

STONEWALL INFO

Stonewall Community Association
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Lexington, KY 40503



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FEBRUARY 2019 www.stonewallneighborhood.org Stonewall Community Assoc. Newsletter

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, MONDAY MARCH 18

The Stonewall Community Association's annual business meeting is scheduled for Monday March 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Stonewall Elementary School library. We will hear from Jennifer Mossotti (9th District Council Member) and Amanda Mays Bledsoe (10th District) concerning Council issues. Police and Fire representatives will speak on neighborhood safety and house numbering. A Parks and Recreation representative will address the street tree canopy issue. The city's Planning staff will review the update of Lexington's Comprehensive Plan and the PlaceBuilder program, which is designed to be used for property development plans when a zone change is proposed. In addition, we will cover the results of the election of officers and board members and other business issues. Please plan to be there for the meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Stonewall Community Association elections this year will be for all officers and 5 of our 15 board members. Officers serve two-year terms, while board members serve three-year terms. The nominees are:

Officers (2-year terms, to 2021)

President: Kimberly Justus
Vice-President: Sheila Carmack
Secretary: Andrew Franklin
Treasurer: Wayne Starnes

Board members (3-year terms, to 2022)

Ed Brand
Leah Atkinson Brand
Kevin Duane
Aaron Ledbetter
Liz Pattengill

Officer nominees **Kimberly Justus**, **Andrew Franklin**, and **Wayne Starnes** all have been serving as board members, and **Sheila Carmack** has been serving as secretary. Board member nominees **Leah Atkinson Brand** and **Liz Pattengill** also have been serving on the board. Of the new board nominees, **Ed Brand** (Leah's husband) is a retired Fayette County school administrator and now works in guest services at Bluegrass Airport. **Kevin Duane**, a detective with the Lexington Police Department for 18 years, is now an investigator for Kentucky Alcoholic Beverage Control. He is married to lifelong Stonewall resident Kendall Clark Duane, and they have two children who attend Jessie Clark and Stonewall Schools. They live in her childhood home on Tudor Drive. **Aaron Ledbetter**, a lifelong Lexingtonian and University of Kentucky graduate, works in accounting at Valvoline. He and his wife Tricia live on Lannette Lane and have two children who attend Stonewall School.

At the March business meeting we will announce results of the election. **Ballots are included in this mailout as part of the membership dues forms. All Association members are eligible to vote, one vote per household.** Please mail your completed ballot and dues to our treasurer Fred Brandon by March 14, or bring to the beginning of the meeting on March 18.

OUR THANKS TO OUTGOING OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

We regret that Stonewall president **Caryl Pfeiffer** has chosen not to run for reelection. We will miss her leadership. Treasurer **Fred Brandon** also is leaving that office after 5 years of keeping records of membership and paying our bills. Board member **Robert Blankenship** also leaves the board after years of service and leadership in the cleanup of Stonewall Park. The neighborhood and the park have greatly benefitted from his work. We hope he will continue to be involved in the park's cleanup activities. We thank all of them for their contributions to the association over the years.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Janet Cabaniss
jcabaniss@gmail.com
Don Starsinic
DStarsinic@aol.com

WEB

stonewallneighborhood.org
Webmaster—Andrew Franklin

Stonewall Community Association

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George Alspaugh
Barry Bingham
Robert Blankenship
Leah Atkinson Brand
Janet Cabaniss
Andrew Franklin
Trish Henson
Kim Justus
David Owens
Elizabeth Pattengill
Wayne Starnes
John Taormina
Carol Webb

STONEWALL MAIL AND EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATE

We maintain an email address list for residents who want to receive late-breaking news of Stonewall. If your email address is not registered with us and you want to receive these notices, please send your email address to Janet Cabaniss at jcabaniss@gmail.com and we will add you to the list. Also, if you want this type of mail to go to a different address from the one you currently use on this list, please send the NEW address and the OLD address (for deletion). **Please help us to keep the mail list manageable by giving us just one address.**

Because we continue to have difficulty with the stonewallweb address, the mailmaster is using a personal account to transmit crucial email messages. We regret this inconvenience.

Our web site, stonewallneighborhood.org, contains neighborhood information which we hope you will find helpful. Newsletters are added to the web when they are sent to the printer. We also archive previous newsletters there.

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

2019 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE NOW

Membership in the Stonewall Community Association is \$25 a calendar year for you and your household. Your membership dues pay for this newsletter, for meeting expenses, for upkeep of our entrance area on Cindy Blair Way, and for periodic events which we hold each year. A membership form is attached to the enclosed election ballot. Please make checks payable to Stonewall Community Association and send the completed form and election ballot with your dues for 2019 in the enclosed envelope to our treasurer, Fred Brandon, 731 Cindy Blair Way, Lexington, KY 40503. If you have questions on your membership status, call Fred at 260-1005.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING REPORT

Stonewall's 4th annual Christmas caroling event took place last year on Saturday evening December 8. Families and neighbors gathered around the decorated blue spruce tree on a crisp evening to sing carols led by Lexington Singers and Stonewall residents Leah Atkinson Brand and Ed Brand. This year the association produced handouts with the words of the songs, which was very helpful, especially when we got deeper into the verses. In the November newsletter the question was posed to see if homeowners on Cindy Blair or Keithshire would like to have carolers come to their home and if carolers were interested in going from house to house. The response was not enough to have us change the event. We are always open to variations on this event and any of our events. Don't hesitate to inquire about adding to or otherwise changing our neighborhood events. We would love the input.

HIGBEE MILL ROAD ACTIVITY

The proposed mulch center at 1400 Higbee Mill Road requires a conditional use permit before the developer can restart any work on the property. Since the developer has yet to apply to the Board of Adjustment for approval, no construction activity can occur. Construction of the day care center at 1580 Higbee Mill Road appears to be on hold. In October of last year, the developer told the community that they would be starting on the construction of a new bridge over South Elkhorn Creek, on November 1, 2018. No activity has occurred to replace the existing bridge.

STREET TREES COST-SHARING PROGRAM

Street trees are any trees located in the public right-of-way between the street and sidewalk. They play a vital role in making Lexington a great place to live. In addition to their beauty, street trees add value to properties and save taxpayers money.

Homeowners are required to maintain street trees in front of their homes. However, they can qualify to receive matching funds for tree removal, stump grinding, and new tree installation by submitting two written estimates by qualified vendors. Lexington offers matching funds to homeowners within the Urban Services Boundary who need to remove and replace street trees. The cost-share ratio is 50 percent. The program is conducted on a first-come, first-served basis, as long as matching funds are available. To learn more or to download an application you can contact Tim Queary, Lexington's Urban Forester at (859) 258-3404 or email tqueary@LexingtonKy.gov.

SOUTH ELKHORN CREEK MEETING

From time to time, this newsletter has mentioned Neighbors United for South Elkhorn Creek (NUSEC), an organization whose main interest is protection of South Elkhorn Creek. The South Elkhorn is one of nine watersheds in Lexington (and fortunately rated as the most pristine); the creek in Stonewall Park is a tributary and it runs also along Higbee Mill Road, where we have followed development close to it for many years. Watershed protection is important for public health and of keen interest to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, among other places. On Monday April 8, 6:30 p.m., at South Elkhorn Christian Church, NUSEC will offer a program with watershed group speakers to report on creek status, with the hope of stimulating interest in what can be done to ensure and enhance the safety and beauty of the creek. The public is invited. Please put it on your calendar and plan to attend. You can contact Stonewall resident Jack Wilson jackawilson61@gmail.com for more information.

INCOME TAX TIME

If you haven't filed your 2018 income tax returns yet and need help working your way through all the many federal and state changes and forms used, you can get assistance. AARP's Tax Aide program has helpers at each of the Lexington Public Library branches and at the Lexington Senior Center. They will work up simple returns for you or give you advice on problems and interpretations. Days and times vary by location, first-come, first-served, except at the Senior Center, where appointments can be made (859-278-6072). The nearby Beaumont Library has hours Monday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The library branches have stocked the federal 1040 form packet and instructions booklet. You can also go online to the IRS (irs.gov) and the Kentucky Department of Revenue (revenue.ky.gov) for needed forms and for information. Deadline for filing is April 15.

NEW NEIGHBORS

Welcome Director Kimberly Justus reports that since the November newsletter we have delivered welcome packets to five new neighbors. Sales of homes in Stonewall have slowed dramatically from December through February. We welcome the new neighbors who have moved in during the period: **Morgan and Jennifer King** and **Benjamin Robertson**, Cindy Blair Way; **Ryan and Kathleen Lane**, Cornwall Drive; **Bradford and Katherine Nilsson**, Longwood Road; and **William Brewer and Barbara Steinrock**, Roxburg Drive.

Local merchants who have contributed to the welcome packages include Bluegrass Baking Company, Bella Blooms, Best Brains, Your Name Here Bowtique, Domino's Pizza, North Lime Coffee & Donuts, and Peoples Exchange Bank, all in the Stonewall Shopping Center (aka Stonewall Commons). We ask that you support them by patronizing their businesses.

NEWS BRIEFS

The annual **Stonewall yard sale** is scheduled for Saturday June 1, 2019. Mark the date on your calendar and start organizing your sale items. This popular sale draws a good turnout from all over Lexington.. Details will be in the May newsletter.

Spring break for Stonewall Elementary and Jessie Clark Middle schools will be Monday April 1 through Friday April 5. The last day of school for the 2018-19 school year will be Tuesday May 28 unless makeup days extend the term.

Primary elections for statewide state government offices are scheduled for Tuesday May 21. Precinct locations will be the same as last time—Stonewall Elementary School for Stonewall and Keithshire precincts, and Wellington Elementary School for Bayswater and Robinwood precincts. If you have questions, contact the County Clerk's office, fayettecountyclerk.com (859-253-3344).

Board member **Liz Pattengill** is incoming president of Lexington Council Garden Club, the umbrella organization for Fayette County garden clubs that are part of the Garden Club of Kentucky. She reminds us that the **Lexington in Bloom contest** is biennial and the next year will be 2020.

Good, clean fun can be had at the annual **Kentucky River Sweep** June 15, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. By meeting at the Clays Ferry Boat Dock off KY 25 under the I-75 overpass, volunteers will travel in boats to collect trash from the 12 miles of the Kentucky River that border Fayette County.

Reforest the Bluegrass for 2019 will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday April 13 at Masterson Station Park. Over the years, volunteers have done for less than \$150,000 in local funding what would have cost over a million dollars if contracted out. This event has planted over 136,000 tree seedlings, and you'll get a tee shirt for participating!

COLLECTION EVENTS

The next household **hazardous waste disposal event** will be on Saturday April 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 1631 Old Frankfort Pike (entry through Jimmie Campbell Drive). Fayette County residents can dispose of household hazardous wastes properly and for free! Please see lexingtonky.gov/household-hazardous-waste for definitions of eligible wastes, where to take wastes not accepted at this event, and other details. This event may or may not be repeated in 2019, so if you have accumulated such materials, the April event offers a good opportunity to dispose of them.

LFUCG's spring **paper shred event** will be on Saturday April 27, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at same location as above. Fayette County residents have many opportunities at this event. You may bring **up to five boxes or bags of material to be shredded on site** at no cost. No wet material will be accepted. This event allows Lexington residents to dispose of their sensitive materials safely in an environmentally-friendly way. Paper-shred participants are also invited to bring non-perishable food for **donation to God's Pantry**. Currently, the most-needed items include soups, canned fruits and shelf-stable proteins. Please do not bring items in glass packaging. And last, the paper-shred event will allow you to bring unneeded **campaign yard signs**. It's the final chance to **repurpose signs and frames** for future environmental projects. See lexingtonky.gov/paper-shred-event.

UPDATE ON STONEWALL COMMONS CHANGES

The latest change in the Stonewall Commons, the new name of the shopping center at Wellington and Clays Mill Road, is the construction of a pergola and outdoor seating in the open area between Bluegrass Baking Company and the Dollar Tree. It will be used for a seasonal market and other outdoor uses. Construction is also being done on a retaining wall along Wellington Way. There is no word yet on a grand opening once renovations are completed. We note that business at La Marquesa Restaurant seems to have picked up nicely. A recent evening visit found it full.

WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

For readers who might consider volunteering to serve on our association board of directors but didn't find this the right time to run for office, we have vacancies on the board that can be filled when a good candidate knocks at the door. The board meets six times a year to review Stonewall neighborhood issues and take action when needed. The get-togethers are stimulating and fun. If you want more information or would like to volunteer to serve or recommend someone you know in Stonewall who you think might be interested in serving, please contact an officer.