



July/August 2022

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Kennedy Heights Community News

Pleasant Ridge Library
Bollywood Beat Performance
July 20, 11am. All ages.



Mimi & Al

Jean & John Bange, writers
photo provided by Mimi & Al

Progressive and committed, Mimi Gingold and Al Gerhardstein's vision has helped to shape a community, our community, that is a refuge in a sometimes ugly world. But now they are leaving. While keeping an apartment at One Lytle Place, they will move to Mimi's hometown of St. Paul, Minnesota. It is difficult to imagine our community without them.

Mimi and Al moved to KH in the spring of 1977. Their home on Wyatt Avenue was the only house they viewed when they considered buying. They had done their homework in seeking out information about the neighborhood as they wanted to find a livable community to raise a family. Kennedy Heights embodied all the qualities they were looking for and it is here that they raised their three children, Ben, Adam and Jessica.

Mimi remembers that their new neighborhood was quiet, the people friendly, and it was racially mixed. They were welcomed by neighbors and in time Mimi became the organizer for the block parties that their neighbors loved. Mimi and

(continued on page 4)

upcoming events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Pleasant Ridge Library,
7/4, CLOSED.

Homework Help, Mon-Thurs.,
K-8th, 3-6pm.

Storytime, Tuesdays,
10:30-Toddlers; 11:15-Preschool,
11-Craftivity, All Ages.
Pleasant Ridge Library.

Adult Book Club, 7/14, 8/1,
2pm, PR Library, Pleasant Ridge
Library.

Teens Create, 8/1, 3:30pm.
Pleasant Ridge Library.

KH Community Council
Meetings will return in September.
Have a great summer!

STEAM: Imagine Lab!,
7/22, 8/17, 3pm. Ages 6-12.
Pleasant Ridge Library.

Genealogy for Beginners,
7/26, 8/23, 6:30pm. Pleasant
Ridge Library.

PRESIDENT

Sharifah Tafari
sharifah@kennedyheights.org

V.P. COMMUNITY PLANNING

Caitlin Siegel-Hartzler
caitlin@kennedyheights.org

V.P. ADMINISTRATION

Samara Ramudit
samara@kennedyheights.org

SECRETARY

Peggy Brown
peggy@kennedyheights.org

TREASURER

Mary Ray
maryray@kennedyheights.org

TRUSTEES-AT-LARGE

Steve Grieser
steve@kennedyheights.org

Anita Hisle
anita@kennedyheights.org

Brandon Nixon
brandon@kennedyheights.org

Amber Ziegler
amber@kennedyheights.org

EDITOR, KHCC NEWSLETTER

Christina Miller

WEB ADMINISTRATOR

Eric Zeigler
webadmin@kennedyheights.org

CONTACT US

Kennedy Heights Community Council
PO Box 36318
Cincinnati, OH 45236
kennedyheights.org
Board@kennedyheights.org

Kennedy Heights Development Corp.
PO Box 36337
Cincinnati, OH 45236
www.kennedyheightsdc.org
Kennedyheightsdc1@gmail.com



@KennedyHts



@KHCCORG

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**MOVING ON . . .
A LETTER FROM
OUR KATE**

Dear Neighbors,

I hope your summer has begun joyfully and full of adventure. And, speaking of adventures, I must inform you that I am stepping down from the adventure that has been serving as co-President with Sharifah Tafari for the Board, and Editor for this newsletter. There have recently been several changes in my life outside of the Community Council Executive Board, which makes it impossible to dedicate the time and energy needed to continue in those roles.

So, with deep regret, I will leave without finishing my term, but feeling certain that this is the right decision for me and my family. I am confident in the skills and passion of the remaining Board members—and will continue to be available on an “as-needed” basis in the role of Immediate Past President.

I am grateful for the many successes we have seen over the past two years—transitioning to virtual meetings during quarantine, Days of Action, several exciting grants, park beautification; and of course, the completion of the Neighborhood Plan. I am honored to have played a role in all of these things, and thankful for the talents of others. I love this neighborhood so much and look forward to still seeing you all around the Heights.

As I depart, I remind you of something I’ve been known to say during meetings: “Many hands make light work.” We could really use more hands. Not everyone has the capacity to volunteer time, but even the smallest of contributions can make a difference. There are many ways you can get involved: set up or clean up of events. Research for grants. Help writing emails. Designing flyers. Interviewing neighbors for the newsletter. Writing grants. Taking photos. Distributing flyers of neighborhood news. Any or all of those things.

Events like Party in the Park and March Into Spring, things like this newsletter, and countless possible projects that were suggested during the Plan—these won’t happen without extra hands on deck. Please consider volunteering.

Keep shining,
Kate Elliott

GIVING YOU THE BUSINESS



Lynn, owner of Shear Joy

Perm-anantly JOY!

Abby McKay & Amber Zeigler, Writers
Aaron Burton, Photographer

Lynn, known as “Ladi Silk” to many, is a single mom who has been proudly running her own business, Shear Joy Styles, since 2015. She became known as Ladi Silk while she was actively involved in hair show competitions, where she was recognized for her skill in “silking hair out,” which means taking hair from curly to straight.

Lynn’s passion for doing hair grew out of her childhood, when she was teased at school and called “Pippy Long Stocking” due to her ponytails. Tired of the teasing, she decided she would teach herself how to do her own hair. She was a natural and picked it up quickly. Before she knew it, she was doing her own hair, her mother’s hair, and her relatives’ hair. Lynn said it never dawned on her to open her own salon until someone close to her said, “you know, you could make a career out of this.” That comment sparked her decision to enter cosmetology school. Lynn says, “I went from doing hair in the kitchen chair to the salon chair.”

Lynn’s previous salon was located on Reading Road, but in 2018 she decided it was time for a change of location. She was initially drawn to the Pleasant Ridge area because of the bustling business district and the restaurants there. However, as she further explored the Pleasant Ridge and Kennedy Heights neighborhoods, she found and fell in love with her current storefront, which is located at 6455 Kennedy Avenue.

Since opening her doors in Kennedy Heights in 2018, Lynn has fallen in love with this community. Some of her favorite things about Kennedy Heights include seeing the residents of the community “always

out and about,” the various events at the Kennedy Heights Art Center, and how quiet and clean the community is.

Lynn says Shear Joy Styles offers a variety of services, and they specialize in “healthy hair first.” They focus on making sure ends are trimmed and split ends are eliminated, and they also use red light therapy to repair hair that has been damaged from coloring and chemical processing. Lynn wants the community to know that her salon provides services to women, men, and kids alike, as well as to all ethnicities and hair types, including both naturally and chemically textured hair. Other services the salon offers include eyebrow waxing, haircuts and styling, eyelash extensions, and hair coloring.

You can find Lynn at Shear Joy Styles Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., and she can be reached at 513-883-9001.

KH Neighborhood Stabilization Home Repair Program Update

Twelve senior homeowners have contacted us to request help for much needed home repairs. We are now working to match their needs with contractors and handymen/women who are available to do home repair work. So, if you are interested in volunteering your time and talent to this work, or desire to offer a donation to help insure that our senior neighbors can remain in their homes, or if you have questions or comments about the program, please call 513-202-4345, or email Board@kennedyheights.org.

Affordable Senior Housing

KHDC has purchased the property at 6543 Montgomery Road. Once the owner removes the cars, the building will be demolished. KHDC is also negotiating the purchase of the property next to it—NuVue Windows. If all goes as planned, groundbreaking for affordable senior housing should begin in Spring of 2024. The new building will house approximately fifty seniors in one and two-bedroom apartments.

Shroder

The former Shroder Junior High School site at 3500 Lumford was sold to a local developer. The building will be demolished to make way for single family housing, the specifics of which have not been shared yet. KHDC and KHCC have formed a Steering Committee to work with the developer, and residents are encouraged to share their ideas and concerns to 513-202-4345, or Board@kennedyheights.org.

Mimi & Al (cont'd)

Al soon became active in the Kennedy Heights Community Council. They fought for integration in the neighborhood and the schools. Throughout the years, the schools, the diversity of the residents, the energy and care that the citizens put into the community, the housing, and so much more, have made Kennedy Heights a very desirable place to live.

Although there were others who came before her, Mimi had the vision, energy and tenacity to involve others to coordinate a community-wide effort to preserve and update the landscape of the neighborhood. She realized that some trees needed to be removed and replaced so she created a tree board. There were few flowers in public spaces and some properties were not well maintained. Kennedy Park needed a major clean-up. There was a time when city budget issues led to the possibility of closing parks, including Daniel Drake. A letter writing campaign was launched and a plan was created which was adopted by the city. Residents, including Al, helped with mowing some areas of the park so it could remain open.

The Sap Run was begun in 1988 as a means of paying for flowers to beautify the streets. Now it has become a tradition, a spring rite of passage. The event brings out many children and families, riding bikes, walking, running and especially getting to know new neighbors and reconnecting with friends.

The effort to develop the Kennedy Heights Arts Center demonstrates Mimi and Al's vision for the community. Along with other dedicated individuals, they played significant roles in making the Center a reality through planning, building rehabilitation, and providing financial resources. Al was one of the original chairs of the Board of the Development Corporation. He will remain on the Board. They have both financially supported the Community Council and the Development Corporation. Their affection for our neighborhood is passionate. Their leadership and generous support have helped create the arts corridor along Montgomery Road that now has city-wide recognition. The Arts Center and Annex hosts art shows, art classes, jazz concerts and many other events. Mimi and Al will be splitting time between Cincinnati and St. Paul and Al is still active in his civil rights law practice in downtown Cincinnati.

Mimi and Al, you can move on knowing that you made Kennedy Heights and Cincinnati and the world a better place. All of us and our families are better people for having lived here. You have sown the seeds, the flowers are growing, and Kennedy Heights will continue to thrive. We wish you much happiness as you move to Minnesota. We are sure you'll spread the lessons learned in Kennedy Heights wherever you go. And remember that wherever you are, you'll always be our neighbors. *We will miss you!*

DO YOU HAVE A NEIGHBOR IN NEED?

For assistance (food, clothing, furniture, rent and utility assistance, family development and support groups.), or to volunteer, contact The Caring Place at:

(513)841-1499, or

caringplc@yahoo.com, or

Facebook us at The Caring Place-Kennedy Heights.

Many thanks for helping our neighbors in need!



photo by Christina Miller

Director Sharifah Tafari & and her band of angels

PLEASANT RIDGE RECREATION CENTER

Visit the Rec Center on a Saturday! From 9:00am - 2:00pm enjoy the weight room, shoot hoops in the gym, or play pickleball. The CRC also has rooms that can be reserved for Neighborhood Watch meetings or other community uses. Call (513) 731-7894.



KHCC Parks, Green Space and Environment Committee News

GREEN UP DAY

Thanks to neighbors and friends of Kennedy Heights Park, including: Melissa McNally, Carol Lloyd, Margaret Clifford, Lisa Pickering, Dave Rettig, Pat MacVeigh, Max and Vince MacVeigh, Leslie and Levi Raulie, Andy and Vivian Lyon, Carren Herring, Jack Vo and Jennie Nguyen for coming to help out on Green Up Day on May 14. Flower beds on both sides of the park and the circle bed by the shelter are weeded, planted and mulched. Thank you to KHCC for providing coffee and sweet treats. Much appreciation to Parks staff for working with us and providing plants, mulch and equipment. Help is needed to maintain these beds over the summer.



TOT LOT Planting Project

Coming soon to the Tot Lot at 3750 Zinsle Ave. is a new perennial planting along the front fence. Donations of shade perennials will be needed and more help with maintaining the new flower bed will be welcomed.

Cincinnati Recreation Commission staff is working with KHCC volunteers to bring a variety of repairs and enhancements to the Tot Lot, including: new signage, repair of drinking fountain and new benches the face the playground. A big thank you to Kathy Tyler for her continuous dedication to the upkeep of the Tot Lot.

**More hands are needed to help with these events/
projects and in Kennedy Heights parks
and green spaces.
Contact Kate Kern@kkern@kennedyheights.org**

The Kennedy Heights Community Council hopes everyone that was able to attend the Party in the Park event on June 4th had a wonderful time re-connecting with old neighbors and meeting new ones while visiting each of the free activity stations. We look forward to seeing you at the next event in Fall 2022.

A special thanks to our event partners that provided the range of activities and volunteers:

- Cincinnati Parks
- Cincinnati Fire Department
- Cincinnati Police Department
- Cincinnati Recreation Commission
- Redwood Carry-Out
- Proud Hound
- Cincinnati ToolBank
- Kennedy Heights Art Center
- Aaron Burton Photography
- Kona Ice
- Sea Cuisine
- Herban Vegans
- Ken's Kreationz
- DJ Mike B
- Shear Joy Styles
- The Inflatable Fun Company





Ellen Muse-Lindeman
KHAC Executive Director

KENNEDY HEIGHTS ART CENTER

6546 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati, OH 45213

Gallery Hours:

Tues., Fri. 10am – 5pm

Sat., 11am – 4pm



Mallory Feltz,
Dir. Exhibition & Public Art

**Printed Voices from Czechia:
Social and Cultural Reflections**

July 16 – September 17

Curated by Saad Ghosn of SOS ART, Printed Voices from Czechia: Social and Cultural Reflections features prints by 31 contemporary printmakers from the Czech Republic. These artists use artwork as their voice and communication tool to reflect on the cultural and social issues they face.

Opening Reception, Sat., July 16, 6 to 8 pm.

Free Czech Festival on Saturday, July 23, 11—3pm (rain date July 24), to share Czechian culture with the Cincinnati community.

**Hello & Welcome Community Day –
Post No Ills**

August 27, 11-3pm

Enjoy a day of painting and self-expression on Saturday, August 27 from 11am to 3pm for our next Hello & Welcome Community Day. Columbus, OH artist Lance Johnson will guide our guests through his unique mark making techniques, with roots in graffiti and street art, as we all layer vibrant colors, textures and words of inspiration on a large cube structure installed on the front lawn of the arts center. Free and family friendly. We'll also have delicious refreshments, invigorating music, and other activities for guests of all ages! Outdoor event. Rain date is Sunday, July 24th. You are welcome to bring a lawn chair if you would like.

Go to www.kennedyarts.org for a full listing of classes, descriptions and cost.



Eric Brueggemann
Customer Advisor

cincinnati
public
library



**Mon. & Tues., 10-8pm
Wed. thru Sat., 10-6pm**

**Discover Summer
Continues to July 31**

Kids and teens are invited to take a summer learning journey with activity booklets, books to keep and an early literacy calendar for preschoolers.

**Family Table with
New Leaf Kitchen**

July 9—11am

Children/Teens with Adult.

Available services:

- curbside service
- take & make activities
- browsing
- computer access (limited)
- assistance with faxing/copying/scanning & printing

Erik Brueggemann
Library Customer Adviser, Pleasant Ridge
erik.brueggemann@cincinnati.library.org

For branch offerings and questions,
call us at 513-369-4488, or go to
www.cincinnati.library.org

Come join in for summer fun, music and art at

Kennedy Heights Park

6037 Kennedy Avenue, 45213

Wednesdays, 6:30-8pm



July 13 - Band Concert in the Park - UC Community Band marches in to play your summertime and Sousa favorites.

July 20 - Let's Move in the Park - Everybody Moves to your choice of fitness with One More Rep, Sunshine Yoga, or Zumba with Jeanita, plus healthy snacks.

July 27 - Wonderland in the Park - Adoria Maxberry, community artist, takes us through the looking glass to explore color and texture throughout the park.

August 3 - Island in the Park - The SunBurners bring their island party vibe, steel drums, and sing a long fun to this island adventure.

August 10 - Big Top in the Park - My Nose Turns Red Youth Circus flies through the air and you can too during our back-to-school celebration. Farewell until next year!

SHINE REGISTRY

A gift registry for founders, small businesses, and the communities that care about them

Kennedy Heights Development Corporation (KHDC) has joined Shine Registry and we are recruiting small businesses and founders who want to register and then be showered by the community! Shine Registry is like a baby shower for a new business, you can ask for the things you need to support your new business and watch it grow - volunteers, connections, customers, likes, or even donations.

Contact: Mary@kennedyheights.org, or at 513-265-9199 to see if a Shine Registry is right for you. Or visit <https://www.shineregistry.com/>

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.



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

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Anita Hisle



Brandon Nixon



Amber Ziegler

COUNCIL MEETINGS RETURNS SEPTEMBER 20

Until then, follow our social media to stay in the know!

Find us at kennedyheights.org or,
 check us out at the Kennedy Heights Facebook page.