



NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION

# Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

December, 2008

## Next monthly meeting:

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009, 7:00 p.m.  
Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria,  
Lower Level  
Straight Street

## From the President's desk



Ah, snow is here, reminding us that the cold hard months of winter are ahead. But like any season, this will pass.

I had prepared a history piece on the Inclines for this newsletter, but will hold on this until next month as there are many other things to report and we have no general meeting this month. The neighborhood has been unusually busy recently...

Towne Properties met with community members at an open house on November 20th to show concept designs for the development of Blocks 4 and 5. The concept included retail space, office space, apartments, hotel space, plenty of parking, and an open green space in the middle of the development. Let's see how this plan unfolds and be supportive of progress for our business center.

I met with Nancy Zimpher and the Board of the Uptown Consortium with the presidents of Clifton, Avondale, Mt Auburn, and Corryville, to discuss the future of Uptown. We all agreed that public safety is becoming a greater concern and we will need to focus more energy and time into this. I am also hopeful to learn from the other community councils on ways to be more successful. The meetings with the Uptown Consortium will continue and we will raise our hands and voices together more efficiently.

I went to the most recent Citizens on Patrol meeting on Thursday December 4th. The group had a full one hour of talk time with Captain Bailey and Officers Lisa Johnson and Mike Fern from District 5. It was a small group discussion and was very productive for the neighborhood.

The Fairview bus turn-around renovation has begun. December 2nd saw the beginning of the West Clifton renovation that we have long been awaiting. CHCURC and CHBA received the funding for the gateway project at Calhoun

and Vine Street at Classen Park and are working with the city and the parks division to make this happen. What great projects will we embark on in 2009?

And I again call out to my neighbors—get involved! We are isolated sounds when we stand alone, but we gain great volume when we are one voice. Bring your ideas and energy to the neighborhood settings. I look forward to seeing everyone at the January meeting on January 20th and don't forget to mark your calendars for the earlier time at 7 pm!!

Rob Neel

## Minutes of the CUF Neighborhood Association meeting for November 18, 2008

- The President opened the meeting and introduced a new, more efficient (we hope) time-based format for our meetings. The hope for future meetings is a more interactive presentation of information.

- Suggestions for guest speakers were requested.

- A plaintive cry was heard for newsletter stories, especially history or personal pieces.

- Sgt. Volkerding talked about the arrest of 93 people in Northside from the Taliband gang culminating an investigation that started in May.

- Capt. Bailey addressed a question about the pending closing of the Hamilton County jail in Queensgate.

- The mutual aid agreement between the Cincinnati and UC police was discussed. Police request topics for future meetings be suggested in advance.

- UC Police are considering a door hanger campaign for the upcoming holiday break.

"Lock-up, Light-up, Buddy-up" is the theme. Volunteers are needed to hand these out.

The kick-off date is December 6 at 10:00 a.m. at the UC Police station.

- Board of Trustees update...

- Julie Murray will be joining the Board of Trustees

- The Board sent a letter to the City in support of Ben Sloan's campaign to change the inter-

section at Riddle and Marshall to a 4-way stop.

◦ The Board voted to spend the remainder of NSP funds to re-beautify the turnaround on Fairview Avenue.

◦ Suzanne Fisher made a presentation for a mosaic mural at the corner of McMicken and McMillan Avenues in Fairview.

◦ Six new members have joined CUF — welcome!

• Treasurer's Report

Balance on 10/1/08:	\$4,401.49
Income:	
Dues	\$6.00
NSP reimbursement	\$1,336.59
Dues	\$6.00
Dues	\$24.00
Total income:	\$1,372.59
Expenses:	
Gallagher J's Mulch	\$63.84
Gallagher Hardware	\$44.99
Neel Evans Landscape	\$231.70
Kinko's Sept newsletter	\$145.80
Total expenses:	\$486.33
Balance on 11/1/08:	\$5,287.75

The NSP categories that were approved by the attendees at the general meeting were:

1) beautification, 2) membership and marketing, 3) newsletter, and 4) safety.

• On November 20 Towne Properties will be presenting their version of what blocks 4 & 5 will look like. Further updates will follow.

• The January 20 meeting will start a half-hour earlier because Officer Williams will present a safety demonstration for the first hour.

• Forty people (half students, half neighbors) came to Make-a-Difference Day on October 25 to mulch, weed and clean Bellevue and Fairview parks.

• Our own "green guy," Paul Gallagher, got a 5 star volunteer award for his ongoing commitment to CUF and Findlay Market

• The West McMicken Association won an award for their community garden at Straight and McMicken.

• The West Clifton adopt-a-block program led by our own CPOP team leader, Sandra Wilson, also received an award.

• West Clifton improvements will start in January.

• A tentative clean-up person for the business district has been named.

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## Personal safety session #1 planned for January 2008

The January 2009 general meeting will have a different start than normal.

At 7 pm at Deaconess, we will start the

meeting earlier than usual with the first hour being led by Governor Williams, one of our esteemed District 5 police officers. He will be instructing residents on a few basic personal safety techniques and will be giving tips to all for increasing our awareness of our surroundings.

Plan on arriving at 7 pm for a 1 hour session. This will replace our normal police report session and we will have the normal meeting start at 8 pm.

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## Neighborhood groups and meetings

Our neighborhood is rich in smaller groups that are very active both socially and for our overall development. Let us support each other!

**Citizens on Patrol:** Citizens on Patrol meets the first Thursday of every month at Rohs Street Café at 7 pm to discuss issues with the Cincinnati Police. Our local police attend these meetings. Folks, this is a great opportunity to talk to the police face-to-face about any issues with crime. We are grateful to our neighbors who are so active with this and to the police for being so available to us.

**UHNA** (University Heights Neighborhood Association): The University Heights Neighborhood Association is a non-profit neighborhood organization located next to the University of Cincinnati. They usually meet the 2nd Monday of the month. They have organized block parties, yard sales, and the ever-popular Wednesdays on the Porch in the warm months. Sign up for their email list at [www.freelists.org](http://www.freelists.org) and search under group name "uhna".

**CHIA** (Clifton Heights Improvement Association): CHIA meets the second Thursday of every month at 6:30 at Rohs Street Cafe. The next meetings are December 11th and January 8th. This very active group organizes clean ups, happy hours on the first Friday of every month, and works toward better communication and activity in Clifton Heights. Check out the webpage for the group at: <http://www.clifton-heights.org/chia/>

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## Invest in Neighborhoods news

Invest has partnered with the Ballet for a 20% discount on most tickets, plus a savings on one of the service charges. A portion of each sale will benefit the Merit Grant Program. Merit Grants are awarded for a variety of community projects each June at our annual meeting. The

community council who generates the most ticket sales will win a \$50 cash prize from Invest. Forms available at: <http://www.investin-neighborhoods.com/ballet.lasso>  
NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT 2009

Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 24, 2009, at the Cintas Center at Xavier University. The event will run 7:30 am until 2 pm.

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## **Projected parking restrictions for street sweeping in CUF for December 2008:**

### **12/15/08**

Straight St., odd side, between McMicken Ave. and University Ct.  
University Ct., odd side, between Straight St. and Herman St.  
Fairview Ave., odd side, between Herman St. and W. McMillan St.  
Fairview Ave., odd side, between W. McMillan St. and Fairview Pl.  
Muriel Ct., odd side  
Ravine St., odd side, between W. McMillan St. and W. McMicken St.  
Stratford Ave., odd side, between W. McMillan St. and Emming St.  
Emming St., odd side, between Clifton Ave. and west terminus  
Clifton Ave., odd side, between Calhoun St. and Vine St.  
Atkinson St., odd side  
Sauer Ave., odd side  
Ohio Ave., odd side, between W. McMillan St. and 2215 Ohio

### **12/16/08**

Straight St., even side, between McMicken Ave. and University Ct.  
University Ct., even side, between Straight St. and Herman St.  
Fairview Ave., even side, between Herman St. and W. McMillan St.  
Fairview Ave., even side, between W. McMillan St. and Fairview Pl.  
Muriel Ct., even side  
Ravine St., even side, between Warner Ave. and W. McMicken St.  
Flora St., even side  
Victor St., even side, between Warner Ave. and Emming St.  
Stratford Ave., even side, between W. McMillan St. and Warner Ave.  
Rohs St., even side  
Wheeler St., even side, between Warner Ave. and Emming St.  
Clifton Ave., even side, between Calhoun St. and Vine St.  
Moerlein Ave., odd side  
Ohio Ave., even side, between W. McMillan St. and Conklin St.  
Ohio Ave., even side, between Clifton Ave. and 2126 Ohio Ave.

### **12/17/08**

Ravine St., odd side, between Straight St. and W. McMillan St.  
Southview Ave., even side  
Warner Ave., even side, between Ravine St. and Fairview Ave.  
Cassatt St., even side  
Volkert St., even side  
Ada St., even side  
Victor St., odd side  
Chickasaw St., odd side  
Wheeler St., odd side  
Klotter Ave., odd side, between Clifton Ave. and west terminus  
Hartshorn St., odd side  
Lyon St., even side  
Atkinson St., even side  
Parker St., even side, between Ohio Ave. and Clifton Ave.  
Parker St., even side, between Ohio Ave. and Eureka Ter.  
Conklin St., even side  
Graham St., even side  
Elysian Pl., even side

### **12/18/08**

Ravine St., even side, between Straight St. and W. McMillan St.  
Ada St., odd side  
Warner St., odd side, between Fairview Ave. and Wheeler St.  
Cassatt St., odd side  
Volkert St., odd side  
Victor St., even side, between Warner Ave. and W. McMillan St.  
Chickasaw St., even side  
Wheeler St., even side, between Warner Ave. and W. McMillan St.  
Klotter Ave., even side, between Clifton Ave. and west terminus  
Warner St., even side, between Clifton Ave. and Ohio Ave.  
Detzel Pl., even side  
Bosley St., even side  
Parker St., odd side, between Clifton Ave. and Ohio Ave.  
Graham St., odd side  
Elysian Pl., odd side

### **12/19/08**

Vestry Ave., odd side  
Southview Ave., odd side  
Tillotson Ave., both sides  
Flora Ave., odd side  
Warner Ave., even side, between Wheeler St. and Ravine St.  
Emming St., even side, between Clifton Ave. and west terminus  
Hartshorn St., even side  
Bosley St., odd side  
Moerlein St., even side  
Sauer Ave., even side  
Ohio Ave., even side, between Conklin St. and south terminus  
Eureka Ter., even side

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## 2008 Cost vs. Value Report: still many happy returns for home rehabs

Many people are wondering where their money will be safest during these uncertain economic times. Despite home price drops in many cities, remodeling projects are holding their own as a way for owners to add value to their home. Remodeling magazine's annual report shows that maintenance-related projects and moderately priced upgrades are providing stable paybacks, even in a slower market.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® statistics show that home prices have fallen by an average of 7 percent nationally in the past year. But the value of home owners' investment in remodeling projects has declined only 3.86 percent on average between 2007 and 2008, according to Remodeling's 2008–2009 Cost vs. Value Report.

### Top 10 Project Paybacks

Once again, exterior remodeling projects lead the way for recovery on dollars spent in this

year's Cost vs. Value survey. When you compare the national averages, replacement projects that boost curb appeal—siding, windows, and decks—give you the greatest chance of recouping your money. Inside, only kitchen remodels can compare, at least on a national level.

1. Upscale fiber cement siding (86.7%)
2. Midrange wood deck (81.8%)
3. Midrange vinyl siding (80.7%)
4. Upscale foam-backed vinyl (80.4%)
5. Midrange minor kitchen remodel (79.5%)
6. Upscale vinyl window replacement (79.2%)
7. Midrange wood window replacement (77.7%)
8. Midrange vinyl window replacement (77.2%)
9. Upscale wood window replacement (76.5%)
10. Midrange major kitchen remodel (76.0%)

For additional information and tips on remodeling projects please visit my web site at [www.SellingCincinnatiHomes.com](http://www.SellingCincinnatiHomes.com)

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## ***Happy Holidays!***

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