



Kennedy Heights News

March 2008

Kennedy Heights Community Council



Arts Center Needs Green Vols

The KH Arts Center is planning its *Art in the Garden* series. Theme for '08, **COLOR IT GREEN** will address issues of conservation, recycling and energy for the home gardener with emphasis on aesthetics and green beauty for the home.

The series will feature three short programs at the Arts Center on weekend during the Spring.

Want to volunteer to plan, arrange for speakers and/or help with the three events?

631-4278
info@kennedyarts.org.

FineArtsFund Awards Juneteenth Grant

The FineArtsFund has awarded a \$3,000 grant to KHCC for support of the annual Juneteenth Festival.

The grant will help fund entertainment at the festival, which has its roots and many of its organizers in KH.

Council Next Meets on Tuesday 3/18/08

Community Calendar

3/10 Woodford CLC Planning
3/18 KHCC Meets
4/19 Sap Brunch
4/26 Litter Magic Clean-up
9/20 Progressive Dinner

Now Hiring

In GOD'S Hands
3808 Zinsle Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45213
792-0905, 792-0207 fax
ingodshandscyc@current.net
Mail, Fax or e-mail resume
Call to schedule for 10:30 am or 5:00 pm Interview
Career Opportunities Available for qualified Teachers & Teachers Assistants
Cook & Van driver positions also available
Seniors Welcome!



enews@kennedyheights.org

Subscribe to KH e-News

Free
Current
Extensive

Kennedy Heights Community Council
President Ernest Barbeau
Vice – President Natalie Boyer
V.P. Community Planning Clete Benken
Treasurer Kevin Holt
Secretary Ardell Barkley
Members at Large
Clyde Otis Michelle Dillingham
Joshua Swain Mary Ray
Committees
Clean & Safe Joshua Swain
C-POP Ben Pipkin
Development..... Clete Benken
Youth Kathy Tyler
Education Cecelia Holm
Citizens on Patrol Michele Dragga
Landscape Judy Barbeau
Litter Magic..... Joanie & Jeff Weidner
Park Advisory Councils
Kennedy: Katie Kern
Daniel Drake: Michele Dragga
Newsletter
Editor Noel Morgan
631-7289 news@kennedyheights.org
WebSite
Webmaster Rick Boyer
Kennedy Heights Community Council
6463 Kennedy Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45213
531-4041
khcc@kennedyheights.org
www.kennedyheights.org

**KHCC Calendar Pages
In Living Color**
www.kennedyheights.org

Kennedy Heights Community Council
6463 Kennedy Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45213
531-4041 www.kennedyheights.org



Planning for The New Woodford

In February over 40 KH residents met with leaders of Woodford, the community's elementary school, and the Board of Education's representative responsible for community learning centers. This was the third planning meeting to figure out what should be included in our new Kennedy Heights--Woodford School--Community Learning Center.

We know that Woodford can be a better school and KH can be a stronger community if we can share our resources, meet each others' needs, and bring in additional partners.

In our new school/community learning center, KHCC is seeking:

- More accessibility
- More programs for youths, seniors, & arts
- Control of the property at Kennedy & Montgomery, now owned by CPS, preferably for community youth, senior, & arts programs.

At our February meeting, we broke into groups for vigorous discussion of concepts and possible partners (and donors) for numerous program areas.

One of the architects who will design the new school was at the meeting. Although the new building is not scheduled to be occupied until the fall of 2010, design work starts this spring. And decisions about the community learning center will affect the building's design.

KH residents are invited to participate in the next meeting on March 10 at 6:30 at Woodford School on Red Bank Road.

New Schools Tour

Want a preview of the possibilities for Woodford?

CPS has arranged a tour of two of the District's new schools for Saturday, March 15. The agenda is not yet set, but the tour will likely begin at noon.

If you want to join the tour leave your name and number of the KHCC phone or send an email.

531-4041
ernie@kennedyheights.org

WWW.KENNEDYHEIGHTS.ORG

The Caring Place Needs...

Thanks to all the members of this community who so generously support The Caring Place. Whether it is through donations of food or clothing, monetary donations or hours of volunteer services, your help is greatly appreciated.

Over the last year, we have seen an increase in the number of people in our community needing assistance.

To further help our clients, we are looking into the possibility of becoming an Ohio Benefit Bank. This program, trains volunteers to meet one on one with clients and use special computer software supplied to help them apply for a variety of benefits.

To offer this added benefit to our families, we will need volunteers with some computer skills and willing to attend a 4-hour training session.

**Call Ceal at The Caring Place,
841-1499.**

The Caring Place is...

The Caring Place is located in the KH Presbyterian Church of Kennedy Avenue.

It was established in 1982 by a coalition of churches serving Golf Manor, Kennedy Heights, Pleasant Ridge, and Silverton. Its goal is to provide a variety of services to members of our communities who find themselves in need of food, clothing, furniture, rent and utility assistance, family development and support groups.

Volunteers primarily come from participating churches and local schools including Nativity School, Seven Hills Academy, and Shroder Paideia High School.

KHCC Next Meets

Tues. March 18 7:30 pm
KH Presbyterian Church

- Stable Communities Study
- Soapbox Derby
- Community Priorities
- Logo Survey
- School Superintendent Search



Litter Magic

**Great American Clean-up
Litter Magic Big Day of Service**
4/26/08 8:30--11:30

Join other communities across the United States for this annual event.

Choose Green or Clean

Sign up on the **green team** and work in Kennedy Park preparing the gardens for spring plantings. You'll work under the direction of Kate Kern and Michelle Dragga....**Bring** gloves and garden tools.

OR

Sign up on **clean team** and help pick up litter along Kennedy Heights' major corridors. You'll work under the direction of Joanie and Jeffry Weidner.

- Free Litter Magic shirt for all new volunteers
- Pizza party back at the church at 11:30 am.
- Door Prizes!
Start & end at KH Presbyterian
joanie@kennedyheights.org



**Annual Sap Brunch
Sans Runners**

Mark your calendar

**April 19 9:30 KH Presbyterian
KHCC Community Breakfast**

Spring's when the sap runs. You'll have to look hard to find a sap tap on a KH maple.

But the refined sap will flow freely at the April 19 Sap Brunch

A time to shake off the winter blahs, catch up on neighborhood news (and even gossip), sing some songs...and chow down on a fabulous pancake (etc.) brunch.

While you're free to talk or run before and after, there's no organized walk/bike run this year.

**Adults: \$10 Kids: \$5
531-4041**

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CINCINNATI, OH
PERMIT NO. 4633



Expand your horizons with one of the Arts Center's classes! Classes begin the week of March 31st and run for 6 weeks.

Youth (\$25)

Age	Course	Days	Time
◆ 6-10	Art Connections	Sat	10-11:30
◆ 3-7	Art Connections I	Thurs	4-5:30
◆ 8-10	Art Connections II	Fri	4-5:30
◆ 11-17	Intro to Drawing	Fri	4-5:30
◆ 12+	Photography	Sat	1-3

Adults

◆ Art for Sr. Citizens	Tues	1-3 (\$15)
◆ Watercolor	Sat	(\$90)
◆ Photography	Sat	1-3:00 (\$25)

Summer Arts Camps

Ages 10-13

June 9- July 3 M-F 9:30-2:30

Third annual Summer Arts Camp, a four week concentrated arts experience in photography, writing, visual arts, video, dance, & music.

Registration forms will be available at local elementary schools and at the Arts Center.

Cost: \$50

Scholarships are available.

Ages 5-9

Three one-week camps focusing on visual arts, theatre and story telling will take place in July.

for more information

www.kennedyarts.org
631-4278
info@kennedyarts.org

**Fearing Foreclosure?
Don't Just Surrender!**

Not Yet in Court?

- ✓ Communicate with the "bank"
- ✓ Explain your situation
- ✓ Ask for the "loss mitigation" section
- ✓ Call 211 for referral to one of Cincinnati's 4 mortgage counseling agencies to help you deal with the bank.
- ✓ Limited "rescue" grants are available to help homeowners avoid foreclosure.

Have Court Papers?

Seek legal help **immediately**

- ✓ Legal Aid: 241-9400
 - ✓ Lawyer Referral: 381-8213
- If you don't file an "Answer" within 28 days you'll lose by default.*



**City May Demolish
Vacant Beechview House**

By all accounts the owner of the house at 6229 Beechview died several years and her house has sat vacant since at least 2003.

The City has been issuing repair orders since the fall of 2003. And last month the Building Department held a hearing to determine whether to declare the building a "public nuisance," with the next step being demolition.

Neighbors and community councils are often pushing City Hall to demolish nuisance buildings. But KH witnesses at the February hearing expressed hopes for a better outcome for this property. KHCC president Ernie Barbeau and Beechview neighbors Jim Zarnowiecki and Michelle Graves all said they hope that a way can be found to rehab the 80-year old Tudor house.

City inspection reports note a hole in the roof, falling chimney, and sagging foundation. But the County Auditor values the property at \$120,000, and recent sales of 5 neighboring houses ranged between \$100-\$158,000.

The City's decision is due in late March. However, even if the panel should opt for demolition there should be ample time to continue exploring other possibilities—including, e.g. appointment of a receiver to make the investment needed to restore the house to habitable and marketable condition. Without pressure to demolish, the building's appointment with a wrecking ball would still be months away.

Report Vacant Properties

Vacant and blighted buildings are a public nuisance in all senses. The victims are not only the neighbors but the entire community.

Have you noticed empty buildings that should be added to the City's "nuisance" list?

Call Community Council (531-4041) and record the address when you hear the beep. KHCC will pass your message on to the Housing Inspector.

**Study: KH Among 10 Stable
Integrated Neighborhoods**

A study by the Cincinnati Association, has shown an increasing receptivity of whites toward blacks in their neighborhoods, a pivotal requirement for dismantling segregation.

The study found Kennedy Heights & Pleasant Ridge among 14 communities that met diversity (between 10 and 60 % black, with the exception of Kennedy Heights at 75%) and dispersal (blacks living on different blocks) criteria in three or more of the last four censuses.

This indicates a significant slowing of re-segregation, which had marked the period, 1940-1980. It challenges conventional wisdom based on the notion of a "tipping point" followed by transformation to majority black communities. The study's findings also challenge the notion that integration is accompanied by declining socio-economic status.

Through group meetings and individual interviews, residents of three representative integrated communities (Northside, Madisonville, and Pleasant Ridge) said they placed high value on the following:

- Opportunity to learn about others who are different.
- Opportunity exists to be among-and influence the next generation of-tolerant citizens.
- Opportunity to live in a purposefully diverse neighborhood.
- Community pride is fostered by the achievement of diversity.
- Multiple housing options are available.
- Small businesses and support services flourish.
- Faith-based organizations are prominent citizens.
- Perception of crime by outsiders significantly exceeds reality.

Increasing citizen involvement in community events is valued highly.

The results show a solid step toward creating "Neighborhoods of Choice," as called for by Cincinnati's Urbanists in order to stem city-out migration. The study indicates that Cincinnati may soon have ten more stable integrated communities in 2010, a condition a majority of both blacks and whites find desirable.

The Cincinnati Association is a civic advocacy organization dedicated to informing and improving the region in the areas of governance, education, citizen equity, and cultural affairs. This is adapted from a press release.



**Think Shade Gardens
2007 Landscape Winners
Lin and Steve Grieser
5866 Red Bank Rd.**

The Grieser's landscape was unique as all of their shade flowers and shrubs were enclosed in well-maintained wooden planters thoughtfully constructed and placed within their front yard under the canopy of a variety of very large and lofty shade trees and evergreens.

The setting is like an enchanted forest! Lin and Steve share the landscaping tasks and enjoyment. The various planters hold a mixture of shade-loving hostas, ferns, bright pink impatiens and deep purple salvia.



Alas, black & white does not do it justice!

A stunning front bed had a fine-looking hemlock and a vivid display of tall and graceful red day lilies.

Judy Barbeau
Landscape Committee

Metallic Club

The Metallic Club is an organization of retired men from all fields and professions. Membership costs are \$1.00 per meeting. Our membership is approximately 100, with an average attendance of about 45 per meeting.

Once a week we join together for social fellowship and to hear instructive, educational, and entertaining presentations from guest speakers who have worked and traveled locally and around the world.

The Club is non-sectarian and non-political and open to all retired men.

Fridays (September through mid June) from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM and are held at two locations:

- Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church
- Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church
- 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month
- 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month
- 3/14 Iran Theocracy & the Nuclear Threat
- 3/28 Steve Norris, WCPO Weatherman
- 4/4 History of the Internet.
- 4/11 Hound of the Baskervilles

**Kennedy Heights Community Council
Highlights of February Council Meeting**

Levy Proponents

- Andy Swallow of the Cincinnati Zoo spoke in support of the Zoo levy.
- Eve Bolton, President of the Board of Ed & Tim Kraus, President of the CFT spoke in support of the School Levy.
- After discussion, members unanimously voted to support the levy.

President Ernie Barbeau's report

- Listed 21 conferences and meetings Ernie attended in the past month..
- Letter supporting application for \$20,000 grant by the Montgomery Corridor Arts Collaborative from Ohio Arts Council
- KHCC needs to identify and recruit a diverse pool of residents to assume KHCC leadership roles & work on committees.
- Need to develop a Boy Scout troop for Kennedy Heights. We have the kids and need the leaders..
- The KHCC Board refocusing and restructuring the Office and Business Development Committee (CODC) as the Committee for Cultural and Economic Development. This reflects a shift of development responsibilities to the revitalized KH Redevelopment Corporation (KHURC).

Police

Officer Engleman & Capt. Wiesman

- 50% drop in crimes reported in January '08 compared with January '07.
- Vacant properties have become targets for breaking and entering to steal copper pipes.
- KH resident reported unusual activity at a nearby property. That call led to immediate apprehension of a man who admitted to seven other burglaries!
- Strong support for an active Citizen on Patrol unit;

**Natalie Boyer, VP for
Administration**

- Bob Kamp was recognized at the Neighborhood Summit as one of five Outstanding Neighborhood Volunteers.
- The 25th annual Progressive Dinner will be held on Saturday, September 20.
- Annual Sap Run will be reorganized and held in April or early May.

And Also...

- Work continues on development of yard signs and revising the KHCC logo.
- Recommendations for the City's Community Priority Projects for the '09-'10 budget year are due at City Hall by April 4. Suggestions should be addressed to Clete Benken or Ernie.
- *Draft Statement of Understanding for a Collaborative Redevelopment Approach re CPS's Surplus Properties in KH* has been given to members of the Board of Education..
- Jim Zarnowiecki reviewed KHCC's role in increasing attendance by residents at meetings to plan the new Woodford School and the development of a community learning center.

Guests

- Staff of Pleasant Ridge Recreation Center (PRRC). Some residents noted need to expand after-school programs and activities at Woodford School.
- Kate Powell, VP of Pleasant Ridge Community Council. The two community councils are committed to expanding our collaborative relationships.

March 18 Feature

Presentation & discussion of the Cincinnati Society report summarized on the facing page.