

The Voice of South Frankfort



Chairman's Comments

How quickly the time has passed!

It's hard to believe that it has only been three years since Tony Charters and a few others led the effort to reorganize a then-defunct South Frankfort Neighborhood Association. But a lot has happened in this organization during this time. And while no one wishes to rest on any laurels, I think it's worthwhile to just mention the group's activities if for no other reason they represent a lot of time and work by numerous SFNA members, even more importantly, some of them have brought our community closer together and hold promise for continuing that effort.

While it didn't change anything, you'll recall the outcry and opposition by SFNA's leaders to the design of the new public safety building. And some members spearheaded opposition to proposed expansion of the local airport.

Led by Bruce Cassidy, numerous SFNA members have revived the annual South Frankfort Picnic, held for the past three years on Frankfort High School's lawn. This year's tentative date is Sept. 21. Rona Stapleton has spearheaded an area cleanup in April, a week before thousands visit our neighborhood for the Governor's Derby Breakfast. You can volunteer for this year's trash pickup April 26. Other opportunities to raise the SFNA flag have been in the city's Christmas Parade, our own neighborhood Yuletide caroling and through a prominent role in the African-American community's 2007 SummerFest. Three other new programs initiated in the past year merit mentioning too. Using \$1 from members' annual dues, plus proceeds from the picnic raffle, we awarded the first Randy Bacon Scholarship this past year to an FHS senior.

Two other programs holding much promise were organized and carried out by the Property Maintenance Committee. One awards special recognition to area property owners who've exhibited a demonstrable appreciation for eye-catching home and ground attractions and improvements. The other is a recently-released "Who did your . . ." list containing members' recommendations for contractors whose work they deem of top quality.

There's obviously many more activities we could undertake and some are already in the discussion stage. So if you're not already an SFNA member why don't you join us. We'll be holding our next quarterly meeting Thursday April 24th, but you don't have to be there to become involved. Send me an email at rjour40601@yahoo.com or call me at 875-1513 and we'll talk about how you can participate. I hope to hear from you. We need your help to make this an even more worthwhile organization and our upcoming fourth year an exciting one.

Dick Wilson
SFNA President

Kings Center Cares for the Community



When South Frankfort kids need a hand, many find help at the Kings Center on E. Third Street. Incorporated for the purpose of creating opportunities and hope for at-risk children and their families, the Kings Center offers a variety of activities and services including after-school tutoring, mentoring, social events, field trips, education and life skill programs, service projects, family support services, and emergency assistance.

The non-profit organization has been making a difference in South Frankfort since 1996 serving more than 380 children and families and reporting that 75% of their students do better in school.

The agency depends on the benevolence of local churches, businesses, organizations and friends, and all contributions benefit children and families participating in the programs. A flood last August left the Center in need of major repairs at considerable expense, making additional contributions even more important.

If you would like to help or if you know someone who needs help, give the center a call at 227-8010 or send an e-mail to kingscenter@dcr.net or go online to www.kingscenter.org/dotnetnuke for more information.

Women's Shelter Opens Its Doors

A dream came true on March 25 when the Franklin County Women's Shelter was officially dedicated and the doors were opened to admit homeless women and their children. For four years a group of local volunteers led by shelter president Jill Robinson had organized, raised money, and processed paperwork to make the shelter a reality.

That reality is now a beautifully decorated and furnished two-story residence at 303 East Third Street in South Frankfort. The facility can accommodate up to eight women and three to four children at a time. Prior to the opening of the shelter, the organization was providing temporary housing in motels or would have to refer clients to shelters in Lexington and Louisville.

"The building is a very important resource for the community and will give vulnerable women help in stabilizing their lives," Robinson said. "I have to thank the entire community, including churches, civic organizations and individuals, for the tremendous support we have received."

Jennifer Walling, project director for the shelter, said, "So many people have been involved in establishing the shelter, and now there are many opportunities for volunteers to help us in its operation. We welcome assistance in doing office work, preparing meals, providing transportation, leading activities, and staffing the hot-line, among other tasks. This is a place where you can make a difference in someone's life."

The hot-line number for people requesting shelter is (502) 320-3620.

To volunteer or request information, call (502) 352-2843 or (502) 229-3447.

The shelter email is fewomenshelter@yahoo.com.



Mico Wells Wins Bacon Scholarship



Congratulations to Mico Wells, the very first winner of the SFNA-sponsored Randy Bacon Memorial Scholarship. Mico is familiar to anyone who follows local high school sports, having lettered in track, football, basketball, and baseball (freshman year only) at Frankfort

High. SFNA talked with Mico the day after he'd won first place in the Triple Jump at the Lenny Lyles Invitational. It took his mother's prompting to add that he'd also finished second in the Long Jump. Michelle Walker doesn't want to crimp her son's style, though. After introductions, as we settled down to a table at the Coffeetree, she wandered off to browse the bookshelves.

Mico's 3.37 GPA, leadership skills and community service also earned him a highly-prized Woodford R. Porter Scholarship to attend the University of Louisville, where he will begin next fall. He is considering signing up with the track team, but otherwise does not plan on playing varsity sports at the U of L. The All-State Academic says he's always liked Louisville, and he sees himself staying there after college, to teach or maybe do social work. Although he hasn't picked a major yet, he knows he loves working with kids. His participation last year in the Frankfort Schools Mentors program is one reason he was awarded the Bacon Scholarship. Unfortunately, that program was discontinued when open lunches ended at FHS.

Mico has also been a library volunteer and worked at the Second Street soup kitchen. He found the soup kitchen to be an especially rewarding experience, and really enjoyed the people he worked with there. Mico has been a South Frankfort resident all his life, also attending Second Street School and he has a strong opinion about smaller schools. "There's better interaction with teachers, more one on one," he says, and he likes "knowing everybody." When asked what he thinks he might have missed not being in a bigger school, he pauses and says, "I'll have to get back to you on that one."

City Officials Will Be Elected This Year



Frankfort will select a new mayor this year and five candidates are competing in the May 20 primary. The top two vote-getters will be on the ballot in the November election, and the winner of that contest will lead our city for a four-year term. The candidates for mayor are listed below. Citizens of South Frankfort are encouraged to become familiar with these people and determine which one will best handle the issues that are important to us.

Candidates for Mayor:

H. Gippy Graham, Louisville Road
Phyllis C. Liebman, Blackfoot Trail
Doug Williams, Kentucky Ave.
Lynn Bowers, Collins Lane
Thomas R. Mann, Wildwood Place

Seven candidates have filed to become city commissioners. Since eight are allowed to advance from the primary to the general election, there will be no primary vote on city commissioners. In November the four top vote-getters out of those seven people will be elected to the positions. City commissioners serve two-year terms.

Candidates for City Commission:

Terry Sutton, Kentucky Ave.
Kathy Carter, Montgomery Ave.
William May, Collins Lane
Douglas C. Howard, Holly St
Rodney S. Williams, Equestrian Way
Sellus Wilder, Murray St.
Kenneth R. Thompson, Shelby St.

Todd Street Restaurant Welcomes South Frankfort Neighbors

Looking for somewhere different to have lunch? How about popping into the “best kept secret” in South Frankfort – J C & Familia Restaurant on E. Todd Street.

Owned, operated and managed by Judy Martinez, this small and comfortable restaurant serves traditional, authentic Puerto Rican style cuisine during lunch hours 11 – 2 Tuesday through Friday. The goal is to eventually return to serving evenings, hopefully starting later this year.

The base ingredient used in all dishes is SOFRITO, which gives Puerto Rican food its unique flavor. And you’ve heard of the great Cuban sandwiches.....well, they are one of the specialties of the restaurant, like their family-style roast pork and Flan for dessert.

Reasonable prices, great taste and interesting menu choices are waiting for those willing to try something out of the ordinary. As a special introduction (because we know you’ll return again and again) Judy is offering \$1 off your entrée price if you show her this newsletter article.

Call for Nominations

At the SFNA Annual Meeting in July, the four Executive Board positions will be voted on for the following 12-month period. We are looking for nominations in advance, although the By-Laws do allow them at the meeting as well. New blood and new ideas will help keep your Association growing for the benefit of everyone in our community.

If YOU or someone you know wishes to stand for office, please submit the person's name, his/her sponsor and second to: Prentice Harvey at Harveylaw@fewpb.net or call 875-3091.

Upcoming Events

April

- 24 — SFNA Quarterly Meeting, 7:00 p.m., South Frankfort Pres. Church
- 26 — Neighborhood Clean Up – meet 10 a.m. at Frankfort High School for instructions, then come on over to Dolly Graham Park for hotdogs and soft drinks when we're finished!
- 29 — Mayoral Forum, 7:00 p.m., Investors Heritage Auditorium

May

- 3 — Derby Breakfast at the Capitol

July

- 5 — The SFNA will be sponsoring a July 4th children's bike/trike parade and contest (For more information, contact Christa Sweger, 875-4545.)
- 24 — SFNA Quarterly Meeting

September

- 21 — SFNA Annual Picnic, location to be announce



South Frankfort Neighborhood Association Membership

Meet your neighbors, attend social events, voice your concerns, and vote on issues that affect you and your neighborhood.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (502) _____

E-mail: _____

Committees: (Circle any committees you'd like to become involved with)

Level: (Circle one)

Regular: \$12 (resident, or property owner, voting)

Associate: \$ 6 (non-resident, non-voting)

Business: \$50 (association, business, etc., non-voting)

Communications and Newsletter

Membership Development

Social Events

Property Maintenance, Preservation and Beautification

Public Safety and Government Relations

Please complete this form and bring to the next SFNA meeting or mail to:

South Frankfort Neighborhood Association, 513 Murray St., Frankfort, KY 40601

Make checks payable to: South Frankfort Neighborhood Association

