

Avondale Community News

Volume 2/Issue 7 November 2010

Avenue District Block Club Making Big Changes in the Neighborhood

The Avenue District Block Club was formed in September 2009. In one short year the Club has worked on several projects which included landscaping, streetscape improvements such as litter, lighting and graffiti as well as addressed abandoned properties and parking issues.

The Club has also organized two fun events for the community, the most recent being the Kickoff for the Northern Laron Community Park. The site for the park is located at 232-238 Northern Avenue. Right now the park is a vacant lot, but due to the efforts of the Avenue District Block Club,



in time it will include a walking track, gazebo for residents to gather and play areas for the neighborhood children.

The Avenue District Block Club is open to all residents who live on Forest, Dury, Laron, Wilson, Erkenbrcher, Burnet and Rockdale. The meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at Rockdale Academy Parents Center from 5:30 p.m.– 7:00 p.m.

A Block Club can be organized on any street. The necessary components are a group of people who are concerned about the quality of life in their neighborhood and are willing to work together to make changes. What can a block club do?

A block club can ensure that our seniors have the services they need to lead fulfilling lives. A block club can help children travel safely back and forth to school, so they have every opportunity to learn and succeed. A block club can improve the environment by planting and maintaining new green spaces. A block club can provide a strong deterrent to guns, violence, drugs and blight.

If you are interested in forming a club in your area please contact the Avondale Community Pride Center for more information. (513) 281-5999



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Avondale Youth Council

By Joseph Malek and DeNesha Bell

The new season has started and the Avondale Youth Council is still working hard for the community. They have been attending community events, doing community cleaning projects, and developing their own businesses.

In September, the Avondale Youth Council ended the month by running the Avenue District Block Club Block Party held on the block of Larona and Northern Avenues. They cooked food for the people that attended and managed the games. AYC members also had an opportunity to chat with Senator Eric Kearney who stopped by to offer his well wishes. It was a great event. Additionally in September, they managed the Farmers Market. There the Avondale Youth Council sells fresh vegetables at reasonable prices on Saturdays. The Farmers Market is located in front of the St. Michael's Church Building on Reading Rd (next to Hirsch Rec.).

The Great Youth Debate sessions started in September as well. The topic for the Avondale Youth Council is "Students should be allowed to pray or conduct professions of faith in public schools." The A.Y.C. is the negative or the opposition against Withrow University High School.

The Avondale Youth Council started the month of October by attending a Reds game. They have also will attend the NAACP dinner, Dada Rafiki, and a Youth Summit presented by Shelton-Reid Inc.



Avondale Community Council Elections 2010

The Avondale Community Council will be holding elections at the General Body meeting on November 16, 2010. The positions of Vice-President, Treasurer and three Trustee Seats are available. According to the By-laws Article 2, Procedures, Line 1: *those persons whose dues are paid twenty-one calendar days prior to the annual meeting shall be eligible to vote and be elected to the Board of Trustees.* You are eligible to vote if you were a paid member of the Avondale Community Council on or before October 27, 2010.

Absentee ballots will be available after Nov. 1, 2010. The ballots may be requested by calling or stopping by the Pride Center (281-5999).

The slate is as follows:

Vice President

**Terresa Adams
Fulton Jefferson**

Treasurer

**Anthony Moore
Kelly Tarver**

Board Trustees (3 positions available)

**T. Marche' Densen
Charles Houston
Diane Mayfield
Brenda Sawyer**

Avondale Residents Eligible to Receive Weatherization Assistance

The Avondale Community Council in conjunction with the Cincinnati Hamilton County Community Action Agency (CAA) want Avondale residents to save on their energy bills this winter.

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.

There will be an informational meeting held at the Avondale Community Pride Center. For more information call 281-5999

Ohio Recent Wartime Veterans Earn Bonuses



The Ohio Department of Veterans Services launched the Ohio Veterans Bonus Program.

Anyone serving on active duty, anywhere in the world, during specified times of war (Persian Gulf, Iraq & Afghanistan wars) are eligible for up to \$1,500 in bonus money. There are an estimated 200k veterans in Ohio eligible to apply. Applicants must have been legal residents of Ohio when they went on active duty as well as being current legal residents of the state. To determine eligibility and to apply, please call

1 - 8 7 7 - 6 4 4 - 6 8 3 8 or visit www.veteransbonus.ohio.gov.

DePaul Cristo Rey High School Opening in June 2011

DePaul Cristo Rey high school is opening in Cincinnati. The Roman Catholic high school is designed to offer the benefits of private, college-prep education to students with limited economic means.

The school, located at 1133 Clifton Hills Avenue near Cincinnati State, will open to a freshman class of 100 students in June 2011. Sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati this school is for students not well served by the public options but unable to afford Catholic high school tuition. Most of DePaul Cristo Rey's students will qualify for the Federal Free or Reduced Lunch Program and all will participate in the Corporate Work Study Program (CWSP) through which they will finance a portion of the cost of their education.

Cincinnati's new school is part of the national Cristo Rey Network, a group of 25 schools. All 704 graduates of the Cristo Rey Network Class of 2010 were accepted into college. The goal is that all graduates will leave school college-ready. A longer school day and year, academic assistance and counseling will be used to prepare students with a broad range of academic abilities.

For more information on enrolling a student, becoming a CWSP partner or supporting the school call (513) 861-0600 or visit www.depaulcristorey.org.

Superman & Salad Bars

By Pauline Daly

A movie just out about education is titled "Waiting for Superman". It reveals what is happening in American public schools where parents drive by while taking their children to private schools. It shows the lottery that in some cities decides who goes to successful charter schools and the difference it makes in a child's chance for success. That difference would also apply to successful magnet schools.

There are many children like you see in that movie here in our community. Next time you drive by stop in and offer to help. South Avondale School, the neighborhood for North Avondale and part of Avondale, is located at 636 Prospect Place just off Reading Road near the Urban League building. Rockdale School is located at Rockdale Ave.

South Avondale and Rockdale Schools got salad bars this school year. The question was asked, "Would they use them?" The answer is a resounding "YES". From the first day the students were excited and eager. The salad line was longer than the regular line. And the students are still as excited, eager and using it.

The salad bars were possible because of community involvement. People spoke up, neighborhood people and organizations who understood the relationship between a good education and healthy eating. See "Waiting for Superman" and Take Action. These children can learn. Tutors are desperately needed. Call Nichole Aldridge at 363-5530 (South Avondale) or Shalon Price at 363-4777 (Rockdale).



Treasuring the Lives of our Elders

Over the years I have witnessed several programs and activities for the elderly come and go. I realize some of this is due to the lack of funding but some is due to the senior's lack of interest in sharing their passions and gifts. How can communities, organizations and churches engage our elderly so they can share their gifts and passions? I attend lots of senior meetings and community events.

Some are designed to engage the elderly and some are not so senior friendly. Several of the programs hardly ever include the elderly and we wonder why they are so isolated and not at the table making decisions.

Serving Older Adults Through changing Times (SO-ACT), was started to be a voice for the elderly. Over the years the passion and fight to serve the elderly has been lost in the politics. The City of Cincinnati funding for the elderly is virtually none existent. Sure we have several agencies around providing housing, home health care and some home medical assistance, but what about when they need food, medicine, funds to burial a loved one or transportation for non-medical events.

Recently the big question many are asking, is how to fight bed bugs and who is responsible for paying for these services. SO -ACT receives calls asking for bed covers and monies to pay for bed bug extermination.

SO-ACT depends on donations or pays expenses out of pocket. The lives of our elderly should never be watered down to the point that they are not included in what's going on. As treasures in our lives we need to design realistic programs and activities that impact their lives. Programs that allows them to give back to the community. Creating an environment that is friendly, safe and inclusive. Many of the black older adults income level is inadequate for today's economy. They need for their families and the community to step up and assist them any way they can.

YOU KNOW THE ISSUES SO-ACT

Sandra M. Jones
Blackage.org or 513-861-2790



Did You Know?

City to offer larger recycling bins, fewer pickups

Cincinnati recycles 13,000 tons of trash each year. Recently the city rolled out a new program intended to expand on those efforts. Each resident will receive a new, 96-gallon cart that will be set out every other week, instead of being picked up each week. The new program is designed to hopefully save \$700,000 a year in collection fees and double the amount of recycled trash to 26,000 tons in the first twelve months of the program.

For every 10,000 tons of trash sent to the landfill, two (2) jobs are created. For every 10,000 tons of trash recycled, about thirty-five (35) jobs are created. This program will allow the City to save money on avoided landfill fees and waste collection, create jobs, reduce pollution, save natural resources, and save landfill space.

Most Avondale residents are in Phase 4 of the program which means all eligible residents will receive new recycle bins in January 2011 with pickup beginning on February 7, 2011. All single family homes, 1-4 multifamily structures in the city limits, mixed use buildings (a business on one floor and apartments above) and any residences

The new recycling program is not mandatory but residents can enroll in the RecycleBank and earn points based on how often and how much they recycle. Residents who recycle on a regular basis can expect to earn about \$300 a year in discounts and coupons from participating local, regional and national retailers.

Residents will receive information from the City of Cincinnati, Rumpke and RecycleBank one month in advance with instructions on how to register your individual household RecycleBank account. Register as soon as you receive your mailer and you'll start earning RecycleBank Points on the first pickup in your zone.

If you have questions contact the Avondale Community Pride Center (513) 281-5999

Real Estate & More!

For Sale

- \$30,500—2623 Stanton Ave., Walnut Hills, 2-fam, 2br/1ba ea,
- \$79,900—3450 Wilson Ave., Avondale, 4+br, 2ba, Large brick home
- \$84,900—3479 Wilson Ave., Avondale, 3br, 2ba, Tudor
- \$92,000—3428 Laronia Ave., Avondale, 4br. 2ba, plus 2 vacant lots
- \$95,900—1761 Dale Ave., Bond Hill, 4 plex, all rented 2br, 1ba, each
- \$120,000—1718 Freeman Ave., West End, 3-fam, plus 5 vacant lots



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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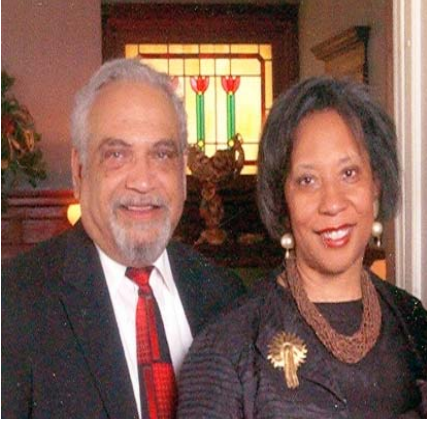
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Human Interest

The Avondale Community News is seeking human interest stories to include in our printed newsletter as well as our new electronic newsletter. If you know of something positive happening on your block or in your home that you want to share with the community, please contact Cynthia at the Avondale Community Pride Center 281-5999. Pictures welcomed. Deadline is the 10th of each month.

If you would like to receive the electronic newsletter email avondalecouncil5@aol.com

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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

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513-281-9955
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

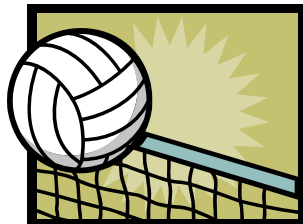
Teens 6-8 PM FREE!

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

ACC Board meeting November 9, 2010 6:00 p.m. General Body November 16, 2010 6:30 p.m. Pride Center 3520 Burnet Ave. 281-5999	AYC Avondale Youth Council November 2 & 16 4:30 p.m. Pride Center ♦ District 4 Community Meeting November 25, 2010 6:30 District 4	Ceasefire Steering Committee November 12, 2010 Church of the Living God 430 Forest Avenue Every Child Succeeds Steering Committee November 18, 2010 10:00 Carmel Presbyterian
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Thanksgiving Baskets

Purchase your Thanksgiving dinner from the Avondale Youth Council

Baskets will contain the following:

- Turkey (10-12 lbs)
- Mashed potatoes
- Dressing
- Rolls
- Green beans
- Butter & Eggs
- Cake mix & Icing
- Mac-N-Cheese
- Corn and other items

All this for \$31

Orders accepted from October 1 - November 12 at the Avondale Pride Center (3520 Burnet Avenue). Cash or money orders only.

Baskets will be passed out on November 20 at the Pride Center from 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Call 281-4414 for more information

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

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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
Finance Chair	Christie Bryant	702-6999
Membership Chair	Linda Mayfield	325-4188
Trustee	William Anspach	678-0388
Trustee	Linda Fairbanks	742-0770
Trustee	Sheila Holmes Howard	543-2333
Trustee	Fulton O. Jefferson, Jr.	614-4775
Trustee	Tony Moore	293-1559
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
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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	Chris Bortz 801 Plum St. Rm 348 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3249 Fax: (513) 3264 chris.bortz@cincinnati-oh.gov
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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	Leslie Ghiz 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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