



NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

July, 2010

Next monthly meeting:

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

From the President's desk



And summer time is in full effect. The 4th of July is past, and now we are into the dog days of summer. As an interesting side note, the "dog days of summer" refer to the rise of the "Dog Star," Sirius, in the summer constellation Canis Major. But I digress...

Keep your eyes out for major changes in the neighborhood. The Business District is undergoing the streetscape project in the Old Town. A new planting bed will be created in the street island in front of St Monica's church at Ravine and McMillan. Classen Park will start its renovation. More than 200 lidded, wheeled trash cans have been put out into the neighborhood as part of a grant from Keep Cincinnati Beautiful. Neighbors have cleaned up the Bellevue Park landscaping and the Chickasaw garden planting. Neighbors in University Heights have started their "Wednesdays on the Porch," where neighbors gather informally and socialize and get to know each other! And Fairview Park pool is open again, thanks to community and government activism.

Citizens on Patrol continues with active walks and coordinating with our most excellent police officers. The graffiti vandal, "Benz," is off the streets and in the court systems. An outdoor music festival will be part of our October events. The 65 West development at the intersection of Ohio and McMillan is undergoing massive land re-shaping. Neighbors from West McMicken Improvement Association have brought regional attention and kept the pressure on for the Western Hills Viaduct reconstruction. Larry Elsner, at 2101 West Clifton, has made it his personal quest to keep the bend in West Clifton clean of trash and overgrown grass. Thank you, Larry!

And funding for the streetcar continues to come in. The combined effort of CUF, CHCURC, and the CHBA will work to get the streetcar into

our community!

And special thanks to Paul Gallagher, Maureen France, and Linda Ziegler, three of the strongest voices in the community, for their service to the Board of Trustees for the last 6 years. Due to term limits, they will not be eligible for re-election this year. A special thanks for their continued wisdom, experience, work hours, and advice. Our community would not be where it is today without them. Thank you!

With such good energy and positive work, our community will only continue to march on.

Please be safe in the heat! Remember your sunscreen and your water as we approach hotter and dryer days. Check on your neighbors and make sure they are okay.

'See everyone at the July meeting for the elections!

Rob Neel,
President, CUF Neighborhood Association

Minutes of the CUF general meeting, June 2010

• Police Report

-Thefts from sheds is still high; keep your outbuildings locked! Video cameras are up and running. Thefts from autos are also still high; remove or hide your valuables.

-One of our esteemed taggers has been arrested, good work! Please e-mail notification of any new tags to Lisa Johnson.

-Officer Johnson wants to know when you go out of town to keep an eye on your property.

-Prostitution is still a major concern, a number of different tactics are being tried to eliminate the problem.

• Good Sam gave a presentation about the newly proposed medical office tower on the Dixmyth side. Also, two older apartment buildings on the Whitfield side will be torn down.

• Housing Opportunities Made Equal provided information about their foreclosure prevention program, a mediation program between landlords and tenants, and what fair housing is and what rights tenants have. Call 721-HOME for information.

• Business District renovations are coming soon.

- Classen Park redo is scheduled to begin soon.
- The island in front of St. Monica is also slated for redo; CUF will contribute \$1,000.
- Old St. George steeples have been capped; the roof is next.
- Rick Presar will take over CUF seat on the CH-CURC Board.
- 206 new trash carts have entered the war on litter in the Clifton Heights area. August is the next opportunity for these carts in other parts of the neighborhood.

The Western Hills viaduct plan is now studying a partial exchange to minimize neighborhood impact.

- The clean up in Bellvue Park on June 5, by Cathy Raffles and Jason Pastoor was mentioned— Thank you!
- Friars Club is now history as is the Wellbaum House; new drawings of the proposed development are due soon.
- The Soapbox Derby times were reported.
- The attempt to get Fairview Pool opened this summer was discussed (this did happen!).
- The 2nd West Martin Luther King open house was announced.
- Plans are due this summer for the I-71 interchange at Taft and McMillan.
- A possible cooperation with an urban planning student at UC might invigorate the parking permit process.
- An Urban Forestry survey was mentioned.
- Dumpsters for end-of-school year move-out were announced.
- The Queen City Art Rack program was discussed. Although the initial cost is high, partnerships with other organizations might make this feasible.
- The fall Clifton Heights' music festival was discussed.
- The large number of housing teardowns was mentioned. CUF rarely receives notice that these are to occur.
- Sandra Wilson mentioned that those of us in the search for old house parts only need ask, and she has had good response to salvage a needed part for repair.

CUF Treasurer's Report

Balance June 1:	\$8,520.62
Income:	
Dues	132.00
Expenses:	
FedEx	154.30
Balance July 1	\$8,498.32

Fairview Pool

2219 Ravine St.
513-421-4576
aquatics@cincinnati-oh.gov



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

- Hours of Operation : 6/7/2010 - 7/31/2010
Monday: 1:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Tuesday: 1:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Wednesday: 1:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Thursday: 1:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Friday: 1:00 PM - 5:30 PM
Saturday: 1:00 PM - 5:30 PM
Sunday: Closed

PLEASE NOTE POOLS MAY CLOSE FROM 4:30-5:30 FOR SWIM TEAM, PLEASE CALL YOUR LOCAL POOL FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION

- Annual Membership Fees
Juniors (17 and Younger) \$10 All Centers - All Pools*
Adults (18-49) \$25 All Centers - All Pools*
Seniors (50 and Older) \$10 All Centers - All Pools*
\$10/year ADULT Pool Access Only Membership
\$20/year ADULT Recreation Center Access Only Membership

2010 Soap Box Derby season

Fresh from the 2009 racing season, which included one 1st place, two 2nd place, and one 7th place finishes, Team CUF embarked on the 2010 season with great expectations. On Saturday, April 17, Annika Yang von Hofe drove the Fairview Flyer straight through to the winner's bracket in the second annual St. Bernard Derby Race to repeat her winning performance of last year.

On Saturday, May 22, CUF competed in the Red Dog double and single elimination races. Again, Annika ran straight through to a 1st place finish in the double elimination race in a field of 14. Later that day she finished 2nd in the single elimination race, losing by 0.04 of a second (faster than an eye-blink) to a seasoned racer whom she had beaten earlier in the day.

Unfortunately on the date of the 2010 Cincinnati derby race and Mayor's Cup, Anni and her family were vacationing in Germany. Last minute replacements were found for the Flyer and the Rothenberg Rocket, our companion

racer. Sarah Dumas and her brother Alex, both novice racers, stepped in, but were eliminated in the second round. Before the race, six different teams expressed happiness that Anni was not in the race, thereby giving them a chance to win. In fact, the winners of the overall Cincinnati race as well as the first two finishers in the Mayor's Cup were drivers that she had beaten earlier in the year and last year.

The next races are scheduled for the weekend of August 14 in Madisonville and Ault Park.

CUF board member elections

The 2010 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

Janine Denlinger

Living in all three arms of the CUF neighborhood has been an intimate and wonderful experience. I am motivated by my love of the community to be active in Citizens On Patrol as the personnel coordinator and a member of the CPOP team, and I look forward to serving the community as a trustee on the CUF Board. My vision for our neighborhood is to work toward seeing an increase in home ownership and continuing safe living for all residents.

Debby Herman

I moved from Madison, Wisconsin to Clifton Heights in November 2005 to work for the AAUP faculty union at the University of Cincinnati. I picked this neighborhood because I value living in a diverse, walkable neighborhood, and was impressed by the level of community involvement in CUF. I've never regretted that decision. While we might face challenges, CUF is a great neighborhood with huge potential for an even better future. I hope to be able to contribute to the CUF Board by continuing my focus on practical projects that help make this a cleaner, more attractive neighborhood that will attract a growing number of homeowners.

Daniel Lewis

I am employed by UC as a research analyst for the Cincinnati Addiction Research Center. I have been married for 12 years, a resident of University Heights for roughly 17 years, and active in neighborhood politics for roughly seven years. I am currently a trustee for CUF and a liaison for CUF to the Heights Neighborhood Association. I am also active in Citizens On Patrol, and I routinely represent CUF at UC student neighborhood improvement projects.

Craig Lloyd

I have been a CUF resident for over 30 years and have served on our neighborhood association as a trustee, newsletter editor and NSP manager. I am a UC alum and an educator. Among the issues that I am interested in for this community is increasing owner occupancy which calls for continued residents' involvement in crime prevention and improving/maintaining both the streetscape and the housing stock. Our efforts over the years have made a difference in an area of the city that has tremendous possibilities.

Tom Merriman

I relocated a few years ago from Cleveland, Ohio to the Fairview area, and have found this community to be dynamic toward future growth. My work background includes 30 years of banking experience and my civic efforts include serving as chairman and treasurer on various community committees over a seven-year period. Go Fairview Flyers!

Cherie Walpe

I am a native Cincinnati and graduate of UC. I have lived in the CUF area for the last 15 years. As a homeowner and parent, I believe it is necessary to participate in and help shape what happens to our community. Having this forum (CUFna) to meet and discuss these issues is an important part of attracting people to and retaining members of our community.

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

- 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.

Block Captains strike again!

On a recent hot and muggy midsummer evening, a crew of neighbors tackled the daunting project of weeding and mulching our neighborhood garden at the corner of Warner and Chickasaw. Neighborhood members installed this garden several years ago and it won the “vacant lot improvement” award from Keep Cincinnati Beautiful!

Maintenance is the most important consideration when installing a community garden; it takes dedicated neighbors and volunteers to commit to maintaining it long after the awards fade away.

But it doesn't take much time, really, to keep up that maintenance. In less than two hours, just 7 volunteers cleaned out trash and weeded the garden; put down mulch around the plants; and also cleaned, weeded, and weed-whacked the length of the Channel 5 tower property on the block of Warner St between Chickasaw and Wheeler, making it a more pleasant and attractive place to walk.

Thanks to Debby Herman, Daniel Lewis, Jason Masterson, Shane Strouse, Bob Summer, Suzanne Summer, and Jim Wilson for the hard work. Special thanks to J's Mulch for donating the mulch for our garden!



On June 6th, Cathy Raffles led a group of neighbors to clean up the planting and landscaping we did two years ago at the entrance to Bellevue Park. Cathy Raffles; Jason, Dinah and Marin Pastoor; Claire Goldstein; Asher and Noam Rose; Doug, Shannon, Warner and Andrew Sanker; Yvonne Keller and Dylan and Rylie Keller-Gray came together to work and then enjoy food and fun together. Thank you to these families for making our neighborhood a priority!!



Before



After

Got a project you'd like to Tackle with the Block Captains? We've found that weekday evenings in the summer are a great time to get some volunteers together. If you have a gardening or cleanup project on your block that needs attention this summer, simply contact the Block Captains and we will call on volunteers to help.

Email blockcaptain@cliftonheights.org and tell us about your project!

Summer pet care

Summertime! The season we spend most of our time having fun outdoors. But as the mercury soars, we can't forget our pets need special attention. Here are some warm weather pet care tips:

- NEVER leave a dog or child in a parked car! Even with the windows open a car's temperature can reach over 120°F in minutes. Take the little ones in with you. Leave your furry friends at home.
- Limit exercise. Hot asphalt and concrete can burn pet's paws. Walk in the cool mornings or evenings.
- Animals should have a shady cool place to rest while outdoors.
- Animals must have free access to plenty of fresh, clean water in a non-tip bowl.
- Know the signs of pet heat stress: heavy panting, glazed eyes, a rapid pulse, a staggering gait, vomiting, or a deep red or purple tongue.
- Be on the lookout for puddles of engine coolant. Make sure your pet doesn't drink from puddles in the street. Clean up spills immediately! Anti-freeze has a sweet taste but can be fatal to pets and children if ingested.

If you believe an animal is being neglected or abused contact the Hamilton County SPCA at 513-541-6100. They investigate all reports of animal neglect and abuse. It is their job to determine if an animal is being properly cared for. For more details and information visit their website at www.spcacincinnati.org, or the Humane Society of the United States at www.hsus.org. There are also opportunities to donate money directly to the care of animals the SPCA removed from the home on Vestry in May of this year.

Public transportation adds value to your home

It's an urban (and suburban) myth that proximity to public transportation systems decreases property values and increases crime rates. In fact, just the opposite is true.

Increasingly, cities and towns are creating or expanding mass transportation to boost economic activity, provide convenient alternatives to costly highway systems, and dramatically reduce greenhouse emissions. In the past, homeowners feared that signs announcing construction of transit systems signaled lower property values, while serving as a virtual invitation to criminals. But studies show that properties near, but not directly adjacent to, mass transit actually increases in value and crime rates aren't influenced by transit options.

Riding the rail to increased property values

How much value does a close-by public transportation option add to a house? After looking at 41 studies of 15 rail systems across the county, researchers at California State-Fullerton concluded (http://www.lightrailnow.org/myths/m_oct003.htm) light rail transit has enhanced residential property values 2% to 18% in Portland, Sacramento, San Diego, and Santa Clara, with larger changes in cities with commuter rail systems."

Will it bring crime?

Another stereotype about public transportation is that it brings criminals into the neighborhood. Research shows, however, that the existing socio-demographic makeup of the neighborhood is what drives crime, not its proximity to public transportation. (<http://www.uctc.net/papers/550.pdf>)

What you can do

Use it or lose it. If you'd like to show your support for public transportation, start by using it whenever possible. Systems with high ridership numbers are better able to expand routes, upgrade services and technology, and qualify for government funding.

Spend less on gas.

By riding public transit, not only will you reduce the size of your carbon footprint, you'll save money. Transit riders spend about \$1,500 less on gasoline per year than commuters who drive to work, and transit availability and use can annually save \$8,400 in a household budget, according to PublicTransportation.org (<http://www.publictransportation.org/default.asp>).

Contact government officials.

Let local and federal officials know you support public transportation in your community. Voter support helps build political momentum for mass transit funding.

Get involved.

There are any number of ways to actively sup-

port public transit. Need something small and easy? Wear a button supporting public transit (<http://www.publictransportation.org/contact/support.asp>). If you're really dedicated, volunteer for your community's transportation advisory board.

Julz Brown

Group Realtors

www.SellingCincinnatiHomes.com

513.237.1072

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County Survey

Hamilton County Administration is seeking input from county residents as part of the development of the 2011 budget. The survey is available to all Hamilton County residents and will be posted on the county website at www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov from July 8 through August 8, 2010.

The 2011 survey focuses its questions on 12 distinct policy issues facing Hamilton County and its residents, and asks respondents to choose among several courses of action. "Too often difficult governance issues are portrayed as easy yes and no questions," says County Administrator Patrick Thompson. "With this survey, we are trying to provide citizens with enough background to elicit the more nuanced solutions that agency directors and elected officials have to struggle with every day."

Support your neighborhood Farmer's Markets

- Findlay Market, Elder Street, between Race and Elm streets, Over-the-Rhine (open year-round). 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, 3-6 p.m. Tuesday, April-November. 513- 665-4839; <http://www.findlaymarket.org>.
- Mt. Lookout Farmer's Market, Cardinal Pacelli school, 10am-1pm Saturdays starting June 26.
- Hyde Park Farmers Market, U.S. Bank parking lot, 3424 Edwards Road. 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sunday, June 6-October. 513-561-1205. <http://www.hydeparkfarmersmarket.com>.
- Northside Farmers Market, Hoffner Park, Hamilton Avenue and Blue Rock, Northside. 4-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, through October, followed by a winter market. northsidemarket@mac.com.



**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

*Time Sensitive
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)