

Masterson Station Neighborhood Association

Neighborhood News

APRIL 2004

Board of Directors & Management

President
Jeff Crabb
252-5497

Vice President
Roy Campbell
253-3996

Secretary
Greg Stanforth

Treasurer
Bernie Samuelson
381-0922

Directors
Steve Gahafer
Teresa Geyling
Donna McMahan

Property Manager
Edwin Gibson
263-7681

2004 Association Calendar

April

Board Meeting 13th
Association Meeting 20th
Neighborhood Yard Sale 24th

June

Board Meeting 8th
Association Meeting 15th

August

Board Meeting 10th
Association Meeting 17th

September

Neighborhood Garage Sale
(Probable)

October

Board Meeting 12th
Association Meeting 19th

Special Meeting News

The Special Meeting of the Association was held at the Masterson Station Clubhouse on March 16, 2004, at 7:00 PM.

The purpose of the meeting was to elect a new board of directors and to increase the size of the board from four to seven directors. Eight Association members were nominated and placed on the ballot.

The Association mailed notice of the meeting to 1,598 members. The cost was \$2,092. The mailing included a ballot and proxy, documents which needed to be completed and returned to the Association to count in the voting if the member was unable to attend.

There were 139 members

present either in person or represented by proxy at the meeting. To establish a quorum, we needed 498 members.

Given the amount of effort and expense to notify the membership, the meeting proceeded in spite of not having a quorum. Those elected to the Board are listed under "Board of Directors" in the column to the left of this article.

During the meeting, one of the members suggested this article. Therefore, we are asking the membership of the Association to **contact Mr. Gibson if there are any objections to the election results** in the absence of a legal quorum.

If no one objects, the Board of Directors elected at

this meeting would be considered a legal Board and would proceed with the business of managing the affairs of the Association.

If there is an objection, the Association would mail another notice to the membership in anticipation of receiving a response to establish a legal quorum.

The Association appreciates the efforts and participation of the membership in this important election. We urge you to participate to continue to make our community "the place" to live in Lexington.

Any member who objects should contact Mr. Gibson no later than April 30, 2004 by close of business.

President's Pen

This June will mark our eighth year at 200 Masterson Station Drive. When Kim & I moved in, Masterson Station Drive ended just 10 yards past our driveway. Now, seventy-five percent of the residents live past our home. We have gone from just a couple hundred homes to almost 1,500. In that time, I have seen the first organizational meetings for the association being held at Linlee Elementary turn into the seven mem-

ber Board of Directors we have now.

Through all the years, one thing has remained the same. We live in a great community, with great neighbors. We've made friendships that will last a lifetime and enough contacts in the neighborhood to help us with just about any problem we may face.

As our neighborhood continues to grow, I hope we can all stick together

as a community to protect our children, solve neighborhood disputes, and protect our interests as other developments are built and Leestown Road is expanded. Our yearly dues of \$24 are one of the lowest in Lexington and our size gives us the power to make changes that benefit us. Come to a meeting and meet some of the great people that live here.

Jeff Crabb, President MSNA

Masterson Station High School Redistricting

I understand there are questions regarding redistricting in your neighborhood, and that concerns are being expressed over the Internet. The following notes may help explain how the redistricting decisions were reached, where implementation stands and how it will affect you or your child.

The most significant issue in high school redistricting is relief of overcrowding at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School. The capacity at Dunbar is 1825, but school enrollment has consistently been in the 1980 to 2100 or more for the last several years. Fuller utilization of Bryan Station High School is also an important issue as Bryan Station has a capacity of 1877 and enrollment has been at approximately 1400 to 1470 each year for the last several years.

Detailed academic and non-academic information about all high schools is available on the Fayette County Public Schools' website in the high school progress report under the Data Research and Evaluation section. See: <http://www.fcps.net/sa/eval/2001-02-HS-Progress.pdf> An updated version of these reports will also be available soon. There is also an Overcrowding Solutions page on the website that reviews much of this information and it is being updated this week.

The Leestown and Georgetown Road corridors have been in Dunbar's district for many years. The area is located midway between Dunbar and Bryan Station high schools, making it a very logical area to consider for redistricting. Virtually every draft of the high school portion of the Overcrowding Solutions Plan showed these areas moving to Bryan Station.

Toward the end of developing the current plan, the timing of each part of the plan was considered. There was some debate about whether boundaries in the Leestown and Georgetown Road areas should be changed before or after the new Bryan Station High School was built. The compromise that developed was that the Georgetown Road corridor

(outside New Circle Rd.) would be redistricted first because it was closest to Bryan Station. The portions of the Leestown Road corridor that were newest would also move at the same time as the Georgetown Road corridor. The portion of the Leestown Road corridor that was more established (Masterson Station, Bracktown, and the rural area) would wait until the new Bryan Station High School building was available. The timing of the first move would be fall 2004 and the timing of the second move (Masterson Station) would be established later when the opening of the new Bryan Station was more clearly established.



After nearly three years of consideration, including dozens of public meetings, the Board adopted the Overcrowding Solutions Plan in December 2001. In January 2003, portions of the plan affecting fall 2004 implementation were refined. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) is now considering fall 2005 implementation, and they and the Superintendent will recommend appropriate action to the Board. No High School and Middle School changes are to be implemented in fall 2005. According to policy, the LPC and the Board plan to review implementation of fall 2006 High School and Middle School changes by March 2005.

Reviewing the maps you may observe that the South side of Leestown Road (including McConnell's Trace) and both sides of Spurr Road to Masterson Station Park will be in Bryan Station High School's district as of fall 2004. The newest part of Masterson Station subdivision now developing near

Spurr Road will be in Bryan Station high School in fall 2004. The existing Masterson Station subdivision will be surrounded on three sides by the Bryan Station district.

There are important transition features related to attendance boundary changes that also may be important to you. At the time of implementing any boundary line change, students may apply to finish at their current school as an "out of area" student. Students entering 11th or 12th grade are allowed to finish at their previous school (in this case Dunbar). Students entering 10th grade at the time of the change may request to stay if there is room, but this is unlikely at Dunbar. Following through on an example where the change might be implemented in 2006: Students entering 10th grade in fall 2006 should know early in 2005 that the change will occur. They may enroll as "out of area" students for 9th grade at the new school in fall 2005, a year ahead of the required move. Thus through out of area provisions, all students are able to spend all four high school years at the same school if they desire.

It should be noted that there are some additional provisions that affect out of area students. The most significant is that bus transportation is not normally provided. This may mean private transportation; or it may mean getting to an appropriate bus stop in another neighborhood where a student may board a bus going to the out of area school.

I hope this answers your basic questions about why Masterson Station is being redistricted to Bryan Station High School. I will be glad to attend a future neighborhood meeting to answer questions, if you so desire.

Bob Joice
Associate Director
Data, Research and Evaluation
Fayette County Public Schools
381-4315

Status of Overcrowding Solutions Plan (Redistricting)

Implementation and Refinement of the Overcrowding Solutions Plan continues this year. The Board adopted the initial plan in December 2002 in order to relieve overcrowding, to more fully utilize all schools, and to assign areas to the closest school possible within the feeder system. The current plan strengthens the feeder pattern, wherein students at any elementary school move on as a group to a nearby middle school and middle school students move on as a complete group to a nearby high school. The committees also looked carefully at free and reduced lunch statistics, weighing and balancing the desire to attend closest schools with the benefit and goal of all schools being diverse.

Several changes were implemented in the fall of 2003, particularly at the elementary school level. In most cases students were removed from a crowded school to one with room, not far away from their neighborhood. In one case an under-utilized school in very poor condition (Russell Elementary School) was closed and the students as-

signed to other nearby schools with adequate capacity.

The Plan also includes changes well into the future and the exact timing of these changes will be refined. Fall 2004 changes have been planned at all levels. In January of 2004, the Board gave a final review to their December 2002 decisions and refined them slightly. The most significant changes are at the middle school level and are designed to utilize the new Edythe J. Hayes Middle School to open in August 2004. Through the attendance boundary changes, this new school will help relieve crowding at several middle schools.

Maps and other tools showing the fall 2004 boundaries and the changing areas are available at the Fayette County Public Schools' website. Large and small maps can give visual references for the attendance areas. The FCPS Street Directory gives exact school assignments for any address in Lexington, showing recent past and future school assignments as well.

Fayette County Public Schools will soon implement the next phase of the Overcrowding Solutions Plan. Phase 3 of the plan was designed to utilize new construction and to give further relief to remaining crowded schools. Phase 3 will begin in the fall of 2005, and take two years to fully implement. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) is reviewing all changes that have been identified as phase 3, plus some additional changes necessary to relieve crowding. By the middle of March, they plan to make recommendations to the Board stating what areas should change in fall 2005 and what areas in fall 2006. Currently fall 2005 changes focus on the elementary schools. There are no anticipated changes to middle or high schools boundaries. For 2006 a new elementary school is planned to open and replace Athens Elementary School. Several 2006 proposals will relate directly to that school and preliminary recommendations will be made for implementation in fall 2006 as well.

Masterson Station Greenways

This past year saw a lot of work in the greenway system in the Masterson Station Subdivision. It saw the completion of the Masterson Station Trail from Leestown Road to Masterson Station Drive and the planting of 90+ trees and shrubs in the greenway below Masterson Station Drive.

For the greenway above Lucille Drive two sinkholes were repaired and a temporary sediment pond was removed. Debris from the ice storm was also removed from this greenway to make it easier to maintain.

This year you should see more work on the greenway upstream of Lucille Drive between Michelle Park and Mable Lane. Work scheduled for this year is to finish grading the greenway and to remove the piles of rock and rubble. After the rock has been removed, native grasses and trees will be introduced into the greenway. Staff from the LFUCG, Natural Resources Conservation Service and

KY Department of Fish and Wildlife are working on a suitable mix of native species to be planted this spring.

These native plants are used because they are adapted to our local conditions and require less maintenance. The native plants are hardy, withstanding extreme temperatures associated with Kentucky's climate. Unlike mowed lawns, native plants provide food and shelter for wildlife, and make a beautiful, diverse, hardy, and low maintenance greenway by requiring no fertilizers or pesticides and less water. By using native plants in the greenways, we are restoring landscapes and promoting stewardship of our natural heritage and maintaining a healthy ecosystem.

More information on Greenways and the many benefits can be found at www.lfucg.com/greenways.

Keith Lovan, Greenways Project Manager, LFUCG

2003

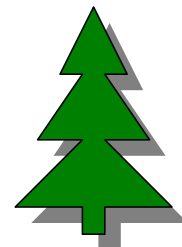
Christmas Decorating Contest Winners

1st Place
2712 Suzanne Circle

2nd Place
293 Valley Brooke Drive

3rd Place
2941 Trailside Drive

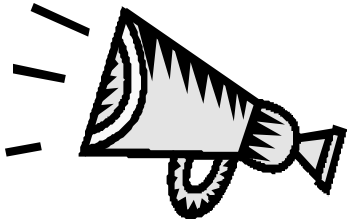
Honorable Mention
2973 Summerfield Drive



**MASTERTON STATION
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

C/O EMG Management Services
PO Box 54330
Lexington KY 40555-4330
Phone: 859-263-7681
Fax: 859-264-1112
E-mail: manager@mastersonstation.org
Website: www.mastersonstation.org

Presorted Standard
US Postage Paid
Lexington KY
Permit 539



Announcing . . .

**This year's neighborhood
Spring sale is scheduled for
Saturday, April 24th.**

**April 20
Meeting Agenda**

Introduction of the new Board
of Directors and Officers

City Council Candidates
have been invited to speak
and answer questions

Spring Yard Sale

Current Resident or
Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4

Newsletter advertising

For advertising on either the website or in the newsletter, contact Jeff Crabb 252-5497 or webmaster@mastersonstation.org.

Lost & Found

There was a lady's/girl's watch found in the 150-170 block of Masterson Station Drive. If you think this watch belongs to you, call Autumnne @ 255-5729 with a description of the watch.

Services Offered

Housecleaning Service

Available on the basis of once or twice a month, or just occasional cleaning. Those interested may call Heidi at 252-7034

Pet Sitting Services

Please contact Heidi at 252-7034 for information.

Services Needed

I am looking for a babysitter M-F 9am - 2pm to care for newborn baby boy starting mid June. Must be a non-smoker. If interested please contact Kristen at 258-2595 or kristen@jdmedia.net

Boxtops & Labels for Linlee

The students at Linlee Elementary need your help to raise money and earn materials for their school. The school currently participates in the following programs:

Box Tops for Education are worth \$0.10 each and can be found on many General Mills products. Some of the participating brands are: General Mills cereals, Pillsbury, Betty Crocker, Green Giant and Old El Paso. A

complete list of products can be found online at <http://www.boxtops4education.com/how/brands.asp>.

The Campbell's Labels For Education program includes brands such as Campbell's soups, Franco-American, Pepperidge Farm (cookies and Goldfish), V8, and Prego. A complete list of products can be found at http://www.labelsforeducation.com/eligible_products.asp.

The Tyson Project A+ program gives the school \$0.24 for each label turned into the school. The labels can be found on most Tyson products. More information can be found at www.tyson.com/projectaplus.

Labels and box tops can be dropped off at the school or given to a neighbor who attends Linlee. Also, there will be a collection box at neighborhood association meetings. Thank you for supporting our school!