



NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION

# Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

June, 2012

## Next monthly meeting:

June 19, 2012,  
7:30 p.m., Deaconess Hospital  
Cafeteria, Lower Level, Straight Street

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This issue of the CUF newsletter is being printed and mailed to members. The newsletter is also available online at: [www.cufna.org](http://www.cufna.org) (click on the *Our Organization* button and then the *CUF Newsletter* link.)

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As Americans, we can claim being pet owners in over 60 per cent of modern households. While this is a fairly large percentage, there are many individuals who will never know the joy of having a pet. Conversely, there are many animals who will never know the joy of being in a household. Because of the laws governing canines and felines, there are both small and large colonies of felines in the CUF neighborhood who live outdoors year-round. The inhabitants of these groups were either abandoned by their former owners or were born in the wild to feral mothers. A small dedicated group of humans living in the CUF community shares the care and feeding of these animals

First and foremost, TSNR is employed. This is an acronym for *Trap, Spay, Neuter, Release*. I can recall spending many a cold and very early morning hiding and waiting for a hungry feral male or female to take the bait in a Have A Heart Trap. Because of the strong odor, sardines are my bait of choice and a temptation the hungry animal cannot resist. Once the intended steps on the steel plate that trips the door and closes the cage, I am assured that the feline population will be reduced, for then it is off to the spay-neuter clinic. The animal has to be dropped off early and then receives the surgery that day. Males are released usually the same day because of the simplicity of the procedure and females are kept overnight. It is then taken back to the area they inhabit and released.

TSNR is vital because of the alarming rate of euthanization that takes place at shelters. Ap-

proximately 25,000 healthy cats die in shelters around the country each day awaiting the adoption that never comes. TSNR is practiced by the group in our community and in many other communities around the city and our country so that felines can have a better quality of life. So please, if you adopt a cat, have it spayed or neutered.

The TOWER FUND has graciously and kindly provided funds to pay for the spay-neuter program for ferals in our community. And, I would like to mention the hard work that one of our long-time residents does on a daily basis. Sandra Wilson goes out every morning in all types of weather to find the cats that need a spay or neuter and feeds several colonies, purchasing the food with her money. This is a job that not many would take on and so thank you, Sandra. You would see many, many more cats roaming the 'hood if she did not do this work.

I would also like to mention the fine organizations we have around the city that provide spay-neuter at a low cost to both canines and felines and also the no-kill shelters, who, if they have the space, will provide a long-term home to the animals if they are not adopted. The list includes UCAN SPAY-NEUTER CLINIC in the West End; THE SCRATCHING POST, a wonderful shelter in Pleasant Ridge; you really should visit it sometime, not only to adopt but to check out the great new digs for the cats; OAR (O'Bryonville Alleycat Rescue), actually in Madisonville; STAF (Save The Animals Foundation) and The SPCA, providing spay-neuter and adoptions, but sadly they do euthanise. Also, THE FREESTORE FOOD BANK provides a Pets In Need program for low-income residents.

All of these organizations can be found online or in the phone book. Please think about sending a donation or if you are thinking about adoption, please visit one of these facilities. And remember, please spay or neuter.

Joining us for our June general meeting on Tuesday, June 19th, will be Jenny Gainer, Head Penguin Keeper at the Cincinnati Zoo. Please come to see the guest Jenny will be bringing to our meeting.

Sharon Buckner

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## **Minutes, CUF General Meeting May 15, 2012, 7:30 PM Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria**

Meeting Chaired by Craig Lloyd, Board Member

### **Police Report**

- Officer Lisa Johnson, District 5, presented the police report. Three graffiti perpetrators have been arrested. Their plea bargain resulted in \$5,000 each restitution, 180 days in home incarceration and 500 hours community service. Local 12 news reported the story on 5/22.
- Three additional taggers have been arrested. Graffiti removal is costly to the city and it is hoped that sentences with substance will reduce this criminal behavior. A total of 15 taggers have been identified. Warrants will be issued for arrests.
- CUF residents noted the murals painted on retaining walls and other surfaces under the auspices of Keep Cincinnati Beautiful. The CUF community supports this and would like to see additional murals on places that have been habitually tagged. Officer Johnson agreed to discuss this with Linda Holterhoff of Keep Cincinnati Beautiful.
- Two burglary arrests have been made - suspected copper thief, Michael Jackson and burglary suspect Otis Stevens. Mr. Jackson has already been released from HCJC. Photos are being distributed by District 5 officers.
- The CUF community is still having problems with prostitution. Lisa is investigating whether or not the prostitutes can be banned from this area as they are not residents of the community. Lisa requests that residents who observe an incident send her an email. Downtown development is pushing this kind of criminal activity into our neighborhood. Residents pointed out that "Johns" as well as prostitutes need to be penalized.
- Lisa also asked that residents with nuisance problems such as noise notify her with an email with details like addresses, names, etc. even if the 765-1212 number has been called.
- Officer Aaron Fry, UC Police presented the campus report. Theft continues to be a problem on the campus. They have identified an individual who tries to get into club/facility locker rooms in order to steal valuables. Officer Fry stated the importance of locking up valuables and minimizing carrying valuables to such facilities. The proposed cuts in campus police personnel have been delayed for at least one more year. The new UC police chief wants walking patrols in the McMillan and Calhoun

area as well as on campus.

Guest - Ben Frech, Office of Councilman, P. G. Sittenfeld

The office is looking at ways to get households to clean up litter. Proposed ordinance will allow for a \$300 fine if a violation is identified by a litter control agent. The fine will apply to each property in the case where one person owns multiple properties. Half of the fine would be given back if clean up is accomplished within 10 days. If not, the fine is increased to \$500. The 10 day grace period applies to first offenders only. Repeat offenders will get the \$500 fine. This ordinance applies only to litter and not to grass or weeds.

Guest - Eric Russo, Hillside Trust

Mr. Russo presented information on a proposed ordinance that would protect hillside overlooks - CUF has 3 such overlooks - by restricting development such that any development will not interfere with the views from any of Cincinnati's overlooks. The Hillside Trust sees this as a win-win situation that allows limited development and still protects the overlook views. They are asking a letter of support from CUFNA that supports the ordinance. The letter of support should be directed to Roxanne Qualls. The board of trustees will take an email vote on the question and assuming it is approved will send a letter of support.

### **Ohio Redistricting Reform**

Sally Larson made a brief presentation regarding a petition to amend the Ohio Constitution. The proposed amendment would reform the redistricting process in Ohio so that redistricting would be done by an impartial oversight commission and eliminate the political gerrymandering that currently takes place. The initiative is supported by over 25 nonpartisan organizations including the League of Women Voters. Residents were invited to sign the petition at the close of the meeting.

### **Membership Report**

Election of board of trustee positions will be held July 17. Six positions need to be filled. The nominating committee has presented the following slate:

Sharon Buckner  
Kenneth Jordan  
Chip Kussmaul  
John Ligon  
Jack Martin  
Julie Zavon  
Linda Ziegler

## CHCURC

Cherie Wallpe reported that retail leasing continues on the development in blocks 3 & 4. Targeted opening date is March 2013. The underground utility work is to be completed by June 2012.

- Contract for work on Old St. George has been signed. Old Town street scaping will begin at the end of May.
- Plan for the U Square Plaza were presented by Towne Properties et al at CHCURC offices. Presenters confirmed that there will not be any large screen TV or electronic media. Open containers will not be allowed. An Entertainment District zoning is being researched for the CUF area and Corryville.
- Cherie will be meeting this week with other communities regarding entertainment district designations.

## New Business

- CUFNA has purchased passes to Fairview Pool that will be offered to families or individuals in need. CUFNA members are encouraged to purchase passes and use the pool facility. Passes can be purchased on-line at the Cincinnati Recreation Commission site.
- Linda Zielger reported on the Soapbox Derby.
- Neighborhood Summit will be held at the School for Creative and Performing Arts.
- A representative from change.org requested support for the artistic restoration of the mural on the retaining wall on William Howard Taft.
- Neighborhood clean-up is scheduled for June 9. Focus will be on a clean-up of the entrance to Fairview Park.
- Mulching was completed at the triangle in front of St. Monica's.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

## CUF Treasurer's report

Balance: May 1, 2012		\$9,196.31
Income:		
membership dues	\$38.00	
Total Income:		\$38.00
Expenses:		
traffic island mulch	\$344.74	
Toland memorial tree	\$64.44	
Soap Box Derby fee	\$75.00	
Total Expenses:		- \$484.18
Balance: June 1, 2012		\$8,750.18

## Usquare parking alert



The Police will be enforcing No Parking postings around the Usquare development site. You may have noticed that people have been parking against the fence line. Where marked, which appears to be everywhere there is no useable sidewalk, violators will be towed.

## Mayor's recycling challenge

Neighbors – a reminder that CUF is participating in the Mayors Recycling Challenge. Not recycling? Please do! See neighbors who aren't? Encourage them! See unused or abused recycle bins? Report them! Are you earning points on Recycle Bank? Sign up! CUF can earn cash for neighborhood projects for increased participation in these areas.

You can request a bin or report unused/abused bins at the city's Customer Service Request System at [www.5916000.com](http://www.5916000.com) or by calling 591-6000. By recycling you can also earn reward discounts and deals for yourself – register at [www.recyclebank.com](http://www.recyclebank.com).

## Energy Options

The CUF community is now receiving a letter and form that explains the new energy program and the options we have for participating. Called the FirstEnergy Solutions' Cincinnati Aggregation Program, the plan will save users 23% or about \$10 a month using energy supplied by a company called FirstEnergy Solutions Corp. This plan was approved by voters in November. FirstEnergy Solutions uses 100% renewable electric sources.

The letter has an opt-out check box if a resident chooses to stay with the traditional Duke plan. Duke will still charge for delivery which can amount to around half of your bill. Also, First Energy Solutions does not have the level-billing system some users have been on for some time. If you have any questions, call FirstEnergy Solutions toll-free at 1-866-636-3749, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## CUF board member candidates

The 2012 election of CUF board members will take place at the July meeting. Thanks to all who have come forward to run for the open positions. Here are the candidates' statements:

### **Sharon Buckner**

The CUF community has been my neighborhood of choice for 29 years. I contend it is the best neighborhood in the city because of its diversity, central location and naturally beautiful situation. Being active in the Citizens on Patrol (COP) program allows me to contribute an extra layer of safety to residents and myself. I enjoy problem solving and as a previous three-term member and officer of the CUF Board I have been able to hone these skills. Your vote will enable me to work on important issues, i.e., helping to attract more single family home owners, establishing a dialogue with our neighbor, the University of Cincinnati, parking, bringing more single entrepreneurs into the business mix and improving the quality of life in our community.

### **Kenneth Jordan**

Having lived in Clifton Heights since 1986, I have enjoyed its proximity to the University of Cincinnati, especially the College Conservatory of Music, and the ease of getting to downtown/Over the Rhine with everything that blossoming area has to offer. I would like to see our CUF neighborhood enjoy an improved livability similar to what has been going on in downtown and OTR. The CUF neighborhood has suffered a drop of 20% in owner-occupied homes from 2000 to 2010 according to an April 2, 2012 article in the Cincinnati Enquirer. With that in mind I hope to focus on quality of life issues including housing, parking and vandalism/trash. It would be nice to see more owner-occupied homes with families rather than more rental properties with absentee landlords. With more progressives on City Council I would reach out to them for assistance in that area. I had served my country for 30 years as an investigative Agent with the National Labor Relations Board. I would bring to the CUF Board the same character and effort that forged my successful career: approaching issues with an open mind, listening to all sides, asking the questions that need to be answered, then analyzing and reporting in a careful and thoughtful manner. I put my money where my mouth is. I am now a new member of C.O.P. in our neighborhood. I serve as a member of my Fraternity chapter's Board of Governors and I have been asked to serve on the Development Committee of The Know Theatre in OTR.

### **Chip Kusmaul**

My wife Jan and I have lived in the same house in Clifton Heights for a little over thirty years. We have been restoring our house for that entire time. Not quite done yet, but we're CLOSE!

I was a science teacher for six years, but for the last few decades I've had my own architectural woodworking business, Cincinnati Woodworks. However, I'm close to retirement and hope to be able to spend more time involving myself in the community. We live in and near some very old neighborhoods with wonderful housing stock. These neighborhoods deserve our best efforts to preserve both the structures and the neighborhood, family, feel. In short, I'm a traditionalist. I feel we are being squeezed by UC on one side, and city hall on the other. It is my hope that we can maintain, and even advance the family nature of our neighborhoods. For this to happen we must have greater expectations of co-operation from UC and city council. This is like the tail wagging the dog, but then these are our neighborhoods and we have a right to greater co-operation.

### **John Ligon**

John has been a resident-owner since 1971 and a member of CUF (with occasional lapses) since then. He served as Treasurer in the mid-1970s and was on the Tower Fund board from its inception until the late 1980s. He is standing for renewal of his current term on the CUF board.

### **Jack Martin**

My wife, Lyn, and I have lived in Clifton Heights since we were married in 1972. We raised two children, a dog, and took in (and neutered) as many stray cats as we could stand. I graduated from UC in architecture in 1976, and worked in the design & construction industry until 1996, when I went to work for the city in the Department of Transportation and Engineering. I retired from the city in October 2011, but still don't know what I want to do when I grow up.

### **Julie Zavon**

I've lived in CUF for 9 years. My background is in science and business, and I have more than 20 years of management and consulting experience. As a member of the Board of Trustees I will use my experience in planning, practical problem solving, consensus building, and communications to benefit our community. I know the CUF well from daily walks for exercise and errands. (When on these outings I am energetic about picking up trash.) In free time, I'm a painter and enjoy gardening.

### **Linda Ziegler**

I have been a resident of CUF since 1974 and a home owner since 1983. Although I did not grow up here, four generations of my ancestors lived in CUF. I am very interested in our history and in preserving historical buildings. The most serious threat to the viability of our neighborhood is the lack of homeowners/permanent residents. I would like to see CUFNA continue its efforts in promoting us as a vibrant urban neighborhood connected to surrounding communities and downtown. We can help accomplish this by encouraging our neighbors to participate in CUF's activities.





# Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Program

## Open April 21–November 3

**FREE to Hamilton County Residents Only.**

Bring proof of residency, such as a driver's license or utility bill.

Remain in car at all times.

**This program prohibits the acceptance of hazardous waste from businesses, churches, schools and non-profit organizations.**

**Dates: April 21 - November 3, 2012**

**Locations: Environmental Enterprises, Inc.**

4600 Spring Grove Avenue **MAP**  
Cincinnati, OH 45232  
(Directly across from Winton Road)

Tuesdays – 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Saturdays – 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

10163 Cincinnati-Dayton Road **MAP**  
Sharonville, Ohio 45241  
(Corner of Cincinnati-Dayton Road and Crescentville Road)

Wednesdays – 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Closed July 4 and October 31

Hamilton County covers the cost per car dropping off material to encourage proper disposal of your household hazardous waste.

### Acceptable Items:

- Pesticides/Fertilizers
- Solvents/Thinners
- Lawn/Pool Chemicals
- Cleaners
- Household/Auto Batteries
- Fire Extinguishers
- Propane Tanks
- Oil-based Paint
- Mercury
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Driveway Sealer
- Gasoline/Motor Oil
- Antifreeze
- Thermostats

### Unacceptable Items:

- Latex Paint\*
- Radioactive Materials
- Medical Waste
- Explosives/Ammunition
- Smoke Detectors
- Tires
- Yardwaste
- Garbage
- Roofing Materials
- Appliances
- Computers/Electronics
- Heating Oil or Fuel Tanks
- Unmarked Cylinders
- Fireworks/Gun Powder
- Prescription Drugs

*\* Latex paint will be accepted only if resident brings other household hazardous waste. If resident brings only latex paint, resident will be charged \$1.50 per gallon of paint (\$5.00 minimum charge). Check or credit card only – Cash NOT accepted.*

**More Information:** Call 513-946-766 or visit [www.HamiltonCountyRecycles.org](http://www.HamiltonCountyRecycles.org)

## Fairview Pool passes

In an effort to encourage membership in the CUF Neighborhood Association and as a way to promote use of the CUF Neighborhood pool in Fairview Park, the CUF Neighborhood Association is awarding summer passes to the CRC Pools! That is a \$25 value for individuals and \$75 value for families!

If you know individuals or families that are looking for a great way to beat the heat this summer and spend time with others in the pool, please send them our way.

To be eligible for the pool passes, up to a \$75 dollar value, individuals or families must 1.) Be a resident in the CUF Neighborhood; 2.) Come to a CUF meeting; and 3.) Become a CUF member. To become a voting member of CUF, you must attend three meetings as a paid member. Anyone who receives a pool pass will be asked to come to three meetings during the year.

Please help us spread the word to families and individuals who might benefit from this great resource in our community! But tell them to hurry: we have limited numbers!

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### **Fairview Pool:**

2219 Ravine Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219  
513-421-4576  
aquatics@cincinnati-oh.gov



Shallow water pool. Offers swim lesson program. Located in Fairview Park.

Daily User Fee at all pools (except Dunham Otto Armleder) All Ages \$2.00 or you can buy the all pool season pass now!

### **ALL CRC POOLS MEMBERSHIP NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE**

The Cincinnati Recreation Commission now offers memberships to city pools on-line. The public may purchase 2012 All CRC Pools Memberships and 2012 Dunham Otto Armleder Pool Memberships on-line until pools open this summer. As of Monday, June 4, 2012 All CRC Pools Memberships will be available for purchase at CRC pools. The public will no longer be able to purchase Pool Memberships at Recreation Centers. CRC is offering an Early Bird Discount on 2012 All CRC Pools Memberships until March 1st.

Go online today and buy your all pool pass for 2012.

<http://cincyrec.org/crc/2012PoolMembs.htm>

Enter by foot at the letter A or enter Fairview Park Drive off West McMillan!

Use it or lose it, folks!

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**CLIFTON HEIGHTS  
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS  
FAIRVIEW  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

2364 West McMicken Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

## 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: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month, except August and December, 7:30 p.m., Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria, 311 Straight Street
- CUF Trustee meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m, Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria, 311 Straight Street
- CUF annual meeting and election: 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

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