



September 2019: Issue 8

## Meet Your Neighbor!

For September we reached out to our neighbor Kelly Wanstrath to learn a little about her and her work as a green house manager.

### 1- Tell us a little about yourself, where did you grow up, your background, your career or volunteer roles.

I'm originally from Cincinnati, and I work at Cincinnati State as the Green House Manager. I get to make plants and influence students!

### 2- Why did you choose Northside to live in?

I've been in the neighborhood for 15 years. When I moved here it was a creative community and it was a better place to raise my son than Over-the-Rhine or Brighton where I was previously living.

### 3- What is a weird or quirky interesting fact about you?

I am a plant addict! What I'm growing right now is an amorphaphallus – also known as the corpse plant. It's the largest flower in the world and smells like a dead body when it blooms, once every 7-10 years. The leaves alone on my plant are between 12-15 feet tall right now.

### 4- What is your greatest hope for our neighborhood or something you would like to see more of?

It would be great if people in the neighborhood cleaned up sources of standing water around their homes to reduce the mosquitoes in the neighborhood!



Pictured: Sidewalk view of Kelly's beautiful garden.

## Call for Nominations!

Northside Community Council is seeking new recruits for January's board elections. Several officer positions and director seats are up for election. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone you know, please send nominations to [membership@northsidecouncil.com](mailto:membership@northsidecouncil.com).

The following positions will be on the ballot:

- President
- Treasurer
- Board Secretary
- Membership Secretary
- Communications
- Board Director (2)

## NCC August Meeting Highlights

### Police Report:

- Call 513-765-1212 to report potential children who are truant.
- Knowlton's Tavern will be closed for a year as a result of a nuisance charge.
- D5 is communicating traffic concerns to Traffic and Engineering.
- Residents can register their security/surveillance cameras on the CPD website.

### McKie Report

- 5 spots remaining in all day Pre-K, \$250/week but accepting voucher program

### AARP Exercise Equipment

- AARP chose Hoffner Park as the only site for exercise equipment in the state of Ohio.
- Ribbon-cutting was August 10<sup>th</sup> with city council members and representatives from AARP.

### Northside Diversity and Inclusion

- Tim'm West spoke about his efforts to form a new coalition of Black residents and business owners, with the desire to increase engagement and representation in the neighborhood. To join, contact [braveeducator@gmail.com](mailto:braveeducator@gmail.com)

### Announcements from the Floor

- Vietnam Veterans attempting to make contact with the Ronald Collins family; desire is to get an assessment of the family's needs following the storm damage in June on Kirby/Virginia Ave.
- Wesleyan Cemetary: Volunteer opportunity to clean up the cemetary, contact Fred Neurohr for more information [vicepresident@northsidecouncil.com](mailto:vicepresident@northsidecouncil.com)
- Wave Pool resident artist hosting a neighborhood pick-up basketball game, Thursday 8/22 at Camp Washington courts from 6-8pm
- Kathy Dodson, on behalf of Village Green/Mobo: Looking for board members; applications available online via Facebook
- Joe Vechner, on behalf of Village Green: Event coming up, Author Ben Cohen having a seed-saving talk from 2-4pm on Sunday, 8/25

## Community Budget Requests

Every two years the city collects budget requests from all 52 neighborhoods to be considered in the following year's budget. In 2018 Northside took a collaborative approach to generate ideas from the neighborhood. NCC reviewed all of the ideas for feasibility and alignment with the City's plan. The final three requests were presented at a Northside Community Council meeting and voted on by the community. The ideas were as follows: 1) Upgrades to playground equipment in Hoffner Park and additional adult exercise equipment. 2) Installation of bat boxes to sustain the bat population and curb mosquitos 3) Design and creation of wayfinding connecting the Mill Creek Trail to the Business District and the new Metro Hub. The city reviewed all of the requests and agreed to fund the Hoffner Park improvements and Wayfinding.

If you have suggestions for 2020 Community Budget Requests, or ideas for how to improve the process, please email them to [communications@northsidecouncil.com](mailto:communications@northsidecouncil.com).

## Northside Porch Tour

With the 13<sup>th</sup> Porch Tour coming up, we revisit a 2012 article in the Cincinnati Enquirer written by Tim Jeckering. The 2019 Porch Tour will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> 6-9pm. The carriage tour departs from the Children's Park.

### IDEAS IN ACTION

*Cincinnati Enquirer, Sunday Oct 12, 2012*

# Porch Tour builds our community



Tim  
**JECKERING**

*Tim Jeckering is past president of the Northside Community Council.*

I came up with the idea of starting a Northside Porch Tour back in 1997. At that time, the Northside Community Council was looking to fill in the gaps for an autumn event in Northside for the alternate years NCC hosted a House Tour. The intention at the time was to celebrate the streetscapes that Northside so uniquely owns, housing built for the working class circa 1900 on small lots with very high density. The industrial revolution that started to mature in the late 1800s allowed the mass production of building parts, specifically lathe-turned porch posts, spindles and fret work easily accessible and affordable for the general contractor of the day. In an age prior to air conditioning, the front porch was the room of the house where folks gathered until the cool of the night settled in. The vast majority of the housing in Northside was built during this time period by German and Irish craftspeople.

The thought was to organize a street festival that celebrated the streetscape that was defined by the Victorian porches. Scheduled to be the companion event to the Northside House Tours that

were occurring on the even-numbered years, the Porch Tour was intended to be a more inclusive event where everybody along a predetermined route was part of the action. So whether you owned your house, you were renting your house or you were squatting in a vacant home, it did not matter, we wanted you to be a part of our event. Starting several months prior to the autumn event, flyers are distributed to every house along the predetermined route encouraging people to save the date, think about painting their porch, re-landscape your yard and solicit people to be a "Block Captain," a volunteer position to be in charge of 10-12 adjacent houses. We encourage people to decorate and light up their houses, have a party on their porch, and consider what their house will look like for the event. Unlike the House Tour where patrons walk through your house, we encouraged people to have a pizza for dinner, toss the box on the floor and go sit on your front porch and enjoy the show.

Repeat flyers are distributed monthly until the October night when the event is scheduled. During the day of the event, the Block Captains distribute ample luminarias to everybody they have taken responsibility for. As dusk approaches, everybody is out on the sidewalk placing their luminarias every five feet along the public sidewalk. Eventually, the evening sky is mirrored by a ribbon of luminarias along both

Welcome to Ideas in Action, a fresh new voice on the editorial page. It's a weekly column to introduce you to some of the most inspirational people in our region, people who see a need – or an opportunity – and take action. These are the folks who start things that bring people together. Ideas in Action is a chance for them to tell their own stories.

*If you know someone who should write for us, let us know by emailing David Holthaus at [dholthaus@enquirer.com](mailto:dholthaus@enquirer.com) or Krista Ramsey at [kramsey@enquirer.com](mailto:kramsey@enquirer.com).*

sides of the street along the Porch Tour route. Often times we have had more than 3,000 luminarias in place for the event. An architectural narrator shares the history of the neighborhood and architecture as horse drawn carriages travel the tour route. Rides are \$3 per person and the carriages hold 20 people. The event can also be enjoyed by foot providing the opportunity to linger, chat and meet new neighbors. Last year, we had residents dress up as Mary and Abe Lincoln, taking advantage of the costume opportunity. The Porch Tour changes locations where the event is launched every year; we usually have local music, grilled hamburgers and hot dogs cooked by our Citizens on Patrol volunteers, and face painting. The event is a great place to meet other Northsiders. The Porch Tour has and will continue to change routes every

year, and the event has danced around the neighborhood to different streets nine times to date.

The Porch Tour is a sweet event because it includes everybody, it is totally a class-less event. The luminarias cost you nothing; the Northside Community Council underwrites the event. People who have lived on their street for years get out and clean up their front yards, they meet their neighbors whom they did not know, and they feel invested in the neighborhood because we are investing in them. It is a magical autumn stage set (6-9 p.m. in early October) when you see the street lined with luminarias, no cars on the street, people on their porches and out walking around, and here comes a horse-drawn carriage. In some cases, this is the first time something has happened on folk's streets that have lived in their house for 50 years! It encourages people to take pride in their community, it makes people feel like they belong, and it turns, many people feel empowered to own their streets. When the vast majority of people on any one block feel empowered to own their streets, the possibilities are endless: block parties spring up the next year, drug dealers disappear because it is not something you do when all the neighbors are watching, porches get painted, lawns are taken care of, and whether you own the house or rent it, it does not matter, because it is your neighborhood and everybody is invested.

*cont. pg 4*

## EDUCATION NEWS

The NCC Education Committee will be hosting two candidates in this year's CPS school board elections. Marlena Brookfield, a first time candidate, and Pamela Bowers who was appointed to a vacancy earlier this year will be discussing their candidacy at our October 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, 6:30 pm in the library at Chase Elementary school. All Are Welcome!

Some additional open forums for school board being held include:

October 3 at 6 pm - Forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters and Junior League at the League building on the corner of Delta and Columbia Parkway

October 7 at 6:30 pm and 29 at 7:00 pm- Candidate debates to be held at Gabriel's Place, 3681 Reading Road

October 14 at 6pm - Forum sponsored by the NAACP and Educational Justice Coalition at the Hamilton County Community Action Agency on Reading Road

## Northside Farmers Market

Northside Farmers Market will be hosting a Cookware Swap Wednesday, September 25 from 4-6pm. Bring your gently used cookware items to the market and swap them for something new to you. Even if you don't have anything to contribute, you can still take home the items you need. Any items left at the end of the night will be donated to CAIN.

Starting October 16th, Northside Farmers Market will be held inside North Church (4222 Hamilton Ave), across from the library and next to CAIN. We are proud to be one of the only markets in the city that is open year-round for our customers. That means you can find fresh fruits and vegetables, meat, eggs, bread, baked goods, prepared foods, body products and more the whole year! Don't worry! All year round you can come to the information booth and use your credit, debit, or EBT card if you need to. We still have a kids activity every week and our lovely musicians move indoors with us as well. Keep an eye out for events and workshops that will be hosted at our indoor market!



# Fire Station Open House

Northside's Engine 20 will be participating in Cincinnati's Fire Prevention Week Open House on Sunday October 6<sup>th</sup> from 1-5PM.

The Cincinnati Fire Department's "Open House Day" will be a great time for children and adults to learn fire safety and about the Cincinnati Fire Department in general and to enjoy themselves while at the event.



T. Davis  
Photo (C) 2013  
www.cincyfireapparatus.com

# CINCINNATI FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6 • 1-5PM



The following Cincinnati Fire Department Fire Stations will participate:

- Engine 3 (329 E. 9th St.)
- Engine 17 (2101 W. 8th St.)
- Engine 20 (1618 Blue Rock Road)
- Engine 31 (4401 Marburg)

Come meet your neighborhood firefighters, take a tour, and enjoy refreshments.

**Not Every Hero Wears a Cape,  
Plan & Practice Your Escape!**



**American Red Cross**

To make an appointment for a smoke detector installation call 513-579-3003



## The Hate U Give

PG-13 2018 · Drama

A teen witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood friend by a trigger-happy cop and must decide whether to testify or not.



### EMMY – 5 Stars

The hate you give is an amazing movie that is not only exciting but also displays the view as a young girl experiencing police brutality and gun violence. It teaches a lesson and makes you feel powerful and pressured to do something to help our world. How many other 16-year-olds have seen one of their closest friends shot after trying to help a friend? It has something for everyone to enjoy and it is extremely well made.

### TULIP – 5 Stars

I think the movie means that nobody should be racist because we are all really the same. The movie taught us that we should all get along. I like this movie.

## Updates for our Community Affiliates

### Happen, Inc. Watermelon Blast



Happen, Inc. had a blast at this year's Happen Watermelon Blast!

Over 70 children and parents attended the first official event at our new Happen Outside, Urban Nature and Art Center located at 1609 Hoffner Street in Northside.

Thanks to all the volunteers who served up burgers and hot dogs and, of course, lots of watermelon! Also, special thanks to all the families that participated in the watermelon contest, helping to continue this Happen family and community tradition.

Happen has lots more free, outdoor, family fun planned for this fall. Everything from Survival Saturday sessions to a CARboard Drive-In movie night! Also new this year, Happen's annual Pumpkin Party will take place at the Happen Outside space for the first time. Please keep in mind that some of our Happen Outside sessions and our annual Monster Mash Dance require registration. So please, stop in to Happen's Community Creative Center during our regular open studio sessions and sign up for all of the fall fun.



## Cont. Updates for our Community Affiliates

### Improve your health! Volunteer at CAIN!

Studies have found that helping others has tangible benefits, both mental and physical, from lowering your blood pressure to reducing feelings of depression. Altruism in many forms, from donating money to a worthy cause to just random acts of kindness, have been shown to light up the reward centers of the brain. Helping others is a natural high our brains are wired for!

Here's an opportunity to help others! Fill a Blessing Bag for CAIN guests shopping at the CAIN Pantry during Harvest Shop in November. Stop by CAIN or see Maggie at the Community Council meeting to pick up a bag or use your own reusable bag and fill with:

- 1 tube toothpaste
- 1 stick deodorant
- 1 bottle or tube of body lotion
- 1 roll of paper towels (wrapped)
- 1 bottle dishwashing liquid
- 1 multi-pack of bar soap
- 1 laundry detergent

Drop off completed bags by Oct. 31. Mon 6-8pm, Tues. & Thurs. 10am-1pm.

Here's an opportunity to sample volunteering at CAIN. Assist guests as they chose healthy and nutritious food and extras during Harvest Shop in November and Angel Shop in December. Check out opportunities at [www.cainministry.org](http://www.cainministry.org) available Oct 1.

Contact CAIN Volunteer Coordinator Judy Radina at [volunteers@cainministry.org](mailto:volunteers@cainministry.org) to arrange a time to tour the pantry and talk about your volunteer interests.



**RETURN to CAIN by Weds., OCTOBER 31**  
(or as early as possible in November)

**Mon. 6-8pm \* Tues. & Thurs. 10am-1pm**  
**CAIN - 4230 Hamilton Ave. - 45223**  
(+ Wed. 4-7pm - Northside Farmers Market)



[www.cainministry.org](http://www.cainministry.org) + 513.591.2246



## Cont. Updates for our Community Affiliates



### APPLE STREET MARKET UPDATE

We're delighted to finally announce that Apple Street Market has been awarded an \$80,000 grant from the US Department of Agriculture's Healthy Foods Financing Initiative (HFFI)!

HFFI funds "projects to expand access to healthy foods in underserved rural and urban areas, to create and preserve quality jobs, and to revitalize low-income communities." Apple Street was one of only 23 groups to receive funding out of the 240+ applicants who applied. You can read more about it in City Beat or directly from the HFFI Program.

This award puts our official fundraising total at \$700K in grants, donations, owner loans, and pledges! We also have verbal commitments for another \$100K or more in philanthropy, depending on whether we can secure our site.

On a related note, members of Apple Street Market's Board and other supporters met with NEST and the soon-to-be-announced developer of 4145 Apple Street twice in the last two weeks. We left feeling hopeful about a path forward together. Developing a site with a grocery store and affordable housing is very complex, so both sides are currently gathering more information that will help us assess the viability of a partnership. Stay tuned for updates.

#### Annual Owners Meeting:

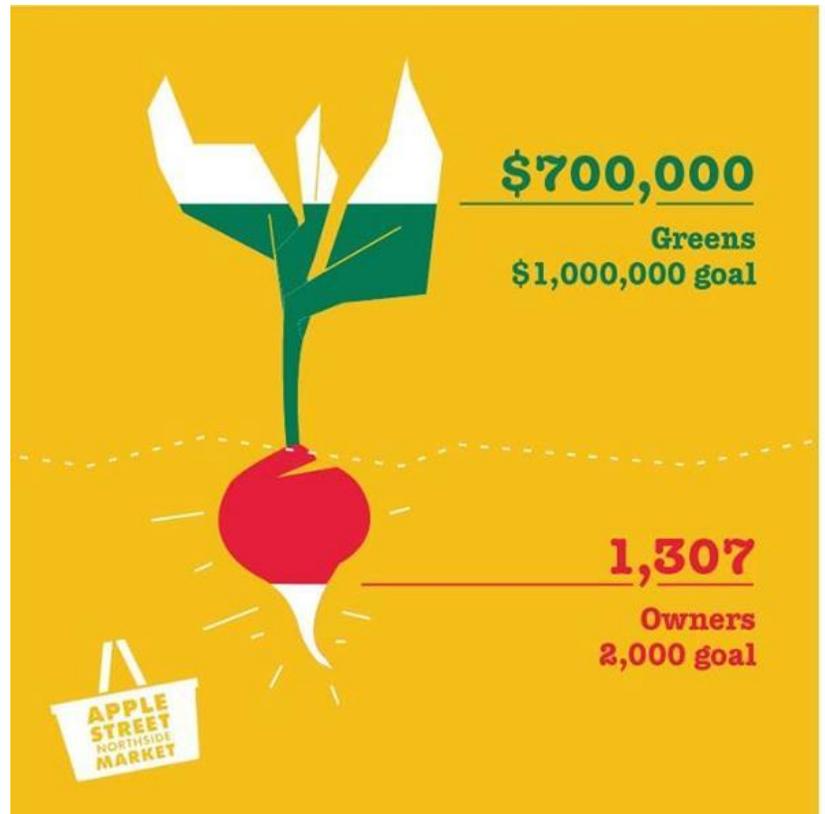
Saturday, Sept. 28, 3-5pm, doors @ 2:30 Letter Carrier's Hall 4100 Colerain Ave.

Get the details and get ready to vote on the future of Apple Street. Hope to see you there!

#### Notice of important vote:

At the emergency meeting on February 20th, 2019, as part of the recovery process after a major set-back, the Apple Street Market Board of Directors promised to open an escrow account

created with funds from 75% of new Community-Owner loans. At the fall Annual Meeting owners would have an opportunity to vote on the escrow account and, by extension, the continued existence of Apple Street Market. There are three options to this vote. The Board of Directors recommends option 2; Apple Street Market should keep the funds in the escrow account until such time that the Board signs a development agreement with both project co-developers (NEST and the developer) with at least a 3/4 Board majority. In the meantime, Apple Street will continue on its course of raising funds towards opening a neighborhood sized Worker and Community-Owned full-service grocery store.



## Run the Riffles

Northside Community Council's Sustainability Committee will be sponsoring the Mill Creek Run the Riffles Event on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Mill Creek Mile Fun Run

The Mill Creek Mile is a 3 mile scenic fun run along the Mill Creek Greenway Trail starting and ending at Salway Park in Spring Grove Village. This flat course will start at the northern section of the park at Laughing Brook with the course hugging the greenway

trail and heading south along the banks of Mill Creek. At the Ludlow overpass, approximately 1 ¼ mile down the trail, participants turn around and return back to Salways Park where after completing a lap of Salway, finish the course at the Mill Creek Greenway Trail-head next to Old Timber Inn. Over the course you will be able to see some of the restoration projects in the creek as well as some of the installation's along the trail. These include the constructed riffles that mitigate the low head dam that cuts across Mill Creek, the edible forest garden located on the banks of Mill Creek at Freedom Tree, and the beautifully restored riparian zone along Salway Park.

**Location:** Mill Creek Greenway Trail-head, 4336 Spring Grove Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45223

**Cost for Participants:** \$15

**Estimated Number of participants:** 60

**Date:** September 28th

**Time:** 9:00am - 12:00pm

**Point of Contact:** Alan Edwards ([aedwards@themillcreekalliance.org](mailto:aedwards@themillcreekalliance.org))

### Mill Creek Mile Fun Paddle

An around-the-buoys paddle race on the flat water between the Salway riffles. Start at the gate at river mile 5.18, paddle upstream and turn at a buoy (mile 5.30) just below the upstream riffle, paddle down to a buoy (mile 4.62) just up from the downstream riffle, then paddle back up to the main Salway access (mile 4.78). Participants bring their own kayak, paddle, PFD.

**Location:** Mill Creek Greenway Trail-head, 4336 Spring Grove Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45223

**Cost for Participants:** \$15

**Estimated Number of participants:** 60

**Date:** September 28th

**Time:** 9:00am - 12:00pm

**Point of Contact:** Alan Edwards ([aedwards@themillcreekalliance.org](mailto:aedwards@themillcreekalliance.org))

### Mill Creek History Walk

Check out the history of the Mill Creek and Northside

**Point of Contact:** Mike Miller

# RUN THE RIFFLES



5K



KAYAK



HIKE



ART



FOOD

MILL CREEK 2019