

Pride of the Bluegrass

The News of the Lafayette Band

From the Director's Desk



Charles M. Smith

Looking Ahead But Keeping Our Heads In the Game!

I'd like to thank everyone for the great response to our Tournament of Roses meeting on November 9. With everything we have going on right now, it's great to know that people are looking ahead to this exciting opportunity we've been given.

I've had to caution the students a couple of times to make sure they keep their heads in the game this year, something they accomplished well during state weekend. I was proud of their performances in Bowling Green and their parents represented Lafayette High School at its highest level. The behavior of everyone was exemplary and one of the things that

I've always appreciated most about the Lafayette Band.

A lot of moving pieces come together on the day of a band competition, especially one that involves a weekend of travel. Volunteers had their A-game on in Bowling Green and the students really peaked at the right time. I thought both their performances were outstanding, even though the results were not what we would have liked.

As we move on, we're already at work on the 2012 show, but keeping with the current opportunities at hand, I'd like to congratulate everyone who will be moving on to the second

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- The purposes of the Lafayette Band Association are to lend support, both moral and financial, to the Lafayette High School Band and to cooperate with the Band Director so that the Band is brought to and kept at the highest possible degree of performance and musicianship.

Dates to Remember

- Dec. 3 Delivery date, Fruit and Wreaths
- Dec. 7 Area Band Concert
- Dec. 10 All-State auditions, final round
- Dec. 12 LBA Parent Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 16 Last day of school, winter break
- Jan. 2 Classes resume
- Jan. 6 District Band Audition, Tates Creek
- Jan. 9 LBA Parent Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 13 8th Grade Band Orientation, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 17 MLK Day, No School
- Jan. 20-22 District 7 Honor Band

Tournament of Roses

UPDATE

Planning continues for efforts needed for the Lafayette Band to participate in the Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1, 2013. Special thanks to Sara Maggard for the hours she has put in with the travel agents, determining the cost as well as the itinerary for our upcoming trip.

Fundraising has started, with a fine effort in fruit and wreath sales and twice-weekly efforts in the bingo hall are reaping great benefits. At its October meeting, the Board of Directors voted to direct the proceeds from the first week of bingo each month to the TOR fund.

After about \$25,000 is set aside for such expenses as flags,

music and instrument/equipment transport needed for the parade, fundraising will focus on reducing payments for each student. Joey Maggard has created a special acronym, LEAP, which means, "Let's Eliminate A Payment." Payments will be eliminated from the end of the schedule and Joey and Sara have set a goal of eliminating at least three payments, for a total of \$525. More are possible!

Each payment will mean about \$35-40,000 in fundraising revenue, so the more mulch we sell, bingo we work and Kroger cards we use will mean the more payments we will be able to eliminate.

LBA Parent Meeting

Mon. Dec. 12, 7 p.m.
LHS Cafeteria

On-going collection of money for the Fruit and Wreath fundraiser. Information about second semester concert season. Information about TOR progress.

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round of auditions for the KMEA All-State Band, which will take place on Dec. 10 at John Hardin High School in Elizabethtown. If you're auditioning, I'm sure you've heard this, but I want to stress that late-comers will not be accommodated for these auditions. It is imperative that you are in place on time so plan your travel accordingly.

I also encourage as many students as possible to audition for the District Honor Band which will take place at Tates Creek High School when school resumes the first week of January, after the winter break.

I hope the Area Band concert is on your calendar for Wednesday, Dec. 7. I've heard that our new superintendent, Tom Shelton, will attend and I'm sure he looks forward to meeting many students and parents. I feel confident that he will be impressed with the state of music education in Fayette County.

Thanks again for all the great efforts

you displayed during the marching season just past. I hope you enjoy a festive, but restful, holiday season and are looking forward to the coming semester! If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me in the Band Room any day after 10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles M. Smith
Director of Bands
Lafayette High School
381-3483 (School)
296-9257 (Home)

chuck.smith@fayette.kyschools.us

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TOR, continued from page one

If you have ideas for community sponsors that might be interested in supporting our efforts, please contact Beth Potter, pottermom@insightbb.com.

LBA will keep you up-to-date on all fundraising issues via email so watch for LEAP in the subject line.

Finally, in order to be green-lighted to begin making fan plan payments (deposit due April) for the TOR

trip, student payments must be on schedule through April 1. Payments for the 2012-13 season will begin the first of February 2012.

TOR: Update will be a standing feature of "Pride of the Bluegrass," while preparations are being made for the Band's trip to the Tournament of Roses Parade in December 2012.



**Today is a
Birthday,
I Wonder
for Whom**

Claire Ballard	Dec. 27
Ryan Booth	Dec. 17
Andrew Burton	Dec. 9
James Courtney	Dec. 11
Robert Craig	Dec. 26
Katherine Etherton	Dec. 29
Miranda Fields	Dec. 13
Rachel Kaplan	Dec. 9
Nathan McCullough	Dec. 27
Dani Miller	Dec. 12
Dylan O'Hair	Dec. 13
Ashley Paul	Dec. 21
Samantha Pigg	Dec. 20



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of the Month**



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*Thanks for your support of the Lafayette Band
and music education!*

Take a holiday break but don't slow down!

The end of November brings us to the half-way point of the Band and LBA year and even though a busy marching season is behind us, it does not appear that things are slowing down all that much!

We have just received the news that 45 Lafayette musicians have made it through first round All-State auditions! This is absolutely tremendous and best of luck to all of these students as their audition process continues. Color guard auditions are here, as is the annual December Jazz Band Concert, and the annual Area Band Concert which takes on new meaning this year as we continue to welcome current eighth grade families to the Lafayette Nation. The Jazz Band Dance is not that far off! We are definitely not slowing down!

We are also looking forward to seeing a large number of Band students honored at the upcoming Lafayette Academic Awards. As usual, there will be many we're sure!

Throughout this busy, hectic time, we must also live up to the purpose of LBA in supporting these activities, morally and financially. We're not worried about the enthusiastic crowds that will be there to support the Band in the above mentioned activities. We do, though, need to assure that our finances are in place.

Hopefully, everyone supported the recently completed fruit and wreath sales, our first fundraiser since the Tournament Of Roses Parade announcement. We're already hearing good things about the package-wrapping at Amazon. We will soon kick off our annual mulch sale, followed quickly by our raffle. All of these play an important part in LBA making budget and fulfilling our purpose. Many thanks to First (Fundraising) Vice-Presidents, Tom and Carole Howell, and all of their

fundraising coordinators for their hard work this fall in making our fundraisers work.

What would an LBA presidents' column be without a paragraph about bingo? Please, find a way to get involved with bingo. We have had great volunteer turnout for pulltab sales in the weeks after the TOR announcement. Let's keep it up. A minimum of eight pulltab sales volunteers are needed each and every Tuesday and Thursday. We still need ALL families to work six bingo sessions in this academic year. The LBA Board has designated all profits from the first week of the month to TOR and we will soon add additional dollars toward our LEAP – "Let's Eliminate A Payment!" – strategy. ALL OF US, as LBA members, play a part in reducing the TOR costs and the absolute best way to do this is by working bingo.

We hope to unveil our 2012-2013 Lafayette Band Corporate Sponsorship package within the week. We will post the package on the website after it is approved.

We still have a few families who have not completed their Family Payments for this year. Please, if you are not on your plan, make all efforts to get your account up to date.

The first LBA Statements for the 2012-13 school year will go out in early January with first payments, which include first TOR payments, due February 1, 2012. These payments will enable LBA to make necessary deposits for TOR.

Finally, at this time of year for giving thanks, we want to pass along our thanks to all of the LBA members and volunteers who make up this amazing organization. By working together, we are achieving our purpose, supporting our kids, and having fun doing so. We are grateful to all of you!

Please call us at 277-7893 or email us at jsmag@insightbb.com with any questions or concerns.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

GO LAFAYETTE!!!

Joey and Sara Maggard
LBA Presidents



FUNDRAISING NOTES

Marching season might be over, but fundraising season is NEVER over!

Congratulations to everyone on one of our most successful fruit and wreath sales ever. Without a doubt, the Band Nation took to heart the encouragement to think of this as our first TOR fundraiser. If you have not yet turned in money for your fruit and wreath sales, please do so ASAP by contacting Jill Hutchinson, 224-2388, jill.hutchinson@insightbb.com. If you have chosen not to sell fruit and wreaths this year, the in-lieu-of payment is \$75. This payment can be given to Jill, Carole Howell or made via PayPal on your CHARMS account.

Keep using those Kroger gift cards! The payments from Kroger have been steadily increasing over the last couple of months because of the increasing use of cards. And during the holiday season, be sure to look over the huge selection of gift cards that are available at Kroger. If you are going to give a gift card, that's a convenient place to get it, of course, purchasing it with your Kroger gift card. You would be surprised at the number of stores that market gift cards at Kroger—and hurray, no getting stuck in mall traffic!

If you're planning to go out to dinner, purchase a gift card for the outing with your Kroger card and voila! LBA receives four percent of the

Congratulations to the top sellers of the Lafayette Discount Cards!

8th grade: Ashley Hall (25)
9th grade: Katie Weitlauf (40)
10th grade: Ryan Ballard (42)
11th grade: Kelly Duncan (31)
12th grade: Sydnee Webb (45)
You all rock!

Coming Soon!

The annual Lafayette Band mulch sale! The Band has been selling mulch each spring since 2008 and in just a few short years, selling mulch has become one of our most successful fundraisers. It's still a couple of months away, but as you see family and friends during the holiday season, take the opportunity to tell them about the upcoming sale and the quality of our product. Watch your email and *The Pride of the Bluegrass* for more information!

purchase price. Take a look at the gift card display during your next trip to Kroger and let your imagination run wild! Contact Julie Ward, ashley.ward@insightbb.com

Finally, if you are interested in raising money via package wrapping for Amazon, contact Mary Kay Rayens, mkrayens@uky.edu. Slots are still available and the closer to Christmas, the more money Amazon pays per package wrapped. It's fun and the time goes fast!

LBA is looking ahead to the 2012-13 season and the need to replace people in the following areas:

- Band Store
- Football program
- Newsletter

If you are interested, please contact Joey and Sara Maggard, 277-7893 or jsmag@insightbb.com

Bingo Needs You!

Have you committed to your bingo slots for the year? If not, call your section chairperson to reserve the times that you will work. We all rely on YOUR participation in fundraising through Bingo to keep your band payments in check!

Brass: Jill Richeson
Woodwind: Vivian Salley
Percussion and Color Guard: Gayla Webb
Board/TOR All-Call: Karen Willett

Carol Lynn
Originals & Events

