October 2013

From the LCHA President...

Fall colors are creeping in and the days are cooling off, which only mean it's time for some football and Oktoberfest. So join your friends and neighbors for Oktoberfest at the Clubhouse this Saturday afternoon, October 5th from 4:00-7:00 PM, sponsored by our Social Committee.

The Marietta City Council approved the installation of speed tables and radar speed signs on Lee's Trace at its September meeting. There will be three (3) speed tables with a minimum height of 3 inches (maximum 3.5 inches). The height is a change from the original specifications, which called for a minimum height of 3 5/8 inches. The three tables will be placed at locations determined by the City between our entrance on Manning Road and the three-way stop at Chestnut Hill Circle. Also, the City will place 2 permanent Radar Speed signs between the three-way stop and the end of Lee's Trace at Trailwood Lane. At this time, I am not certain of the installation timeframe.

Each year during December we have collected a "Dollar on Your Door" as a gift for the men who pick up garbage in the neighborhood. The neighborhood will sponsor the event again this year, but we need your help. Is there anyone interested in taking a leadership role for this activity? This is an especially good project for high school students who need service hours. If you or someone you know feels called to help please contact me at (404) 226-0088 or erroll3@att.net.

On November 5th, there is an election for citywide offices as well as a referendum on redevelopment bonds for Franklin Road and Whitlock Ave. Please take time to consider all the issues. Included in the newsletter is more information from both sides of the issue.

In closing, I continue to receive numerous complaints from residents about dog waste in their yard. Please be considerate and clean up after your pet!



"You're leving this, aren't you?"

Respectfully, Erroll Eckford President, LCHA

VOTE NO On the Franklin Road Bond Referendum November 5th

• Who really benefits from the Bond?

With \$68 million at stake, there is no doubt that powerful, well-connected business interests will reap a windfall, compliments of the taxpayer. Even if it would expand the tax base by attracting new businesses to the area, this would not result in any tax relief. In fact, if that unlikely scenario were to occur, you can count on the City finding other ways to spend your money. They are not interested in reducing taxes (as is obvious by putting the Bond on the ballot in the first place) but rather in having more of your money to spend on their pet projects.

The real beneficiaries and driving force behind the Bond are property owners who are looking to the taxpayer to buy out properties in and around Franklin Road at above market rates. In so doing, they are unwilling to accept the verdict of the marketplace which dictated a decline in value over the years due to natural market forces.

• What happens if the Bond is defeated?

Marietta taxpayers will enjoy a significant tax cut. This is because passage of the Education SPLOST this past March enabled the Marietta School District to pay down Bond debt, which will result in a millage rate decrease of 1.19 mills. However, this rare opportunity to obtain property tax relief did not go unnoticed by the Mayor and City Council, who quickly saw this as a rationale to deny tax relief by arguing that the Bond would "only" increase the tax burden by .81 mills. (1.19 mills + .81 mills = 2 mills.)

Using debt retirement as an excuse to sock it, once again, to the taxpayers, represents a callous disregard towards those who are forced to pay the bill for ever more expensive and intrusive government. All the more reason to Vote NO on November 5th!

- Won't the Bond save money by reducing demand on city services?
- According to Bond supporters, by driving out what they regard as an undesirable population, demand on police, education, fire and social services will be reduced, thereby reducing costs to the City. While that sounds good in theory, proponents have failed to provide any projections on what those savings might be. That is because they don't know how many people will be displaced, how much property the Bond will be able to purchase, and how many displaced individuals and families will end up within the City after they have been forced to move.
- So why should you vote NO?

Because this Bond represents Robin Hood in reverse, which takes from the many, displaces the poor, and gives to the privileged and well-connected few. Don't let them get away with it. Vote NO on November 5th!

• The Franklin Road Bond Referendum – What it Means for You

The Franklin Road Bond Referendum for the City of Marietta is being touted as an urban redevelopment initiative that will revitalize the city through the purchase and demolition of apartment complexes along Franklin Road. Nothing could be further from the truth. Here's why:

• It will cost you a lot of money

The Bond Referendum placed on the November 5th ballot will allow the City to borrow \$68 million which Marietta taxpayers will have to pay back plus interest over 20 years. It will double the millage rate from 2 to 4 mills resulting in a tax increase of \$3200 for a \$200,000 home, or \$9600 for a \$600,000 home.

Supporters call this an "investment" yet they are "investing" your money for their benefit. What will your return on that investment be? Absolutely nothing! Its real purpose is to bail out troubled property owners in the Franklin Road area. It will hurt the City's economy by taking millions out of your pockets to spend on things you really need, like groceries, car repairs, or utilities. Wouldn't you rather have that money to spend or invest as you see fit instead of turning it over to the City? If your answer is yes, then Vote No on November 5th!

• It will not reduce crime

Supporters of the Bond have made outrageous claims that the area is one of the most crime ridden areas in metro Atlanta; a claim that has been disputed by none other than Marietta's Chief of Police. According to the Franklin Road Weed and Seed project, the per capita crime rate from 2004 through 2011 in the Franklin Road corridor is no greater than in the rest of the City. Don't be taken in by the fear mongering tactics of Bond supporters. Vote No on November 5th!

• The Bond is an open check for special interests

A sensible and transparent bond proposal would identify the exact costs and benefits from spending public funds. But with this proposal we do not know how much property will be purchased by the City, or at what price. Nor do we know who will purchase it from the City and for what purpose. If history is any guide, the land will sit idle for years, waiting for prospective buyers who will eventually purchase it for pennies on the dollar. And while it sits waiting for buyers, taxpayers will be saddled with interest payments on money loaned to the City. Don't give the City a blank check with your tax dollars. Vote No on November 5th!

- The Bond will displace the working poor
- Most of the current residents on Franklin Road are the working poor who will have their lives disrupted by being forced to move should the Bond pass. Why is it OK to do this to them but not OK to similarly disrupt the lives of middle class homeowners? The reason is simple. Supporters view these folks as undesirables who do not conform with their vision of a city which welcomes only the middle and upper class. This kind of elitism has no place in a community which should be welcome to ALL people, regardless of their economic status. Moreover, these displaced individuals and families will not go away, but will likely relocate to other parts of the city. The Mayor offers housing vouchers as a solution, which means more government subsidies.
- What about its impact on schools?

Bond supporters want to use it to remove 1,100 mostly poor minority children from the Marietta School District to raise graduation rates and test scores. In this they seek to abdicate their responsibility to provide an education for the children of ALL residents in Marietta. Again, this is but another example of entrenched elites trying to make Marietta welcome only to those who meet an income litmus test.

• Can we trust the City to be a good steward with this money?

No. When the City first proposed putting this Bond on the ballot, they predicted it would raise \$35 million. Now they claim it will raise \$68 million. Can we trust them to be responsible with that money when they can't even make a simple calculation on how much money a 2 mill increase will raise over 20 years? On the contrary, the City has taken on many failed business ventures that have cost taxpayers millions. Unless you have extra money to give the City to waste, then Vote No on November 5th.

Provided by Cobb Taxpayer's Association at www.cobbtaxpayer.com



On Tuesday, November 5th for the \$68 Million Redevelopment Bond ✓ What is it?

- o The City of Marietta will vote on November 5, 2013 on a \$68 million bond to redevelop and revitalize parts of our city.
- o \$64 million will be designated to redevelop the Franklin Road corridor.
- \$4 million will go towards the improvement and beautification of Whitlock Avenue.

✓ Why is it needed?

- For decades, the magnitude of the problem on Franklin Road has been too large to attract private dollars and continues to get worse. This bond will be leveraged to attract private investment.
- o There are multiple violent and drug related arrests on Franklin Road every week. This high concentration of crime has driven employers and jobs out of the city, hindered the recruitment of new businesses and threatens families living along the corridor.
- The high crime rate on Franklin Road is having a dramatic impact on our schools and threatening our established neighborhoods.

✓ Will it help the local economy?

- O Yes! Revitalization of Franklin Road will attract new businesses to Marietta. This corridor is located between two exits on I-75, in close proximity to I-285, and nearly adjacent to two institutions of higher learning, thus providing a prime opportunity for attracting new industry and jobs.
- Reducing crime in Marietta through revitalization of our most troubled corridor will benefit schools and increase property values.
- Marietta Housing Authority will work with families to find safe, affordable and stable housing options.

VOTE YES to reduce crime, encourage new business investment, improve schools, and increase property values!

Visit www.VoteYesMarietta.com for more information.

3rd Annual Lee's Crossing Subdivision



Family fun event!

Saturday, October 5 4 to 7 PM Clubhouse parking lot

Serving:

German Brats, hot dogs

Sauerkraut

Pretzels

German beers

German Potato Salad

Apple beer/domestic beer

Root Beer for the kids and more!

Come and enjoy games for the family, meet new neighbors and try a few German beers.

Welcome New Neighbors

Kim Freed, Carter Smith 1101 Cedar Branch Nathanael Holder 885 Park Creek Court

Nathan & Sarah Martin, Cooper, Kindle,

Grant, Celeste, Gunnar, Felicity

Kyle Reid

Jeremy & Angela Roberts, Anna & Matthew

1131 Chestnut Hill Circle
1048 Chestnut Hill Circle
1104 Autumn Chase Ct.

Sven Struelens & Natalie Spencer
Marc & LauraHelen VanWinkle,

Will, Fiona, Rigby, Elinor 1150 Cedar Branch Cir

404 Lee's Trace

Neighborhood Notaries

Greg Amaden	Lee's Trace	770-429-9264
James Belrose	Lees Trace	770-794-9897
Melissa Drehs	Lee's Trace	216-392-1424
Brenda Fairbanks	Trailwood Lane	678-290-4810
Angela G. Ford	Lee's Trace	678-234-7430
Carolyn Richardson	Cedar Branch Court	770-427-9900
Cecilia E. White	Trailwood Lane	678-797-6209

If you are a Notary and are willing to help out your neighbors, please send your name and phone number to leescrossing@comcast.net.

HUNTING AND FIREARMS IN GEORGIA

Did you know that, to hunt unsupervised in Georgia, you must have passed the Georgia Hunter Safety course, which is required to buy a license? That course, taught by state-certified instructors, will be offered free, at our Clubhouse, and October of this year.

<u>Stressing firearm safety</u>, this highly successful course will be offered as a two-night session taught by instructors, and a one-night session preceded by the student completing an on-line course. Both types include the Final Exam, proctored by the Instructors.

No functional firearms will be present, and the course is an excellent Firearms Safety course, whether you ever intend to hunt or not.

You must pre-register – The class, which is open to all, has limited seating. Go on the Internet to: http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us for details and free registration. The student will be asked for their SSAN, to be entered into the State's secure database. If further details are desired, contact Ken Lowman at 770-426-8255.



Upcoming Neighborhood Events - Mark Your Calendars

October 5 - Octoberfest

See flyer in this newsletter for more details.

Nov. 9 - Party

Cowboys, Cowgirls, Good ol' Boys & Girls
Dinner and 5th Element Live Band
Come dressed as your favorite cowboy, cowgirl, redneck, Duck Dynasty, etc.
RSVP no later than 10/30 to Shellie Evans @ sc4evans@gmail.com

Menu

pork tenderloin, potatoes, and salad

Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve

More details for each event will be in upcoming newsletters

Classifieds

CLASSIFIED SUBMISSIONS: When submitting a classified ad, please use the format being used for the ads listed below. Pictures will not be printed. Please make sure to include contact information and state how long you wish the article to run. **All submissions will run ONE MONTH unless otherwise requested.**

For Sale

36" Fluorescent aquarium light hood. Holds 2 "T" series fluorescent bulbs (included) less than a year old. I have \$200 into it looking for \$75. If interested please call Paul 404 693 1213

Babysitting

Do you need a babysitter? I am 17 years old and experienced with kids, CPR and first aid certified, and a life guard at Lee's Crossing pool. Please call Naomi Bartlett, 678 388 9716

Dog Walking/Pet Sitting

Want someone to walk your dog while you work, or sit with your pet while you take a trip? I have had several dogs of my own and loved them as if they were my children. I have years of experience taking care of dogs, large and small. I am retired and live in the neighborhood at 1211 Cliffpine Court. Call or E-mail me: Brenda Almon at 770-375-8869. almonbrenda@yahoo.com.

For Sale

2002 Chrysler PT Cruiser Touring Edition - good condition, clean and dealer maintained. All service records available and has always been garaged. 153,000 miles. \$2,500.00. Call Diane Prosser 770 422 0781

For Sale

2001 Harley Davidson Motorcycle Road King Classic; 24,000 miles. Asking \$10,500.00. Call Randy Dover at 404-550-9083 (cell).

Babysitting

I am available for babysitting. I am babysitting certified and 13 years old (almost 14). Contact Chandler Wooten at 770-843-8638 or Chandlerwooten1111@gmail.com.

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Around Town

Calendar of Events - October

Event	
Marietta Civitan Club	
Wine Tasting	
Brown Bag Concert Series	
Haunted Walking Tours	
Trolley Tours	
First Friday Art Walk	
Scary Etta Trolley Tour	
Marietta Farmers' Market	
First Sunday Free Day at MCMA	
Food Truck Rally	
Toddler Museum Mice Tour	
Marietta Square Artists Market	
Garden Stories Growing Seeds	
Harvest Square Arts & Crafts Festival	
Marietta Zombie Walk	
Make A Wish Run	

These events are from the City of Marietta calendar. For more information on any of these events, go to http://www.historicdowntownmarietta.com/events-calendar/month/01-10-2013 and click on the event.



Name -

Pine Straw Sale Fundraiser



Who: Marietta High School Swim and Dive Team

What: Pine Straw Sale Fundraiser –West Cobb Pine Straw

When: Orders will be taken throughout September and up until October

4th. Pine straw will be delivered the 2nd week in October. Very

large orders can set up an alternate delivery date.

Cost: \$4.50 Per bale (10 bales minimum)

Free Delivery in the MHS School District area and Paulding County

Delivery: Delivered to your home. Specify location below. It must be within

15 feet of where the delivery truck can park.

How To Order:

Option 1: Complete this order form and return it with payment (Checks to Marietta Swim and Dive Team) in a sealed envelope to Aimee Bryant at A.L. Burruss Elementary School or to Elaine Reisenauer at MCAA. Direct questions to Elaine at 678-596-5955 to Aimee at 770-833-2679, or Lisa at 678-910-6766.

Option 2: Complete this order form and return it with payment (Checks to Marietta Swim and Dive Team) in a sealed envelope to Mrs. Moores in the front office at MHS. Label the envelope MHS Swim/Dive Pine Straw Sales.

Address:	
Subdivision Name:	
Number of Bales:	Payment Amount:
Phone Number:	(Driveway, front yard, etc.)_

Orders must be prepaid; no orders can be taken without payment in full.



Marietta Swim and Dive

Thank you for your support!



EVENT: A.L. Burruss Fall Festival

WHERE: 325 Manning Road, Marietta, GA 30064

DATE: Friday October 4th

TIME: 5 pm to 8 pm

Fun for the whole family including Silent Auction, Inflatables, food, music, games, raffle, face painting, cake walk and more!

The community is invited to come share in the fun with the Burruss Beavers' students, teachers, friends and family.

Neighborhood Business Spotlight

If you would like to tell your neighbors about your business or recommend someone else's -business, please send us a BRIEF paragraph giving pertinent information along with contact information. Submissions will printed first come – first serve each month, based on space. Send your information to leescrossing@comcast.net. Note: Please keep descriptions to ONE SHORT paragraph in WORD format. Do not send brochures, flyers or pictures as they will not be published. ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE SENT TO EITHER leescrossing@comcast.net or to trevathan.angelia@gmail.com. NO SUCCESSIVE MONTHS.

Business Spotlight:

Did you know you have a former golf course superintendent and current professional landscaper living right in your neighborhood? Rob Herrero is happy to work with you on any hardscapes, water features, irrigation, plant design and installation as well as landscape lighting. Prices known to beat most every competitor in town. Call 404-431-0010 for a free consultation. Fall Special- 5 light system installed for \$900. Get your home ready for the holiday party season!

I Recommend:

Lynn & Juanita Gregory recommend **Lourdes Felix** for house cleaning (404-747-3662). We have had several cleaning people before. She far exceeds the others we used. She personally does the cleaning & is very meticulous. Lourdes (Lu Lu) has cleaned another Lee's Crossing neighbors home for fifteen years.

Don and Tucker McQueen highly recommend **Ed MacMillan** for resolving computer issues. Ed's a Georgia Tech grad who has worked in the IT field for years. He helped us choose a new computer to fit our needs,transferred data from the old computer to the new and installed programs. He is also great at tech support. Information: jedwardmacmillan@gmail.com or cell: 916-870-7194.

To receive newsletter by e-mail: send request to leescrossing@comcast.net.

For ON-LINE EDITION, go to www.leescrossingmariettaga.com

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS for the November 2013 Newsletter is October 28. <u>Any submissions after this date cannot be guaranteed inclusion.</u>

Newsletter Editor: Angelia Trevathan e-mail: trevathan.angelia@gmail.com

Phone: 770-312-6374

The LCHA Newsletter and Website are published and maintained for the benefit of Lee's Crossing homeowners. The purpose of the Newsletter and the Website is to promote Lee's Crossing and to provide our homeowners with information regarding Lee's Crossing activities and related issues. The homeowners have entrusted the LCHA Board of Directors with the obligation and right to ensure content conforms to this purpose. As such, articles or advertising endorsing political positions or candidates or other subject matter the Board deems to be divisive, offensive or inappropriate in nature will not be published or posted. All appropriate content is welcomed and encouraged as a means of furthering awareness and communication within our neighborhood.

Mailbox Repair: If you need a new post call Bob Schoonover at 770-422-8774. Contact Cindi Filer at 404-518-5809 for mailbox post paint.

Clubhouse Rental: Call Tricia Wilson at 770-428-8144 or e-mail triciaww@mindspring.com

Neighborhood Directories: Soft copies of the Neighborhood Directory are available in PDF format. Send request to leescrossing@comcast.net.

Clubhouse WiFi network Name/Password: lcswimtennis

Board Members

Erroll Eckford, President 656 Trailwood Lane	404-226-0088	Brad Herr, Director 603 Briarmeade Drive	770-499-9354
Walt Walker, Director 1060 Foreststone Way	770-428-4755	Angela Ford, Treasurer 521 Lee's Trace	678-234-7430
Jim Martin, Director 1139 Chestnut Hill Circle	770-420-3484	Covenant Enforcement David Waldrep 770-514-0821	
David Hettrich, Director 463 Lee's Trace	770-425-0290	dfwaldrep@gmail.com	

Board Email: leescrossing@comcast.net