



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

April, 2010

Next monthly meeting:

Tuesday, April 20, 2010, 7:30 p.m.,
Deaconess Hospital,
Cafeteria, Lower Level,
Straight Street

From the President's desk



Much has happened in CUF in the last month.

New plans are unfolding for CHCURC and the Business District. If you have not noticed, a new fence has gone up around the infamous parking lot by the Shell gas station to keep people from parking on the grass. Matt Bourgeois managed to find the funding to put the utilities below ground for the south side of Calhoun from Scioto to Ohio. The City is working with the Business District to jazz up the pavers at the corners of the Old Town Business District.

Neighbors in West McMicken have created a lasting and potent tribute to their section of the neighborhood in their response to the I-75 project, with one of the best mobilizations of talent and resources we have seen. The Clifton Heights Music Festival went well for the second year in a row. The police (Thank you, Lisa!) averted a major catastrophe with "Wheeler Fest" by proactive strategies. The City continues to work with us to make the Classen Park project move forward despite the collapse of the Cincinnati Empowerment Corporation. Continued partnerships with our Business District and our Institutional neighbor, UC, blossom and grow. A new day care has opened in our community.

And we will say good-bye to an old friend, as the Friars Club will probably be torn down for a new housing project (65 West) in the community. As we mourn the loss of this building, we will look forward to the potential spark to our business district that this will bring, and the continued relationship with new community partners in North American Properties and Uptown Rentals.

An upcoming project we'll need help with will be pursuing with the City a potential master plan for resident parking in the neighborhood. Let's keep our community momentum going!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the April meeting on the 20th at 7:30 pm and then at the Keep Cincinnati Beautiful Great American CleanUp on April 24th!

Rob Neel

CUF Minutes, March 2010

Tony Hobson and Dan Schimburg talked about the Friars Club. This was generally a repeat of previous presentations. The changes included more green space and orientation of the balconies. An inquiry about salvaging the existing mural in the Friars Club was made. The major objectives to the project seem to be 1.) Density; an area sparsely developed will be developed into rental property instead of single stand-alone structures. This will be two or more large groups of three story structures. 2.) The visuals presented so far are bland and unimaginative; nothing as varied as the surrounding area.

Police Report: Right of Entry forms were provided. The Clifton Heights Pub Crawl was discussed. Metal prices are up so copper thefts are on the rise; three arrests have been made. Parking violations were discussed; over 100 parking tickets are issued every day in our area.

West McMicken Neighborhood's response to the I-75 changes was made.

The new temporary roof for St. George was discussed. A loan from UC is needed for this to happen.

The lidded trashcans available were only for Clifton Heights.

Jason Masterson spoke for the Great American Cleanup on April 24 @ 8:30 am. Staging area at Christy's on McMillan suggested as an area for cleanup.

Rolf Kuhn spoke about the West MLK improvements suggested by HDR, an engineering

firm. Due to the high traffic flow, 25,000 cars a day, there are issues that need to be addressed. Most of the solutions have very detrimental effects to the immediate neighborhood without fully solving the problems. There is considerable expense to this construction with a sizable loss of tax revenue involved, and the neighborhood of Clifton will be harder to access from University Heights if the proposed solutions go through. Keep tuned for updates.

CUF Treasurer's Report

March 1 balance:		\$3,635.68
Income:		
	dues	\$102.00
Expenses:		
	Jan. Newsletter	\$107.50
	Feb. Newsletter	\$134.79
April 1 balance:		\$3,495.39

Citizens' budget for the City

Every two years the City establishes a budget drafted by City Administration and tweaked by City Council. Citizens generally have a limited opportunity only at the very end of the process to voice their concerns and advocate for their priorities. With deficits continuing to grow, it's much more critical for citizens to have a greater role in establishing city priorities. Consequently, with the blessing of City Council and the administration, a diverse coalition of civic groups is working to bring deliberative citizen input to the beginning of the 2011-2012 biennial budget debate.

The coalition is organized by Citizens for Civic Renewal and includes, among others, Invest in Neighborhoods, the League of Women Voters, A.I.R. Inc., the Faith Community Alliance, Santa Maria, the Community Building Institute, the Women's City Club, and the Cincinnatus Association. The citizen dialog will be grounded in real choices, as the City Administration has agreed to create budget-cutting (and revenue-raising) options for consideration by citizens. In turn, citizens will be asked to discuss and agree upon options in an attempt to balance the bud-

get. Such deliberation will help citizens 1) understand the competing community needs from the perspective of other citizens, 2) prioritize the City services that mean the most to them, and 3) learn to find common ground to resolve our community's fiscal challenges.

Four meetings across the City this spring will establish priorities for City Council to weigh as they draft their "policy budget" in June. That policy budget is used by the administration to craft the City Manager's budget that is presented to the Mayor shortly before Thanksgiving. This process aims to transform the way citizens think and talk about the City budget. Rather than merely "protecting our own," we all must begin to see the City budget as a collective effort. Consequently, this process will use self-contained small group deliberation to ensure that every citizen has a chance to speak, be heard, and weigh priorities. If citizens begin listening to each other before offering opinions to Council, we might be able to build consensus on how to meet our City's diverse needs.

Neighborhood meetings have been set for April 26 at the Madisonville Recreation Center, April 28 at the Avondale Pride Center (tentative), and May 5 at Midway School in Westwood. A final city-wide meeting will be conducted Saturday, June 5 at the Cintas Center. More information will be available as the first meeting nears.

Great American Cleanup in CUF

The Great American Cleanup is upon us! The date is set for Saturday, April 24. We will meet on the patio at Christy's, 151 W. McMillan, for coffee, etc, at 8:30 a.m. From there we will spread out for a litter pick-up and other projects.

Planned projects so far include:

- litter pickup around the entire neighborhood,
- planting under the CH mural
- possibly some work at Bellevue and/or Fairview parks if we have enough people.

Cleanup will be followed by lunch, with food provided by local businesses.

At last year's GAC, we won an award for "greening up" our cleanup activities. We will once again make this a Green event. This means that we will collect recyclables separate from regular trash, and will encourage volunteers to bring re-usable mugs, etc.

Don't forget to BYO coffee mug!

Do you . . . hate graffiti? Love to paint? As part of this year's Great American Cleanup,

we would like to get a small team of volunteers together to paint over some graffiti in the neighborhood. This fun project needs a leader! The project leader will work with Suzanne ahead of time to determine graffiti areas that need painting so that we can purchase the right paint colors. On the day of the cleanup, you will lead other volunteers to the various sites and start painting.

If you are interested in leading this project, please contact Suzanne at 607-4490, or email blockcaptain@cliftonheights.org.

CPS feedback sessions

Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) is considering changes to its magnet school application process to create a family-friendly and equitable process that promotes diversity in its magnet schools. In considering these changes, CPS would like to gather input from the community.

* Monday, April 19

3 pm – 5 pm, McKie Recreation Center,
1655 Chase Avenue, Cincinnati, OH

* Tuesday, April 20

5 pm – 7 pm, West Price Hill Recreation Center,
959 Hawthorne Ave.

Thursday, April 22

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm, Schiff Family Conference
Center, 3800 Victory Parkway

*RSVP required, call 745-3896

For more information, call CPS' Public Affairs Dept. at 363-0020.

City of Cincinnati yard waste program

- The 2010 Yard Waste Program began on April 5, 2010.
- City crews will collect properly prepared yard waste for composting, separate from regular residential garbage.
- Residents should set out properly prepared yard waste on the same day as their regularly scheduled garbage collection.
- Yard waste should be placed in biodegradable brown paper yard waste bags or cans clearly marked "Yard Waste" or 90 gallon totes.
- Yard waste stickers are not required. Registration for this service is not necessary.
- Yard waste in plastic bags cannot be collected or received at composting facilities and will not be collected.
- Branches and brush should be tied (with cloth

rope-not plastic cord) into bundles no larger than 4'x2'. Individual tree limbs should be no longer than 6" in diameter.

• All types of yard waste are accepted, including: grass clippings, leaves, branches and brush.

Eco-Friendly Alternatives

- Please compost yard waste at home whenever possible.
- Grass clippings can be left on the lawn instead of bagged.
- Yard Waste Drop-off sites - Citizens are encouraged to use yard waste drop off sites to minimize the amount of yard waste that is sent to solid waste landfills.

Four sites are located across Hamilton County:

- East: Bzak Landscaping – 3295 Turpin Lane (off Rt. 32), Anderson Township.
- West: Kuliga Park – 6717 Bridgetown Road, Green Township
- North: Rumpke Landfill – Struble Road and Colerain Avenue, Colerain Township
- Central: West Fork Solid Waste Facility (Cincinnati Residents Only) – 3320 Mill Creek Road, Cincinnati, OH 45225. This location is accessible off of Spring Grove Avenue and off Beekman Street.

The Mayor's Green Lecture Series - Krohn Conservatory

When: 6 pm - 8 pm, Free, but limited seating. Reservations Required – call 352-4080.

Where: Krohn Conservatory, 1501 Eden Park Drive.

Living Our Green Life - Mayor's Lecture Series at Krohn Conservatory

- May 25, *Cincinnati Nature: A World without Fish (Fossil Hunting)*
- July 21, *Rain Gardens*
- August 18, *Vegetable Gardening and Food Presentation*
- September 15, *Beneficial Insects*
- October 20, *Why Trees Matter*
- November 17, *Ten Technologies that Will Change the World*

The Mayor's Lecture Series is sponsored by a grant from Duke Energy, and in-kind support by Worm's Way, Park + Vine, Andy's Mediterranean Grille and the Ohio State University Extension.



**CLIFTON HEIGHTS
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
FAIRVIEW
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

2364 West McMicken Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Cincinnati, Ohio
Permit No, 4834

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Material*

CUF membership

Any person subscribing to the purpose of the CUF Neighborhood Association, Inc. and paying dues set by the Association may become a member. Election of Trustees is held at the annual meeting in July. Eligible voters are residents of the community who are at least 18 years of age and who are fully paid members of the Association and who have attended three general meetings after payment of dues during the year prior to the annual meeting. Non-resident members have voice but no vote in Association meetings and may not hold elective office. Annual CUF dues are \$6.00.

- CUF general meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month, except August and December, 7:30 pm, Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria, 311 Straight Street
- CUF Trustee meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month, 7:00 pm, Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria, 311 Straight Street
- CUF annual meeting and election: 3rd Tuesday in July, 7:30 pm, Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria, 311 Straight Street



CUF Neighborhood Association
2364 West McMicken Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Email: _____

Membership Type:

Voting Membership: CUF resident _____

Non-voting Membership: _____

CUF organization: _____

CUF business owner: _____

Non-resident: _____

Non-resident property owner: _____

Membership fee: \$6.00 per year.
Make checks payable to CUFNA.

(please check the membership expiration date on your newsletter mailing label)

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