

# LampLighter

Cooper-Young — Many Voices, One Community



## MOTHER NATURE CAN'T STOP CY Cooper-Young welcomes its very own Farmers Market

BY CHRISTIE GILMER

When Lori Greene, her sister Sue Easley, and their friend Robin Rodriguez first came up with the idea for the Cooper-Young Community Farmers Market last fall, their plans were ambitious. Not only did they want to start a new farmers market in Midtown, but they also wanted to make sure their venture had a mission of bringing together different parts of Memphis and of reaching out to nearby neighborhoods that don't have much access to fresh, healthy, locally grown, and affordable food.

"The word community is in our name for a reason," says Lori Greene, a farmer herself, "because in addition to giving shoppers access to the best that local farmers and artisans have to offer, we also want to provide a meeting ground for people to come together on a Saturday morning and talk about anything. From recipes to ideas for creating more good things in Memphis. We want to foster community."

First Congregational Church was their first choice for location. "We saw First Congo as the natural place to have the market, because of their dedication to social justice," says Greene, who used to live in Cooper-Young and has an alter ego as the punk rock singer Lorette Velvette. "Also, First Congo has that large parking lot in the heart of Cooper-Young, and we knew they would probably be open to what we wanted to do. We also saw they had partners inside the building that fit perfectly with our approach, including the Mid-South Peace & Justice Center and Grow Memphis."

The three were soon joined by a team of more than 40 volunteers, including board members, committee chairs, and professionals providing pro bono services. After months of planning and negotiating city permits and health department regulations, the market was ready for its debut on Saturday, May 1.

The night before, however, historic rains

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

## Block clubs build neighborhood safety

I recently met with leaders of other neighborhood associations who, like CY residents, are protected by the officers of the Union Avenue Precinct.

Crime and safety were the topics of conversation. The stories shared were very eye-opening for me. One leader described her fear of calling about a drug house down the street because of retribution. Another spoke of how her neighbors call *her* and then she calls the police. I heard story, after story, after story about drug deals, thefts, home breakins all being everyday or every night occurrence in these areas.

The grass roots solution to all of the above? Block clubs! Knowing our neighbors (who they are, what they drive, how many kids they have, how to contact them in emergencies, etc.) is the foundation to knowing what's right and what's wrong on the street. Knowing our neighbors is a way to show our caring for our neighbors. People with something illegal to hide will move away if a community works together.

These other neighborhoods are struggling with block clubs, but we are blessed to have the largest number of block clubs ever in the history of the CYCA. Yet, there is room for more. Block clubs can start with two homes sharing information and coming together. It's okay to start small and grow into a larger club.

Contact the CYCA office if you want more information on how to start a block club. The CYCA has resources that can help you feel safer and meet your neighbors. Board member Ginger Spickler has done a tremendous job with forming and strengthening block clubs. Thank you, Ginger!

With summer upon us, this is a great time to get out, meet your neighbors, and get involved with a block club.

In CY happiness,  
John Kinsey

**Are you signed up for our email alerts on safety, community events, and volunteering?**

**Go to [cooperyoung.org](http://cooperyoung.org)**



## LampLighter

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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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### Deadlines for the July LampLighter

Articles, submissions: June 15th  
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Read about all the specials available during June's first Thursday event including live music at the gazebo by Steve Lockwood.

**12 Removing parking could increase economic activity**  
The battle between people and cars continues as bicyclists weigh in with their ideas about how less parking can mean more local business traffic.

**15 Everyday electronics may be the source of a costly utility bill**  
Learn how to take some simple steps to save energy and reduce your utility bills.

**All of these articles and more will be published online each month at [lamplighter.cooperyoung.org](http://lamplighter.cooperyoung.org).**

**Don't forget to register!**

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# Meetings & Dates

### CYCA Disaster Preparation Meeting

Monday, June 7th, 6 pm  
2298 Young Avenue

### CYCA General Meeting

Tuesday, June 8th, 6 - 7:30 pm

**Ice Cream Social on the deck at First Congo.**

Prizes will be awarded from the membership drawing!



### CYCA Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 15th, 7 pm  
2298 Young Avenue

### CYCA Quartley Clean Up

Saturday, June 26th, 9 am  
Meet at the Gazebo  
Bring tools to clean alleys



### CYCA Independence Parade

Monday, July 5th, 10 am  
Peabody School

### CYCA Community Director

Maggie Cardwell

### CYCA Board Officers

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

### CYCA Committee Heads

Ad Hoc	Shelley Thomas
Beautification	Susan Currier
Block Clubs	Ginger Spickler
Code Awareness	Sharron Johnson
Communications	Emily Bishop
Festival 4-Miler	Richard Coletta, Michael Ham, Emily Bishop
Finance	Jason Word
Safety Education	Open
Membership	June Hurt
Volunteers	Beth Pulliam
Building	Debbie Sowell

### At-Large Board Members

Sarah Frierson  
Peter Owen  
Rachael Cox

## CYCA 2010 Memberships

BY MAGGIE CARDWELL

The following memberships were received as of May 23rd. Memberships received after the 23rd will be listed in the next issue. The Cooper-Young Community Association is supported by paid memberships, and anyone is welcome to join and receive the benefits of membership, which include discounts to local businesses. You can join online at [cooperyoung.org](http://cooperyoung.org).

### Community Memberships

Sally Brown	Lucy Hadskey
Brad & Rebecca Bush	Lorinda Stanford
Niani Colom	Haynes
Tim Curry	Kathy Ladner
Carol Davis	Suzzane Striker
Steven Frattini	Kerry Vaughan
Chey Fulgham	Walter Wallace
Sandy Furrh	Benjamin Wise

## Disaster Preparation meeting

Monday, June 7th, 6-7 pm  
CYCA Office, 2298 Young

Anyone interested in working together to create a disaster preparedness plan for Cooper-Young is welcome to attend this meeting. We intend to find practical ways to prepare for the next big storm, earthquake, or what ever nature throws our way. Bring your ideas, your expertise, and your willingness to think outside the box and we will work on a plan and a kit to organize your important documents.

LIVING AND WORKING

## LampLighter welcomes new editor and intern

BY EMILY BISHOP

The *LampLighter* has grown under the leadership of many editors since the premiere issue back in 1989. Some editors have served for several years and some only a few issues. Leslie Jaynes has stepped down as editor after more than a year of service. Leslie worked to broaden the scope of articles printed in the *LampLighter* and brought a new energy to the task of production. We wish her well.



The search for a new editor was a brief one. Barb Elder interviewed for the job previously but realized because of her other commitments that she would not have the time necessary to do the job. The timing is right now that she is taking some time off from teaching school. Barb, along with her husband, Jason, and daughter, Violet, have lived in CY for almost four years. She is excited about the opportunity to work with the *LampLighter* staff and the many volunteers that work to publish the paper. This will be Barb's first editorial

endeavor but Cooper-Young has provided many firsts for her already. "This is where we bought our first home. It is where Violet took her first steps. It is where many of our close friends live. We are thankful to be in CY and we love being a part of this community," said Barb.

The July issue will be the first issue for Barb and she will be meeting lots of new people. Each editor brings their own ideas to the paper and she is enthusiastic about the possibilities that lie ahead. Barb added, "I look forward to getting to know all of you who contribute to this paper on a regular basis. I also invite all of you writers, artists, poets, and photographers out there who have yet to share your thoughts and talents with the rest of us to please get involved. This paper serves to keep our neighborhood connected and informed and is a platform for many of our voices to be heard. What a beautiful thing to be a part of!"

### LampLighter benefits from summer internship

The CYCA has a new intern from the University of Memphis English Department. Kara Chamberlain will be working about 15 hours a week throughout the summer on several projects during her internship. In between the monthly issues of the *LampLighter* she will work on the CY History project, the CY Festival Friday 4-Miler, the CYCA website, and the *LampLighter* online.

Kara is also a new resident to CY having just moved to Manila Avenue. She plans to graduate in December and then apply to the U of M law school.



UNCLE SAM IN CY

## Cooper-Young celebrates with parade on July 5th

BY SHELLEY THOMAS

Have you found yourself attending other neighborhood 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades and celebrations? Well, no longer! The entire Cooper-Young community will be hosting it's own 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade!

**Monday, July 5th starting at 10 am**

**Set up and start of the parade will be behind Peabody School**

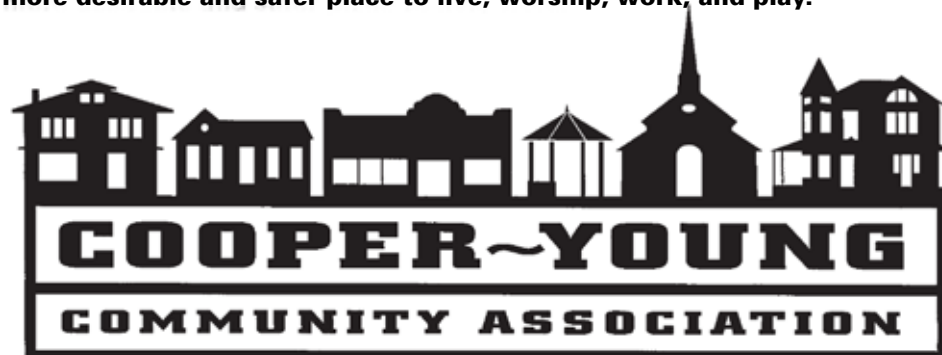
Dress up your bicycles, kids, wagons, strollers, pets, grandma, and who/whatever else in your most patriotic attire and mosey down to the Peabody School for some festive fun!. After the parade, There will be a picnic and some fun, including a cool down with a live band, popsicles, and a Memphis Fire Department sprinkling!

It wouldn't be CY if there was not some music and art, so come listen to some tunes while you draw, paint, and express Independence Day your way (bring your own supplies). Artists may submit their masterpieces to help decorate the Cooper-Young Community Association office building at 2298 Young Avenue, which was recently purchased by the CYCA and will soon get some long needed improvements.

Bring your picnic basket, blanket, chairs, art supplies, bathing suits, and costumes. Have fun with your neighbors and celebrate our nation's independence CY style!

### 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

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

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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](http://cooperyoung.org). The CYCA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

**ARE YOU SIGNED UP FOR OUR EMAIL ALERTS ON SAFETY, COMMUNITY EVENTS, AND VOLUNTEERING?**

**SIGN UP @ [COOPERYOUNG.ORG](http://COOPERYOUNG.ORG).**

CY IN BLOOM

## And the Yard-of-the-Month goes to...

BY SYDNEY ASHBY

### 1889 Nelson Avenue



The 2010 inaugural Yard-of-the-Month for June (west of Cooper) goes to 1889 Nelson Avenue. With its stone work and perfectly placed trees, the yard conveys a simple but lovely elegance. Paul Linxwiler and Jonathan Cole have put a lot of work into their yard since moving to Cooper-Young from East Memphis in September 2008. The front beds are lined with azaleas and a crepe myrtle by the porch steps. Mondo grass and hawthorn run along the walk in the front yard. Two trees provide depth and balance: a Japanese maple and a Redbud. Hostas and Mums lay in the beds surrounding the trees. All the flowerbeds are lined with sandstone bringing a sense of order and design. Paul and Jonathan say that living in Cooper-Young is "better than we imagined! We love the people in CY, the feeling of living in a real neighborhood with terrific homes and being able to walk to our favorite eateries. CY is the best!" And I think a lot of people would agree with them. Please congratulate Paul and Jonathan for their beautiful yard of the month!



### 1068 S. Cox Street

The Yard of the Month (east of Cooper) goes to 1068 S. Cox. The red door catches your eye and the red cushioned chairs make the porch a perfect resting spot to enjoy the view. This stucco house has four columns that create a nice balance that is echoed by pots of flowers filled with begonias and other long blooming flowers. The flower beds on either side of the front steps are lined with field stone and hold azaleas with impatiens in front that are just beginning to bloom. This yard is a perfect example of how to make a small yard simple beautiful.

TAKE ME TO THE RIVER

## Clogged storm drains need attention

BY RODNEY NASH

I love water. There's almost nothing I love more than jumping into a cool, clear lake or river on a hot summer day. I will even swim in the muddy Mississippi. That's why I hope that the folks upstream have a Stormwater Program like the City of Memphis, to ensure runoff is clear and uncontaminated as it flows out to our surrounding bodies of water. We were the first city in the country to have a stormwater collection system installed after the Yellow Fever epidemic of the 1800's. We are now initiating this citywide program to deal with groundwater issues. The rainfall, in our immediate area, flows into the storm drain system that feeds into three main tributaries to the Mississippi River, the Gulf of Mexico, or it collects in the sand aquifers and goes back underground. Therefore, it is crucial that we keep the flow unimpeded and keep groundwater pollution to a minimum, or ideally, eliminate it altogether.

Your CYCA needs volunteers to help label and maintain the neighborhood storm drains. The curbside inlets and grates get clogged with too much debris, both natural and manmade, for them to collect and drain all of the runoff, especially during periods of heavy rainfall. Ordinarily, there are city crews that work to keep them clear and fully functional, but they are overtaxed. According to Sharon Gordon, Storm Water Projects Coordinator for the city's Division of Public Works, the majority of street flooding during the recent heavy rains is due to clogged storm drains!

CYCA representatives, with Sharon, recently mapped some of the more than 200 storm drains in the neighborhood, and assessed their condition and functionality. On Saturday, June 26 at 9 am, we will meet at the Gazebo at Cooper and Young to begin the process of labeling them. Our goal is to get as many identified as possible to increase awareness of their location, and stress the importance of the issues around maintaining them and preserving groundwater quality. Please join us and help us reach our goal. We are also seeking residents to participate in an "Adopt a Storm Drain" program. If you would be willing to contribute to this effort, or already do and would like to notify us, we are attempting to get every drain in every location in the community adopted.

### To reduce or eliminate groundwater contamination:

**NEVER** pour anything harmful on the ground, into the gutters, or the storm drains!

**RECYCLE** or dispose chemicals and paint properly on hazardous waste collection day, or at the city's designated HWC site. Businesses such as AutoZone and JiffyLube collect motor oil, as well.

**COMPOST** or mulch leaves, clippings, and other yard waste.

**CLEAN** loose dirt, sand, rubble, litter, or any other material out of the gutters and drain openings.

**REDUCE** the amounts of chemicals used on lawns, eliminate the phosphorous in fertilizers (most soil has enough), and sweep any excess off walks and driveways. Remember compost and manure contain phosphorous, too. It feeds algae blooms and reduces the amount of oxygen in fish habitats.

**AVOID** excess watering and runoff.

**REMOVE** pet waste and dispose properly. The best method is flushing.

**WASH** vehicles in a car wash that treats or recycles wastewater, or wash cars on the lawn where greywater can be absorbed into the ground.

**USE** common sense and be conscious of the fact that anything that washes down a storm drain is ultimately discharged into the groundwater system.

**HELP** us label the storm drains on Saturday, June 26th. See you there!

*Next in this column: Increasing participation in curbside recycling, and expanding recycling efforts in plastics, scrap metal (Airways Iron & Metal, 2103 Person, west off Airways south), electronics (www.5processors.com), household goods (Goodwill, Salvation Army, Amvets on Summer), etc. Search online or consult the yellow pages for scrapyards and other locations that take recyclables.*

*If you have information on more specialized and thorough methods of recycling that can be included, please email me: rnash57@yahoo.com.*

RUST TO RICHES

## J.C. Graham at Gallery Fifty-Six

BY JANICE NABORS RAITERI

School may be out, but the June show at Gallery Fifty-Six "One Room Schoolhouse: Recent Works by J.C. Graham" is in. J.C.'s thoughtfully placed splashes of color grab your attention, but it's the details, textures, and seemingly random objects or words that pull the viewer into J.C.'s sepia-toned art collages. You can't help but stop, enjoy, and wonder.

J.C. Graham grew up on a farm in rural Arkansas, "As an artistic child in such an environment, I found out quickly that I was my own best friend. I preferred to dig through junk piles and old barns in a manner that most would deem 'treasure hunting,' but I was looking for indications that life had been there before me... from some point when I was much younger I



became fascinated with what I consider this dance with life, living, and death...and all of the material goods we gather to ourselves in the process."

Former lives somehow continuing through left-behind objects fascinated J.C., "A rusty nail was just that to most people, but my young imagination was completely tormented and entertained by what human life had relinquished the nail to time. It was significant to someone at some point in history...It was driven into wood to keep some kind of structure together...It had life and was precious to me as a child. Now those nails, hinges, and such combine to create a structure at my hands...boxes, paintings, and assemblages that are insignificant, yet give fulfillment to individuals and characters well beyond their living years."

I disagree only with the word "insignificant." In my opinion, this odd assortment of found objects couldn't have landed in better hands.

"One Room Schoolhouse: Recent Works by J.C. Graham" shows from June 2nd-July 1st. The public is invited to an opening reception on Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 5-8 pm at Gallery Fifty-Six, 2256 Central Ave. For more information, call 901-276-1251 or go on-line to galleryfiftysix.com.

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE AESTHITCS

## Michael Taylor teaches CY how to make basics beautiful

BY NANNETTE DAVIS

Join Toad Hall Antiques for their complimentary decorating class Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Local designer Michael Taylor is taking on any decorating amateurs in his Accessorizing 101 class: Basic to Beautiful. Learn how to accessorize and develop beautiful pieces that create the perfect ambiance for your home by using simple, everyday materials.



Bring you and your friends to Toad Hall, and let Michael show you how to add character and beauty to your home just by following a few inexpensive and creative ideas!

There will be two classes starting at 6 pm and 7 pm So, don't miss this fantastic opportunity to brighten up your home. Refreshments will be served in each class.

For more information, please call 901-726-0755. Toad Hall is located at 2129 Central Avenue.

ENCHANTED ENDEAVOR

## Florist Shop Blooms in Cooper Young

BY TAMARA WALKER

"Working seven days a week is what it takes," says Steve Stearns, owner of The Enchanted Florist. He goes on to say he has been growing flowers and vegetables on his family's farm since he was a young boy. And you believe it, all you have to do is look around his shop and smell the crisp aroma of fresh cut flowers. The Enchanted Florist is the newest business member of the Cooper-Young District moving in at 820 South Cooper Street.

Steve has a passion for growing and to me it seems he must have green blood in his veins. He is the only local florist in town that actually grows his own flowers. Steve makes it all look easy, as he explains, "it is all just second nature" with a chuckle and a grin. He grows all his cut flowers in two greenhouses behind his home where he lives with his wife, Tammy and their two children. In his spare time, he manages a 700 acre farm by Kentucky Lake that has been in his family for as long as he remembers.

At forty-years-old, Steve has three businesses he operates with his wife: Blooming Arbors, Blooming Arbors Spray Service, and the new Enchanted Florist. He is happy about his recent move from Horn Lake to Memphis noting he wants to capture some of the CY foot traffic for his shop which is why he moved from Highway 51. The bulk of Steve's business comes from the Internet but he welcomes calls and walk-ins. He can deliver locally, regionally, and internationally talking about a recent order for the United Kingdom.

Steve will be open and offering Happy Hour prices on all cut flowers on the First Thursday Night Out in CY. The Enchanted Florist store hours are Monday-Saturday from 9 am-6 pm. For more information, please call 901-907-0819.



Steve and Tammy Stearns have opened The Enchanted Florist at 820 S. Cooper.

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SEE YOU ON JUNE 3RD

## Enjoy June Night Out in Cooper-Young!

BY TAMARA WALKER

Come enjoy the folksy melodies of Steve Lockwood at this month's Night Out in Cooper-Young on June 3rd beginning at 5:30 pm. Steve, a resident of Cooper-Young for the past 30 years, is a singer songwriter known and loved all over Memphis. Other music venues participating in Night Out are Painted Planet, Celtic Crossing,

Java Cabana, Central BBQ, and Café Ole.

Events Start at 7 pm, Celtic Crossing is hosting a fundraiser for Memphis Heritage. This is the Inaugural 2010 Young Heritage Scotch-Whisky Tasting event where all proceeds are being donated to Memphis Heritage. Stop by and taste 30 fine scotches or get a VIP ticket to access some rare and specialty scotches. Enjoy Scottish bagpiper music and other fun activities.

Across the street, Burke's Book Store is celebrating 135 years in business with a blowout anniversary party. A commemorative poster by book artist, Terry Chouinard, will be on sale on this evening. The poster features the original landmark store located on Main Street, Memphis back in 1875.

Toad Hall Antiques is offering a complimentary decorating class with local designer Michael Taylor. Michael will focus on Accessorizing 101: Basic to Beautiful. At this class, you will learn how to accessorize with the right amount of pieces and boldness to create an appealing effect in your home. Two classes will be offered starting at 6 pm and 7 pm. Refreshments will be served for participants. There will also be an art reception upstairs at the Toad for the June artist, Peggy Drinkard.

There is a little bit of everything going on tonight. ARTjamN is offering discounted prices on 16" x 20" canvases. Young Avenue Deli will be hosting Trivia Night. Discounts will be offered such as buy one entrée, get a child entrée free.

Tsunami's patio is open and showing off their new bar renovation that is complete and ready to be checked out. Worlds Apart is hosting a wine and cheese party to showcase their new furniture line. David Perry Smith Gallery is open from 5-9 pm at 703 New York. Painted Planet will have discounts on all gallery jewelry and free refreshments along with live music with Traci Sherman starting at 6 pm. Bring the kids over to Midtown Martial Art ATA for dinner and babysitting from 5-9 pm for \$10. It's Family Meal at Au Fond until 9 pm and The Enchanted Florist located at 820 South Cooper is offering Happy Hour pricing on single flowers. Spring is here, enjoy it with us!



Steve Lockwood will be playing at the gazebo on June 3rd.

SIMPLY SYMPHONIC

## Eroica Ensembles warmly welcomes Sanford Allen

BY MICHAEL GILBERT

The eminent violinist, Sanford Allen, will be the guest artist for the Eroica Ensemble's concerts on June 5th and 6th. With Music Director, Michael Gilbert, conducting, Mr. Allen will perform the virtuosic Bruch Concerto in G minor as well as the Haydn Concerto in C major. Trained at the Juilliard School and Mannes College of Music in New York City, Mr. Allen has performed solo and chamber music concerts around the world and appeared as soloist with the Detroit,

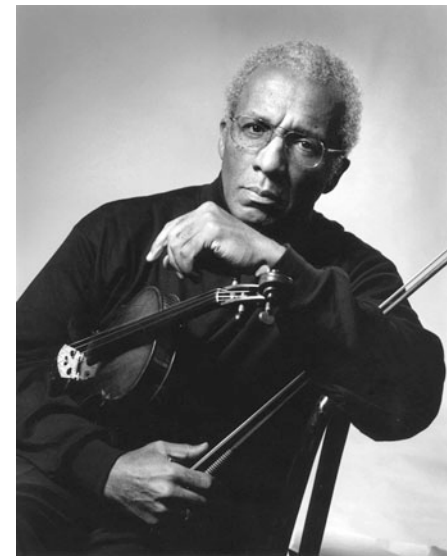
Baltimore, Quebec, and the New York Philharmonic Orchestras. The August 2002 issue of Strad magazine lauds him as a "fabulous player" with "extraordinary commitment and finesse." Winner of a Koussevitsky International Recording Award, Mr. Allen is a member of the performance faculty at Rutgers University and has been responsible for numerous commissions and first performances of contemporary music. He holds the distinction of being the first black musician to become a regular member of the New York Philharmonic. He remained with the orchestra through the tenures of music directors Leonard Bernstein, George Szell, and Pierre Boulez.

Michael Gilbert, Music Director of the Eroica Ensemble, is also the Music Director of the Music Masters Course Japan. Descended from a family of Tennessee musicians and trained as a violinist by his father, Noel Gilbert, Michael Gilbert later studied in New York at the Juilliard School of Music with Ivan Galamian and Dorothy Delay. After serving as concertmaster of the San Antonio Symphony, the Santa Fe Opera, and the American Symphony Orchestra, Mr. Gilbert joined the New York Philharmonic where he performed with Leonard Bernstein, Pierre Boulez, Zubin Mehta, and Kurt Masur. Mr. Gilbert made his conducting debut with the Kyoto Symphony in Japan in 2004 performing Mahler Symphony No.1 and returned the following year with Bruckner Symphony No. 4. Since then, he has conducted and coached at music festivals and orchestral seminars around the world. At the University of Memphis this past summer, Mr. Gilbert led a workshop on the Saito Conducting Method. The course will be offered again this summer, August 8-15.

The performances with the Eroica Ensemble will be 7:30 pm Saturday, June 5th at First Congregational Church, 1000 S. Cooper Street, and at 3 pm Sunday, June 6th at Lambuth University in Jackson, TN. Both concerts are free. The public is warmly invited to attend.

Based in Memphis, the Eroica Ensemble is a non-profit organization that brings together musicians from across the country for free public concerts in the communities of West Tennessee. This year, Eroica is presenting 10 orchestra concerts in Memphis and Jackson, TN. Audiences for Eroica concerts have been growing steadily since the orchestra's start in 2007 bringing hundreds of concertgoers to Midtown's Cooper-Young District for evening shows. Typically, the orchestra gives two weekend performances for each program: a Memphis concert on Saturday evening and an "out-of-town" concert in Jackson on Sunday afternoon.

For more information, please visit <http://www.eroicamemphis.org>. To schedule an interview, email Anthony Gilbert at [info@eroicamemphis.org](mailto:info@eroicamemphis.org) or call 901-725-1642.



Sanford Allen will perform in the free concert on June 5th.

**CHRISTIANITY:**

**RELIGION**

**OR**

**REVOLUTION**

[ncmidtown.com](http://ncmidtown.com)

In the neighborhood. For the neighborhood.

**nc**  
neighborhood  
church

Neighborhood Church meets every Sunday evening at 5:30 in the Chapel at 2181 Union Ave. Childcare provided for infants through five year olds.

# Drugstores take over historic corners and neighborhoods have had enough

BY ROBERT TOM

The vacant Union Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church, a historic building on the National Register of Historic Places, sits under a sales contract with CVS Caremark drugstores. CVS Caremark Corp. runs a chain of over 7,000 CVS drugstores throughout the country. Walgreens recently purchased the Ike's Pharmacy across the street setting up a competitive confrontation. The dilemma arises with the possible demolition of a historic building on the National Register of Historic Places. Nevertheless, many people do not realize that being on the National Register does not prevent destruction, but advocacy and public outrage does. June West, Director of Memphis Heritage says, "Being listed on the register doesn't guarantee survival. So, many buildings in the Vance-Pontotoc Historic District either burned or were demolished and eventually were taken off the list." What will be the fate of the Union Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church?

As for the church's historic significance, architect John Gaisford designed the Union Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church and started building the church in 1916. He died before it was completed. Gaisford was an English immigrant that settled in Memphis in 1896. In 1912, Gaisford wrote "How to Build a Church." The Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church commissioned the book, which included designs for the Methodist Episcopal Church South in Batesville, South in Conway, and 1912 Church in Clarendon. The Union Ave Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the finest existing examples of the Classical Revival style, was one of Gaisford's last designs. He died on August 31, 1916, and the church architectural design, while minimally ornate, reflected Gaisford's Classical fondness. The First United Methodist Church was added to the National Register on May 19, 1987. His other Classical Revival buildings included the 1914 Falls Building and the 1912 Mississippi County Courthouse in Osceola, AR. In December 1913, the Memphis Architects' League held an exhibition at the Nineteen Century Club representing the best architectural buildings in Memphis by its premier architects. Walk C. Jones was the President, John Gaisford became the First Vice President, and George Mahan Jr. became the Second Vice President. Gaisford's work is displayed in this exhibition. These designs demonstrate Gaisford as a significant Memphis architect of the early twentieth century in the Classical Revival style.

Historic buildings commonly occupy chosen corner sites, like the Union Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church at the corner of Union Avenue and Cooper. Chain drugstores, unfortunately, demolish these historic buildings, replacing them with large, freestanding stores with a vast wasteland of parking, drive-through windows, blank-brick exteriors, bold signage, and one story elevations that directly ignore the existing traditional pedestrian-oriented design. This rubber stamp, generic store design ignores the street scale, which not only results in the destruction of historic buildings, but also destroys a neighborhood's distinctive sense of place.

Chain drugstores are rapidly adding new stores in traditional downtown and urban neighborhoods throughout the country. Research by the National Trust Mainstreet Center shows that drugstore chains can collaborate in revitalizing older urban neighborhoods. The National Trust for Historic Preservation sees these investments made by chain drugstores where they improve the neighborhood's character and preserve its historic integrity.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation helps communities to protect historic buildings from this chain drugstore threat. They published *Better Models for Chain Drugstores* and met with the leaders of the largest drugstore chains, obtaining written commitments from CVS Pharmacy, the former Eckerd company, Rite Aid, and Walgreens prohibiting them from demolishing sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places. By holding these meetings early in the development process, neighborhoods can prevent a major fight exploding at the local level, and it allows the National Trust for Historic Preservation to work with the chain and the community to help find alternatives to the proposed demolition. With the recent adaptive, historic reuse, an opportunity to create a similar occurrence here in Midtown Memphis may simply begin with a dialogue.

Memphis Heritage held a neighborhood meeting to discuss the situation with Union Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church building on May 27th, 2010 at Howard Hall, 2282 Madison at Edgeworth. To get an update from the meeting go the Memphis Heritage website:

[memphisheritage.org](http://memphisheritage.org).

To view the remodel of the CVS at the Golden Gate Theatre on the National Register visit: [ourla.org/east-la/1549-the-golden-gate-theatres-second-act-becoming-a-cvs-drugstore-updated](http://ourla.org/east-la/1549-the-golden-gate-theatres-second-act-becoming-a-cvs-drugstore-updated).



Pictured on top is the Union Avnuue Methodist Episcopal Church at the corner of Union and Cooper. The bottom picture is a typical CVS Pharmacy.

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## The House of Mews needs help!

BY TRISHA GURLEY



Tired of hearing about the economy? Me too, but it doesn't make sense to ignore. It's hit harder for some than others, and both local and national charity-based operations have taken their licks.

There has been recent press in *The Commercial Appeal* and *Memphis Flyer* about the House of Mews, run by Elaine Harvey. Located at 933 S. Cooper, the House of Mews has been a CY mainstay for years, saved thousands of cats, and helped place them in forever homes. The house currently homes 95 cats that need placement.

Unfortunately, even with volunteer only staff, the House of Mews has been hit quite hard by the financial downturn. In a May interview in *Memphis Flyer*, Harvey disclosed that rent alone is \$980 a month and expenses for food, litter, and veterinary care can exceed \$20,000 annually. Harvey has put her home up for sale to help with the costs.

You can help keep House of Mews in the CY neighborhood by donating financially, or if this is not possible, you can foster one cat should House of Mews be forced to close. The goal, of course, is to keep House of Mews open and running, but a backup plan for the cats' welfare must be solidified just in case. So far, 17 people have offered to foster a cat.

For more information on how to donate, go to [houseofmews.com](http://houseofmews.com) or call 901-272-3777. Or stop by, the hours are: Tuesday-Wednesday 1-5 pm, Thursday 6-9 pm, Friday 1-5 pm, Saturday 12-4 pm, Closed on Sunday and Monday.



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## Peabody Elementary wants its own KaBoom! in landscaping

BY LURENE KELLEY

Peabody Elementary has been in the heart of this neighborhood long before the community was called "Cooper-Young," but is the school really in the hearts of CY residents? That's the question school administrators would like its neighbors and local business owners to answer with a resounding 'yes'... and some money, ideas, and elbow grease to back it up.

According to the school's principal, Kongsouly Jones, because Peabody is a desirable optional school, approximately 50 percent of the student body comes from open enrollment. This means that nearly half of the children at Peabody live outside its designated boundaries.

Mandy Grisham, a member of the Peabody Leadership Board, says the first step in giving the school a more neighborhood feel is obvious – have more children who live in and around Cooper-Young enrolled at Peabody. This fall, approximately 10 children from the Cooper-Young Parents Network (CYPN), parents who live in or near the neighborhood, will be enrolled in this year's kindergarten class (In fact, my own child will be among these kindergartners.)

"Cooper-Young is overflowing with young families who want the best for their children's education. The CYPN currently has 70 members representing over 60 families and over 100 children. Only a handful of these kids are school age," Grisham says. "If Cooper-Young wants to keep these young families in the neighborhood, education is a key component."

In the last year, the CYPN has hosted 3 education forums to allow parents to talk candidly about educational decisions. As a result, Grisham says more families are committing early on to sending their children to Peabody. She calls this "a neighborhood, grassroots movement" that she believes will continue to grow.

Grisham claims that the second step in making Peabody an integral part of Cooper-Young is through the involvement of the many individuals who have shops and restaurants in the CY area. Central BBQ owner and Cooper-Young resident, Elizabeth Blondis, is asking fellow CY entrepreneurs to become adopters of Peabody Elementary. This means that businesses like Central BBQ would not only back Peabody with donations of money or goods, but also get involved with the school. For example, a chef from a local restaurant might give lessons to the school's cooking club or a local artist could help with class projects. "We have so many talented people in Cooper-Young," says Blondis, "it just makes sense that we use these gifts to make Peabody an even better school."

You don't have to be a business owner to lend your talents to the school. The Peabody Leadership Board want everyone to get involved, such as a community garden on the grounds of the elementary school. One that is planted, tended, and harvested by local residents and students.

The Leadership Board recently surveyed the school's teachers to find out what they believe to be their most pressing needs. The two areas that repeatedly surfaced in the survey were landscaping of the school's entrance and improvements for the library. Based on feedback from the school administration, building the library's holdings is a long-term goal that would take an entire year. The school believes, however that the landscaping project could happen relatively quickly. By rallying the support of local business owners and residents, work could begin as early as July.

Grisham believes that the landscaping project could be similar to the KaBoom! playground on the grounds of Peabody, a community effort that involved 200 volunteers building an entire playground in one weekend. Built in 2008, the playground has become an asset to the school and the entire neighborhood. It serves as a gathering spot for community events, and is used regularly by neighborhood children as well.

"If everyone works together, meaning residents, with and without children, and businesses, we make the community more livable. It's a neighborhood where we walk our children to school, walk to restaurants, promote staying in our community," says Blondis. This fall, Blondis will walk her own kindergartner to Peabody each morning. It's a scene reminiscent of simpler times. But, as Blondis points out, it's not just about re-creating a Norman Rockwell painting. Community investment in Peabody has practical roots. "Even if you don't have kids, it's as simple as this. A true, strong neighborhood school raises property values. It makes Cooper-Young an even more desirable place to live."

These changes take place at a symbolic moment in Peabody's history. This fall, the school will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> year. Supporters of more neighborhood involvement believe this historic school could provide an even brighter future for Cooper-Young. "It's crucial for Cooper-Young residents and businesses to become more involved with Peabody, regardless of whether they have children or not," says Principal Jones. "These children are the future of our community and education is



**Parents are investing in Peabody School and hoping to encourage businesses to also join in. One potential project would focus on landscaping the school grounds in an event similar to the KaBoom! project that brought the community playground behind the school.**

essential in the development and prosperity of a community. It just makes good sense to invest in something that can only benefit everyone in Cooper-Young."

*If you would like more information about how to become an adopter of Peabody Elementary, contact Elizabeth Blondis at 901-237-6984, or if you would like to join the Cooper-Young Parents' Network, send a request to [cooperyoungparentssubscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:cooperyoungparentssubscribe@yahoo.com).*

*Lurene Kelley is a professor of broadcast journalism at the University of Memphis.*

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## CY Community Farmers Market

### Continued from cover

flooded homes and roads all over the city and the surrounding countryside. Still, at 7 am on that stormy Saturday morning, a dedicated group of volunteers and intrepid farmers showed up at the First Congo parking lot and set up for business.

"People had emailed me and called," says Greene, when they heard about the bad weather coming and asked if the first market was still on, "and I said we would be there, even if it was pouring down rain. I told them if a tornado was coming right toward us, we would be there, but we might be inside the church hunkered down." That kind of spirit is what it takes to get a farmers market up and running.

Something wonderful  
is sprouting up in  
Cooper-Young!



COOPER-YOUNG COMMUNITY  
**FARMERS  
MARKET**

It also takes shoppers who are hungry for their locally grown food the market offers. Despite the bad weather on that first day, almost all of the customers who had signed up for Greene's Community Supported Agriculture program came to collect the weekly supply of produce from her farm in Olive Hill, Tennessee. "When I saw my CSA customers come to pick up their bags even in that terrible weather, I knew we had a dedicated customer base. I was so happy to see that it wasn't just the vendors and volunteers who were committed to this market succeeding, shoppers were also dedicated to supporting it.

"It takes all three to create a thriving farmers market. 'It's a dance between the farmer growing the food, the market selling it, and the person buying it,'" says Greene. "The customer is an equal partner in the growing cycle." So, cus-



**Downing Hollow Farm from Olive Hill TN is owned by Lori Green and has a booth at CY Community Farmers Market selling fresh produce.**

tomers who want to eat the freshest possible food, that is locally grown, have to get used to the idea that certain foods are available only at certain times of the year, unlike in the grocery where we can buy berries in winter that are grown in Argentina and shipped to Memphis. "There is an ebb and flow," says Greene.

After a startup month to get their feet wet (literally, on that first day), market organizers have designated June 5 as the market's opening celebration. On that day, and for the rest of the season, all the market stalls will be full with local farmers and urban gardeners (including community gardeners from Grow Memphis) selling fresh fruit, vegetables, herbs, and prepared food, as well as artisans selling their wares and community groups raising awareness of their causes. There will be special music, performances, kids activities, coffee from Otherlands, and cooking and growing demonstrations. The market also boasts Memphis' only Dog Valet dog sitting service (started with help from Dogs Rule).

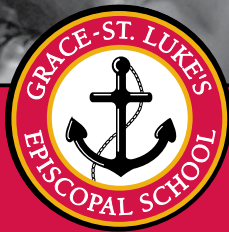
Greene says the market has a perfect synergy with Cooper-Young. "We are encouraging people to walk or bike to the market and then to go over and get lunch at the great nearby restaurants, go get books at Burke's, or visit other shops along Cooper." She says not only are there great chefs in Cooper-Young who will shop at the market, but the neighborhood's attitude and diversity is what attracted many of the farmers and food producers. "A lot of farmers and urban gardeners are very interested in food justice issues and also they like the laid-back, low-key feeling of Cooper-Young. We hope the market can become a place that brings everyone together. We want people to come out, meet their neighbors, get to know people around them and not just be isolated in their houses."

*The Cooper-Young Community Farmers Market runs every Saturday from 8 am-1 pm through October 30th. You can get more information about the market on their Facebook page, Twitter and website [cycfarmersmarket.org](http://cycfarmersmarket.org).*



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## 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 April 24th, 2010 to May 23rd, 2010.

CASE #	ARREST	OFFENSES	DATE	100 BLOCK
1005009648ME		Vandalism/Misdemeanor	05/18/10	1900 OLIVER AVE
1005008374ME	Yes	Drugs/Narcotics Viol/Misd	05/15/10	2200 CENTRAL
1005007932ME		Theft from Motor Vehicle	05/14/10	2100 YOUNG
1005006706ME	Yes	Drugs/Narcotics Viol/Felony	05/12/10	2000 YORK
1005005413ME	Yes	Drugs/Narcotics Viol/Misd	05/10/10	MCLEAN AND EVELYN
1005005349ME	Yes	Simple Assault/DV	05/10/10	900 S MCLEAN
1005005392ME		Burglary/Residential	05/10/10	800 S COX
1005003157ME		Burglary/Residential	05/06/10	2300 NELSON
1005003415ME		Vandalism/Misdemeanor	05/05/10	FELIX AND COOPER
1005002349ME		Shoplifting/Misdemeanor	05/05/10	2100 CENTRAL AVE
1005001524ME		Theft from Motor Vehicle	05/04/10	2000 YOUNG AVE
1005000927ME		Shoplifting/Misdemeanor	05/03/10	2100 CENTRAL AVE
1005000594ME		Vandalism/Misdemeanor	05/02/10	2100 YOUNG AVE
1005000526ME		Simple Assault/DV	05/02/10	800 S COX
1005000490ME		Theft of Vehicle Parts/Acc	05/02/10	900 BARKSDALE
1005000184ME		Vandalism/Misdemeanor	05/01/10	1000 BLYTHE
1005000129ME		Theft from Motor Vehicle	05/01/10	1000 NEW YORK
1004017208ME		Burglary/Residential	04/30/10	2000 WALKER
1004015856ME		Simple Assault/DV	04/28/10	1100 S REMBERT
1004015689ME		Burglary/Residential	04/28/10	1900 YOUNG
1004015374ME		Simple Assault/DV	04/28/10	1000 S REMBERT
1004015278ME		Robbery/Individual	04/27/10	1000 MEDA
1004014307ME		Burglary/Residential	04/26/10	2000 YOUNG
1004014277ME		Burglary/Business	04/26/10	800 S COOPER
1004012575ME		Shoplifting/Misdemeanor	04/23/10	2100 CENTRAL
1004012546ME		Theft of Vehicle Parts/Acc	04/23/10	1800 OLIVER

**COOPER YOUNG**

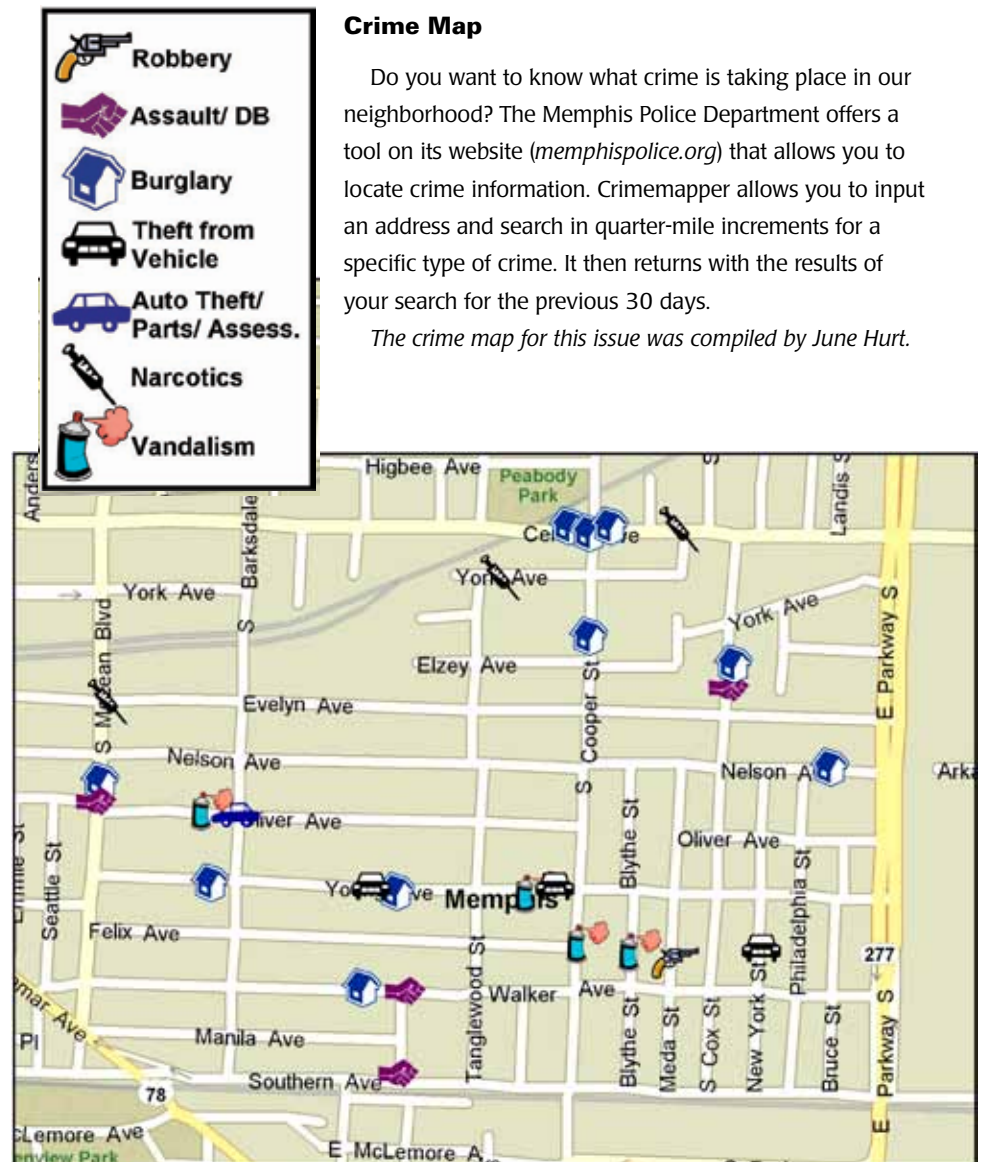
**PARADE**

**MONDAY, JULY 5TH  
PEABODY SCHOOL 10AM**

## 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](http://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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## Removing parking could increase economic activity

BY KYLE WAGENSCHUTZ

Proudly, Cooper-Young is a neighborhood in Memphis where everything is done a little different. Niche shopping, eclectic dining experiences, and a bustling atmosphere of excitement help make this neighborhood stand out among all others in Memphis. These are a few of the reasons why residents move to this neighborhood, and why local businesses have achieved success.

One of the greatest assets that Cooper-Young has is its ability to support and sustain an active neighborhood where patrons can access storefronts, places of worship, and residences completely by human-powered modes of transportation. Because of the orientation of the storefronts to the sidewalks and the minimal distance between businesses, patrons can easily walk and bike around Cooper-Young enjoying the wide array of retail experiences it has to offer.

It is surprising then, that at a recent public meeting that discussed the future implementation of bicycle lanes along Cooper Street, business interests suggested that bicycle lanes should come to Cooper Street, but not at the expense of removing parking spots for automobiles. The plan presented did maintain parallel parking along Cooper Street from Central Ave. to Young Ave.; however, once the proposed bike lane crossed Young Ave towards Southern Ave, the width of the road no longer allows for both parking and bike lanes to exist.

Since the first automobile was brought to Memphis, city officials have supported zoning ordinances, building codes, and developmental practices that enabled use of the automobiles in our neighborhoods and city. The streetcar system that originally supported the street life and economic vitality in Cooper-Young was removed to make Cooper St friendlier to automobile traffic. This has turned the business district, during daylight hours, into a pass-through intersection where high speeds are the norm and business activity is lacking.

Nearly 25 percent of all automobile trips in the US are within 1 mile from home (a 5 minute bike ride). If this holds true in Cooper-Young, residents fill a quarter of all parking spots now available to patrons. By providing increased safety through the removal of a couple parking spots, businesses can expect an increased traffic flow of local cyclists accompanied by increased pedestrian traffic and parking availability to market their services. Removing parking spaces is not about reducing the number of patrons coming to Cooper-Young, it is about changing the way in which they come. This is the mindset that residents and businesses must have to go forward as transportation changes come to this city.

For the first time since the Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization adopted its Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan in 2005, the City of Memphis officials are proposing a shift from an auto-centered focus by implementing bicycle lanes inside the city limits. They chose Cooper-Young because of its long standing history to do things differently and its embrace of the public realm where pedestrians and cyclists are welcomed. Many neighborhoods in other cities like St. Louis, MO and Charlotte, NC have realized this potential. This process, however, is not business as usual. It will require residents and businesses alike to take hold of Cooper-Young's tradition to show Memphis that doing things a little bit differently can yield great success.

*Kyle Wagenschutz is the Director of Revolution Community Bicycle Shop.*



## On the road again

BY KIMBERLY RICHARDSON

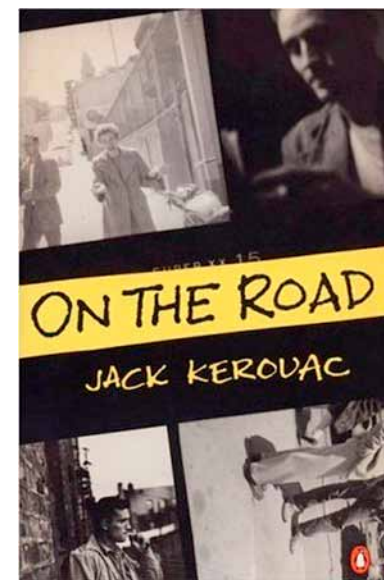
I experienced Jack Kerouac's novel *On the Road* late in my life as a reader. For some reason, the thought of reading about a young man's travels across the United States did not seem all that interesting. Thanks to an exhibit that recently opened at the National Gallery of Art featuring photographs by Allen Ginsberg with his fellow Beats, I decided to read the infamous work with eyes and mind wide open. After reading the book, I now understand the influence the Beat Generation had on society with American youth as its core. This novel broke the boundaries of life yet still maintained a sense of style and grace that cannot be matched today.

Within the 307 pages are the travels, mistakes, and discoveries made by the two main characters, Sal Paradise and Dean Moriarty. Sal, a soon to be college student and author of a novel, tags along with his Midwestern buddy Dean in their search for something

greater and more meaningful than the life they were shown to live. Reading this work as a woman living in the year 2010, I could not help but wonder if such an adventure could be duplicated now? Could a group of people with hardly any money or food drive from one coast to the other, all the while focusing on the world around them and what it had to offer? Could any of us, in our day-to-day lives, ever stop to ask the question, "What if?"

Kerouac's writing style adds to the overall tone of the novel: a rushing feeling to get to the next place, the next sensation, and achieving the next stage of enlightenment. During their travels, Sal and Dean experience the cities of Denver, San Francisco, New York, New Orleans (my personal favorite scene), and others. They even dip into Mexico pushing the envelope further. While Sal takes these experiences all in with an air of wonder and general curiosity, Dean inhales them like cigarette smoke and refuses to breathe it out. Dean descends downward into a pool of maniacal madness while still trying to take everything in and asking for more. There is never a sensation too rough, a feeling too extreme, or an adventure too exotic for him. Dean lives simply to live, and that is enough. For example, while in Denver after accepting a ride from a gay man, Dean says in a fit of frustration, "You see, man, it's better not to bother. Offer them what they secretly want and they of course immediately become panic-stricken."

What Sal and Dean want in life is given, and they take it without question, a concept that not everyone could understand or share during their time. Kerouac along with other creative minds that made up the Beat Generation asked the question "What if?" and decided to find their own answers in their own way. The answers came with a heavy price, but in the end, one must wonder if it was worth it. Kerouac died of his addiction to alcohol in 1969 at the age of 47. Were his experiences enough to justify his death? In my own opinion, I say yes. While some read of adventures wondering about life, they lived. As Kerouac puts it so well in the first chapter, "Somewhere along the line I knew there'd be girls, visions, everything; somewhere along the line the pearl would be handed to me."



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## A reflection on life in Cooper-Young

BY RYNE HANCOCK

The great Southern writer Thomas Wolfe once said a person couldn't go home again. If one did, they would try to capture the same childhood glory, the same old forms and systems of things that were from that place, only to see that those things as well as who they are as a person have changed.

No disrespect to Mr. Wolfe, who wrote a book about a writer who made a less than pleasant return to his hometown and died 47 years before my birth, but homecomings are not just personal quests to find what was lost.

Sometimes homecomings teach us lessons, such as the story of how it took a decade and a simple twist of fate for me to return to the neighborhood that I loved and what I learned from my trip back home.

On 23 May 2000, the day after Eminem's Marshall Mathers LP was released in stores, my three-year attendance at Fairview Junior High School concluded. That May afternoon, I graduated with 200 other ninth graders, thus, ending an era in Cooper-Young. I had mixed emotions in my fourteen-year-old heart, knowing that for the most part, this was the end. There would be no more beelines to Kwik Shop on the opposite corner of Central Ave and East Parkway and no more trips to the Walgreens at Central Ave and Hollywood east after school for candy and drinks. I now faced the inevitable task of making new friends at a new school.

I attended Melrose for two years then my mom decided to uproot from the Orange Mound neighborhood I grew up in before my senior year. I graduated in the middle of my senior class at Whitehaven High School. While Whitehaven and Orange Mound are great neighborhoods in their own right, they are not Cooper-Young.

Cooper-Young is a place where one minute you are enjoying a burger at Kwik Shop and the next a nice sandwich from Young Avenue Deli. Cooper-Young is a place where it is cool to be different, to stand out from the rest of the pack. Nine years after leaving Fairview as a skinny fourteen-year-old, I found myself back at the corner of East Parkway and Central Ave in the fall of 2009. This time, I stood on the opposite corner as a student at Christian Brothers University. Its shadows fell over the same junior high I called home for three years a decade ago.

No longer would I have to wear navy blue khakis (yes, Fairview had uniforms before MCS made them mandatory) and a white polo shirt.

CBU was my friends' playground a decade ago. They would cut through the campus to walk back to their houses in Binghampton and even play basketball on their courts. CBU became a place where I would do a highly successful radio show.

A decade ago, my circle of friends included only half a dozen people. Ten years later, that circle of friends has nearly tripled. The other day, as I was eating lunch at Subway on E. Parkway, I looked at the intersection and realized that ten years after graduating middle school nothing had changed at this corner. The only thing that changed was me.




*Love one another. It's that simple.*  
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Ryne Hancock gathered with friends on St. Patrick's day 1020. Back row: (l-r) Syd Warner, Alex Rogers. Front: (l-r) Michelle Hein, Anna Laskarzewka, Roma Romazka, Marie Kvarnlör.

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# CY Jabberwocky

BY KARA CHAMBERLAIN

Cooper-Young is making news. The newly coined CY Jabberwocky is a list of events in CY that other media found interesting and buzzed about. Lewis Carroll wrote "Jabberwocky" using nonsense terms and jargon to let the reader interpret the story his or her own way. Carroll's intention was to demonstrate the power of words and the meaning behind them. How even silly words and phrases can tell the biggest and best stories. In CY, all news is important and nothing is too silly to be overlooked, and that is why I felt that Jabberwocky was an appropriate name for this column (and because it's a really cool word and it's fun to say).



## CYDC director steps down

Sutton Mora Hayes, executive director of the CYDC, resigned to become state director of Keep Tennessee Beautiful. Hayes began her new job May 17th after leading the organization for almost 5 years. Hayes is a resident of CY and has been a tremendous advocate for the neighborhood on all types of zoning and code enforcement issues. She has offered to continue sharing her assistance and expertise in the future stating, "I'm enjoying the change of work, but my heart is in CY. You'll definitely see me around."

Board members will be handling business for the CYDC. Please contact the office at 901-272-1459.

## Lux closes shop

Tadd Feazella, owner of Lux, announced on Facebook that he will close the store by July 1.

## Smallest User competition

MLG&W along with the University of Memphis and the Community Foundation is sponsoring

an energy conservation competition between Cooper-Young and Evergreen neighborhoods. The one that uses the least amount of energy will be honored with the "smallest user" award. Updates on the competition will be reported monthly on Action News 5. Keep tallies on your favorite teams at [mlgw.com/smallestuser](http://mlgw.com/smallestuser).

## Meet the rug expert

Alex Safdari with Legacy Oriental Rugs will offer rug consultations at Palladio Antiques and Art, 2169 Central Avenue. Learn how to take care of your antique rugs, how to match an old rug with a new (or vice versa), or just come find a new rug for your living room. Consults are every Wednesday in June from 11 am-3 pm. Please set up by appointment 901-276-3808.

## Casa Grill moves east

CY's Middle-Eastern Moroccan-style restaurant, Casa Grill (previously known as Casablanca Café) has moved from their 2156 Young Avenue location to 5030 Poplar Avenue. We will have to go a little further now if we want Hommus or Baba Ghannouge.



On May 22nd, the first CY Progressive Potluck was held to raise money for the McLean Mural Project. The photo above is of the party hosted by Andy and Sydney Ashby. Other hosts were Chad Ahern and Beth Tidball, Sharron Johnson and Kim Hankins, Brad Gilmer and Sarah Kyle, and Patrick Miller and Kristan Huntley. Ty and John Browning and Leslie Thompson also assisted with the parties. This event raised over \$600 and more events are being planned.

## Commit to quit

The Church Health Center is offering a six-week course in smoking cessation at the Church Health Center Wellness, 1115 Union Ave. Classes begin Tuesday, June 22 at 6 pm. The course is free to Church Health Center Wellness members and Church Health Center patients. Members of the community may join for a \$60 fee. Call Sheila Harrell for sign up and more details 901-259-4673 ext. 1606 or go to [churchhealthcenter.org](http://churchhealthcenter.org).

## Bands not bombs

Saturday, June 5, 2-10 pm at the Lifelink Church on the corner of Cooper and Walker. \$10 come and go admission. Kids 12 and under FREE.

Local Music Fest benefitting the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center. Featuring Star & Micey, the Magic Kids, Bluff City Backsliders, Bake Sale, the Stand-Ins, Andrew Bryant, Speakerboxx and special guests. Performances by Memphis Raqs, Firetribe Memphis, and Danza Azteca. A family centered event with games for the kids, food, drink, and vendors. Bouncy things and water slides for kids of all sizes! Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

## CYBA meeting at Café Ole

The Cooper-Young Business Association hosted a Spring Membership Meeting at Cafe Ole Restaurant on May 10th to celebrate Colonel Lori Bullard's new position at the Union Station Police Precinct. Over 20 business members met with Colonel Bullard and Peggy Williamson, director of the Midtown Security Community to discuss ways to get involved in the fight on crime.



Colonel Lori Bullard (l), Lt. Jason Burns, Salvation Army-KROC (c), Dana Whitehead (r), president of the CYBA, met at Cafe Olé in May.

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## Everyday electronics may be the source of a costly utility bill

BY BILL BULLOCK

*This is the fourth in a series of articles on energy use and practical information to help a resident of Memphis make wise decisions regarding ways to lower energy consumption and overall utility costs.*

Previous articles have dealt with heating, water use, and air conditioning – some of your largest energy users. Depending upon your lifestyle and equipment, however, you may be wasting a lot of energy in other areas.

Refrigeration can account for a significant amount of energy use depending upon how many refrigerators and freezers you have, how old they are, how well they are maintained, where they are located, and their temperature setting. Similarly, you can spend a good bit of energy on lighting depending upon the number of lights you use, the type of lights, and how often they are used. Lighting accounts for 11 percent of a typical household's energy expenditure. This can easily be cut in half.

Gaining ground, as a contributor to electricity usage, is electronic equipment. We have more and more things that are plugged and use a good bit of energy when in use, and more than we might suspect when they are "off."

### Here are some specific tips to help you in using less electricity:

**Refrigeration** - Vacuum the coils under or behind your refrigerator or freezer. If you haven't done this before, you may also find that earring you lost years ago. Keep the freezer portion at around 5 degrees. long-term storage, stand alone freezers should be at about zero degrees. New refrigerators use a lot less energy than old ones. If it's time for a new one, choose an Energy Star model, and try to resist the temptation of keeping your old one plugged in on the back porch for cooling your beer.



**Lighting** - There are two ways to reduce the amount of energy you use when lighting your home: reducing wattage and hours of operation. You can reduce wattage by replacing incandescent lights with something that gives out more lumens per watt such as a compact fluorescent (CFL). You can reduce hours by using programmable or automatic switches, timers, motion detectors, and photocells. For outdoor lights that you need on all night long, utilize a programmable timer or a photocell. For outdoor lighting that is geared toward security, use a photocell with motion sensor. Some evidence shows that lights on motion sensors are more efficient at curbing crime than those left on all night. Additionally, they can save energy and reduce light pollution. For the basement, attic, or closet light you sometimes forget to turn off, consider a twist timer or a switch with an occupancy sensor.

**Plug Load** – Computers, monitors, flat screen TVs, and other audio/video equipment can use a good bit of energy in the "standby" mode. Turn them off at the switch when they are not in use. Consider putting some of that equipment on a power strip that can be manually or automatically turned off. Activate "power management" on your computer or other devices if so equipped. Cell phone and other battery chargers don't use a lot of energy when left plugged in, but when you consider how many there are, they add up. Unplug those devices when not in use.

Log on to [www.mlgw.com](http://www.mlgw.com) and click on "In Home Evaluation Program" to learn MLGW/TVA incentives for making energy improvements and investments. Look at "Energy Tax Incentives" to see how some of these improvements qualify for Federal Tax Credits. Use "My Account" to track your energy use, get energy conservation tips, view and pay your bill, or sign up for paperless billing.

*Bill Bullock has a degree in Mechanical Engineering, has been working in the energy field for over 25 years and is a long-time resident of Midtown Memphis. If you have questions regarding this information or energy use in general, contact him at [bullock@mlgw.org](mailto:bullock@mlgw.org).*

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- **Cafe Ole** - Buy one entrée get second entrée of equal or lesser value at ½ price
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- **Camy's Food Delivery** - Get a free dessert with any specialty pizza purchase
- **Fork It Over** - 5% off food in the deli case or freezer all year (not valid with other discounts)
- **InBalance Fitness** - 10% off group classes (excludes personal training and specialty classes)
- **June Hurt, Notary Public** - Free service to current members
- **Lou's Pizza** - 10% off every time you show your membership card
- **Memphis College of Art** - 10% discount on Summer Art Camp and Saturday School tuition
- **Mr. Scruff's Pet Care** - 15% off purchase of the TLC Visit Package (incl. 24 TLC Visits)
- **Otherlands Coffee Bar** - 1 free cup of coffee or coffee drink up to \$3 value
- **Outback Steakhouse** - Free appetizer with the purchase of an entrée up to \$7.29
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REMEMBER THE ABC'S?

## Summer learning activities that kids enjoy

BY KIM BUIE AND DR. D. JACKSON MAXWELL

We are well into the summer months. Families are enjoying the weather, and the outdoor activities are abound. While this is the case, as parents, we would be remiss to abandon all learning. The school year will once again be starting before we know it. Here are a few suggestions as to how parents can sneak a little learning in while the family still enjoys the summer break.

My child spends most of the day in the lower levels of Bloom's Taxonomy. Bloom's Taxonomy describes how learning occurs from the lowest to highest levels of comprehension. For example, reading text and memorizing facts are on the lower end of the learning scale while students who are engaged in discovery and exploratory learning are at the higher end. While all forms of learning are important, higher-level learning skills are those that our children need the most. These higher-level approaches teach children how to think. Children make sense of information by evaluating, analyzing, and then using the information to create their own ideas and beliefs, which are then committed to knowledge.

One of the best ways parents can encourage higher-level thinking is through questioning. Effective questions should be open ended to develop further discussion. For example:

- Instead of telling your children what to think without explanation, allow them to ask why they think something happened. The thinking process stops when you give children the answer.
- By asking your children how they learn something, you gain insight into understanding their thought processes and can help them become aware of their own reasoning skills.
- Asking questions that keep the dialogue going is an effective learning technique when the answers create further questions and discussion.

Games can be another valuable source to encourage higher-level learning. They promote logical thinking, reasoning, planning, and group dynamics. Below is a list of some excellent thinking games:

- **Qwirkle** - An easy to learn game that combines logic and strategy. The goal is to create columns and rows by placing tiles that match colors and shapes.
- **Rush Hour** - This game requires your child to think ahead. The child must shift toy cars around the grid to get their car out of the traffic jam.
- **Mastermind** - The ultimate game of logic. Your child will try to crack their opponent's code by using deductive reasoning.
- **Blik Blok** - This game helps improve 3-Dimensional thinking skills by using blocks to recreate images.
- **Set** - Your child must be the first to make a set by locating matches that are all the same or all different in four distinct categories.

Summer break provides parents with many opportunities to encourage higher-level thinking. Vacations are a perfect time to not only talk with your children and play games but also to engage in discovery and exploratory learning. While on vacation go geocaching, explore a cave, visit a historic site, take a walking tour, or hike a local, state, or national park. Go beyond just reading to your children or presenting them with facts. Parents need to incorporate higher-level learning from Bloom's Taxonomy into their daily lives. Use the extra time summer affords your family to go out and discover something new. Everyone will become a bit wiser from the experience!

*Kim Buie is a highly accomplished CLUE teacher and National Board candidate at Downtown Elementary School. Dr. D. Jackson Maxwell is a National Board Certified Teacher with over 25 years of educational experience. If you have any questions or comments, please email Dr. Maxwell at: [djacksonmaxwell@gmail.com](mailto:djacksonmaxwell@gmail.com).*



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## History of Heart Pine

BY AARON JAMES

Southern Longleaf, Pitch, or Old Growth are all synonyms for the very popular Heart Pine. Given the name because of the high content of heartwood, Heart Pine is different from other pine species due to its tight ring pattern and unique amber color.

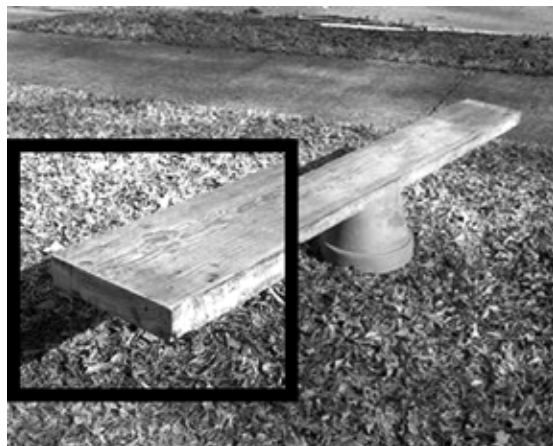
The history of Heart Pine began in the Old South where, prior to the colonial era, virgin forests covered much of the coastal plain for thousands of years. Spanning from Virginia to central Florida and westward along the Gulf as far as Texas, the Heart Pine forest was the most extensive, contiguous ecosystem in North America. The woods were so thick, that a squirrel could travel the entire expanse without ever touching the ground. Today, only about five percent of the original 90 million acres remain.

After Heart Pine seeds germinate, new seedlings may grow no more than an inch tall in their first ten years. They devote most of their energy to producing an extensive root system. Once past the "grass" stage, however, they can grow to heights of 175 feet and take 150-400 years to mature.

Because of its unique beauty and strength, Heart Pine was used in most early, Southern homes for flooring, furniture, and cabinetry. Because of its tremendous, structural strength, it was also used extensively in larger construction. From the large industrial buildings in Chicago and Boston to the textile mills throughout the South, Heart Pine played a key role in building the Industrial Revolution. The keel of the U.S.S. Constitution, "Old Ironsides," was made from a single timber of Heart Pine. Due to wood shortages in Europe, large quantities were also exported during much of the Nineteenth century.

The original Heart Pine range was dramatically reduced as a result of extensive logging and clear-cutting to make way for agriculture, "soft" pine plantations, urban development, and suppression of the fires needed for seedling germination. Introducing the feral hog into Jamestown, which fed on the seedlings, also played a key role in the demise. By the turn of the last century, nearly all the old Heart Pine forests were gone, and over thirty plant and animal species associated the ecosystem have become threatened or endangered.

**This sample was found in a construction dumpster on the 1400 block of Peabody in front of a house that was built in 1925. It was undoubtedly used as a primary floor-framing member. This 2 5/8 inches thick slab contains sixty-five growth rings with a running average of fifteen rings per inch perpendicular to the growth pattern. By measuring the length and rise of the arc of a median ring, I was able to calculate that this piece was cut approximately 11 3/4 inches from the heart, making the tree a minimum of 225 years old when harvested. Deducting this from the age of the house means that the seedling that eventually grew into this sample germinated in 1700 or earlier! To bring out the natural beauty of the wood, I gave it a light sanding (not enough to remove the historic sawmill cut marks or evidence of its use as a framing member) and a single coat of water-based sealer.**



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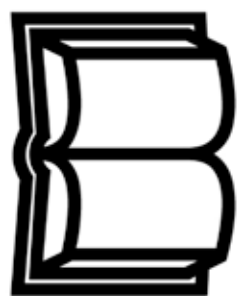
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### CY SOCIETY



1. **Dee and Bob Sanders** of Young Ave recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in their hometown Columbia, SC to renew their vows and have a party thrown for them by their three children! The minister officiating the ceremony is a family member of Dee's, and he actually married the happy couple the first time around too. Here's wishing you love birds another happy 25 years!



2. Evelyn residents **Glen and Shelley Thomas** spent a week in May down by the river as members of **The Pit & The Pigulum II** cooking team. The team participated in the Memphis in May World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest for the 10th+ year. They didn't place this year but had a great time trying!

#### Attention all long-time CY residents!

Jason Whitworth of 2038 Young Avenue is looking for a lady! But not just any lady – a couple of years ago during the Cooper-Young Festival an older lady walked by his house and stopped and told him that she had lived in it in the 1950's and had her wedding pictures taken on the front porch steps. He would like to contact her about seeing the pictures or possibly getting copies, but has forgotten her name. Anyone know who this mystery lady might be? If so, contact Jason at [jgwhitworth@gmail.com](mailto:jgwhitworth@gmail.com).

True Story:

She thinks  
God cares more about  
global warming than  
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4



5



6



7



8

3. If you've seen large packs of women jogging around the neighborhood lately don't worry – it's just the CY running moms! Three of the moms, Ozge Kovarik of Nelson and Heather Caron and Jennifer Hardesty both of Young, put their training to the test at the Youth Villages 5K on April 17th. Keep up the good work, ladies!

4. On Sunday April 25th the residents of "New Elzey" in Cooper-Young Place gathered for their annual Spring Picnic. It was no surprise that the weather made them move it into the garage of the block captains, Brian Fiorino and Mike Taylor, since the same thing happened last year. But, the weather couldn't get this bunch down—about half of the street's residents showed up to party, eat, and talk about upcoming events in the neighborhood.

5. Wendy Sumner-Winter of Oliver just earned her MFA in creative writing, with a nonfiction concentration from the University of Memphis. Photographer Amanda Dent captured friends Zack Adcock, Wendy, Nick Collins, and Karen Hegelson, all of CY(ish), at a party in Wendy's honor on May 8th. Other CYers in attendance were Jenny Lederer and Benjamin Wise, Amy McDaniel and Bill Spicer, Danna Greenfield, and Mark Ramsay. Not pictured, but very proud of her mom, is 5-year-old Virginia Grace Sumner-Winter, who recently received an honor herself —"Most Improved Student" at Richland Elementary!

6. Mike Parnell of Young recently won two gold metals and two bronze metals for swimming in the local Senior Olympics. Mike practices and trains at local YMCAs. Right now, Mike is gearing up to compete in the state competition, which will be held in Nashville this summer. Good luck, Mike!

7. Tony de Velasco, Cox resident and assistant professor of rhetoric in the Department of Communication at the University of Memphis, has published a book entitled *Centrist Rhetoric: The Production of Political Transcendence in the Clinton Presidency*. Tony's book offers a reassessment of conventional judgments of the Clinton presidency through a close analysis of key speeches from 1991-1996. Good to know we have some smart cookies in the hood!

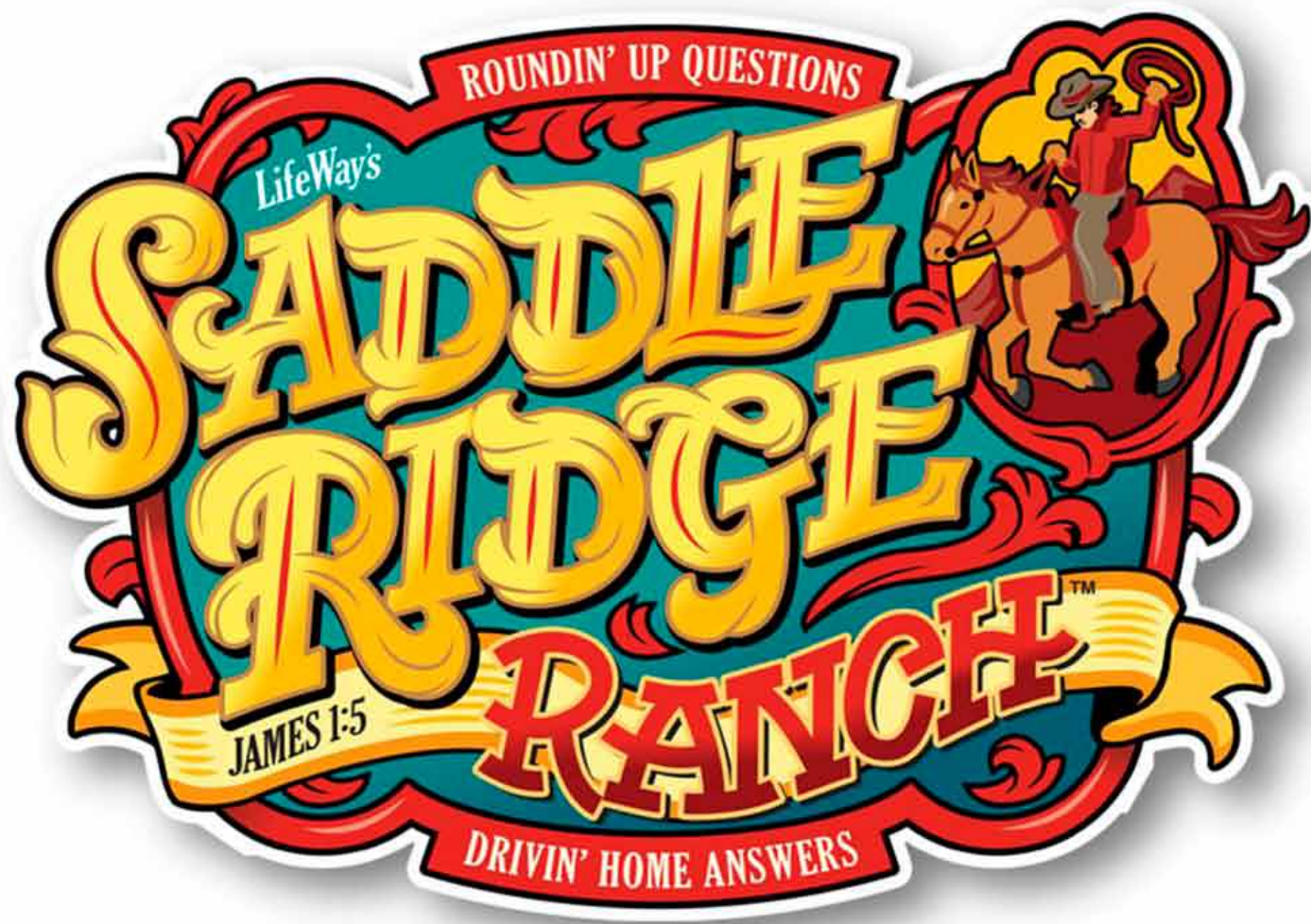
8. Sharron and Rex Johnson recently remodeled their Philadelphia house, taking it from a one-story, two-bedroom house to a two-story, one-bedroom house featuring lots of entertaining space downstairs and a spacious master suite upstairs. The Johnsons, who did much of the work themselves, were featured in Memphis Fix Magazine and joked that they did the renovation to ensure that none of their offspring move back in! (Photo by Donny Granger, [creationstudiosgallery.com](http://creationstudiosgallery.com))



9

9. On May 19, members of Neighborhood Church hosted a backyard cookout to thank members of the community who have participated in the various activities the church has held during in its three years in Midtown. More than 50 church members and other friends (including a swarm of kids!) ate, drank, and made merry on a lovely spring evening in Josh and Ginger Spickler's Nelson Avenue backyard.

Send news and pics of CY happenings to [auntcicely@gmail.com](mailto:auntcicely@gmail.com)!



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