

# Avondale Community News

Volume 3/Issue 4 November 2011

## Avondale Youth Experience M. L. King Monument Dedication

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Six members of the Avondale Youth Council traveled to Washington, DC to experience the National Action Network's march on Jobs and Justice and dedication services for the

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King monument on the National Mall of monuments. The Youth had an opportunity to tour Howard University, Chinatown, and eat at Ben's Chili Bowl while in DC. Here are some photos of our trip!





# Gabriel's Place

3618 Reading Road, Cincinnati, OH 45229  
513-221-2306 [www.gabriels-place.org](http://www.gabriels-place.org)



## Garden Days

Tours will be given while we beautify the garden. *Volunteers still needed to harvest so call or email us today.*

## Leaf Collection

Bring your leaves to our compost bins.

## Market Days

Fresh fruits and vegetables will be available for purchase on-site.



Nov. 14-17, Leaf Collection  
4pm-6pm

Nov. 18, Market Day  
4pm-6pm

*All events take place on-site*

*Our mission is to provide a safe, beautiful and spiritually nourishing place for the Avondale neighborhood to gather in mutual respect, to learn and interact, and to promote peace in the community. Join us at Gabriel's Place for each opportunity for fun and a rewarding time of community empowerment and service with our neighbors.*

*To learn more, email us at [gabrielsplace.cincy@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielsplace.cincy@gmail.com)*

## College Prep Workshops Continue



The FREE workshops are open to all high school students AND their parents.

November 22—*ACT Strategy: Approach is Everything*

January 10—*Financial Aid/FAFSA: How Am I Going to Pay for College*

All workshops will be held from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Avondale Community Pride Center located at 3250 Burnet Avenue.



## 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

Orders accepted through November 14th  
at the Avondale Pride Center  
3520 Burnet Avenue  
Cash or money orders only.

Baskets will be available for pickup on November 19 at the Pride Center from 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Call 281-4414 for more information

## ***We Have Come Too Far To Turn Back Now***

**By Sandra Jones**

As I look around our city, I often wonder if people are understanding what is going on. The political, economical and criminal systems are a freight train moving very fast through our communities and we are all out of tickets. A war has been waged on the future of our existence. Our children and future generations will suffer from the lack of action we take today; it can only get better, right?

Earlier this year, Cincinnati was ranked in the Top Ten Most Segregated Cities in the U.S. We have come too far to get caught up in “the responsibility belongs to someone else to fix things”. Our elders are not as engaged as they should be. We owe them an opportunity keep up with technology, information and the ability to live healthier lives. As baby boomers continue to age, they are going to need creative services and resources to help them age well.

Today, the average citizen’s primary income is their social security check. This has not increased at the same rate as inflation. We have come too far not to better prepare ourselves and families for hard times. Community involvement should not be an option. We must begin to create avenues for people to be engaged so they can have a better handle on what’s going on. People are struggling all around us and some have lost contact with families for whatever reason.

Creating businesses and survival skills will help families survive. Now we realize there will be a few people who will just not make it. These people will continue to do what they do, which has hindered them a great deal. These people will continue to do what they do which has hindered them a great deal. Time is so important and we to use it wisely. We have come too far; now we have a great opportunity to save some lives. We need to go door to door and conduct an assessment and determine where people are and what resources they use or need. We can explain the issues and encourage everyone to vote. Creating a coalition of people using their voices would have a major impact on the world.!

**YOU KNOW THE ISSUES SO-ACT!**

## ***Federal Benefit Payments Are Going All-Electronic***

*Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury,  
Financial Management Service*

The U.S. Department of the Treasury now requires all federal benefit and non-tax payments to be paid electronically. People applying for Social Security, Veterans Affairs or other federal benefits, will receive their payments electronically starting with their first payment. People currently receiving federal benefit checks must switch to an electronic payment option by **March 1, 2013**.

Those who do not choose an electronic payment option at the time they apply for federal benefits or those who do not switch by the deadline will receive their benefit payments via the **Direct Express® Debit MasterCard®** card, so they will not experience any interruption in payment. If you are already receiving benefit payments electronically you do not need to take action. You will continue to receive your] payment as usual on the payment day.

Having federal benefits paid electronically by **direct deposit** into the bank or credit union account of your choice or into a **Direct Express®** card account is safer, faster and more reliable than receiving paper benefit checks. In 2010, more than 540,000 Treasury-issued checks were reported lost or stolen, and had to be reissued.

With **direct deposit**, the Treasury Department sends an electronic message to your bank or credit union account on your usual payment day with the exact amount of your benefit payment from Social Security, VA or other federal agency. You don’t have to worry about your money being stolen out of your mailbox and there’s no need to make a trip to cash or deposit a check. Plus, it’s better for the environment and saves taxpayer dollars.

### **Don’t Wait – Sign Up Today!/Spread the Word that Signing up for Electronic Payments is Easy!**

To get your benefit payments through **direct deposit**, here’s what you’ll need to have when you sign up:

- The type of account you have (checking or savings)
- Your financial institution’s nine-digit routing transit number that often comes before your account number at the bottom of your checks\* Your checking or savings account number\* *\*This information is often on your personal checks.*

If you prefer the **Direct Express®** card, you can:

- Notify the federal agency, such as the Social Security Administration or Veterans Affairs, of your choice to receive your benefit payments on the card.

Visit [www.GoDirect.org](http://www.GoDirect.org) or call (800) 333-1795.

Once approved, you’ll receive your card in the mail along with a cardholder information packet explaining how to use the card.

For more information, visit [www.GoDirect.org](http://www.GoDirect.org).



## The Avondale Avenue Block Club Needs YOU!

### What is the Avenue District?

The Avenue District is a neighborhood within the Avondale community which has unique assets and challenges. Bounded by Erkenbrecher, Forest, Burnet and Dury Avenues, including Laron, Rockdale, Northern, Wilson and Hearne Avenues, the district is located between Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden and Burnet Avenue Redevelopment. This area is rich in beautiful historic architecture and is home to Rockdale Academy School and St. James AME Zion Church.



**What is a Block Club?** We are a team of residents who have come together to improve our neighborhood by taking action and representing our interest as residents in decisions affecting the Avenue District. Campaigns include:

- District Cleanup and lighting
- Vacant and abandoned properties
- Beautification and landscape.

### What Would You Like to See Happen in the Avenue District?

We need your voice and talents to create a vibrant future for our neighborhood. Participation is needed for new projects, social events, street captains, block watch team and more!

**Please join us for Block Club meetings every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month:**

5:30pm-7:00pm

October 27      November 17\*      December 15\*

\*Holiday meeting dates only

Cincinnati Herald Building  
3440 Burnet Ave  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Community Room  
(park in garage on Northern, walk in rear of building)

For more information contact a block club representative:  
Sheila Holmes Howard- Block Club Chair  
(513) 543-2333 [sholmeshoward@gmail.com](mailto:sholmeshoward@gmail.com)

Dan Smith-559-1280    Vera Miles-281-5984

### Real Estate & More!

Paid Advertisement

#### FOR SALE

- 1721 Carll-N. Fairmount**  
3br. 2ba Ranch w/full bsmt., att. 1-car gar,  
Needs full rehab. I need \$8-10K
- 680 S. Crescent-N. Avondale (S. Fred Shuttlesworth)**  
5br. 2ba, 2165 sf, new roof, paint, windows,  
etc. partial rehab. I need \$28-30K
- 1630 California-Bond Hill**  
3br, 2ba, 2 story, Brick, lg deck, move in cond.  
"Short Sale" I need \$25-30K
- 1525 Ruth-Evanston**  
4br, 1ba, 3 story, Brick, 9' ceilings, move in  
cond. "Short Sale" I need \$15-20K
- 681 Jackson-Lincoln Heights**  
5br, 2ba, split level, 10yrs old, needs full rehab  
(not in MLS) I need \$12-15K
- 1527 Elm St.—Over-the-Rhine**  
3 story comm'l bldg., needs full rehab, zoned  
retail/resid. I need \$18-20K

#### The Next Age of Real Estate is RIGHT NOW!!

Want to make more than 100% commissions?

WE build teams of active agents, local and nation-wide

WE earn continuous residual income bonuses

WE have a built-in retirement pension plan

Don't want to list or sell? OK.  
You can still earn referral commissions/residual bonuses !

**Sheila Holmes Howard, ABR, CNS, CTM**  
Real Estate Consultant  
NEXTAGE ACHIEVE REALTY

513 543 2333-mobile

[sholmeshoward@gmail.com](mailto:sholmeshoward@gmail.com)  
[www.nextageadvantage.com](http://www.nextageadvantage.com)  
[www.sheilaholmeshoward.com](http://www.sheilaholmeshoward.com)

# Renfro Funeral Services



*Don't sacrifice quality for \*low\* price!*

Call 221-4812 Today

**Renfro Funeral Services, Inc.**  
647 Forest Avenue, Avondale  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229

[www.RenfroFuneralService.com](http://www.RenfroFuneralService.com)

Offering New Short-term Financing  
Funeral Packages starting at **\$2995 !**

Renfro Funeral Services now offers short-term, low-interest financing to help families ease the burden of funeral expenses. Credit is no barrier to financing.

Complete funeral services starting at \$2995 includes

- Embalming
- Casket
- Programs
- Limousine

Cremation, Full-Service Custom Funerals and  
Pre-Need Funeral Planning Available

*A Legacy of Excellence since 1921*

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## Dates To Remember

### Avondale Community Council

- Board Meeting—November 1, 2011 6:00 p.m.
- General Body Meeting—November 15, 2011 6:30 p.m.

All meetings held at Avondale Pride Center  
3520 Burnet Avenue

### Avondale Youth Council

- November 1 and 15, 2011 4:30 p.m.

### CPOP (Community Problem Oriented Policing)

- November 8, 2011 10:00 a.m. (Pride Center)

### District 4 Community Meeting

- December 28, 2011 6:30  
held at District 4 4150 Reading Road

Paid Advertisement



**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

**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**

<b>President</b>	Patricia Milton patriciamilton@msn.com	281-4430
<b>Vice-President</b>	Fulton O. Jefferson, Jr.	614-4775
<b>Treasurer</b>	Anthony Moore	293-1559
<b>Secretary</b>	Sheila Holmes Howard	543-2333
<b>Finance Chair</b>	Christie Bryant	702-6999
<b>Membership Chair</b>	Linda Mayfield	325-4188
<b>Trustee</b>	Linda Fairbanks	742-0770
<b>Trustee</b>	Gayle Harden Renfro	886-8475
<b>Trustee</b>	Kelly Tarver	582-1644
<b>Trustee</b>	T. Marche Densen	544-8381
<b>Trustee</b>	Charles Houston	236-7216
<b>Trustee</b>	Christopher Heater	520-0671
<b>Trustee</b>	Terresa Adams	349-1745
<b>Trustee</b>	Earlene Newton	226-2627

**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>Wayne Lippert</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 346A Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3283 Fax: (513) 352-3289 wayne.lippert@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>Amy Murray</b> 801 Plum St. Rm 348 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3640 Fax: (513) 352-4649 amy.murray@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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**Avondale Community Council Staff**

<b>Major Projects Consultant</b>	Bill Witten	646-8944
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<b>District 4 Police</b>	CPOP Supervisor	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