

FALL 2019

THE GARDENSIDER

A publication of the Gardenside Neighborhood Association



GNA sponsored or participated in several activities in Gardenside Park over the summer, including a 65th birthday party for the neighborhood, Popsicle Mondays paired with weeding parties, a back-to-school party, yoga in the park and Nature Hop. The birthday party drew current and former neighborhood residents and 50 people attended our annual back-to-school party. Girl Scouts from Troop 805 created a scavenger hunt for Nature Hop.



Oct. 22 meeting to feature school board candidates

Candidates for the District 1 seat on the Fayette County School Board and a discussion of what GNA has accomplished and what we want to do next will be on the agenda for our fall meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 22, at Gardenside Christian Church Gym.

Will Nash, who is running for reelection to the school board, and challenger, Christy Morris, will both speak at the meeting. The election for the District 1 seat will be on the Nov. 5 ballot. The candidates will have 5 minutes each to state their case for election to the school board.

James Lane Allen Principal Greg Williams and Family Resource Center Director Madeline Potter also have been invited to speak at the meeting.

GNA president Eric Huffer and other board members will lead a discussion among attendees about GNA's successes over the years and what Gardenside residents would like the neighborhood association to accomplish next.

Get your hands dirty: park workday set for Oct. 19

The last park workday of the year will be held on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 9 a.m. to noon. We will add some plants to the pollinator garden and raise some limbs on the trees along the creek to allow more visual access to it. Bring gloves, trowels, clippers, loppers, and buckets if you have them, and wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty. Stay for refreshments and socializing at the end. All ages welcome! A great way to spend a fall morning with neighbors!

Recently we received this message from the Division of Parks and Recreation: "We really appreciate the efforts of the volunteers at Gardenside Park. Not only does the park look better, we note less vandalism and damage due to the neighborhood involvement." The Division of Parks and Recreation also recognized our volunteers on Facebook, noting that since 2014 we've donated approximately 600 volunteer hours every year to improving our park.

Join GNA at fall meeting

Dues paid at the Oct. 22 meeting or later in 2019 will cover GNA membership through 2020. Dues are \$20. You can also join online at www.GardensideLex.org.

GNA supports James Lane Allen Elementary School

GNA continues to have a close relationship with our neighborhood elementary school, James Lane Allen. In August, we helped provide a luncheon for teachers and staff the day before school started.

Madeline Potter, the new coordinator of the school's Family Resource Center, has listed several items children the center serves need. These include:

- Snacks for kids that do not get enough to eat at breakfast or lunch, or who are part of the mentoring program (mini - muffins, crackers, cookies, etc.)
- Kid-sized sweat pants or leggings (sizes 6 to 14/16)
- Socks
- Underwear
- Hygiene Products

Donations can be delivered to the Family Resource Center at JLA during school hours or dropped off with Dona Renfro. Please text Dona at 859-229-2012 to arrange a drop off.

Items can also be brought to our fall meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 22. Both Madeline and JLA Principal



These GNA volunteers served lunch to JLA faculty and staff on Aug. 23.

Greg Williams have been invited to attend the meeting.

Madeline says she would like to find mentors for students who would benefit from positive adult attention. This may be another way we can help.

The JLA PTA would also like to encourage neighborhood residents to join the PTA. You do not have to be a parent of a JLA student to join.

What's Happening

OCTOBER 19

Park Work Day:

9 a.m. – noon at Gardenside Park. Clearing low-hanging limbs, final weeding and cleanup. Celebrate Lexington Tree Week Oct. 12-19! Plant giveaway!

OCTOBER 22

Fall Gardenside Neighborhood Association meeting:

7-9 p.m. at Gardenside Christian Church Gym.



Remember all those bottle caps you saved and donated to James Lane Allen Elementary? As a result, this picnic table and a bench now adorn the school grounds.

Gardenside at Sunset attracts 1,000 people from diverse neighborhoods

The Gardenside at Sunset festival sponsored by the Greater Gardenside Association on Aug. 23 attracted at least 1,000 people who danced the

night away to the music of the Big Maracas. Vendors were pleased with sales, and attendees asked for more such events.

The goal of the festival, supported in part by a grant from the Bluegrass Community Foundation, was to bring together everyone from our very diverse community, and participants agreed that it was successful.

The goal of the Greater Gardenside Association is to energize our area between Versailles Road and Harrodsburg Road inside New Circle and to support and encourage our businesses. A survey will soon become available asking you to help determine

where the Greater Gardenside Association should direct its energies. Watch for it on Facebook, and please take a few moments to respond.

