



# MEADOWTHORPE MESSENGER

Meadowthorpe Neighborhood Association, 333 Larch Lane

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*"March is a month of considerable frustration – it is so near spring and yet across a great deal of the country the weather is still so violent and changeable that outdoor activity in our yards seems light years away." - Thalassa Cruso*

*"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's Party!'" - Robin Williams*

Submissions for the *Meadowthorpe Messenger* must be sent by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to [meadowthorpemessenger@gmail.com](mailto:meadowthorpemessenger@gmail.com).

To receive an electronic copy of the Messenger, please send your e-mail address to [meadowthorpemessenger@gmail.com](mailto:meadowthorpemessenger@gmail.com).

## DATES TO REMEMBER

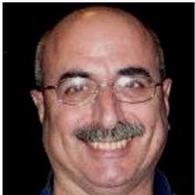
**March General Membership Meeting: Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – Social half-hour at 6:30 p.m. Get to know your neighbors and enjoy refreshments! Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Several matters will be discussed at this meeting including: the Lisle Industrial Avenue Conditional Use Permit Zone Change and Mr. Van Meter's update on the Assisted Living Facility.

**April General Membership Meeting: Tuesday April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016** – Social half-hour at 6:30 p.m. Get to know your neighbors and enjoy refreshments! Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Please be sure to attend this meeting as LFUCG Division of Planning Staffers Brandi Peacher and Jimmie Emmons have accepted our invitation to attend the April 12 meeting and discuss with us our concerns for the future of our neighborhood and nearby area.

## PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

*Musings from the President for March*

By Meadowthorpe Neighborhood Association President Jim Capillo



I come from a long line of public servants. Proudly numbered among my generation and my parents' generation are teachers, police officers and members of religious societies. However, my father, his father and their brothers were all firefighters for the FDNY. I grew up surrounded by bells, sirens, brass poles and shiny red trucks. So, it is with a deep sense of family history that I was honored to express the appreciation of the Meadowthorpe Neighborhood Association to the special people who wake me up regularly as they roll out of Firehouse 13 on Leestown Road.

It was Sunday. The stockyard fires were still burning but most of the smoke had dissipated. The sound of exploding tires no longer echoed in the neighborhood. And a social media event began to unfold. The neighborhood children had seen history and the parents, administrators and teachers at Meadowthorpe Elementary determined that they should learn from what they had seen. A plan was quickly developed that the students, as part of the curriculum, would make personal expressions of appreciation for our little red firehouse. A second plan was developed to solicit funds from the neighbors and businesses in the immediate area to donate food to Lexington's Bravest. Quickly, the plan was initiated and money was collected from Townley, Anderson Properties and Meadowthorpe for a Kroger card. The Mayor declared Friday, Firefighter Appreciation Day, and it was determined that we would present our tokens of appreciation on that day.

Then one of the businesses that survived, Leak Eliminators, decided to offer lunch to all the firefighters in the city. Without asking permission, we merged our appreciation with theirs. I know one or two members of the Division of Fire and Emergency Services, so I pestered at least one Captain and one Chief to advise E13 that they needed to get to the lunch. I saw when they arrived and Interim Principal Barbara Albaugh, PTA representative Erica Snow and I intercepted them before they could chow down and surprised them with our tokens. After all they may be small, and they may be loud, but they are OURS, and I, for one, am proud to say so.

## **REPUBLIC SERVICES' LEXINGTON ECO CENTER**

Article Contribution By Neighbor Coleman Bush

Jim Stone and I had the opportunity on February 11 to attend a meeting hosted by Republic Services. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce a potential new business for the former Wise Recycling site on Lisle Industrial Road. The proposed new business is a garbage transfer station and while the site is zoned I-2 (heavy industrial), a transfer station is not one of the permitted uses, but is rather a conditional use and thus, its use as such, requires approval by the Board of Adjustment.

Bruce Simpson, attorney for Republic Services in this matter, provided an overview of the project with project details provided by Greg Butler, Municipal Relationship Manager for Republic Services, and Maurice Nalley, General Manager of Republic Services. Council Member Shevawn Akers was also in attendance at the meeting and provided background on the Board of Adjustment process.

Only about 12,000 square feet of the existing 100,000 square foot building will be used for the transfer station. Other details provided include:

- All activities will be in an enclosed space.
- Only non-hazardous waste will be accepted.
- There will be no waste stored overnight at this site.
- The hours of operation are 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. with waste accepted only until 4:30 p.m. The remaining hours until end of shift will be used to clean and power wash the facility.
- Republic Services expects that the traffic generated as a result of the facility will be approximately 157 vehicles per day compared to approximately 290 vehicles per day for Wise Recycling. The vehicles will be of varying sizes as was the case with Wise Recycling.
- Rain garden technology will be used to treat 100% of the runoff from the paved surfaces.

Republic Services plans to file the application for a conditional use permit with the Board of Adjustment on February 23, 2016. It is expected that this matter will be heard by the Board of Adjustment on March 25, 2016.

If approval is granted, Republic Services expects to begin operations in spring 2017.

Representatives of Republic Services will be in attendance at the March 8, 2016 Meadowthorpe Neighborhood Association meeting to make a similar presentation and to answer questions.

Joe Smith, president of the Townley Park HOA, was also in attendance and we invited him to inform his neighbors of our upcoming meeting so that they may attend if desired.

### **CALL TO NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE**

Street representatives are needed for the 300 block of Boiling Springs Drive and also for Townley Drive. Anyone interested or needing more information, please send an email to [mnalexky@gmail.com](mailto:mnalexky@gmail.com), or by phone [859-231-1720](tel:859-231-1720) (Please leave a message).

The Boiling Springs median curb is in need of painting and "touch up" maintenance. A few years ago the Letcher family, wearing reflective vests, painted the curb around 6 am; after gaining permission from Ms. Shelby French. Last year Russ DiBella painted the curb. The material cost is reimbursable and the time commitment is no more than a few hours over the entire year including the painting and maintenance. If you are interested, please email [mnalex@gmail.com](mailto:mnalex@gmail.com).

## **BETH'S BEAT**

Monthly submission by Beth Workman, *Meadowthorpe Messenger* Editor

A strong law enforcement presence in a community is not necessarily a bad thing; in fact, I argue that it is a good thing! Several years ago I was very fortunate to participate in the Lexington Police Department Citizen's Police Academy. While this does not mean I am qualified to make arrests, it does mean that I am full of information, resources and connections. Currently I attend the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association Masters Classes. Again, unfortunately I cannot legally make an arrest, but I have learned valuable information that can benefit our neighborhood.

First, if you experience an emergency, please call **911**. Our local police and fire departments are centrally located at the same dispatch office. With the stockyard fire still fresh in our memories we know the importance of quickly contacting 911 for help to arrive. We also all know that because of the excellent response by the fire department and police, the fire was able to be quickly controlled even with tough environmental conditions. Meadowthorpe residents are all within three miles of West Sector Police Department and under two miles from our closest fire station.

Second, if you are concerned about suspicious activity and do not feel that a person or persons is/are in immediate danger, call the non-emergency police department line at **859-258-3600**. You can also call this number for resident welfare checks as well as to request to participate on a ride a-long. A ride a-long is when a qualifying Lexington citizen gets to ride with a patrolling police officer.

Third, if you suspect illegal narcotic activity, call **859-258-7086**. This is the Lexington Police Department Drug Tip Line and all calls can be made anonymously. Recently in the CPAAA Masters Class I met with a local narcotics officer and he informed me that the more information the caller is able to give the better, but any information is helpful!

Finally, Meadowthorpe does an excellent job at staying connected to the West Sector Police Department, the sector responsible for patrolling our neighborhood. The West Sector Commander takes time to visit and report at our neighborhood meetings and we are thankful for the support, protection and connection. Our new West Sector Commander is Commander Michele Remark and she can be reached by phone at 859-258-3779 or by email at [mremark@lexingtonpolice.ky.gov](mailto:mremark@lexingtonpolice.ky.gov). If you have any enforcement questions, concerns or even complimentary comments, please reach out to our new commander.

In a time where many communities are suspicious or unsupportive of law enforcement, I challenge Meadowthorpe and the Lexington community to step up and out of that unsavory mold. Let's show our officers support! In getting to know local officers, I have learned that these men and women love their jobs more than anyone else I have met in any other field! When you see an officer out and about, please feel free to wave. If you hear about a police supported event, donate time and money if you are willing and able. A happy and healthy person makes for a happy and healthy community; this holds true for neighbors and police alike!

### **MEADOWTHORPE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL SELECTION UPDATE**

The Site Based Decision-Making Council (SBDM) is conducting a principal search for the 2016-2017 school year. This group of 3 parents and 4 teachers have been elected to conduct the search, determine the school budget and curriculum. More info on past minutes, upcoming meetings, representative contact info and school policies, can be obtained on the school website or call the school to ask about the next meeting: <http://www.meadowthorpe.fcps.net/sbdm> or 381-3521. All of the public and new families are encouraged to attend a meeting! The next monthly meeting is Tuesday, March 22, 5pm, school library.

### **TIME TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR SCHOOL!**

If you are new to the neighborhood or your child will turn 5 years of age by August 1 (change from previous policy), contact Fayette County Schools or your neighborhood school to register your child. Our Meadowthorpe neighborhood was not impacted by the recent school boundary line changes. Current schools for our neighborhood children include: Meadowthorpe Elementary, Leestown Middle School and Dunbar High School.

However, many of our neighborhood children participate in gifted programs, performing arts, academies and language immersion programs in other schools, and use the school bus system for transportation. Applications for specific programs and registration information for your neighborhood school can be found at: [www.fcps.net](http://www.fcps.net).

## NEIGHBORHOOD ANNOUNCEMENTS, ADS AND COUPONS

Advertisements in the *Meadowthorpe Messenger* are printed at no charge for neighbors and neighborhood businesses per the MNA Ad Policy. These ads are printed as a service at the request of neighbors and do not imply a reference or endorsement by the MNA for any particular business or service person. Always seek your own references.

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Rom. 15:13 Contact: 859-608-0847

The Adult Sunday School Class of Meadowthorpe Presbyterian Church invites you to join in studying **Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life**, Karen Armstrong's call to action that takes on humanity's most important task: creating a better, more compassionate world. This thought-provoking work provides an impassioned and practical guide that begins with "Learn About Compassion," and closes with "Love Your Enemies." In between, Armstrong--one of the most original thinkers on the role of religion in the modern world--takes up self-love, mindfulness, suffering, sympathetic joy, the limits of our knowledge of others, and "concern for everybody." Rich with wisdom from faiths around the world, this promises to expand our understanding of and ability to live out the Christian imperative to "Love our neighbors as we love ourselves." For more information, contact Nell Valentine, 254-4762.

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**<http://www.msmltdins.com>**

**Thoroughfare Studios**

at 1432 N. Forbes rd, is home to Lily of the  
Valley Jewelry and Mudroot Pottery.

Both artists work on site, with a showroom for  
shopping. Open M-F, 11-6 and Sat, 10-5.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook to see  
our "away days" for events such as  
Gratz Park Mayfest.