



*Loblolly Times*

Newsletter of

The Friends of Bowie Nature Park



May 4, 2021

## Playground Committee to Host Facebook Live Events During The Big Payback



Nando's Burito and Taco Shop and Fairview Nutrition will each host a Facebook Live event during The Big Payback.

**T**he Treehouse Playground is about to get a big boost from The Big Payback, a 24-hour online giving event from May 5 at 6 pm to May 6 at 6 pm. The Bowie Playground Build Committee is hosting a series of Facebook Live events during The Big Payback to encourage donations at certain times so they can qualify for cash prizes. One such event will be at Nando's Restaurant beginning at 6:00 pm on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Playground committee members will be there to encourage people to donate as soon after 6:00 pm as possible because the first organization to reach 50 unique donors wins the "People Get Ready" prize of \$1,500. The event will also highlight Nando's and encourage people to eat there because they are donating 10% of their sales all day on May 5 to the Playground Fund.

Another event will be early Thursday morning beginning at 5:40 to encourage people to donate as close to sunrise as possible. Sunrise is at 5:49 am, and the organization that receives a donation closest to that time will get the "Sunny Side Up" prize of \$1,000. Fairview Nutrition will be the site of another Facebook Live event beginning at 7:00 Thursday morning. The "Breakfast Club Mealtime

Prize” of \$1,000 goes to the organization that receives a donation closest to 7:30 am. Other events will focus on other prizes throughout the 24 hour period.

To see the list of all the planned Facebook Live events during The Big Payback, visit the Bowie Playground Build Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Bowie-Playground-Build-100357648050403> . Scroll down the list on the left side of the page until you see “Upcoming Events.” Then watch the events live on that page at those times. And stay tuned for pop-up live events throughout the day on Thursday.

The overall goal for this year’s Big Payback is to raise \$50,000 toward the building of a new inclusive playground in Bowie Nature Park. The group hopes to win the grand prize of \$5,000 for the most unique donors of any small organization. A “unique donor” refers to an individual donor, identified by their email address, who has not given to this organization before during this Big Payback. To give during The Big Payback, go to [www.thebigpayback.org/FBNP](http://www.thebigpayback.org/FBNP) between 6 pm May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6 pm May 6<sup>th</sup>. Or you can scan the QR code below. There is a minimum donation of \$10. All proceeds will go to the Friends of Bowie Nature Park’s Playground Fund. Thank you for helping this project!



This QR code leads directly to the Friends of Bowie Nature Park Big Payback page. All proceeds go to the Playground Fund.

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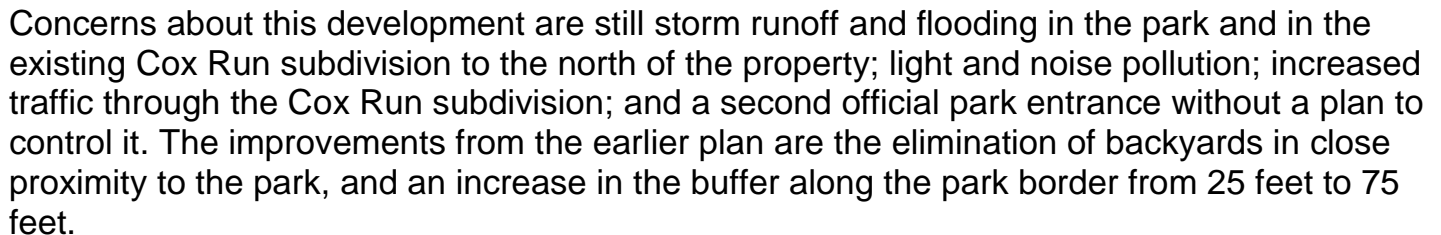
## **Update on Proposed Groves Development near Park**

**T**he Groves property development is on the Board of Commissioners’ (BOC) agenda for this Thursday, May 6. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm. The developers have submitted an updated plan, the third one for this site. It shows a road running parallel to the park boundary, about 75’ from the park. The 100’ buffer mentioned by the developer at the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting has come to mean a 75’ buffer plus a road between the park and the boundary of the nearest lot. The new plan is an improvement over the last plan, which had a 25’ buffer plus 10’ of landscaping in the back yards of the lots. However, it does not include a 100 foot buffer. Another change is that the development is closer to the park boundary on the southeastern portion of the property, where it comes closest to the Redbud Trail in the park. It also appears that in two spots, streams flow through lots and into Bowie Park.

The lots bordering the Cox Run subdivision do not appear to have changed since the last version of the plan, nor has the 25’ buffer shown on the north side of the development. The newest plan shows one more potential road connection compared with the previous plan, but



The number of lots on this plan is 169, compared with 168 for the previous plan. This plan still includes a back entrance to the park. It is unclear who will patrol this entrance given the recent cutbacks in park staffing.



The developers, Davis Drive Investments, are requesting a zoning change from RS40 (40,000 square foot lots, or about one acre) to R20 with a Planned Overlay Development (POD) which allows for lots as small as 10,000 square feet, or about ¼ acre. All but 20 of the lots shown on this plan are less than 20,000 square feet, which is the minimum size allowed for a straight R20 zoning. The overlay rules allow for the smaller sized lots in exchange for the developer preserving potentially buildable space as green space. The overlay rules also allow for more control of the site plan by the BOC. If the developer requested a straight R20 zoning, the BOC would need to vote yea or nay on the zoning change without ever seeing a plan.



The BOC voted yes to the requested zoning change in March. The next step in the process was a public hearing, which happened on April 1<sup>st</sup>. At the upcoming May 6<sup>th</sup> BOC meeting, the plan will get its final reading and vote. Anyone wishing to speak at this meeting needs to sign up for “citizen comments” before the meeting begins. Only five people are allowed to speak, and they are limited to 3 minutes each.

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## Plant Swap a Success after Postponement

Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup> was a gorgeous day for the Friends’ annual plant swap. The event had been rescheduled from the previous Saturday due to rain. There were 10 vehicles and 23 participants. It was small compared with other area swaps, but several participants said they prefer it to be small. Here are a few pictures from the event.



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## Obituary: Nature Center Custodian Lynn Karich Dies

Lynn Karich was a custodian at the Bowie Park Nature Center. Lynn moved to Fairview from his native Colorado in 2017. He passed away on March 17, 2021. He is remembered by friends and family as an outdoorsman, and an avid hunter and fisherman. He enjoyed playing football, basketball, hockey and golf. He had a great sense of humor and loved to laugh. He will be missed by all who knew him.



Lynn Karich with wife Patricia Karich

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## Nature Center Hours Reduced Again

**A**s the world gradually opens up while the pandemic recedes, Bowie Park Nature Center is gradually closing down. The latest reduction in hours leaves the Nature Center open only 12 hours per week: Friday, Saturday and Monday only, from 10:00 am-2:00 pm.

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## Garden Crew Update

**T**he flower beds at Bowie Park are in all their spring glory, and the Garden Crew is busily keeping up with the abundance. On Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, the crew planted annuals purchased from Fairview High School. Most of the plants in the gardens are Tennessee natives, but the crew likes to add some summer-long color by planting annuals along the sidewalk leading up to the Nature Center. They also bought impatiens for the containers on the porch of the Nature Center. The Garden Crew meets every Tuesday morning at 9:00 to care for the flower

beds. They always welcome new gardeners, and experience is not necessary. The experienced gardeners will help you. To volunteer, please email Kathy Tarolli at [ktfvtree@gmail.com](mailto:ktfvtree@gmail.com) or just show up on Tuesday morning at 9.



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## Calendar Announcements

**The Big Payback:** This 24-hour online giving event runs from 6:00 pm on May 5<sup>th</sup> to 6:00 pm on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Go to [www.thebigpayback.org/FBNP](http://www.thebigpayback.org/FBNP) during the event to donate. All proceeds go to the Friends of Bowie Park Playground Fund. See article above for more details.

**Fairview Board of Commissioners Meeting:** The Fairview Board of Commissioners is ultimately in charge of Bowie Nature Park. They meet at Fairview City Hall on the first and third Thursdays of each month at **7:00 pm**. The next meeting is **May 6**. Meeting agendas can be accessed at <https://www.fairview-tn.org/category/meeting-agenda-posts/>. Masks are required.



**Fairview Planning Commission:** The Fairview City Planning Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month. Its next meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 11, from 7-9 p.m. at Fairview City Hall.** Masks are required.

**Friends of Bowie Park Member Meeting:** Our next meeting will be by Zoom on **Saturday, May 8 at 9:00 am.**

**PARK PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:** Bowie Nature Park staff currently has no park programs planned, and no staff to conduct programs. As the pandemic dies down, this will hopefully change. Check the park website at <https://www.bowiepark.org/> or call 615-799-5544.

The mission of the Friends of Bowie Nature Park is to preserve, protect, promote and enhance Bowie Nature Park for use by the general public as a nature reserve and park. To become a member of the Friends or to make a donation, please visit our website at <http://www.friendsofbowienaturepark.org/> .

To unsubscribe, please email [eileen.brogan@comcast.net](mailto:eileen.brogan@comcast.net) with your request.