

Avondale Community News

Volume 1/Issue 1

January 2009

Avondale Community Workforce Initiative (A.C.W.I.)

Several Avondale agencies are working together to prepare residents for jobs located in Avondale. The Urban League, Great Oaks Health Academy, Life Skills and Cincinnati Works make up the workforce team and the Mt. Auburn Community Council and the Avondale Community Council are sponsoring the Learn and Earn Program. Bill Witten, Avondale's major Project Consultant, has been working closely with employers River City Furniture, Children's Medical Center and Sodexo.

The first step for residents seeking employment is to complete an application at the Avondale Community Pride Center (located at 3520 Burnet Ave.) The Urban League will work with residents who have a prior work history as well as those starting out in the workforce. Residents are offered the choice of two programs; Solid Opportunities for Advancement and Retention (SOAR) and Accelerated Call Center Education (ACE). Great Oaks Health Academy will provide a 5 week training session in Nursing Assistant and Patient Care Assistant. They also offer a 12 week



Health Unit Coordinator program. At Life Skills students receive an Individualized Academic and Career Plan that guides them through the technology-based curriculum aligned to states standards on their path to a high school diploma. Each student completes coursework at their own pace with the help of highly qualified, licensed teachers. Cincinnati Works is convening a network of employers specifically to help the hard to serve residents. This program is geared toward non-violent

felons. The Earn to Learn program is handled differently by each agency. The key to receiving the money from the Earn to Learn program is to be a resident of Avondale and completion of a program.

After completion of a program the resident is matched with a position at one of the employers listed above. Their application is hand delivered by a representative from the program to the appointed person assigned to work with A.C.W.I. An interview is scheduled within a week between the resident and the prospective employer.

A.C.W.I. will provide employment support by doing a 4 week job visit. The contact will speak with the resident and the employer separately to find out if there are any problems and if so how they can be resolved. Job visits will happen at 3 and 6 months with the last visit after one year on the job. The initial position will most likely be an entry level position. This position should be used as a stepping stone for advancement with the company.



Avondale Community Council will hold an A.C.W.I. information session later this month. Please call 513-281-4414 for more information.

Avondale Youth Council Newsletter

Joseph Malek, Editor

January 2009

Avondale Youth Council

Happy New Years to all the readers! The Avondale Youth Council (AYC) is looking forward to doing a lot this year, from cleaning the environment and taking action in helping others to preventing violence in Avondale. Also, the AYC plans to work harder to receive more awards this year.

Throughout 2008, the Avondale Youth Council had many opportunities to attend sporting events like the Bengal's, Cyclone's, and a couple of Red's games.

As part of the Anti-Litter Campaign, AYC participated in the Rumpke competition where one community in Cincinnati could win \$4,000 for giving the most recycle bins away. Avondale did not win but the AYC gave away a lot of bins away to the people in Avondale. So thanks to all the people who got a recycle bin and supported us!

During Thanksgiving, the Avondale Running Club bought five Thanksgiving baskets for the Youth Council. The AYC gave the baskets to some of the youth and their families of the Youth Council who were having family struggles.

On December 22, 2008, the Avondale Youth Council had a dinner with the police officers to thank them for all they do for our community. The AYC also had a Holiday Party to celebrate Christmas and New Years with their friends and family. It was held on December 29, 2008. Also in December, the AYC created posters to show the work that they all did for the Avondale Community Garden, the Marketing team's trip to Columbus, and about all other projects, including CeaseFire Youth Group, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and the Great American Clean Up. These posters were presented to the Place Matters Funders.

Next year, some of the youth in the older members Avondale Youth Council will be taking swimming and lifeguard classes. They will have a chance to work at either the new Hirsh Recreation Center pool, or another pool in the city. Other members of the AYC may work at McDonald's. The Youth met Mrs. Booth, who owns six Mc Donald's in Cincinnati and she offered potential opportunities at her stores for AYC youth.

The Avondale Community Garden will be opened early around February or March. The AYC will be planting seeds to grow more produce than last year, and to grow them early.

The Avondale History Committee is continuing to gather information on Avondale's churches, they're deciding whether to make a book, sell note cards, or other options.

The Snack Shack (AYC's Candy Store) will be back in business, within the next few months.

On January 19, 2009, the AYC will be walking in the Martin Luther King Parade. They will be in front, holding the Avondale Youth Council banner. The parade will start at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center and end at Music Hall.

Thank you for reading! Look for more information on the Youth Council to come!



Living Life on Purpose

By Sandra Jones

Mrs. Daisy Johnson is an amazing woman and demonstrates her passion each and every week when she opens her doors to serve her friends. She is always smiling and welcoming to whoever walks through the door. She and her family are true disciples; they have opened their hearts and have allowed God to use them to help His people. The Community Rescue Center has been in operation for over 30 years, serving the residents of Greater Cincinnati. The faith-based program has done so without any funding from the federal or state government. They believe having a spiritual attitude and faith keeps them in perfect peace.

The Community Rescue Center has been a blessing to so many people by lifting their self esteem and their ability to connect with additional services. Mrs. Johnson has prayer before serving her friends, just to reinforce the love she has for them and the love of



God. Her favorite saying is "I shall pass this way but once, therefore any good that I can do, any kindness I can show, let me do it now for I shall not pass this way again." The doors of the Community Rescue Center are open every Wednesday through Friday from 10:30 until 3:30 with prayer services beginning at noon. The Center provides clothing, food, furniture and encouragement.

The Community Rescue Center will be breaking ground for their new facility in March 2009. They will continue to serve from a trailer parked on the lot of New Friendship Baptist Church. If you would like to be a blessing to the Community Rescue Center please make your donations to the CRC, 725 Whittier Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45229 or call Mrs. Daisy Johnson at (513) 221-6246.

Paid Advertisement

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Real Estate & More
Sheila Holmes Howard, ABR, CTM, Realtor®
513-543-2333-cell
shhoward@cinci.rr.com

First Agency Group Real Estate Services
513-842-8834-efax
Selling Homeownership Happiness!

Real Estate Listings: www.sheilaholmeshoward.com
3493 Wilson Ave Avondale \$120,000 Short Sale, Assumable loan 11-unit apt. bldg.
(3-4br, 4-2br, 4-1br) Vacant, Sec 8 approved. Needs upgrades. Make an offer today!

292 Mohawk Ave Over-the-Rhine \$63,000 3br,1.5ba, 8yr old home, updated, new carpets & appliances. 1-car attached garage. Tax abatement until 2018.

Selling Homeownership Happiness!

****DEBT-FREE in Rapid Time****

United First Financial (UFirst) www.payitfaster.com/sheila

Pay off your mortgage and/or all debt in less than 1/2 to 1/3 the time without increasing your mortgage payments or refinancing current mortgage. Using the Money Merge Account System (MMA), it tells you when to pay and what to pay to eliminate interest, pay off debt and create wealth. Contact me for a **FREE ANALYSIS**.

****INSTANT RESIDUAL INCOME with LIGHTYEAR WIRELESS ****

www.mywirelessrep.com/sheilaholmeshoward.com

Imagine getting paid up to 10% monthly on the wireless phone bill of everyone YOU know and up to 4% per month on the wireless bill of everyone THEY know! Operate your own Online Wireless Store. Work from home, f/t or p/t. Wireless phones, single & family plans offered.

\$7500 FEDERAL TAX CREDIT for 2008-2009 Qualified Homebuyers

The Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 authorizes a \$7500 tax credit if you purchase a home between 4/9/08 to 7/1/09. For more details: www.federalhousingtaxcredit.com.

*Recap of 2008
Avondale Community Council Activities
And Accomplishments*

By Carla Butler

In 2008, the following activities have benefited the Avondale community to improve the overall quality of life in Avondale. By prioritizing the community's vision plan, the ACC put public safety in the forefront. CeaseFire has made a significant difference in Avondale. There has been a 60.3% reduction in serious gun crime by firearm and a 68.0% reduction in serious gun crime by firearm with injury in comparing the first quarter of 2006 to the first quarter of 2008. The 2nd anniversary of CeaseFire was celebrated on September 25th-28th, 2008. The weekend consisted of a Motorcycle and Scooter Ride for Peace/Prayer Walk & Candlelight Vigil, Stop the Gun Violence Festival and Ministers from Avondale will preached a message of peace on Sunday. The overall affect of the program has brought hundreds of citizens out to participate in various events and overall crime states in the neighborhood are significantly down. We contribute the decrease to the community interest in and participation in CeaseFire and our relationship with District 4 Police officers. Gun violence is not an acceptable way to solve problems.

Place Matters is a community driven collaborative effort. The 3 year funding commitment to invest in comprehensive community initiatives by the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, LISC, NeighborWorks, PNC Bank, Sisters of Charity and United Way is unique. Thy synergy of community leadership, resident participation, technical assistance, and dollars to develop and implement projects gives Avondale place matters the opportunity to make measurable, sustainable changes to improve our community.

The second priority for the community is health care. Partnering with the Center for Closing the Health Gap, a PlaceMatters project; the Do Right! Campaign was initiated to address the obesity epidemic. The mission of the Do Right! Campaign is to empower communities to improve nutrition and increase physical activity among families. The program continues to educate and empower residents making the community more aware of the importance of improving nutrition and physical activity. The Steering Committee made up of residents and partners from city, institutions, and social agencies meets monthly to plan and implement activities to further the program.

The working groups examined current health related programs and a health survey to assess the current health status, access to care, and utilization of health services for racially and ethnically diverse residents in the Avondale Community. Surveys were administered to residents between November 2007 and February 2008 at 13 venues including, but not limited to schools, food markets, churches, and convenience stores. Four hundred and seventeen (417) Avondale Community residents ranging in age from 18 to 87 completed surveys. The State of Avondale Health report was reported to the community by Dr. Monica Mitchell, of Innovations. The report will be used to plan activities tailored to our residents interests and needs.

The Do Right! Campaign has teamed up with the Avondale Running Club (ARC) to create walking paths throughout Avondale. In January ACC and ARC held a program on how to take steps to become healthy. Activities included urban walking safety tips, how to dress to walk year round and eating for walking. The running club signed up new members, moved their meeting location to the Avondale Community Pride Center and walk the 2nd and 4th Saturdays from the Center.

This year Avondale held two health fairs. Both contained health screenings such as prostate exams, HIV/AIDS testing, nutrition tips and food demonstrations. The combined fairs had approximately 3000 people in attendance.

Received 2 grants from Keep Cincinnati Beautiful Safe and Clean program. The grants were written to assist the business owners on Vine Street with their facades and beautification of the Avondale Community Pride Center.

It is our goal to preserve the history of the community. A small grant was given to the Avondale Youth Council to begin to document the history of Avondale. The youth focused on photographing and collecting the history of the 52 churches in Avondale. In 2009 they will create a timeline containing the development of Avondale and the history of the 3 business districts.

Every Child Succeeds has a program to empower Avondale moms and their babies through home visits that help first-time parents create a nurturing, healthy environment for their children. Home visits, which take place from the time of pregnancy through the child's third birthday, are designed to ensure an optimal start for children both physically and emotionally. Place Matters launched the Every Child Succeeds Pantry for residents of Avondale who have children from 0-3. The pantry offers a wide variety of items free to Avondale Moms

The Community Pride Center was selected as an , IT Village program site. Youth were selected, trained and given free computers upon completion of the program.

The ACC also held the following events in 2008: in partnership with the Masons we provided access to Thanksgiving baskets. Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CEPTED) projects done with small grants for homeowners throughout the community. Maintained the Avondale Youth Council with over 100 youth and a waiting list to enter the AYC. Our youth were employed in the neighborhood with a grant from the Uptown Consortium and participated in the planning and implementation of all neighborhood activities. The ABA continued to develop a neighborhood workforce with residents being hired to work on Burnet Revitalization and other projects. Working with the Kettering foundation to begin a conversation around education and how we can support our neighborhood schools toward academic excellence.

The ACC will continue to negotiate with the city and institutions on all future projects for Community Benefits Contracts to ensure the Avondale community receives meaningful benefits for all future projects in our community with no exceptions. And So Much More. **We need your help. Volunteer ... Join us today!**



Check This Out!

**U.S. Census Bureau
Now Hiring!**



The U. S. Census Bureau is hiring in your community and will begin operations for conducting the 2010 Census. This is an exciting opportunity to enhance your job skills, further your career and improve your community! Call toll free at 1-866-861-2010 or go to: www.census.gov/detroit for more information on how to apply.

Jobs include office staff and field staff with pay scales ranging from \$8.25 to \$19.50 per hour.



THINK AND GROW RICH

Over the years, many people have benefited from the use of Napoleon Hill's classic work—

Think and Grow Rich.

An opportunity is available for a small group of participants over a ten week period, to explore and learn how to apply the skills revealed in Hill's book. Increased wealth, improved health, and improved personal relationships are just three of the outcomes people have experienced as a result of learning and applying the methods Hill explains.

The formation meeting will be January 14, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. for all interested persons. Contact the Avondale Community Council Pride Center at 281-5999 to sign up.



**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

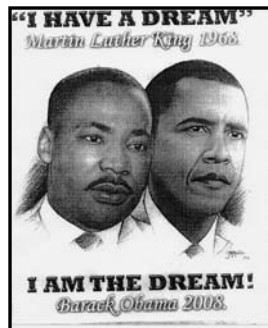
We are here with you.

513-281-9955
www.gcul.org



3458 Reading Road
Cincinnati, OH 45229

Paid Advertisement



*Celebrating the Dreamer and the Dream
Martin Luther King, Jr.
January 15, 1929—April 4, 1968*

*Barack Obama
Inauguration
January 20, 2008*

**Sharing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s
Dream of One Nation**

Interfaith Vesper Hour

January 11, 2009
5:00 p.m.

Zion Baptist Church
630 Glenwood Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45229

Featured speaker
The Honorable Jeffery P. Hopkins,
United States Bankruptcy Judge
With special guest
The CSO Nouveau Chamber Players

751-8608 x10 for information

Avondale Community Council Membership

Please print

Name _____ *Date* _____

Address _____ *Apt.* _____

City, State, Zip _____ *Phone.* _____

Type of Membership: Business / Church \$100 _____ *Family \$8* _____ *Individual \$5* _____

Group \$25 _____ *(Block Clubs/Sports Teams/Tenant Associations)*

Lifetime: Family \$125 _____ *Individual \$75* _____

Make check or money order payable to : Avondale Community Council
3520 Burnet Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45229

Avondale Branch Public Library
3566 Reading Road (513) 369-4440

BINGO!—Ages 6 to 12
Monday, January 5th @ 3:30 p.m.
Win school supplies or snacks.



Get Moving—Ages 5 to 12
Tuesday, January 6th, 13th & 27th @ 4:00 p.m.
Get moving with fun activities and a healthy snack

Video Game Day—Ages 12 to 18
Thursday, January 8th & 15th @ 3:00 p.m.
Join us for Mario Kart fun and a snack.

Video Game Day—Ages 6 to 12
Monday January 12th @ 4:00 p.m.
Join us for Mario Kart and a fun snack.

Celebrate MLK Day! All ages
Monday, January 19th @ 3:00 p.m. with Michael Goecke.

Business Beginnings—Ages 12 to 18
Tuesday, January 20th @ 3:00 p.m.
A workshop on saving, investing and wisely using money.

Anime Club—Ages 12 to 18
Thursday January 22nd @ 3:00 p.m. & Saturday,
January 24th at 2:00 p.m.
Watch your favorite Japanese Anime series, talk about your favorite manga and enjoy a snack.

Board Games—Ages 6 to 12
Monday January 26th @ 3:30 p.m.

**Neighborhood
Fitness Walk**
1– 1½ hrs.

7:30 a.m.

**1st and 3rd
Saturdays**

**Avondale
Community Pride
Center
3520 Burnet
Avenue**



**AVONDALE
RUNNING CLUB**

Cincinnati, Ohio
www.avondalerunningclub.com

Runners & Walkers

Monthly Club Meeting
1st Saturday, 9:00 Am

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

ACC
 Avondale Community Council
 Board meeting
January 6, 6:30 p.m.
 General Body meeting,
January 20, 6:30
 Pride Center

CPOP
 Community Problem
 Orientating Policing
January 19, 6:00 p.m.
 Pride Center

Ceasefire
Steering Committee
January 8, 9:30 a.m.
 Pride Center

◆
AYC
 Avondale Youth Council
January 6 and 20, 4:30
 Pride Center

◆
District 4
 Community Meeting
January 21, 6:30
 District 4

Cincinnati Recreation Commission

Hirsch Center
751-3393
Monday-Friday 9am-9pm

YOUTH (5-12yrs old)

- ▶ After School Daycamp 2pm-6pm
- ▶ After-school drop-in 2pm-6pm
- ▶ Snack program daily
- ▶ Indoor Soccer
- ▶ Kickball
- ▶ Theatre Arts & Crafts
- ▶ Computer Lab

TEENS (13-17yrs old)

- ▶ Teen Hours 6pm-8pm Mon.-Thursday
- ▶ Computer Lab 6pm-8pm Mon. Wed. & Fri.

ADULTS & SENIOR (18-49 yrs old)

- ▶ Free Tai Chi, Mon. Wed. & Fri. 9am-11am
- ▶ Free Yoga, Tues. & Thurs. 11am-1pm
- ▶ Walking Program Mon. Wed & Fri. 11am-1pm
- ▶ Open Gym Daily 12pm-2pm

MATURE ADULTS (50 and over)

- ▶ Weight room & Exercise Daily 9am-12pm

Black History Classes (Adults)
Resume January 5th
Monday and Wednesday monthly
6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

North Avondale Center
961-1584

YOUTH (5-12 yrs. Old)

- ▶ After School program M- F 2:15pm-6:00pm \$120 per month
- ▶ Bridge Gap Program M-F 2:15pm-4:30pm \$ 75 per month
- ▶ Drop In 3:00pm-4:30pm FREE
- ▶ Karate T & TH 5:00p.m.-6:00p.m. \$40
- ▶ Basketball

Registration info available end of September

5-7 Year old Instructional League (games on Monday)

8-9 Year old Instructional League (games on Monday)

3rd—8th grade Competitive (Boys & Girls) Leagues
 (weekend games)

Basketball Registration Parent Meeting Wed. Oct. 8th 6:00 p.m.

TEENS (13-17 yrs old)

- ▶ Open Gym Basketball M, W, F 6:30-8:30 pm Free
- ▶ Teens til Ten Friday October 3rd 6:30-10p.m.
- ▶ Haunted House outing October 24th
- ▶ Karate T & TH 5:00-6:00 p.m. \$40 per month

ADULTS & SENIOR (18-49)

- ▶ Karate T & TH 5:00-6:00 p.m. \$40 per month
- ▶ Knitting M 11:00a.m.-1:30p.m. FREE
- ▶ Line Dancing, Mon. & Wed. 10am-11:30am FREE
- ▶ Open Gym Basketball M, W, F 6:30p.m.-8:30p.m. FREE
- ▶ Tai Chi TH 6:00-7:00pm FREE
- ▶ Yoga M & Wed. 6-7pm FREE

Center Hours

Monday—Friday
 9:30am-8:00pm
 Saturday Noon-2pm

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID Cincinnati, OH Permit #3455
--

FOR CURRENT RESIDENT OR

**Phone: 513-281-4414
513-281-5999
Fax: 513-281-0884**

**E-mail: avondalecouncil5@aol.com
avondalebusiness@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	Leah Dennis	281-3149
Secretary	Earlene Newton	226-2627
Finance Chair	Terresa Adams	675-9217
Planning Chair		
Membership Chair	Fulton O. Jefferson Jr.	614-4775
Trustee	Curtis Cooper	258-7597
Trustee	Christie Bryant	702-6999
Trustee	Ishaq Nadir	607-3538
Trustee	Sheila Holmes Howard	543-2333
Trustee	Jerome Manigan	

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
Vice Mayor David Crowley 801 Plum St. Rm 352 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-2453 Fax: (513) 352-2365 david.crowley@cincinnati-oh.gov	Chris Bortz 801 Plum St. Rm 348 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3255 Fax: (513) 3264 chris.bortz@cincinnati-oh.gov

Avondale Community Council Staff

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

Jeff Berding 801 Plum St. Rm 350 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3283 Fax: (513) 352-3289 jeff.berding@cincinnati-oh.gov	Leslie Ghiz 801 Plum St. Rm 354 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3499 Fax: (513) 352-3277 leslie.ghiz@cincinnati-oh.gov
--	---

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

John Cranley 801 Plum St. Rm 356 Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-5303 Fax: (513) 352-4657 john.cranley@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
Chris Monzel 801 Plum St. Rm 346B Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3653 Fax: (513) 352-4649 chris.monzel@cincinnati-oh.gov	Roxanne Qualls 801 Plum St. Rm 346A Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: (513) 352-3604 Fax: (513) 352-3621 roxanne.qualls@cincinnati-oh.gov