

Spring
2010

KENNEDY HEIGHTS NEWS

The Newsletter of the Kennedy Heights Community Council

Calendar

- 4/16-17 Book Sale
- 4/17 Riki Tiki Tavi
- 4/17 I See Africa Reception (KHAC)
- 4/20 KHCC Meets
- 5/2 African Culture Fest (KHAC)
- 4/22 Earth Day
- 4/24 Rummage Sale KH Presbyterian
- 4/24 Garage Sale All Saints Episcopal
- 5/4 Primary Election Vote!!
- 5/18 KHCC Meets
- 6/19-20 Juneteenth in Eden Park
- 6/22 KHCC Meets
- 7/5 Arts Day Camp

KHCC Meeting Minutes Links
Community Details & More Detailed News
at
www.kennedyheights.org



Kennedy Heights

Who Should Stand For Ohio?

Duane Holm

Kennedy heights residents and fellow Ohioans have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to choose **which** historic Ohioan will represent Ohio in Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol.

Every state sends two U.S. senators to Washington, but every state also sends two representatives to National Statuary Hall. Since the 1880's, statues of James Garfield and William Allen have served as Ohio's two representatives in Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol.

A group of Ohio state legislators recently began a process to select a replacement for Allen, a former member of Congress and Ohio's governor from 1874-1876. Allen's pro-slavery views led Ohio leaders to seek a new Ohio representative for Statuary Hall for the 21st century.

There are ten now finalists in the running. Reflecting our positive experience as an intentionally integrated community, KH Community Council has voted its support for Harriet Beecher Stowe. You, of course, make your own choice, but KHCC believes that Ms. Stowe is the most appropriate of the ten.



Losing her son in a Cincinnati cholera epidemic jolted Stowe into understanding that enslaved mothers must feel when they lose children to slavery. Her surprise best seller novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, portrayed the brutality of slavery and convinced many Americans that slavery had to end.

Choosing Harriet Beecher Stowe to represent us in Statuary Hall will send the right message about Ohioans to the many Americans who visit our nation's capitol.

Ballot is on the back page
One person (any age) one vote
Voting ends June 12

KHCC Meets
The third Tuesday 7:30
KH Presbyterian Church
April 20
May 18
June 22

Community Lawn Concert Honors Educators

6/3 7 pm

Each year the KH Arts Center and KHCC co-sponsor an evening to celebrate achievements in the community. In the past we have recognized the Tuskegee Airman, local Emergency and Fire Personnel and the 100th Anniversary of the Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church.

This year we will honor our local school educators, active and retired. Teachers who live in KH and the surrounding neighborhoods as a tremendous asset to the community, and this is our chance to salute & thank them.

The Sycamore Community Concert Band under the direction of Pete Metzger will present a musical concert in a special tribute to the youth educators in our community. Residents and musicians will pay short tribute to the years of service to our Community.

Free refreshments & camaraderie

Miss Us?

For Many years we have tried to deliver the KH News to your mail box (almost monthly). It's becoming harder to find postage & printing costs in a shrinking budget.

This year we aim to print on a quarterly basis. You will likely see the next issue in early summer, and another in early September.

To keep up on what's happening, tune your computer to www.kennedyheights.org and sign up for email updates by sending your email address to enews@kennedyheights.org.

KHDC Tackling Community Projects

KHDC

Three years ago, with leadership from our Community Council, the KH Development Corp. (KHDC) was reestablished (it discontinued in 1983).

KHDC is a non-profit organization that has a board of trustees with 14 volunteers, of whom 12 are KH residents.

KHDC is 100% volunteer, with no staff or paid consultant.

Our mission is to invigorate the viability of KH businesses and improve the quality of our housing stock.

For the next two or so years KHDC's primary goals are establishing a cultural center and improving foreclosed residences.

Need Help?

The Caring Place is sponsored by several area churches. It is located in the basement of the KH Presbyterian Church on Kennedy Ave.

- Food
- Clothing
- Other Services

**Tuesdays & Thursdays
9-2**

Hilton Davis Clean-Up

KHCC voted March 9 to join Pleasant Ridge CC in urging the Ohio EPA to **remove** chemical contaminants from the Hilton Davis site rather than simply trying to contain them.

KHDC's goal is to turn the corner at Kennedy & Montgomery into a cultural center, which could bring enormous vitality to our business district, increase the visibility of the KH Arts Center and *ballet tech cincinnati*, establish KH as the core of the arts district (District A) recently created by KH and Pleasant Ridge, and change the conversation that we and others have about our neighborhood.

The cultural center would have three partners.

- **The Cincinnati Art Museum (CAM)** wants to create an outreach center, storing and exhibiting precious art that is now stored in Columbus. The center would allow their stored art to be accessible for viewing by patrons, visitors (such as school-led tours).
- **The KH Arts Center** would use space for artist studios.
- **The KH Montessori Center** was displaced by the closing and (soon to begin) demolition of Woodford School. The Montessori Center (now temporarily in a church on Ridge Ave.) has identified this as its preferred new home, serving 80 or more preschoolers.

\$2.4 Project

The cultural center is a \$2.4 million project. The building would be adapted, not demolished, and it would have a new and dynamic facade, with extensive landscaping.

- KHDC now has a \$300,000 commitment from the City; The Chamber of Commerce has recommended to Governor Strickland that the state allocate us \$300,000 from a special State program.
- We hope to access an additional \$75,000 from the City.
- One of our principal partners is prepared to make a very substantial financial commitment. The two remaining partners are actively exploring financial support from a variety of sources.

High Hopes

There are a lot of pieces that have yet to be put together, but prospects for success look good. It is hard to underestimate the potential long-term benefits a cultural center could have on our business district and our precious neighborhood.

For decades Kennedy School dominated the corner of Kennedy & Montgomery. In the late '70's the school was razed and replaced by a Kroger store.



Kroger lasted only a few years, and the building's last tenant (Furniture Fair) closed several years ago.

The property is now (again) owned by Cincinnati Public Schools, which bought it as the intended site for Pleasant Ridge School. Ever since CPS changed its mind and rebuilt Pleasant Ridge (in P Ridge) the property has been vacant except for use as a CPS warehouse.

Foreclosure Rehab

The City has selected KH as one of five neighborhoods to receive federal funds for rehabilitating foreclosed properties and vacant homes (1-2 family). The intent is to stabilize streets that have been hit by foreclosure.

The City will put up to \$40,000 toward the cost of rehabbing and selling each of four properties to be selected by KHDC. To help us complete the project, we have contracted with the Homesteading and Urban Development Corporation (HURC).

The site selection committee has identified several possible homes, and by the time you're reading this we may well have begun the first rehab.

Although KHDC is separate, non-profit corporation, it is closely tied to KH Community Council, of which every adult resident is automatically a member.

At every monthly meeting of the Community Council's Board and of the Council, a KHDC report about the two major goals, and other matters, are provided. Feel free to come with your enthusiasm, critical review, and ideas.

*Ernie Barbeau, PhD, Chair
Kennedy Heights Development Corporation*

The KH Arts Community Has Something for YOU!

Register Now for Summer Arts Camps

The summer is exciting at Kennedy Heights Arts Center! Join in the fun at one of our creative and affordable art camps for ages 5-13.

From Star Wars to Haitian dance to video production, we offer a wide range of imaginative and engaging camps. New this year, we are offering an after-care program to accommodate working parents' schedules.

During the four weeks of June, youth ages 10-13 are invited to Create @ the Kennedy! Working with professional artists, youth express themselves and explore their community through visual arts, photography, theatre, creative writing and music. It's an amazing experience not to be missed!

Our camps fill up fast, so register soon! Scholarships available.

For a full list of camps
www.kennedyarts.org 631-4278

Community Sculpture

- Free
- Through April
- Sculptor Voss Finn works with groups of youth and adults to create original sculpture from found objects.
- Y'all come: **Friday, April 30** from 6-8 pm. See unique sculptures created by your neighbors, a dance performance and enjoy refreshments.

African Culture Fest

Sunday, May 2, 2010 from 1-6 pm.

The festival will present various aspects of African arts and culture, featuring art, music, dance and food from several African nations.

African immigrants will demonstrate aspects of their culture that are unique, useful and beautiful.

The festival will conclude with a buffet dinner of foods native to the African countries

ballet tech cincinnati

Performing Arts Day Camp

- Ages 5-14
- July 5-August 13 9 – 4
- Camp Fee: \$75 per week, scholarships available

Experience Choral Music, Drama, Ballet, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Musical Theatre, Tap and special classes in Traditional Indian, African, Latin and Chinese Ethnic/World Dance Forms and more.

Classes will be taught by a diverse group of highly qualified instructors who will create a positive experience for youth with varying levels of experience in the arts.

In 2009 the ballet tech cincinnati Performing Arts Camp served African-American, Asian, Caucasian, Hispanic and Multi-racial boys and girls age 5-15 from all over the region, including Northern Kentucky, Indiana, City of Cincinnati and suburbs, including Hamilton, Butler, Clermont and Warren Counties.

841-2822

6543 Montgomery Rd.

www.balletechcincinnati.org

Riki Tiki Tavi

4/17 7-8:30 PR Montessori

- Last of a series of neighborhood performances by Playhouse in the Park.
- Attendance averaged 150, and audience quality was outstanding.
- Playhouse in the Park *Center Stage* publication noted our success: "People of all ages, all races, and all economic backgrounds . . . coming together through this arts opportunity to celebrate their community values."

Tickets: \$5 (over age 13)

www.districta.org

At the P Ridge Library

- 4/16 - 17: The Friends of the Public Library book sale (+CD's & movies)
- 4/22, 6:30 p.m. Celebrate Earth Day by decorating a pot and planting flower seeds! Please sign up in advance. All ages.
- 4/24: Garage Sale to benefit the Pleasant Ridge Library Accessibility Project at All Saints Episcopal Church. Donations welcome; volunteers needed to help sort on Friday, April 23 and help during the sale. Please call 369-4488 for more information.



I See Africa

I See Africa: Realities, Perceptions and Imaginings, is a dynamic new art exhibition.

- Artists present their concept of Africa's influence through sculpture, painting and photography, alongside genuine artifacts from various African nations.
- Social documentary-style photography of Nigerian artist Alfred Olusegun Fayemi, and work by James Haase, Queen Brooks, Cynthia Lockhart, Elliot Jordon and Ike Okafor-Newsum.
- African artifacts and educational exhibits from Cincinnati Art Museum and Cincinnati Museum Center provide cultural context.

Opening reception on Saturday

April 17, 6-8 pm.

Art is...a piano on the lawn!

Cincinnati will have the first U.S. installation of *Play Me, I'm Yours* by British artist Luke Jerram. The interactive public art installation will launch in August 2010 with painted upright pianos placed around the region for the general public to play and enjoy.

Our piano will be on the lawn in the first week of August. You're invited to sit down, play a tune and perhaps lead an impromptu sing-a-long.

www.kennedyarts.com

BALLOT FOR OHIO'S NEXT REPRESENTATIVE FOR STATUARY HALL IN THE US CAPITOL

**James Mitchell Ashley
Thomas A. Edison
Ulysses S. Grant
Jesse C. Owens**

**William M. McCulloch
Judith A. Resnik
Albert B. Sabin
Harriet Beecher Stowe**

**Harriet Taylor Upton
Wright Brothers**

Please vote only once. Ballots with multiple selections or write-ins will not be included in the final tally.

Signature _____ Email _____

Name (printed) _____

Address (or if under the age of 18, name of school) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Completed ballots may be deposited into ballot boxes, mailed to: Ohio Statuary Vote, c/o the Ohio Historical Society, 1982 Velma Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43211, or e-mailed as a Portable Document Format (PDF) to ohiostatue@ohiohistory.org.

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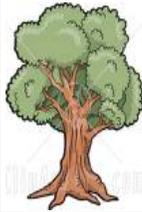
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3550 Woodford Rd. (Kennedy Heights)
(Yard Service; no mail)

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Rummage Sale

Bring Stuff

4/19-22 9-2

Buy Stuff

4/24 9-12

- Clothes
- Appliances
- Gadgets
- Electronics
- Housewares

**KH Presbyterian
Kennedy Ave.**

Kennedy Heights Community Council

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V.P. Community Planning.... Clete Benken
Treasurer Kevin Holt
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**Council Next Meets
Tuesday 4/20/10**

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