

Avondale Community News

Volume 5/Issue 3 July/August 2013

Officer Jordan, an Asset to the Avondale Community

By Courtney D. Myrick
The Cincinnati Herald

Officer Donald Jordan has been an officer with the Cincinnati Police Department for 13 years. A graduate of Western Hills High School and a Cincinnati native, Jordan grew up in Avondale. Serving as the Community Liaison Officer for the Avondale community, Jordan initiated and implemented several new ideas to improve the area.



Officer Jordan organizes Rockdale Academy's annual role model luncheon, and helped construct the first annual Asthma Awareness Walk alongside The Cincinnati Herald, Cincinnati Children's Medical Center, the Avondale Youth Council, and others in October 2012. He also orchestrated the Stop the Violence march with Pastor Ennis Tait in October 2011.

The Avondale community has begun to make changes for the better. To lose the community liaison officer in the middle of such major transformations may cause some members of the community to become concerned.

"Avondale is in the midst of revitalization. He's been a part of the revitalization, an essential part of safety and improvement in Avondale," said Patricia Milton, President of the Avondale Community Council.

"He brings a balance of police skills and understanding to the people in the neighborhood. Officer Jordan played an important role that allowed Avondale to be one of eight neighborhoods from across the nation to earn the HUD Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant, for a total of \$29.5 million.

(Continued on page 2)

Patricia Milton named Uptown Consortium Community Champion

The Uptown Consortium hosted their second annual **Awards of Excellence** on May 10 at the Kingsgate Marriott. The event honored people, nonprofits and businesses in the Uptown area. The Uptown communities are Avondale, Clifton, Clifton Heights/University Heights/Fairview, Corryville and Mount Auburn.



The key note speaker was Dr. Ben Carson, professor of neurosurgery, oncology, plastic surgery and pediatrics at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He has directed the pediatric neurosurgery program at Johns Hopkins Children's Center for more than 25 years. Carson's many awards include 60 honorary doctorate degrees and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, which is the highest civilian honor at Johns Hopkins Children's Center.

Dr. Carson had a childhood dream of becoming a physician. Growing up in a single parent home and being challenged by extreme poverty, poor grades, a horrible temper and low self-esteem appeared to preclude that dream, until his mother, who had only a third grade education challenged her sons to strive for excellence. Dr. Carson stressed the importance of family and the broader community in giving hope to children raised in poverty. He noted the importance of education and perseverance being the key to his success. Dr. Carson encouraged those at the awards ceremony to "elevate themselves" to make things better. He also shared his philosophy of success, which is "THINK BIG—talent, honesty, insight, nice, knowledge, book, in-depth learning and God." than 5,000 scholars. (Casonsolars.org)

(Continued on page 2)

Officer Jordan (continued from page 1)

“We have had some amazing community liaison officers, but none like Officer Jordan. We are working diligently to let the Cincinnati Police Department know that Officer Jordan is highly valued and we need him back to continue our work.”

“It is of grave concern to us that our key connection to District 4 has been removed. We have a genuine concern regarding the transfer of a valuable member of the Avondale Renaissance Team. Officer Jordan has diligently worked with us to address the serious public safety concerns we have faced over the past four years,” added Ozie Davis III, Executive Director of the Avondale Comprehensive Development Corporation.

As Milton described the situation, “it’s like starting the foundation to a building and in the middle of the process, you decided to hire a new contractor.”

Uptown Consortium Champion Award (continued from page 1)

His five books, Gifted Hands, THINK Big, The Big Picture, Take the Risk, and America The Beautiful, provide inspiration and insight for leading a successful life. Carson has been married for over 37 years to his wife Candy and is the father of three sons/.

In order to be eligible for an award, businesses demonstrated strong commitment to the Uptown community, success in meeting the organization’s mission and sustainable business practices. They also encouraged others to follow their lead. Awards were given in five categories: Small Nonprofit of the Year (25 or fewer employees), Large Nonprofit of the Year (more than 25 employees), Small Business of the Year (50 or fewer employees) and Large Business of the Year (50 or more employees) and Community Champion.

The Small Nonprofit award went to the Clifton Heights Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation and Large Nonprofit to Cincinnati Children’s Medical Center; the Small Business award went to UC's DuBois Bookstore; and the Large Business award to Uptown Rental Properties.

Congratulations to our own Avondale Community Council President and dedicated volunteer Patricia Milton who received the Community Champion Award.

The Avondale Community Council was nominated for the Small Business award. Special thanks to ACC Board members for their leadership and accomplishments which lead to the recognition through the nomination.

Photo by C. Smith Studio

AVONDALE METT FEST BLOCK PARTY

Featuring a Mett Eating Contest

**Saturday, July 27th
1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.**

**\$5.00 includes
Queen City Mett, fries & drink**



**\$10 to enter the
Mett Eating Contest
(featured on Channel 9)
Win prizes!**

**Come out and
meet your
neighbors!**



**Avondale Community
Pride Center
3250 Burnet Avenue
(281-5999)**

**All proceeds benefit the
Avondale Youth Council**

**Purchase tickets for Avondale Community Day
at Great American Ballpark**

SAVING AVONDALE: Reds, P&G invest in more than fields

Need great, potential greater in plan to transform recreation center, food ministry

Written by Mark Curnette
Cincinnati Enquirer May 28, 2013

AVONDALE — The Reds and Procter & Gamble teamed in the past three years to build or renovate baseball fields in Winton Place, North College Hill and Cheviot. This year, these two Cincinnati institutions — joined by two more, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden — will take on a more ambitious project in Avondale, one that includes more than baseball fields.

Later Tuesday, the Reds Community Fund and P&G North America Marketing will announce plans to renovate two baseball fields and to add a third diamond at Hirsch Recreation Center — plus construct a second greenhouse and undertake major building and landscaping improvements next door at Gabriel’s Place.

“The fact that it was a multifaceted project — not just with fields and getting kids interested in playing baseball, but a well-used recreation center that’s used by all ages in the neighborhood, and then this notion of a working farm and farmer’s market right here on Reading Road — just excited us beyond the regular field project,” Reds chief operating officer Phil Castellini told The Enquirer. Gabriel’s Place, the former St. Michael’s and All Angels Episcopal Church, which closed in 2008, opened in September 2011 as a ministry to provide fresh vegetables and fruit to a community without a full-service grocery store.

Jodi Allen, vice president of North America Marketing and Brand Operations at P&G, noted that the Avondale site is less than 5 miles from the company’s Downtown international headquarters. “The need in Avondale is great, and the potential is even greater, which fuels our passion to put our time, efforts and heart into this transformation,” she said.

The Enquirer has closely documented positive change but stubborn challenges in the neighborhood in its Saving Avondale series, which debuted in March 2012. Leaders of the Reds Community Fund say Castellini and Allen referred to the series “multiple times” in making the final

decision to award Avondale the Reds/P&G Community Makeover.

The Enquirer’s initial coverage of Gabriel’s Place a year ago this month attracted volunteers and cash donations as well as gifts including gardening materials and a pickup. Since its one-year anniversary in September, Gabriel’s Place has had 429 sales at its market and developed a 20-volunteer team that has supported the market with more than 500 hours. The hope is that the upgraded Hirsch baseball fields, which will feature home-run fences and scoreboards — in addition to a new T-ball diamond — will increase participation in youth baseball in Avondale and surrounding neighborhoods. “It’s going to make kids want to play and feel like they are in the big leagues, instead of being on run-down fields,” said De’Angelo Boynton, District 1 Knothole Baseball Supervisor. District 1 covers 19 Cincinnati neighborhoods and has 600 players ages 4 through 15. Almost half of the 600 are from Avondale. Boynton would like to see the overall number increase to 1,500. “We’ve got a way to go, but these new fields will be a great start,” he said. “Kids from all of our neighborhoods will get to play on these new fields.”

More than 3,000 children are growing up in Avondale, a community of 12,500 that is about 90 percent African-American and which — in spite of improvements — statistically remains one of Cincinnati’s poorest, most jobless and most dangerous neighborhoods. More opportunities to play baseball and expanded Gabriel’s Place programs, ranging from cooking classes to urban farming, help children avoid social trap doors, backers hope. P&G has pledged marketing assistance to spread the word on the Gabriel’s Place farmer’s market.

The Avondale project will begin immediately and will culminate Aug. 8 when more than 300 volunteers from P&G North America Marketing, Reds Community Fund, Children’s Hospital and the zoo will swarm Avondale for a construction day. Additional support will be provided by members of the Great American Ball Park grounds crew.

(continued on page 4)

Congratulations Avondale Youth Council Graduates

Class of 2013

DeNesha Bell, President of the AYC, graduated from Western Hills University High School. She was a member of the Key Club, President of the Student Ambassador's, and Captain of both the varsity Softball and Volleyball teams. She will be attending University of Cincinnati, majoring in either Social Work or Psychology.



Adaezia Flowers, Crew leader of the AYC's History Crew and Sergeant of Arms, graduated from Withrow University. She has been accepted into the National Society of High School Honors. She will be attending University of Cincinnati, majoring in Criminal Justice.



Bra'Lon (Stormer) Boyd, Crew leader of the AYC's A Team and Lawn Crew, graduated from Withrow University. He will be attending Cincinnati State Technical & Community College this Fall, majoring in Auto Mechanics. He plans to later work for the Caterpillars Auto Mechanics in Ohio.



Michael Gaynor, Secretary of the AYC since 2010, graduated from Aldersgate Christian Academy. He was Senior Class President and a member of the Student Council. In addition to his role at school and with the AYC, Michael volunteered his time at the Cincinnati Black Theater Company. He will be attending the University of Cincinnati Blue Ash campus, majoring in Computer Engineering and Science.

Kendra Coach, Assistant Treasurer and Crew leader of the AYC's Candy Store, graduated from Hughes STEM High School as Salutatorian. She will be attending the University of Cincinnati in the Fall as a full-time student, majoring in Nursing to become an Anesthetist



Saving Avondale (continued from page 3)

Neither Reds Community Fund nor P&G marketing officials would disclose spending on the project. Other project sponsors are Green B.E.A.N., a produce home-delivery service based locally in Arlington Heights, the Uptown Consortium and Local Initiatives Support Corp. Greater Cincinnati & Northern Kentucky.

“We are deeply moved by the Reds and Procter & Gamble’s willingness to join in the transformation of Avondale,” said Ozie Davis, executive director of the Avondale Comprehensive Development Corp. “The impact this investment will make at Gabriel’s Place and Hirsch Recreation Center will be huge and long-lasting. “The people of Avondale are forever grateful.” □

SUMMER EVENTS IN AVONDALE

Project Nehemiah's

NEIGHBORHOOD BACK₂SCHOOL CARNIVAL

**Saturday, August 3, 2013
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**

**Seasongood Square
Reading Road & Fred Shuttlesworth**

**Free event designed to supply children 5-18 with
school supplies, health and safety education
information**

Avondale Community National Night Out

Tuesday August 6, 2013
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Fleischmann Gardens
Washington Avenue

- *Meet and Greet your neighbors*
- *Send a message to criminals letting them know that our neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.*
 - *Learn about safety*
 - *Free food*

*For more info contact - 281-5999
Avondale Community Pride Center
3520 Burnet Avenue*

2013 Annual Black Family Reunion Parade Coming To Avondale

Saturday, August 17th, 2013 @10:00 A.M.

The Black Family Reunion Parade will be coming right through your neighborhood. We want to give you advanced notice on street closures and route changes that will affect your morning commute on Saturday August 17th.

These streets listed will be Blocked Off and Closed to all traffic by 9:00 a.m. on

These streets will be blocked off and closed to all traffic by 9:00 a.m. on August 17th.

- Larona
- Northern
- Rockdale***
- Crest Park Dr.
- Burnet Avenue
- Harvey Avenue
- Van Antwerp Place

- Wilson Avenue***
- Forest Avenue***
- Hickory
- Washington
- Knot Street
- Reading Road at Forest Avenue***

Cars will be towed!

*****No cars allowed to park on these streets**

Call Queen City Metro for alternate routes 561-4455

*Annual Peace Bowl
Football Games*



*August 4, 2013
South Avondale Field
636 Prospect Place*

8:30 a.m. Opening Ceremony

*Serving Adults Through
Changing Times*

SO-ACT
*20th Anniversary
Celebration*

August 17, 2013
12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Live Music, Bingo and More!

Cincinnati Christian Bible College
3663 Reading Road



**Early Detection Can Save Lives
Mobile Mammography Screenings**

**AVONDALE HEALTH FAIR
SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2013
10AM-2PM**



Covered by Medicare, Medicaid and most insurance companies under the following guidelines:

**Ages 35-40 Baseline Screening,
Over 40 an Annual Screening**

***NO COST MAMMOGRAMS WILL BE PROVIDED**

***PRIVATE INSURANCES BILLED AND ALL
CO PAYMENT/OUT OF POCKET
EXPENSES WILL BE PAID FOR...THANKS TO A GENEROUS GRANT FROM
SUSAN G KOMEN FOR THE CURE.***

TO SIGN UP CALL 859-655-7400



Avondale Community

DAY AT THE BALLPARK

Diamondbacks vs. Reds
Wednesday, August 21, 7:10 p.m.

TICKETS: View Level \$10/ticket

Mezzanine \$15/ticket

Get your tickets now at: Avondale Community Council Pride Center
3250 Burnet Avenue (Forest and Burnet)

or contact Avondale Community Council at 513-281-5999.

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

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

City Council Directory

Board of Trustees & Committee Chairs

President	Patricia Milton patriciamilton@msn.com	281-4430
Vice-President	Fulton O. Jefferson, Jr.	614-4775
Treasurer	Anthony Moore	293-1559
Secretary	Sheila Holmes Howard	543-2333
Finance Chair	Christie Bryant	702-6999
Membership Chair	Linda Mayfield	325-4188
Trustee	Michele Taylor Mitchell	458-9113
Trustee	Ron Jackson	356-1565
Trustee	Kelly Tarver	582-1644
Trustee	Charles Houston	236-7216
Trustee	Christopher Heater	520-0671
Trustee	Terresa Adams	349-1745
Trustee	Sandra Jones	237-7454
Trustee (alternate)	DeAngelo Boynton	605-0161

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

Mayor Mark Mallory
801 Plum Street Rm 150
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 352-3250
Fax: (513) 352-5201
mark.mallory@cincinnati-oh.gov

Vice Mayor Roxanne Qualls
801 Plum St. Rm 351
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 352-3604
Fax: (513) 352-3621
roxanne.qualls@cincinnati-oh.gov

Chris Seelbach
801 Plum St. Rm 350
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 352-5210
Fax: (513) 352-5229
chris.seelbach@cincinnati-oh.gov

Yvette Simpson
801 Plum St. Rm 346B
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 352-5260
Fax: (513) 352-5265
yvette.simpson@cincinnati-oh.gov
Laure Quinlivan
801 Plum St. Rm 346B
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 352-5303
Fax: (513) 352-5390
laure.quinlivan@cincinnati-oh.gov

P.G. Sittenfeld
801 Plum St. Rm 354
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 352-5270
Fax: (513) 352-5287
pg.sittenfeld@cincinnati-oh.gov

Christopher Smitherman
801 Plum St. Rm 346A
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 352-3464
Fax: (513) 352-3407
christopher.smitherman@cincinnati-oh.gov

Cecil Thomas
801 Plum St. Rm 349
Cincinnati, OH 45202-1979
Phone: (513) 352-3499
Fax: (513) 352-3218
cecil.thomas@cincinnati-oh.gov

Charlie Winburn
801 Plum St. Rm 346A
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 352-5354
Fax: (513) 352-5367
charlie.winburn@cincinnati-oh.gov
Wendell Young
801 Plum St. Rm 350
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 352-3466
Fax: (513) 352-3957
wendell.young@cincinnati-oh.gov