



KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
 P.O. BOX 36318
 CINCINNATI, OH 45236

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NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

NEWS BY, FROM, AND FOR THE KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY

MAY/JUN 2018

RUNNERS DEFY THE COLD: SAP RUN IS RECORD-SETTING SUCCESS

Despite the snow on the ground, more than 100 runners participated in the 25th annual Sap Run. We raised \$2009.16 to be put toward the neighborhood.

Thank you to volunteers: Mary Ray, Cinder Miller, Catherine Clark, and Hanna Urbanski, Lydia Morgan, Doug Linn, Danielle Linn, Sister Carren, Jayne Dressing, Kristy Miller, Susan Wade Murphy, Melissa McNally, Ellen & Larry Muse-Lindeman, and more! **BIG thanks to Paul Graham for leading the entire process.**

Thank you also to our excellent and delicious sponsors from the neighborhood: Casa Figueroa, Coffee Exchange, Grand Central Delicatessen, and Revolution Rotisserie.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, May 15
 KH Community Council Meeting
 at KH Presbyterian Church
 6:30 Free community dinner
 7:30 Meeting
Voting on Kennedy Bridge Design

Saturday, May 19
 Green Up Day
 at Kennedy Heights Park
 (Robison Road side)
 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 9
 Dedication of Tuskegee Airman Leahr Memorial
 at KH Arts Center
 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, June 9
 Jazz in the Heights
 Mandy Gaines
 at KH Arts Center
 8:00 p.m.
 \$25 in advance
 \$30 at the door

Saturday, June 16
 Atmospha Opening Reception
 at Kennedy Mansion
 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sat-Sun, June 16-17
 Juneteenth Festival
 at Eden Park
 Free

Tuesday, June 19
 KH Community Council Meeting
 at KH Presbyterian Church
 6:30 Free community dinner
 7:30 Meeting

KENNEDY HEIGHTS HONORS TUSKEGEE AIRMAN LEHR



June 9 at 11:00 a.m. at the Kennedy Heights Arts Center witness the unveiling of an original sculpture by Jarret Hawkins, honoring the legacy of Tuskegee Airman Lt. John Leahr. This is the culmination of hours of volunteer time and financial support from the Ohio Arts Council, Community Council, and friends and neighbors.

Jarrett Hawkins' body of work can be seen in cities, parks, corporate, and private collections in Ohio and other states throughout the U.S. He and his partner, Celene Hawkins, also an artist, started Hawkins & Hawkins Custom in 1994. Jarrett was a Fellow at the Artist's Enclave at I-Park in 2008.

Festivities will precede the unveiling of the sculpture, including songs by 4MoBrothers and tributes by those who knew Lt. Leahr.

The surrounding area will feature landscaping reminiscent of the terrain that the Tuskegee Airmen flew over. The landscaping has been designed by Clete Benken and MKSK Landscape Architects, and creates a beautiful environment that will inspire and educate visitors for years to come.

All are welcome!

2018 KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: VOLUNTEER NEEDED

V.P., COMMUNITY PLANNING: Douglas Linn doug@kennedyheights.org

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CONNECT WITH THE KHCC ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!



@KennedyHts



@KHCCORG

LETTER FROM THE (ACTING) PRESIDENT

We have had a wonderful first quarter in Kennedy Heights and the summer will showcase the best that our neighborhood offers.

Our 5K Sap Run was a tremendous success, bringing in visitors from all over the city and raising more than \$2,000 for our neighborhood projects. Play In The Park will begin again in Kennedy Park with a slate of great offerings every Wednesday night.

Our Community Council meetings have been well-attended and make me proud to serve as acting president of KHCC.

I am looking forward to our meeting on May 15th, where we will vote on a design proposal for the Kennedy Avenue bridge replacement.

I hope to see you there!

--Douglas Linn

JAZZ IN THE HEIGHTS

Kennedy Heights Arts Center is proud to present a summer jazz series featuring world class performers in our Lindner Event Center, with pre-concert refreshments and creative fun.

Proceeds benefit KHAC's programs for diverse youth and adults.

June 9 at 8:00 p.m. - Mandy Gaines Acclaimed for soulful vocals, Mandy's interpretations of jazz, soul and pop have delighted audiences around the globe.

July 22 at 2:00 p.m. - The Horace Silver Project Phil Degreg, Mike Wade and friends present a tribute to the great jazz composer Horace Silver.

August 4 at 8:00 p.m. - Terell Stafford An acclaimed trumpet player, Terell Stafford has been hailed as "one of the great players of our time."

All shows held at Kennedy Heights Arts Center Lindner Annex, 6620 Montgomery Road. \$25 in advance/\$30 at door. Series pass: \$65. kennedyarts.org or call 513.631.4278.

AGING IN COMMUNITY: DEMOGRAPHICS OF DEMENTIA IN KENNEDY HEIGHTS

Kennedy Heights shares the common goal of creating a dementia-inclusive community. Using tools from Dementia Friendly America™ we have gathered the following demographic information about our neighborhood that gives us a clearer idea of how dementia may affect Kennedy Heights:

- We estimate our population over the age of 65 years is 950. We then divide by 9 to estimate that the number of people over 65 with dementia in Kennedy Heights is 105.
We estimate our population over the age of 85 years is 105. Divide by 3 to estimate the number of people over 85 with dementia is 35.
We estimate our population with dementia that lives alone is 15 neighbors. This is calculated by dividing our estimate of the number of people over age 65 with dementia by 7 to estimate the number of people with dementia living alone.

In order for us to be inclusive of our neighbors who live with dementia and their caregivers, we have joined with Dementia-Inclusive Cincinnati to offer training and support. Please call (513) 536-6243 to get more information, get involved, or to get support for yourself or someone you know.

FRIENDS OF KENNEDY HEIGHTS, FEBRUARY 2 - APRIL 1, 2018

We extend our thanks to those who contributed as a Friend of Kennedy Heights February 2 through April 1, 2018. Your support makes our neighborhood programs and projects possible. Send your gift to KHCC, PO Box 36318, 45236 or donate online at www.kennedyheights.org. Every gift counts!

Gifts to support the Lt. Leahr Memorial should be mailed to KHCC PO Box 36318 or made online at www.kennedyheights.org. If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please inform us.

Table with 3 columns: Friends of Kennedy Heights, Supporters of Leahr Memorial, and names of donors like Jean & John Bange, Al Gerhardstein & Mimi Gingold, etc.

Form for becoming a Friend of Kennedy Heights, including donation options (\$15.00, \$25.00, \$50.00, \$100.00, or other amount) and contact information fields (Name, Address, City/State/ZIP, Email).

PLEASANT RIDGE LIBRARY

Please note that some events/classes require pre-registration, which can be done in person at the branch, online at www.cincinnatiilibrary.org, or by calling 513-369-4488. For questions about any of the events or classes, please contact the branch. Please check the branch calendar for possible additions to the schedule. There's lots of FREE fun in store for children and adults at the library.

ALL LIBRARY LOCATIONS ARE CLOSED MAY 28!

Art for Kids! Learn about an artist and make a different project every month. Ages 4–12. Tues. 5/15, 6/12, 4:00 p.m.

Breakout of the Library! Team up and complete a breakout challenge. Registration required. Teens. Mon. 6/25, 2:00 p.m.

Cool Science! May: Soap Making. Registration requested. Ages 5–12. Thurs. 5/10, 4:00 p.m.

Children's/Family Bilingual Musical Concert with Evan & Vanessa. Families, Children. Tues. 6/05, 2:00 p.m.

Get Crafty. Call the branch for the month's craft. Registration required. Adults, Teens. Mon. 5/21, 6/18, 6:00 p.m.

Let's Go Lego & Other Building Bricks! Build with Legos, Duplos, and other

building blocks and connectors on the third Friday of every month! Ages 3–12. Fri. 5/25, 6/22, 4:00 p.m.

Make It, Take It Craft! Get creative! Snacks provided. Teens. Mon. 6/18, 4:00 p.m.

Maker Monday. May: Button Maker. June: Perler Beads. Teens. Mon. 5/14, 6/11, 4:00 p.m.

Maasai African Drumming! All ages. Tues. 6/19, 2:00 p.m.

Mini Brain Camp: Storybook Science. Registration required. For children entering grades 1-5. Tues. 6/26, 2:00 p.m.

Tales to Tails with Adira. Practice your reading skills to a certified Reading Dog. Mon. 5/24, 4:00 p.m.

Tales to Tails with Ruby. Practice your reading skills to a certified Reading Dog. Mon. 5/07, 6/04, 4:00 p.m.

Teddy Bear Tea! Crafts and snacks. Families, Children. Sat. 5/12, 2:00 p.m.

Teen Chef! Teens. Mon. 5/21, 4:00 p.m.

Pleasant Ridge Book Club. Call the branch, 369-4488, for each month's title. Adults. Thurs. 5/10, 6/14, 2:00 p.m.

STORY TIMES
Come join us for one of our story times:

Library Babies and Toddler Time! Ages 0–36 mos. Every Wed., 10:00 a.m.

Preschool Story Time
Registration required. Ages 3–6. Every Wed., 10:45 a.m.

Summer Adventures at the Library kick off June 1! Stop by any branch to register, and get your Adventure Kit. For more information visit: CincinnatiLibrary.org/SummerAdventure

SUMMER ART CAMPS AT KENNEDY HEIGHTS ARTS CENTER

Summer is the perfect time for creative art-making and imaginative play at **Kennedy Heights Arts Center!** Youth ages 5-16 can join in one of our 28 one-week art camps exploring visual arts, dance, video, graphic design and theatre. Monday - Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Extended care available.

Register at www.kennedyarts.org or call 513.631.4278. Sliding scale fees available for those with financial need. Camps fill fast - sign up today!

NEIGHBORHOOD HAPPENINGS

KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY GARDEN

There are raised beds available in the community garden. \$25 each to rent for the whole season. The garden is located on the grounds of Woodford Paideia Academy. To rent a bed or for more information contact Sharifah at sharifah@kennedyheights.org or (513) 225-2355.

THE CARING PLACE

Providing a variety of services to neighbors who find themselves in need of food, clothing, furniture, rent and utility assistance, family development and support groups. Housed in the Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church (6312 Kennedy Ave) and serves Kennedy Heights, Pleasant Ridge, Silverton and Golf Manor. For information or a tour, call (513) 841-1499.

In Need? Pantry is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Those in need can visit once per month. For services, bring photo ID and a piece of mail.

In the Giving Spirit? We are accepting gently used spring and summer clothes (new underwear, please), as well as personal care items, household cleaning items and toilet paper. We also accept monetary donations. Volunteer opportunities are available.

GREEN UP DAY: MAY 19, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Join neighbors and Cincinnati Parks staff in this annual community event. We will weed, mulch and plant annuals in the park entrance beds to prepare for summer activities.

Meet on the Robison Road side of the park. All are invited. Bring work gloves and favorite tools. Come for all or part of the morning. Cincinnati Parks will provide additional tools, flowers and mulch. We will reschedule for threatening weather. Check the Friends of Kennedy Heights Park or the Play in the Park Facebook pages if weather is a concern.

IN THE GALLERY: ATMOSPHERA, JUNE 9 - JULY 28

An intimate encounter with Nature's mysteries by local artists William Linthicum, Angela Mascolino and John Weller, all members of the Kennedy Collective, revealing personal relationships with the environment. At the Kennedy Mansion. Summer gallery hours: Tues. - Fri. 3-5 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information, call (513) 631-4278.

REMEMBERING CARL SCHMIDT, BY SUSAN STEBBINS



Longtime KH resident and active member of the KH Community Council Carl Schmidt passed away on Easter Sunday, 4/1/18. Carl was Vice President (1996-97) and then President (1998-99) of the Community Council. He was voted the Kennedy Heights Citizen of the Year in 1999.

Carl was an active representative of KH in the Coalition for Neighborhoods and a dedicated tutor of students at Schroder, Pleasant Ridge Montessori and other Cincinnati schools. Carl also tutored ESL students and adults. He was passionate about education for all students. Carl is dearly missed by his friends and neighbors in Kennedy Heights.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS: BARBARA ANN BELCHER

Barbara Ann Belcher grew up in New Orleans, Louisiana. In 1961, she moved to Cincinnati with a cousin, arriving at the Union Terminal by train. The city's cleanliness was one of the first things that impressed her. Homes were larger; basements and furnaces were new. The cold weather and snow were challenging, and food was so different she felt like she had to learn to cook again. But Barbara adapted and fell in love with Cincinnati!

She also fell in love with Cincinnati Carter Belcher. They married and rented in Avondale for several years. When they wanted to own their own home, they found a lovely home on Kirkup Avenue in 1966, and raised their son and daughter in the home where she still resides.

Barbara remembers the children from several blocks around playing baseball together. Children could be gone for hours without fear, and families could take long walks and not lock their doors.

Kennedy School and Woodford School offered many activities for the children. She remembers many local businesses fondly (though) few are still around, and feels there have always been nice churches.

Barbara worked with the Community Council for about 25 years, focusing on beautification. She led efforts to keep public areas clean and worked with the City of Cincinnati to regularly mow weeds. Mimi Gingold, also a longtime resident of Kennedy Heights and active on the Council, recalls, "Barbara was just great to work with. She really had her ear to the ground. She had wonderful ideas and always followed through and could get volunteers to help accomplish her goals. She helped with assessment and plantings and getting old cars removed." Barbara picked up litter along the railroad track for years.

Barbara recalls things getting rougher in the 1980s, with increases in graffiti and an influx of gangs and drugs. Thanks to the Community Council, the police and neighbors, however, children are playing up and down Red Bank and Kirkup again. Only two other original residents remain on Kirkup since Barbara moved there 52 years ago. New folks have moved in and are fixing up the houses and making good homes for their families. Barbara is very pleased to witness this change!

"Barbara was just great to work with. She really had her ear to the ground. She had wonderful ideas and always followed through and could get volunteers to help accomplish her goals. She helped with assessment and plantings and getting old cars removed."

31ST ANNUAL JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL: SATURDAY, JUNE 16 & SUNDAY, JUNE 17

Although it now takes place in Eden Park, Cincinnati's annual Juneteenth Festival is firmly rooted in Kennedy Heights.

Juneteenth celebrates when, shortly after the end of the Civil War, the Union Army reached Galveston, Texas. On June 19, 1865, a Union General proclaimed Texas to be under U.S. authority again

and re-issued the Emancipation Proclamation. This gave birth to an annual celebration of June 19th as "Emancipation Day" or "Juneteenth." Juneteenth is an official state holiday in Texas, and there is a campaign to make it a national holiday.

In 1988 group of KH residents, working as a committee of KHCC, organized a Juneteenth Festival in Drake Park. It was a great success,

drawing folks from all over town. The annual Festival is now in its 31st year.

Now held in Eden Pak, the festival include diverse family-centered (and free!) activities like traditional storytelling, games, races, bake-offs, health information and screenings, hands for freedom quilt, music (blues, African drumming & dancing, gospel, jazz, reggae, etc.), and education.

Kids enjoy supervised activities that include horseback riding, a petting zoo, balloons, free books, crafts, and making cards for their fathers. Festival vendors offer a wide variety of food, clothing, art, folk crafts, ethnic literature, etc.

Questions? Contact Lydia Morgan, 631-7289, lydiajmorgan@gmail.com or visit www.juneteenthcincinnati.org.

TELLING THE KENNEDY HEIGHTS STORY

YONONTE INN, part 2

Contributed by Ernie Barbeau



Part 1 of this story, in the newsletter's March/April edition, included two photos of the inn, and the invitation to the Inn's "House Warming," June 1888. The invitation was from the Kennedy Heights Hotel Company, which was established in the spring of 1887. The invitation "requests the presence of yourself and ladies," because it is likely the invitation was only sent to men.

The Yononte Inn's name derives from legend that a Miami Indian maiden named Yononte was married on that site. The 50-room inn was on a lot, approx. 400 by 400 feet, at the corner of Davenant and Knoll. The entry to the property still has two large stone and masonry gateways, one with the letter "Y" etched on it. The Inn is a story of success quickly thwarted by a region's transition from horse and carriage to trains and then automobiles, all of which enabled persons to access other destinations near and far. Bankruptcy quickly knocked on the Inn's door.

Hamilton County records note that the property was sold in 1887 to the Kennedy Heights Hotel Company for \$6,000 (today \$153,000). The Company then built and owned the Inn. The Inn was designed by a local architect, A. O. Elzner, who in 1887 was only 25 years old. The cost of building the Inn was \$65,000 (today \$1,648,000).

The Inn's intent was to be "for the exclusive use of shareholders and their properly introduced friends." For well-to-do Cincinnatians, the Inn was seen as an environment substantially more appealing than the heat and bustle of downtown, especially during the summer. The Inn was then described as a "pioneer summer hotel" and a country club with the "finest view of the county" especially of Madisonville and nearby areas, and a place for a Saturday evening "hop".

A closing comment: *If you or someone you know have information about our neighborhood's history, especially the 1860-1914 period, please contact Ernie at (513) 396-6968 or ejbarbeau@gmail.com. Particularly interested in information about the Kennedy family, Yononte Inn, Christ Episcopal Mission, the village years of 1896-1914, Kennedy-Silverton School, and the KH Business Men's Club.*