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AVONDALE

COMMUNITY

NEWS

Volume 1/Issue 3, March, 2005

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS:

The Avondale Community Council would like to *thank* outgoing board members Michele Taylor Mitchell, Perry Ward and Fred Thomas for serving multiple terms as ACC Trustees. The three of you have sown positive seeds that will continue to grow. We also thank Robert Pace, Marnita Woolford, Brenda Grier and Mary C. Watkins for their service as Trustees to the Avondale Community.

Thanks to Paul McGhee for his service as past President and to Thaddaus Dawson for stepping up to complete the office of President mid year. *Special thanks* and smiles to Fulton Jefferson Jr. who shows his love for the community by always being somewhere daily on behalf of Avondale!

Super Thanks to Gayle Harden Renfro and Patricia Milton who worked much volunteer overtime and personal

sacrifice to do all it took to get the Community Pride Center open..

Special Thanks for gratis professional services contributed to the Avondale Council in 2004, Mr. Duraid Daas of the Community Design and Development Center, for your extraordinary insight and Community Development skills. Mr. Dwight Tillery, President, CEO of The Center For Closing The Health Gap for your consultations and wisdom. Mr. Marvin Krauss, LPA for legal advice and review of documents. Your gifts made a major difference in our efforts to open the Avondale Community Pride Center

Special Thanks to The Greater Cincinnati Urban League for hosting the Avondale Community Council meetings over the past few

(Continued on Page 2)

“Join An Action Team”

We listened to our residents at the Community forum...Action Teams are being formed as a result of the community Input at the Forum. Come to work and interact with one of the teams that will ensure community participation as we move toward implementation of our Vision plan. Make a decision to work on an Action Team and prepare to see positive change in Avondale!

- **Community Forum Action Committees:** our goal is to partner with individuals, community in groups, institutions and corporations the City of Cincinnati who may currently provide the services we need for Avondale resi-

dents. As advocates for our community we must have continuity, focus and persistence. We must have a large number of residents who will speak, show up or write when we need our voice heard.

- **Economic Development:** Develop the Burnet Avenue, Reading Road at MLK Business Corridor, Avondale Town Center, into viable business districts providing investment opportunities, small business opportunities and increasing goods and services to the residents of Avondale and the 40K employees who work in and around our neighborhood.

- **Housing Development:** Increase home ownership by working with

the abandoned building task force, hold landlords accountable for their properties, and work with building inspectors to increase housing code enforcement in Avondale. Make sure all residents have safe, affordable and sanitary housing.

- **Safety:** Work on programming, which will ensure that all residents are safe within the boundaries of our community. Public Safety is concerned with various elements of crime, environmental protection and public agencies such as Fire and Police departments.

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THANKS

TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS:

years. As our community partner we appreciate your contribution to our efforts in providing meeting space as we work toward implementing the Avondale Vision Plan.

Thanks to the Fidelity Mortgage Company for their donations of furniture to the Avondale Community Pride Center. This donation saved funds that will be used to extend the longevity of the center.

Thanks to all who supported with an ACC membership or sponsorship to Celebrating Family days, The Health Alliance, Children's Hospital, Tri Health, The Cincinnati Zoo and Cincinnati Museum Center. It is important that our institutional

partners support our activities.

To all of you not mentioned here for your participation and support of the ACC in 2004...Thanks!

Now Avondale residents, friends and supporters we need you to make your contribution of time, talent and ideas...come to the General Body meetings. We are making important decisions for the Avondale Community.

Citizens of Avondale

How Long Will You Sleep

Submitted by : *A Citizen of Avondale*

Citizens of Avondale, how long will you sleep as you watch your children, friends or neighbors child die in your community? You act as if business is as usual... one can only imagine what you tell yourselves. What will it take before we hear your cry? How many of our children have to die a violent death at the hand of our own youth? Your silence allows the violence to continue. Why don't the homeowners and churches cry out? Is it because it didn't happen on Sunday or because it's not on my street? If you own or rent any property in Avondale you are responsible for what goes on in Avondale.

We cannot justify living in a community that tolerates criminals because the community does not fight against them as a whole. I know you thought the police would handle it, or the problem would just go away. Keep watching from the sideline and the problem will be in your home soon.

When the police shoot one of our children we are the first to call in local and national leaders. Guess what, you can speak now, act now and be proactive. I can't hear you.

Avondale has over fifty churches with a large group of Sunday worshippers who come in and out of Avondale. Pastors do you attend Community Council meetings? Important decisions are being made that affect the community and your church.

Avondale has over sixteen thousand residents and only a few attend a community meeting on a good Tuesday. Don't you care about property value, safe neighborhoods, our children's education, clean streets, improving our business districts, Burnet Avenue project, or The Avondale Community Pride Center?

Citizens are you waiting for big business and the institutions to come in and make Avondale another Laurel Homes or Hill Crest? If you don't care then continue to do just what you are doing...nothing.

Citizens of Avondale wake up and participate with your Community Council as we implement the Avondale Vision plan.

Show up, volunteer and let's take Pride in our community.

The true power in Avondale is its people. The Community Council represents you even without you. Community Meetings are every third Tuesday at the Community Pride Center at Burnet and Forest at 6:30 p.m. I hope to hear your voice.

In loving Service

A Citizen of Avondale, (very concerned)

FRIENDS OF THE COLLABORATIVE 2005 QUARTERLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Urban League of
Greater Cincinnati
3458 Reading Rd.
5:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.
(Maximum time scheduled)

THURSDAY, APRIL 21
THURSDAY, JULY 21
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

RICHARD S. BIEHL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR—559-5451
CASSANDRA ROBINSON
FRIENDS COORDINATOR—659-43216
DONNA JONES STANLEY
MEETING CONVENER FOR
URBAN LEAGUE—281-9955
FRIENDS COMMITTEE

Who Killed Our Kids? *Unsolved Homicide Exhibit*

Who Killed Our Kids is an organization of families of unsolved homicides who take an active role in trying to find the murderer of their loved ones. Their goal is to

The dead cannot cry out for justice: it is the duty of the living to do so for them

increase public awareness about the unsolved homicides using photos, exhibits, seminars, videos, posters and the offer of rewards. WKOK walks neighborhoods where

homicides occur, use media for continual exposure, and maintain awareness by keeping a "face" on the victim. Who Killed Our Kids believes the world should not dwell on the lives of the killers, but focus on the murder victims. They are not statistics. They were living, breathing human beings whose spirits brought joy to others.

THERE HAVE BEEN 112 UNSOLVED HOMICIDES IN THE LAST 48 MONTHS*

...and the murderers are free, roaming the neighborhoods. The citizens have a right to a safe environment rather than constantly being assaulted by random violence. Few are willing or have the courage to involve themselves in the solution. Fear of retaliation, distrust of police officials, and lack of empathy top the list of turning a blind eye to these slaughters, WKOK hopes to bridge this fear or insensitivity by sharing personal tragedies of permanent loss and encourage, communicate, and develop positive interaction. (*As of Sept. 12, 2004)

WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

WHO KILLED OUR KIDS (WKOK) is presenting a photographic exhibit about unsolved murder victims, their families, and the impact that loss has had on their lives. WKOK hopes to stimulate communication and dialogue,

exploring causes and plausible solutions to the crime epidemic.

Parents of the homicide victims and those who's jobs are directly involved with crime will be scheduled to speak at the larger branch libraries. Please call a branch for more information. Library Tour starting January 12, 2005 at Pleasant Ridge and Completing Exhibit July 1-30 at the Main Library, Downtown.

TOUR SCHEDULE

March Avondale May West End & Madisonville
April Walnut Hills June Price Hill
JULY Main Public Library

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

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CINCINNATI**



**STARTING SALARY \$10.92 PER HOUR AND
37.5 CENTS A MILE, WHILE ON
OFFICIAL TRAVEL.**

40-100 PROJECTED FLEXIBLE HOURS PER MONTH

- BE A UNITED STATES CITIZEN
- BE AT LEAST 18 YERS OF AGE W/HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENCY
- HAVE A VALID DRIVER LICENSE AND AUTOMOBILE
- HAVE A PRIVATE HOME TELEPHONE
- BE AVAILABLE FOR DAY, EVENING AND WEEKEND WORK (HOURS ARE FLEXIBLE)
- MAY USE A LAPTOP COMPUTER
- PASS A WRITTEN TEST

TO QUALIFY

281-4414



You must up at the sign Avondale Community Pride center for the testing and training to take place in Avondale, there must be at least 20 people to sign up here.

Equal opportunity employer

Meeting Space Available Avondale

**Community Pride Center
3520 Burnet Ave (Burnet & Forest)**

\$50.00 for 2 hours, \$25.00 every hour after first two hours. Conference room available during the day for up to 15 people. Open space, evening meeting for up to a maximum of 50 people.

Reservation must be made minimum of 2 days in advance during regular business hours.

**Payment due in advance.
NO EXCEPTIONS**

AGING ISSUES

By: Sandra M. Jones & Alexis Webster

When I think about our elders, I cannot help but think of their humble beginnings. I think about all of the hardships they faced and how their shared history, both written and oral has shaped the society that we live in today. We must, as a community, come to the realization that Afro-American history is about so much more than just something to talk about once a year during Black History Month. We must find ways to incorporate the stories, the achievements, the history, and the importance of all that has come before so that our children, our grandchildren, and the future generations have a rich tapestry to enfold themselves in and to keep them going during times of frustration and duress.

African Americans must come to the sense that when times are good and life is handing them opportunity and riches beyond belief, they must reach back and reach down to help others. It has unfortunately been a fact that when Blacks are riding the wave of good fortune, they tend to align themselves with other cultures and ignore the very society that produced them. A classic example of this is the life of Jack Jackson.

Mr. Johnson was a boxer who rose to the top of the boxing world. However, instead of helping the poor, the humble, the impoverished people he came from, Mr. Johnson chose instead to cling to the White people he thought were more like what he wanted to be. All during his career, Jack Johnson shunned Black society and chose to believe that he belonged in different circles. However, the reality was that when Mr. Johnson passed on, the people he thought were his friends, his supporters, his compatriots failed to attend his funeral. Instead, the Black folks that he had ignored came to pay their respects to him. They lined the streets through which his funeral motorcade passed and they cheered his achievements because when all was said and done, they recognized that a Black man had changed the world in his own way.

We must, each and every one of us, make time to sit with our elders and listen to their stories. We need to write them down, to tape record them, to insist that our children sit at the feet of these Lions and learn everything they remember. Learn everything they know, and learn firsthand from the people who lived history about our history. When the last elder in your family has gone to their reward, there will be no way to ever regain what they had to teach us. It is vital to our families, our society, and the world that these memories be preserved in a way that will enrich future generations forever. Take the time to sit, to listen, to ask questions, to immerse yourself and your chil-

dren in the living histories that are the Elders in your family, your neighborhood, your world. Do not let these resources pass onto their rewards without rewarding you with their lives.

YOU KNOW THE ISSUE SO-ACT!



THREE SQUARE MUSIC FOUNDATION
The Empowerment Zone
Presents

**Youth Connections
Information Fair 2005**
Friday, April 1, 2005
9am until 12pm
At The Bush Recreation Center
2640 Kemper Lane in Walnut Hills

For youth ages 13-21 residing in:
**Avondale • Clifton • Corryville • Mt. Auburn
Over-the-Rhine • West End • Queensgate • Walnut Hills**

Youth Connections is a one-day information fair to learn about:

- ▶ Summer enrichment programs for youth
- ▶ Explore volunteer and employment opportunities
- ▶ Educational Opportunities

• Registration required • All youth 13-16 years of age must be accompanied by a parent/guardian • Professional Attire - required

Three Square Music Foundation at 513/281-0884



GET CONNECTED!

GET HIRED

Job Search Basics Workshop Series
Designed to improve your job search skills and get you hired

Other services offered: Employment consultation, application assistance, resume development, interview preparation, job leads, and placement assistance

YOUTH CONNECTION



*JOIN THE
Avondale
Community Council
For
“2005”*

(Continued from Page 1)

Join An Action Team

- Health & Human Services:** Develop a working plan of community wide collaboration for sound delivery of social services to individuals families, children and senior citizens.
- Recreation:** Identify funding and advocate for neighborhood softball, football and basketball teams. Seeking funding and design for an indoor pool and fitness center expansion at Hirsch Recreation Center
- Education:** Partner with the University of Cincinnati and others to ensure that our schools provide quality education for our students. Identify programs that can work with parents and children to strengthen the academic success of our children.
- Land Use and Zoning:** Develop a comprehensive land use plan, with specific uses of properties in residential, commercial, industrial and recreational areas. Research a set of design standards, exterior façade, and signage for businesses that wish to exist in Avondale. Work with building inspectors to make sure codes are enforced.
- Church & Spiritual Connection:** Work with the Avondale Community Outreach (ACC Church outreach organization) to communicate with the large number of churches in Avondale. To identify their outreach services to the community. Recruit a representative from each church to attend council meetings and participate in ACC activities.
- Fundraising:** Identify funding sources to implement the Vision plan, Petition city, county and state, private corporations, major institutions, churches. Implement a capital fundraising plan.
- The Avondale Voice:** This group will read newspapers, attend or watch City Council meetings, City Council committee meetings etc. to identify issues relevant to the Avondale Community Council and make sure we have current relevant information and data to make community decisions. To be able to take quick action on issues that affect the residents of Avondale. This group will activate the community through e-mail, telephone chains ect. To mobilize the community when we need a loud voice for issues.

Residents: If you are willing to participate in the Avondale Voice, please send your address and telephone number and e-mail address if you have one. You do not have to be a member of the Council to participate. You just need to be willing to make a call or write a letter when we call you to action.

DATES TO REMEMBER

<p>ACC Avondale Community Council</p> <p>Board meetings, 1st Tuesday of each month , March 1, 2005</p> <p>General Body meetings, 3rd Tuesday of each month , March 15, 2005 6:30 pm—8:00 pm</p> <p>Avondale Pride Center 3520 Burnet Ave. (Burnet & Forest)</p>	<p>CPOP Community Problem Orientating Policing March 8 & 29, at 6:00 p.m. Avondale Pride Center</p> <p>◆</p> <p>TCM The Community Meeting March 10 & 24, 2:00 p.m. at Brew House</p> <p>◆</p> <p>ABA Avondale Business Association 2nd Monday of each Month March 14, 6:30 p.m. Avondale Pride Center 3520 Burnet Ave. (Burnet & Forest)</p>
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Coming This Spring...To the Avondale Community

The MORTGAGE SCHOOL
Presented by Fidelity Mortgage Inc.

Seminar attendees
can win prizes while they learn

Ever wanted to know more about mortgages? Want to learn how to buy a home or how to better manage your existing mortgage? Then you should register now for this seminar that is informative, **FUN** and its **FREE** to the public.

Register now for a learning experience that you will never forget. For information about upcoming seminars call Tonja Williams at 513-985-1383 or visit us at www.fidelitymtge.com

Residents Organizing Meeting

It's Time to take back the neighborhood
Tired of living in substandard conditions?

Tired of Litter, Noise, and Crime
You **DON'T** have to put up with it!
Make Avondale a Neighborhood of Choice

Come to the Avondale 360^o Meeting
Thursday March 3, 2005, 6:00 p.m.

Avondale Community Pride Center
(In old A-1 Big Dollar on corner of Burnet and Forest)

GET \$10.00 OFF A CAR SEAT

Are you in need of a car seat for your infant or toddler or a booster seat for your child ages 4-9?

The Injury Free Coalition for Kids (IKCK) is providing a limited supply of discount coupons that offer \$10 off a car seat at **Babies R Us**. The coupons are valid through the end of April

To obtain a coupon or if you have questions regarding child passenger safety or how to properly install your car seat, please contact Talicia McNealy, IFCK Coordinator, at 636-7903 or via e-mail at Talicia.mcnealy@cchmc.org

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**ANYONE THAT WANTS
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MUST HAVE YOUR
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ADVERTISEMENT
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NO LATER THEN
THE 2nd FRIDAY
OF THE
PREVIOUS MONTH**

Burton Kids Receive National Recognition

By: *Ozie Davis III MS, JD*

Avondale is very proud to announce that two of our students had their poems published in a national magazine. For the first time in the history of KIDZ, magazine two submissions from the same school were selected. The proud Burton students are **Donneshia Mitchell**, whose poem graced the magazine front cover and **Latrice Wil-**

There Will Be Days

By Donneshia Mitchell, age 11
Ms. Collins 6th grade class

There will be days when the sun shines bright
Days nothing goes wrong and everything's alright.
There will days when you're in a great sorrow,
Days you only live for the promise of tomorrow.
There will be days when the time goes fast,
Days you feel energized and heartaches are past.
There will be days when time goes slow,
Days you feel so down and lose your flow.
Things happen all the time in different places in
different ways.
So expect the unexpected... There Will Be Days!

Don't Do Drugs

By Latrice Williams, age 11
6th grade

Don't do drugs. It's bad for you.
It's very bad and thought you knew.
Right before you know it, you have cancer too.
I tried to tell you, drugs are bad for you.

Now that you know that I was telling the truth
Hopefully you'll remember what to do.



Latrice Williams and Donneshia Mitchell

Just refuse to do what they ask you to do.
Because as you know, drugs are bad for you

Just say, "no" and walk away.
Do the right thing every ay.
Be drug free, that's the way!


**Uptown Transportation Study
PUBLIC MEETING**

Affecting those who **live, work, visit** or **have an interest** in the communities of **Avondale, Clifton, Clifton Heights, Corryville, East Walnut Hills, Evanston, Fairview/University Heights, Mt. Auburn, North Avondale** and **Walnut Hills.**

Please Join Us

Thursday, March 3, 2005, 4 p.m.—7 p.m.
(open house format, feel free to stop by any time between these hours)

Carmel Presbyterian Church
3549 Reading Road, Cin., Oh 45229

Why should I attend?  **Town**
Transportation decisions impact your community, neighborhoods and your wallet. Help us develop the transportation goals and objectives for the Uptown

Contact OKI Regional Council of Governments 621-6300 ext. 136

WHERE DO WE GROW FROM HERE?

**Wednesday
March 9,
2005
7-9 PM**

**Hamilton County
OKI Regional
Council of
Governments
720 E. Pete Rose
Way, Ste. 420
Cincinnati, Ohio
45202**

for more info visit
www.oki.org

“Where Do We Grow From Here?” is a public meeting about the future of growth in the Greater Cincinnati region.

Don't miss your chance to shape the future for regional land use and transportation.

Take charge...
It's Your Region.

Bring your ideas...
It's Your Future.

Your Voice Matters.

PUBLIC MEETING DATES:

March 1, 2005, 7-9 p.m.—Warren County
Warren County Administration Building
406 Justice Drive • Lebanon, Ohio 45036

March 2, 2005, 7-9 p.m.—Boone County
Ryle High School
10379 Highway 42 • Union, Kentucky 41091

March 3, 2005, 7-9 p.m.—Clermont County
Clermont College Auditorium
4200 Clermont College Drive • Batavia Ohio 45103

March 8, 2005, 7-9 p.m.—Kenton County
Summit View Middle School
502 Madison Pike • Independence, Kentucky 41051

March 9, 2005, 7-9 p.m.—Hamilton County
OKI Regional Council of Governments
720 East Pete Rose Way, Suite 420 • Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

March 10, 2005, 7-9 p.m.—Butler County
Butler County Government Services Center, 4th Floor
315 High Street • Hamilton, Ohio 45011

March 15, 2005, 7-9 p.m.—Campbell County
Campbell County Cooperative Extension Service
3500 Alexandria Pike • Highland Heights, Kentucky 41075

March 16, 2005, 7-9 p.m.—Dearborn County
Perfect North Slopes
10074 Perfect Lane • Lawrenceburg, Indiana 47124

OKI
Ohio - Kentucky - Indiana
Regional Council of Governments

**AVONDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL/
PRIDE CENTER
3520 Burnet Ave.
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45229**

NON-PROFIT ORGANITION
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FOR CURRENT RESIDENT OR

**Phone: 513-281-4414
513-281-5999
Fax: 513-281-0216
Email: avondalecouncil5@aol.com
Web-Site: www.avondalecouncil.org**

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