

Avondale Community News

Volume 2/Issue 1

February 2010

City of Cincinnati Hosts 2010 Neighborhood Summit

Surely you have noticed the positive changes happening in Avondale and the good news is there are more changes to come. The City of Cincinnati is in the process of developing a city wide comprehensive plan. This will be the City's first plan within 30 years. This plan will guide the City's neighborhood and business growth for the next 10 to 20 years. The plan contains specific recommendations that enable the City to better understand current development and plan for future improvements.

You can play a critical role in developing this plan by attending the 2010 Neighborhood Summit on **Saturday, February 27** at the Cintas Center, Xavier University.

Attendees will participate in 3 sessions of their choice on the following issues:

- Housing and Neighborhood Development
- Economic Development & Business Retention
- Transportation and Transit
- Urban Design
- Health, Environment and Open Space
- Historic Conservation
- Arts and Culture

Each session will include background information about the issues as well as small-group discussions and decision-making about the goals for the plan. Hand-held voting devices will be used to allow participants to vote on goals and other questions posed throughout the day and immediately see the results. Attendees can also participate in a computer-based Visual Preference Survey. The survey will use images and simulations to help participants visualize how they would like to see future development occur.

Schedule of events:

7:30am-8:00am Registration

8:00am-8:45am Welcome & Introduction

9:00am-10:15am Session A

- Housing & Neighborhood Development
- Transportation & Transit
- Urban Design
- Health, Environment and Open Space

10:30am-11:45am Session B

- Historic Conservation
- Arts and Culture
- Transportation & Transit
- Health, Environment, and Open Space

Noon-1:15 Lunch

1:30pm-2:45pm Session C

- Housing & Neighborhood Development
- Transportation & Transit
- Urban Design
- Economic Development & Business Retention

Don't miss this.
once in a generation
opportunity!

you're invited
It's your chance to share your vision for Cincinnati. Don't be left out of the conversation. Register Now!

The City of Cincinnati's 2010 Neighborhood Summit
February 26th and 27th, 2010 at the Cintas Center, Xavier University.
For more information about The Summit go to www.plancincinnati.org
To register, go to www.xavier.edu/communitybuilding

Sponsored by
Community Building Institute
CINCINNATI city of
XAVIER UNIVERSITY
PNC BANK LEADING THE WAY
United Way

For more information call the Cincinnati Building Institute (CBI) at 513-745-3896

Calling all Avondale Residents- We need you!

In 2009 overall crime in Avondale dropped 19% from 2008. We still have a way to go to decrease crime.

To continue eliminating crime we need your help. The Avondale Community Council (ACC) would like to establish the programs listed below.

Block Watch:

This program encourages citizens to work together to prevent crime in communities and neighborhoods. The role of a block watch member:

- Attend an initial and a yearly meeting to implement the Block Watch Program for your block.
- Adding your information to the Block Watch list and map.
- Looking out for/helping one another.
- Reporting to police any suspicious occurrences, vehicles, or people.

Inform the Block Watch Captain of any changes.

Citizens on Patrol:

The mission of Cincinnati's Citizens on Patrol Program (COPP) is to work in partnership with the Cincinnati Police and fellow citizens to improve civic pride and safety on our streets. Members of the Citizens on Patrol Program are trained by the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) to notice suspicious activities and recognize signs of potentially unsafe conditions. Volunteers patrol the neighborhoods, acting as the eyes and ears of the police and report findings to the CPD. COPP units deter crime by their mere presence and visibility to the general public.



Using police radios and cell phones team members are able to communicate directly with officers and report crimes in progress. Much of the COPP units function however, is the reporting of quality of life issues. By locating and reporting issues that contribute to criminal activity.

Volunteer Surveillance Team (VST):

The VST provides highly trained and skilled citizen volunteers to assist the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) in crime surveillance operations. Members work from secluded and concealed locations. This program is ideal for residents who don't want their identity known.

The activities of the VST vary depending on the needs of the CPD and the abilities and experience of the VST members. Surveillance operations pertain to specific crimes in specific areas. There is no physical contact or enforcement by any member whatsoever.

Community Problem Oriented Policing (CPOP):

CPOP is an innovative approach to public safety emphasizing mutual accountability between citizens, police officers, city staff, faith based leaders and human service organizations working together to develop and implement effective strategies to reduce crime and disorder in our neighborhoods, and in doing so, to improve community /police relations. The committee has two goals: to beautify and to create a safer environment. The committee works closely with homeowners, landlords and property managers to clean up the neighborhood.

Why Sign Up?

- Become empowered to more effectively rid the neighborhood of problems instead of hoping others will do it for you.
 - Show that you care about Avondale.
 - Get exercise walking around Avondale.
 - Walk where you want when you want with flexible times and locations.
 - Get connected and make new friends. Meet other neighborhood residents and business owners that you might not otherwise meet.
- Increase your knowledge of the neighborhood and discover some of Avondale's hidden treasures.

To become a volunteer you please contact Carla at the Avondale Community Pride Center or 513-281-4414.

*Be the change you wish to see.
Gandhi*

Avondale Youth Council News Update

DeNesha Bell, Editor, Joseph Malek, Assistant Editor



Happy New Year! 2010 is off to a fresh start. We hope our readers had great holidays. The Avondale Youth Council attended many events in December.

The events included:

- The Christmas Jubilee held at the Aronoff Center
- Langston Hughes' *Black Nativity* produced by the Cincinnati Black Theater
- The Power of Peace Skating Celebration, sponsored by the Community Police Partnering Center. The skating party was held at the Fun Factory and there was a guest appearance by the Cincinnati Cool skating team, and a local dance team.
- The AYC enjoyed their own holiday party at the Pride Center.

We have been busy in January as well. The AYC led the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day march

along with members of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Coalition. Members of the AYC helped to serve hot chocolate to the other marchers. The march was from the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center to the MLK celebration at Music Hall. The AYC received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition *Not Just One Day of Service* Challenge award for service to the community. Later the same day the AYC teamed up with students from Northern Kentucky University and Southern Baptist Church to pass out information in the neighborhood about the 2010 Census.

Upcoming events for the AYC include:

- • Participating in the Neighborhood Summit
- • Participating in a Poetry Fest
- • Continuing the Professional Development and Career Path classes

Healthy Eating

Growing old is a good thing. It is a great opportunity to share wisdom and gifts with families, friends and community. As a newly appointed Co-chair of Health Advocates for the Center for Closing the Health Gap, I want to stress the importance of exercising daily and eating healthier.

Daily exercise can be as simple as lifting your legs up and down while sitting in a chair; doing arm curls with two cans of food or walking around your house for fifteen minutes. Being proactive about your health means a lot. Studies have shown having a proper diet in addition to the exercise will add to your overall well being.

In a world where we are healthy, the cost of health care will decrease! SO-ACT is challenging seniors to eat more fruit. By signing the pledge below you are agreeing to take control of your life today.



Healthy Senior Fruit Challenge 2010

I _____ pledge to eat up to three pieces of fruit a week for good health and longevity. I will exercise for 15 minutes daily. I will interact with others by participating in two group activities per month at my church, family or community. I will share my wisdom and gifts with others. I want my legacy to be what?

Sandra M. Jones (513) 861-2790
 sandrajones@blackage.org
 www.blackageorg

Order your fruit basket today! \$20 sponsored by SO-ACT

SAVE THE DATE

4TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE:
NATIONAL WOMEN & GIRLS HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

Saturday, March 6, 2010

Healthy Relationships for Mothers, Daughters, and Grandmothers Too!

Keynote: Dr. Avis Jones-DeWeever, National Council of Negro Women

Community Action Agency (CAA)
1740 Langdon Farm Road
Cincinnati, Ohio

Free and open to the public

Register online: www.lifemgtinst.org

Call: 877.365.3836



Presented by: Life Management Institute, Inc.

Paid Advertisement

Real Estate & More!

For Sale

\$219,000—2916 Gilbert Ave, Walnut Hills,
Comm'l bldg/former medical office, 6270sf,
12+pkg, seller financing

\$25,000—789 N. Fred Shuttlesworth Cir., N. Avondale
Vacant level lot 100x200, resid./comm'l uses

\$13,000—680 S. Crescent N. Avondale, 5br, 2ba, needs
complete rehab, (aka S. Fred Shuttlesworth)

\$36,000—3641 Reading Rd. Avondale, Two for the
price of one! Large 4-unit bldgs, need complete rehab

\$125,000—301 Baxter Ave., Avondale, 4+ acres, vacant
undeveloped land w/creek, behind Canyon Dr. Estates

\$92,000—6056 Tahiti Dr., College Hill, 3br, 2.5ba, mint
condition, brick ranch, finished lower level, **SHORT
SALE**

\$48,888—2623 Stanton Ave., Walnut Hills, 2-family,
2br/1ba each, 1 unit occupied, newer windows, needs
some TLC

****IMPORTANT NEWS****

**Apply for the \$8,000 Homebuyer Tax Credit & FHA 203K Rehab
Loan. You can now buy that FIXER UPPER!**

United First Financial

www.payitfaster.com/sheila

Eliminate your mortgage and all debt in 1/2 to 1/3 the time without
increasing your mortgage payments or refinancing current mortgage.

Use the **Money Merge Account System (MMA)**, it mathematically
calculates how you can eliminate thousands in interest payments.
This is **NOT** a debt roll down or bi-weekly plan.

Take advantage of the **FREE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS REPORT**. Go
to my website and watch the video or just contact me for more details.

My personal analysis report states I will pay off my 25 year mortgage
and all my debt in 6.3 years eliminating \$45,000 in interest
payments...**What will your analysis report say???**

Sheila Holmes Howard
ABR, CTM, Realtor®, UFF Consultant

OWNERLAND REALTY
513-543-2333-cell 513 842-8834-efax

showard@cinci.rr.com
www.sheilaholmeshoward.com

Selling Homeownership Happiness!





Check This Out!

Be Aware of Possible Scams

U.S. Census

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft. The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race and other relevant data.

The big question is—how do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? The BBB offers the following advice: *** If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.

Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census. The Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations. Anyone asking for that info is NOT with the Census Bureau.

Please be safe, but remember to participate, as Census data determines the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives as well as federal monies for neighborhoods.

Would you like to become an Avondale Newsletter contributor ?

To submit an article for the Avondale newsletter, contact Cynthia @ 281-5999 all articles are due by the 15th of the month.



Where to report a pothole

Potholes in need of repair or if your car has hit a pothole, and you'd like to report it, here are some phone numbers to call:
City of Cincinnati: 513-591-6000
Hamilton County: 513-946-4250
Butler County: 513-9867-5744

Warren County: 513-925-1376

Clermont County: 513-732-8857

Ohio Department of Transportation, District 8
 (covers Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Greene, Hamilton, Preble and Warren Counties): 800-831-2142 or 513-932-3030

Kentucky
Transportation Cabinet (provides coverage for state routes in Northern Kentucky): 859-341-2700

These phone numbers are also useful if your car has suffered any damage: In that case, you'll need to file a written complaint with these departments. There's no law saying they have to reimburse you, but if you make a strong case some communities may help pay for the repairs.

Cincinnati Hamilton County Community Action Agency 's

Weatherization Program

The Home Weatherization Assistance Program provides home weatherproofing and energy efficiency services to qualifying individuals at no cost.

To make homes more energy efficient, safe and comfortable, CAA's weatherization team may:

- Service or replace heating equipment such as furnaces or water heaters;
- Test and/or replace the refrigerator, installing Energy Star appliances when appropriate;
- Seal return ducts to ensure proper air flow;
- Perform whole house diagnostic testing to determine air leakage;
- Repair missing plaster/drywall and missing/broken glass in windows;
- Insulate attics, sidewalls, floors and crawlspaces as needed;
- Insulate the water heater and pipes;
- Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs; and
- Provide consumer energy education.

Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines;
- Be a resident of Hamilton County and
- Be responsible for paying your own utility bills for your house or apartment.

Apply

CAA 1740 Langdon Farm Road (45237) 513-569-1840 x 1133



Hearts for Haiti



Rockdale Academy and the Avondale Community Council have teamed up in an effort called *Hearts for Haiti* to collect donations for the Haitian people. All donations will be forwarded to Matthew 25 Ministries and from delivered to Port Au Prince, Haiti. The following items are being accepted for disaster relief:

- Blankets
- Canned and nonperishable food
- Personal care products
- Cleaning products
- First Aid supplies
- Baby food and Diapers

Donations are being accepted through February 28th at the following locations:

Rockdale Academy
335 Rockdale Avenue
8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday
363-4700 option 7
OR

The Avondale Community Pride Center
3520 Burnet Avenue
9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday
281-5999

Please give what you can to help those truly in need.



Rockdale
Academy

ACC

Avondale Community Council



Rockdale
PTO-POP

Matthew
Disaster Aid
Alternative Relief
Ministries



Interested in getting
your house painted
for free?

The application
deadline for Paint the
Town has been
extended to

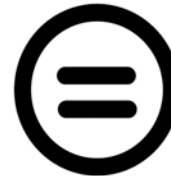
February 15, 2010. Contact the
Avondale Community Pride Center
3520 Burnet Avenue, 281-4414 for more
information.

Free Income Tax Preparation



The VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program has returned to the Avondale Community Pride Center this year. Free tax preparation will take place on Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. beginning February 4, 2010, on an appointment only basis. Call the Pride Center, 281-5999, to make your reservation. Your income must be \$42,000 or below to qualify for the free service.

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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



3458 Reading Road
Cincinnati, OH 45229

Dates To Remember
Avondale Council/Pride Center
3520 Burnet Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45229 (513) 281-4414

ACC
 Board meeting
February 2, 2010
6:30 p.m.

General Body
February 16, 2010
6:30 p.m.
 Pride Center

◆
AYC
 Avondale Youth Council
February 2 & 16
4:30 p.m.
 Pride Center

District 4
 Community Meeting
February 24
6:30
 District 4

◆
Ceasefire
 Steering Committee
February 11, 2009
 Church of the Living God
 430 Forest Avenue

◆
Every Child Succeeds
Steering Committee
February 18, 2010
10:00
Carmel Presbyterian

Cincinnati Recreation Commission


Hirsch Recreation Center

3630 Reading Road, Cincinnati, OH 45229
 751-3393

Daily Schedule

Tai Chi	9:00-11:00	Mon, Wed, Fri
Walking	9:00-1:00	Mon thru Fri
Weight Toning	10:00-11:30	Mon, Wed, Fri
Yoga	10:00-11:30	Tues, Thurs

After School Drop-In	2:30-5:00	Mon-Fri
After School Pick-Up	2:15-5:00	Mon-Fri
After School Day Camp	2:15-6:00	Mon-Fri

Theater	Tues, Thurs	
Art	Mon, Wed	
Movie	Fri	

Teen Open Gym	6:30-8:00	Tues, Thurs
African History	6:00-8:00	Mon, Wed
CPD Grief Counseling	6:00-8:00	Tues



Free membership through March 31, 2010

Cincinnati Recreation Commission *do right!*
 eat move live
North Avondale Recreation Center

617 Clinton Springs Avenue, Cincinnati OH 45229
 Phone: 513-961-1584

HEALTHY ACTIVITIES

Participants must have Center memberships

Adults \$15 Senior/Teen/Youth \$5



Senior Line Dancing

Mondays & Wednesdays 10-11:30 am
 FREE with membership

YOGA

Mondays & Wednesdays 6-7 pm
 FREE with membership



Sauna

FREE with membership



Tai Chi

Thursdays 6pm
 FREE with membership



Weight Room

\$10 per quarter with membership



Karate

T & Th 5-7:30 pm
 Monthly fee & membership

Aerobic Workout Party

T & Th 5:45-7:30 pm, Saturdays 12-2 pm
 \$25 per month or \$5 per class, with membership

Recreation programs and facilities are open to all citizens regardless of race, sex, color, religion, nationality, or disability. CRC is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to supporting the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please call if you require any special accommodations.

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID Cincinnati, OH Permit #3455
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FOR CURRENT RESIDENT OR

**Phone: 513-281-4414
513-281-5999
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

President	Patricia Milton patriciamilton@msn.com	281-4430
Vice-President	Gayle Harden-Renfro	221-8475
Treasurer	Terresa Adams	675-9217
Secretary	Earlene Newton	226-2627
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Trustee	Sheila Holmes Howard	543-2333
Trustee	Tony Moore	293-1559
Trustee	Linda Mayfield	325-4188
Trustee	Kelly Tarver	582-1644



Avondale Community Council Staff

Community Organizer	Carla Butler	281-5999
Major Projects Consultant	Bill Witten	646-8944
◆		
District 4 Police	CPOP Supervisor	368-1720

Important City Phone Numbers

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

City Council Directory

Mayor Mark Mallory 801 Plum Street Rm 150 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3250 Fax: (513) 352-5201 Mark.mallory@cincinnati-oh.gov	Y. Laketa Cole 801 Plum St. Rm 351 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3466 Fax: (513) 352-3957 laketa.cole@cincinnati-oh.gov
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