

STONEWALL INFO

Stonewall Community Association
3283 Cornwall Drive
Lexington, KY 40503



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January 2017

Stonewall Community Association

WELCOME TO THE NEW YEAR!

The holiday season is gone, and 2017 is now with us. Our association has put away the holiday lights at our entrances and is preparing to deal with all the uncertainties of the new year. May it be a good one for all of us.

BE A PART OF LEXINGTON'S FUTURE!

You know the boring old Comprehensive Plan of 2013, the one that allowed Stonewall to win our case against the developer who wanted to build 3-story apartments at 1580 Higbee Mill Road last February? Well, it is being updated for 2018. Writers more or less "start from scratch" every 5 years to make the plan more in tune with the current planning outlook. Input is sought from all elements involved in development: builders, the Chamber of Commerce, planners, landowners, and neighborhoods. Stonewall Community Association members have two important opportunities to participate and have their priorities brought to the attention of people compiling the written Plan for 2018:

Comp Plan How-to Workshop: The first is on Saturday February 11, to be held at the Unitarian Church. Fayette County Neighborhood Council will hold a workshop on the Comp Plan which will deal with the practical aspects of how the plan is formulated, how to get your opinions heard, and what provisions in the new plan are necessary to assure that neighborhoods get a fair shake with the Planning Commission at hearings in which developers are proposing building things that may or may not be opposed by neighborhoods. You should know how most effectively to participate in the public meetings and other opportunities for input when you leave this meeting. Interested? Email jcabaniss@gmail.com for more information and to sign up for participation.

Comp Plan II -- On the Table: A second very special aspect of the 2018 plan will be held on March 15, in homes across the city, and you do not need to be an SCA member to participate. That is the day of On the Table, and it's an important part of the coming Comprehensive Plan. You can be included in a conversation about your community as a guest of one of many hosts across the city, or you yourself can volunteer to be a host and invite 8 to 12 community people of your own choice to discuss topics related to Lexington's next 5 years. Results of On the Table conversations will help inform *Imagine Lexington*, the city's Comprehensive Plan for 2018. This is a new event for Lexington, and one about which we don't have newsletter space to inform you fully. But we invite you to go to the web site for Bluegrass Community Foundation (coordinator of the event) at <https://www.bgcf.org/>, then click on the right side of the home page where you see On the Table March 15, and read.

NEW PROPOSAL FOR CHILD CARE CENTER

A request for a zone change to permit a day care center at 3280 Clays Mill Road, across the street from Jessie Clark Middle School (PLN-MAR-16-00021: G DAVIS, CCM), has been proposed. SCA organized a meeting with the developer on December 13 to review the proposal for an All about Kids Learning Center, several of which are already in Ohio and northern Kentucky. It would accommodate 176 children. Egress would be from Vincent Way. Construction is promised to be "green," and LEED certification is to be expected. The LFUCG Planning Commission hearing on the final plan is scheduled for late January, then the Council must also approve.

GAS STATION/CONVENIENCE STORE PLANNED

Councilperson Jennifer Mossotti reports that a new gas station/convenience store is coming at 3197 Clays Mill Road in the Stonewall Shopping Center at the corner of Clays Mill Road and Wellington Way. That is the former location of a Super America/Speedway gas station and convenience store, and the new business will be very similar in operation and scale. It will use the same entrances as the previous station. Construction begins in spring 2017.

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ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President—Janet Cabaniss
Vice-President—Caryl Pfeiffer
Secretary—Sheila Carmack
Treasurer—Fred Brandon

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Bill Short
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Don Starsinic
Carol Webb

NEWSLETTER TEAM

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MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE FOR 2017

It is time to remind you that membership dues for 2017 are due now. You will receive a mailing which includes a form to authorize your renewal, but payments are welcome at any time.

Your \$25 dues make possible an array of neighborhood services, including this newsletter. Dues cover the operating costs of organized community events such as the annual ice cream social and the Independence Day parade, maintenance on the entrance areas, as well as meeting expenses and facilities rental. If you have questions about paying your dues, contact our treasurer Fred Brandon at 260-1005.

You can also send your payment to
Fred Brandon
731 Cindy Blair Way
Lexington, KY 40503.

If corrections need to be made to your mailing label, please notify Don Starsinic at 224-8017 or DStarsinic@aol.com.

CAROLING TRADITION CONTINUES

Over 40 hardy Stonewall residents showed up at the Cindy Blair entrance to sing carols at the lighted tree on a brisk December 10 evening. Police shut off traffic along Cindy Blair Way to provide safety for the carolers. This was the second year of what we hope will become a Stonewall tradition. Afterwards, many of the carolers retreated to a nearby restaurant for pizza, warmth, and fellowship.

STONEWALL CELEBRATES LONG-TIME RESIDENTS

On Sunday afternoon September 18, 2016 at Stonewall Elementary School, the Stonewall Community Association honored residents who have lived in Stonewall 45 years or more. The idea was born last winter when association past president Leah Atkinson-Brand, a 51-year resident, presented the idea of recognizing long-time Stonewall residents to the association board. After searching PVA records and the 2016 R. L. Polk Directory and sending out a questionnaire to identify them, SCA hosted over 100 people who are long-time residents and their children to celebrate a community of friendly neighbors, little traffic, and good schools.

Lexington Herald-Leader articles about Stonewall that had been archived at UK were copied and mounted for viewing. Music from the 50's and 60's and refreshments were part of the celebration. A commemorative program was provided each honoree, listing all persons who had been identified as long-time Stonewall residents. Speakers reminisced about changes in the area. **Dr. Vincent Taormina** spoke of his late wife, **Delores**, who organized the association in the mid-1980s and was instrumental in the creation of Wellington Park during a time when the R. J. Reynolds property could have ended up all retail and high-density residential. Dr. Taormina told about sitting in their backyard on Bravington Way at night hearing the mooing of the cows and counting the stars. When it rained, a large lake would form which they lovingly dubbed Lake Lannette. Neighbors even launched a kayak on the lake.

Carol Hedger, a 51-year resident of Buckingham Lane, recalled that Southern Heights Baptist church was formed in a house at the corner of Wellington Way and Trinity Road. She also remembered trucks hauling tobacco to Reynolds Road at what is now Lexington Christian Academy. In the fall the smell of the tobacco being re-dried filled the air.

Bennett Clark reported that the Stonewall area had been part of a huge farm owned by the Robinsons and the Dales. At one time it totaled 5,000 acres. He also told about renting a small tractor with a tiller and driving it from Versailles Road to Stonewall in order to start a lawn at his home. **Billye Roberts'** late husband **Jay** was one of the early builders of Stonewall. She and her family lived in 5 houses in Stonewall. **Art Curtis** has lived in 8 different Stonewall houses. **Leah Atkinson-Brand** taught piano 51 years in Stonewall. **Juanita Popham**, the longest Stonewall resident, has lived on Chatham Dr. since 1958. **Shirley Murrell** has worked at Stonewall Elementary School for 48 years.

Stonewall is a special neighborhood. It was joy to celebrate its longevity. The cows, groundhogs, and terrapins are long gone. A lone fox might be seen occasionally and an opossum. Our animals consist of lots of squirrels, a few rabbits, and many dogs and cats. A generation has raised its children and grown old here. Now it's the grandchildren's and new families' turn to love Stonewall and be here to celebrate 50 more years.

PARKS BOARD APPOINTEE

David Goodpaster of Stonewall has been appointed to serve as the 9th District representative on the city's Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The board, established in 1998, advises the Division of Parks and Recreation by receiving public opinion and is authorized to hold public forums for the purpose of gauging the will of the public on parks and recreation matters, among other responsibilities. To reach David regarding a parks concern, email dtg2175@gmail.com.

STONEWALL HISTORY IN BRIEF

The Stonewall neighborhood began to be settled in the late 1950s in what was then the outskirts of the city. The first homes were constructed west of Clays Mill Road and south of New Circle Road along Wellington Way and the streets north of it from Buckingham Way to Hyde Park Drive. Stone pillars marked the northern boundary on Chelsea and Hyde Park Drive, and Arrowhead Drive ended at Buckingham. Settlement gradually expanded south. The Stonewall Estates subdivision was constructed in the middle 1960s, extending south to Cromwell Way. You can tell where the subdivision began by noting where open storm sewers disappear as you drive south from Wellington Way.

The Waverly Estates and Grasmere subdivisions south of Stonewall Estates were developed in the late '70s and early '80s. Later development filled out the Equestrian Estates subdivision at the end of Cindy Blair Way and a few homes on Witthuhn Way. By 1990 the area had filled to become a community of 1,000 homes extending south to Higbee Mill Road. Arguably the last home built on empty land in Stonewall was constructed on Roxburg Drive in 1995. Convenient connections to Harrodsburg Road were made possible in the 1990s with the extension of Wellington Way through the Rabbit Run neighborhood and the connection of the two separate sections of Arrowhead Drive.

Stonewall history continued....

If you have photos or newspaper articles that you think would be useful in filling out the history of Stonewall, please send them to Leah Atkinson-Brand. She would love to have volunteers to work on reconstructing our neighborhood's history from that first settlement in the late 1950s to the present.

CALL FOR BOARD AND OFFICER NOMINATIONS

If you would like to serve as a member of the Stonewall Community Association board of directors, here is your opportunity. All officers (president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer), plus five board members will be elected at the association's annual business meeting in March. Officers serve two-year terms, board members serve three years. The board meets six times a year to review Stonewall issues. If you are interested in serving in any of these positions or want to learn more about what they do, contact Janet Cabaniss (276-1243) by February 15.

WOMEN'S GARDEN CAMPAIGN

Victoria Meyer reports that the Women's Garden in Wellington Park is committed to raising \$35,000 to purchase a Katsina sculpture, aiming for Lexington to be the first city in Kentucky to answer the call of the Kentucky Human Rights Commission to erect a statue dedicated to women. They have received a grant of \$700 from LexArts and have raised \$2,000 so far. More information is available from Victoria, who can arrange a speaker on this topic for your group on request.

Another option for raising funds is the sale of memorial bricks for display in the garden. If you have folks who want to give you presents, please suggest a gift to the Women's Garden (\$100 for a memorial brick but any amount can be given in your name and would be greatly appreciated). Make checks to Seedleaf/Lexington Women's Garden and send to Garden Treasurer Vicki Blevins-Booth, 2213 Terrace Woods Court, Lexington, KY 40513.

NEWS BRIEFS

City collections of various recyclables will resume in spring. Check 311 or lexingtonky.gov for schedules.

Fayette County Public Schools will be closed February 20 (Presidents Day). Spring break will be April 3-7.

The **Stonewall Garden Club** usually meets the second Monday of each month. Contact **Jean Abner** (223-9330) for details about club meetings and activities.

NEW NEIGHBORS

House sales in Stonewall were brisk again in 2016. Since our September newsletter our Hospitality Committee has delivered welcome baskets to 9 new Stonewall families: **Daniel and Stephanie Belcher**, Buckingham Lane; **Pete and Jennifer Skorupa**, Cindy Blair Way; **Randall and Bobby Kloss**, Clays Mill Road; **Dennis and Dorothy Gibbs**, Cromwell Way; **Troy and Jamie Robertson**, Lannette Lane; **Roderic and Tamaira McClure**, Roxburg Drive; **William and Laura Eakle**, Saxon Drive; **Jerry and Patricia McClain**, Wellington Way; and **Kathlyn Fleming**, Witthuhn Way. We want to extend them all a warm welcome to Stonewall. In all we delivered welcome baskets to 36 homes in 2016, somewhat fewer than last year's 41 but well above our recent average.

One by-product of our busy delivery schedule is our need for additional Hospitality Committee volunteers. If you have a little time to meet with new neighbors, contact Sheila Carmack at sheila.carmack23@gmail.com. You'll get to meet newcomers under the best of circumstances.

Local merchants who filled these baskets include **Bluegrass Baking Company**, **Brown Dog Trading Company**, **Larry Mac's Beer Cheese**, **J. J. McBrewster Barbeque**, **North Lime Coffee & Donuts**, and **Peoples Exchange Bank** (Stonewall Shopping Center); **Central Bank** (Palomar Centre); **The Jewelry Centre** (Garden Springs Shopping Center); **Central Baptist HealthwoRx Fitness & Wellness Center** (Lexington Green); and **Pieratts Appliances**. Show appreciation for their generosity by patronizing their businesses.

SHOPPING CENTER NEWS

The Stonewall Shopping Center was hit hard in November by the closing of Brown Dog Trading Company, J. J. McBrewster Barbeque, and Larry Mac's Beer Cheese. It is unfortunate to lose such varied merchandisers from our neighborhood. Cheryl McDaniel, who makes the Larry Mac cheeses, has moved her production location to Nicholasville, but she reports that Larry Mac cheeses can still be obtained locally at Liquor Barn, Good Foods Co-op, and Lucky's.

STONEWALL EMAIL UPDATES

We have updated our email address file to keep in touch with 700 or so Stonewall residents for Safety Watch purposes and other important notices. To receive these notices, please send your email address to stonewallweb@gmail.com and we will add you to the list. **If you have more than one email address, give us only the ONE your family uses most.**