



INSIDE: First Congo's annual food drive needs your help this Thanksgiving.

LampLighter

Cooper-Young — Many Voices, One Community

NewsBriefs

Empty Bowls to help feed the soul



The Memphis Empty Bowls Project will be held from 5-7 p.m. Nov. 11 at Church Health Center Wellness, 1115 Union Ave.

Come enjoy a simple, delicious

meal of soup and bread donated by more than a dozen Memphis restaurants. Included in the ticket price, guests take home a handpainted or handcrafted bowl donated by a Memphis area potter or community member.

Proceeds benefit the Mid-South Food Bank, the food ministries of St. John's United Methodist Church and the nutritional education programs of Church Health Center.

The Empty Bowls initiative is about more than just raising funds. It's also about bringing the community together to think about the issue of hunger and how we can combat this problem in our city. This event brings together children, artists, restaurants, businesses, and community members in the common cause of not only eliminating empty bowls, but in raising awareness around the issue of food insecurity in our city.

There will be an art-focused silent auction and an art sale. Get some holiday shopping done early at this family-friendly event.

Please visit www.memphisemptybowls.com to buy tickets and be sure to like them on Facebook.

Volunteers Needed for Membership Mailing

As a reminder, the CYCA needs volunteers to stuff envelopes for our annual membership mailing. Volunteers will meet at the CYCA offices at 2298 Young Ave. at 10 a.m. Dec. 8 to stuff envelopes, enjoy light refreshments and spend some quality time with neighbors. Mark your calendar now to volunteer your time for your community association.

NEWS BRIEFS CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Fairview Junior High now houses Fairview Middle and Middle College, a college preparatory program in conjunction with Christian Brothers University across Central Avenue. The 1930s building recently underwent an \$8 million renovation. Photo by Amanda Hill/AM Photography

NEW VIEW AT FAIRVIEW

EXPLORING SCHOOL'S RECENT RENEWAL

BY MANDY GRISHAM

noticed it — it began slowly getting more beautiful as it has undergone recent renovations. My children, now 7 and 4, are zoned for Fairview Middle School for their sixth- through eighth-grade educations. Since I'm an intensely curious person about all things education, I began doing a little research.

What I've discovered is highly encouraging.

Fairview Middle School, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is an 80-year-old Art Deco-style building with incredible history. Not only have generations of Memphians been educated here, but it even served as a hospital briefly during the great Arkansas flood of the 1930s.

Recently, the school has undergone \$8 million of renovations under the direction of architect John Pruett.

"I think the architectural highlights of the project have to do with the preservation of the existing historic spaces in large part, as well as preservation of

Many of us pass through the intersection of East Parkway and Central Avenue every day. And if you're like me, you've wondered what is going on in that old building on the corner called Fairview Junior High School (now called Fairview Middle School).

A few years ago — I barely

important elements such as corridor transoms, large expanses of windows for natural lighting and, of course, restoration of the auditorium and main entrance lobby," said Pruett. "I'm also particularly proud of the restoration of the central courtyard from an asphalt-paved, forgotten, wasted space into a landscaped outdoor learning area."

Pruett added that he's come to appreciate the school's structure and history even more through this project.

"Midtown has every reason to be proud of this school for several reasons. It's amazing how many folks I talked with during the course of the project who either went to school there or had parents who did. In some cases both. It's a true piece of Memphis history."

According to Pruett, the money spent on renovating Fairview Middle is an investment in both our past and future.

"It's just a lovely piece of Art Deco architecture that has survived the years in really remarkable condition and is still fully useful as a modern-day school, with restoration at a fraction of what it would cost to build a new building today with that amount of detailing — not to mention that the original building was constructed in just six months in the height of the Great Depression."

Pruett also used this renovation project to educate University of Memphis students about historical renovation. He invited the chair of the Architecture Department at the U of M, Michael Hagge, and a group of his second- and third-year students to the building.

COVER STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Inside

MEOWATHON House of Mews' annual 5K to help its herd of cats and kittens is coming up this month. Find out how to join. **Page 6**

SAVE THE PLANET Painted Planet ArtSpace and cancer ministry nearly went under recently until concerned Memphians stepped in to help. **Page 7**

STAYING SAFE September brought a sudden spike in burglaries in Cooper-Young. Find out what Memphis Police are doing to patrol the neighborhood. **Page 13.**

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



All I did that. What an amazing honor for all the residents and businesses that have worked hard to make Cooper-Young the wonderful community it has become.

Well, the tornado of fall activity is winding down once again in Cooper-Young, and things couldn't be better! In between wrapping up our most successful 4-Miler ever, and kicking off our insanely popular CY Regional BeerFest, Cooper-Young (for those living under a rock) was recently named by the American Planning Association as one of the 10 best neighborhoods in America! Holy crap. Yeah, we

Oh, but that's not all that is good in the hood! I got a new dog named Cooper that is slowly but surely eating less and less expensive stuff every week. The Healing Planet, a struggling local cancer ministry, shall stay open to host another Spa Night, because of the generosity of friends and residents. Memphis Cash Mob organized CY's first mob event at Goner Records, which also benefited the CYCA.

My slightly harsh rant from last month's letter yielded me two new CYCA board members. And finally, a few of us have been attending the Citizen's Police Academy for the past eight weeks at the Union Station, and I highly recommend it for others interested in learning more about the MPD. I'm so ready for my police ride-along this Friday night! Can't wait to see what craziness happens on the midnight shift, and I'll be ready to kick some butt (from the safety of the locked squad car).

Coming soon: the CY Annual Food Drive for the Fishes and Loaves Pantry at First Congo. Let's make this the best haul yet! ~ June Hurt

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 1: First Thursday Night Out, Sibella Band plays, 5-8 p.m.

Nov. 9: Curtain UP: Passport to Playhouse party at Playhouse on the Square

Nov. 11: Empty Bowls Project, 5-7 p.m. at Church Health Center Wellness, 1115 Union Ave.

Nov. 13: CYCA general meeting, 6 p.m., at Fairview Middle auditorium, East Parkway at Central Avenue. The public is invited to a discussion of recent renovations at Fairview and a representative from the Kroger Center will be present to answer questions.

Nov. 17: Fishes and Loaves Food Drive pickup.

Nov. 20: CYCA board meeting, 7 p.m., CYCA office, 2298 Young Ave.

Nov. 22: Communications committee meeting, 7 p.m., CYCA office, 2298 Young Ave.

Nov. 26: Safety committee meeting, 7 p.m., CYCA office, 2298 Young Ave.



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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.

LampLighter

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At-Large Board Members Mark Morrison

Putting some polish in the neighborhood

BY RENEE MASSEY



If all the fun in the sun you had this summer has made a mess of your glowing skin, there is good news: The Polish Bottle at 2163 Young Ave. offers Cooper-Young Community Association members a 10 percent discount on facials, pedicures, and waxing services every time they visit and show their CYCA membership card.

The Polish Bottle is one of our newer membership sponsors, and it just celebrated its one-year anniversary in Cooper-Young in October.

"What makes our location cool and unique [is the variety of] restaurants around us," Felicia Scarpati-Lomax of

The Polish Bottle says. "A lot of our clients do Girls' Night Out or brunch. They start off pampering themselves with us, and they have a host of restaurants to choose from when they are ready to eat. A lot of cute boutique stores are popping up, too."

Scarpati-Lomax chose to become a membership sponsor for the CYCA because she loves the neighborhood. Having grown up in a community in New York where "mom and pop" businesses were a staple, she feels right at home here in Cooper-Young. She enjoys talking to the other neighborhood business owners on a nearly daily basis, and the fact that most of The Polish Bottle's customers are Midtowners reinforces the tight-knit, local vibe. In fact, she notes that residents of the neighborhood have been particularly supportive, saying CY "is a real community."

In addition to the 10 percent discount on facials, pedicures and waxing services that The Polish Bottle offers CYCA members all year long, there will be a special offer during the holidays. The Polish Bottle will be collecting toys for Le Bonheur Children's Hospital.

"My family spent every holiday from Thanksgiving until Valentine's Day at LeBonheur where my infant son, Charlie, died after complications due to a heart defect...so that hospital is very dear to my heart," Scarpati-Lomax said. "If you bring in a toy, we will do a free manicure with the purchase of any pedicure service."

But even if you're not in the market for nail services, you can still drop off a new, unopened toy, and The Polish Bottle will see to it that it is delivered to a child at the hospital. The business will start collecting toys after Halloween, so there is no need to wait until December.

With the holidays just around the corner, there are still many opportunities to use the 10 percent discount through the end of the year so you can look your best for holiday events and photos. Not a member of the CYCA? There's still time! You can join online at www.cooperyoung.org, fill out the membership form in this paper, call our Community Director at 272-CYCA (2922), or visit our community offices at 2298 Young Avenue — just down the street from The Polish Bottle.

Kudos from cleanup committee chief

Keeping things clean and orderly are important to me. This is one reason why I was excited to take on the role of Beautification Committee chairperson. I currently work to keep our quarterly cleanups in motion.

Last month, right before Cooper-Young Festival, we had 40 students and neighbors help with cleanup. We had a blast preparing for the festival by making our neighborhood look great! Most of the students were from Bridge Builders, which I want to give special thanks for lending a hand. The extra hands helped us cover more ground.

I also want to thank every business that I contacted regarding the cleanup. Keeping your grounds clean and free of debris really helps with litter. Business including Soul Fish cafe, Young Avenue Deli and Cafe Ole take extra care to keep their grounds clean year round. This is very important! Cooper-Young must live up to the honor we recently received from the American Planning Association as one of the top neighborhoods.

Please join us in December for our quarterly cleanup. Let's all keep Cooper-Young clean. Look for details in future issues of Lamplighter. - Demetrius Boyland

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- **Cooper-Young Regional Beerfest** - \$5 discount on tickets
- **Hollywood Feed: Union Ave.** - 5% discount every time you show your CYCA membership card
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- **Mulan Asian Bistro** - 10% off each time you present your membership card
- **The Nail & Skin Bar** - 10% discount off a Spa Pedicure every time you show your membership card
- **Otherlands Coffee Bar** - 1 free cup of coffee or coffee drink up to \$3 value
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- **Young Avenue Deli** - Enjoy 30% off any one entree



CYCA News

Beerfest team says 'Cheers' to volunteers and sponsors

Thank you to all who came out to the third annual Cooper-Young Regional Beerfest on Oct. 13. We had a great time and hope that you did as well.

We couldn't have done this without help. First, we want to thank the brewers and homebrew clubs that made the festival possible: Asheville Brewers Alliance, Blackstone Brewery, Bluff City Brewers & Connoisseurs, Boscós Brewing Company, Country Boy Brewing, Ghost River Brewing Company, High Cotton Brewing Company, Lazy Magnolia Brewing Company, Lore Brewing Company, Memphis Brewer's Association, Red Brick Brewing Company, Schlafly Beer, Vinos Brewpub and Yazoo Brewing Company.

Second, we had tremendous support for the beerfest and Cooper-Young from our sponsors: Cooper-Young Community Association, Central BBQ, Celtic Crossing, Stone Soup Cafe, Sweet Grass, Goner Records, Memphis Flyer, MemphisSport Live, West Memphis Fence and Party Concepts and WEVL.

Some of our great local businesses contributed to make sure that our visiting brewers had a taste of the wonderful things that Memphis has to offer. These included: Stax Museum, Bar-B-Q Shop, Huey's, Ballinger's Midtown Service Station, Sun Studio, The Cotton Museum and Guidebook.

Last but not least, we had dedicated volunteers who came to the festival and did plenty of dirty and sweaty work setting up the site, pouring beer, getting ice and tearing things down at the end. Thank you for your help.

We will work hard to plan the fourth annual Cooper-Young Regional Beerfest for 2013, try to keep the great things and improve the shortcomings. If you have any suggestions, we would love to hear from you. We hope to see you in 2013! - The Cooper-Young Regional Beerfest Organizing Committee

P.S. I would personally like to thank the Cooper-Young Regional Beerfest Organizing Committee: Drew Barton, Trevor Kearney, Justin Jones, Mark Morrison, Toby Sells and Josh Spickler. They (and their significant others) contributed a year's worth of work towards making this festival a success. ~ Andy Ashby, Cooper-Young Regional Beerfest chairman

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGE 15

Memphis Area Pets Go Online

Blues City Rescue, Memphis has joined other animal welfare organizations in the area that list their homeless pets on Petfinder.com, the oldest and largest database of adoptable animals on the Internet. The site currently has more than 365,000 homeless pets listed, and it is updated continuously.

More than 13,900 animal welfare organizations in the U.S., Canada, and other countries post their pets on the site. Blues City Rescue pets may be viewed at <http://www.petfinder.com/TN72>. A potential adopter enters search criteria for the kind of pet he or she wants, and a list is returned that ranks the pets in proximity to the ZIP code entered. Adoptions are handled by the animal placement group where the pet is housed, and each group has its own policies.

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Sibella Band leads Nov. 1 Night Out

BY TAMARA COOK/COOPER YOUNG BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



Sibella Band kicks off this Cooper-Young Night Out starting at 6 p.m. Nov. 1 at the gazebo in the neighborhood square.

Sibella's sound is reminiscent of the Sarah McLachlan, Indigo Girls and Damien Rice with a splash of cello and congas. This three-woman Memphis band is comprised of Tamar Love, Valentine Leonard and Sarah Ford. Come enjoy their

upbeat and engaging songs ranging from lighthearted stories to matters of personal experience.

The Memphis Association of Craft Artists will join us this month at the gazebo area with demonstrations, sales and information regarding their first progressive art show, "Tour of Fine Craft."

Join us to celebrate the love of art at the reception for the winners and participants of this year's Young Artist Contest at Peabody Elementary School located a half-block west on Young Avenue. Come and browse art submitted by students from the Memphis area that will be on display in the school's cafeteria. This is a very popular contest that drew more than 550 entries in 2011. A reception is set for 6 to 7 p.m. and is sponsored by Lenny's Sub Shop. Enjoy free refreshments while you take in some great art.

Allie Cat Arts is hosting a Dia de los Muertos Fiesta and art exhibition reception from 5-8 p.m. featuring work by local artist Adam Hunt. The Purple Door is the perfect place for a Day of the Dead Celebration and Open House. Enjoy a visual array of masks, candles and altars as well as free refreshments.

Across the street, The Polish Bottle is hosting a Ladies Night Out. Felicia will be serving up wine and margaritas from 4-7 p.m. along with manicures, facials and more. Be sure to get an appointment for some special pampering. Me & Mrs. Jones has a Sip & See party at 889 South Cooper. Drop by for refreshments and look at some specialty paints and finishes while you are there.

Shenanigans, our newest retail store, located at 2162 Young Ave., will be having a Grand Opening tonight with refreshments and discounts on furnishings for your home. Inbalance Fitness has half-off a group exercising class and punch card specials. Toad Hall Antiques has its annual Holiday Open House preview party. Enjoy drinks and desserts while you look for that perfect gift for this holiday season. Be sure to get over to Cortona Contemporary Italian and listen to The Randy Ballard Jazz Collective and enjoy happy hour specials all night.

There are Happy Hour margaritas at Café Ole, half-price nachos at Central BBQ, live music and drink specials at Celtic Crossing, 50 percent off adoptions at House of Mews, appetizer discounts at the Beauty Shop, drink discounts and big screens at Sweet Grass Next Door, poetry readings at Java Cabana and half-price piercings at Underground Art make for a great night in Cooper Young; we are one of the great neighborhoods of America!


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CYHappenings

House of Mews Meowathon 5K coming



The House of Mews will hold its ninth annual Meowathon 5K Run/Walk & Silent Auction on Saturday, Nov. 17, at Overton Park.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., and the race begins at 9. (Enter off of East Parkway, between Poplar Avenue and Sam Cooper Boulevard.) Everyone is encouraged to "Run for the Claws."

The Meowathon is a major fundraiser for The House of Mews, a no-kill feline sanctuary at 933 S. Cooper St. In addition to the 5K, the event features a silent auction, door prizes and refreshments. The 5K is sanctioned and

coordinated by the Memphis Runners Track Club (MRTC). Medals engraved with The House of Mews cat logo will be awarded to top finishers in the race.

Cutter Cat, the Friendly Sabertooth Cat, will make an appearance and music is graciously donated by SoundSmith, Ent. The silent auction boasts donations that include jewelry, art, movie passes, theatre tickets and more.

Pre-registration is \$20 and ends Nov. 11. Regular registration for the 5k is \$25. The registration form can be downloaded from The House of Mews website at www.houseofmews.com/meowathon.

Runners may register and pay in person or over the phone through Friday, Nov. 16, at The House of Mews, 933 S. Cooper. Call (901) 272-3777 for information.

Runners may also register at Overton Park on race day, Nov. 17, beginning at 7:30 a.m. Runners' bags and T-shirts can be picked up Friday, Nov. 16 at The House of Mews from 4-8 p.m. or Saturday morning at Overton Park. (T-shirts and runners' bags are limited and are not guaranteed to those who registered after Nov. 11.) For those who can't participate in the race, there is an option to sponsor a cat for the day for \$20. All race and sponsor fees are tax-deductible charitable donations.

Major sponsors include ClearChannel Outdoor; Konica Minolta, All Covered; Greenway Home Services; S&S Striping; Family Leisure; Anonymous in Honor of Wilma & Gussy; Anonymous in Memory of Fraidy, LuLu & Annie; Anonymous in Honor of Fox & Queenie Crain; Anonymous in Honor of Callie, Daisy, Gypsy & Opie; Raymond James/Morgan Keegan.

Race information, including a continuously updated list of silent auction items, is available at www.houseofmews.com/meowathon. Facebook friends can stay updated at www.facebook.com/thehouseofmews.

The Hub automotive opens on York

BY JOSHUA BOLDEN/MICROMEMPHIS REPORTER

Business is humming at The Hub, Cooper-Young's newest auto repair shop, which opened at 2200 York Avenue at Meda in September.

The shop aims to bring dealership-type service while maintaining the Cooper-Young feel, said owners Andrew and Jennifer Brunson.

The Hub's rates start at \$75 a hour but Andrew Brunson said his hourly rate is flexible depending on the automobile issue. Cooper-Young Association members get a 10-percent discount and free clinics where customers can come in and learn how to change a tire or a headlight.

Brunson said his connection to automobiles is rooted in his upbringing. "My dad was a mechanic so I've always had a fondness for automobiles."

Brunson said after years of seeing how ready-made shops handle business and the fact that he did not want to drive too far from own home, he decided to open his own shop, which is located right across the street from his mother-in-law's house. The waiting room was designed by Memphis architect Jeff Blackledge, who also developed the Pie Factory Lofts on Young Avenue.

When it comes down to it, Brunson said he wants to be a benefit to his neighborhood. "I want to serve my community," said Brunson.

Contact The Hub at 335-4982 and 725-1352.

MicroMemphis, a hyperlocal online news hub for Cooper-Young, is a program of the University of Memphis Department of Journalism. See more at cooperyoung.weebly.com.

Public lends hand to Painted Planet

BY SHEILA GUERRERO/MICROMEMPHIS REPORTER

Donna Bowers, owner of Painted Planet ArtSpace, can now give herself a little solace, just as she gives to others.

Just a few days ago her business, located on Cooper, faced a possible eviction because it fell behind in their rent. But when her story aired on WMC-TV donations poured in from all over the city.

With an ink pen in her hand and scratch paper nearby, she adds and subtracts from the amount needed to pay the rent as people continue to call in to make donations to the gallery.

However, Painted Planet is more than just an art gallery — it is a ministry.

"I was diagnosed about nine and a half years ago of breast cancer ... I had felt really uncomfortable about who I had become," said Bowers.

Knowing how self-conscious she felt while going through chemo, 11 years later she developed Healing Planet. It allows women who are going through cancer and other illnesses to get pampered.

"We started doing Spa-Ah, which was meditation and prayer and facials...we had a lady that would also do wigs. Then we added massages, reflexology, personal training, yoga and nutrition," said Bowers.

"My friend got diagnosed with cancer and she told me she wasn't going for treatment because she didn't have transportation. I took her to Painted Planet for spa night and she did a complete turnaround, a 180. She even got involved with making treats for Painted Planet," said June Hurt, president of Cooper-Young Community Association.

Although the services come at no cost to the women, it does come with a price for the business. Painted Planet displays various artwork from artists and from each painting sold, the ministry receives a portion of the sales.

"The artists get half of the total price and Painted Planet gets half and whatever is left after our operation expenses, goes towards the Healing Planet ministry," said Bowers. However, if nothing is sold there isn't a profit to be made.

Bowers never took any money from the women who benefit from Healing Planet and with all the help from the public, she still feels awkward accepting donations. But she knows how much the company means to so many women.

"Until this last crunch I never really had to take any cash," said Bowers.

She also knows amazing things happen to some of the people who visit on the second Monday of each month.

"We've got so many wonderful healings that you just wouldn't believe where people have come in and they've been given death sentences pretty much," said Bowers.

The ministry isn't limited to breast cancer — whether its lupus, multiple sclerosis or diabetes, the door is open to all.

Once everything is back on track, Bowers plan to file paperwork to become a registered non-profit organization, in hopes of helping more people who suffer from chronic diseases.

MicroMemphis, a hyperlocal online news hub for Cooper-Young, is a program of the University of Memphis Department of Journalism. See more at cooperyoung.weebly.com. This story can be read in its entirety at lamplighter.cooperyoung.org.

Playhouse plans Passport party



One of the most talked about Midtown parties of 2011 is back with a vengeance Nov. 9. "Curtain Up: Passport to Playhouse" is five parties in one, each with a different theme.

This year, Playhouse will bring back some of the favorite experiences from last year with a few new twists, including a special performance by American Idol's Alexis Grace. Partygoers are invited to travel the world as several rooms at Playhouse on the Square are transformed into distant locales: Mexico City in the second floor Event Room –

Margaritas, tequila, and Latin music with classical guitarist Mark Pergolizzi; Monte Carlo in the Trap Room beneath the stage – Mock casino games, liquor drinks, passed hors d'oeuvres, and music by Black Max; Franklin County, Va. in the Café - Beer, sliders, and bluegrass music by Nay-Nay and the Do-Right Boys; Paris on the Roof – Wine, cheese, martinis, and mural making. The final destination is the party on the stage, which kicks off with a special set by Alexis Grace and her band, immediately followed by the Ibiza discotheque with DJ Brad Patrick.

Admission is \$75 per person, or \$60 per person for a group of 10, and includes complimentary food and beverages throughout the night. Tickets can be purchased by calling 726-4656 or at www.playhouseonthesquare.org. All proceeds benefit Playhouse on the Square.



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COOPER YOUNG NEIGHBORHOOD

CYHappenings

Java Cabana to celebrate 20 years in Cooper-Young

BY MARY BURNS/JAVA CABANA



Java Cabana, Cooper-Young's coffeehouse, will celebrate its 20th anniversary on Saturday, Nov. 17, at 2170 Young Ave.

There will be live music with Star & Macey and Mark Allen. The café will be showing old footage of

Elvis impersonator weddings and interviews with Reverend Tommy Foster, as well as a Java Cabana short directed by James Buchanan. Amurica photo booth, owned by Jamie Harmon, will be in front of the café from 8-10 p.m. Java Cabana would love to have your picture added to the café's wall.

To celebrate Java Cabana's 20th anniversary, their well-loved specialty drinks, the Lisa Marie, Jerry Lee, Django and Mystery Train, will be half price all day. Music starts at 7 p.m.

Tommy Foster opened Java Cabana in November 1992 and installed the First Church of Elvis Impersonator Shrine and Viva Wedding Chapel, bringing international attention to Cooper-Young. Mary Burns, founder of open mic night at Java, bought the café in March 1998. She has now maintained the longest running open mic night in the city.

The café has appeared on the Turner South network, Craig Brewer's \$5 Cover and Morgan Jon Fox's film Blue Citrus Hearts. And celebs Kate Moss, Tim Robbins, Susan Sarandon, Slash, Sonic Youth and Ginnifer Goodwin have all graced the café with their presence.

Over the years, the café has exhibited numerous visual artists and has been touched by countless musicians such as Andy Cohen, Maggie Louie, Garrison Starr, Rob Jungklas, Mark Allen and Lou Bond, Zeke Johnson, One Ring Zero, Swan Dive, John Kilzer, Mark McKinney's early years as William-Tell Routine, Eric Lewis, Valerie June, The Rays, Grooms and Kelly, Robert Belfour, Bruce Biles, Sheila Nichols, Little Wings, Calvin Johnson from K-Records, Bella Sun, Mike Joyner, Lynn Cordona, Davy Bennett, Klaudia and Rico, Holy Cole, Jon Garcia, C.J. Tucker (known as Skinny White Chick), Amy Steinberg, Brad Passons, David Brookings, Steve Lockwood, Nate Marshall, Jen Shamro, Kristen Cothron, Allyson Sields and the Jazz Box, Ronn Shorr, Pete Vescovo, and Jazz Friends, Scandaliz Vandalist, Chris Owen, Annie Crane, Dan Tedesco, Autumn Grieves, and many more.

If there are any questions regarding this event, you can contact Mary Burns at 272-7210 or email her at mary@javacabanacoffeehouse.com.

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Literacy Mid-South needs match for \$100,000 grant



Literacy Mid-South recently announced a challenge grant from an anonymous friend of the organization.

The anonymous donor agreed to provide \$100,000 if Literacy Mid-South can raise a matching \$100,000 from donors. All donors

must be first-time givers to the organization or have not given in the last three years.

Literacy Mid-South will use the funds to add staff as the organization decentralizes its adult programming, meaning that students ultimately will not have to go to the Literacy Mid-South office to receive services and be tutored because classes and services will be offered in various neighborhood libraries and community centers.

"This grant will allow us to double the number of students we serve each year," said Kevin Dean, Literacy Mid-South's executive director, in a news release. "It will give us the opportunity to expand our program into communities that we haven't yet served — communities that desperately need literacy support. Providing services in neighborhoods will make literacy tutoring and services available to students who currently have no means of transportation for getting to our office."

Individuals and businesses may give in support of the challenge grant in several ways: donating online at www.literacymid-south.org/get-involved/donate/, calling the office at 327-6000, or mailing or dropping off a check at 902 S. Cooper St.

First Congo food drive needs your help Nov. 17



The annual Thanksgiving CY Food Drive to benefit First Congo's Fishes and Loaves Soup Kitchen and Pantry will be held Sat. Nov. 17. Volunteers and contributors are needed.

First Congo serves our family community in many ways. Food is provided for people in need each day. There is a daily vegetable/produce distribution at 2 p.m. where a day or two worth of food can be taken.

The "Food for Families" program distributes groceries to more than 200 families in our neighborhood. Church members stock shelves in the sanctuary and recipients can receive transportation home from the church with their groceries.

The Fishes and Loaves soup kitchen is open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. They serve late lunch and provide

a snack bag for everyone to take home. For some who go there, the contents of those snack bags is their next meal. That's why we ask for foods like Vienna sausages, potted ham, small foil packaged tuna, granola bars, cracker and individual juice boxes.

If you're in the mood to make a big batch of something or have a party with lots of leftovers, please pass it along to the soup kitchen. Every little bit helps a lot. Molly Peacher Ryan coordinates food ministries for the church. You can contact her at molly.peacherryan@firstcongo.com. The church will be more than happy to pick up the food and take it there.

This food ministry is not a part of the church budget so it relies completely on the continued support of the church members and the community. (Lots of kids show up for this.)

We need volunteers to start distributing flyers around the first week of November and on Saturday morning, Nov. 17, to pick up the contributions from the curbs. We especially need help distributing flyers — for a small community there's a lot of real estate to cover.

It's a great way to get some fresh air, exercise, say hello to a neighbor or few and make friends with a friendly cat or dog. Going down blocks that you are unfamiliar with can be a real treat. Halloween decorations are often still out and because we are an eclectic artist community delightful discoveries always abound. And picking up contributions is almost like a treasure hunt only with the treasures in plain sight.

To volunteer to help with the food drive please contact suzzanes@comcast.net or 276-6450.

I love living in CY because we are truly a community family and we look out for and take care of each other. Thank you for your continued generous support. I know we will have an abundant bounty of food just in time for the holidays. - Suzzane Striker

Opinions needed for Cooper-Young community museum research project

When I was moving to Memphis in 2008, I wanted to live in Cooper-Young. From Ohio, I read issues of the LampLighter and researched the history of the neighborhood.

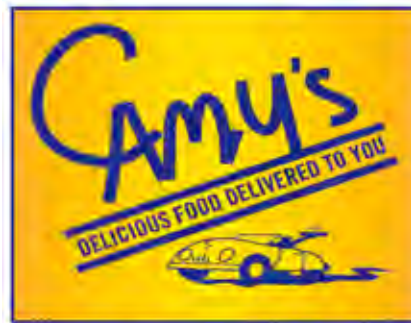
As a full-time mom, artist, and community-oriented educator, it seemed like where I would feel at home. I was not disappointed in what I experienced. Although now I live in another neighborhood, I still come back to meet friends, rent videos, shop, dine and support the Cooper-Young Community Farmers Market. Cooper-Young draws me back.

Currently, I am a graduate student in the Museum Studies Certificate Program at the University of Memphis. Through the support of this program, I am conducting personal interviews and an online survey to find out if the Cooper-Young community would like to open a local museum and if so, what people would like it to do for the community. For the purpose of the research project, I would like to define museum as a "cultural center to preserve and present the neighborhood's history as well as relate it to current community concerns today."

It is very important to me to reach out to as many community members as possible. The online survey is available now through Nov. 11 at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S26PCBF>.

The survey is fast (10 questions) and you can remain anonymous. After that time, I will gather the information and create a proposal for the community. I hope to hear what you think!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the project. My e-mail address is: pdodds@memphis.edu. - Penny Dodds



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CYHappenings

Gonerfest 9 brings garage rock and more

BY BARBARA WERNER/MICROMEMPHIS REPORTER



Rev. John Wilkins and his band closed down Gonerfest 9 with a soul-shaking R&B performance Sept. 30 in the Cooper-Young gazebo. Photo by David Royer.

For its ninth annual international music festival, Goner Records invited more than 30 bands playing rock, punk and garage to play the weekend of September 27-30 at the Hi-Tone, the Buccaneer, Murphy's and the Cooper-Young gazebo.

From local bands to bands from all over the world, all these Goner label-recorded bands rocked together with the audience for a successful and joyful weekend.

"It's like a family reunion," said Zac Ives, owner of Goner Records, who founded Gonerfest with his store's co-owner Eric Friedl.

"We put out our first record in 2005. It was one guy from Germany, one guy from Canada and we thought they never go on tour or do anything, but then they got a

little tour and played here in Memphis. So we thought since there's going to be a show, we make it as big as we can; called some friends, also other bands from New Orleans and Chicago," remembered Ives about the moment of birth of the Gonerfest.

What they didn't expect was that everybody would embrace their offer and show up. They played for two nights in a lounge bar in Midtown Memphis.

"So it went great and now there are more people coming every year. We had to move to a bigger place."

Today Gonerfest takes place in the Goner Record store and other locations like the Gazebo in Cooper-Young.

Another big difference from the first year is that they didn't have to ask the bands to come. Now most of the bands ask them for a permission to play.

Every year they try to change the lineup for the music festival and try to introduce new bands to the audience.

This year two new bands of the record label from Memphis played at the festival: Spits and Ex-Cult.

For the record label's owners, these new bands are most interesting to see performing, because it shows them how the people react to the new bands and whether they like them or not.

However one big headliner event for the visitors of the festival this year was a gig by an older band: The Oblivians. Co-founded by Friedl, the Oblivians had their first concert at the Gonerfest since breaking up more than a decade ago.

A few minutes before the big event, band member Jack Oblivian relaxed with a Coke and listened to the opening concert at the Gazebo by Monsieur Jeffrey Evans. Like a real rock musician Jack looked forward to the festival and their first concert.

"It's just about having a good time and a lot of Rock 'n' Roll."

Having a good time is certainly one good reason why so many visitors are coming every year. "If you come once, you come again," said visitor Brent Stratton from San Francisco. "It's my second time here. I mostly like the garage music, the cheap beer and the cool people. Here, there are never cruel troublemaker people around."

Listeners came from across the United States and even other continents to listen to the music of Goner Record bands.

Kristina and Andy flew to Memphis from Germany for their third trip to spend a weekend at the Gonerfest.

"Goner Records is famous in the punk-rock scene in Germany. We have been fans for six years and we mostly know all the bands which are playing at the festival. We hope to come again next year."

Even the rain on Sunday evening couldn't stop the audience and the bands of the ninth Gonerfest from celebrating, as Rev. John Wilkins and his band closed the show.

MicroMemphis, a hyperlocal online news hub for Cooper-Young, is a program of the University of Memphis Department of Journalism. See more at cooperyoung.weebly.com.

Wise Advice from an Educational Sage

BY D. JACKSON MAXWELL



On occasion I invite one of my esteemed colleagues to write an article with me for my monthly education column. I am particularly proud to have convinced Amy Merritt, currently serving as a gifted preschool teacher, to share some of her wisdom. The following are some of her insights.

Over 11 years of teaching, I have had the opportunity to work with hundreds of students. During this time, I have marveled watching 3, 4 or 5-year-old children develop

specific social skills that are pivotal to long-term success. These social skills can be taught in a classroom but they are far more meaningful if they are supported at home. Lucky for parents and teachers, children are observant, so simple modeling sprinkled with a bit of guidance can instill these crucial social skills.

Repeatedly, I find children who experience the greatest social success are those who have been given the language to express their feelings. Language is an incredibly powerful tool. However as adults, we often take understanding of words such as sad, frustrated, anxious, impatient, and shy for granted. Shouting, hitting, and tantrums are a biologically pre-programmed response to these feelings for young children. As adults, we can help children overcome inappropriate responses by teaching them to instead respond by saying, "It made me angry you took that away" or "Calling me that name made me sad."

By giving children this language, we lay the first stepping-stones on the path to empathy — an essential character trait all children need. Introducing this language as a meltdown has already begun is ineffective, so in my class we pre-empt this potential problem by introducing students to coping language skills before the inappropriate response begins. Parents can teach these skills at home over dinner as family members recount stories of their day or when reading books with

children by discussing the feelings of the stories' characters.

Even when young children have a strong command of language, conflicts are still inevitable, especially when sharing toys or classroom materials. I have found children often know that they are supposed to share but they have no clue how to go about it.

In my class, we formulate a plan. Perhaps Kyra and Johnny both want to play with the red marble, so they agree to alternate. Perhaps, Dewayne and Katie both want to use the blue scissors, unfortunately there is only one pair. We agree that Katie will use the scissors for five minutes and then Dewayne will use them for the next seven minutes since he had to wait longer for his turn. Showing children specific ways to share and take turns leads to becoming independent problem solvers.

Another skill adults need to foster in children is group discussion. Preschool to early elementary aged students are naturally egocentric. Often, they are anxious to tell what they know, what they have done, who they know, and where they have been. Listening skills and patience are what must be taught. As with sharing, children need to learn to take turns during group discussions and be respectful listeners. Likewise, I teach my students to be engaging speakers by sticking to the topic, making eye contact and using what we call "a conversation voice." As with language, these skills can be modeled at home.

Parents and teachers need to work cooperatively to ensure that children know their alphabet, counting, to write their name, dress themselves, and to follow safety rules. The academic and life skills imparted in an early childhood programs cannot be taken for granted. However, by parents taking time to develop within their children a solid foundation of social skills, the stage will be set whereby children will possess the social skills to learn from their teacher and maybe more importantly, from one another.

Amy Merritt is a highly regarded educator of gifted students at Downtown Elementary School. Dr. D. Jackson Maxwell has 25 years of educational experience as a teacher, freelance writer and educational consultant. Questions or comments? Contact Dr. Maxwell at djacksonmaxwell@gmail.com.

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Fairview teachers Moriah Dendy, Renata Rodgers and Willard Brown stand beside Principal Selina Sparkman. Photo by Mandy Grisham.



Pruett took them on a tour of the facility while under construction. They were able to observe how new construction methods were adapted to work with the existing historic structure, and how they detailed the new construction to work with and complement the existing buildings details.

Pruett has been recognized for the groundbreaking green building program he has implemented in city schools, beginning with Fairview as a model. Using energy efficient construction, Pruet brought Fairview's Energy Star Rating from 25.9 to 40, an improvement of 14.1 points. Additionally, Fairview's energy usage dropped by 12 percent.

The investment in Fairview is an example of city leaders paying attention to a part of the city bustling with positive change. Memphis City Schools took note of the massive structural and grounds transformation taking place at the old Mid South Fairgrounds, the area immediately bordering Fairview's property. Over the last few years, there has been tremendous improvement at the Fairgrounds with Tiger Lane, and now the \$31 million Kroc Center nearing completion.

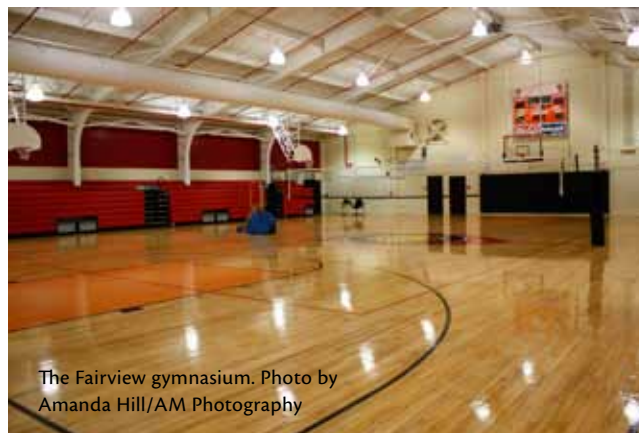
"The school district saw the opportunity to be responsible public partners," Regional Superintendent Dr. Terrence Brown said. "We are excited about the improvements going on at the fairgrounds and the Kroc Center and we wanted to add value to the Fairview building through this renovation.

"One of the benefits of the Kroc Center being next door to the school is that they have already established a relationship with Fairview for the use of the athletic facilities, which will also include a pool and might lead to a school swim team in the future. The Kroc Center will also have several real-time science simulation labs that are available to Fairview students during school. It's an unbelievable opportunity for our students."

I toured the renovated building with Fairview principal Salina Sparkman, who has been leading the middle school for four years. A product of the organization New Leaders for New Schools, Sparkman said she is passionate about the possibilities for Fairview. She noted

the school has seen strong academic gains over the last few years as well as a significant reduction in discipline incidences.

She believes the physical improvements to the school structure are also transforming the feel of the school. Sparkman sees these improvements as providing more opportunities for her students and she hopes for even stronger partnerships with the community.



The building currently houses two schools: Middle College High School has 200 students in grades 9-12 and allows students to take up to 60 college hours through neighboring Christian Brothers University before high school graduation. It was recently recognized as one of 20 Reward Schools in the state for its high performance on standardized tests.

Fairview Middle has 300 students in grades 6-8 and a special honors program called 6-16 that will feed students into Middle College High School, allowing them to take college courses. Students in the honors program take classes together in cohorts of 20-25 students and their teachers seem to be as close as family to some of them.

Many teachers I met were recent graduates of the Memphis Teacher Residency program or participants of Teach for America, as well as several long-term teachers from MCS. Principal Sparkman shared that many of her teachers regularly visit and walk the neighborhoods

where their students live in an effort to reach out to parents and learn more about their students.

The entrance requirement for the 6-16 Honors Program is a 3.0 GPA and all E's and S's on the student's report card. Applications for the 2013 school year are already on the school's website for incoming 6-8 grade students. There are also traditional classes that meet together in cohorts, some that are gender-based.

All students have exploratory classes to choose from such as band, strings, drama, pre-engineering and art. After school, they can choose from cheerleading, football, basketball, volleyball, track, baseball and softball.

The new facilities at Fairview are some of the best I've seen in our city. There are brand new computer labs, three rolling laptop labs, and a full computer lab in the library. There is also a brand new science lab. The 600-seat auditorium has been completely renovated and must be one of the finest public school auditoriums in Memphis. The gymnasium has brand new equipment, stadium seating with refurbished wood floors and a new bulldog mascot painted on center court.

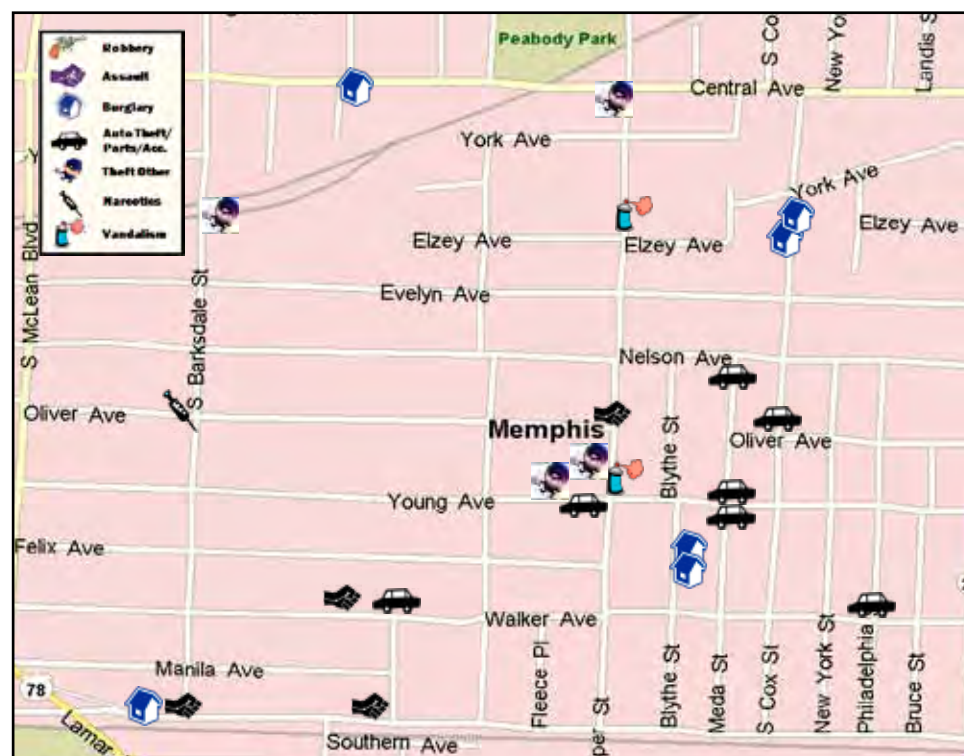
Principal Sparkman is a former Memphis State cheerleader and brings that positive energy to the school. She couldn't stop talking about how amazing her staff and students were during the renovations when they were mostly working out of portables. During that time, her students made 9 percent academic gains on TCAP. They still have a long way to go to make proficient test scores, but she is certain that they are heading in the right direction.

Principal Sparkman said her hope for her school community is that "we would build a community of learners that prepares, supports, and pushes each other to be well-rounded, successful students who are college ready and take advantage of the opportunity for a free college education at Christian Brothers University."

If you would like to learn even more about Fairview Middle School and see the renovations for yourself, you are invited to attend the Nov. 13 CYCA meeting that will be held in the Fairview Auditorium at 6 p.m.

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. These crimes were reported from September 24 to October 23.

24 CASES	Arrest	Offenses	Date	Address
1210012054ME		Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	10/21	WALKER AND PHILADELPHIA
1210011677ME		Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	10/20	YOUNG AND MEDA
1210010248ME		Burglary	10/18	1900 SOUTHERN
1210009151ME		Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	10/16	2200 YOUNG AVE
1210008947ME		Theft Other	10/16	2100 YOUNG AVE
1210007682ME		Assault	10/14	900 S COOPER
1210007224ME		Theft Other	10/13	2100 CENTRAL
1210006721ME		Vandalism	10/12	2100 YOUNG AVE
1210006171ME		Burglary	10/11	2000 CENTRAL
1210006269ME	YES	Narcotics	10/11	1900 OLIVER
1210004137ME		Theft Other	10/8	2100 YOUNG AVE
1210003574ME		Assault	10/6	2000 WALKER
1210001861ME		Assault	10/3	1100 S BARKSDALE
1210001479ME		Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	10/3	900 MEDA ST
1210001362ME		Burglary	10/3	800 S COX
1210001356ME	YES	Burglary	10/3	800 S COX
1210000722ME		Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	10/2	900 COX ST
1210000629ME		Vandalism	10/2	800 S COOPER
1209016927ME		Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	9/29	2100 YOUNG AVE
1209016827ME		Burglary	9/29	1000 BLYTHE
1209016967ME		Theft Other	9/29	1900 ELZEY
1209016141ME	YES	Assault	9/28	2000 SOUTHERN
1209015318ME		Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	9/27	1000 REMBERT
1209014074ME		Burglary	9/25	1000 BLYTHE



CYCA 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 Ben Boleware.

Burglaries spike in September

BY DUSTIN AZLIN/MICROMEMPHIS REPORTER

A string of burglaries hit Cooper-Young during the month of September, eclipsing the amount reported during that same month last year.

According to the Memphis Police Department, there were a total of eight reported burglaries that occurred within the Cooper-Young community, compared to only two reported burglaries that happened in September, 2011.

The year-to-date totals for burglaries also increased, with 45 reported from January 1 to September 30 in 2012 versus 34 reported during the same period in 2011.

Sgt. Karen Rudolph, public information officer for the MPD, said officers are paying close attention to the thefts and are reacting accordingly.

"According to the Colonel over at Union Station, we are maintaining highly visible patrols, including bike patrols when staffing allows," she said. "We have also directed the officers to process every scene if it's feasible."

The Union Station Precinct is responsible for policing the Cooper-Young neighborhoods in addition to other Midtown areas.

Sarah Frierson, a member of the Cooper-Young Community Association safety committee, said that with the help of neighbors, burglaries can be brought to a minimum.

"In the moment, a burglary at your home is more likely to be thwarted by one of your neighbors than by your own actions, because more often than not, you won't be there," she said.

She said the committee serves as both a watchdog for the community and a liaison with the MPD.

"The Cooper-Young Safety Committee strives to promote a safer neighborhood by educating our residents on matters of safety and well-being and increasing awareness of safety concerns," she said. "When necessary, the committee can also serve as an advocate with local law enforcement officials."

Frierson urged residents to keep an eye out for any suspicious activity and report it to the police if something doesn't feel right.

"Cooper-Young residents are great at being proactive and taking care of one another," she said.

She said the most important thing a resident needs to do when burglarized is to actually report the crime to the police.

"It's amazing how many people still don't file police reports," she said. "The police cannot combat crime if they don't know about it."

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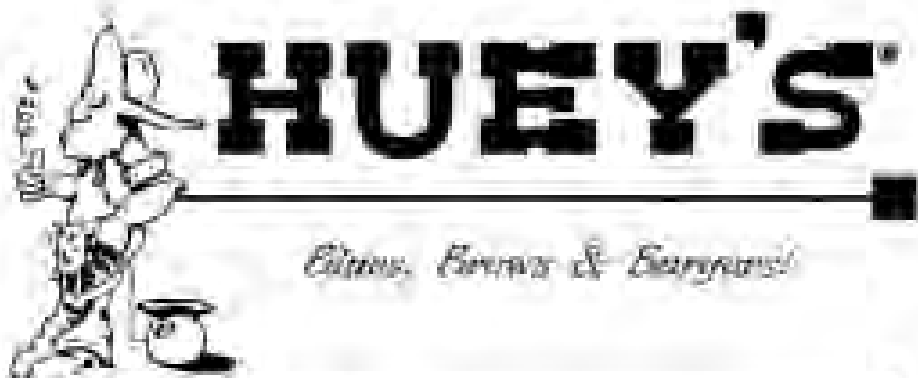
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1 Thousands of runners in white shirts, and sometimes colorful socks and tutus, made their way down Central Avenue for the Color Run on Oct. 13. Photo by David Royer.

2 June Hurt mans the CYCA booth at Cooper-Young Regional Beerfest on Oct. 13. Photo by Amanda Hill/AM Photography.

3 It was long pours, short lines and big smiles at Cooper-Young Regional Beerfest. Photo by Amanda Hill/AM Photography.

4 Beerfest patrons pack the tents. Photo by Amanda Hill/AM Photography.

5 Photographer Luis Fernandez of Miami shoots model CeCi Madri of Colors Agency for an agency shoot. Photo by Sarah Stramel

6 Forty students from Bridge Builders and neighbors help with cleanup around the neighborhood last month. Photo by Demetrius Boyland.

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