for information and further details.

Special Recognition. Do you know someone whose service to the district or community should be recognized? A special volunteer? Someone active in community affairs? If so, please let me know. I will soon be adding a "person of the month" feature to the newsletter to profile people who help make a difference in our city.

As always, I continue to welcome your feedback and input on any topic or concern you may have. Please feel free to pass this newsletter along to anyone else who may be interested in reading it.

My best,



L to R, Council Members Susan Lamb, Amanda Mays Bledsoe, Angela Evans, Peggy Henson, Shevawn Akers, Jennifer Mossotti and Jennifer Scutchfield.

HISTORIC EVENT

Seven women now serve on the Urban County Council—the most women to ever be elected to the Council.

Lexington is doing much better than at the state or national level as too few women tend to run for office at that level. In Kentucky, a woman has not been on the top of the ticket in the governor's race since 1999, more than fifteen years ago. Increasing women's participation in leadership roles is smart business.

CALENDAR:

Feb. 1: Super Bowl Sunday.

Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24: Council Work Session; City Hall, 3:00 pm.

Feb. 10: Planning & Public Safety Committee Meeting, City Hall, 1:00 pm.

Feb. 12, 26: Council Meeting; City Hall, 6:00 pm.

Feb. 16: Presidents Day. LFUCG offices closed.

See page 6 for a list of upcoming Parks & Recreation events.

View the [City Calendar](#).



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

FAQ: HOW DO I GET CITY SERVICES? 2

MARK BARNARD NAMED POLICE CHIEF 2

PHOTO GALLERY: 2015 INAUGURATION EVENT 3

YOUTH SUMMER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM 4

RADIO LEXINGTON APP NOW AVAILABLE 5

PARKS & RECREATION "GET OUT AND PLAY!" 6

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS 7

FAQ: HOW DO I GET TRASH COLLECTION AND CITY SERVICES?

A frequent question I receive goes something like this: "My street does not have government refuse collection, street lights or street cleaning. How can we get these services?"

Your street must petition the LFUCG in order to receive urban services. Residents will vote and if they decide to receive these services, they will be in one of four tax districts:

- Tax District 01: Full service (refuse collection, street lights and street cleaning)
- Tax District 03: Refuse collection only
- Tax District 05: Refuse collection and street lights
- Tax District 07: Refuse collection and street cleaning



How do I begin the petition process for government services? Prior to August 1 of any year, 51% of the property owners on the street will have to sign a petition showing interest in voting on a change to government service. Property owners on the petition will be verified through Property Valuation Administrator (PVA) records.

When that petition is submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) prior to August 1, a certified letter with a voting card is sent to all property owners. The voting card "for" or "against" government services must be returned to DEQ by the voting deadline in order for the vote to count.

The votes are then tabulated from the returned cards. If 51% of the people voting want to change to government services, the Urban County Council approves the change. Not voting does not count as a "NO" vote. If you do not support a tax district change, you will need to vote "no" on your voting card and return it by the deadline. Changes in tax districts are permanent. If your street votes to change to government services, you cannot revert back to private services and be exempted from the tax increase.

The process of changing the Urban Service District begins each September and is required by State law to be completed on December 31 for inclusion in the next fiscal year.

When does the change in government services take place? The switch from private services to government services begins when the new tax year begins the following July. At that time, the monthly disposal fee of \$4.50 will begin appearing on your [LEXserv](#) bill. The increase in your taxes will appear on your fall property tax bill.

How will I pay for government services? The cost of government services will be paid for in two ways: through a higher property tax and a fee on your [LEXserv](#) bill. The \$4.50 per month disposal fee on your bill adds up to \$54 per year. To determine the full cost of government services, add \$54 to the percentage of property tax indicated by your tax district. To determine your tax district, visit the Fayette County PVA's website here and enter your address at the top of the page under "Quick Search": <http://www.fayette-pva.com/>

For more information, visit: <http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=2354>

MARK BARNARD SWORN IN AS NEW CHIEF OF POLICE

At a ceremony held earlier this month, Mayor Jim Gray administered the oath of office to new Police Chief Mark Barnard.

Barnard is a 28-year veteran of the force who has worked his way up in the division, giving him a broad range of experience. Barnard holds a master's degree in criminal justice from Eastern Kentucky University.

He succeeds former Police Chief Ronnie Bastin, who retired to become the city's new Public Safety Commissioner.

Barnard was the unanimous choice of the city's Search Committee, a diverse group of citizens from throughout the community including representatives of the criminal justice community, business people, the Council, the faith community and community advocates. Glenn Brown, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, chaired the committee.

He and his wife, Gaye, live in Lexington and have two daughters, Caroline and Elizabeth.

Best wishes to Chief Barnard. I look forward to working with him and to the leadership he will no doubt provide.



PHOTO GALLERY: LFUCG INAUGURATION 2015

Fayette Circuit Judge Kim Bunnell administered the oath of office to Mayor Jim Gray and the Urban County Council at Lexington Center on Sunday, January 4. New members of the Council include J. “Jake” Gibbs, District 3; Susan Lamb, District 4; Angela Evans, District 6; Fred V. Brown, District 8; and Amanda Mays Bledsoe, District 10.



Photo above by Ed Roller.



Photos at right by Rob Bolson.

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE MERGED GOVERNMENT ADDRESS

In keeping with annual tradition, Lexington Mayor Gray delivered the “State of the Merged Government Address” earlier this month in the Patterson Ballroom of the downtown Hyatt Regency hotel.

The speech touched on delivering the best public services, keeping our city and citizens safe, delivering general services efficiently, delivering the best infrastructures, encouraging the best business environment, honoring and preserving our history and seizing the moment.

The overarching theme of the speech was “the best is yet to come.”

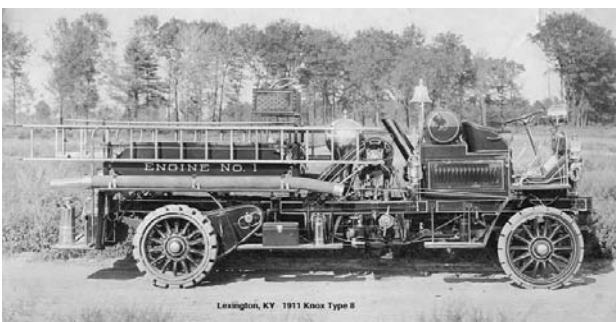
Watch a video of Mayor Gray's 2015 State of the Merged Government Address here: http://lfucg.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=4&clip_id=3563

Read the text of the State of the Merged Government Address here: <http://www.lexingtonky.gov/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=29327>



Click the image above to watch a video of the 27-minute SOMG Address.

THE HISTORY OF LEXINGTON'S FIRST FIRE ENGINE



The first modern “state-of-the-art” fire engine was built in 1906 by Knox Automobile Company in Springfield, Massachusetts which later became famous for its fire trucks. Lexington’s Fire Department soon thereafter added a 1911 Knox—the city’s first motorized fire truck—to its fleet as a first step towards replacing horse-drawn fire wagons in the city.

With all of the new fire trucks coming in, Lexington’s Division of Fire & Emergency Services recently posted this photograph of Lexington’s Fire first motorized fire truck, a 1911 Knox. It became “Engine 1” and operated out of old Fire Station 1 on Short Street.

Implementing this truck was the first step in Lexington to replace the horse-drawn fire wagons. The last horse-drawn fire run in Lexington was from Station 3 (Maxwell and Merino) in 1926. Until the 19th century, most fire engines were maneuvered by men. However, the introduction of horse-drawn fire engines considerably improved the response time to fire incidents. Motorized fire engines did not become common until the early 20th century.

The Knox truck is still officially a part of Lexington’s fire fleet and although it needs restoration, it can still be viewed at “new” Station 1 at 219 East Third Street.

Source: Lexington Fire Department

WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE TO ASSIST WITH GOV.'T CONTRACTING

The Kentucky Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) and the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (LFUCG) have teamed together to offer workshops to educate and train small businesses seeking to secure government contracts. All classes are free and open to the public.

These workshops will instruct businesses on the purchases made by governments and/or educational venues, how each procurement system works, bonding requirements, minority and women goals, how to find work as a prime or subcontractor, where to register and much more.

Billions of dollars are spent each year by federal, state and local governments. Significant economic impact can be realized when Kentucky businesses have the opportunity to bid and win these contracts.

To register for the PTAC/LFUCG Workshops, please call Kristy Coates at 859-257-7668 or register on-line at: <http://kysbdc.ccenterdirect.com/Conferences.action?CenterID=21> or go to www.lexingtonky.gov/MWBE.

Visit www.KentuckyPTAC.com to learn more about PTAC.



APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMER JOBS AVAILABLE ONLINE FEB. 1



Young people between the ages of 14-17 years old who need summer jobs can apply to the city's Summer Youth Employment Program, beginning February 1. That's when applications will be available online at www.lexingtonky.gov to fill 225 summer job openings. The deadline to apply and submit documentation is 4 p.m. February 27.

The program is open to 14- to 17-year-old Fayette County residents who are eligible to work in the United States. Required documentation consists of copies of the applicant's Social Security card, a picture ID (issued by the state or a school) and a birth

certificate. The documentation must be mailed to the Division of Youth Services, 101 East Vine Street, Suite 150, Lexington, Ky. 40507. Copies sent must be legible.

Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Space is limited, so apply early.

The Youth Employment Enhancement Program will teach work-related skills like how to complete a job application, rules of work, team building skills, interviewing and how to write a resume. For more information, contact Mattie Morton with Youth Services at 859-246-4300.

GROUPS MAY NOW APPLY FOR 2015 SUSTAINABILITY GRANT

Lexington residents wanting to improve the city's environment are invited to apply for a 2015 Sustainability Grant. The grant amount has been increased to \$5,000 and eligibility requirements have been expanded to include all 501c3 nonprofit organizations. Public and private schools, neighborhood and homeowner associations, and churches can also apply.

The city's Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works is providing the grants to collaboratively and creatively improve Lexington's environmental health. Grants are available for a wide range of projects including: Rain gardens, green roofs, community gardens, streamside restoration, recycling programs, beautification projects, rain barrel projects, cleanup and restoration of illegal dumpsites, litter projects, and planting of street trees. Other projects that are determined to

improve the environmental health of the community and meet the principles of sustainability.

Eligible applicants may apply for a maximum grant of \$5,000. Each grant requires a 50% match, which can be materials, in-kind services or a combination of both. In-kind matches may include items such as documented use of vehicles or machinery or meals served to volunteers. Documentation must be provided on the value of all in-kind supplies, materials and services.

More information and application materials are available at www.lexingtonky.gov/greengrants

Applications must be postmarked or submitted by 4:30 p.m. March 1, 2015. Contact Louise Caldwell-Edmonds at 859-425-2800 or via e-mail at louisec@lexingtonky.gov if you have questions.



SEE A POTHOLE? REPORT IT TO LEXCALL AT 3-1-1.

BIKE PATROL OFFICERS APPREHEND 4-LEGGED RUNAWAY

Lexington's Division of Police downtown bike patrol unit officers were recently on routine patrol when they spotted a dog running at large on Main Street at Limestone.

After a brief chase, they were able to pick him up a couple of blocks away and later take him to the Lexington Humane Society.

An LHS employee recognized the dog immediately. He belongs to a family living in The Woods area off of Alumni Drive. It seems he had run away ten days earlier and the family had been posting flyers in the neighborhood in hopes of locating him.

Luckily, the adventurous dog had been micro-chipped and was confirmed as the family's missing dog. The relieved owner retrieved the dog and was very thankful for his safe return after such a long search by the family.

Job well done to Lexington's finest for capturing the four-legged runaway and aiding in his safe and welcome return to his owner.



Photo courtesy of Lexington Police Department.

RADIO LEXINGTON APP NOW AVAILABLE



Lexington's Division of Emergency Management operates a network of radio stations in Fayette County. Called "Radio Lexington" the stations fall in the category of Traveler's Information Stations. They broadcast 24 hours a day, seven days a week with tourism and emergency preparedness information at 1620 AM. Earlier this month they joined the TuneIn streaming network, so now you can access their broadcast on your smartphone, tablet and desktop computer. For smart phones and tablets go to the App store and download the TuneIn radio app. Install it and search for Radio Lexington. During an emergency, they will broadcast information

that can keep you safe and well. For more information, visit www.radiolexky.com.

PLANNING ACADEMY

Registration is now open for Fayette Alliance's free 2015 **Citizens Planning Academy**. Participants will learn about all the ins and outs of city planning. Capacity is limited and spots fill up quick. Classes will be held 5:30-7:30 pm, Mondays: March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; April 6, 13, 20 at The Plantory. More details/register here: <http://fayettealliance.com/events/citizens-planning-academy-3/>

DISABILITY AWARENESS SEMINAR HELD FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

The Committee for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) held a "Disability Awareness" seminar at LFUCG's Phoenix Building on Monday, January 26 for Urban County Government employees interested in learning about specific disabilities and how to better serve those affected by a disability.

An estimated 54 million Americans have a disability and seeking assistance from government agencies and navigating city facilities can sometimes be challenging.

I applaud the CCD for offering this informative training session in the interest of better government, better communication, and most important, better service to citizens from all walks of life.



What you do matters.

**LEXINGTON POLICE
NOW RECRUITING**

(859) 425-2325 | (800) 755-6939
Email: joinlexpd@lexingtonky.gov



LFUCG is currently accepting applications for the position of "Police Officer - Recruit" and for "Community Corrections Officer."

If you have an interest in law enforcement and serving our community, apply today.

To view all current job openings, visit: <https://jobs.lexingtonky.gov>.

PARKS & RECREATIONS URGES YOU TO “GET OUT AND PLAY!”

Carver Center Program. Classes are offered for both youth and adults and include such programs as Zumba, martial arts, pottery, mosaic tiling, drumming, circus arts and Therapeutic Recreation archery and cooking. Registration is available online at <http://Parks.LexingtonKY.gov>, in-person at Artworks Center (522 Patterson Street), by phone at 859-425-2057 or by mail. Registration ends one week before each class begins. Visit lexingtonky.gov/parks for a full class brochure or call the center for more information.

Adult Spring Softball Sign-Ups (February 2–March 2, Dunbar Community Center)—This league, which is open to those 16 & over, will begin in April and conclude in July. Leagues offered include Men’s (Independent, Major, Industrial and Church), Women’s (Independent and Church) and Coed (Competitive, Recreational and Church). Priority registration for teams returning from spring 2014 leagues is February 2–6. Registration for new or returning teams is February 9–March 2. Registration is limited to teams only and spots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost to participate is \$325 per team plus the 2015 team sanction fee of \$25. Managers of teams may call the Athletics Office at 859-288-2917 to request a registration form or for more information.

Cupid Shoot (5 pm, Friday, February 6, Carver Center)—Don’t miss this new adventure archery program just for couples. The archery competition will include couple shoot and his/hers heartbreaker shoot. Basic archery instruction will be provided beginning at 5 pm for beginners. The competition will begin at 6pm. Pre-registration is required and all equipment will be provided. To learn more and to register call 859-225-4073.

Volunteer Saturday (10 am, Saturday, February 7, Raven Run Nature Sanctuary)—Raven Run is looking for a few good volunteers! Individuals are needed to help with invasive plant removal, trail maintenance and more. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes and work gloves. Volunteers should come to the Nature Center at 10 am and stay as long as your schedule permits. For more information call 859-272-6105.

Color Guard Workshop (10 am-2 pm, Sunday, February 22, Artworks)—Grades 6-11 are welcome to register for this workshop. Are you interested in joining high school color guard or improving your skills? This workshop will introduce you to skills that color guards value and utilize on a regular basis, including dance, flags and rifle. \$10 pre registration is required prior to February 15. Please call 859-425-2057 for more information and to register.

Salamander Search (1 pm, Saturday, February 7, Raven Run Nature Sanctuary)—Come out to Raven Run and explore the creek for salamanders and other signs of aquatic life. At this time of the year, these amphibians are breeding in the woodland streams providing us with a unique opportunity to observe these secretive animals. This free program will include a short woodland walk. Register by calling 859-272-6105.

Junior Naturalist “Great Backyard Bird Count” (10 am, Saturday, February 14, McConnell Springs)—Youth grades K-5th will learn about The Great Backyard Bird Count program and help the naturalist count the birds of McConnell Springs Nature Center. The Junior Naturalist program is held monthly and will have a different theme so plan on attending each month. Call McConnell Springs at 859-225-4073 to register.

Black History Month Program (6 pm, Wednesday, February 25, Kenwick Community Center)—Kenwick Community Center will celebrate Black History Month with soul food, arts & crafts and a diversity lesson for youth. Call 859-266-6405 after 1 pm for more information.

Black History Month Program (6:30 pm, Friday, February 27, William Wells Brown Community Center)—In honor of Black History Month, the Community Center will feature a performance honoring famous African Americans. There will be special performances by Lexington Traditional Magnet School (LTMS) Step/Hip Hop Team and youth of the William Wells Brown Community Center. A special presentation to honor special participants of the community center will also be presented. All members of the community are welcome to attend this free event. Healthy refreshments will be provided following the program. For more information call 859-389-6678.

Weekend Workout (10 am, Saturday, February 28, McConnell Springs)—McConnell Springs is looking for a few good volunteers! Individuals will be helping with garden upkeep, weed pulling, trail maintenance and more. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes and work gloves. Volunteers should come to the Education Center at 10 am and stay as long as your schedule permits. For more information, call 859-225-4073.

For more information contact Lexington Parks and Recreation 859-288-2900 or visit their page on the web at www.lexingtonky.gov/parks or like them on Facebook at Lexington Ky. Parks and Recreation.



get out and play!



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

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<http://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.aspx?page=364>

To contact Councilmember Mossotti:

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rbolson@lexingtonky.gov

Phone: 859-425-2564

FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA:
FACEBOOK:

[COUNCILMEMBERJENNIFERMOSOTTI](https://www.facebook.com/COUNCILMEMBERJENNIFERMOSOTTI)

TWITTER: [@MOSSOTTI9TH](https://twitter.com/MOSSOTTI9TH)

INSTAGRAM: [COUNCILMEMBERMOSSOTTI](https://www.instagram.com/COUNCILMEMBERMOSSOTTI)



OTHER INFORMATION OF NOTE...



Pop Quiz:

Which of these mistakes can lead to your vehicle being stolen??

- A. Leaving the Doors Unlocked
- B. Leaving the Car Running Unattended
- C. Leaving your keys in an unlocked car
- D. All of the above

Can you pass this simple “pop quiz”? Lexington’s Division of Police provides this simple quiz to help citizens better understand how to avoid having their vehicle stolen.

If you answered “D,” you are correct. Never leave your doors unlocked or leave your car running unattended—and leaving keys in an unlocked car is a welcome invitation to would-be car thieves.

Criminals love situations that make their “job” easy. Be smart. Don’t become a victim of crime and easy prey.

ENVIRONMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM

Kentucky American Water is now accepting applications for their **2015 Environmental Grant Program**, which offers funds for innovative, community-based environmental projects that improve, restore or protect the watersheds, surface water and/or groundwater supplies.

Read more here: <http://www.amwater.com/kyaw/water-quality-and-stewardship/environmental-grants-program.html>



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

LexCall (City Hall)	311
Police (Non-emergency)	258-3600
Fire (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

HOW TO REPORT A STREETLIGHT OUT



Kentucky Utilities offers an easy-to-use online “Report a streetlight outage” form here:

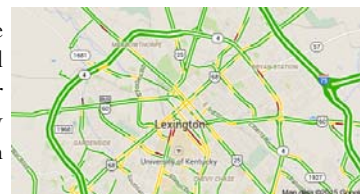
<https://lge-ku.com/customer-service/report-streetlight-outage>

Normal repair time is up to 7 to 10 days.

You can also report a streetlight out to Lex-Call at 3-1-1 or 859-425-2255 and they will relay the information to KU.

STAY IN THE KNOW ABOUT TRAFFIC

Citizens can get information on accidents, lane blockages, snow and ice trouble spots and road closures through Twitter ([@lexwrecks](https://twitter.com/lexwrecks)) or through the Crosstown Traffic Show. The show broadcasts live from 6:30-8:30 a.m. weekdays on Lexington cable channel 3, GTV3.



Be sure to “Like” the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government page on Facebook at www.facebook.com/lexingtonky.gov

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 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>