

LampLighter

Cooper-Young — Many Voices, One Community

www.cooperyoung.org

LOVE IS IN THE AIR

Supporting CY businesses in 2011

BY BARB ELDER

February is a month dedicated to the celebration of relationships. And when you think about it, relationships are at the heart of almost everything in life: the delight you take in your family and friends, your success at work, your enjoyment of the community you live in, and your connection to the place where you worship or the activities you enjoy. But do relationships have anything to do with the landscape of Cooper Street and Young Ave?

Absolutely! How do all of those businesses that are an important part of the fabric of our neighborhood stay afloat in these difficult economic times? In part, due to the relationship they have with us, the residents of CY. This issue of the *LampLighter* is dedicated to nurturing that relationship.

Like relationships in life, the businesses in our community have a life cycle. Some move into the `hood and are here for the long haul. They invest in the community, and we give them our business, not only because they offer goods and services that we need and enjoy, but also because their presence makes CY a better place to live. Some businesses are here for a season. We enjoy them while we have them, but for a whole host of reasons they move on. And some it seems we barely get to know before we have to say goodbye.

With recent business closings in the area, like The Reef, Grace, Lux, and Two Chicks and a Broom, we can think that the economy is going to get the best of us - that perhaps our thriving district may not weather the storm. But this sort of shuffle is nothing new and certainly not the end for Cooper-Young. How could we be discouraged with great new businesses like Urban Outfitters and Cortona (our new Italian restaurant) deciding to call CY home and with Victory Bicycle and Charm Boutique rising from the ashes of the CYCA office fire? But still there is a lot that we can do as residents to insure that our businesses stay here and thrive.

If you are like me, you probably have your list of places where you go to get the things you need and want. You've built a relationship with these places and you return to them often. As these places come to mind, I wonder how many of them are located in or near CY? There is nothing wrong with going outside the neighborhood for your shopping needs, but we hope you will consider all that our local businesses have to offer.

On pages 16 - 19 you will find a directory of CY businesses and a handful of businesses outside our borders who, nevertheless, support our community and the *LampLighter*. As you peruse this list, you may be surprised to discover what is right here in your own backyard. We encourage you to keep this issue handy and use it as a resource in the coming year. The next time you have plumbing needs, you might be happy to learn that there are plumbers available down the street. If you have pets, you might consider some of the options for pet care and supplies that are less than a mile from your home. When you want to grab a bite to eat, why not keep your car parked in the driveway and walk to one of our fine restaurants? Whether you are looking for clothing, antiques, child care, home décor, books, coffee, entertainment, plants, realtors, places to volunteer, or congregations to worship with, you will find many options right here in our Insiders Guide to CY.

So we challenge you to look through this list and begin to build some new relationships in 2011. In doing so you will be getting to know your neighbors, helping your local businesses succeed, saving on gas money, and gaining time to invest in more important things than waiting in traffic.



Business owners David Cleveland and Leslie Billman of Cortona, Millett Vance of Flashback, and Steve Stearns of Enchanted Florist pose for a picture at the CYBA meeting in January, hosted by Cortona. Picture taken by Guillermo Umbria.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

2011 takes shape for the CYCA

Happy 2011! A new year is upon us, and the CYCA is gearing up for a great time. We kicked the year off by moving back into our office on Young Avenue in mid-January. Although the fire caused some disruption to our operations for over three months, it resulted in a remodeled, updated office space. One of the improvements is that we now have space set aside to display

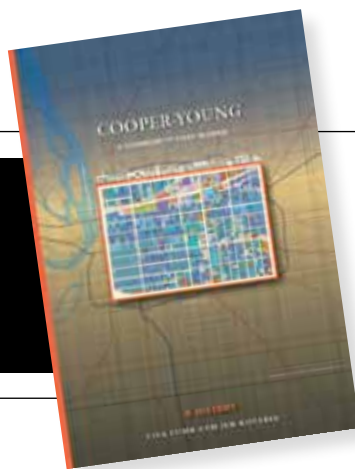
community artwork. We are excited to have somewhere to showcase the works contributed by local artists for our annual Art Auction.

Other changes to the office include a transition in office leadership. It's my pleasure to announce that Kristan Huntley is your new Community Director. Kristan started mid-January and is a former Board member and Beautification Committee Chair. To learn more about Kristan and all that she brings to this new role, see the article on page 3.

The Board met in January to plan the 2011 Calendar of Events for the CYCA. A full listing of events will be available on the website at cooperyoung.org and will be printed in the March issue of the *LampLighter*. But one date you should put on your calendar now is February 8. Join us that evening for our General Meeting and meet the artist chosen for our latest Gateway Art project. This project focuses on the southwest entrance to the neighborhood at the intersection of McLean and Lamar. Funding for the artwork comes from Urban Arts. It's going to be a thought provoking and insightful installation. I hope you'll join us on February 8 to learn about the artist, his inspiration, and to see a rendering of the project.

As always, I encourage you to become involved with the CYCA this new year. Join as a member, volunteer to serve on a committee, volunteer to serve at an event (the Art Auction is just around the corner!), or apply to serve on the Board. If you are interested in volunteering with the CYCA in any capacity, send an email to info@cooperyoung.org and more details will be provided.

Have a wonderful month,
John Kinsey



History book

The CY history book, *Cooper-Young: A Community that Works*, is available for purchase at Burke's Books or online at cooperyoung.org.



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The *LampLighter* is published by the CYCA. The opinions and information presented here are those of the staff and volunteers of the *LampLighter* and do not necessarily reflect the entire Cooper-Young community. The *LampLighter* assumes no responsibility for errors or omissions. However, we commit ourselves to providing current and accurate information.

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Fourth Annual Chili Cook-Off to benefit Peabody Elementary

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN – TIME FOR THE PEABODY EVENT THAT JUST CAN'T BE MISSED. FOR THE INSIDE SCOOP, LOOK NO FURTHER.

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Cooper-Young for Clean Water update

PERHAPS YOU'VE BEEN WONDERING WHAT BECAME OF THE CHALLENGE ISSUED BY NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH IN THE DECEMBER 2010 LAMPLIGHTER COVER STORY. WAS ENOUGH MONEY GATHERED FROM OUR COMMUNITY TO GIVE THE GIFT OF CLEAN WATER TO A PERUVIAN VILLAGE THIS CHRISTMAS? FIND OUT HERE.

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Insiders Guide to CY

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE BY SHOPPING LOCALLY IN 2011? THE INSIDERS GUIDE OFFERS A CURRENT LIST OF ALL OUR NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESSES, INCLUDING ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS.

Meetings & Dates

Smallest User Celebration

Tues., February 1, 5:30pm
Playhouse on the Square
66 S. Cooper St.
Everyone is invited to celebrate the victorious end of this year long competition.

Beautification Committee Meeting

Tues., February 1, 6pm
2298 Young Ave.
Anyone interested in making CY a greener, cleaner, more attractive place to live is welcome to attend. Contact khuntle@yahoo.com for details.

February General Meeting

Tues., February 8, 6pm
2298 Young Ave.
Come and meet the artist chosen for our latest community art project and see what he has planned.

CERT Training

Sat., February 12, all day
CERT Training facility
Flicker and Avery
Day 2 of training, by registration only.

CYCA Board Meeting

Tues., February 15, 7pm
2298 Young Ave.

Safety Committee Meeting

Tues., February 22, 6:30pm
2298 Young Ave.
Anyone interested in CY safety, code awareness, emergency preparation, or pet safety is welcome to attend. Contact sarahfrierson@yahoo.com for more info.

Deadlines for the March LampLighter

Articles, submissions: February 15
Advertising copy: February 20
Distribution beginning: March 4
Please send all articles and submissions to LampLighter@cooperyoung.org. For advertising rate sheet, or to submit ads electronically, please email ads@cooperyoung.org.

Cooper-Young Organizations

CYCA
Kristan Huntley
901-272-2922
info@cooperyoung.org

CYBA

Tamara Walker
901-276-7222
cyba@bellsouth.net

CYCA Board Officers

President	John Kinsey
Vice-President	June Hurt
Secretary	Andy Ashby
Treasurer	Jason Word

CYCA Committee Heads

Beautification	OPEN
Ber Fest	Andy Ashby
Block Clubs	April Boleware
Building	Debbie Sowell
Code Awareness	Amanda Ball
Communications	Emily Bishop
Festival 4-Miler	Richard Coletta, Michael Ham, Emily Bishop
Finance	Jason Word
Safety	Sarah Frierson
Membership	June Hurt
Volunteers	Kevin Ritz

FRESH BEGINNINGS

Introducing the new CYCA Community Director

BY JOHN KINSEY

Kristan Huntley joined the CYCA family as our new Community Director this past January. Kristan already served the community as the Ad Sales Manager for the *LampLighter*, a role that she will continue to play in addition to her Community Director responsibilities. The hope is that one person doing both jobs will make it easier for advertisers and members alike.



Kristan comes to the CYCA with many neighborhood credentials. In addition to her role with the *LampLighter*, she has served on the CYCA Board of Directors, where she chaired the Beautification Committee. Under her watch the Beautification Committee held Progressive Dinners and the Photo with Santa event to raise funds for the McLean Mural Project. As a result of her experience, she is well versed in the ins and outs of our organization. In addition, with her knowledge of computers and technology, it is my hope that she will be able to increase the efficiency of the CYCA so that we can be more effective as an organization. Before taking the role of Community Director, Kristan worked for both Southwest Community College and ALSAC.

Please join me in congratulating Kristan on her new role.

LAMPLIGHTER BENEFACTORS

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to the following people who have shown their support of the *LampLighter* by contributing financially toward our operation costs. These benefactors have made a contribution of at least \$60 either by making a one-time donation or a monthly donation of \$5 or more.

Glenn Althoff and Mike Parnell
 Chip Armstrong
 Emily and Steve Bishop
 Steve Cardwell – in memoriam
 Barb and Jason Elder
 Mavis Estes
 Beverly Greene – in memoriam
 David Huey
 June and Justin Hurt
 Chris and Jill Kauker
 Shannon Maris
 Marjoire Palazzolo
 Jenni, Andrew, Elena, and Cora Pappas
 Doris Porter
 Jacques and Joi Samson
 Ronnie G. Smith
 Betty Slack
 Kobie and Bianca Sweeten
 Joyce and Jerry Turner
 Tura and Archie Wolfe

If you love reading the *LampLighter*, please join us so that we can maintain the quality and frequency of the paper. Go to cooperyoung.org and click on the Membership tab to learn how you can become a recognized *LampLighter* Benefactor.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

MISSION: Our purpose is to form an association of residents and interested parties to work together to make our diverse and historic community a more desirable and safer place to live, worship, work, and play.



Enclosed is a check for my membership in the Cooper-Young Community Association

New Renewing (Memberships are from 1-1-2011 to 12-31-2011)

Household – \$20 Trestle Tender – \$50 Senior 55 and older – \$5

Name _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I want to hear about volunteer opportunities

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

in honor or/in memory of _____

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ for the General Operating Fund

Mail this form with your payments to:

CYCA Membership, 2298 Young Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104

You can also join online at cooperyoung.org. The CYCA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

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SIGN UP @ COOPERYOUNG.ORG.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A call to action for those who have experienced Lick Creek flooding

Most remember our company, Barnett USA, as the ice machine company in the Cooper-Young district. Started in 1957 by my dad, Cliff, we were based at 2089 York Avenue, with additional locations in Nashville, TN; Jackson, MS; and Louisville, KY. We employed over 30 people. Unfortunately, because of the continual sewage and flooding we have experienced on our property and the City's refusal to address or correct the problems, we can no longer



use our facility. We were forced out, literally, from our Cooper-Young home base. We now operate from 1721 September Ave.

We have been begging the City for help since the early 80's, but nothing has been done. On November 22, 2010 we met with Tetrattech and City officials at Snowden School to discuss the problem. After the meeting I was

expecting updates in some capacity, but that has not happened. As a Cooper-Young property owner, my concerns grow daily with the lack of communication. While residents and businesses have suffered varying levels of damage, our 15,000 + square foot office/warehouse is

a total loss of \$1.2M, and the City expects us to

continue paying the enormous property taxes as if our business were still there. Adding insult to injury, I was sued by the City and fire services in environmental court because they wanted me to tear down the building and clean up the destruction they left me with.

This has been an ongoing issue for our family, and I think it's time for us to consider and prepare contingency plans should the City continue with their do nothing approach. Today I met with members of the TN Recovery Project Program. They had no idea of the devastation we had suffered until they reviewed some of the pictures. They have provided me with some options for consideration, and I would be interested to know if any other affected businesses or families would like to be involved? I am sure most anyone affected by the flooding has run out of patience dealing with the City of Memphis and what the mayor calls "red tape that hurts" everyone. If you have interest, please send an email to Bruce@BarnettUSA.com.

Sincerely,
Bruce Barnett

THE BEST OF THE BEST

The CYCA honors volunteers and supporters

BY JOHN KINSEY

At our annual Holiday and Volunteer Thank You Party in December, the Board presented two awards: the Alexia Hampton Memorial Award and the Friend of CY Award. The Alexia Hampton Award is presented in memory of a former board member who believed in the power of volunteers and who gave generously of herself to our community. It is presented annually to a non-board member who goes above and beyond in their service to Cooper-Young and the CYCA. The recipient is voted on by the Board at our November meeting and is only eligible to be selected for the award once.



John Kinsey congratulates Alexia Hampton Memorial Award recipient, Patrick Miller.

The 2010 Alexia Hampton Memorial Award winner was Patrick Miller. Patrick moved to Cooper-Young just over three years ago. When it came time to find a house, he knew that CY was the place to be! His dedication to the improvement of the neighborhood and the CYCA includes working weekends as a member of the Beautification Clean-up Team, being an active participant and regular attendee at General Meetings, and helping with technology issues at the office.

His biggest contribution to date is his work on our website. Patrick led the charge and contributed weeks of manpower to update our

website to an easier to navigate model. The new site is more user-friendly and allows for comments by anyone in the world. Since January 2010 the redesigned site received more than 30,000 hits - over half of which were first time visitors.

The Friend of CY Award is given by the Board to a business owner or individual who has extended outstanding support to Cooper-Young and the CYCA. In 2010 this award was presented to Camy's Food Delivery. Camy's is known for pizza, but they do so much more. With regards to the CYCA and Cooper-Young, Camy and her crew have donated a great deal of food for our events. If you've ever volunteered or ran in the Festival 4 Miler, you probably have had some of their pizza. Camy's also is a membership sponsor, providing discounts to our members. Finally and best of all, the owner of this restaurant, Camy Archer, is a long-time CY resident.



John Kinsey with Friend of CY Award winner, Camy Archer.

Thanks to Patrick and Camy for their hard work and giving spirit. I look forward to presenting these awards to other deserving recipients this December. Will it be you?

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2181 Union Avenue**



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 Cathy L. Allen
 Brett & Sharon Ammons
 Paige Arnold
 Andy & Sydney Ashby
 Amanda Ball &
 Guillermo Umbria
 Frazier & Ginger Baker
 Kristi Barlow
 Jonathon Bishop
 Craig & Elizabeth Blondis
 Joel Bumgardner &
 Michael Bevis
 Tracie Burke
 Judy Card
 Maggie Cardwell
 Doug or Vicki Carriker
 Joe Carson
 Kelley Carter
 Jonathan Cole &
 Paul Linxwiler
 Jill Coleman
 Anthony Coley
 Heather Conklin &
 Tom Leitzell
 Nancy C. Conley
 Chris & Scarlett Cook
 Steve Crossnoe & Lori Hitmer
 Earle Donelson
 Yvonne Draper
 Jason, Barbara & Violet Elder
 Melissa Evans
 Kevin C. Fairburn
 Vickie Flake
 Libby & Jonathan Flynt
 Joan Foley
 Margrethe Frankle
 Rhonda Friedrichsen &
 Max Logan
 Kristin Gallaty
 Karen Golightly & Family
 Steve or Gail Grice
 Jennifer Grover & Will Grover
 Patrick & Laura Helper-Ferris
 Angela Helt
 Darla & James Henson
 Leah or Josh Hillis
 Kenny Hooks
 Justin, June & Tyler Hurt
 Joslyn Jackson
 Whitney Jo
 Sam or Jacinda Johnson
 Kathy Johnson
 Mike & Norma Jones
 Michael Karz &
 Sandy D'Amato

Edward Kelley &
 Robert Rodriguez
 Haynes Knight
 Harry J. Koniditsiotis
 Patsy Ann LaVelle
 Jay & Traci Limbaugh
 Shannon Maris &
 Drake Danley
 Scott & Renee Massey
 Karen or Steve McFadden
 Patsy Mister
 Ceylon Mooney
 Peter, Diana & Elek Owen
 Jenni, Andrew, Elena &
 Cora Pappas
 Mary Ann or Kevin Pigott
 Kristina Preslar & Daniel Atlas
 Patricia Primrose
 Phil Richardson &
 Shauna Wright
 David Rupp & Mary Smith
 Larry & Sandra Rutledge
 Jacques & Joi Samson
 Susan Senogles &
 Jack Wynns
 David Sick
 John Sohm & Lisa Franklin
 Joe Spake
 Josh & Ginger Spickler
 L. Sue Stevens
 Michelle Stewart
 Laura Sullivan
 Kobie & Bianca Sweeten
 Gary Thompson &
 Rick Marcus
 Leslie & Brenda Vance
 Kyle & Carrie Wagenschutz
 Angela Wallick
 Hank or Betsy Widdop
 Nancy Wiers & Laura Harris
 Fred Wilson
 Catherine & Jared Woods
 Jeremy & Asuka Yow
 John & Cathleen Zeanah

DONATIONS TO BEAUTIFICATION & PUBLIC ART

Patricia Phillips
 Frances Walker
 Bradley Weatherford

DONATIONS TO FACILITY FUND

Doug Grooms - in memoriam

SENIOR MEMBERSHIPS

Otis Allen & Ruth Allen Foster
 Patsy Borden
 Dr. Conrad Brombach
 Ly T. Burnett
 Tom Campbell
 John Chulos
 Barbara Denham
 Carmen Dickerson
 Mavis Estes
 Patricia M. Foster
 Bob & Sylvia Gallaher
 Lorraine Holton
 David Huey
 Bob Isgren
 Shirley Jackson
 Carole Kelley
 Alan Krayner
 Amanda J. Lane
 Neena V. Ledbetter
 Dan Levin
 Janelle Loar
 Micheal Michaud
 Marcus Mitchell
 Annie Mize
 Gary Nalley
 Barbara Norton
 Joye Opfer
 Marjorie Palazzolo
 Patricia Phillips
 Doris Porter
 Flora Quaranta
 Jan Renshaw
 Betty Slack
 Danny & Shelley Thompson
 William True
 Joyce & Jerry Turner
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 Cindy Ware
 Alma Williams
 Roy & Eleanor Wooley

DONATIONS TO LAMPLIGHTER

In honor of Samuel Ashby
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 Steve Crossnoe
 Judy Hicks
 Janelle Loar
 Scott Massey
 Barbara Norton
 David Sick

TRESTLE TENDER MEMBERSHIPS

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 Douglass Campbell or
 Lauren Pugh
 Joe Ann Chance
 David & Carol Ciscel
 Jane Davis
 Michael Dimengo &
 Douglas Allington
 Steven Frattini
 Betty Gray
 Barbara Grimes
 Howard or Judith Hicks
 Tim & Teresa Hicks
 Chris & Jill Kauker
 Lyda Laneville
 Bill or Dianne Lloyd
 Steve Lockwood &
 Mary Durham
 Matt Nelson & Jason Abney
 Howard Paine &
 Teresa Franks
 Mike Parnell & Glenn Althoff
 Evelyn Paster
 Kevin & Anna Ritz
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 Gertrude Moeller & Sam Kato
 Russell & Lelia Savory
 Buzz & Judi Shellabarger
 Ronnie G. Smith
 Terry Starr - in honor of
 Constance Starr
 Bill & Susan Steppe
 Leslie Thompson & Mark Morrison
 Richard Wanko
 Ken & Erica Whitehead
 Tura & Archie Wolfe
 Marguerite Zeller

DONATIONS TO GENERAL OPERATING FUND

Ly Burnett
 Carmen Dickerson
 Beverly Greene – in memoriam
 Gail Grice
 Sam Johnson
 In honor of KuniFusa Kato
 In honor of John Kinsey
 Virginia Kyle and Isis – in memoriam
 Neena Ledbetter
 Marcus Mitchell
 Gary Nalley
 Bill Steppe
 Alma Williams
 Tura and Archie Wolfe
 Roy Wooley

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Beverly G. Greene

6/11/1950 - 1/3/2011

Beverly loved living in Cooper-Young. She grew up here and was a graduate of Central High School, a member of Lindenwood Christian Church where she served as a deacon, and an active member of the Cooper-Young Community Association. Beverly is survived by her husband of 22 years, Edward Greene; mother, Geneva Graves of Cooper-Young; sister, Betty Wilson of Germantown; and brother, Stanley Graves of Cordova. A memorial service was held in her honor on January 8 at Lindenwood Christian Church, and a neighborhood interment ceremony was held on



January 23 at the Gazebo. Family, friends, and neighbors gathered to celebrate her life and the love that she shared with us all. She will be greatly missed.

SMALLEST USER FINALE

A worthy cause - win or lose

BY DEBBIE SOWELL

On December 31, 2010 we closed the books on the Smallest User Grant Contest with Cooper-Young in the lead. We get the prize; we get the glory. We can be proud of our community and what we have accomplished together. All the data that was collected proves that we are making a difference. In fact, Cooper-Young blew the control group out of the water! Nevertheless, let us not be finished with this important fight.

Throughout the past year many of you attended meetings and forums, you posted on blogs, you read emails and *LampLighter* articles, you adjusted your lifestyle, and you spent your weekends doing home improvement projects, all in the name of energy conservation. The benefits are yours to have and to hold. You have the satisfaction of knowing that you are doing your part for the planet, as well as helping your pocketbook. Please continue to turn those lights out, turn down the temperature on your hot water tanks, and install those digital thermostats. Continue to look at your homes periodically and think, "What can I do to help lower my energy bill?" Go ahead and be selfish! It is all good for mother earth!

I would like to thank those who worked behind the scenes to make this competition happen. Evergreen's leaders were Chris Morton and Bill Bullock. The University of Memphis Journalism Department was a Smallest User sponsor, and the staff and students worked to form surveys, come up with campaign ideas, and maintain the blog. So, thank you Ashley Akin, Dr Morgan D. Arant, Jr., Beena White, and Dr. Rick Fischer for your hard work on this project. In addition, I'd like to thank Tom Chamberlain and Sydney Taylor of MLGW for their help. They were truly invaluable throughout this process.

Congratulations Cooper-Young! You did well. Now keep up the fight.





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CY NIGHT OUT

February fun in Cooper-Young

BY TAMARA WALKER

Scoot on down to the hippest part of the City on Thursday, February 3, from 5–9pm for First Thursday Night Out fun. Kick off your weekend a little early while enjoying discounts on dining and shopping, along with free music, while the independent business owners of Cooper-Young dish it all up!

With Valentine's Day around the corner, you can warm up by singing a love song for your sweetheart or reciting a poem at Poetry Reading/Open Mic night at Java Cabana starting at 7:30pm, with half price lattes from 5-8pm. After that you can sneak on over to The Enchanted Florist where you can get 40% off all Valentine prebooks from 5–9pm. Walk-ins are welcome or you can call 901-907-0819 to order those roses! Are you ready to take your relationship to the next level? Underground Art has buy one piercing, get the second piercing at half price. And, of course, if you would like to show some kindness to a four-legged friend, House of Mews will be offering cat adoptions at half-price along with 20% off retail items.

If you are ready to soak in some culture, Ken Murphy and Scott Baretta will be at Burke's Book Store from 5:30-6:30pm to sign copies of their coffee table book, *Mississippi: State of the Blues*. Painted Planet's Big Flash photography show by local artists is up for viewing, with 50% off all gallery jewelry along with refreshments. ARTjamN is rocking with discounts on painting fun with your friends and family. Be sure to bring the wine! And David Perry Smith Gallery is open from 5–8pm.

If food is what crave, then look no farther. Lou's Pizza Pie has buy one pizza get half off the second pizza for dine in or take out. Café Ole has happy hour margaritas during Night Out and DJ Egg Roll is spinning tunes starting at 9pm. Sweet Grass has a three flight menu paired with wine at a discounted price, or you can enjoy a Night Out sushi special at Do Sushi. Central BBQ is offering half price on nachos and discounts on beer. Or you can grab a seat at Celtic Crossing on their heated patio and enjoy a local musical favorite, Bob and Susie Salley. Celtic offers discounts on drinks and half price on their combos, so plan to stay awhile.

There is truly something for everyone at this month's First Thursday Night Out in historic Cooper-Young!



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memphisanimalclinic.com

ARTSY OFFERINGS

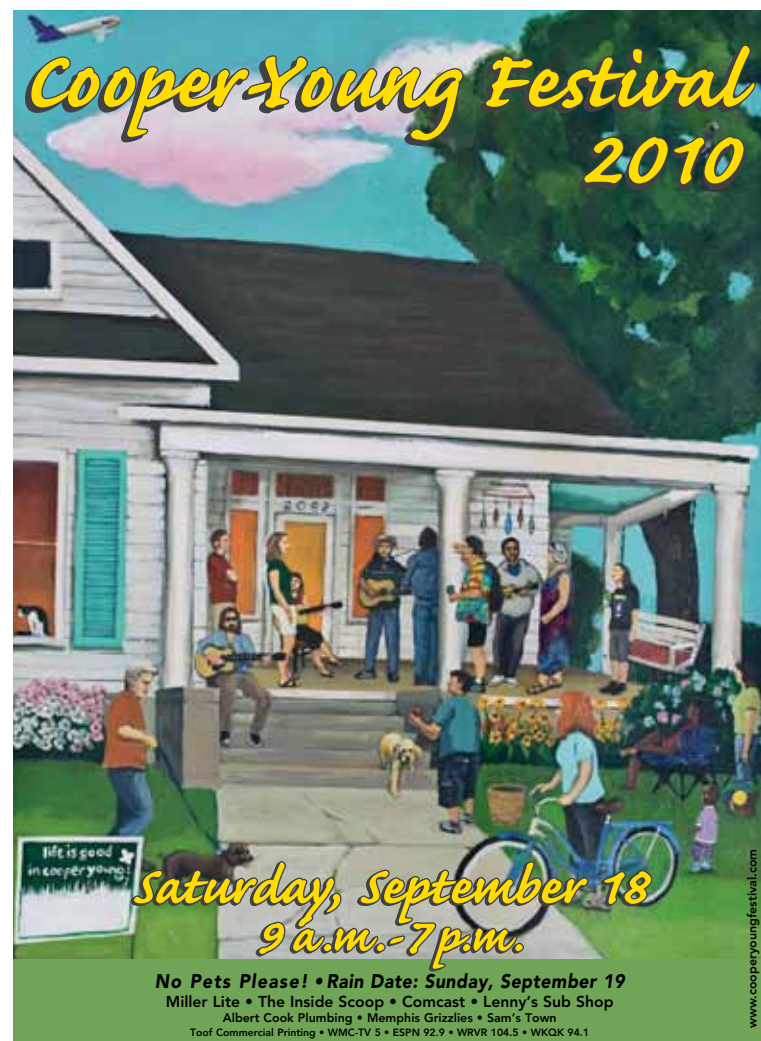
Wanted: CY Festival artwork

BY TAMARA WALKER

The Cooper-Young Festival will celebrate its 24th year on Saturday, September 17, 2011. Every year an artist from the neighborhood is asked to create a piece of artwork that reflects our hip-storic neighborhood and our eclectic Festival. This year we are opening this opportunity up to all artists who work or live in the Cooper-Young neighborhood, which is defined in the CYBA charter as being located between Central and Southern, and McLean and Parkway.

The artwork should be approximately 24 by 18 inches in size, scannable, and should convey the fun, bohemian, family-friendly atmosphere of our neighborhood business district and Festival activities. The winning artist will receive \$500 for the artwork, which will be used to promote the Festival in media advertisements such as posters, news print, websites, billboards, and television. The artist will be the Featured Artist of the 2011 Festival and spotlighted in press releases and on our Cooper-Young Festival website that receives over 1.4 million hits a year. The art will be auctioned at the annual Cooper-Young Art Invitational held the Thursday night before the Festival to help defray the cost of the Invitational.

If you are interested in submitting a piece to be considered for this year's Festival artwork, please send an email to cyba@bellsouth.com. All artwork should be delivered to the CYBA office, located at 2120 Young Avenue, before May 1. The winning artwork will be selected by the Festival Committee and the artist notified by May 6. All other submissions will be returned to the appropriate artists.



**Artwork created by the Featured
Artist of the 2010 Festival, Carol Robison.**



School Happenings



NOW IS THE TIME

Why Stand for Children?

BY JACLYN SUFFEL

As of this April, it stands that Dr. King was assassinated at the Lorraine Motel just 43 years ago. 43 years in the scheme of history is an incredibly miniscule sum. If we were in the Crusades, for example, we wouldn't even be at half-time yet. But the Memphis of today looks drastically different than what the community faced in 1968. Dr. King was a catalyst in a movement that ushered in an era of change, growth, and discovery for our nation. Without his willingness to stand for what was right, we may not be living in a community that (however ungracefully) strives for equality, works towards respecting others, and champions those without a voice. The Memphis of 1968 faced an incredible challenge - the task of changing the very fiber of relationships within the community. While we still have a ways to go, those of you who were alive during that time can testify to the vast difference that brave citizens, committed communities, and strong leaders made and continue to make in this frontier. We are no longer the Memphis of 1968. However, if Dr. King had waited, if he had held back looking for the perfect opportunity to present itself, would we have changed? Would things be different?

The Memphis community of 2011 again faces a difficult and grave challenge. We are in a remarkable position to address the inequities of perhaps the most important societal structure that our nation has: its public education system. We are facing an incredibly complex decision? Do we consolidate our two systems? Do we keep things as is? What will this mean for our children? It is time for every member of our community to rise up, listen, educate themselves, and discuss with one another what they hope to see in an educational system that affects every aspect of our community. Our children are the largest stakeholder in this situation, and yet they have absolutely no say in what occurs. It is our responsibility as voting adults to stand up for them and make sure that their needs are protected, represented, and accounted for.

This is why I work for and am a member of Stand for Children. Stand for Children is a nonprofit that is dedicated to uniting parents, teachers, and community members to make a strong political voice for kids in public schools. We work hard to make sure that their needs are constantly prioritized with elected officials and policy makers through the input of parents, teachers, and the children themselves. Currently, we are working to educate the community about the charter dissolution, special school district status, and potential consolidation so that Memphians feel they can make an informed vote. We cannot wait for the "right time" to get involved in this conversation. If we wait as a community to activate and educate ourselves, valuable moments will be lost that cannot be recovered. Now is the time to take action. Now is the time to stand for children. A few actions that you can take as a community member are:

1. Reach out to a Stand for Children organizer, member, or Team Coordinator in your school to learn more and get engaged
2. Attend or volunteer to host an educational meeting and seek education on the issue
3. Register to vote and take someone else to vote

As a community organizer for Stand for Children, I think daily on the organizing of Dr. King and the profound impact it has had on our world. Dr. King got up every morning, washed his face, kissed his wife, and drank his coffee. He was no magical and ethereal entity - he was a man. Dr. King was a man who believed in his mission, our nation, the love between fellow humans, the hope that things can improve, and the willingness to take action in order to get there. It was this that made him incredible, and it was this that made him a hero. We each have the potential to be agents of change within our communities, much like Dr. King was. Though we may never make as wide reaching an impact, we can strive towards goodness and justice and leave things a little better than when we found them. It is our duty to ourselves and to the memory of the many men and women like Dr. King who came before us. My way of living on in his memory is by being a part of Stand, and I ask that each of you do the same. If you would like to learn more about how to get engaged at your local school, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jaelyn Suffel is a Memphis organizer for Stand for Children and a Cooper-Young resident. You may contact her at 901-438-7786. For more information on Stand for Children visit stand.org.

FUN WITH BEANS

Fourth Annual Chili Cook-Off to benefit Peabody Elementary

BY JOSH SPICKLER

It's winter, and I'll admit that my family doesn't get out and about nearly enough this time of year. But if there's one thing that will get us bundled up and headed for the door it's beans. More specifically, beans prepared in a stew-like fashion with a red chili powder base often featuring ground or shredded meat. We're talking chili! Luckily for us, and the rest of Midtown Memphis, it's almost time for the Fourth Annual Cooper-Young/Peabody Elementary Chili Cook-Off. On Saturday, March 5, from noon-2pm, we'll be throwing open the doors to the Peabody Elementary cafeteria, and there will be one item on the menu: chili (and maybe some crackers, if you're good).

Who will have the best chili in Midtown according to our distinguished panel of highly-trained judges? Who will extort, I mean raise the most cash and take home the coveted People's Choice Award? Be there on March 5 and find out. We'll also have awards for the Best Hot, Best Vegetarian, and Most Unusual chili. And new this year in honor of Peabody's 100th birthday, Best Alumni chili (that is chili prepared by Peabody alumni, not chili that attended the school). So, if you went to Peabody Elementary, get your best recipe ready, call up some classmates, and throw down the chili gauntlet. Peabody pride and a sweet, custom apron are at stake.

Register now at cooperyoung.org. The cost is \$20 per team, but the potential for chili glory is unlimited. The contest is restricted to an elite field of 25 teams, so register early. For those who just want to eat the delicious, beany goodness, five bucks at the door gets you five generous tastings and a drink. That's a deal you're not going to beat on March 5 from noon-2pm. Of course, since all proceeds go to the beautification of the schoolyard and the neighborhood beyond, feel free to buy more than one ticket. Plus, the Peabody Elementary classroom with the best attendance at the cook-off wins a pizza party! There's something for everyone. But mostly there will be warm, delicious chili served up for a good cause right in your neighborhood. At four years old, it's practically a tradition! Don't miss it.

What: Cooper-Young/Peabody Elementary Chili Cook Off

When: March 5, noon-2pm

Where: Peabody Elementary Cafeteria, 2086 Young Avenue

To Cook: \$20 registration fee - limited to the first 25 teams, register at cooperyoung.org.

To Eat: \$5 for five tastings and a drink. Tickets sold at the door.

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LampLighter

Cooper-Young — Many Voices, One Community

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan enters Phase 2

BY KYLE WAGENSCHUTZ

It seems that bicycle and pedestrian issues are on everyone's mind these days. Hardly a day goes by without a newspaper article, editorial, or TV spot related to the vast improvements we have seen in the Memphis bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure over the last 12 months.

I'd like to thank everyone who completed the Bicycle and Pedestrian Survey in November and December. We had an outstanding response with over 2,100 different perspectives that we can use to help guide the update of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Completing the survey brings us to the end of Phase 1 of the update process where we identified existing conditions.

We are now gearing up for Phase 2: recommended improvements. During this process we will be getting public input on the most important part of the plan – describing what our region wants to accomplish in terms of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and support programs.

The Memphis MPO will hold three public meetings over the next quarter to help us gain your perspective on how the plan should be updated. Each of the meetings will be held at the Church Health Center Wellness Center, at 1115 Union Avenue, in Conference Rooms A and B. The first meeting took place on January 19. At this meeting we introduced Phase 2 of the process and discussed multi-use paths, such as greenways and greenlines. The times and topics of the other 2 meetings are as follows:

February 9 - Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities - 5:30-7:30pm

March 2 - Review and Revise Phase 2 Findings - 5:30-7:30pm

Please make sure to mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend. We need to hear from you about how we can advance our efforts in formulating a regional bicycle and pedestrian network.

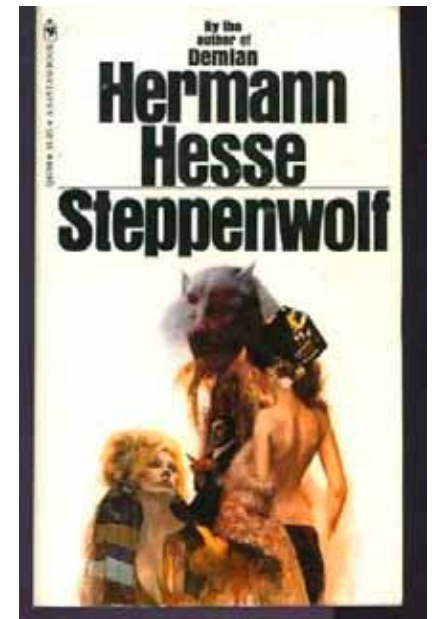
Kyle Wagenschutz is the Memphis MPO Bikeway/Pedestrian Coordinator. You may contact him at kyle.wagenschutz@shelbycountyttn.gov.


Jekyll and Hyde live on

BY KIMBERLY RICHARDSON

Herman Hesse's novel *Steppenwolf* is more than a simple story within a story: a man and his travels read by a young man who discovers his manuscript. This novel tells of a man coming to grips with his humanity as well as the beast within. This man, Harry Haller, is a purveyor of knowledge, arts, and culture. He is the one living under the sun, a creature of the day. However, the Steppenwolf is a savage of the night who takes this knowledge from the man and pushes the envelope, pursuing the extremes. The wolf understands the true ways of the world and is made stronger by it. He is not afraid to live while the man is not afraid to die. Therein lies the paradox of the Steppenwolf. Harry seeks release from the pain his increasing knowledge of the world brings, but he cannot kill himself for the wolf will not allow him to commit such an act of cowardice. On the brink of suicide he meets a young woman named Hermine. She represents everything that Harry is with an extra component – she does not fear life.

Rather than dwell upon the pessimistic, she revels in the good that life has to offer. From this initial meeting the two become lovers as Hermine shows Harry a better way to handle his knowledge of life. She teaches him how to dance the fox trot, carry on a passionate affair with a woman, and seek pleasure in its many forms. However, the Steppenwolf learns his greatest lesson after a masquerade ball when his new musician friend, Pablo, invites him to spend some time in his Magic Theater. The theater shows the wolf his life in various ways, revealing hidden fears and secrets. This causes him to take action, resulting in the unveiling of the greatest lesson learned for the Steppenwolf. The unexpected ending was quite a surprise for me; I had to read it three times just to make sure I fully understood what had happened to him. Cruel clarity was the end, but the price was high. Such is the way of the Steppenwolf.





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Bluesy book signing

BY COREY MESLER

Ken Murphy and

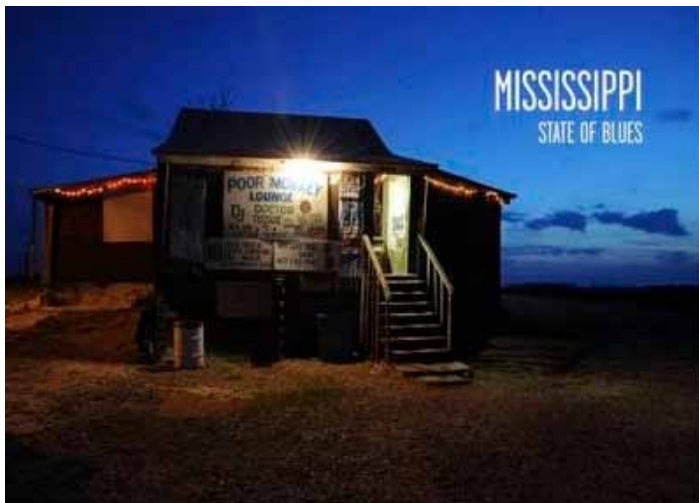
Scott Baretta will be at Burke's Book Store on Thursday, February 3, from 5:30-6:30pm to sign copies of their coffee table book, *Mississippi: State of the Blues* (Proteus/Murphy Publishing, \$59.95). This event coincides with the monthly First Thursday Night Out in Cooper-Young.

This book is a commentary on the state of blues music in Mississippi, and it is a blend of two insightful minds coming from two different angles. With the publication of this book the sights, soul, and wisdom of the blues scene are all captured.

Ken Murphy is a commercial/art photographer. In 2006 he received the MAC Katrina Business Grant and in 2007 a grant from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

Scott Barretta is the former editor of the Swedish blues magazine *Jefferson and Living Blues*. He is the host of the radio show *Highway 61*, writes a blues column for the *Clarion Ledger*, and has served as researcher/writer for the Mississippi Blues Trail and the B. B. King Museum. He lives in Oxford, Mississippi.

If there are any questions concerning this event, please contact Corey Mesler at 901-278-7484.



School choices to consider

BY DR. D. JACKSON MAXWELL AND KAMILAH WHITLEY

While only halfway through this school year, already as parents we need to be thinking about the next school year. Those with pre-kindergarteners or kindergarteners need to be considering testing their children to see if they qualify for Head Start or gifted programs. Those of us with older children may be taking the leap to middle or high school or making the move to a new school. As always, the next school year will be here before we know it. To that end I have invited Kamilah Whitley, a respected educator, CLUE teacher at Craigmont Middle School, and a National Board Teacher candidate, to voice her thoughts on school choice. Here is what she had to say.

Ring....Ring.... "Hello? Yes Shelia, Harvard is still a pretty good university. Of course I will let you know when it falls into decline like the rest of the US school system. Yes, I know Lawrence is just a year old, and you want to him to attend only the very best schools. What's that? Of course I'm available tomorrow to talk about the world's best wedding locations for Lawrence!"

Okay. I confess. Conversations with my friend really do not go like this. However, my exaggeration more closely resembles what my friend and many other parents in Memphis feel in their hearts. They want the very best for their children, especially in regards to education. Recent local and national headlines warn parents of the consequences of not sending their children to the "right" schools, much as headlines in the past warned parents of the dangers in vaccinating their children to prevent smallpox. It is easy to see how even the most informed parent can be skeptical when choosing a school for their child, whether it's a charter, private, parochial, or public school. That noted, here are a few extra options you may not be aware of in our local public schools.

The Optional School Program offered by Memphis City Schools (MCS) allows parents to choose a school that best fits their child's needs. The Optional School Programs vary from school to school, with a plethora of possibilities such as Performing and Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and Mathematics, and beyond. MCS currently has 43 different Optional Schools at all levels. Students must apply to be accepted into the program and meet entry requirements that are based on specific attendance, behavior, and academic standards. These vary depending on the school and the rigor of the program.

Children who begin to read at an early age, have excellent memory, and/or relate well to adults could be gifted. If this is the case, parents may be interested in the MCS CLUE (Creative Learning in a Unique Environment) program. CLUE is available to pre-kindergarten through high school students. To gain entry students must successfully complete an individual assessment administered by a designated MCS employee or a qualified psychologist. Students who enter the CLUE program are challenged to think critically, display creative thinking, strengthen their communication skills, and develop leadership abilities. Further, students engage in problem solving activities and introspective exercises. The program is unique in that it is tailored to the individual needs of students who exemplify both academic and creative strengths.

So, if you are looking for an exemplary educational experience designed to challenge and nurture the special needs of your child, consider Memphis City Schools. As a bonus, unlike the world's best wedding locations, these schools are free!

Kamilah Whitley is a highly accomplished CLUE teacher and National Board candidate. Dr. D. Jackson Maxwell is a National Board Certified Teacher with over 25 years educational experience. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Dr. Maxwell at djacksonmaxwell@gmail.com.

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Sneak peak at new documentary: *Freedom Riders*

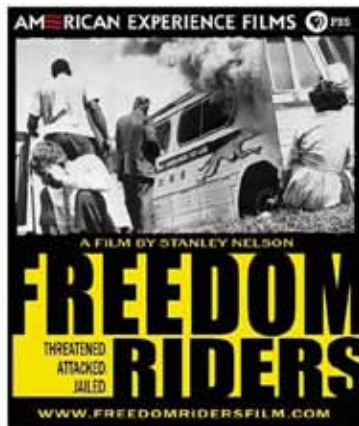
BY SARAH FRIERSON

It began in May of 1961 when thirteen people boarded a bus bound for the Deep South. The Freedom Riders did not know the dangers they would face nor the ultimate affect their journey would have on a nation. Armed only with conviction, their desire to confront the Jim Crow laws forcing segregated travel precipitated a chain of events that would pit violence against nonviolence and ultimately gain the attention of the White House and the rest of the world.

In May, PBS is airing a new documentary on the Freedom Riders as part of their *American Experience* series. The film, by veteran filmmaker Stanley Nelson (*Jonestown, The Murder of Emmett Till, Wounded Knee*), will premiere at this year's Sundance Film Festival.

Memphians will have a sneak peek of this remarkable film on March 3 at 7pm. Facing History and Ourselves is hosting a free screening and discussion of the film, featuring a Q&A with Freedom Rides participant Ernest "Rip" Patton, Jr. The event will be held in the University Theater at Christian Brothers University (650 East Parkway South) and is open to the public.

If you plan to take a group of 15 or more, please RSVP by contacting the Facing History and Ourselves office at 901-452-1776. For more information about the film and the Freedom Rides, visit pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/freedomriders/.



This Facing History and Ourselves event is coordinated in cooperation with BRIGGS, Rhodes College, Memphis Branch NAACP, Christian Brothers University, The National Civil Rights Museum, Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change, Masuku W. Orr Center for the Humanities, Memphis Public Library & Information Center, The University of Memphis, American Experience, and WKNO.

THE A TEAM

CY January clean up

BY KRISTAN HUNTLEY

On Saturday, January 8, several brave volunteers bundled up and came out to help clean up the area around the McLean trestle. There were many, many leaves packed on the sidewalk and the street, posing a pedestrian hazard and possible issue with storm water drainage. With an impending snow, the clean up was even more necessary and timely.

A big thank you goes out to our dedicated volunteers who were awesome! They were: David Early, Emily Bishop, James Mayo, Beverly Cooper, Brad Gilmer, and Chris Hardesty.

Many thanks to David Cleveland at Cortona for providing a warm place for us to gather as folks arrived at the Gazebo and a very special thanks to our friends at Stewart Brothers who donated two boxes of trash bags for the clean-up. They were much needed – after all the leaves and litter was gathered, we had 67 bags filled!

Keep an eye out for the next clean-up, and if you are interested in starting a block-level clean-up campaign or want to get involved with the Beautification Committee, please e-mail Kristan Huntley at k.huntle@yahoo.com.

Sign up for free safety alerts.
www.cooperyoung.org

Sports fans to 'Huddle' for Memphis Habitat

BY LAUREN HANNAFORD

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Memphis

invites Memphians to "huddle up" for its seventh annual Home Team Huddle fundraising event.

Presented by Matrix Achievement Group, Home Team Huddle parties will take place Sunday, February 6, during the biggest professional football game of the year.

Participants in Home Team Huddle are asked to host a "Super Sunday" party and collect donations for Memphis Habitat during halftime. All proceeds go directly to the local affiliate and help further Habitat's mission of eliminating substandard and poverty housing in the Memphis community. Memphis Habitat's 2011 Home Team Huddle goal is to reach 100 parties and raise at least \$20,000.

Individual party hosts and guests will become eligible for Home Team Huddle's grand prize of a weekend getaway to an NFL city next season. This getaway will include round-trip airfare, hotel accommodations and two tickets to the NFL game of their choice. Hosts raising the most money will also be eligible for other prizes.

Party hosts who sign up by February 4 will receive their own Home Team Party Pack designed to help promote and build excitement around the parties. The pack includes an official Home Team Huddle T-shirt, beverage coasters, event poster, stickers and other giveaways for party guests, a collection envelope, and ideas for helping promote the event.

This year, Memphis Habitat also is encouraging area businesses to host office "huddles," where they ask employees to donate \$5 in return for a company perk, such as wearing jeans to the office one day.

For more information or to sign up to host a Home Team Huddle party, please contact Crystal Hardin at 901-761-4771, ext. 210, or chardin@memphishabitat.com.



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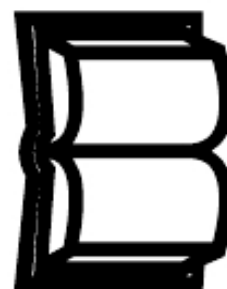
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Playhouse on the Square and Opera Memphis present *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

BY KRISTEN WADDELL

Playhouse on the Square and Opera Memphis are staging the world premiere of Michael Ching's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* – *Opera A Cappella* to be performed at Playhouse on the Square Thursday through Saturday nights at 8pm and Sunday afternoons at 2pm from January 21 - February 13.

Composer Michael Ching has put an innovative twist on a beloved classic in his new operatic version of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The production will be the first attempt by any North American opera company at a full-length, main stage opera performed entirely a cappella. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is directed and choreographed by Gary John LaRosa, performed in English, and promises to be exciting to both the opera lover and the avid theatre-goer.

Memphis' favorite a cappella group, DeltaCappella, will be featured as the "vocal orchestra." Soprano Jennifer Goode Cooper, described by the New York Times as a "powerful, expressive soprano" with "good dramatic instincts," makes her Playhouse on the Square and Opera Memphis debut as Titania. Baritone John Dooley, who was in the premiere cast for *Ashmodeus* (Dove) with Opera Vivente and *Frontino* (Rossini) with Bronx Opera, also makes his Memphis debut as Lysander. Opera Memphis Artist-in-Residence Jeremiah Johnson returns to the stage as Theseus/Oberon. Playhouse on the Square Resident Company Member Laura Stracko, recipient of the 2010 Ostrander Rising Star Award, makes her Opera Memphis debut as Hermia.

To purchase tickets call the Playhouse on the Square box office at 901-726-4656 or visit playhouseonthesquare.org.



Gumbo competition to promote equality

BY JONATHAN COLE

Tennessee Equality Project (TEP) is proud to host its 3rd Annual Mardi Gras Party and this year's first Gumbo Tasting Competition on Sunday, February 20. The ingredients of gumbo are as diverse as the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) community, and we will celebrate this in true Mardi Gras style. Funds raised in the competition will benefit TEP to advance and protect the equality of LGBT people and their families in Tennessee.

TEP invites you to become a contestant in the Gumbo Tasting Competition. Organize a gumbo cooking team of your friends or for your organization, club, employee group, business, or faith community. Professional Judge and People's Choice Awards will be given. You can access competition rules and the entry form at bit.ly/TEPMardiGrasGumbo. We are looking forward to a competitive field. Don't miss this opportunity to help the cause for equality and to demonstrate your culinary prowess!

TEP will charge \$10/person admissions for tasters, and all are welcome. The event will take place at Hi-Tone (1913 Poplar Avenue) from 4:30-7pm, and a cash bar will be available. Don't forget to bring your beads and masks; Mardi Gras attire is encouraged!

Laissez les bons temps rouler!



From Up Here showing at The Circuit Playhouse

BY LISA LYNCH

Kenny Barrett did something that has everyone worried. He wishes he could just make it through the rest of his senior year unnoticed, but that's going to be hard since he has to publicly apologize to his entire high school. At home his family is struggling with second marriages, surprise visits, school dances, and forgotten dry cleaning. This new play is about a family limping out the door in the morning and coming home no matter what.

Directed by Irene Crist (*The Toymaker's Apprentice*), *From Up Here* features 2010-2011 Associate Company members Josh Bernaski, Nick Echols, Drew Hampton, and Carla Olivar, as well as favorites from the Memphis community Kim Justis, Liz Sharpe, and Lyric Peters. The production also features John Moore, a 2009 Ostrander Award nominee for Leading Actor in a Drama for his performance in *The Little Dog Laughed*.

From Up Here runs at The Circuit Playhouse January 28 – February 20, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 2pm. The Pay-What-You-Can performance is Thursday, February 3. The Circuit Playhouse is located at 51 S. Cooper in Midtown. For more information or to make reservations, please call 901-726-4656.



Cooper-Young for Clean Water update

BY GINGER SPICKLER

As you may recall from the December *LampLighter*, Neighborhood Church issued a challenge to the community to help us raise \$5,000 – the entire cost of drilling a well for a village in the Upper Amazon of Peru where the Candoshi people live. We knew that the Cooper-Young for Clean Water project was ambitious. After all, our small church in years past had only raised a little over \$500 annually. But we also knew that CY is a neighborhood with a big heart, so we were hopeful.

After all the money came in - from the church and church members, from family members who gave donations to Living Water in lieu of Christmas presents, from the kids of the church and Ms. Boyd's 4th grade class at Peabody Elementary who donated "Pennies for Peru", and of course, from you, our friends and neighbors – we are thrilled to report that over \$6,200 was raised in less than a month!

Drilling on the well is expected to commence soon, and as we learn more details we will continue to provide updates here in the *LampLighter*. But for now, we just want to thank you from the bottom of our collective heart for rising to this challenge. We are so grateful to our community for stepping up to help another community at Christmas time.



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2011 movie preview: an early look at the years' most promising films

BY MATT MARTIN

It's all *Jaws*' fault.

Allow me to explain. For much of cinematic history, films opened gradually. A movie was produced then released to major markets in cities like New York and Los Angeles. A film's popularity (and its studio's influence) decided whether it would be released to smaller cities and so on down. Often only a small number of films would reach everywhere across time, with areas of the South and the Midwest being particularly ignored. As selective as this process of creeping release was, it did allow the studios the freedom to finance an enormous number of movies per year.

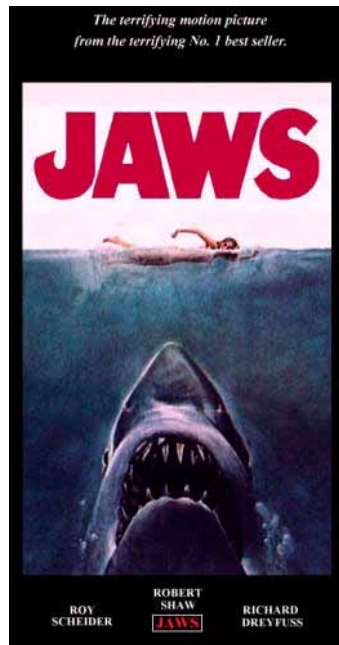
But all that would change in the 1970's. During the massive cultural and financial success of *The Godfather* in 1972, its parent studio, Paramount Pictures, realized that the film's popularity and the resulting media attention were moving faster than their ability to actually distribute the film. In other words, people everywhere wanted to see it now, but if you weren't in a major city, it would be six months to a year before you could actually see it. And if you were in a small enough area of the country, you wouldn't see it at all. A similar situation occurred in 1973 with the release of *The Exorcist*. Financial opportunities were being missed, and the Hollywood studios took note.

In 1975 Universal studios backed a film that seemed doomed at first: an inexperienced director was trying to adapt an unfilmable book. But insider buzz on this modern day version of *Moby Dick* was getting strong, so Universal took a chance: avoid the slow release process and release the movie "wide" – an industry term meaning to release a movie all around the country on the same day. It was a massive success. The film was *Jaws*, and it would be deemed the first blockbuster. Released on June 20, 1975 on over 400 screens simultaneously, *Jaws* changed the way studios would approach making films. Studios began looking for major "event" films that could be marketed nationally, than released countrywide simultaneously. In 1977, 20th Century Fox would release *Star Wars* this way, quickly making it the most profitable film of all time to that point.

The impact of these moments on cinema can be felt now more than ever. In the thirty years since, the number of films produced by major studios every year has been reduced by 75 percent. The lessons learned from *Jaws* and *Star Wars* were persuasively simple: better to make fewer films, put more money into them, and choose projects that will have surefire, eager audiences in order to insure the massive investment. The event films now hold dominance over cinema, often leaving smaller, more mature films, to obscurity, regardless of their artistic pedigree or critic's praise.

2011 will be no exception. Virtually every weekend of the year has a massive potential blockbuster on the schedule, including the obligatory sequels, remakes, comic adaptations, anonymous action flicks, and video game movies. These include *Transformers 3*, *Thor*, *Scream 4*, *Pirates of the Caribbean 4*, *Green Lantern*, *Cars 2*, *Captain America*, *Conan the Barbarian*, *The Smurfs*, *Cowboys & Aliens*, *Sherlock Holmes 2*, another *Twilight* movie, *Battle: Los Angeles*, and *Kung Fu Panda 2*. Some will be good, some will be decent, and some will be unwatchable. Such is the nature of modern cinema. But even as these heavily marketed, eye-popping cinema candy dominate the theaters, a small number of intelligent, original films will creep out and be largely ignored. So here are 10 films you shouldn't let get lost in the shuffle. Call it a cheat sheet for this year's must-sees. And if you love a good blockbuster, enjoy the buffet. Just try to save room for some of these smart cinematic feasts.

Oh, and for the record, I love *Jaws*. Great movie.



1. *The Tree of Life* – Director Terrance Malick (*The Thin Red Line*, *The New World*) has only made 5 films over 45 years, but each has been amazing. This highly secretive project stars Brad Pitt as the oldest son of a Texas family in the 1950's who witnesses their fall from innocence. Early screenings have received staggering praise.

2. *Hugo Cabret* – This film comes from director Martin Scorsese, and is set in 1930's Paris. An orphan who lives in the walls of a train station is wrapped up in a mystery involving his late father and a robot. Chloe Moretz, Jude Law, Ben Kingsley, Emily Mortimer, and Sacha Baron Cohen star.

3. *Biutiful* – Javier Bardem is a damaged underworld figure and devoted single father who attempts to reconcile with a past love and secure a future for his kids as his own death draws near. This is a gritty, slow-burning descent into a man's private purgatory from director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu (*21 Grams*, *Babel*).

4. *God of Carnage* – Controversial director Roman Polanski takes on the Tony Award winning play about two sets of parents who begin an increasingly tense confrontation after their sons are involved in a schoolyard fight. Jodie Foster, Christoph Waltz, Kate Winslet, and John C. Riley star.

5. *A Dangerous Method* – David Cronenberg (*A History of Violence*, *Eastern Promises*) directs this look at the intense, volatile relationship between Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung and the resulting birth of psychoanalysis. Viggo Mortensen, Michael Fassbender, and Keira Knightley star.

6. *Melancholia* – This bizarre sounding sci-fi, doomsday film from notoriously bizarre director Lars Von Trier (*Antichrist*, *Dogville*, *Dancer in the Dark*) follows two sisters and their relationship during the last days before Earth will be destroyed by a planetary collision. Kirsten Dunst, Charlotte Gainsbourg, and Kiefer Sutherland star.

7. *Caves of Forgotten Dreams* – Legendary German director Werner Herzog (*Grizzly Man*, *Rescue Dawn*, *Aguirre*) gained exclusive access to film inside the Chauvet caves of Southern France, capturing on film for the first time the oldest known pictorial cave drawings in human history. Shot in 3D, it promises to be among the best documentaries of the year.

8. *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* – A nine-year-old prodigy searches New York for the lock that matches a mysterious key left by his father when he was killed on 9/11. Stephen Daldry (*The Reader*, *The Hours*) directs with Tom Hanks, Sandra Bullock, and John Goodman.

9. *The Rum Diary* – Johnny Depp returns to Hunter S. Thompson territory in this darkly comic tale of a freelance journalist living in the Caribbean, trying to write amidst a group of lost souls bent on self-destruction. Aaron Eckhart, Giovanni Ribisi, and Amber Heard co-star.

10. *J. Edgar* – Clint Eastwood directs Leonardo DiCaprio as the infamous, controversial lawman J. Edgar Hoover, who virtually created the F.B.I., befriended the mafia, fervently hid his homosexuality, and wielded almost absolute power for decades in the creation of modern law enforcement. Armie Hammer (*The Social Network*) plays Hoover's longtime assistant and lover, Clyde Tolson. Also stars Judi Dench.

And just in case your interests aren't piqued, here's 10 more you shouldn't miss: *The Descendants*, *Drive*, *Larry Crowne*, *Straw Dogs*, *Contagion*, *Water for Elephants*, *Looper*, *Moon Rise Kingdom*, *Source Code*, and *Don't be Afraid of the Dark*. Check online for more details. Now put this list on your fridge and get to the movies.

Matt Martin has written movie reviews for the St. Louis Post Dispatch and is co-owner of Black Lodge Video, located on the corner of Cooper and Evelyn. Black Lodge is the largest video store in the eastern US and is a faithful CYCA membership sponsor.

Showing compassion to feral cats

BY TRISHA GURLEY

By the time you read this it will be February, and love will be the theme of the month. Whether you find Valentine's Day a happy occasion or a day you could take or leave, it's a reminder that love indeed makes the world go 'round.

The animal world gets that message loud and clear. There are tens of millions of feral cats nationwide, and Memphis, particularly CY, has its own feral population. The world isn't a kind place to a feral cat trying to find food, shelter, and warmth on cold evenings. Alas, feral cats, like any animal, will follow their biological programming and breed as soon as they're able to do so. Factor a female cat having a gestation period of only 65 days on average, and the feral population grows out of control fast. There are more cats roaming the streets in CY and in the City than there are resources to care for them.

Perhaps you're a responsible pet owner who keeps their pet indoors and has had them spayed or neutered. Good job! Your pet is lucky to have you. However, take a moment to consider those who don't have a caring human to look after them. My own cat, Milton, was a shelter kitty, and I don't even want to think about what he may have endured before a good Samaritan brought him into the shelter for help.

Here is your chance to show some Valentine's love to an animal that has likely had none. Mid South Spay and Neuter Services (MSNS) is again hosting Feral February. Cats will be spayed or neutered for free the entire month of February! Can't get much cheaper than that, right?



The free spaying and neutering is for feral cats only. The MSNS staff or your veterinarian can inform you on how to humanely and safely trap a feral. Feral cats are seldom able to be domesticated into a calm and snuggly house pet, but their lives will be made much, much easier by being spayed or neutered. Best of all, you will have helped curtail the feral cat overpopulation in Memphis.

If your non-feral cat needs to be spayed or neutered, you are still in luck. February 22 is National Spay Day, and MSNS will offer 10% off its services that day! A rabies vaccination can also be given for no charge.

Should neither of these offerings be applicable to you or your pet, you can still show some love. MSNS survives on donations alone and needs people like you and me to keep their doors open. As cliché as it sounds, every little bit truly helps. If your donation helps just one cat be sterilized, you've helped prevent countless kittens (and later, their kittens!) from being born into a life of pain, abuse, starvation, injury, or illness.

Feel free to contact MSNS at 901-324-3202 or visit their website at spaymemphis.com. They are located at 854 Goodman and can answer any questions you may have. Let's make CY and Memphis a place that is known for animal compassion in 2011!

Visible School begins renovations at new Downtown campus

BY CRISSY LINTNER

Memphis-based Visible School, a music and worship arts college, will host a formal groundbreaking at its new Downtown Memphis campus, located at 200 Madison Ave., on Tuesday, Feb. 1, at 10:30am. During the event Visible School will unveil official plans for the building, including a timeline for completion and move-in. The event will include live music from Visible School students, as well as an update on the college's fundraising efforts through the Into the City Campaign.

"We're thrilled to finally begin renovations of our new Downtown campus," said Ken Steorts, president and founder of Visible School. "This has been a dream of mine and many others at our college since we began 10 years ago. We have great things planned for our new urban campus, and I look forward to making Downtown our permanent home."

Visible School closed on the purchase of the iconic Francis Gassner-designed building from the Greater Memphis Chamber for \$1,050,000 in December 2009. The college has since continued an aggressive capital campaign to raise funds to begin renovations on the building.

The groundbreaking is open to the public, and will be attended by representatives of the Greater Memphis Chamber of Commerce, Memphis Music Foundation, and Center City Commission.

For more information about Visible School, visit visible.edu.



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IF YOU ASK ME

What a woman should know about sex and cervical cancer

BY BETTY LAMARR

If you ask me, sex and cancer are on opposite ends of my priority spectrum. If someone asks me what I would rather be given during the next year, it's a no brainer. Bring on the men and keep off the chemo, right? Well, sure – unless that sex is increasing your risk of cancer. Sound crazy? Think again.

More young women are being diagnosed with cervical cancer than ever before. What many of these women don't know is that cervical cancer is caused by a sexually transmitted disease called human papillomavirus (HPV). HPV often has no signs or symptoms, and most males carry it completely unaware of the fact that they could be passing a disease on to their partner that could cause infertility, cancer, or death. Many women who have it are also completely unaware until it's too late. Can you say with 100% certainty you are not infected?

January was National Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, and this article focuses on what a woman should know about the correlation between sex and cervical cancer. Much of my information comes from an interview I conducted with Michele Whitlock, founder of the non-profit Pearl of Wisdom Campaign to Prevent Cervical Cancer in Women and also by visiting her website, pearlofwisdom.us. Michele is a cervical cancer survivor who has dedicated her life to the prevention and cure of cervical cancer.

HPV lives on the skin and is passed along by skin to skin contact and friction (not just by intercourse). Once HPV enters a woman's body, it can cause devastating effects. In fact, all cases of cervical cancer stem from an initial infection of HPV. And since cervical cancer is the second leading cancer in women worldwide, think twice before you insist it won't happen to you. According to a report done by Planned Parenthood, at least 80% of women will acquire HPV by the time they are 50. That's 4 out of 5 women! These women are women you see every day. Women of all ages and races. Rich and poor. Promiscuous women and women who have had one sexual partner their whole lives. So let's get rid of the judgment that goes along with HPV and cervical cancer. You know what the real difference is between the women who have HPV and those who don't? Women who don't get the infection know what it is and how to prevent it. Are you one of those women?

If you aren't, there are some pretty simple ways to join the club. If you ask me, I would suggest proper vaccination and screening in order to prevent the disease or to catch it in its earliest stages. The vaccine for HPV is most effective for younger women in their teens to early twenties. Some mothers are hesitant to encourage their daughters to get vaccinated against HPV. After all, isn't this vaccine giving them a green light to go have unprotected sex until they have enough children to fill three episodes of *19 Kids and Counting*? Well, I talked to Dr. Joseph Santoso, a gynecological Oncologist with the West Clinic who specializes in HPV, to see what he had to say about the topic. He wanted to remind us that vaccinations are preventative measures, much like the seatbelts we put on when we get in the car every day. Is that seat belt going to cause us to have the impulse to drive into the first unsuspecting car we see? Doubtful. Instead, it is there just in case we have an accident; if we do, we are protected. Protection is key. I wouldn't turn down a bullet proof vest in a war zone, a bottle of sanitizer at Paris Theatre, and certainly not a vaccination to protect my reproductive health.

If you ask me, do not forget to get your annual Pap smear and HPV test and encourage your friends to do so. It can save lives.

Betty Lamarr is an advocate for women's issues and concerns. For all questions and comments you may contact her at askbettylamarr@aol.com or whatawomanshouldknow.blogspot.com. She also hosts a talk show that focuses on issues affecting women. The Betty LaMarr Show airs every Wednesday at midnight on Comcast channel 17.



GETTING THE BOOT

Police scanners to help City cash in on parking tickets

BY SCOTT MADAUS

Once upon a time in the city of Memphis you could get away with "sort of forgetting" about parking tickets. But according to City Court Clerk Thomas Long, those days are about to be long gone, and if you don't pay up, you'll get the boot. "If you owe us less than \$500, we'll put a boot on your car," he said.

With the utilization of the license plate readers on some Memphis Police cars, they have the ability to read and uncover expired tags, warrants, and more in just a fraction of a second. But come this summer, Long says the long arm of the law and their overhead scanners will change the game completely.

"If you have outstanding tickets of more than 3 it will notify the police officer; at that point we will put a boot on the car."

With a massive overhaul of their technology infrastructure, the MPD scanners will soon be able to catch those with major and minor parking violations red-handed.

"If you owe us more than \$500 we won't put a boot on, we'll simply tow the car." The project will also generate big revenue for the City of Memphis.

"After one year the ticket is abated, so now with the new technology we have we'll be able to identify those individuals who have outstanding parking tickets and collect that revenue."



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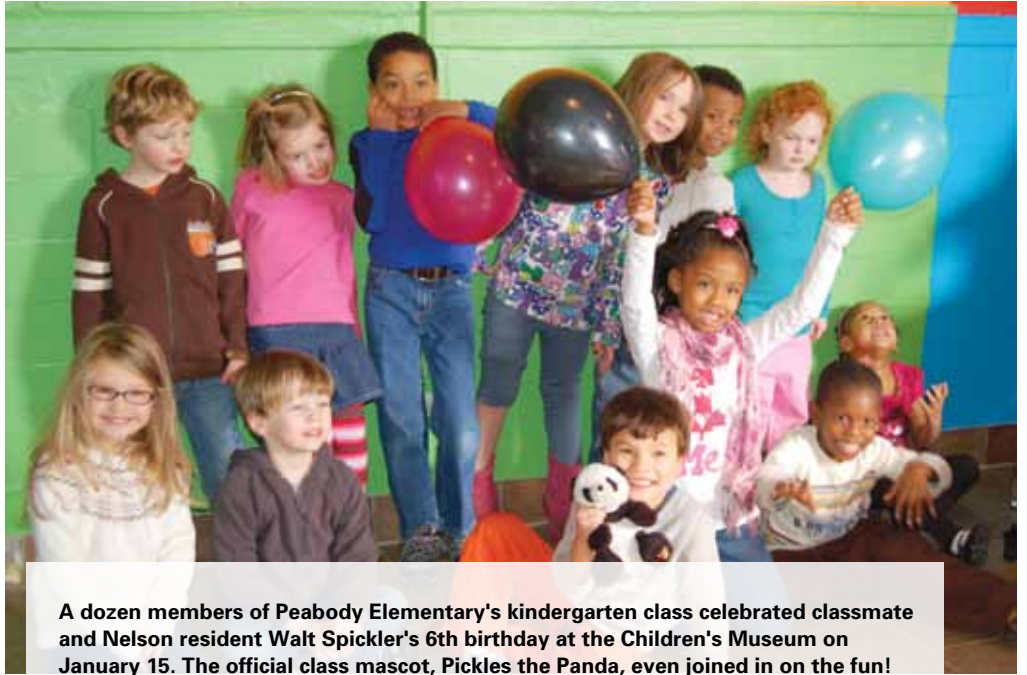
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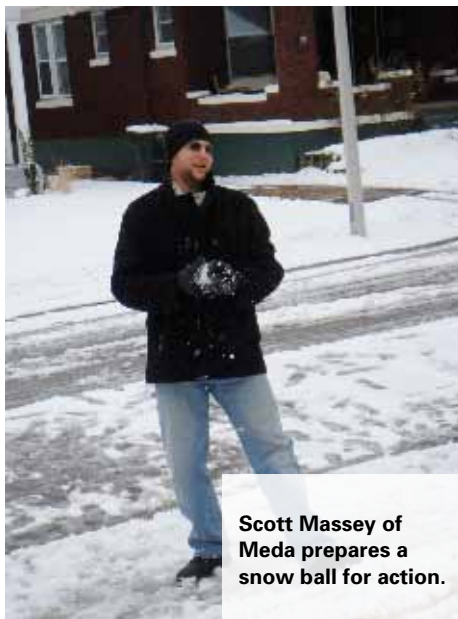
Art, Kim, and Ayler Edmaiston of Meda rolled out an impressive snow family.



A dozen members of Peabody Elementary's kindergarten class celebrated classmate and Nelson resident Walt Spickler's 6th birthday at the Children's Museum on January 15. The official class mascot, Pickles the Panda, even joined in on the fun!



A reluctant good Samaritan, Jacob Martin of Felix Avenue, stops for a picture. After the heavy snow in mid-January he spent part of his day off school shoveling neighbors driveways.



Scott Massey of Meda prepares a snow ball for action.



Violet Elder of Felix Avenue enjoys Christmas morning snow at her Mamaw's house in Mississippi.

To Our Readers

The *LampLighter* is working with the CYCA to bring you meaningful crime information. In addition to the crime map, which details crimes within a one-mile radius of the Cooper-Young intersection, we also included a list of crimes that happened within our neighborhood. This list includes the case number, which you can use to contact the police. The crimes were reported from December 24, 2010 to January 23, 2011.

CASE #	ARREST OFFENSES	DATE	100 BLOCK
1101015621ME	Other Theft/Non-Specific	01/23/11	1000 S COX
1101013859ME	Robbery/Business	01/21/11	2100 CENTRAL
1101013066ME	Theft from Building	01/19/11	2200 YOUNG AVE
1101012747ME	Shoplifting/Misdemeanor	01/19/11	2100 CENTRAL
1101012689ME	Theft from Building	01/19/11	WALKER AVE
1101011853ME	Theft from Motor Vehicle	01/18/11	800 S COOPER
1101011561ME	Aggravated Assault	01/18/11	900 S COOPER
1101009923ME	Vandalism/Misdemeanor	01/15/11	2200 YOUNG
1101007583ME	Burglary/Non-residential	01/12/11	900 BRUCE
1101005108ME	Burglary/Residential	01/08/11	1000 BRUCE
1101005052ME	Vandalism/Felony	01/08/11	2200 CENTRAL
1101004830ME	Vandalism/Misdemeanor	01/07/11	2200 CENTRAL
1101003463ME	Burglary/Residential	01/06/11	1000 BRUCE
1101003249ME	Burglary/DV	01/05/11	900 BRUCE
1101002104ME	Theft from Building	01/04/11	2100 YOUNG
1101001619ME	Shoplifting/Misdemeanor	01/03/11	2100 CENTRAL
1101000573ME	Shoplifting/Misdemeanor	01/02/11	2100 CENTRAL
1101000360ME	Aggravated Assault/DV	01/01/11	900 S. MCLEAN ST
012019496ME	Theft of Vehicle Parts/Accessories	12/31/10	800 TANGLEWOOD
1012017794ME	Theft from Motor Vehicle	12/29/10	YOUNG & COOPER
1012017075ME	Robbery/Individual	12/27/10	900 PHILADELPHIA
1012016744ME	Theft from Motor Vehicle	12/27/10	2100 CENTRAL AVE
1012016521ME	Burglary/Business	12/27/10	1000 S COOPER
1012015729ME	Shoplifting/Misdemeanor	12/25/10	2100 CENTRAL



Crime Map

Do you want to know what crime is taking place in our neighborhood? The Memphis Police Department offers a tool on its website (memphispolice.org) that allows you to locate crime information. Crimemapper allows you to input an address and search in quarter-mile increments for a specific type of crime. It then returns with the results of your search for the previous 30 days.

The crime map for this issue was compiled by June Hurt.





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Joe Jones, American, 1909–1963; Missouri Wheat Farmers, 1938; oil on canvas; 48 1/2 x 38 in.;
Collection of Jeanne and Rex Siquefield; © Heirs of Joe Jones

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