



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

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 U.S. POSTAGE
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 CINCINNATI, OH
 PERMIT NO. 1481



NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

NEWS BY, FROM, AND FOR THE KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY

MAR/APR 2019

KEEP CALM AND RUN FOR PANCAKES



Mark your calendars for April 6 and bring your appetite! The Kennedy Heights Community Council is having its 26th Annual Sap Run. This is a family-friendly event, with activities for everyone:

- 5k / 10k / 15k - The course is no easy bike path. The Kennedy Heights neighborhood is built on hills and will challenge any runner. Getting ready for the Flying Pig Marathon? Come test your endurance on this course.
- A family bike ride
- Raffles and giveaways
- An amazing Maple syrup-oriented full, hot breakfast with all the pancakes you can eat.
- A kid's race of about a quarter-mile, at the track behind the Kennedy Heights Art Center Annex

VOLUNTEERS MAKE THIS TRADITION POSSIBLE! We need people to help with set up, registration, cooking, serving, and clean up. The event lasts from 8:00 a.m. until approximately 1:00 p.m., and you can help out for as little or as long as you want!



Register to run or volunteer at runsignup.com/saprunregistration

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, March 1
Summer Class Registration Opens
 At KH Arts Center
 Register at kennedyarts.org or call 513-631-4278

Tuesday, March 19
KH Community Council
 at KH Presbyterian Church
 6:30 p.m. FREE Dinner
 7:30 p.m. Meeting

Monday, March 25
Turtle Time with Newport Aquarium Wave
 at Pleasant Ridge Library
 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 26
Alzheimer's Monthly Support Group
 At KH Presbyterian Church
 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 513-841-1499 to register

Saturday, April 6
Sap Run 5K
 8:00 a.m. Registration
 9:00 a.m. Race begins
 9:00 a.m. Breakfast
 Register to run or volunteer at runsignup.com/saprunregistration

Tuesday, April 16
KH Community Council
 at KH Presbyterian Church
 6:30 p.m. FREE Dinner
 7:30 p.m. Meeting

MEET OFFICER RICE, YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON UNIT



Officer Jason Rice has been our Neighborhood Liaison Unit since fall of 2018, so let's take a chance to get to know him better! His official title is Police Officer District Two Neighborhood Liaison Unit (NLU) Kennedy Heights / Pleasant Ridge.

Officer Rice grew up in Deer Park, and has been in the service for 14 years. He started out in District 3 Patrol, and spent ten years in the Violent Crime Squad. He was drawn to the field because he wanted to make the world a better place for his kids to grow up.

He has been married for 19 years, has three children and one granddaughter. He also has two dogs—a pitador (pitbull/lab rescue) and a 180-lb. cane corso. He considers woodworking a hobby of his. Officer Rice says he is excited to serve Kennedy Heights because he grew up so close to it, even playing on sports teams with people from the community.

He has been described by his colleagues as "The right person for the job...a fine officer." When asked to name one thing people might be surprised to learn about him, Officer Rice says that he "truly takes enjoyment with really helping others." We're happy to have you in our neighborhood, Officer Rice!

2019 KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS

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The KHCC Neighbor to Neighbor newsletter is published with funds from Friends of Kennedy Heights and City of Cincinnati Neighborhood Support Program.

CONNECT WITH THE KHCC ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's a new year in Kennedy Heights! We have begun planning for this year's Sap Run, our annual 5K race. This wonderful event serves as a fundraiser for KHCC, a great way see your neighbors, and a chance to shake off the winter rust and get moving! This year's race will be on April 6th, and we need volunteers. If you would like to help, please email doug@kennedyheights.org and I will put you in touch with the planning committee.

We are also updating our Community Plan, the guiding document for neighborhood goals and growth. We last updated it in 2003, and it is impressive how much has changed in our neighborhood since then. Be sure to attend our monthly meetings to stay up to date on these developments.

Spring in Kennedy Heights is a lovely time, and I hope that you and your neighbors enjoy these bright days in our beautiful neighborhood. - Douglas Linn, President

THANK YOU, MARIA KREPPEL & DISTRICT A!



Ten years ago, Maria Kreppel and a small cadre of leaders had a vision of uniting and strengthening Kennedy Heights and Pleasant Ridge through the arts. This vision led to the founding of "District A"—with the 'A' representing the ARTS for ALL of US.

District A's mission was to connect local arts, business, and community assets to stimulate and sustain community vitality and economic growth within and beyond our neighborhoods. They sponsored arts activities including an annual Arts Festival, and hosting Playhouse in the Park's Off the Hill productions.

Ten years later, the mission is complete. The neighborhoods are well-positioned for continued success, especially with the vibrant Kennedy Heights Arts Center and its studios and performance space at the Lindner Annex. We are excited to see the arts flourish for decades to come, thanks to the incredible seeds planted by Maria and the District A Board.

From all of us to you, Maria and your Board: Thank you!

FRIENDS OF KENNEDY HEIGHTS: DECEMBER 1, 2018 - JANUARY 31, 2019

Thank you to those who contributed as a Friend of Kennedy Heights December 1, 2018 through January 31, 2019. Every gift counts! If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please inform us.

- Friends of Kennedy Heights: Adam Kirwin, Bob & Mary Kamp, Musa Campbell, Margaret Casey, Elizabeth Cunningham, Matthew & Debra Gildea, Sally & Richard Moore, Nancy Schmidt

Become a Friend of Kennedy Heights! Your tax-deductible donation supports the bi-monthly newsletter and the events in and around the community.

Donation: Please check amount. Cash or check is accepted.

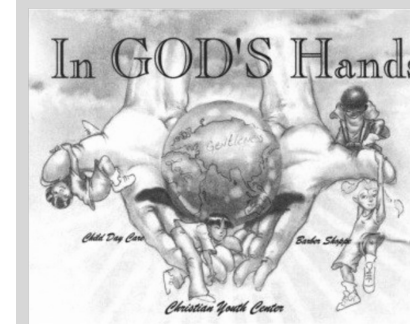
- \$15.00, \$25.00, \$50.00, \$100.00, Other amount: \$

Name: Address: City/State/ZIP: Email:

Include my name (only) in the newsletter as a Friend of the Community: Yes No

Please mail this completed form and payment to: P.O. Box 36318, Cincinnati, OH 45236. Other one-time or recurring payment options—including credit card payments—are available at www.kennedyheights.org using PayPal. Kennedy Heights Community Council is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization.

IN GOD'S HANDS: CELEBRATING 20 YEARS



Twenty years ago, a prayer service was held in the park. Following the service, Sister Kathy Tyler, under the leadership of Pastor Thomas H. Ferrell Jr., formed the Community Outreach Ministry of First Baptist Church of Kennedy Heights. At the time, the park (an area park) was drug-infested and not safe for children. The Outreach ministry began the clean-up, which included families in the community and city workers. Then, the ministry began to meet every Sunday after service, praying for the community. This fellowship became the turning point of the rampant drug problem in the park. Out of this initiative, In GOD'S Hands Christian Youth Center was born.

This May, we will be celebrating our 20th anniversary. Stay tuned for festivities!

We are also currently enrolling: Serving Infants, Toddlers, Preschool, & School-aged children. Contact us to learn more: 513-792-0905

THE CARING PLACE



The Caring Place appreciates the abundance of donations from near and far. Teddy's Closet, our clothing room, is currently filled to capacity. We can always use new socks and undergarments for men, women and children, as well as toilet paper and grocery bags (plastic, paper and cloth). Thank you for helping your neighbors in need.

PLEASANT RIDGE LIBRARY

Please note that some events/classes require pre-registration, which can be done in person at the branch, online at www.cincinnati.library.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.

Art for Kids! Ages 4–12.
Tues. 3/19, 4/16. 4:00 p.m.

Cool Science! Ages 5–12.
Thurs. 3/14, 4/11. 4:00 p.m.

Get Crafty. Adults.
Mon. 3/18, 4/22. 6:00 p.m.

Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss.
All Ages. Sat., 3/9. 2:00 p.m.

Homework Help!
Mon.-Thurs. 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Let's Go Lego & Other Building Bricks! Ages 3–12.
Fri. 3/22, 4/26. 4:00 p.m.

Make It, Take It Craft! Teens.
Mon. 3/18. 4:00 p.m.

Maker Monday. Teens.
Mon. 3/11, 4/8. 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Connie's Spring Dance Recital. Tues. and Thurs.
4/23, 4/25. 6:15 p.m.

Sensory Playtime! Ages 1–5.
Sat. 3/9, 4/13. 10:30 a.m.

Tai Chi. Adults.
Tues. 3/26. 6:30 p.m.

Tales to Tails with Ruby or Holly.
Mon. 3/4, Thurs. 3/21, 4/18.
4:00 p.m.

Teen Tech Week
Tues. 3/5. 4:00 p.m.

Teen Chef!
Mon. 4/15. 4:00 p.m.

Teen Writing Club.
Tues. 3/26, 4/23. 4:00 p.m.

Turtle Time. Newport Aquarium Wave Foundation.
All Ages. Mon. 3/25. 4:00 p.m.

Pleasant Ridge Book Club.
January's title is *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah. Adults.
Thurs. 3/14, 4/11. 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.

AGING IN COMMUNITY: ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP



Do you have a loved one dealing with dementia or Alzheimers? The Caring Place is starting a monthly support group for caregivers and individuals with dementia. The first meeting was February 26 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church.

The group will meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month and it will address issues and topics affecting the families. The Caring Place staff members are certified by the Alzheimer's Association as trained caregiver support facilitators. The group is open to anybody and there's no cost, so please spread the word!

For questions and to register, please contact Sharifah Tafari at 513-841-1499. Special thanks to Bellarmine Chapel's Social Mission Core Team for awarding Kennedy Heights Development Corporation and The Caring Place a mini-grant to assist in covering the costs.

SPRINGING UP AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD



2019 SUMMER ART CAMPS

Fun-filled, uplifting, and affordable summer camps! Kennedy Heights Arts Center offers a range of one-week art camps for ages 5-13 that allow for creative exploration in visual arts, photography, video, dance, music, and theatre. Camps run June 3 to August 5, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily. Extended care is offered for a fee of \$10 per day/per child. Volunteer opportunities are also available for teens, ages 14-18.

Camp registration will open March 1, 2019. Register early, as camps fill fast! We offer sliding scale fees for those with financial need. Visit our website at www.kennedyarts.org or call 513-631-4278 to learn more.

INTRODUCING 2019 ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE (April-May 2019)



Wendy McVicker

Poet Wendy McVicker (Athens, OH) and artist Nancy Gamon (Cincinnati, OH) have been selected as our 2019 Artists in Residence. Wendy has been an Ohio Arts Council Teaching Artist since 2000, and loves bringing people together to collaborate and discover themselves through the sharing of stories. Nancy is an experimental mixed-media artist who spends the majority of her time creating and teaching in her studio at the KHAC Linder Annex.



Nancy Gamon

For six weeks through April and May, these artists will lead *Common Threads*, a community art project connecting text with textiles! With so much political division in our everyday lives, Wendy and Nancy are hoping to focus on the commonalities that unite us. Participants of all ages will be invited to consider ways to visually express the unity of their experiences as human beings, while celebrating our individual stories. Participants will express their personal truths through creative writing, and use their stories as inspiration to create a wearable piece of clothing using stitching, painting and other art techniques.

There will be opportunities for adults and youth to take part in the project. Participation is free, thanks to support from The John A. Schroth Family Charitable Trust. Watch out for more information about the residency and how to participate, or contact Mallory to sign up: mallory@kennedyarts.org or 513-631-4278

SCHOOL NEWS: WOODFORD PAIDEIA ARTS & CULTURE ACADEMY

Students are currently participating in Kathy Wade's "Books Alive!" program, a four-time EMMY nominated national award winning performing arts literacy program. PreK-3 classes receive three books and craft kits, accompanied by three related performances. Past books include *Giraffes Can't Dance*.

NOTABLE NEIGHBORS: THE MCCREARYS

Contributed by John Bange

The McCreary family has been a Kennedy Heights presence since 1949. Napoleon McCreary was born in Alabama and came to Cincinnati as a young man. Margaret Brinson was from West Virginia and came to live with an uncle and aunt in Walnut Hills. Both were seeking a better way of life. They met, married, and began what they considered the greatest adventure of their lives!

They raised all ten of their children in their home on Iona Avenue, just off of Red Bank Road. Margaret attended classes at UC for one year, with the plan of becoming a teacher. When she became a mother, she decided to stay at home and shared her gift for teaching with her ten children.

Four of the McCreary children still live in Kennedy Heights, and they fondly remember:

- Which areas were dirt roads and woods instead of paved streets and houses.
- Leaving the door unlocked and playing anywhere safely.
- When African Americans lived primarily in one area, from Dunloe Avenue to Kirkup Avenue, parallel to Red Bank Road.
- Their church, the First Baptist Church of KH, with Rev. Earl Wagner as the pastor for 36 years, and a community so dedicated that many members mortgaged their homes to provide funds to buy the land on which the current church was constructed.
- Foster's Corner getting its nickname from the grocery store at the corner of Zinzle Avenue and Red Bank Road, owner by Mr. Foster, who would allow folks to buy groceries on credit until they received their next paycheck.
- The Kennedy Heights Teen Council, formed under the guidance of Mrs. Caroline Goings, which taught about citizenship, organizational skills, and planned dances for area youth.
- Spending a whole week decorating bikes for school or neighborhood parades.
- Being held accountable to all adults, not just their parents—because it takes a village!

The children attended Kennedy School (the site of the current KH Arts Center Annex), Shroder Junior High School (the now-abandoned building near Kennedy Heights Park), Woodward High School and the School for the Creative and Performing Arts.

The McCreary children were involved in Brownies, Boy Scouts, dance, and various KenSil teams. Around 1956, there was a fire in the McCreary home. They lost everything. They stayed with their mother's uncle and aunt for about six months while the house was being rebuilt. Community members came together and helped rebuild, which made the homecoming sweet, indeed.

Margaret died in 1964 of breast cancer, but Napoleon kept the family all together. He was a millwright by trade, a skill he learned in the Navy. He worked for 25 years at American Standard in Fairfax as a maintenance man. When the company moved out of town, he became a self-employed home maintenance man until retirement. He passed away in 2007.

The McCrearys hope that today's Kennedy Heights children become assets to the community and help it grow and become even better. Meanwhile, we are grateful for the McCreary's role in the making the community as wonderful as it has been for the past 70 years!

TELLING THE KENNEDY HEIGHTS STORY #18

Contributed by Ernie Barbeau



In the previous edition of this column I noted that the *Cincinnati Enquirer* has a trove of information about the Yononte Inn. Well, that trove is small when compared to what I have found at the University of Cincinnati over the past four months.

U.C.'s Blegen Archive and Rare Book Library has more than 2,700 pages of material about the eighteen years (1896-1914) during which our neighborhood was a separate municipality

known as the Village of Kennedy Heights.

It is hard to adequately describe the task and challenge of dealing with such an abundance of information. Nevertheless, in this column and the next one, I will describe my experience in dealing with that important challenge, as I try to honor the goal to inform you about our precious neighborhood's past. I will also note how it will be shared with you and the Community Council.

To say that I was extremely surprised to realize the depth and breadth of the Archive's holding is not an exaggeration. The Archive has eight separate ledger books circa 1914 about those eighteen years.

- Two books with ordinances passed by the Village's Council, for a totaling 586 pages.
- Two books with minutes of Council meetings, 554 pages.
- Two thick books titled the *Proceedings of Annexation to Cincinnati*, 1,400 pages.
- A book titled *Miscellaneous*, 151 pages.
- A book titled *Board of Public Affairs*, 53 pages.

It has taken me several weeks to fully realize the enormity of the challenge. The reading phase begins with visually scanning all of the pages in a ledger. Then I proceed to read hundreds of pages very carefully to decide if a document should be photocopied, or if notes about the document would be sufficient. At this point I have visited the Library twenty times, each visit lasting for at least three hours.

After each Archive Library visit, it takes three or so hours to transfer handwritten notes and content from photocopies to a master document that I have developed for each of the ledger books. The next phase will be to shift that ledger's information to the proper chronological Village documents, which are three documents with 350 pages. The latter phase will be time consuming, to say the least.

To be continued...

Does this process sound fascinating to you? Ernie has a wealth of knowledge and research tricks he would like to pass on to an informal "apprentice." Email the Editor of the newsletter at katee@kennedyheights.org to learn more.