

Artist Christine Conley takes a tour of the neighborhood with pen in hand. // Page 12

LampLighter

Cooper-Young — Many Voices, One Community

NewsBriefs

Retail store coming to CY

A new national retail tenant is slated for the Central Avenue space next to Urban Outfitters, *The Daily News* reported recently.

AA Concepts, a Houston-based company that owns 10 boutiques including Wish, Duo, Method and Maude, has filed a building permit at 2155 Central Ave., the newspaper stated. The space is owned by Charlie Ryan.

One of the company's stores, Wish, has been open in Germantown's Shops of Saddle Creek selling women's clothing and vintage items since 2008.



4 Miler time nearly here

Cooper-Youngers, the summer is flying by and before you know it, our favorite fall kick off party will be here: the Cooper Young 4 Miler.

Start thinking about a theme for your Light the Way party, start training for that four-mile jog through the best neighborhood in the city, or start thinking about when you are available to volunteer.

Bag stuffing will be Thursday, Sept. 6 at the CYCA office, 2298 Young Ave. We will start early, at 5:30 p.m., so everyone can still make it out for First Thursday. Please come out to help; we'll have a great time.

This year will bring all runners and volunteers a brand new, bigger after-party site at Midtown Autowerks with beer, food and excellent live music as usual.

The race will be capped at 2,500 participants this year, so register online now at cooperyoung4miler.racesonline.com. Register your Light the Way party with the CYCA office (901-272-2922). Volunteer signup will be available soon.

NEWS BRIEFS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



MADE IN THE SHADE

Robert Grisham (left), Chris Kelly, Bobby King and John Argroves lift a bench from its spot on the Peabody playground in preparation for a new basketball court that will fill the space by the time students arrive in August. The group of six Peabody dads and neighbors, including Charlie Land and Glen Thomas, volunteered their time on a drizzly June 15 morning to ready the playground for a host of improvements. Photo by David Royer.

PEABODY'S FIRST-CLASS PLAYGROUND RESULT OF PARENT-POWERED EFFORT

BY DAVID ROYER

When Peabody Elementary's first school bell of the year rings at 7:30 a.m. Aug. 6, students should be ready to learn — and ready for some serious play time, too.

Six Peabody dads and neighbors volunteered their time on a drizzly morning July 15 to ready the playground for a host of improvements that will greet students when they return.

The most noticeable change outside the school building will be the installation of the shade structure, a giant, multicolored fabric sail that will cover the playground some 12 feet above students' heads.

The purple and green design looked like it fit the spirit of Cooper-Young, said incoming PTA president Chris Kelly. But more than simply decoration, the structure will make the playground useable for the entire community throughout the sweltering Memphis summers.

"It cuts at least 90 percent of UV rays, and it'll reduce the playground temperature by 20

degrees," Kelly said.

Former PTA president Mandy Grisham announced last year that the school had received a \$25,000 private grant to pay for the new playground shade. Installation is set to be complete by the end of July. The improvements follow several playground upgrades over the past few years.

This year, sports will get a boost on the playground, too.

A new 50-foot blacktop basketball court with a 10-foot and 8-foot goal will fill the playground's northwest corner along Oliver Street, replacing a worn-out goal now set on an uneven surface. The improvement is the result of an anonymous \$10,000 donation.

Another parent will sponsor two new soccer goals for the playground, Kelly said.

Peabody was one of four Memphis schools honored this year by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, a foundation that seeks to curb the epidemic of childhood obesity, for the school's

commitment to creating a healthier environment.

Volunteer Robert Grisham, taking a short break from shoveling out the footings for a playground bench moved to make way for the basketball court, said he hoped the parent-powered improvements at Peabody Elementary would serve as an example for other Memphis neighborhood schools, showing them what could be accomplished through the dedicated efforts of parents and neighbors.

Is your child ready for school this year?

Registration is 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 6-8 p.m., July 31. Registration for after-care is also July 31. Stay current with dates, checklists and school news at friendsofpeabody.org.

"This is just giving us an example of what happens when school, parents, everybody comes together," Grisham said. "This just shows we can bring betterment to our schools and, as a result, our neighborhood."

PAGE 06 **MEMBERSHIP'S PRIVILEGES:** Outback Steakhouse on Union and Skunx Chef's Pub on Young offer hot deals for CYCA members.

PAGE 13 **SAFETY FIRST:** Our Crime Map gives you the 411 on incidents reported to the Memphis Police Department

PAGE 15 **YOU OUGHT TO BE IN PICTURES:** Your friends, family and neighbors say cheese for the cameras.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Welcome back Kristan. You were missed.

As I sit to write my monthly letter, I can't help but hear an old '80s power ballad in my head, "Don't know what you've got....'til it's goooone."

I'd like to think that I appreciate our community director, Kristan, every day, but it's almost impossible to truly appreciate what she does on a daily basis until she leaves for a well-deserved vacation. Case in point,

checking the office voice mail Monday, Day 1 of her vacation, started with finding out "Your mailbox is full." Of course, it is.

I was pleasantly surprised to learn that most of the messages were legitimate requests from residents looking for help or guidance from the

CYCA. I feverishly scribbled down messages about lost dogs, code issues with building a storage shed, found dogs, requests for new resident welcome packets, tire disposal, another found dog, missing *LampLighters*, bike lanes, classified ads, and festival booth info (not us!).

The unread emails were more of the same, but also were full of correspondence about the upcoming 4 Miler & BeerFest.

Next time you see Kristan riding by, feel free to thank her for everything she does for Cooper-Young, because I guarantee you that it doesn't all get done during her 25-hour work week.

Not every neighborhood has a "Kristan," and I am thankful every day that she is willing to handle everything from the mundane to the occasional weird request. I called last week to ask her if there was anything in the office that I could use to tie her to a chair, and she just answered, "Sure ... maybe my laptop power cable and a couple of extension cords."

Thank you, Kristan. Your community director is IN! ~ June Hurt

IMPORTANT DATES

Aug. 6: First day of school at Peabody Elementary, 7:30 a.m.

Aug. 14: CYCA General Meeting, 7 p.m., CYCA office, 2298 Young Ave. Col. Russell Houston of the Memphis Police Department will speak.

Aug. 21: CYCA board meeting, 7 p.m., CYCA office, 2298 Young Ave

Aug. 23: Communications Committee meeting, 7 p.m., CYCA office, 2298 Young Ave.

Aug. 27: Safety Committee meeting, 7 p.m., CYCA office, 2298 Young Ave.

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LampLighter

AUGUST 2012

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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.

Pride ... in the name of lawns



Joe Calhoun of Cox Street shows his penchant for recycling by reusing old porch chairs, replanting flowers from former residences and using stones from an old hotel that was torn down.

Pride is something that Joe Calhoun of 1068 South Cox St. has in abundance. You can see it in the way that he maintains his yard, picks up trash on his street and watches out for his neighbors.

Perhaps it is the result of being raised a "military brat," as he calls himself. But there is nothing "brattish" about him. He takes pride in working in his yard every Saturday, with routine trips to the local gardening center, as well as habitually cleaning up any trash he may find on his street. He manages to do all of this while also enjoying time with his three grandchildren. Recycling also is important to him.

The monkey grass and azaleas in his yard are from his previous residence. The stones lining the flower beds, which contain begonias and impatiens, are from an old hotel that was torn down. He picked up the two chairs on his front porch off the curb but you would never know it, because Joe painted them and added matching seat cushions.

"Working in my yard is a relaxing labor of love," Calhoun said. "I want to help beautify the neighborhood."

He moved to Cooper Young five years ago from downtown because of "the affordability and walkability to shops, restaurants and the Liberty Bowl." He also says he likes how active the CY Community Associations is. Congratulate Joe on earning August Yard of the Month and for being an exemplary neighbor. — Sydney Ashby

Thank you to Midtown Nursery for sponsoring CY Yard of the Month.

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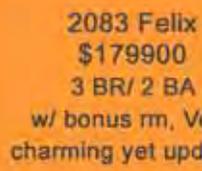


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NewsBriefs

Salon, art gallery come to Cooper

Cooper-Young is welcoming two new businesses to the neighborhood. Basil Bailey salon is open at 802 S. Cooper St. Call 606-9415 or email basilbaileysalon@yahoo.com for information.

Meanwhile, Allie Cat Arts has filled the old State Farm insurance office at 961 S. Cooper St. Next to Cafe Ole. Call 830-8047 for information or look them up on Facebook.

Get your blonde on at Playhouse



Playhouse on the Square's 43rd Season kicks off with the regional premiere of "Legally Blonde The Musical."

Sorority star Elle Woods doesn't take "no" for an answer. So when her boyfriend dumps her for someone "serious," she packs her pooch and her stilettos and heads to Harvard Law to get him back. Along the way, Elle proves that being true to yourself never goes out of style.

Filled with infectiously fun music, "Legally Blonde" is "smart, sassy, and, spectacular!" says The Daily Telegraph.

"Legally Blonde The Musical" is directed by Shorey Walker (Footloose) and features Amy Polumbo as "Elle" in her Playhouse on the Square debut. American Idol contestant Alexis Grace will make her playhouse debut.

"Legally Blonde The Musical" runs Aug. 17-Sept. 9, Thursdays-Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. The Pay-What-You-Can performance is Thursday, Aug. 23. Tickets: \$22 opening weekend, \$35 Thursdays and Sundays; \$40 Fridays and Saturdays; \$20 Seniors/Students/Military.

Playhouse on the Square is located at 66 S. Cooper St. For more information or to make reservations, please call (901) 726-4656 or purchase tickets online at playhouseonthesquare.org.

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

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 CYCA!

New Renewing (Memberships are from 1-1-2012 to 12-31-2012)
 Household – \$20 Trestle Tender – \$50 Senior 55 and older – \$5

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

DeForest, Williams artwork at Gallery Fifty Six



Gallery Fifty Six presents the work of Memphis artist Carol DeForest during the month of August. The exhibition, titled "Down To The Wire," is a collection of mixed media sculptural pieces created with wire and other found objects. Several of the pieces are based on the nests of birds.

DeForest grew up in Texas and was influenced by the Latin American culture. She graduated from Rhodes College and then traveled extensively. Later, she opened a shop that specialized in ethnic and unique home accessories. She completed her BFA in ceramics at the Memphis College of Art, and in 1988 began making ceramic dinnerware to sell to stores and museums all over the United States.

In Gallery C, the gallery presents Andrew Williams: "Growth of The Line."

Williams received his BFA in graphic design and ceramics from Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green.

He received a Master's in Fine Arts from the University of Memphis with an emphasis in ceramics this past May and will start teaching visual arts at Cordova High School in August.

His most recent body of work explores ideas and concepts focusing on the layering of lines. Since Andrew had the pleasure of experiencing many walks of life, from nature to the "concrete jungle," he has come to believe that everything is connected. This current body of work uses these connected patterns of lines to create an atmosphere to stimulate a person's perspective.

Gallery Fifty Six will have an artists' reception for Carol De Forest and Andrew Williams from 5-8 p.m. Aug.3. The event is free and open to the public. The exhibition will run until Sept. 1.

Gallery Fifty Six is located at 2256 Central Ave..Gallery hours are Wednesdays through Fridays, from noon to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



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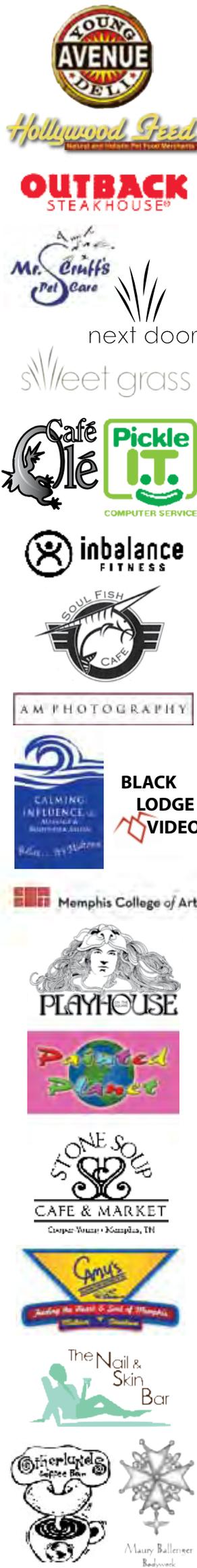
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- **Cafe Ole** - Buy one entrée get second entrée of equal or lesser value at ½ price
- **Calming Influence** - 5% off with membership card all year (excludes gift certificates)
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- **Hollywood Feed: Union Ave.** - 5% discount every time you show your CYCA membership card
- **InBalance Fitness** - 10% off group classes (excludes personal training and specialty classes)
- **June Hurt, Notary Public** - Free services to current members
- **Maury Ballenger, Massage** - 10% discount on massage services
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- **Stash- The Midtown Yarn Shop** - 15% discount with membership card, excluding sale and consignment items
- **Stone Soup Cafe** - Buy one menu item and get a second item of equal or less value 1/2 off, one time only
- **Sweet Grass & Next Door** - 10% off a single entree every time you show your card
- **The Nail & Skin Bar** - 10% discount off a Spa Pedicure every time you show your membership card
- **Young Avenue Deli** - Enjoy 30% off any one entree



CYCA News

Outback Steakhouse and Skunx Chef Pub Offer Member Discounts

BY RENEE MASSEY



(top) Kevin Luke, manager of Outback Steakhouse on Union, is a former CY resident and neighborhood supporter. // Duncan Aiken (left) and Casey Cummings, are ready to serve up their signature pizzas

If you are like me, the joy of cooking wanes during the hot summer months in Memphis. I am much less inclined to heat up the oven and kitchen on a day when I'm sweating just by existing.

And that is okay, because I'm a member of the Cooper-Young Community Association, and several of our membership sponsors offer CYCA members discounts on delicious food that someone else cooked. Two such fine establishments are Outback Steakhouse on Union Avenue, a short ride in my air-conditioned car, and Skunx Chef Pub, a short walk from my front porch.

Outback Steakhouse at 2255 Union Ave. prides itself on starting "fresh every day" to offer items "made from scratch daily using only the highest quality ingredients," according to its website. In fact, the owner of Outback Steakhouse-Midtown, Kevin Luke, is a former Cooper-Young resident himself.

When asked why his business is a CYCA membership sponsor, Kevin cited his time in the neighborhood as a driving factor. He said he and his wife love the neighborhood and only moved when they

couldn't find the right house in CY to accommodate their new twins. Even after moving, their continuing affection for our eclectic neighborhood solidified their decision to remain membership sponsors.

"It gets people in, and I get to see the people more frequently," he said.

Outback on Union offers CYCA members a free appetizer, up to \$7.29, with the purchase of an entrée. That would work out perfectly for me. My husband could eat the entrée, and I could hoard the free Bloomin' Onion all for myself. And if you have not been to the Midtown Outback location recently, Kevin noted that they just finished remodeling the restaurant in May. Stop by and check it out, order up your free appetizer, and be sure to thank the proprietor for being a CYCA membership sponsor.

Next up is the neighborhood pizzeria Skunx Chef Pub, owned and operated by Duncan Aiken, at 2158 Young Ave.

Skunx is one of our newer membership sponsors, offering CYCA members a 10 percent discount every time they visit and show their membership card. Duncan said his decision to become a membership sponsor for the CYCA was an easy one.

"It's the right thing to do. You should always have the neighborhood's support," he said, remarking that CY is his "stomping ground". He feels Cooper-Young is like a family, and he enjoys a good relationship with other neighborhood restaurants and with the locals. In fact, he says he hopes to live inside the CY boundaries eventually, waxing dreamy at the idea of being able to simply walk to work.

Duncan noted that as of July, the restaurant has applied for its beer license and hopes to have that completed by Aug. 2. Until that is finalized, patrons are welcome to bring in their own beer, wine, or liquor. Residents of the neighborhood and surrounding areas should also be on the lookout for Skunx door hangers in the near future with the Skunx menu and additional coupons. Duncan sees it as his way of giving back to the community.

If you'd like to enjoy these discounts and give back to the community, too, join Outback Steakhouse-Midtown and Skunx Chef Pub by supporting the Cooper-Young Community Association. Your membership is your ticket to the discounts at the locally owned businesses highlighted here and your contribution to the community organization whose mission is to make Cooper-Young a safer and more desirable place to live, worship, work, and play. You can join online at www.cooperyoung.org, by visiting the CYCA office at 2298 Young Ave., by telephoning our community director at 272-2922, or by filling out the membership form in this newspaper. Thank you to our membership sponsors and to our members for all your support!

Guitarist brings the blues to Night Out

BY TAMARA WALKER, COOPER-YOUNG BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



On Aug. 2, the gazebo welcomed guitarist and singer Chris Gales for this month's First Thursday Night Out in Cooper-Young.

Chris has been playing the guitar since before he could say the word guitar. He played in his hometown of Southaven for years with a group of high school friends and went professional in 1994 with a band named Southbound. A little classic rock, a little blues and some R&B mixed in and you have the smooth sound of Chris Gales.

Our newest funky eclectic art gallery and shop is now open. Allie Cat Arts is located at 961 S. Cooper St.; stop by to get a sneak peek of their unique selection of fine art, jewelry, pottery, sculpture and handmade clothing.

CYCA examines bike lane plans

BY KRISTAN HUNTLEY, CYCA DIRECTOR

Recently, the Cooper-Young Community Association received a draft of the plans by the City of Memphis for the striping of Cooper Street, which includes changes such as taking Cooper Street to one lane in each direction and the addition of a bicycle lane. These plans were shared with the community at the July General Meeting and we wanted to make sure we gave all residents an opportunity to review and provide feedback.

The city's bike coordinator, Kyle Wagenschutz, has said the restriping would be complete before the Cooper-Young Cfestival on Aug. 15.

Based upon the current version of the City of Memphis plans, here are some of the differences between Cooper Street today and the proposed Cooper Street after repaving:

- Bikes lanes will run from Southern Avenue to Central Avenue. There will be areas where bike lanes are not possible due to the width of the road (such as at the Cooper and Young intersection) but those areas will be shared road areas and have signage accordingly.
- The "No Parking" signs on the western side of Cooper Street at Nelson and Evelyn Avenues will be moved closer to the respective intersection. Currently, the signs are approximately 100 feet from the curb cut. The proposed plans show that these signs will be moved more towards the intersection and be approximately 50 feet from the curb cut.
- There will be a turn lane that runs from the Young Avenue to Central Avenue. It will have breaks at road intersections (Oliver, Nelson, Evelyn, etc)
- A taxi stand will be installed on Cooper, near the House of Mews. This will be installed by the City of Memphis and include signage. We have emailed the City of Memphis for more specifics, such as where taxis in waiting will be located, if they will double-park and so forth. When we find out more information, we will update accordingly.

Please check lamplighter.cooperyoung.org to see the plans. If you have any feedback, please leave it as a comment, email us at info@cooperyoung.org or leave a comment on our Facebook page. We appreciate any feedback you may have.

Seeking Lamplighter contributors



Want to get published? Want to make your voice heard in the community? The *LampLighter*, which distributes some 4,000 copies a month in Midtown, is looking for volunteer writers in and around Cooper-Young to write feature stories on the people, places and events in the most interesting neighborhood in Memphis.

For aspiring writers and students, it's the perfect way to build your portfolio. For more experienced writers, it's a way to use your talents to give back to the community.

If you're interested, send a line to Editor David Royer at lamplighter@cooperyoung.org. Let him know what you can do and send him a few writing samples if you have any.

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Peep poster as CY Fest turns 25

BY TAMARA WALKER, COOPER-YOUNG BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



It's was a party for the poster Aug. 2 as the Cooper-Young Festival turns 25 this year.

This year's Cooper-Young Festival poster, designed by Memphis College of Art professor Don DuMont, was unveiled with a party, Aug. 2 at Café Ole, located in the heart of the Cooper Young Historic District.

Café Ole is Cooper Young's longest-running restaurant, established in April of 1991, and is a

popular night spot as well as an anchor for the business district.

Early festival posters were designed by artists who lived in the Cooper-Young area, such as Nancy Apple, Jeane Umbriet and Larry Beghtol. Starting in the 1990s, the poster artists were picked from our annual Young Artist contest that is still held today for all school-age children in the Mid-South.

There were three posters picked from these young artists: McKenzie Cook, Kristi New and Chad Hardy.

From 1996 on, all festival poster artists have either lived or worked in Cooper Young. Some of those well-known artists are Jeanne Seagle, Deborah Brown, David Mah, Mary Postal-Long and Tommy Foster to name a few.

This year, Don has taken elements of all the previous 24 festival posters and has weaved those effects together along with a symbolism of the number 25. The creation is a tribute to all past poster artists and the Cooper-Young Festival's success over the years.

This year's Cooper-Young Festival, set for Saturday, Sept. 15, is dedicated to our beloved chairman, William Stemmler, for his unlimited support and leadership over the last 25 years. Sponsors for our 25th anniversary are Miller Lite, Lenny's Sub Shop, Memphis Grizzlies, Sam's Town Casino, Albert Cook Plumbing, Southland Park Gaming & Racing, Salvation Army Kroc Center, Bank of America, CVS, Summer Winds Resorts, Smoothie King Collierville, FM100, WRVR, ESPN, WKQK, Toof Commercial Printing, Cadence Bank, Methodist Healthcare, CA Media, Delta Ice Services and ProShow Systems.

Café Ole's famous margaritas, food and other free refreshments donated by A. S. Barboro were served. All festival posters dated 1988 through 2012 were on display to the public.



Bands jam for Painted Planet party

BY DONNA BOWERS, OWNER, PAINTED PLANET ARTSPACE

CANCER MINISTRY NEEDS SUPPORT

If you joined your neighbors and fellow art and music enthusiasts at the first annual Celebrate the Planet event July 7, you are probably still talking about it.

Even though the weather outside was steamy, the talent showcased in the back lot behind Painted Planet Artspace at 798 S. Cooper St. was well worth braving

the heat. The colorful bohemian gallery had filled its lot with fans, overhead misters and lots of icy cold drinks, including Smoothie King's tropical treats, in an attempt to keep its patrons cool.

Though the early day was a little slow when Andy Tanas, formerly with Lynyrd Skynyrd, Black Oak Arkansas and Krokus, played, followed by the top "open mic" performers, by 3 p.m. when the open jam session began, things had started to pick up.

A short rain forced the "jamming" musicians inside for a while, but before the 6 p.m. Battle of the Bands began, the rain was gone and things outside had cooled off. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and drinks were available for the hungry guests while live painters painted, belly dancers danced and fire twirlers twirled. The gallery's house band, The Bluegrass Band, played bluegrass like only they can.

The Battle began with rapper Sam Blackwell, followed by Five Sent Out, The Angry Purse Snatchers, The Mike Dees Band and finally Cowboy Bob and the Bounty Hunters. All the bands were competing for a full CD recording session in Painted Planet's new recording studio, complete with band photos, CD art work, and a CD release party, at the gallery's expense.

Cowboy Bob and the Bounty Hunters won first place, The Mike Dees Band won second place, and Five Sent Out came in third. Second- and third-place bands will each be allowed to record two songs in the studio for free.

Celebrate the Planet was designed to help Painted Planet cover its back rent and keep its free cancer ministry for women, Healing Planet - Cancer Ministry, up and going.

But financially, the event did not accomplish what we had hoped it would.

We thought we had a good enough turnout late in the day and in the evening to cover what we needed, but the cash just doesn't reflect that. We're hoping that those who came out to support us will come into the gallery this month and do the same with their patronage.

We love Cooper-Young and feel we serve a worthwhile purpose here. We are so grateful to those of you who have supported us these last 10 years, and appreciate those who came out Saturday in the heat to enjoy art and music with us and show your support in our time of need. Regardless of what happens over the next few months with Painted Planet, we love you guys so much, and our heart will always be here in this neighborhood we love so much!



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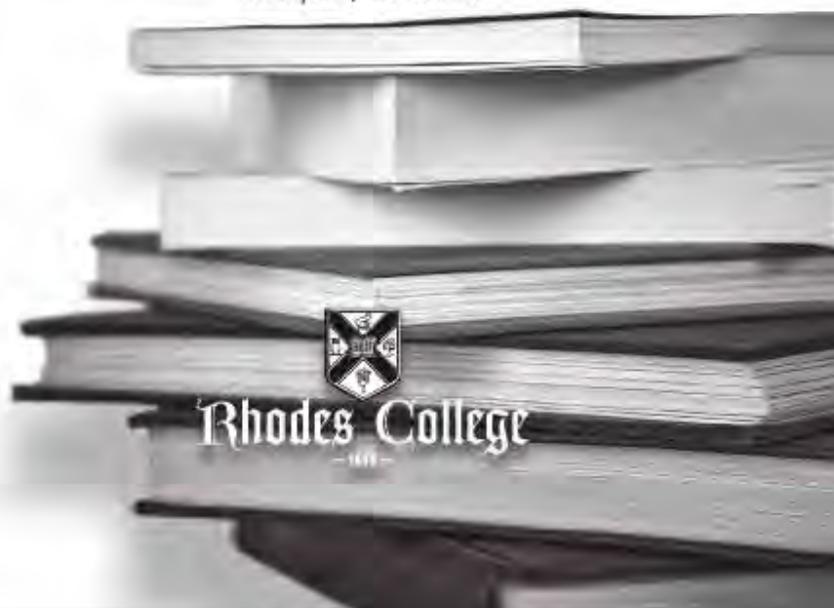
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Education

As Summer Ends

BY D. JACKSON MAXWELL

Summer is coming to a close and before we know it pools will be closing, coats and long pants will become the norm, and raking leaves will evolve into a part of the weekend routine. However, if we act quickly there is still time for the last hurrah of summer.

I would like to suggest some free or nearly free exciting activities that we can do with our families before the weather turns cooler and the days grow shorter.

First, I would suggest getting wet. Turn on the hose or sprinklers and let the kids play. As a family, what about having some fun involving everyone in a car wash that ends in a drenching for young and old alike? Get together with some neighbors or friends and challenge them to a tug of war with a kiddie pool in the middle to ensure the losers get wet. Slip 'N Slides can still be had at the local megastore or online for less than \$20. These provide hours of good clean fun and laughs for both children and adults. Also, if there are still non-swimmers in your family, it is not too late to sign up lessons at your local YMCA.

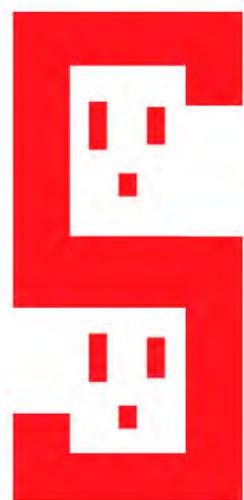
Playing outdoor games with kids provides an opportunity for both exercise and learning. Hide and seek is a perennial favorite where parents can participate by encouraging the children to hide while the adults seek. Engaging in biking, triking, skateboarding and other wheeled experiences around your neighborhood or on the ever-expanding Greenline can serve as a jumping-off point for discussing different types of flora and fauna. I remember another fun activity of playing driveway basketball with my dad in the evening, and it was not uncommon for neighbors to drop by to shoot a few. My mom would encourage us to play croquet, bocce ball, catch and similar activities to get everyone moving while improving our hand-eye coordination, motor skills and dexterity. These are activities I now do with my own kids and you can do with yours.

Local parks offer paths for walking and hiking that encourage communication among family members. In many, there is room for Frisbee or flying kites. Some parks permit animals so that the family pet can join in. There are lakes for fishing, opportunities for picking fruit/vegetables, and chances to view animals. Sprinkler parks for the little ones such as at Peabody Park and attractions like the Big Back Yard at the Botanic Garden keep everybody happy. Plus, the Mississippi River walking trails and Mud Island present unique insights into Memphis history.

Summer is also a time for special foods and meals. Set up a lemonade stand and use this learning opportunity to convey to your children the concept of entrepreneurship. Watermelons and popsicles are cool summer snacks. Making homemade ice cream and snow cones using the old-fashioned hand crank machines (also available online) are enjoyable family cooperative experiences. Picnics are a great way to spend time with the family. We can set an example by letting the children help make sandwiches, wash fruit, clean vegetables and pack the picnic basket. In this way, parents can teach our kids what constitutes a healthy meal.

So, even though summer is winding down it is not quite at an end. I urge you to take advantage of the last of the warmer weather and longer days to reaffirm family ties and build a few memories. Perhaps beyond the neighborhood events, your family might consider camping, a road trip, or even a weekend visit to a nearby state or national park. Whatever you decide, remember that the more unique experiences you can provide your children and the more time you spend talking to them, the more likely it will be that they will perform well in school, go on to college, and avoid many of the pitfalls that befall children of uninvolved parents.

Dr. D. Jackson Maxwell is a National Board Certified Teacher and freelance writer. If you have any questions or comments, please contact him at: djacksonmaxwell@gmail.com.



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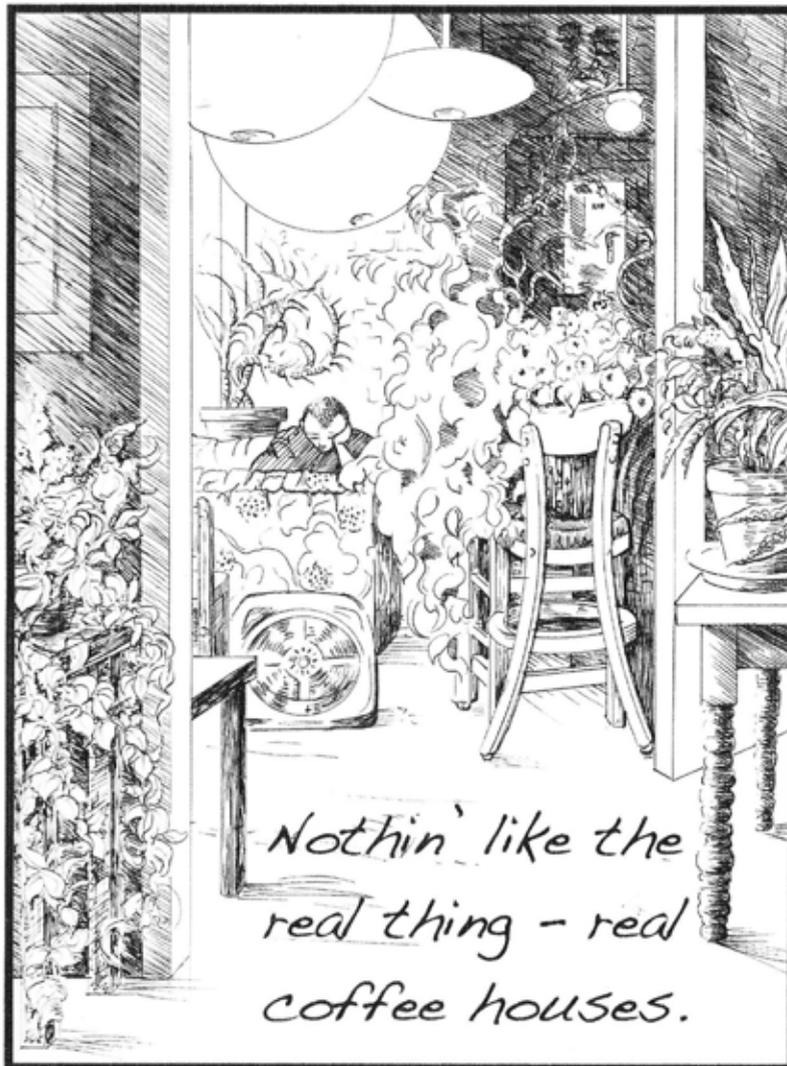
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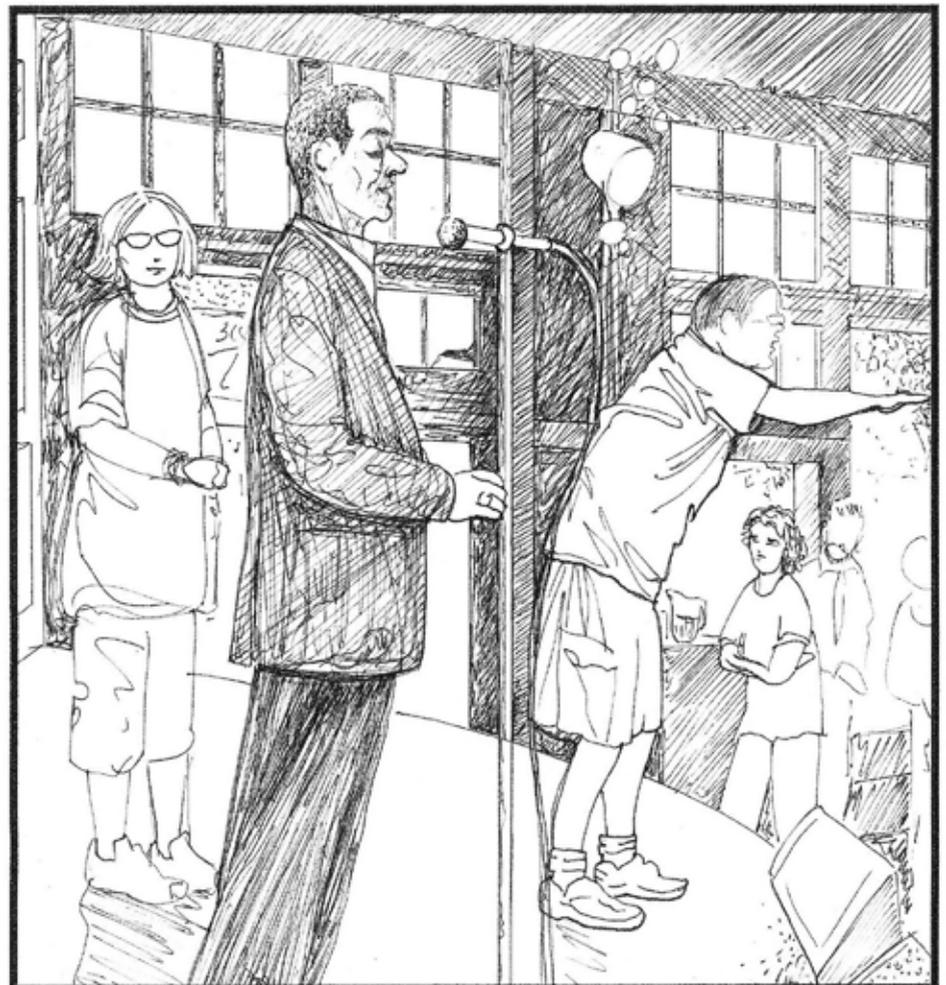
Art Auction at Young Avenue Deli



Java Cabana



Otherlands



Art Auction at Young Avenue Deli

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 June 24 to July 23.

24 Cases	Offenses	Date	Address
1207012061ME	Burglary	7/21	1000 TANGLEWOOD
1207010495ME	Narcotics	7/18	1800 MANILA
1207009198ME	Burglary	7/16	1000 S COX
1207008504ME	Vandalism	7/15	1900 NELSON
1207007208ME	Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	7/13	1000 PHILADELPHIA
1207007486ME	Vandalism	7/13	2000 SOUTHERN AVE
1207007067ME	Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	7/12	1000 BLYTH
1207005521ME	Assault	7/10	2000 YOUNG
1207004502ME	Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	7/9	1000 TANGLEWOOD ST
1207004546ME	Theft Other	7/9	900 S COOPER
1207004590ME	Theft Other	7/9	2100 CENTRAL
1207004358ME	Burglary	7/8	800 S COX
1207002369ME	Burglary	7/5	1900 SOUTHERN
1207002090ME	Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	7/4	900 PHILADELPHIA
1207000643ME	Theft Other	7/2	900 S COPPER
1207000767ME	Vandalism	7/2	2000 SOUTHERN
1207000527ME	Vandalism	7/2	1900 NELSON
1206018961ME	Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	6/30	2000 SOUTHERN
1206017327ME	Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	6/28	1000 PHILADELPHIA
1206017164ME	Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	6/27	800 S COX
1206016938ME	Theft Other	6/27	2000 CENTRAL AVE
1206016746ME	Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	6/27	900 MEDA
1206016942ME	Auto Theft/Parts/Acc.	6/27	2000 YOUNG
1206015266ME	Theft Other	6/25	2000 YOUNG AVE



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.

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Buzzed driving is drunk driving.






❶ Burke's Books recently hosted a signing for the book "Circling Faith: Southern Women on Spirituality." Burke's co-owner Corey Mesler called the event a great roaring, inspiring success; an overflow crowd and inspiring readings. Pictured here are (left to right) Wendy Reed, one of the book's editors; Susan Cushman, Beth Ann Fennelly and Marilou Awiakta. Photo by Corey Mesler

❷ Jason Elder, former *LampLighter* editor Barb and Violet Elder of Felix Aveune welcomed the arrival of Miles Bradley on April 30.

❸ Corey Mesler (left) and Jeff Crook at the July 9 signing for his book, "The Sleeping and the Dead." Photo by Corey Mesler

❹ Nelson Avenue neighbors had an impromptu porch party at Josh and Ginger Spickler's house in July. Photo by Ginger Spickler

❺ Andy, Sam and Sydney Ashby enjoy a day outside. Photo by Tiffany Cadenhead



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