

# Avondale Community News

Volume 2/Issue 8 December 2010



## First Unitarian Church Expands Tutoring in Avondale

Since early September, eighteen members of First Unitarian Church have been tutoring kindergarten children at South Avondale School, while another nine have been tutoring teens at the Avondale Pride Center. Each program provides its own challenges and learning opportunities for tutors.



In the **Kindergarten Program**, tutors are learning that five-year olds have a very short attention span, so they are alternating between paper-pencil and body-movement activities. Kindergarteners have also taught their tutors that white people have freckles and that these are fascinating to them! At the end of the hour, children enjoy snacks that begin with the sound being studied, such as kiwi for the /k/ sound or mango for the /m/ sound. The best part of

tutoring, however, is captured in the words of Judge Tim Black, Social Justice Chair at First Unitarian: "Erik put letters together today and read words--Exciting!" Contact Carol Carlson at South Avondale School (363-5500) to volunteer.

**Homework Night** is in its second year at the Avondale Pride Center. Teens on the Avondale Youth Council come on Wednesdays, beginning with supper at 5:00 followed by tutoring from 5:30 to 7:00. Tutors divide the group by subject help needed each week. For example, a tutor with science expertise will help a teen one week, while another tutor with math expertise will help the same teen the following week. Students are very earnest about wanting help, and some even return to tell us how they have succeeded on a test or a paper, thanks to our guidance. Contact Fulton Jefferson or Amie Duncan at [avondalecouncil5@aol.com](mailto:avondalecouncil5@aol.com) to join the team.



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## *Avondale Community Council Elections Results*

**Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Avondale Community Council: Vice-President, Fulton O. Jefferson, Jr., Treasurer, Anthony Moore and Board Trustees, T. Marche Densen, Charles Houston and Diane Mayfield. These officers will begin their terms in January 2011.**

**The Avondale Community Council would like to thank , Vice President, Gayle Harden Renfro and Treasurer, Terresa Adams, whose terms expire at the end of the year, for their service and dedication to the community. Thank you to all Council members who participated in the voting process.**

**If you would like to be a member of the Avondale Community Council fill out and return the registration information below. Membership is open to anyone who lives, works, volunteers or worships in Avondale.**

### *Avondale Community Council*

*Please print*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code

#### **TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:**

- Businesses/Churches \$ 100     
  Family \$ 8     
  Individual \$ 5  
 Group \$ 25 (Block Clubs/Sports Teams/Tenant)

**Lifetime:**     Individual \$ 75     Family \$ 125

**Return to : Avondale Community Pride Center  
3520 Burnet Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229**



# Avondale Youth Council Year in Pictures



By Joseph Malek and DeNesha Bell

As the temperature drops, activities in the community decrease. This does not stop the Avondale Youth Council from making a difference in the community.

In October, the Avondale Youth Council went to the many dinner events. One of them was the 55<sup>th</sup> annual NAACP dinner. The AYC attended the event on November 8<sup>th</sup> sitting with Congressman Driehaus and other political figures. They sat and dined on a delicious meal and listened to an incredible speech given by Otis Moss Jr. at the Duke Energy Center. The NAACP gave out various awards and scholarships at the ceremony. Annie Ruth's Dada Rafiki was held the same day. Many of our girls attended this event. At this event there were several awards given as the audience had dinner. The girls of the Avondale Youth Council also went to My Sister My Friend the next day, a program to build and change the mindsets of young women connected to Dada Rafiki.

In October the Avondale Youth Council also participated in Make a Difference day where the AYC cleaned the streets of Avondale.

In November, the Avondale Youth Council participated in the Great Youth Debate. They debated against several schools. The topic was, "Are standardized tests fair assessments to measure academic success?" The Avondale Youth Council was the Affirmative. It was a great event and the AYC enjoyed debating.

The Avondale Youth Council is available to rake your leaves and/or shovel your snow. Please contact us at the Pride Center to discuss prices.

The AYC has Facebook and MySpace pages, join and find out more about them.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade

Reds Opening Day Parade



Nefertiti Awards Escorts



Flying Pig Marathon



47th Anniversary of the March on Washington

## Tips for Recognizing and Avoiding Fake Check Scams

If someone you don't know wants to pay you by check but wants you to wire some of the money back, beware! It's a scam that could cost you thousands of dollars.

**There are many variations of the fake check scam.** It could start with someone offering to buy something you advertised, pay you to do work at home, give you an "advance" on a sweepstakes you've supposedly won, or pay the first installment on the millions that you'll receive for agreeing to have money in a foreign country transferred to your bank account for safekeeping. Whatever the pitch, the person may sound quite believable.

**Fake check scammers hunt for victims.** They scan newspaper and online advertisements for people listing items for sale, and check postings on online job sites from people seeking employment. They place their own ads with phone numbers or email addresses for people to contact them. And they call or send emails or faxes to people randomly, knowing that some will take the bait.

**They often claim to be in another country.** The scammers say it's too difficult and complicated to send you the money directly from their country, so they'll arrange for someone in the U.S. to send you a check.

**They tell you to wire money to them after you've deposited the check.** If you're selling something, they say they'll pay you by having someone in the U.S. who owes *them* money send you a check. It will be for more than the sale price; you deposit the check, keep what you're owed, and wire the rest to them. If it's part of a work-at-home scheme, they may claim that you'll be processing checks from their "clients." You deposit the checks and then wire them the money minus your "pay." Or they may send you a check for more than your pay "by mistake" and ask you to wire them the excess. In the sweepstakes and foreign money offer variations of the scam, they tell you to wire them money for taxes, customs, bonding, processing, legal fees, or other expenses that must be paid before you can get the rest of the money.

**The checks are fake but they look real.** In fact, they look so real that even bank tellers may be fooled. Some are phony cashiers checks, others look like they're from legitimate business accounts. The companies whose names appear may be real, but someone has dummied up the checks without their knowledge.

(Continued on page 6)

## The New Wave of Aging

By Sandra M. Jones  
(513)861-2790

How many times have you heard people say, I cannot do the things I used to do? If dare to get on the floor I won't be able to get up. These things and more could happen to any of us as the body ages. However, studies have shown the more you move the better you will feel. The more you're engaged in everyday living the more you can stay connected to what's really going on with your body. As we age the body will continue to shift. For some this may require medication. Life changing situations may cause one to move into accessible housing units and even giving up your right to drive. How, many of us do a true assessment of our self, or answer the question how old are you? People avoid answering tough questions that occur once we start aging.

We avoid these questions because we have not come to grips with how our bodies, mental status and well being change as we get older. The new trend of aging is focusing on maintaining good health and prevention. In all I have read and learned about aging well, prevention is the major factor. Staying healthy as long as possible and physically fit are the primary keys to living a good life. How, many times when visiting the doctor do we ask for an aging chart so we know what to expect. Many of us have first hand experience on what that chart would look like. We watched our parents care for aging loved ones so we know a little about what to expect. TODAY I challenge you to create an aging plan for yourself, and determine what aging well means to you. For some, most of this will depend on your outlook on life. Those who market product aimed at aging well are gearing up to keep us as healthy as possible. I'm sure most of this is for financial reasons. But for the most part who wants to see others suffering as they age, the geriatrics community is all about helping people to age well and engage in community living. You are your best advocate as you go through this next phase of your life. It's no secret the cost of health care for the elderly is extremely high. Some of this is driven by Medicaid and Medicare; however the healthier you are the less money is spent on health care. If people would maintain good health and take preventive measures the savings would be in the trillions. Be aware of the changes that occur when one ages. Remember PREVENTION is the KEY. YOU KNOW THE ISSUES SO-ACT

**President Christopher Smitherman Encourages the Residents of Avondale to Join the Cincinnati NAACP.**



**Memberships are Just \$30 for the Year!**

Cincinnati NAACP  
 4439 Reading Road Suite 202  
 Cincinnati, Ohio 45229  
 (513) 281-1900



**The Cincinnati NAACP meetings are the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of Every Month at 6:00 PM at Integrity Hall located at 2081 Seymour Avenue. All are welcomed!**

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**Real Estate & More!**

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**FOR SALE.... \*ALL PRICES NEGOTIABLE**

- \$30,500—2623 Stanton Ave., Walnut Hills, 2-Fam, 2br/1ba each**
- \$79,900—3450 Wilson Ave., Avondale, 4+br, 2ba, Large brick home**
- \$84,900—3479 Wilson Ave., Avondale, 3br, 2ba, lots of character**
- \$76,000—3428 Laronia Ave., Avondale, 4br. 2ba, 2 vacant lots sold separately**
- \$95,900—1761 Dale Ave., Bond Hill, 4 plex, all rented, 2br, 1ba, each**
- \$68,000—550 Carplin Ave., Avondale, Large 2-Fam, 4br/2ba, 4br/1ba units**
- \$70,000—1718 Freeman Ave., West End, 3-Fam, 1 efficiency, 1-1br, 1-2br unit**

**Great News!**

Are you interested in giving back to your community?  
 We now have an easy way for you to...  
**“MAKE A DIFFERENCE”**

*We're focused on linking people face-to-face anytime from anyplace!*

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## Fake Check Scams (continued from page 4)

**You don't have to wait long to use the money, but that doesn't mean the check is good.** Under federal law, banks have to make the funds you deposit available quickly – usually within one to five days, depending on the type of check. But just because you can withdraw the money doesn't mean the check is good, even if it's a cashier's check. It can take weeks for the forgery to be discovered and the check to bounce.

**You are responsible for the checks you deposit.** That's because you're in the best position to determine the risk – you're the one dealing directly with the person who is arranging for the check to be sent to you. When a check bounces, the bank deducts the amount that was originally credited to your account. If there isn't enough to cover it, the bank may be able to take money from other accounts you have at that institution, or sue you to recover the funds. In some cases, law enforcement authorities could bring charges against the victims because it may look like they were involved in the scam and knew the check was counterfeit.

**There is *no* legitimate reason for someone who is giving you money to ask you to wire money back.** If a stranger wants to pay you for something, insist on a cashier's check for the *exact amount*, preferably from a local bank or a bank that has a branch in your area.

**Don't deposit it – report it!** Report fake check scams to NCL's Fraud Center, at [www.fraud.org](http://www.fraud.org). That information will be transmitted to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

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**Urban League of  
Greater Cincinnati**

**Youth**

Improve your child's future by enrolling them in our after school program

**Jobs**

Seek economic security by preparing yourself for a new or better job

**Justice**

Create opportunity and equality by engaging yourself in the political process

**We are here with you.**

513-281-9955  
[www.gcul.org](http://www.gcul.org)



3458 Reading Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45229

# Cincinnati Recreation Commission

## Hirsch Community Center

3620 Reading Rd. Cincinnati, Oh 45229 (513)751-3393

**MEMBERSHIPS:** Juniors and Seniors \$10 Includes All CRC Centers & Pools, *except Dunham Pool*  
 Adults (Ages 18-49) \$25 Includes All CRC Centers & Pools, *except Dunham Pool*  
*Optional for Adults only:* \$20 Includes All CRC Centers \$10 Includes All CRC Pools Membership, *except Dunham Pool*

### Youth

**Free Snack Program** M – F 2:45 PM **No membership needed!** *Free for school age 18 & under*  
**After School Day Camp** Openings are still available for only **\$20 per week!**

#### 3-4:15 PM Classes (FREE!)

Ages 6-7 Arts and Crafts & Acting Classes  
 Ages 8-14 Gym Games, Game Room Games & Homework Help

#### 3-4:15 PM Classes (FREE!)

Ages 6-7 Game Room Games & Homework Help, Soccer & Basketball Skills  
 Ages 8-14 Arts and Crafts, Acting Classes, Flag Football and Soccer

### Teens

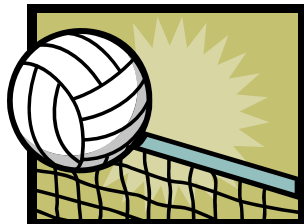
6-8 PM FREE!

Game Room / Teen Lounge (Tues & Thur); Music Production (Thur.)  
 Open Gym Basketball (Mon. & Wed.)

### Adults & Seniors Highlighted Classes

American Black History Class	M & W	6-8 PM (FREE & No membership!)
Theater Class ( <i>Adults!</i> )	T & H	6-7:30
Free	<i>NEW!</i>	
Volleyball, Open Gym	T & H	6-7:45
Free	<i>NEW!</i>	
Fitness Room	M-H / F	Noon – 8
PM / 10-6 PM	<i>FREE!</i>	
Fitness Group Workout	M & W	6-8 PM
Free		
Walking/Fit Group	M-F	12-2 PM
Free		

Don't forget about our Tai Chi, Computer classes and our open gym. Just call for more info.



### Dates To Remember

<b>ACC</b> Board meeting <b>December 7, 2010</b> 6:00 p.m.  General Body <b>December 21, 2010</b> 6:30 p.m.  Pride Center 3520 Burnet Ave. 281-5999	<b>AYC</b> Avondale Youth Council <b>December 7 &amp; 21</b> 4:30 p.m. Pride Center ♦ <b>District 4</b> Community Meeting <b>December 23, 2010</b> 6:30 District 4	<b>Ceasefire</b> Steering Committee <b>December 10, 2010</b> Church of the Living God 430 Forest Avenue  <b>Every Child Succeeds</b> Steering Committee <b>December 16, 2010</b> 10:00 Carmel Presbyterian
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### African American Healthy & Wealthy Lifestyles

Sponsored by  
**Hirsch Recreation Center**

Free Financial Info

Rap-for-Health Contest



Health Screenings

Meet Santa



Fun Group Event  
 Walk a Block Save Your Life

Saturday December 18, 2010

Hirsch Community Center

3630 Reading Road

10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

**FREE**



**AVONDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
PRIDE CENTER  
3520 Burnet Ave.  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229**



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Fax: 513-281-0884**

**E-mail: avondalecouncil5@aol.com  
avondalebusiness@aol.com  
avonyouthcouncil@aol.com**

**Web-Site: www.avondalecommunitycouncil.org**

**Board of Trustees & Committee Chairs**

<b>President</b>	Patricia Milton patriciamilton@msn.com	281-4430
<b>Vice-President</b>	Gayle Harden-Renfro	221-8475
<b>Treasurer</b>	Terresa Adams	675-9217
<b>Secretary</b>	Earlene Newton	226-2627
<b>Finance Chair</b>	Christie Bryant	702-6999
<b>Membership Chair</b>	Linda Mayfield	325-4188
<b>Trustee</b>	William Anspach	678-0388
<b>Trustee</b>	Linda Fairbanks	742-0770
<b>Trustee</b>	Sheila Holmes Howard	543-2333
<b>Trustee</b>	Fulton O. Jefferson, Jr.	614-4775
<b>Trustee</b>	Tony Moore	293-1559
<b>Trustee</b>	Kelly Tarver	582-1644



**Avondale Community Council Staff**

<b>Community Organizer</b>	Carla Butler	281-5999
<b>Major Projects Consultant</b>	Bill Witten	646-8944



<b>District 4 Police</b>	<b>CPOP Supervisor</b>	368-1720
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**Important City Phone Numbers**

<b>Better Business Bureau</b>	421-3015
<b>Crimestoppers</b>	352-3040
<b>Liter Control</b>	564-1750
<b>Poison Information</b>	558-5111
<b>Senior Program</b>	352-4026
<b>Street Cleaning</b>	591-6000
<b>Weed Property</b>	564-1750
<b>Abandoned Vehicles</b>	564-2277
<b>Building Decay</b>	352-3275
<b>Snow Removal</b>	591-6000
<b>Waste Collection</b>	591-6000
<b>Discrimination, rental/leasing</b>	721-4663

**City Council Directory**

<b>Mayor Mark Mallory</b> 801 Plum Street Rm 150 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3250 Fax: (513) 352-5201 mark.mallory@cincinnati-oh.gov	<b>Chris Bortz</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 348 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3249 Fax: (513) 3264 chris.bortz@cincinnati-oh.gov
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<b>Vice Mayor Roxanne Qualls</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 351 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3604 Fax: (513) 352-3621 roxanne.qualls@cincinnati-oh.gov	<b>Leslie Ghiz</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 354 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3344 Fax: (513) 352-3277 leslie.ghiz@cincinnati-oh.gov
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<b>Jeff Berding</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 350 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3283 Fax: (513) 352-3289 jeff.berding@cincinnati-oh.gov	<b>Cecil Thomas</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 349 Cincinnati, OH 45202-1979 Phone: (513) 352-3499 Fax: (513) 352-3218 cecil.thomas@cincinnati-oh.gov
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<b>Chris Monzel</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 346B Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3640 Fax: (513) 352-4649 chris.monzel@cincinnati-oh.gov	<b>Charlie Winburn</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 346A Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-5354 Fax: (513) 352-5367 charlie.winburn@cincinnati-oh.gov
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<b>Laure Quinlivan</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 346B Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-5303 Fax: (513) 352-5390 laure.quinlivan@cincinnati-oh.gov	<b>Wendell Young</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 350 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3466 Fax: (513) 352-3957 wendell.young@cincinnati-oh.gov
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