

**INSIDE:**

Two decades of Underground Art: Young Avenue tattoo shop celebrates. // **Inside**

# LampLighter

Cooper-Young — Many Voices, One Community

## NewsBriefs

### Volunteers needed for cleanup

Neighbors, it's time for Cooper-Young's quarterly cleanup. Clean-up date is 8 a.m. March 2 at the gazebo at the corner of Cooper and Young. We need your help to keep our neighborhood beautiful. Thank you for a job well done.

### Hankins showing work at Gallery 56



Gallery Fifty Six welcomes Jan Hankins to the gallery for an exhibition March 1-30. Hankins has worked as a sign maker and muralist in the Memphis area since the 1960s, with his handiwork displayed on the signs and sides of establishments such as Otherlands, Midtown Yoga, Evergreen Yoga and the Memphis Drum Shop, according to a recent profile in the Commercial Appeal.

The exhibition will begin with an opening reception 5-8 p.m. March 1 at the gallery, 2256 Central Ave. Call 276-1251 for more information.

### CMOM saying happy birthday to Dr. Seuss



The Children's Museum of Memphis, 2525 Central Ave., will honor a famous birthday March 2: Dr. Seuss.

From 11 a.m.-1 p.m., the museum will celebrate the wild, wacky, and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## Lighting the way

### Donors line up behind solar panel conversion project



Daurie Schwartz with Schwartz Electric checks the wiring on the Cooper Street trestle art after LED bulbs were installed on Cooper-Young's signature sculpture. The neighborhood is raising funds for the second phase of a project that will install solar panels to generate electricity for the display. Photo by Daniel Scruggs/scruggscreative.com.

BY DAVID ROYER

Cooper-Young is lighting the way to a greener future as donors and residents organize behind an effort to convert the neighborhood's signature Cooper Street trestle sculpture to run on solar-powered LED lights.

With an estimated \$10,000 price tag, it may be the neighborhood's biggest community project since artist Jill Turman's massive bridge-mounted architecture was installed in 2000, but supporters say the dividends in decreased utility bills and a reduced carbon footprint are worth the investment.

Proceeds from the Cooper-Young Community Association's annual April art auction are earmarked for the project this year, and already four local businesses — inbalance Fitness, Midtown Massage & Bodyworks, Midtown Market and Cooper-Young Business Association — have stepped up with donations of \$1,000 each.

"We just want to be a source of good," said Scott

Lebowitz, owner of inbalance Fitness, explaining his decision to support the project. The gym also supports Project Green Fork, an effort to make restaurants more environmentally sustainable, and has made energy-efficiency improvements to its own building, he said.

"We're right there at the railroad trestle so anything that improves the community, we want to be a part

of, and of course the sustainability part of the project was really exciting," Lebowitz said.

Larrie Ann Rodriguez, who moved Midtown Massage & Bodyworks

to Cooper Street just last year, said she was excited to support a project that would have a visible impact on her surroundings.

"I'm just really dedicated to our neighborhood in general," Rodriguez said. "I live in the neighborhood, I work in the neighborhood and I fully believe in going green."

Even Kevin Park, who is still restocking shelves after

*"We're right there at the railroad trestle so anything that improves the community, we want to be a part of, and of course the sustainability part of the project was really exciting."*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

**MAKING AUCTION ACTION**

June Hurt hopes to make this year's Art for Art's Sake Auction the biggest and best ever. **PAGE 6**

**CENTRAL AVE. SHOWCASE**

Artist Cedar Nordbye has turned a vacant building where Casablanca Restaurant is moving into a canvas. **PAGE 9**

**THANK YOU DONORS!**

Hundreds of you have contributed to the CYCA. **PAGE 12**

**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

After looking back through my letters to the community through the past year or so, I realized that these monthly letters are a somewhat chronicle of my life in the neighborhood. I have been so fortunate to be able to share all the wonderful things happening in CY with my neighbors, as well as the funny and sometimes tragic.

After a number of awkward encounters, my husband, Justin, and I have decided to share that we are parting ways, but intend to remain good friends. By parting ways, I mean he's moving two blocks down the street, and I will maintain my wonderful relationship with Tyler, the most awesome stepson on the planet. Perhaps he tired of my jokingly referring to him as "the First Lady of Cooper-Young," or perhaps I tired of hearing endless stories of kayaking and



that big fish that got away. Either way, we will always share the love for this community and we will continue to work together — just maybe not quite as close and without incessant bickering about leaving clothes in the floor or who killed the lavender bushes.

I feel optimistic about the rest of the year and have a lofty list of goals to focus on, including: having the most successful art auction ever and getting those solar panels installed on the trestle, touching my toes for the first time ever, and finding someone to teach me how to work my TV (with the three remotes) when

my dog sits on one of the remotes and changes the channel two minutes before the end of a show. Seriously, the remote thing is ridiculous, but I do hope to see you all at the art auction on April 13! ~ June Hurt

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**March 12:**

CYCA general meeting to discuss neighborhood safety. Open to the public. 6 p.m. at CYCA offices, 2298 Young Ave.

**March 19:**

CYCA board meeting, 6 p.m. at CYCA offices, 2298 Young Ave.

**March 28:**

Preview party for Art for Art's Sake Auction, 5-7 p.m. at Otherlands. Open to the public. Come meet artists and get a look at what will be offered at the auction April 13.



**Interested in advertising in the LampLighter?**

The LampLighter serves the Cooper-Young area, an eclectic neighborhood and historic district in Midtown known for its mix of shops, bars, restaurants, and strong sense of community. 4,000 issues are hand-delivered to every home in the Cooper-Young neighborhood as well as many Midtown businesses. CY residents pride themselves on supporting local business. Don't miss this opportunity to reach this highly-desirable and diverse demographic. Call Susan today at 901-652-7092 or email her at ads@cooperyoung.org

**Unfinished Business**

We left out a couple of businesses in our February business issue of the LampLighter and we didn't want you to forget about them:

**Midtown Massage & Bodywork** is one of the neighborhood's newest businesses. Owner Larrie Ann Rodriguez moved into 885 S. Cooper St. last year, offering massage, yoga and therapy sessions. Find them online at [www.midtown-massage.com](http://www.midtown-massage.com) or call 596-3838.

**Michael Taylor Interiors**, 1972 Elzey Ave., was left out of the Insider's Guide listing. Reach them at 272-0264 or [www.MichaelTaylorInteriors.com](http://www.MichaelTaylorInteriors.com).

**STAY LINKED WITH THE LAMPLIGHTER**

Keep current on Cooper-Young events, news and neighborhood notices.

**It's your neighbors, online, all the time.**

*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 NEXT LAMPLIGHTER**

- ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS:** March 15
  - ADVERTISING COPY:** March 20
  - DISTRIBUTION BEGINNING:** March 29
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**CYCA COMMITTEE HEADS**

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## NewsBriefs

whimsical world of Dr. Seuss, an author who epitomizes the love of children and learning. Children can read the classic stories, make Thing 1 and Thing 2 pencils, fish for red fish and blue fish, and design buttons of Dr. Seuss characters. Families can test their Seussical knowledge as they participate in the Who's Who of Dr. Seuss game for prizes and everyone can take away a book during the book giveaway. The Cat in the Hat will make an appearance at noon. Activities are included with museum admission.

For more activities at the Children's Museum of Memphis, visit [www.cmom.com](http://www.cmom.com).

## Debbie does Circuit Playhouse stage



The regional premiere of *Debbie Does Dallas* will hit the Circuit Playhouse stage March 1-March 24, directed and choreographed by Courtney Oliver and starring Cassie Thompson (*Legally Blonde*) in the title role.

While the play promises some bawdy sexual humor, there is no nudity. In it, all-American small-town sweetheart Debbie Benton has one dream: to become a Texas Cowgirls cheerleader. When she gets her big break, the only thing standing between her and success is the bus fare to Dallas.

She and her friends get after-school jobs but when their jobs just don't cut it, Debbie's boss has an idea of how good girls can earn lots of money performing "little favors." The girls get down to it with enthusiasm and through sex, sweat, and tears they raise enough money for Debbie to achieve her dream.

*The New York Daily News* called it, "Racy and raucous, a lighthearted, fast-paced thoroughly engaging and hilarious send-up."

*Debbie Does Dallas* runs March 1- 24 at The Circuit Playhouse at 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays. The pay-what-you-can performance is 8 p.m. March 7. The Circuit Playhouse is located at 51 S. Cooper St. For more information or to make reservations, please call 726-4656 or purchase tickets online at [playhouseonthesquare.org](http://playhouseonthesquare.org).

## Kong Wee Pang exhibit at MCA

Memphis College of Art announces its newest Alumni Exhibition, Mutations, by Kong Wee Pang. The exhibition will run through March 24 in the Alumni Gallery in Rust Hall, Overton Park.

Kong Wee Pang moved to the United States in 2001 from Malaysia and Singapore. She received her BFA at Memphis College of Art in 2004 and is now art director at Archer>Malmo. Her curious, whimsical personality finds expression through media like watercolor, charcoal, ink, acrylic, wood stick, silkscreen and digital.

"In this body of work, I combined the figure with abstraction into a hybrid I called the 'figurative abstract,'" explained the artist in a statement. "The early figurative abstract drawings convey the interaction of my past and present life experiences in duality."

Rust Hall's Alumni Gallery is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday.



## Visit Church Health Center Wellness

The Church Health Center Wellness Open House is set for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 23 at 1115 Union Ave. Visit Church Health Center Wellness for tours, activities, demonstrations and more.

This is free and open to the public. For more information, call (901) 259-4673 or visit [www.ChurchHealthCenter.org](http://www.ChurchHealthCenter.org).

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### LIGHTING THE WAY (CONTINUED)

taking over ownership at Midtown Market, said he chose to get involved with the project to pay back the goodwill he's received from Cooper-Young's residents and community association.

"We see this community association as taking leadership in building a better community ... so we want to be part of everything this community association is involved in," Park said.

Cooper-Young resident Daniel Atlas initiated the project recently after noticing how quickly the trestle art's utility meter was spinning, indicating its energy use. He hatched a plan and contacted the Cooper-Young Community Association, which currently pays between \$55 and \$70 a month in utility costs to light the bridge.

"I saw that power meter and I just started thinking," Atlas said. "That meter was just whizzing by."

The first phase of the project is already in place: About 40 incandescent light bulbs were replaced with LED bulbs in early February, reducing energy usage by more than 750 percent, according to Daurie Schwartz, owner of Schwartz Electric on Cox Street, who is handling the installation.

The new bulbs also will burn for years rather than months, saving money in maintenance costs. But that's only the beginning.

The next phase of the project would install a solar array on the bridge that could cut utility costs even further — in fact, CYCA leaders hope the solar panels will produce so much electricity that MLGW might actually end up paying the community association each month.

Though solar arrays are uncommon in the Mid-South, which gets less intense sunlight than areas out West, Schwartz said he thinks the plan for the trestle art is feasible, with environmental benefits in the short term and a return on investment for the community association in the long term.

"You're spending some money up front, but the bottom line is, you're saving energy, you're reducing your carbon footprint," Schwartz said.

Finishing the project will require up to \$8,000 more, said CYCA board president June Hurt, and Cooper-Young residents and businesses can help by purchasing artwork at the Art for Art's Sake Auction, set for April 13 at Young Avenue Deli. Ben Smith, chef at Green Fork-certified neighborhood restaurant Tsunami, has donated a private dinner for two as a door prize for auction attendees.

Hurt also is looking for more businesses willing to make \$1,000 donations directly to the CYCA for the project.

Tamara Cook, director of the Cooper-Young Business Association, said she remembers what an impact the trestle art made on the community after it was installed. When she heard about the CYCA's plans to improve on a great idea, she knew her organization had to step up to help.

"It's just kind of a gesture to lead," Cook said. "We're proud of the community association because they are pioneers when it comes to doing things like this. The trestle art, when they put that on that old ugly train trestle, that was huge news. Actually, I don't know what we'd do without the community association."

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## Chili Cookoff raises \$3,500 for Peabody

The Peabody Elementary Chili Cookoff turned up the fundraising heat Feb. 9, pulling in \$3,500 for the school this year, with \$2,300 of that total from the chili cookoff and \$1,200 from the silent auction.

That beats last year's take of \$1,500 from the cookoff.

Here were the winners:

**Classroom Competition:**

1st Grade Rocks, Ms. Katz's class

**Best Veggie Chili:**

Pre-K Chili Stop,  
Ms. Gunn's Class

**Best Hot Chili:**

Chilisburg Address,  
Ms. Malland's Class

**People's Choice:**

Textbook Chili

**Judge's Choice:** Jason Whitworth



## Nancy Apple's Song Slinger Showdown comes to First Congo

Nancy Apple, long time denizen of the Memphis music scene, has brought her nearly world famous Song Slinger Showdown to the Theatre South theater space at First Congo Church.

Scheduled usually for the first Sunday of each month, March marks the third performance in the revamped series, which started at Kudzu's in 2005. The original Showdown ran once a month for almost four years. DVDs from the old days have aired on WYPL and RFD-TV, "rural America's most important network."

The March 3 concert features local favorite Delta Joe Sanders and Sandy Carroll, a former local whose songs have been covered by Jim Dickinson and the late great Luther Allison. The musicians perform in-the-round, song swap style, with Nancy holding down the middle.

April 7 is booked as an all-girls show, featuring Susan Herndon of Okemah, Okla., birthplace of Woody Guthrie, and Voices of the South's own Virginia Allis Ralph.

Not to be outdone, the boys throw it down at the May 12 outlaws show, with Billy Don Burns, whose posse includes none other than Willie and Waylon themselves, and Memphis maverick R.T. Scott.

"I'm so excited to have such an intimate venue to present these national treasures to Memphis music lovers," Apple said. "Everyone has been so respectful, which is great for audience and musician alike."

All shows are family friendly and non-smoking, although Voices does have beer and wine available. Doors at 6 p.m., show at 6:30, with a suggested donation of \$10. If you love music but hate bars, you owe it to yourself to check out this uniquely Memphis event!

Sponsors include Stone Soup Café, Young Avenue Deli, Voices of the South, K Haze Reclaimed Art, Shure Microphones, TSS and Amro music.

- Aaron James



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## CYCA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS 2013

- **AM Photography** - \$25 off headshot session (one time) & a free 11x14 fine art print for any other session booked (one time)
- **Art for Art's Sake Auction** - \$5 discount on ticket purchase
- **Black Lodge Video** - One free video rental per month
- **Burke's Books** - 10% discount with any purchase all year (excludes text books, previously discounted or sale items)
- **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)
- **Camy's Food Delivery** - Get a free dessert with any specialty pizza purchase
- **Cooper-Young Regional Beerfest** - \$5 discount on tickets
- **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
- **Memphis College of Art** - 10% discount on Summer Art Camp and Saturday School tuition
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CYCA News

# Support arts and artists from Cooper-Young

## Hurt's efforts make Art for Art's Sake auction magic happen this year

BY RENEE MASSEY

What makes Cooper-Young so special? There are many potential answers to this question, but if you asked around you'd hear the word "art" pretty frequently. Cooper-Young loves art, artists and art lovers, and every year we celebrate and support our signature piece of public art at the Art for Art's Sake Auction.

The Cooper Street trestle art was funded by the very first Art for Art's Sake Auction. After the project was dedicated in 2000, the subsequent auctions were continued every year to pay for the utilities, insurance, and maintenance of the trestle art as well as to fund other community art projects and beautification efforts. This year's auction aims to do all that along with something bigger: the "greening" of the trestle.

Your community association would like to raise enough money to retrofit the trestle with solar panels and LED bulbs, as imagined by resident Daniel Atlas, to make the trestle art as environmentally friendly as possible. Your support of this project is critical, so come to the auction and improve the hipness of your personal environs by bidding on local art while enjoying the company of your neighbors and fellow art lovers. To sweeten the deal, members of the Cooper-Young Community Association get a \$5 discount on auction tickets.

For those of you who aren't familiar with the Art for Art's Sake Auction, we interviewed June Hurt, Art Auction Committee chairperson and CYCA president. As a bit of background, June bought her Cooper-Young home in 2000 and started volunteering at CYCA events soon thereafter because of what she has called "the infectious community enthusiasm of my neighbors Beverly and Edward Greene." In fact, it was Edward who submitted her name to the CYCA as a potential board member in 2008, and she began her tenure in January 2009. She built rewarding working relationships with other neighborhood associations while researching sinkhole and flooding issues and later took over as CYCA vice president and membership chairperson.

While June's initial interest was in joining the Communications Committee chaired by then-director Emily Bishop and ultimately taking the helm when Emily signaled she was preparing for a break, her long-range plans changed when CYCA President John Kinsey relocated out of state leaving June to complete the term as president.

June describes herself as "a hands-on president." She responds to an impressive number of emails about CYCA issues on a daily basis and spends a lot of time networking with other community and city leaders on a variety of issues that affect our neighborhood. She also describes herself as "an ambassador and promoter of all things Cooper-Young."

In addition to her responsibilities as president, she is a membership sponsor who provides free notary services to CYCA members, and she chairs the committee that plans and presents the Art Auction — and she does all of this on a volunteer basis.

June is passionate about the project to retrofit the trestle with solar panels, so she is particularly excited to organize and present this year's auction. Her plans for the auction include a "shift [of] focus back to honoring our eclectic and talented artist community." But June doesn't do this alone. In fact, it is her first year chairing the committee, and she is relying on other experienced volunteers to remind her of everything that must be done.

## CYCANews

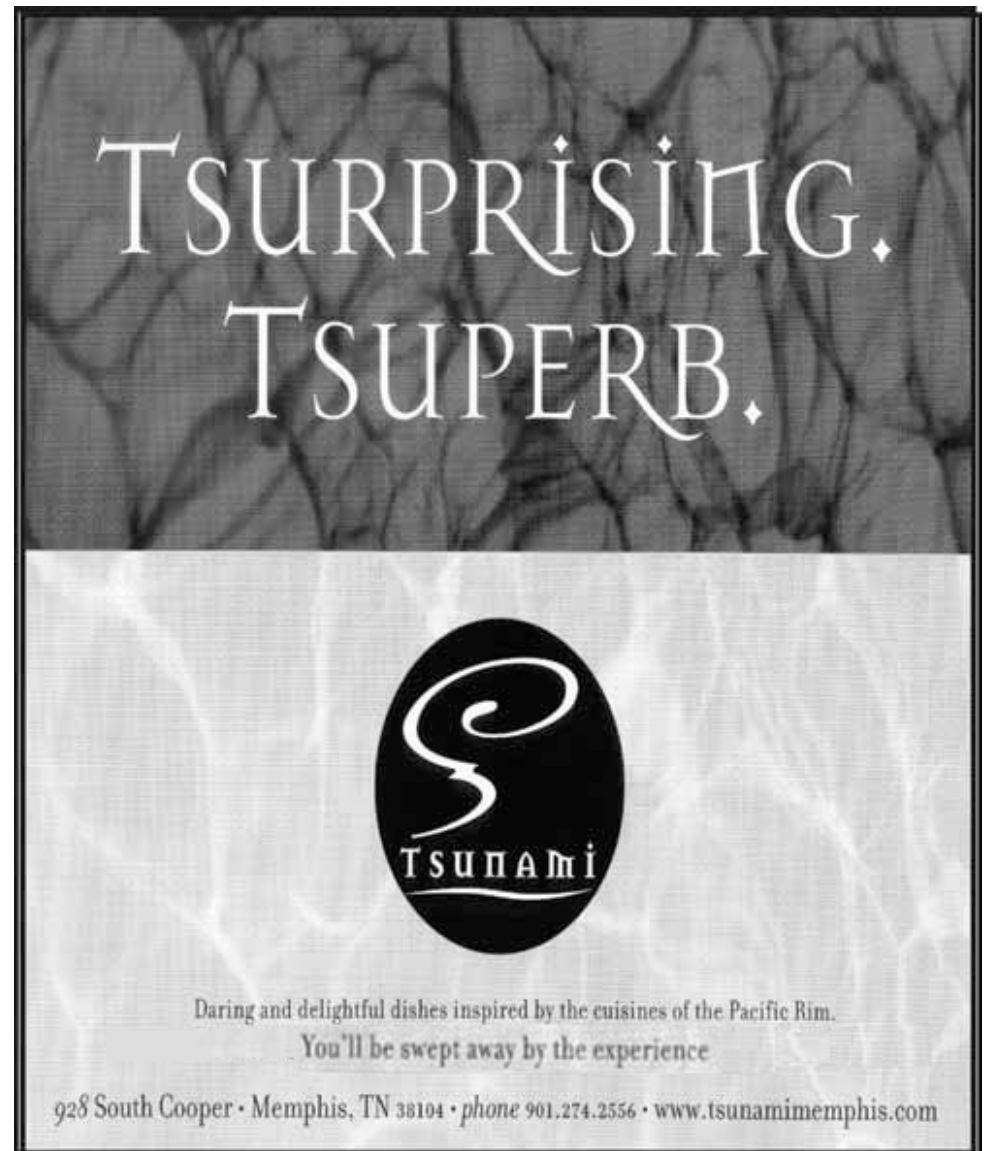
### ARTS AND ARTISTS (CONTINUED)

In addition to all the volunteer work done in advance, many volunteers are needed on the day of the auction to make the event happen. For those interested, volunteer signup will happen a few weeks before the auction.

"We will need volunteers to do things like working the registration table, setting up the silent auction tables and refreshments, monitoring tables during the event, cleaning up after the event, and whatever I've forgotten offhand," June said. "You can call the office at 272-2922 or email [info@cooperyoung.org](mailto:info@cooperyoung.org) to let us know that you are interested in volunteering. You should get involved with volunteering at the auction if you want to support public art in Cooper-Young and don't have as much money to donate. Otherwise, buy a ticket and come buy some awesome stuff at the auction, because we need the money to make these wonderful public art projects come to life!"

The Art for Art's Sake Auction will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 13th at Young Avenue Deli. The Artists' Reception will be held on Thursday, March 28th at Otherlands from 3pm to 5pm.

Join Young Avenue Deli and Otherlands — both of which are also business sponsors of CYCA membership benefits — in their support of the art auction and the initiative to "green" the trestle. You'll be reminded of not just one but of many things that makes Cooper-Young so unique: great neighbors, art appreciation, locally owned businesses, environmental awareness, a sense of community. And if you are not a CYCA member, join today by visiting us at [www.cooperyoung.org](http://www.cooperyoung.org), calling our community director at 272-2922, stopping by our offices at 2298 Young Ave., or mailing in the form from this paper. You'll get a \$5 discount for your auction tickets as well as many other great discounts all year, and you'll see why we say, "Life is good — and green! — in Cooper-Young!"



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CYBANews

## MGLCC joins citywide effort to fight HIV

BY DAVID ROYER

The fight against HIV and STDs is a serious battle in Memphis, and the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center in Cooper-Young has volunteered to serve.

In February, the center joined more than 30 Memphis community centers, churches, businesses and other gathering places that will serve as distribution centers for a new effort called Free Condoms Memphis. Condoms will be available at the sites for free, no questions asked. The effort is supported by grants from public health organizations and manufacturers, said Elokun Capece, director of education with Planned Parenthood.

"It removes the stigma even more," said Tameka Daniel, program manager of the South Memphis Alliance on Bellevue, another distribution point. "You don't even have to come in and ask."

Mario Taylor said he chose to distribute condoms at his South Memphis barber shop, First Impressions Remix at Elvis Presley and Kerr, because it was a place where people gathered and felt like family anyway. He also wanted to aid people who couldn't afford condoms - perhaps because of addiction to drugs - in curbing the risky behavior that can lead to the spread of disease.

As of 2010, 6,633 people in Shelby County were living with HIV or AIDS, according to the Shelby County Health Department. The number of new cases declined by 38 percent in the preceding decade, but remained above the state's rate of new cases.

More information is available at [www.freecondomsmemphis.org](http://www.freecondomsmemphis.org).

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# Central Avenue wall a blank canvas for massive mural

BY CATHERINE PATTON  
MICROMEMPHIS REPORTER

There is a new addition to Cooper-Young's street art scene. University of Memphis professor of art and first-year art coordinator Cedar Lorca Nordbye has taken the street-facing side of a vacant building on Central Avenue and let his creative juices flow.

The end result: a massive mural.

Nordbye's mural contains traces of Middle Eastern imagery from Arabesque design motifs to Islamic mosques and dwellings. Also, scattered throughout the painting are images of cinder blocks and other images that resemble 2x4s.

Connecting all of this may seem a bit abstract at first glance. He says that much of the imagery in the mural was a result of his acting before understanding in order to "discover things and act in a poetic manner." Nevertheless, his vision behind the mural ties it all together.

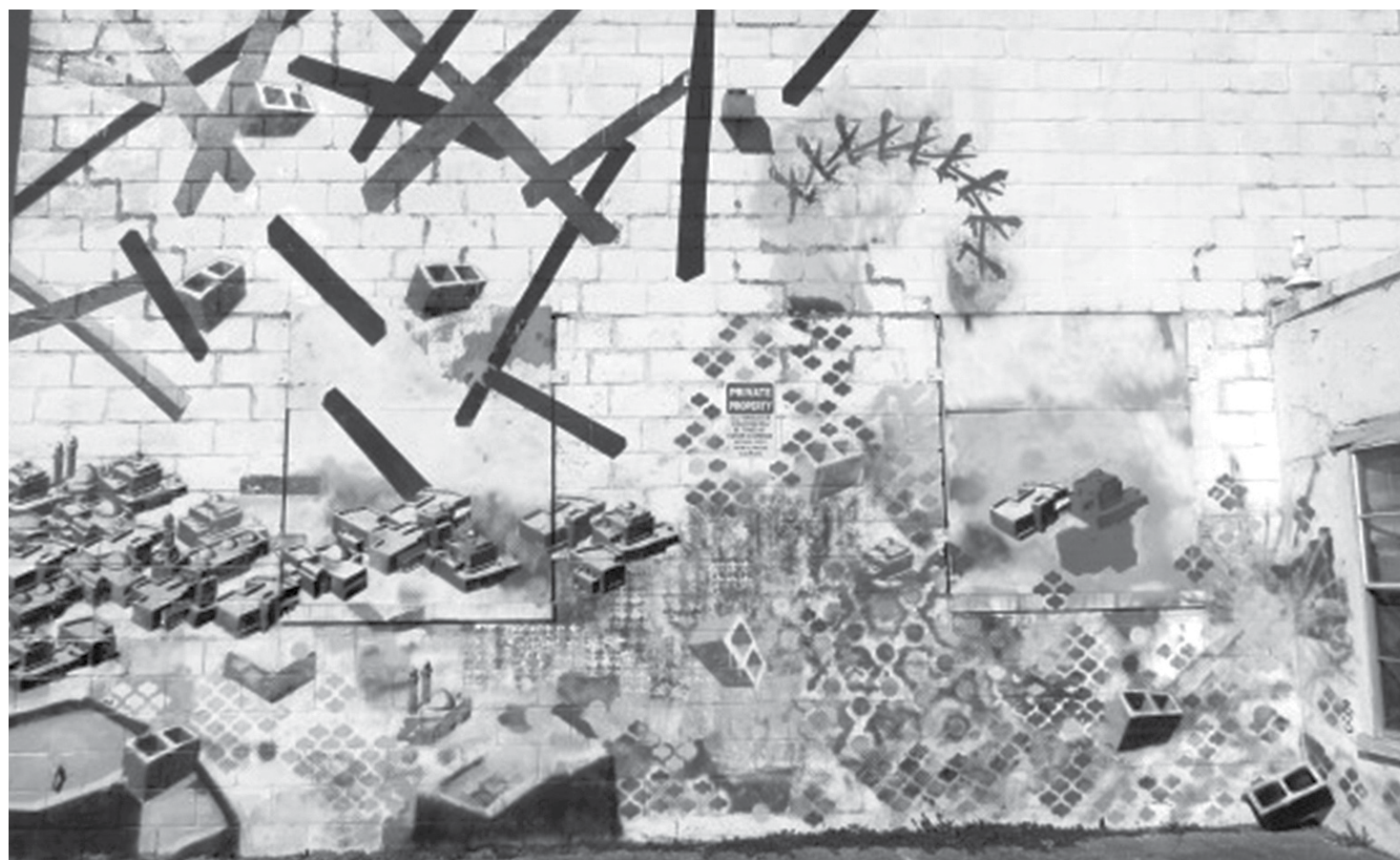
Nordbye's purpose for this mural is his response to the way Americans view culture in other countries. Nordbye says, "what I'm really interested in is how we, as Americans, sort of project our fantasy of what other people are like." The artist mentioned misleading images of the Middle East from those of Disney's Aladdin to video games that are set in Iraq.

He felt the need to address those images and how they have molded Americans' views of the Middle East. He included imagery that would be identified as Middle Eastern in order to prove his point.

"The Middle East as it really is, is nothing like that painting," the artist explained, "but most people's impression of the Middle East is sort of shaped by that fantasy."

Nordbye's choice of painting a mural instead of creating a painting on a smaller scale was in an effort to do two things: reclaim the neighborhood and make a statement.

The Cooper-Young area is known for being a treasure trove of visual



art. With numerous murals and art galleries in the neighborhood, Nordbye's addition seems to be right at home. He had noticed, however, that consumerism is slowly taking over public space.

"There are billboards all over and signs for McDonalds—all these things are in our public space and I think that sort of dehumanizes our space, and art is very humanizing," Nordbye says, "so by putting art in public spaces it can kind of be an antidote or counteract some of that dehumanizing that commercial [ads] do."

Nordbye also appreciates the "larger-than-life" and "dramatic" aspect of a mural in getting his point across to spectators. He says, "you know, there's the aspect of that with the mural that I have to be honest about like I...I like showmanship, I like standing up on a soapbox and shouting out." With his expansive artwork adorning the abandoned building's spacious wall, Nordbye does just that.

The mural is an indirect part of the Third Annual Winter Invitational, an art show taking place next door at Gallery Fifty Six. More of Nordbye's work is featured in

the exhibit. Along with a few other works from other artists, his piece entitled "Trying Too Hard" is one of the first works in the show that viewers are able to see.

Rollin Kocsis, the owner of the gallery was very accepting of Nordbye's idea to paint the mural next door. "I thought it would be fun and interesting and something different we had never done before,"

says Kocsis.

Nordbye's mural will only be up for a limited time due to upcoming construction for the newest location of Casablanca Restaurant.

*MicroMemphis is an online news hub covering Cooper-Young and the University District, sponsored by the University of Memphis department of journalism. Find out more at micromemphis.com.*

# Underground Art marks 20 years in Cooper-Young

BY CARRIE SANDERS  
MICROMEMPHIS REPORTER

In a day when people have to tighten their purse strings, it is a major feat to celebrate 20 years in business. Celebrate they did at the Underground Art 20th Anniversary Party at the Hi-Tone at on Feb. 2 — one of the last events at the Hi-Tone before its closing Feb. 23.

Underground Art's party featured local bands such as The Gloryholes, DJ Heat, Capgun, New Science System, Sin City Scoundrels, Sidewayz, SVU and a comedy performance by Mo Alexander. Activities included an art auction from local artists and from employees, as well as a book swap.

Those daring enough to participate in making art of their own could do so on easels set up for Art in Action.

People who wanted the ink without the needle could get a henna tattoo applied. Henna tattoos typically last one to three weeks before they fade from the skin.

Dave Evans, one of the Underground artists, said that they just wanted to throw the party to say, "Thank you, to their customers that wanted something different in a tattoo."

Evans says that Underground's tattoos are art-based and are "Building blocks of a life ... drama on skin."

Evans attributes the longevity of the business in part to being in a community like Cooper-Young where, "everybody knows everybody."

At the shop's inception, the neighborhood was at the beginnings of its urban renewal. Vanessa Waites, a tattoo artist at Underground, says that when the shop first moved into Cooper-Young, that it "helped to stabilize, the area and encouraged people to move in to the neighborhood, becoming a cornerstone of Cooper-Young.

Angela Russell, the owner of Underground Art, whose shop is located in a colorfully painted house at 2278 Young Ave., agrees that the neighborhood has changed and grown over the last 20 years.

"It's gentrified in a way it wasn't 20 years ago. There's valet parking for God's sake.

Russell also says that just like the neighborhood, her shop has grown.

"In 1993, the tattooing renaissance was just starting and it has just grown ever since. We've grown up with the business. We've grown up together."

Growth did indeed occur and as of last year Cooper-Young was named to the American Planning Association's top 10 best neighborhoods in America and Underground Art has been voted into the top three tattoo shops in Memphis in the Memphis Flyer's Best of Memphis over the past several years.

With growth comes gratitude. All proceeds from the anniversary party benefitted Literacy Mid-South. Russell says that she and the artists at Underground feel that since they have received much support from the neighborhood.

"Twenty years speaks for itself. We want to give back as much as we can. We want to pay it forward."

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Tattoo artist Dave Evans takes in the scene at Underground Art's 20th anniversary party at the Hi-Tone on Feb. 2.

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

# Taking a Look at Special Education

BY D. JACKSON MAXWELL

An often overlooked area of education is a department found in every public school district in America: The department is Special Education. Special Education by definition exists for the benefit of students who for one reason or another are considered outside of the student body norm. This classification can run the gambit from students whose I.Q.s are extremely high to those who are statistically several standard deviations below the average. Beyond these, students with certain diagnosed medical or psychological issues can also fall into the Special Education category.

To find out more about this area of education and what motivates educators to choose this field, I spoke with Rose Mary Winters. Ms. Winters is an award winning, highly regarded educator with over a dozen years of classroom experience in Special Education. Her experience has included a wide variety of conditions with students ranging from mild specific disabilities to those with more complex and severe disabilities such as autism. She originally started teaching her students in a self-contained Comprehensive Development Classroom (CDC). Today, the educational focus is on inclusion where students with all levels of disabilities are integrated into regular classrooms and the Special Education teacher works as a partner with the classroom teacher to ensure these students receive the assistance they need in the least restrictive environment possible.

Ms. Winters states that the Special Education teacher's job is challenging but rewarding. Paperwork is the nemesis of every teacher in this position. As mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), every student who qualifies for Special Education services has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) to assess their ongoing needs and to ensure that

they are receiving the appropriate level of educational assistance so that they can achieve their stated academic and social goals and objectives.

IEPs occur yearly, require a team of educators and parents to meet, and dozens of pages of paperwork are generated on each child to assure compliance with the IDEA. This continues from elementary school until a student matriculates or reaches the age of 22. Thus, there is plenty of job security for Special Education teachers!

"To get respect, you must give it" is Ms. Winters' motto. She states that it is the duty of Special Education teachers to push every child toward improvement according to their capabilities and challenge them to bring out their best. By encouraging parents to work in concert with their child's teachers, she is able to bring out the best

in her students. It is crucial that parents seize the opportunities early to assist their special needs children. In this way, differences can be made and these students can be motivated to work hard and put forth the effort to achieve excellence according to their abilities.

Ms. Winters uses this analogy to describe the promise of her Special Education students: "If you miss the opportunity now, it will be harder to try to play catch up. If you approach learning too slowly, you might get left behind. If you approach it too fast and you do not have the prerequisite knowledge, you will get run over. Therefore, I encourage my students to merge carefully in attaining and applying their knowledge. In this way, every child can achieve success."

Ms. Winters grew up poor but her grandparents always told her to make no excuses, give back to

the community, and get a good education because no one can ever take that away. She imparts these same values onto her students. Ms. Winters joined the faculty of Downtown Elementary School this year and in my short association with her, I have come to admire her abilities as a teacher and her compassion for her students. Her goal is to pave the way for her students to not only succeed in school but also in their careers and lives. As teachers have made a difference in Ms. Winters' life, her mission is to positively change the lives of her students.

Ms. Winters concludes, "To be a teacher is an honor and every seed planted has a purpose." Special Education teachers make a critical difference in these children's lives enabling them to become well educated, productive citizens and life-long learners.

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# Meditation

BY PARAMAHAMSA PRAJNANANANDA

When life is stressful and distressing, the opportunity for relaxation and real joy is diminished. We are busy, running without purpose, ultimately we become tired, bored, and unhappy. Our hearts, lungs, and other internal organs are overburdened with the pressure of work and anxiety. How can we enjoy a life of peace, relaxation, and harmony?

Meditation is the answer. Meditation is the art of living through the science of breath control. If you know how to relax your body and mind quickly, at will, you can live a peaceful and harmonious life.

An average person breathes approximately 21,600 times a day doing normal activities. But if you practice meditation, the breath rate is naturally slowed and more rhythmic. This change rejuvenates the brain and mind, and frees us from fatigue, disease, stress, and tension.

Because of incorrect lifestyle and motives, we abuse the instruments of our body and mind, so we suffer in daily life. Meditation reveals a proper understanding of our purpose for living in this world. Often, human beings fill their brains with the garbage of dirty ideas and emotions. To keep the brain free from negative and harmful thoughts, and to develop a concentrated, focused mind, meditation is the key.

Many misunderstand meditation. Meditation is not imagination, speculation, hallucination, or visualization; it is a scientific method of breath control and concentration that creates complete tranquility and peace. It is an inner awakening.

Many ways and means lead to meditation. Kriya Yoga is an easy path of meditation, without hardship, and granting quick spiritual evolution. As an age-old science of breathing and meditation that develops inner peace, bliss, and joy, Kriya Yoga is practiced by people all over the world. By following the proper steps of Kriya practice under the direct supervision of an advanced teacher, you can transform your life with better health, calmness of mind, inner peace, psychological agility, and energetic activity.

Free from all dogmatic belief, Kriya Yoga teaches the science of meditation as a process of experiencing inner transformation and self-emancipation. A short period of Kriya meditation can have long-term effects, eventually producing uninterrupted experience of peace and divine bliss.

Kriya Yoga teaches what is in fact the essence of all religions. Practice results in immediate spiritual, intellectual, mental, and physical benefits. Moreover, it is assured that the seeker will perceive the three divine qualities — divine light, divine sound, and the divine vibration. By the compassion and grace of the God-realized (jivanmukta) master Paramahansa Hariharananda and his advanced teachers, Kriya Yoga provides a rare opportunity for any spiritual seeker interested in spiritual advancement. Paramahansa Hariharananda occupies a high rank among the Indian yogis of the twentieth century. He attained the supreme yogic state of nirvikalpa samadhi, the pulseless and breathless state.

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PARAMAHAMSA HARIHARANANDA  
(1907-2002) - (photo on the right)

filled with purity and love, came from a long, unbroken line of masters, ultimately attaining nirvikalpa samadhi, the highest goal of a realized yogi. A disciple of Swami Shriyukteshwarji and Paramahansa Yoganandaji, he spread Kriya Yoga to the East and West.

PARAMAHAMSA PRAJÑANANANDA  
(photo on the left)

his successor, continues his mission teaching one lesson: the lesson of love. Through every action and breath, he urges us to realize that we all are divine and to achieve that blissful state of divine love and contentment through basic self-discipline and the practice of Kriya Yoga.

#### LINEAGE OF MASTERS



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## Schedule

### Friday, March – 8<sup>th</sup>

6:30 - 7:30 PM Free Public Lecture on -  
“Introduction to Kriya Yoga”

### Saturday, March – 9<sup>th</sup>

8:30 - 12:30 PM Initiation for New Aspirants  
5:00 - 8:00 PM Technique Class / Guided Meditation

### Sunday, March – 10<sup>th</sup>

9:00 – 12:00 AM Technique Review / Meditation  
4:30 – 7:30 PM Q & A session and Guided Meditation  
(Free Vegetarian meal is provided after every session)

Please contact us for location  
and registration details

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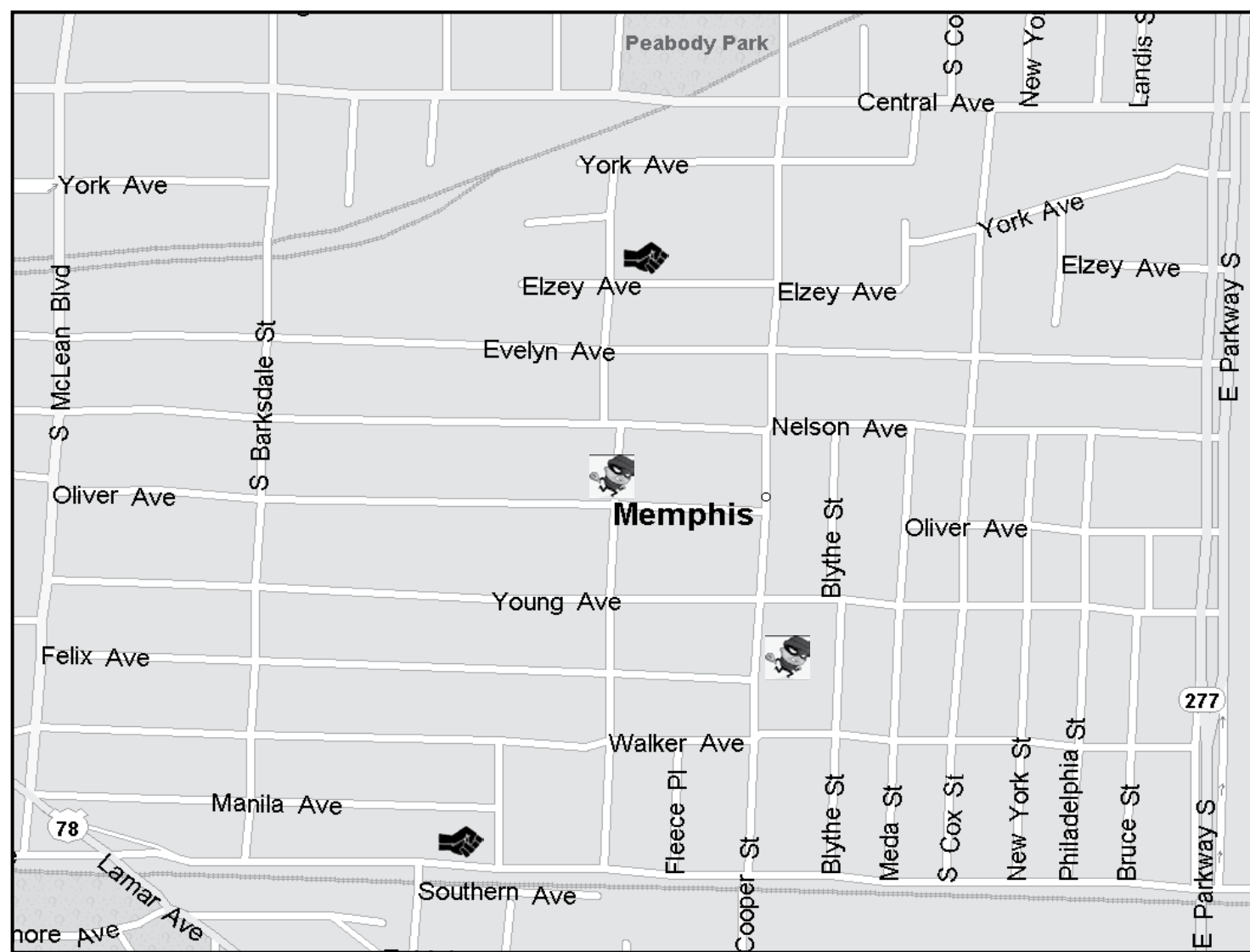


## CY SAFETY

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 January 25, 2012 to February 4, 2013.

<b>4 CASES</b>	<b>ARREST</b>	<b>OFFENSES</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>
<b>1302001656ME</b>		<b>Theft Other</b>	<b>2/4/13</b>	<b>OLIVER AND YOUNG</b>
<b>1302001080ME</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Assault</b>	<b>2/2/13</b>	<b>2000 SOUTHERN</b>
<b>1302000387ME</b>		<b>Theft Other</b>	<b>2/1/13</b>	<b>1000 S COOPER ST</b>
<b>1301014146ME</b>		<b>Assault</b>	<b>1/25/13</b>	<b>2100 ELZEY AVE</b>

Do you want to know what crime is taking place in our neighborhood? The Memphis Police Department offers a tool on its website ([memphis-police.org](http://memphis-police.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.

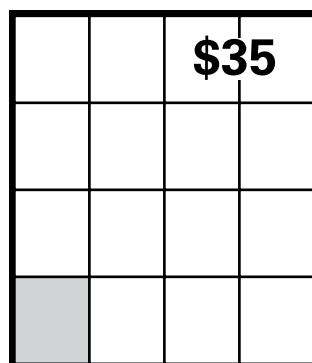


**ARE YOU SIGNED UP FOR OUR EMAIL  
ALERTS ON SAFETY, COMMUNITY EVENTS AND  
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?  
SIGN UP AT COOPERYOUNG.ORG**

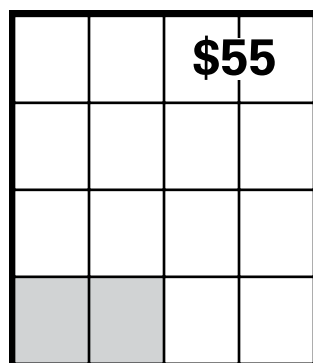
# 2013 *LampLighter* Advertising Rates



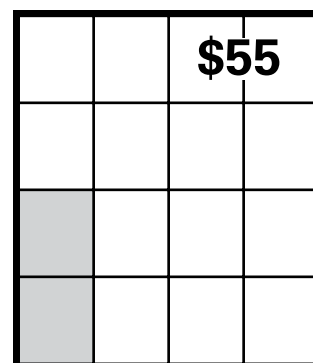
The *LampLighter* serves the Cooper-Young area, an eclectic neighborhood and historic district in Midtown known for its mix of shops, bars, restaurants, and strong sense of community. 4,000 issues are hand-delivered to every home in the Cooper-Young neighborhood as well as many Midtown businesses. CY residents pride themselves on supporting local business. **Don't miss this opportunity to reach this highly-desireable and diverse demographic.**



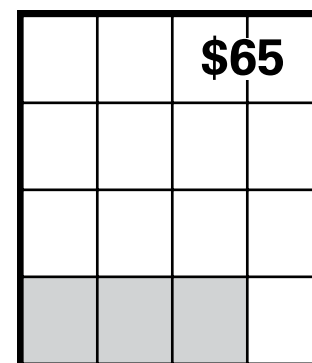
**1.** 1/16  
2.4" x 3"



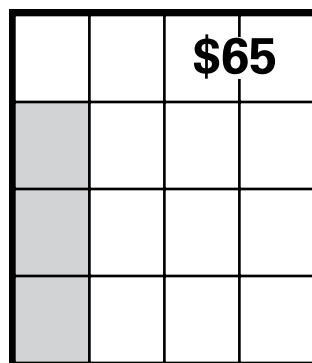
**2a.** 1/8 Horizontal  
5" x 3"



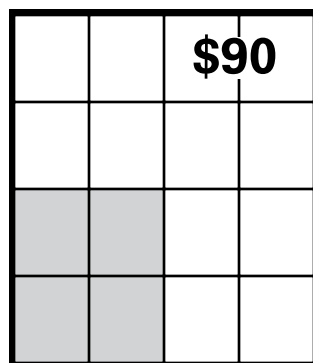
**2b.** 1/8 Vertical  
2.4" x 6"



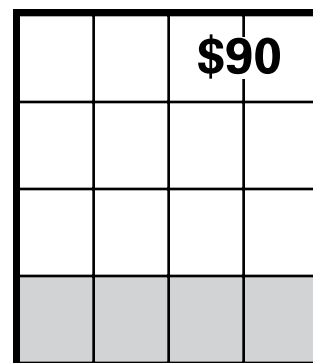
**3a.** 3/16 Horizontal  
7.7" x 3"



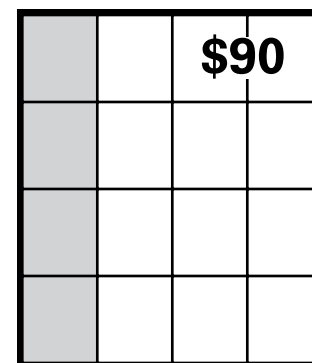
**3b.** 3/16 Vertical  
2.4" x 9.2"



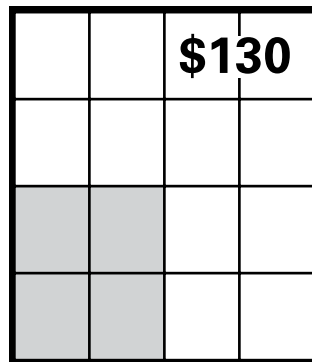
**4a.** 1/4 Block  
5" x 6"



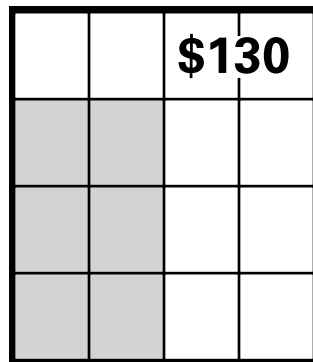
**4b.** 1/4 Horizontal  
10.3" x 3"



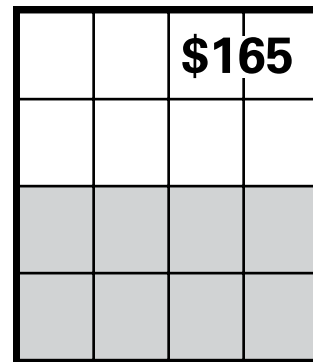
**4c.** 1/4 Vertical  
2.4" x 12.3"



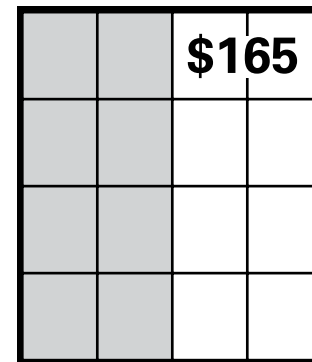
**5a.** 3/8 Horizontal  
7.7" x 6"



**5b.** 3/8 Vertical  
5" x 9.2"



**6a.** 1/2 Horizontal  
10.3" x 6"



**6b.** 1/2 Vertical  
5" x 12.3"

**Full Page: \$250 • Back Page: \$300 • 4-Color Back Page: \$700 • Monthly sponsorship of CYCA emails: \$100**

**Call Susan today to lock in 2013 ad rates and learn about our specials  
901-652-7092 • [ads@cooperyoung.org](mailto:ads@cooperyoung.org)**



## Please send us your photos!

Email pictures and info of your weddings, trips, new babies, parties, anniversaries, accomplishments and more to : [lamplighter@cooperyoung.org](mailto:lamplighter@cooperyoung.org) or tag CYCA's Facebook Page at [facebook.com/CooperYoungCommunityAssociation](https://facebook.com/CooperYoungCommunityAssociation)

*If it's good news in CY,  
we want to hear about it!*



**1**  
Ms. Malland's Chilisbury Address team took the award for Best Hot Chili at the Peabody Elementary Chili Cookoff.

**2**  
Jason Whitworth (left) was the Judge's Choice award winner at the chili cookoff.

**3 4**  
Cooper-Young came out to support the Peabody Chili Cookoff.

**5**  
Glen Thomas of the Glenferno team dishes out two kinds of chili.

# MULAN

## *Chinese Bistro*



*HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR  
FROM MULAN!  
THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE*

*Join Us for Our 1<sup>st</sup> Year Anniversary*

**2 for 1 Beer 'n Mixed Drinks**

**\$4.00 OFF Bottles of Wine • \$3.00 OFF Bottles of Sake**

From 5 p.m. 'til 9 p.m. Starting Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> thru March 31<sup>st</sup>

**JOIN US FOR EASTER SUNDAY OPEN 11 A.M. TIL 10 P.M.**

*Happy Hour*

**2pm 'til 7pm Daily**

\$3.00 Drafts  
\$3.00 Premium Bottled Beers  
\$2.50 Domestic Bottled Beers  
\$3.00 Well Drinks  
\$2.00 Bud, Bud Lite, Michelob Ultra  
\$4.00 House Wines  
\$1.00 off Sake

*Daily Lunch Combos*

**\$7.95**

Everyday • 11am to 3pm

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**We deliver within a five mile radius**  
*The only sushi delivery in Memphis!*

*Full bar, Sushi, Hunan, Authentic Szechuan & Mandarin*