

# Pride of the Bluegrass

The News of the Lafayette Band

From the Director's Desk



Charles M. Smith

## Lafayette Musicians Excel in Local, Regional, National Honor Bands

Has it occurred to anyone else how much control weather seems to have over our activities? I missed seeing you all at the December parent meeting and hope that you all enjoyed some rest during the semester break. It seems like a long time ago, doesn't it? And especially with the snow days that seem to be breaking our rhythm with frustrating regularity.

Despite the inclement weather, though, there are good things going on with our students. The second semester of Mastering Musicianship has been launched and before the break, 32 students auditioned for All-State groups and 15 of them were selected to participate in band, jazz band and orchestra. Their names are listed on page 2 and I hope you'll

congratulate them when you see them. These groups will perform as part of the Kentucky Music Educators' Association conference in Louisville February 9-12.

The Lafayette Wind Symphony was invited to perform for the conference, and will travel to Louisville for that performance on Thursday, Feb. 10. I'm sure they will represent us well in that performance which will feature Allen Vizzutti and Vince DiMartino as guest artists.

We had 94 students audition for District Seven Honor Band and 46 were selected to participate. Because of inclement weather (!), the event has been rescheduled for March 24-26. Watch your email for more information about this rescheduled event. This isn't the first time district band has been affected by weather conditions and I'm thankful that it was possible to schedule it later in the semester when the chances of inclement weather are not as great.

KMEA Solos and Ensembles Festival is scheduled for February 19 at Lexington Catholic High School, which

**Congratulations to Meredith Burns (oboe) and Clay Gonzalez (trombone) for being selected to participate in the 2011 Honor Band of America**

## Dates to Remember

- Feb. 4-5 Wind Symphony Camp with W. Dale Warren
- Feb. 9 KMEA Conference begins
- Feb. 10 Wind Symphony KMEA performance
- Feb. 14 LBA meeting, 7 p.m., Mulch kickoff
- Feb. 17 Concert Band and Friends
- Feb. 18 Jazz Band Dance, Immanuel Baptist Church
- Feb. 19 KMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival
- Feb. 22-26 District Basketball Tourney
- Feb. 28 LBA Board meeting, 6:30
- Mar. 11-12 Trombone Days @ Lafayette
- Mar. 11-12 Saxophone Days Lafayette
- Mar. 14 LBA meeting, 7 p.m.

## Are you a member of The Pride?

**For more information about joining this group of LBA supporters see information on the website, [www.lafayetteband.org](http://www.lafayetteband.org)**

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always does a great job hosting this festival. If your student is participating in this festival, he or she will be notified about the time of performance.

The third weekend in February will be a busy one for our students, as it will also include the Jazz Band Dance on Fri., Feb. 18. Again this year, the dance and silent auction will be held at Immanuel Baptist Church on Tates Creek Road. The band will begin playing at 7 p.m. and the evening will also include food and our fabulous

silent auction. The dance is one of my favorite events of the year and I hope to see many of you there.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Band and, as always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me any day after 10 a.m. in the Band Room.

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

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## Congratulations to our Lafayette Band members who were selected for the 2011 Kentucky All-State Bands.

**Danny Alford, trombone**  
**Marie Armbruster, oboe**  
**Chris Baldani, euphonium**  
**Michael Balko, trumpet**  
**Meredith Burns, oboe**  
**Melanie Burrier, flute**  
**Clay Gonzalez, trombone**  
**Turner Hawkins, bassoon**  
**Maria Kidd, clarinet**  
**Chloe McIntosh, flute**  
**Phil Moore, drums (Jazz Band)**  
**Stella Sharpe, oboe**  
**George Summers, tuba**  
**Emily Wilson, horn**  
**Joseph Wrightson, alto saxophone**

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## Bingo Volunteers

Thanks to the folks who have stepped up and volunteered to work at bingo on Tuesday nights at the Clay's Mill Bingo Center on Clay's Mill Road. Chairperson Maria Hctor is working hard to train folks to replace the dozen volunteers who will be completing years of service when their student graduates in May (or June, probably!)

Darryl Duncan will continue his work with bingo and we are still looking for people who are will to work one Tuesday a month for this important fundraiser. If you are available, call Maria at 277-9492.

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## Fun and excitement ahead (in spite of a snowy start!)

A new year and another snow day! For those who love snow, it has been a great start to 2011. For those who hope school ends before July, it has been a bumpy few weeks. However, there are so many wonderful things happening with the Lafayette Band, we can find our joy in music. Lafayette Band students led the way, once again, by securing spots in the District and State Honor Bands.

We were sorry to miss the Area Band Concert this year – it would have been our ninth! We always love to hear the progression of talent and love seeing the youngest musicians take part in the big event.

We will be rolling out information about our next big fundraiser – mulch sales and delivery – at the February parent meeting. We have set our

goal and it will take everyone pitching in to make it happen. We will need: individuals willing to call previous customers; others to prepare food; and most important, men and women and trucks! Encourage your Band student to volunteer on delivery day. The delivery goes quickly when we have lots of volunteers. Thanks to Mike Richeson, Tim Tussey and Dwayne Imes for leading this fundraiser.

Make plans to celebrate with the Jazz Band on February 18. The annual Jazz Band Dance & Silent Auction will be held at the Immanuel Baptist Fellowship Hall (Tates Creek Road), the same location as last year.

Carole Howell and her team have been scouring the city to gather the most wonderful silent auction items. Please donate a silent auction item or food item

so we can make this our most successful dance and auction ever. If you have a donation or want to serve on a committee, please contact Carole at (859) 223-6485 or redskins@qx.net. This is such a fun event – great music, delicious food, and wonderful auction items. Make a point to attend and bring family and friends.

Please stay connected by attending the spring parent meetings. During this semester, we will present the budget, the slate of new LBA officers and many other important points of information. Thanks again to all the Band families who volunteered for the many activities in the fall. LBA is a great organization because of its great families. Here's to a wonderful 2011!

*Lori & Randy Gonzalez*



*Burchfield & Thomas, Inc.*

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# Today is a Birthday, I Wonder for Whom . . .



Because this is a combined newsletter,  
it includes January and February birthdays

Alex Alverson	Jan. 17	Sabrina Kline	Jan 22
Kino Briggs	Feb. 20	Lyndsey Mudd	Feb. 19
Meredith Burns	Feb. 22	Kaitlyn Napier	Feb. 2
Megan Davis	Jan. 12	Jacob Pauley	Feb. 16
Jeremy Duncan	Feb. 28	Brooke Payne	Jan. 24
Andy Edwards	Feb. 10	Michael Railey	Feb. 11
Rachel Elliott	Feb. 22	Sarah Richardson	Jan. 6
Daniel Fathergill	Jan. 7	Callie Richeson	Feb. 24
Nathan Fister	Jan. 24	Jacie Thompson	Jan. 18
Justin Garland	Jan. 16	Savannah See	Feb. 13
Kendall Greene	Jan. 8	George Summers	Jan. 14
Natasha Hagan	Jan. 31	Zach Whitson	Jan. 3
Tobee Hagerman	Jan. 9	Sydnee Webb	Feb. 11
Ashton Howard	Feb. 1	Emily Wilson	Feb. 25
Mike Kjelby	Feb. 15	Rebecca Wilson	Feb. 14



A great big LBA *THANK YOU* goes out to Bethany Nurseries for allowing us to use their fork lift for our fruit and wreath sale in December and our upcoming mulch sale.

The nursery specializes in landscape design, installation and maintenance. Contact them in Nicholasville at (859) 887-4289 or (859) 229-6385.

## LBA Parent Meeting

Feb. 14, 7 p.m.

LHS Cafeteria

In addition to other important topics, the Mulch Sale will kick off at this meeting.

Be there to get all the information you need!

# Jazz Band Dance

Fri, Feb. 18 Music. Food, Silent Auction

Planning is well underway for the Jazz Band Dance, which will be held on Friday, Feb. 18 at the Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Road at 7 p.m. Carole Howell and a dedicated crew of volunteers are busy collecting fabulous silent auction items and planning for a terrific array of snacks for the premier social event of the Band season!

Carole has received auction items from the Tennessee Titans and reports that she expects to also hear that she is receiving items from the Cincinnati Bengals and the Indianapolis Colts.

In the last few years, the auction has featured trophies and memorabilia from past competitions. Would one of these hold a special memory for YOU?

Homemade craft items have often been auctioned, displaying the work of adept seamstresses who have fashioned items from Band logos and show shirts. Carole is working hard to include as much variety as possible in the auction and assures us that there will be an item to suit every bidder's taste!

Expect a call or an email from a committee member asking for a contribution of food for the party. Do you make a great chocolate cake? They'd love to have it! Or do you have a recipe for a terrific dip for vegetables or chips? The food at the

Jazz Band Dance is almost — but not quite — as good as the music.

Music and dancing, of course, is the main event. And the Lafayette Jazz Band, under the direction of Brian Lewellen, is among the finest high school jazz bands in the state.

So put on your dancing shoes and join the Lafayette Band families for a great evening — be there or be square!



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