



NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

**Kennedy Heights
Community Council (KHCC)**
P.O. Box 36318
Cincinnati, OH 45236
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Find KHCC on Facebook and
Twitter: @KHCCORG

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NEWS BY, FROM, AND FOR THE KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY • SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2013

THE KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE DINNER and SILENT AUCTION

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 2013
5:30–10:00 PM

EVENT LOCATIONS

KH ARTS CENTER (Appetizers & Music)
VARIOUS KH NEIGHBORS' HOMES (Dinner for 6-12 people)
KH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (Dessert & Silent Auction)

\$25.00 PER TICKET

Ticket price includes Appetizers, Dinner & Dessert
Proceeds benefit the KH Community Council
To order your dinner tickets, go to
www.kennedyheights.org/Events/Progressive.html
PayPal accepted

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See page 3 of this newsletter for additional Progressive Dinner
and Silent Auction information.

UPCOMING EVENTS • SEPTEMBER 1–OCTOBER 31, 2013

Wednesday 9/4/13: Play in the Park End-of-Summer Celebration • 6:30–8:30 PM • Kennedy Park • See page 3 for more information.

Tuesday 9/17/13: Community Dinner • 6:00–7:15 PM • Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church • Co-sponsored by the KHCC and KHPC Hospitality Committee. All are welcome at this free dinner.

KHCC Meeting • 7:30–8:30 PM • Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church.

Saturday 9/21/13: Litter Magic Clean-Up Day • 9:00 AM–12:00 PM • Kennedy Park • See page 3 for more information.

Saturday 9/28/13: Progressive Dinner & Silent Auction • 5:30–10:00 PM • Various Kennedy Heights locations.

Friday 10/4/13: SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR KHCC NOV./DEC. 2013 NEWSLETTER CONTENT.
Items should be for events that start on/occur from November 1–December 31, 2013. Please email items to Kendra Brown at kendra@kennedyheights.org.

Tuesday 10/8/13: Candidates' Night • Time and location TBA.

Saturday 10/12/13: District-A Festival • All day • Various Kennedy Heights & Pleasant Ridge locations • See page 7 for more information.

Tuesday 10/15/13: KHCC Meeting • 7:30–8:30 PM • Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church.

2013 KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT:

Michelle Dillingham
michelle@kennedyheights.org

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clete@kennedyheights.org

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sarah@kennedyheights.org

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natalie@kennedyheights.org

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AND TWITTER: @KHCCORG

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from the Kennedy Heights Community Council! A lot has happened since our last newsletter. Our neighborhood experienced two tragic homicides in June when **Dominique Hall and Christopher Burroughs** were senselessly struck down near Kennedy Park in separate incidents. In response to the shootings, the faith community and residents quickly organized a candlelight vigil for July 1 that brought together over 200 people. The *Enquirer* covered this positive outpouring with a nice article about our neighborhood's efforts to support the families and to identify solutions to gun violence.

Two weeks after the vigil, the Council hosted a community safety meeting to provide updates on the homicide investigations and to solicit ideas on how to promote safety in our neighborhood. Within days of this meeting and under the leadership of Susan Wade Murphy, a weekly "Play in the Park—A Chaperoned Evening for Kids at Kennedy Park" was started and this event has drawn more than 50 people to our park each Wednesday since it began.

There are many more ideas that we want to implement so that we can bring our community together, but we need your help. Come out to the council meetings and get involved! The Community Council meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church, located at 6312 Kennedy Ave. The meetings start at 7:30 PM and end promptly at 8:30 followed by meet-and-greet time.

See you there!

—Michelle Dillingham
michelle@kennedyheights.org



Kennedy Heights Community Council President Michelle Dillingham, her husband Chris, and their son Michael pictured at the vigil. Photo courtesy of the Dillingham family.

UPDATE ON KHCC SUMMER EVENTS

You may have noticed that the Council was not able to host some of the summer activities that were advertised in previous issues of the newsletter and on the website. In January we approved a budget for those activities; however, half-way through the year Cincinnati City Council cut neighborhood support funding by 50%. While we had hoped to have all our planned activities in place, we ultimately did not have the resources. Despite these budget challenges we still managed to have a wonderful series of events this year including the Sap Run, the Volunteer Evening at the Arts Center, the 50th Anniversary of the Kennedy Heights Community Council Celebration, a Community Concert, a Community Picnic, and the "Play in the Park" program. The Council sincerely thanks all the people that have supported us this past year with their time, financial resources, and talents.

COMING SOON! THE KHCC ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE DINNER!

Don't miss the Progressive Dinner and Silent Auction, *the* not-to-miss event in Kennedy Heights and a great opportunity to share great food and entertainment with your neighbors.

The Dinner is on **Saturday September 28, 2013** and kicks off at **5:30 PM** with appetizers, drinks, and music at the Kennedy Heights Arts Center. After your arrival, you will register for your next stop: dinner at a host family's home. Each host family will provide dinner for 6–12 people, giving you and your neighbors a fantastic opportunity to get to know each other better. After dinner, everyone will gather together at the Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church for the Silent Auction.

The Progressive Dinner is the biggest fundraiser for the Council and all proceeds will benefit KHCC. Dinner tickets are \$25 per person and include appetizers, dinner, and dessert. Order your tickets on the KHCC website at www.kennedyheights.org/Events/Progressive.html and pay using PayPal.

We still need dinner hosts, event volunteers, auction items, and dessert donations for the Silent Auction. Please contact Lydia Morgan (lydiajmorgan@gmail.com) if you are interested in hosting. Contact Jody Barkley (jody_barkley@yahoo.com) to volunteer at the auction or to donate an item. Suggested items include retail gift cards, art, collectibles, gift baskets, and discounts for goods and services. Contact Sharifah Tafari (sharifah@kennedyheights.org) to donate a dessert.

For general information or questions, about the Dinner contact Jayne Dressing at jayne@kennedyheights.org and see YOU at the Dinner and Auction!

Kennedy Heights Community Council “Play in the Park” End-of-the-Summer Celebration!

Wednesday Sept. 4, 2013 • 6:30–8:30 PM
Kennedy Park • 6307 Kennedy Ave.

Join the whole community—plus a special guest—as we celebrate the friendships made and the difference we made in making Kennedy Park a safer place to play! A community member will lead the event accompanied by community volunteer chaperones. Community Safety Officers from the Cincinnati Police Department will also be present. If you want to volunteer at “Play in the Park”, please contact Susan Wade Murphy at rswademurphy@gmail.com. You may also simply arrive that evening and join in the activities.

LITTER MAGIC CLEAN-UP

Saturday September 21, 2013 • 9:00 AM–12:00 PM
Meet at the Kennedy Park Shelter (6307 Kennedy Ave.)

After dividing into teams, litter pick-up will start at the shelter and move out to other areas of Kennedy Heights (down Woodford to Kennedy North, Red Bank North/South, and Montgomery Road from Robison to Coleridge). Plastic work gloves, pinch-style trash grabber tools, and trash bags will be available to hand out to volunteers. After the clean-up, meet back at the park for refreshments and conversation with your neighbors! For more information, contact Candace Bates (candace@kennedyheights.org). Event sponsored by the Cincinnati Park Board with Keep Cincinnati Beautiful and KHCC Litter Magic Committee.



Parachute games at the Kennedy Heights “Play in the Park” on July 31. KHCC started this free, chaperoned event as a response to two homicides that took place near Kennedy Park in June. “Play in the Park” sessions will be held on Wednesday evenings through September 4 and all residents and their kids are welcome.

THE PROGRESS ON THE CULTURAL CENTER CONTINUES

Over the past several years the Kennedy Heights Development Corporation has worked with our partners and supporters to turn the dream of the Kennedy Heights Cultural Center into a reality. Along the way we have had many moments of celebration as well as some disappointments. The past few months have been no different. We have celebrated major grants and seen the start of construction. However, these great occasions have been tempered by the loss of one of our partners. The Cincinnati Art Museum notified us that due to budget constraints and timing issues, it is not proceeding with its planned expansion to Kennedy Heights.

While we are sad to lose the Art Museum as a partner, the mission of the Cultural Center remains unchanged. We are moving forward with the work that we have started in order to realize

the vision of an arts- and education-focused center in the heart of our great neighborhood. Our partners and major funders believe that the Cultural Center—even without the Art Museum—will be a success and have emphasized their commitment to the project.

Many of you may have passed by the site and seen it buzzing with activity. The new roof is complete and the interior is ready to be transformed into a beautiful landmark that sparks creativity and reflects the vibrancy of our neighborhood.

Even though the Kennedy Heights Art Center and the Kennedy Heights Montessori Center are excited to start their respective build-outs, the KHDC, the KHDC, KHAC, and KHMC are in the process of determining the best use of the space that was previously

reserved for the Art Museum. We are working with a local retail development consultant, Kathleen Norris, to help us identify the right partner for the Cultural Center. Kathleen has worked with several neighborhoods, and has been an active contributor to the revitalization of Over-the-Rhine. We have a new opportunity to bring a synergistic partner to the Cultural Center, and we and our two partners want to make the best choice for our community by creating a lasting legacy for Kennedy Heights.

To that end we will continue our work. It is our great neighborhood and community that inspires this effort and your enthusiasm that buoys the spirit. If you want more information about the Cultural Center project or ways that you can help, contact Ernie Barbeau at ernie@khdevelopment.org. Thank you for your continued support.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

If you want to get involved with Winterfest or a KHCC on-going committee, please contact Christine Schumacher at 513-351-8785 or christine@kennedyheights.org unless otherwise noted.

DECEMBER 2013

- Winterfest at Kennedy Heights Arts Center. **Date:** Friday 12/6/13. **Time:** 7:00–9:00 PM. Plan and organize event, solicit dessert donations, donate sweets (or savories), and/or volunteer at the event.

KHCC ON-GOING COMMITTEES

- **Communications Committee**
- **Community Council Board member**
- **Beautification or Youth and Education:** Contact Jim Zarnowiecki at jim@kennedyheights.org for more information.
- **KH Development Corporation:** Visit www.kennedyheights.org/khdc for more information.

OUR NEIGHBORHOOD CULTURAL CENTER CONTINUES MOVING TOWARDS ITS FALL OPENING

ALL OF US—RESIDENTS, NEIGHBORS, FRIENDS—ARE ASKED AND NEEDED TO CONTRIBUTE, AS MUCH AS YOU CAN, NO AMOUNT TOO SMALL, EACH ACCORDING TO ONE'S OWN RESOURCES.

TO DONATE OR PLEDGE, YOU MAY GO TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD NON-PROFIT'S WEB SITE:

www.khdevelopment.org

OR CALL ONE OF THE FOLLOWING RESIDENTS WORKING FIRST-HAND ON THE PROJECT:

**Teresa Davis 631-4908 • Casey Millard 351-2880
Mike Harmon 351-7683**

JOIN THE KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL 2014 BOARD!

Consider nominating yourself, one of your friends, or a family member for election to the KHCC 2014 Board. Nominations occur at the October Community Council meeting, followed by an election in November, with terms that begin in January.

Our officer positions include President, Vice-President for Administration, Vice-President for Community Planning, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member at-Large. As a Board member, meeting responsibilities are reasonable with only one regularly scheduled Board meeting monthly, typically meeting before each Council meeting.

Substantial support, written material, and established practices are available to help any new Board member.

President:

1. Preside at meetings of the Council and the Board of Trustees.
2. Appoint committee chairs.

3. Represent the KHCC outside of Kennedy Heights.
4. Provide overall guidance and direction for KHCC activities.

Vice-President for Administration:

1. Assist the President as needed.
2. In the absence of the President, assume the duties of the latter.
3. Oversee fundraising.
4. Assure completion of the annual audit shortly after election to office.

Vice-President for Community Planning:

1. Provide guidance and support for review and implementation of the Comprehensive Community Plan.
2. Lead in the recruitment and coordination of volunteers and committees.

Secretary:

1. Assure that all communications to other organizations and individuals will be sent and maintained as directed by the Board and of the Council.

2. Record the minutes of Council and Board meetings and prepare them for Publication.

Treasurer:

1. Receive all moneys of the KHCC and keep an accurate record of all receipts and expenditures.
2. Pay out funds authorized by the Board.
4. Present and distribute a financial report at each meeting of the Board and Council and at other times as requested by the Board.

Member at-Large (2 positions):

1. Represent the concerns and interests of residents in various sections of our community.
2. Serve as a link between the Board of Trustees and our neighborhood.
3. Encourage involvement of neighbors in the well-being of our community.

Contact Sarah Stamper with interest or questions at sarah@kennedyheights.org.

SINGING ALL TOGETHER NOW: WHERE HAS ALL THE LITTER GONE...?

Tommy Derden, Lisa Hemphill and Bob Herring can tell you.

Have you ever noticed the daily trash pick-up on Woodford Ave, the sparkling clean Kennedy Hill, or the area of Edgeview and Robison that has been cleared of major debris? Because these three people in our community believe "Litter Magic" is an on-going responsibility, our entire neighborhood benefits. They are community collectors of street, sidewalk, and lawn litter, taking a few minutes each week to walk their streets and make **LITTER MAGIC** an everyday occurrence.

Tommy Derden (Woodford Road) has lived in Kennedy Heights since 1970 and doesn't like to see trash. He can be seen with a bag in hand walking the community daily and quietly goes

about picking up trash after someone throws it out of a car or walks by, leaving a trail. His two adult children, Tommy Jr. and Barbara, were raised to keep their area beautiful and believe their father is an example for others to help keep the community clean.

Lisa Hemphill (Edgeview Drive) says about her clean-up, "It helps keep our property values up, people want to stay in the neighborhood; it even makes a difference about wanting to take a walk. I know it sounds like a cliché but we can all make a difference wherever we are, leaving a place better than we found it. We all recognize the litter and know it shouldn't be there so why not act on it and do something about it. When you're walking the dog and have your bag anyway, add the litter to it." Lisa believes most of the litter comes from people passing

through the neighborhood who don't have a connection to the community, so it is up to us who value it to keep it clean.

What happens when it's time to lose some weight and get some exercise? Bob Herring (Glen Edge Lane) grew up in Kennedy Heights, but it was his daughter's approaching wedding that caused him to get walking. As he did, he realized another reason was beckoning: Kennedy Hill and surrounding areas were in need of clearing. The wedding has come and gone. His weight? Well, what can we say? But Bob's commitment to seeing and responding to a need was sealed as he remembered his mother's voice, "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem". And, he gets some good exercise, too. *(Continued on page 6.)*

FALL 2013: COMING ATTRACTIONS AT THE KENNEDY HEIGHTS ARTS CENTER!

This fall, pick up that paint brush where you left off or try something new! Youth from preschool to grade 6 will discover art classes of all kinds including Color Drawing, Creative Writing, Master Artists, Studio K, Painting with Parents, and more! Teens in grades 7–12 can hone their skills in drawing, painting, photography and creative writing. Adults have no excuse not to get creative in classes from World Drumming to Creative Writing, Life Drawing, Painting, Digital Photography, and Open Studio. Classes start the week of September 16.

We know that your creative self is itching to get out, so check out a class and see what you think. And invite a friend to join you! A full schedule can be found at www.kennedyarts.org or by calling 513-631-4278. Affordable sliding scale fees available.

In the Galleries

Stop by and see what's new in the gallery at Kennedy Heights Arts Center. As one of our students likes to call it, it's a "mini-museum" right here

in the neighborhood. Admission is free and all ages are welcome! Through Saturday September 28, enjoy *Vessels: All the Eyes Can Hold*. This unique show reflects many different interpretations of the word "vessel." Artists from across the country created art showcasing vessels as bowls and vases, vessels in nature, in our physical and spiritual bodies, and vessels on the high seas.

Opening Saturday October 5, we are proud to present *Concerned* featuring work by 16 local photographers. The term "concerned photographer" describes artists who demonstrate a humanitarian impulse to use photos to educate and change the world, not just to record it. Through their art, the featured photographers bring light to several issues of social concern. All are invited to a free opening reception on Saturday October 5 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

The Arts Center is open Tuesdays–Fridays, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Saturdays, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Call 513-631-4278 for more information.

SINGING ALL TOGETHER NOW

(continued from page 5)

Litter Magic is in your hands, too. Our streets, lawns, and gardens will be more beautiful if we make the effort to pick up litter. On **Saturday September 21**, join us for **Litter Magic Clean-Up Day**. (See page 3 for more details.) On a daily basis, let's work together to make Kennedy Heights the most beautiful community in Cincinnati by each doing our part:

- 1) Take 5 minutes each day to check the front of your house for litter;
- 2) Take 10 minutes each day to walk your street (and find a neighbor to join you);
- 3) Double-check your street after the garbage trucks leave;
- 4) Keep fast food trash in your car until you get home; and
- 5) Extinguish and deposit the cigarette in the ash tray of your car.

We unite in SAFETY issues. We gather together in the spring for the SAP RUN. We celebrate our neighborhood with our annual PROGRESSIVE DINNER. Community spirit grows when we all work together, whether for a day or every day. Let Kennedy Heights ring with beauty.



"Guardian Angels" by photographer Melvin Grier will be featured in the upcoming *Concerned* exhibit at the Kennedy Heights Arts Center.

CONNECT
ONLINE
WITH THE
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL!

"Like" the Kennedy Heights Community Council page on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @KHCCORG! Find out about neighborhood news and upcoming events and sign up for the eNews at www.kennedyheights.org.

COME ONE, COME ALL TO THE *DISTRICT A* ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL! SATURDAY OCTOBER 12, 2013 • KENNEDY HEIGHTS & PLEASANT RIDGE

District A is 5 years old and celebrating! Our sixth annual Arts & Music Festival will give you special access inside our soon-to-open **Gateways to *District A***: the Kennedy Heights Cultural Center and the Bi-okoto Cultural Institute in Pleasant Ridge. From one “gateway” to the next, our community-wide Festival is a family-friendly “progressive party” that moves from Kennedy Heights venues in the morning and afternoon to Pleasant Ridge venues in the afternoon and evening. New this year will be **van transportation** that offers free & easy access between the Gateways to *District A*.

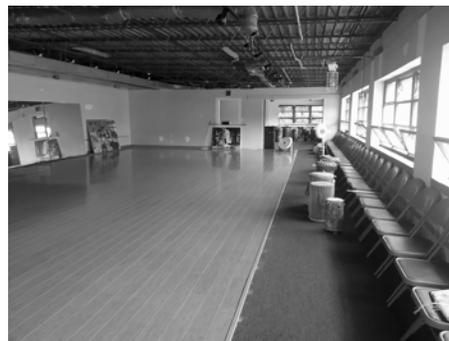
Whenever and wherever you join the party, expect to meet artists, musicians, business owners and volunteers of *District A* sharing in the fun! Here are some of the highlights:

1) Begin by exploring the **Kennedy Heights Cultural Center** at Kennedy and Montgomery Roads—or at least, as much of it as ongoing construction will allow—and imagine what’s to come in 2014! More late-morning fun will be right outside, when *My Nose Turns Red* turns the corner into a family circus with everything but the tent!

2) The **Kennedy Heights Arts Center** (6546 Montgomery) opens to you and your family at 10:00 AM. Take this

opportunity to discover all that KHAC offers, from galleries and art-making studios inside to family arts and music across the lawn and expansive gardens outside.

3) From noon–5:00 PM at the **Ridge Pavilion** (6142 Montgomery) there will be one-of-a-kind gifts, visual art of all kinds, and ‘truck-painting’ for everyone at the outdoor Art Show & Sale. Next door, **Beans & Grapes** (6200 Montgomery) will host a wine



Views from the Bi-okoto Cultural Institute’s new drum studio (*top photo*) and dance studio (*bottom photo*). Photos courtesy of Bi-okoto.

tasting from 2:00–4:00 PM and across the street, families can enjoy music, crafts, face-painting, and snacks at the **Pleasant Ridge Library** (6233 Montgomery).

4) Since the Arts & Music Festival coincides with our monthly **SHOP HOP** weekend, almost every business, café and restaurant will be offering discounts all day long.

5) From 5:00–8:00 PM, you are invited to an Open House at the newest arts venue in *District A*, the **Bi-okoto Cultural Institute** (5601 Montgomery). **Bi-okoto** (pronounced “Bee-o-ko’-toe”) productions connect western culture to traditional and contemporary African theatre through music, song and dance. The Institute is doing a complete renovation of the former Mills Fence Company property that includes the creation of 4 studios, a performance theatre, artists’ housing units, a conference/computer room, language lab, wardrobe and instrument repair, and retail spaces. Ride the VAN to this Festival finale and see what’s coming in *District A*!

Check for festival updates and answer our **Call to Artists** at www.district-a.org.

–Maria Kreppel, Board Chair
District A

11th Anniversary and Ministries Celebration • Saturday Sept. 21 6:00-9:00 PM

Join Bread of Life Church as we celebrate 11 years in ministry.

Harvest Party • Saturday Oct. 5

Please join us for this family fun alternative to Halloween where we have games, candy, food and fun.

Costumes are welcome. Please visit our website for event time at www.breadoflifecincy.org

**Youth group meetings (ages 13–18)
First and second Wednesday
of every month • 7:00 PM**

All events will be held at Bread of Life Church, located at 5902 Robison

Road. For more information on any of these events, please visit our website at www.breadoflifecincy.org or call **513.489.5433**.





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Save the Date!

CANDIDATES' NIGHT • TUESDAY OCT. 8 • LOCATION & TIME TBA

DISTRICT-A FESTIVAL • SATURDAY OCT. 12 • ALL DAY • MULTIPLE KH & PR LOCATIONS

KHCC 2014 BOARD ELECTIONS @ THE KHCC MEETING • TUESDAY NOV. 19 • 7:30 PM • KHPC

WINTERFEST • FRIDAY DEC. 6 • 7:00-9:00 PM • KENNEDY HEIGHTS ARTS CENTER

**SHOP HOP in Kennedy Heights & Pleasant Ridge
to save your \$\$ and support your community
during the 2nd weekend of every month!**

Friday 9/13/13–Sunday 9/15/13

Friday 10/11/13–Sunday 10/13/13

Neighborhood merchants offer special deals to customers who present a "Shop Hop Coupon" during normal business hours. Print your coupon at www.pleasantridge.org/business-district/shop-hop, pick one up at one of our participating businesses, or save it in your smartphone bookmarks.

Keep your coupon and use it at participating businesses all weekend.

Shop local and experience what the neighborhood has to offer!

If you are a Kennedy Heights merchant who wants to join Shop Hop, please contact Rosalyn Watts, Shop Hop Chair, at shophop@pleasantridge.org to be included. All Kennedy Heights merchants are welcome.



For up-to-date information about the Kennedy Connector project including lane and street closures, please visit www.cincinnati-oh.gov/dote and click on "Major Projects" or www.facebook.com/KennedyConnector