## in this issue >>>

Pictures from July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade Short Term Rentals Dues Info



August 2023

# the Stonewall Scoop



Summer Festivities >>>

# Stonewall Annual Fourth of July Parade







### **Annual Meeting**

We want to thank everyone who attended the Stonewall Annual Meeting and to thank the speakers from the Fire Department, Lexington Senior Center and the PVA Office.



## First day of school for Fayette County is August 16<sup>th</sup>



#### 9th District Newsletter

Stay in touch with the latest news and information from City Hall by reading Councilmember Whitney Elliott Baxter's weekly 9th District Newsletter. When you miss an edition, you miss a lot of useful news you can use! Subscribe by accessing this link: http://eepurl.com/hpn5jr

# STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE REMIND APP



Want to stay up to date with neighborhood events and news?

Join our announcement app through Remind. Download the Remind app on your phone then text @stonewalln to 81010. You will then get notifications of any events coming up and other information from the Stonewall Community Association.

For questions or support contact Angela Justice at angela.justice@fayette.kyschools.us or Aaron Ledbetter at aledbetter@gmail.com.

# STONEWALL ELEMENTARY

Back to School Bash August 10, 5 pm – 8 pm First Day of School

August 16

Kindergarten Orientation August 28, 6:30 pm

First Grade Orientation August 24, 6:30 pm Second Grade Orientation August 22, 6:30 pm

Third Grade Orientation August 21, 6:30 pm

Fourth Grade Orientation August 23, 6:30 pm

Fifth Grade Orientation August 29, 6:30 pm



### MoonDance Amphitheater

https://www.facebook.com/MoonDanceAmphitheater/events/?id=100063445853646&sk=events

## The following is fiction, but ......

It Could Happen .......

I enjoy the peace and quiet of living on a street without many cars, surrounded by neighbors that I know. One neighbor has decided to move and puts his home on the market; it sells for an astounding price.

After closing for the real estate transfer, we neighbors learn that the new owners intend to make this house an unhosted Airbnb rental, available to tourists and others for periods of less than a month each. The house is an investment for them. Our new investor/neighbors apply to the Lexington Board of Adjustment (BOA) for a license to run a short-term rental, the neighbors are duly notified per BOA regulations, some neighbors object at a hearing, but the BOA grants the license. Time passes and occupants show up, occupants who are tourists here for a local event. Things get really different.

The house is now a licensed Airbnb home. The 3 bedrooms of the home can house 2 persons in each, plus extra friends who will bunk in the living room, a total of 12 people, with 5 cars. Hmmmm.

It gets worse: Lexington is home to a lot of sports events (horse sales, horse races, football, basketball, volleyball, baseball, state championships) and other multiple-day events (conventions, trade shows, weddings, graduations, concerts, even opera tryouts). The new Airbnb a good one, and people like to rent it. And they do. Frequently. There are many parties on my block.

Eventually, another neighbor moves from the neighborhood. His house is purchased and turned into an overnight rental also. My neighborhood is NOT safeguarded by being restricted to "only one STR per block," or any other density standard.

I think you can see where this is going. I purchased my home with the expectation of having real neighbors with whom I can develop a history and share enjoyment of friends and family.

All of the above is entirely possible under the countywide regulations developed by the Urban County Council.

Lexington currently has over 1,000 short-term rental (STR) properties (Airbnb , VRBO etc.). They produce tax revenue for the city, and by definition, they are occupied by transient visitors. Our city, like other metropolitan areas, needs to regulate this type of business, to license legitimate business owners and to prevent abuses of short-term rental possibilities. The Urban County Council's regulations for tracking and providing limited oversight, as well as for collection of the millions of dollars in tax revenues from STR operation, are needed. Unfortunately, despite what we assume were good Council intentions, the regulations present problems for many Lexington residents.

Dealing with STRs is not easy. To "get it right" is not easy. Some New Orleans neighborhoods have been overrun with short-term rentals, Nashville has had major problems, Covington actually closed down licensing to deal with problems, and a committee of the Louisville Metro Council recently recommended a 6-month moratorium on licensing because of problems in neighborhoods.

It seems reasonable that homeowners renting rooms in their homes when they have extra bedrooms and still living in the house do not necessarily cause problems for our city, and long-term rentals have been common in neighborhoods for decades. Short-term rental properties, however, need unique regulations, something which the proposed regs do not offer. The City Council is where you make your difficulties known with (current and proposed) government regulations. Lexingtonky.gov is the web site and LexCall 311 is the phone number for citizens to use to share their feelings with local government.

Written by Janet Cabaniss, SCA Board Member and Walt Gaffield, President, Favette County Neighborhood Council

# We need your help to keep Stonewall great!

Take a moment to remember why you decided to live in Stonewall. Our community is amazing simply because our residents are involved. We need your help to keep Stonewall great!

The Stonewall Community Association is actively seeking volunteers to serve on the Board, assist with Stonewall social activities, deliver Welcome Packets to new neighbors, write newsletter articles, and be a community watchdog for developments affecting Stonewall. These volunteer activities do not take more than 2-3 hours per month – and not every month!

Can you help? Please email Kim Justus – <a href="mailto:kimberlykjustus@gmail.com">kimberlykjustus@gmail.com</a> to discuss involvement opportunities. Thank you for your commitment to our community!

# YOUR DUES ARE NEEDED! 2023 Total Expenses & Budget

	2023 Actual	2023 Budget
Directors/Officers Insurance	\$1,077.12	\$2,600.00
Neighborhood Beautification	\$400.00	\$1,200.00
Kentucky Utilities	\$326.51	\$650.00
Kentucky American Water	\$249.12	\$550.00
Dishonesty Bond	\$190.37	\$200.00
Front Entrance Irrigation Maintenance	\$65.00	\$200.00
Stonewall Garage Sale	\$13.50	\$150.00
Newsletter	\$0.00	\$3,700.00
Landscaping & Maintenance of Entry Way	\$0.00	\$3,250.00
Ice Cream Social	\$0.00	\$1,800.00
Christmas Decorations	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
4th of July Parade	\$0.00	\$150.00
Gifts	\$0.00	\$100.00
Web Site	\$0.00	\$100.00
Annual Dues Expense	\$0.00	\$50.00
Supplies	\$0.00	\$50.00
Fayette County Neighborhood Council	\$0.00	\$40.00
Kentucky State Treasurer (Secretary of State)	\$0.00	\$15.00
Total Expenses	\$2,321.62	\$16,005.00

This is a list of our expenses for year to date (June) 2023. The dues and any additional donations goes towards enjoyable activities, insurance for those activities, and making the neighborhood look beautiful.

Thank you to EVERYONE who paid their voluntary dues to make this happen!

## Save the Date...

The Stonewall Community Association is excited sponsor several special events in 2023!

The Ice Cream Social will be on August 12<sup>th</sup> from 4 pm – 6 pm at Stonewall Elementary. Music, a bouncy house and a big slide will be set up. No rain date.



Halloween Trunk or Treat will be on October 28<sup>th</sup> from 5 pm – 7 pm at Stonewall Elementary. No rain date.



Christmas Caroling will be December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Cindy Blair Island from 6 pm – 7 pm. No rain date.



# **Dues Information**

Stonewall Community Association is now accepting dues payments via VENMO!!

You can send your dues (\$25) and any additional donations to:

@Stonewall\_Neighborhood through Venmo.

When you send money this way, please include the following in the note section:

- First and Last Name
- Street Address
- Email Address

We hope you will find this additional payment option a convenient way to pay your SCA Dues!

In addition, you can mail or drop off dues at the location below anytime.

Stonewall Community Association c/o Wayne Starnes

## STONEWALL SCOOP

Stonewall Community Association 3453 Lannette Lane Lexington, KY 40503 Presort Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1
Lexington, KY

# final thoughts...

To view this newsletter in color, please visit our website - stonewallneighborhood.org

### **ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

President – Kim Justus
Vice-President – Ed Brand
Treasurer – Wayne Starnes
Secretary – Crystal Trimble

### **NEWSLETTER TEAM**

Beth Fields Kim Justus

#### WEB

Stonewallneighborhood.org
Webmaster – Andrew Franklin

Stonewall Community Association BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Barry Bingham Leah Atkinson Brand

Brand
Janet Cabaniss
Kevin Duane
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Angela Justice
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Elizabeth Pattengill

Jeremy Whetstine

We are collecting email addresses so we can provide neighborhood updates via email blast. If you would like to be added to our e-communication list, send your name, street address and email

to  $\underline{stonewallneighborhood@gmail.com}$ 





coming soon >>>

# In The Next Issue

Neighborhood Events Community Updates And more!!