

WGKX / Agenda

October 4, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

Shelby Farms Park

The non-profit Shelby Farms Park is undergoing major improvements they're calling Heart of the Park Enhancements that will give the park new amenities like a permanent stage, a café spaces to rent for events, more adventures, healthier ecology and a lot more to love.

Heart of the Park is a visionary reimagining of Patriot Lake - a well-loved but ecologically dysfunctional lake in the center of the Park, which was created when dirt was needed to cap a nearby landfill.

From humble beginnings, the Heart of the Park will become a vibrant and diverse community hub, an environmental teaching tool, an important part of the business plan to sustain the Park, a gathering place for health and recreation, relaxation and big water adventure. It will be an exemplar for innovative urban landscape design, environmentally responsive architecture, and world class programming for health, happiness and inclusion for the Mid-South. Rebecca Daley had an update on the enhancements and the upcoming Fall Break Camp and Spooky Nights events.

October 11, 2015

American Heart Association of the Mid South

6:00am – 6:30am

The mission of the American Heart Association is to build healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke. That single purpose drives all they do. Their annual Heart Walk is approaching and Nicole who is a Heart Walk volunteer, has been one of the top fundraisers for the Heart Walk campaign for the past 2 years. Her brother, Gerold, was in his freshman year at the University of Memphis where he was in the ROTC program. Over Christmas break of 2014, he passed away in his sleep, and it was discovered he had a congenital heart condition called Long QT syndrome. Nicole gave details about the walk and how to get involved.

October 18, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

Ronald McDonald House

Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Memphis - at no charge to their guests - provides supportive services and a "home-away-from-home" for St. Jude families and their children receiving treatment for cancer and other catastrophic illnesses. Families are stronger when they are together, and their presence helps a sick child heal faster and cope better. While Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Memphis cannot make medicine taste better or take away painful treatments, they can help lessen the burden and ensure families have the stability and resources to keep their child healthy and happy. Research shows a family presence in the hospital helps children cope better and heal faster. Staying at Ronald McDonald House Charities of Memphis improves adherence to complicated treatment plans and communication with the child's medical team. Jessica Corley gave details about the pantry items needed and talked about the annual Radiothon at the end of October in which WXXM is directly involved.

Shelby County Sheriff's Office/Human Trafficking

The Shelby County Sheriff's Office is commanded by the Sheriff of Shelby County, who is elected once every four years. The Sheriff is assisted in the day to day operations of the Sheriff's Office by the Chief Deputy, with Assistant Chief Deputies assigned to the Law Enforcement and Jail Divisions. The Shelby County Sheriff's Office is currently divided into two primary divisions, Law Enforcement and Jail Divisions. The Shelby County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Division is commanded by the Chief Deputy, who is assisted by three Assistant Chief Deputies. Bureaus within the Law Enforcement Division include Courts, Uniform Patrol, Investigative Services, and SWAT. The Shelby County Sheriff's Office Jail Division is commanded by the Chief Jailer, who is assisted by two Assistant Chief Jailers. Bureaus within the Jail Division include Jail Security and Jail Programs. Barbara Farmer-Tolbert, a detective for the General Investigative Bureau Division of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office, discusses Human Trafficking with emphasis on Sex Trafficking in the Shelby County area.

October 25, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

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The Artist Exchange

The CLTV (Collective) is an organization "Collectively Cultivating Creativity within OUR community". There is a wealth of potential and creativity here in Memphis and the objective of The Collective is to sow the seeds of possibility into our community through purposeful and thoughtful interactions in a creative atmosphere. The CLTV's Mission is TO inspire creativity, TO develop creative conscious ideas into works, and TO display conscious creative works within our community. The HM Dessert Lounge, a new eatery in Midtown, is a primary venue for The Artist Exchange. Victoria Jones and Chef Fran Moseley discuss the "Artist Exchange" program developed to assist Mid-South visual and performing artists to present their works to the public through partnerships with local businesses and organizations.

November 1, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

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Success Tools for Students

KD Consulting Services provides clients from corporations to elementary schools with skills to succeed in life and business. The founder of KD Consulting Service, Kinja Dixon, a former aircraft mechanic turned top sales marketer and published author, discussed his personal journey and his current passion of inspiring students. His tailored message for elementary students highlights Universal laws for mastering your passion and managing your associations.

November 8, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

Memphis Music Initiative

The Memphis Music Initiative was started in 2014 with funding from a private Memphis foundation. The initiative was inspired by earlier work from various youth and music organizations throughout the city to use community engagement to develop arts-focused activities that build on existing resources and assets to drive youth and community outcomes. The initiative's strategic priorities and approach were defined through a five-month strategic development process which engaged low-income and communities of color throughout Memphis and local and national youth development and arts leaders to identify the assets, process, and activities important to carrying out this work successfully. The five-year, \$20 million strategy is expected to run through 2020. The initiative was designed to focus on three critical areas of work: in-school (sustain existing in-school music education and expand instruction through partnerships with local musicians); extended learning (expand high-quality out-of-school time programs to reach more youth and remove barriers to youth engagement and participation); and innovation spaces (develop places to spur innovation where youth can hear, learn and play music). The introduction of the website and other digital properties represents the formal launch of Memphis Music Initiative, but hardly the beginning of its work and impact - teaching fellows were first placed in classrooms to pilot the program in January of 2015 and some initial grants were made to a shortlist of youth development and music engagement

focused Memphis organizations this summer and earlier this fall. Deron Hall, Director of Partnerships and Operations explained the Initiative.

Heal The Hood/Hoops for the Holiday

The Heal the Hood Foundation of Memphis' purpose is to implement and find creative methods to provide educational, cultural, and social economic and community change in the city of Memphis and surrounding areas that are heavily populated by youth crime, violence, and other social deviant patterns of behaviors through multi-media science. LaDell Beamon, founder and CEO, of Heal the Hood discussed the Hoops for the Holidays weekend, charity album, literacy campaign, mentoring program and legacy project in the school system.

November 15, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

American Red Cross Mid South Chapter

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission.

The 6th Annual Red Boa Ball on November 21, features a seated dinner, dancing and auction all benefiting the American Red Cross of the Mid-South.

By sponsoring or attending the Red Boa Ball, people will be helping the American Red Cross of the Mid-South ensure that they continue to stand ready 24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year. They not only respond to floods and tornadoes but also provide assistance to an average of three families each day who are affected by residential fire in this community. They also are working to create a more resilient community through free preparedness education and providing a continuum of services to our military families. The American Red Cross of the Mid-South relies on events like the Red Boa Ball to continue to provide the critical services to this community. Jesse Walker Wiley talked about the Red Cross's programs and assistance as well as the Red Boa Ball.

Foundation for Youth Development, Inc.

The Foundation for Youth Development, Inc. was founded by Marsha D. Johnson to foster self-esteem and excellence in urban youth in the Memphis area. The Foundation bridges the generational and social-economic gaps within the community giving the disenfranchised the opportunity to develop in all areas of life.

Marsha D. Johnson discussed the personal motivation to launch Foundation for Youth Development, the year-round services and activities as well as the Foundation's premier weekend event featuring an award ceremony, a basketball camp hosted by a former NBA player, and the Sunday morning service featuring a national speaker.

November 22, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

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Sunday's Best Memphis/Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday's Best Memphis, a non-profit grassroots community group, founded by three friends from the tech industry desiring a way to help the less fortunate and homeless. Their primary function is to provide year-round clothing drives and donating toiletries to the homeless and organizations that assist them and those under deserved in the Memphis community.

One of the co-founders of Sunday's Best Memphis, Anthony Martin and Herman Dickey, a representative from Community Alliance for the Homeless discussed the Memphis homeless issue, various programs, and the collaboration between Sunday's Best Memphis and Community Alliance for the Homeless to host a free Thanksgiving Dinner for the general public.

November 29, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

Porter Leath

Before 1850, widows and orphans in Shelby County, Tenn., had nowhere to turn for food, shelter, clothing and care. That meant willing and compassionate citizens had to fill the gap. Sarah Leath was one of those citizens, and as a widow and mother herself, she took the lead to organize such a place—the home that would become Porter-Leath. Since its founding, Porter-Leath has remained passionately committed to serving at-risk children and families in Memphis. While both its name and mission have evolved with changing times and events, the focus has always been to serve Memphis' most vulnerable citizens. Today Porter-Leath helps more than 10,000 low-income children and families annually with programs designed to meet their developmental, health and social needs at the earliest opportunity. Mike Warr discussed the organization, its programs and the 14th Annual Toy Truck toy drive in which WXXM is directly involved.

Vollintine -Evergreen Community Association

The Vollintine – Evergreen Community Association (VECA) is a non-profit neighborhood association founded in the 1970s to address blockbusting. Over the decades the association has become one of the

leading community associations in the City of Memphis with prime education institutions and residential communities with a strong focus on community activism and youth programs.

VECA representatives and the owner of a Mustard Seed Studio, a sewing and crafts workroom, discussed the laudable youth initiatives and community programs which foster community residents' investment in their neighborhood. The Mustard Seed Studio promoted their annual Holiday Showcase featuring local residents crafting gifts for the holiday season. A weekend of special events also showcased crafts designed by community youth at Mustard Seed Studio free workshops.

December 6, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

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Mount Up On Wings

Mount Up OnWings is a Christian non-profit organization helping women affected by domestic violence transition into safe environments as well as assist with their reclaiming and rebuilding their lives through spiritual and practical steps.

Founder of Mount Up On Wings, Valencia Jones, and author Y.L. King, shared their personal stories driving their mission to help women affected by negative and unsafe relationships; as well as offered practical advice for women and men currently in similar situations.

December 13, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

Memphis Botanic Garden

The non-profit Memphis Botanic Garden strives to enhance lives by connecting people with nature, increasing awareness and appreciation of our environment on their 96-acre property. Memphis Botanic Garden serves over 40,000 school-aged children annually through organized education programs, offering them the opportunity to get outdoors and learn through hands-on activities and nature play. Students come from 192 area schools, including 102 Memphis public schools where 83% of the children qualify for lunch assistance programs, reaching an under-served population through our educational programs.

My Big Backyard family garden offers a place for jumping, splashing, digging, creating, and discovering the joys of time spent outdoors.

Mary Helen Butler discussed the annual Snowy Nights in My Big Backyard, Winter Break Camp and the annual Incognito Art Auction all of which benefit the Garden.

MBAA Annual Holiday Soiree

Memphis Black Arts Alliance has been celebrating & nurturing the Arts & Black Heritage since 1982. The programs are designed to offer easy and affordable access to high quality cultural instruction and arts programming which: instills pride, discipline, reflection, positive action on social issues; improves cognitive and social skills; develops talent and offers arts-related job training; encourages and promotes entrepreneurship in the arts; and, promotes harmony and appreciation of diversity within and outside the black community. The first professionally staffed, year-round, non-profit cultural center in Tennessee. LarJuanette Williams, the newly elected Executive of the Memphis Black Arts Alliance her film and theater career, her personal connection to the MBAA and her path to becoming the new Executive, its continued mission, various programs and upcoming annual holiday soiree.

December 20, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

Pink Palace Museum

The Pink Palace Family of Museums, a wide-ranging collection of historic, educational and technological attractions maintained by the City of Memphis, and Memphis Museums, Inc. includes the Pink Palace Museum, the CTI 3D Giant Theater, the Sharpe Planetarium, The Lichterman Nature Center and the historic Mallory-Neely and Magevney Houses and operates some of the finest attractions and exhibits in the country. The Pink Palace Museum, the Sharpe Planetarium and the CTI 3D Giant Theater are accredited members of the American Association of Museums. The Lichterman Nature Center was the first accredited nature center in the United States.

The Pink Palace Museum is one of the largest facilities of its kind in the Southeast. You can walk through a replica of the first self-service grocery store in the country, Clarence Saunders' Piggly Wiggly. Explore the cultural and natural history of the Mid-South through exciting exhibits, dioramas, and audio-visu-als. Trace Memphis' development from the time of Spanish explorers through the Civil War and the yellow fever epidemics. Learn from the award-winning medical exhibit how health care grew to be Memphis' largest industry. The Museum also hosts a number of touring exhibits for you to see and experience throughout the year. Rhonda Cloud with the Pink Palace talked about the 43rd annual Enchanted Forest as well as the newly renovated Sharpe Planetarium unveiling January 30, 2016. She also discussed the upcoming event The Science of Beer in which one can learn about the science behind favorite brews through activities, mini-lectures, and talking with expert brewers.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

American Red Cross Biomedical Services plays a critical role in our nation's health care system. It is the largest single supplier of blood and blood products in the United States, collecting and processing approximately 40 percent of the blood supply and distributing it to about 2,600 hospitals and transfusion centers nationwide. The Red Cross also plays a leading role in protecting the safety of donors and patients and increasing the availability of blood. It has been among the first to help develop and implement testing for infectious diseases and is frequently the single major contributor to clinical trials to improve blood safety. Providing life-saving blood and blood products to patients is a key component of the Red Cross mission to help people in times of emergency and disasters. American Red Cross of Mid-South provides

services to Dyer, Fayette, Lake, Lauderdale, Obion, Shelby and Tipton Counties in Tennessee; De Soto and Tunica Counties in Mississippi; and Crittenden County in Arkansas.

Michelle Rupp, Regional representative for the Red Cross Blood division, talked about extreme importance of supporting blood banks in the region and pushing year-round blood drives.

December 27, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

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Mid-South Kwanzaa Inc.

Mid-South Kwanzaa Inc. is a non-partisan cultural organization. Mid-South Kwanzaa provides throughout the year, opportunities for involvement and cultural enlightenment are scheduled to reflect on our African past and American present. All activities are geared toward the promotion of African and African-American heritage through Kwanzaa celebrations, education, festivals, scholarships, and the arts. Osupa Moon and Frances Barnes discuss the 2016-2017 Kwanzaa cultural celebrations scheduled throughout Memphis focusing on family, community and culture.