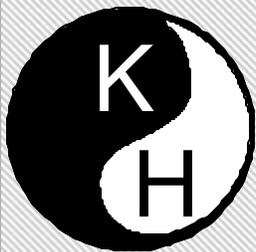


Issue Number: 09-02

September, 2002

Kennedy Heights Newsletter



Your Vision of Kennedy Heights

Over the past ten months a committee of the Community Council has diligently been exploring and defining our individual and collective vision of Kennedy Heights. In June we mailed a one-page survey to residents and held a Town Meeting where 50 ideas from the Committee were presented and discussed. From the survey (with more than 65 persons responding), the Town Meeting (with more than 70 persons in attendance), and further discussions by the Committee, we now have more than 110 strategies on how to improve the quality of our diverse and dynamic community.

On Wednesday, October 15, from 7:00-9:00p.m. Another **Town Meeting** at Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church will be held for you to respond to the 110 strategies in our Preliminary Report, and for you to discuss additional ideas about the future of our community. Invite family members and neighbors to join you in attending this important Town Meeting. The Town Meeting of October 15 will be the last real opportunity to influence the development of our final report. We expect to have the final report completed by December 1 and for the 18-member committee to be disbanded. In case you have not been able to complete the survey, we will have copies available at the Meeting.

If you have e-mail and would like to receive a copy of the Preliminary Report, send your request to me at BarbeauKeim@aol.com.

Dr. Ernie Barbeau, Chair
Comprehensive Community Planning Committee
5723 Kinoll Avenue
396-6968

Summer Magic

Joanie Wiedner, Litter Magic Coordinator



Litter Magic held its second clean-up for the year on July 13, 2002. A hard-working group of volunteers collected 40 bags of trash. Duane Holm went all out by picking up and *sweeping* both sides of the Kennedy Avenue bridge! Not only do the Litter Magic clean-up projects do the obvious job of ridding our streets of unsightly trash, they also build bonds of friendship. Each event ends with refreshments and fellowship. Two hours of hard work is worth it when you share a time of gratitude with others who care like you. Come out and be a part of what makes our neighborhood the best in Cincinnati!

Hats off to these dedicated folks: Kay Briggs, Tim Cronin, Jeff Dey, Laura Domienik, Chuck and Michelle Dragga, Brenda and Willis Francis, Joe Hall, Joyce Hibbard, Duane Holm, Bob Kamp, Kate Kern, James Klisor, Aurora MacVeigh, Joseph Moats, Sheila Murray, Clyde Otis, Mary Riley, and Jeffry Weidner.

Our next clean-up will be on October 5. We meet at 8:30 am at the Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church. Bring your friends and family, with gloves! See you there!

Kennedy Heights Community Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

7:30 p.m.

KH Presbyterian Church, 6312 Kennedy Avenue, 2nd Floor, Fellowship Hall
Off-street parking available

Kennedy Heights 2002 Newsletter Survey Results

The Comprehensive Community Planning Committee included a survey in the May and June issue of the Kennedy Heights newsletter. The following information was obtained from residents who responded to the survey. All items listed are in a prioritized order based on individual responses.

What three things do you like best about living in Kennedy Heights?

1. Diversity
2. Location
3. Quiet streets & housing

What three things do you like least about living in Kennedy Heights?

1. Drug Dealers
2. Blighted areas
3. Unsafe, no business district, litter

What three improvements would you most like to see in the Montgomery Rd. corridor?

1. Grocery Store
2. Restaurant
3. General shops

Montgomery Rd. Corridor suggested improvements

1. Community Center
2. Book Store
3. Ice Cream Shop
4. Coffee Shop
5. Dry Cleaner
6. Gift Shop

Other suggested improvements for Montgomery Rd. Corridor

Drug, Art Supply, & Greeting Card Store, Hair Salon, YMCA, Flower Shop, Hardware, Movie Theatre, Antique Shop, Arts Center, Green space, Medical Care. Greenhouse, Music Store, Spa/Wellness Center, Pool.

Would any of the following seem appropriate?

	yes	no
Offices, such as a professional building:	32	31
Non-profit services	31	9
Housing, such as apartments, Senior Housing, With services or shops with public use:	8	21

What three changes would you recommend for the area around the intersection of Kennedy Ave. and Woodford Rd.?

1. Eliminate Car Repair
2. Eliminate Drug Dealers
3. Revoke Redwood's Liquor License

Additional suggested changes for the Intersection of Kennedy Ave. and Woodford Rd.

1. Improvements to existing properties
2. Beautification
3. Expand green space area
4. Litter control, beautification, recreation center trails
5. More police presence

Landscape, bike shop, bike trails, increase residential area, gas station gateway sign maintained by landscape businesses, island park with fountain, larger play areas, improve zoning, breakfast-lunch place, coffee shop, extend park for bird sanctuary.

Would you be in favor of a recreation/center near:

	yes	no
Montgomery Rd. & Kennedy Ave. (old Furniture Fair site)	28	8
Lumford Place	16	16
Woodford Rd.	20	12

Would you like to see additional housing in Kennedy Heights?

Single-family	31	5
Housing for seniors	29	6
Multi-family	4	29
Special housing	13	19
Other – low income	1	
Condominium	1	



2002 KHCC Landscape Award Winners

Joyce Hibbard, Chairperson

The Beautification Team placed KH Landscape-Award signs in five beautiful yards in July, and awarded four other yards Honorable-Mention certificates. The five winners were:

Damon & Heidi Tucker	6698 Iris Ave.
Charles Johnson	3614 Woodford Rd.
Joe Moran & Amy Gingrich	3671 Davenant Ave.
Virgil & Linda Nixon	6429 Crestview Ave.
Martin Wagner	6257 Rogers Park Place

The four Honorable-Mention certificates went to:

John Leopard & Dan Fulkerson	3623 Davenant Ave.
Jeff Lotz	6424 Iris Ave.
Howard & Helen Upshaw	6601 Coleridge Ave.
Johnny Jamison	3636 Congreve Ave.

The judges were:

Joanie Weidner	Kinoll Ave.
Karen Thomas	Standish Ave.
George West	Tyne Ave.

Noel Morgan, KHCC Vice President, and Joyce Hibbard, Landscape Award Chairperson, presented awards to the winners.

We all agreed that Kennedy Heights has many beautiful yards and that it is very rewarding to drive around all parts of our community and see places we hadn't seen before, and meet new neighbors. Try it, you'll like it, and you may see landscapes you would like to nominate for next year's awards.

See slides of winning landscapes at the Dessert and Silent Auction at Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church, following KHCC's Progressive Dinner on Saturday, September 21

Hats off to Mrs. Margaret Peyton and other Edgeview residents for their outstanding financial support of the KHCC!

Dumpster Site Needed,
North of Montgomery Road

We can get free community dumpsters twice a year in KH, but so far we do not have a resident who is willing to host and monitor one on the north side of Montgomery.

Please call if you are willing and I will explain more!

Mimi Gingold 531-9218 or mimiging@aol.com



Excellent Truck for Sale
Cianciolo's Landscaping
Woodford Road, 841-1237



KHCC Annual Progressive Dinner
Saturday, September 21, 2002

Tickets on sale now for \$20!

For more information you may call Robert Kamp, 631-4924, or the KHCC office, 531-4041.

You are the Winners!

Margaret Peyton, Education Chairperson

Congratulations to Trent Kugler and Ashley Draut, the winners of the Kennedy Heights Community Council Essay Contest (“The Value of Living in an Integrated Neighborhood”). The Kennedy Heights Community Council’s Education Committee congratulates you for the outstanding contribution you have made as students and as residents of Kennedy Heights.



First prizewinner is Trent Kugler. Trent graduated from Purcell Marian High School with a 4.0 GPA. He was active in the Queen’s Men Theatre Club, responsible for sound and lighting design. He was involved in the National Honor Society, school marching & pep band, and was chosen to represent Purcell Marian at the Beatification of Father William Chaminade in Rome, Italy in 2000.

Trent is an Eagle Scout with Boy Scout Troop 6 of Pleasant Ridge. He was involved with the Nativity Players and Cincinnati Young People’s Theatre. He is a volunteer at the Aronoff Center for Performing Arts, Toys for Tots and Boofest. Trent will attend Otterbein College, majoring in technical theatre, specializing in lighting design.

The Value of Living in an Integrated Community

There are many values to living in an integrated community, some large and some very small. But no matter what size these benefits are they help us all to meet others and to become better people ourselves.

Trent Kugler

Essay Contest Winner

IN OUR WORLD today there are many ways to get different opinions. We can read the newspaper, listen to the radio, watch TV or get on the Internet. We can also get this same experience by talking and being with people different from ourselves. This is one of the many reasons why it is great to live in an integrated community. For one, everyone has a different opinion on situations in life. However these opinions can be greatly influenced by one’s ethnicity, so by living in integrated communities we are able to get many different opinions from people different from ourselves. One example of this is the riots last year. All my friends in predominately white neighborhoods such as Hyde Park thought of the riots as misplaced anger and were annoyed by the curfew in their neighborhood. Because I live in Kennedy Heights I knew people who thought the riots were the right thing to do and I was able to hear their side of the story, something I might not get in Hyde Park.

Another good example of an integrated community that I have lived in is Purcell Marian High School. The ratios of race are about even at Purcell and it shows in all of us. At Purcell very few people (if any) have a problem with race. We all get along and benefit from this understanding of each other. All of us come into contact (daily) with people with different experiences, ways of life, and at times, different vocabulary than ourselves; and we are the better for it. While at Purcell I made friends with new and interesting people that I could not have met had I gone to a less integrated school.

When I first went to Purcell Marian I had very little contact with African Americans. The few that I knew were very much like me with many of the same opinions and upbringing, but at Purcell it was all different, here I was at an integrated school in a situation I had never been in before (high school that is) and I made friends with many people almost totally opposite of myself. I got to learn their ways of life, culture, customs, eating habits, etc, which exposed me to a whole new side of life, and I loved it. This is what an integrated community can do for us. It opens the door to new ideas and ways of life via new people who probably are very new to our ways of life.

A final good thing about living in an integrated community is that it keeps history from repeating itself and heals old hates and prejudices that we may have. My mother told me a story of one time when one of our African American friends came to the house when I was a child. My grandmother (who had been raised in the south) answered the door and was flustered to find a black man on our porch. When my mother explained who he was she calmed down, but this is what happens when we do not integrate. If we live with people too much like ourselves with no outside influence we begin to generate stereotypes about others that can be very wrong and harmful. When you live with a group of people every day (even if they are different from you) you begin to become friends with them, share stories and experiences and learn from them and eventually gain a respect for them. This is what happens everyday in an integrated community. If this happens with everyone we can destroy the negative stereotypes that are embedded in our society and eventually live out Martin Luther King Jr’s dream”...we will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, “Free at Last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!” There are many valuable reasons to live in an integrated community, such as the ability to learn different ways of life and make friends different from ourselves and of course it helps us to learn about others and in turn keep the past from repeating itself.

Community News



Ashley Draut
Essay Contest Winner

Second prize winner is Ashley Draut. Ashley has lived in Kennedy Heights her entire life. She is a graduate of Walnut Hills High School. She is involved in a World Peace Organization known as Children's International Summer village. She will be attending Ohio State University as a part of the Honors Program. She plans to study International Business. Ashley wishes to thank all that have contributed to her success thus far, and for all of the support she has received.

The Value of Living in an Integrated Community

As I prepare to begin a new phase of my life I remember the values that have been instilled in me since I was a young child. While I have learned many important lessons from family and friends, some of the most important lessons have come from my environment, Kennedy Heights. I know that people are more similar than different. I learned to take pride in who I am and feel the freedom to express that, and I found many things can be attained through hard work and determination. By realizing these important values, I feel prepared to tackle problems that I may face.

Living in an integrated community is all I know and is the sum of who I am. As I reflect on my childhood, it is interesting to speculate who I would be if I had grown up in another community where houses, yards, hairstyles and clothes appear uniform and where peoples jobs, churches and socioeconomic conditions are more similar than different. I wonder if I would have had the opportunities to really explore my values, political beliefs and friendships to the same depths I have experienced.

Growing up in and integrated environment begins dialogue between various groups of people that have very different experiences. Despite these very different experiences, people have similar needs and desires. Most people want to be accepted, to be happy, to love and be loved, and to be understood. Outlying problems may be different, but underneath it all, these basic feelings are in most of us. Once I understood this, it became easier to communicate with others and understand their rationales and motives.

Although people have similar wishes and desires, the path that we choose is often varied. Some of us take the smooth path, some the rough, and most of us take a little bit of each. Living in an integrated community has taught me that it does not matter which path I take. As long as I make the best out of it and keep on walking, I am a better person for that.

I have found that in less integrated environments, many peoples' paths are very similar. If one should deviate from this desired path, one is scorned, ridiculed, or worse. In Kennedy Heights, I need not worry about such a thing. We all understand that each has a right to their own opinion and their own path. I am not afraid to tackle my dreams because I know there are people around supporting me.

The most important thing I have learned is that many things can be attained from hard work and determination. Kennedy Heights has many successful people. Each person has their own story with their own problems and their own successes. Instead of letting problems prevent dreams, they stand strong. They work hard. These people inspire me to set high life goals, even if they seem impossible. Goals are meant to be reached, not to remain only a dream.

Dear Council Members,

Thank you very much for awarding me the first prize in the recent essay contest. The prize money will be very helpful this fall when I start buying schoolbooks. I really appreciate the time and effort you put into this essay contest.

Sincerely,
Trent Kugler

Dear Kennedy Heights Community Council,

Thanks you very much for awarding the scholarship money. It will definitely help considering the many college expenses coming up.

It would be a great contribution to my education.

Sincerely,
Ashley Draut

Beautification News

Highlights From the KHCC Beautification Committee

-Mimi Gingold

Three Cheers to Ravenwood Circle

Thanks to Ms. Georgie Oberton and her neighbors, an improved appearance meets the eye at the Ravenwood cul-de-sac. Ms. Oberton received a donation of flats of myrtle and organized a planting around the tree in the center of the circle. Thanks to Natorps for its donation.

Scoop The Poop, Please!

Several KHCC residents have complained about neighbors who walk their dogs and allow their dogs to defecate on lawns and tree lawns and recreation areas where children play and folks walk. Please carry a plastic bag with you and pick up your dog's waste.

Tree Survey

Two More Volunteer Surveyors Needed

We have four volunteer surveyors trained by Kurt Kastner, our Urban Forester, to complete a very important tree survey. The following people are covering the streets north of Kennedy, the streets around Congreve and Davenant, the streets west of Kennedy, McHugh, Solar Vista: George and Laura West, John Nolan, Jeff Dey, Sherri Broadus. We need one volunteer for Red Bank Road and the streets off of Red Bank, and one volunteer for Robison Road and the streets off of Robison Road (such as Glenedge, etc.) Call Mimi Gingold, 531-9218.

Need Cash to Fix Up Your Home?

Check out Hamilton County's Housing Improvement Program, HIP. This program has NO income-limit requirement. It provides 3% off the market rate on loans up to \$50,000.00. Work

on the home must be completed within a year. The County pays the 3%. Go to any of the following banks and ask for a regular loan application, but say that you want to participate in the HIP program:

5th/3rd Banks,
First Savings and Loan
Providence
Key Bank
Northside Bank.

Another Home Purchase Or Improvement Loan Opportunity

For family incomes under \$43,840.00, you can apply for a Good Neighbor Program Loan at any Fifth/Third Bank. This provides a 5% discount off loans.

Tax Abatements Available for Home Improvement

If home improvements result in an increase in your assessed property market value, you are eligible to apply for a Tax Abatement which will put off the increased taxes for ten years. You can do this after the completion of work. Call Martha Hilliard at City Hall, 352-6134 for the application form.

Interested in Making a Second Income as a Housing Developer?

CHIRP Program--Contact Dawn Grace for an application at 352-6140. This program supports the rehabilitation of buildings with one, two, or three units. The owner must not reside in the building. The purpose is for the developer (this can be an individual) to purchase, rehab, and sell or manage the property. This is a "Gap Filler" program wherein the total project expenses (purchase and rehab costs) would exceed the current market value of the building. The difference between the total project expense and the sale price would be covered through CHIRP up to \$30,000.00. A developer could apply to rehab up to three projects at a time.

Housing Round Program

For an application and to be put on the mailing list for this program, contact Morag Adlon at 352-6138. Twice a year the city requests funding proposals for low or forgivable loans for development of buildings with four or more units. A developer can be an individual. This is a competitive process. The last round was May 10. There should be another round this year. The city awarded \$1.7-2.2 million this last year. The application is not simple, so prepare it now for the next round. You would not have to own the property that you want to upgrade, but you would at least need to have an option to buy on it.

GREAT NEWS!!!

Mr. Garges, Director of the Recreation Department, has informed the Beautification Committee that the "tot lot" at Lang Field by the tennis courts will be replaced. Equipment has been ordered for this renovation.

Streets That Still Need Neighborhood Networkers

Afton
Amberacres Drive
Brandenburg
Coleridge
Crestview
Davenant from Onandago to Wyatt
GlennArbor
Hedge
Iberis
Kennedy (HillandDale to Woodford)
Kennedy northwest of Montgomery
MaryAnn
Montgomery Road
Northdale Place
Skyline
Skyview Lane
Welton
Wyatt from Davenant to Congreve
Zinsle from Kennedy to Tyne
Zinsle from Redbank to Kennedy

Please call Mimi Gingold 531-9218 if you are willing to be your block's

Community News

Kennedy Heights Needs You!

Citizens on Patrol

You've probably seen us walking around, especially during the past few months. Nearly 30 members strong, we're able to patrol a lot more often -- which means we can affect an even greater change in our community. Just imagine what we could do if even more of our neighbors were willing to stand up and be the eyes and ears of the Cincinnati Police!

It's not hard to do, and it doesn't take much of anyone's time. We receive training, uniforms and support from the Cincinnati Police in exchange for which we simply patrol the neighborhood with police radios, reporting back any illegal activity, graffiti or possible hazards (gas leaks, abandoned vehicles, etc.) we see along our route.

If you've seen us you know that you don't have to be athletic to participate. We have members young and old and in various stages of fitness. To join, all that's needed is a sense of commitment that we can work together to make Kennedy Heights an even better place to live. If interested, you can leave a message by phone (531-4041) or e-mail (khcc@fuse.net) at the Kennedy Heights Council office. Kay will ask Dana or Jeffrey to invite you to our next meeting.

Everybody's Backyard Picnic at Kennedy Heights Park

Kate Kern and Lisa Pickering

On Friday, July 26, from 4 to 9 p.m. about 200 people came to enjoy the picnic activities in the unique environment of our own Kennedy Heights Park (located between Kennedy Ave, Woodford Rd and Robison Road, entrances on Robison and Kennedy).

This event, sponsored by the Cincinnati Park Board, featured traditional outdoor games of Tug of War and Sack Races; free hot dogs and metts (from Poppie's restaurant); nature crafts and activities provided by Vivian Wagner (from the Park Board); special guest Thayne Maynard came with three zoo animals; the Vic Daniels Quartet

provided acoustic contemporary folk/jazz music; nature organizations -- including The Cincinnati Earth Institute and the Greater Cincinnati Herpetological Society -- were there giving out information.

Jim Godby, of Cincinnati Parks, gave two popular tours of the wetland area along the Robison Road side of the park. Jeffrey Weidner won the \$100 Kroger gift certificate drawing.

This was one of three picnics planned by the Park Board. The other two were hosted at Washington Park and Rapid Run Park. These events are designed to bring neighbors together to enjoy the peace and beauty provided by our city parks.

We extend a big "Thank You!" to the Cincinnati Park Board, Kroger and MOJO for sponsoring this event.

What Else is New in Kennedy Heights Park?

Soon the Park Board will install a new kiosk in the park near the shelter house. This colorful wooden sign houses a bulletin board behind a lockable glass door. Announcements of park activities, special events and other information will be posted here.

More Improvements!

Kennedy Heights Park has been spruced up! Part of this process has involved re-mulching of trees, opening up the view into the wetland area, and installing new posts to prevent vehicles from driving into the park and on the grass. These new posts will help preserve grassy areas and possibly limit excessive noise in the park. Residents and visitors are encouraged to *walk* their picnics into the park from each entrance where parking is provided. These new measures will help preserve and enhance this park for many to enjoy its natural setting, and will also support neighbors who live nearby.

Use of the shelter is currently on a first come, first served basis, according to Cincinnati Park rules for parks of this size. There is a possibility of setting it up

for reservation through Cincinnati Parks, given community support. Come to the next Kennedy Heights Park Advisory Council meeting in September for future support of our park.

Annual Membership Meeting of Kennedy Heights Park Advisory Council

Everyone interested in Kennedy Heights Park is invited to attend this meeting, to take place at 10:30 on Saturday, September 14. Meet in the park near the shelter house.

Kennedy Heights Park Advisory Council is an official Advisory Council (formerly Friends of the Park) registered with the Cincinnati Park Board. As concerned volunteers, we work with the Park Board to preserve and enhance the park. Ongoing and new projects include:

- redesign and replanting of flower beds in parking area off of Robison Road
- building section of trail to complete existing hiking trail
- bird, butterfly and wildflower surveys
- organizing groups of walkers/runners to make regular use of the park
- special project for people and their dogs who like to use the park
- and much, much more!

If you cannot make this meeting and would like to be involved in our efforts, or if you are interested in joining an Advisory Council for Drake Park, please contact Kate Kern kmkern@fuse.net or 351-0861.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

If you want to help develop a program whereby youth join with retired neighbors in our community to help provide minor exterior repairs and seasonal yard clean-up for elderly and infirmed neighbors in KH, please call Mimi Gingold, 531-9218



**KENNEDY HEIGHTS
Neighborhood Networkers
Needed----**

Are you willing to serve as your block's Neighborhood Networker?? These are the tasks:

1. Host an informal block gathering to gather ideas re: Kennedy Heights (We supply the invitation forms and a group questionnaire)
2. Try to attend KHCC meetings or find someone else on the block who will.
3. Place a small attractive nylon sign in your yard on the third Tuesday of each month to remind neighbors of the KHCC meetings. (We supply the sign)
4. Help conduct our annual Door-to-Door Canvas in May-June 2003 --NEXT YEAR!!!!--or get someone else on your block to do it. (We supply the doorknockers and the collection envelopes)
5. Let the KHCC know about concerns on your block.
6. Help promote KH events and get the word out when KH needs a strong show of support.

YES, I want to be my block's Neighborhood Networker.....

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Send to Mimi Gingold-5815 Wyatt Ave.
or call her at 531-9218 or
mimiging@aol.com

Kennedy Heights Community Council Officers

President: Joshua Swain
Vice - President: Noel Morgan
Treasurer: Robert Kamp
Secretary: Sheryl Foster

Committees:
Beautification: Mimi Gingold

Planning: Ernest Barbeau
Litter Magic: Joanie Weidner
Landscape Awards: Joyce Hibbard

Education: Margaret Peyton

Health, Environment & Safety: Joshua Swain
Citizens On Patrol: David Muldrow

Recreation: Sheila Murray
Newsletter Editor: Kay Briggs
Jeffrey Weidner

Layout and Design: Kay Briggs

Junked Cars on Our Streets

"If a vehicle is left more than 48 hours, with a fair market value of \$1500.00 or less, it can be cited and removed under law." These are the words of Heather Harlow of Keep Cincinnati Beautiful. Anyone can report a junk car. In our district, District 2, please call 979-4400 to report abandoned cars.



Are you interested in helping with Beautification Projects:

- _____ Litter Magic (three Saturday clean-ups a year)
- _____ Entry Gardens by our KH signs
- _____ Helping with planting occasional planting projects
- _____ Developing a new KH fundraiser to establish large planters on Montgomery Road---(like an annual KH Talent Show and Pride Day with hometown celebs returning)
- _____ Helping with Landscape Award Contest
- _____ Helping with tree lawn Tree Survey (training provided)
- _____ Host free dumpsters for community cleanup twice a year.
- _____ Helping to develop the "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" project to provide help on exterior maintenance of homes to folks who are elderly or infirmed.

Name: _____

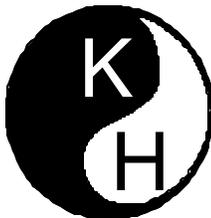
Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please give to Mimi Gingold or send:
5815 Wyatt or call 531-9218 or
email: mimiging@aol.com

Feel free to add your suggestions.



KENNEDY HEIGHTS NEWSLETTER
Kennedy Heights Community Council
6566 Montgomery Road, Suite 210
Cincinnati, OH 45213 (513) 531-4041
(khcc@fuse.net)

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