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EZ News

Summer 2005
Vol 6 Issue 1

THE NEWS YOU CAN USE

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EZ Entrepreneur Jackie Tshaka Dishes Up Chicken and Waffles at the Dell

A Heritage District entrepreneur is making a name for herself by serving up some history. Jacqueline Tshaka's Delectable Edibles Catering kicked off its Taste of Harlem Fried Chicken and Waffles Brunch on June 19th at the historic Dell Café (115 Parsons Ave).

Chicken and waffles, what a weird combination you might say. If you think about it, it's not that much different than chicken and a biscuit.

The concept of Chicken and Waffles was born in Harlem, New York in the 1930's. A Harlem restaurant named the Wells Supper Club has trademarked the logo "Wells: Home of Chicken and Waffles Since 1938," and claims to have started selling the dish in the dusk of the Jazz Age. Well's served many celebrities as they hung out in the late night hours. As the story goes, many of these customers could not decide if they wanted breakfast or dinner so Wells gave them both! Whether or not that is the true origin is up for debate. Recipes/food combinations tend to be around quite some time before they make it to cookbooks or restaurants. Many people believe the dish as originating in the South.

Although her mother was from Georgia, Tshaka never had the pleasure of eating a breakfast of chicken and waffles. But when she did, she fell in love. She's been waiting for the right time to bring it to Columbus.

Tshaka has been cooking since she was a young girl in her mother's kitchen. Her love of cooking grew from memories of her mother's delectable edibles and presentation of food. She remembers coming home from school to a house filled with wonderful smells and always encouraged to join her mother in baking cakes and cookies.

Tshaka is a native of Columbus and a graduate of Columbus East High School and Central State University. She earned her BS degree in History &

Political Science from Central State in 1965. At college is where she learned of Chicken and Waffles. Friends would tell her stories of holiday parties and late night/early mornings of chicken and waffles they'd eat at Well's. The odd combination always peaked her interest.

After completion of her studies Jackie relocated to



California to pursue her career in education, later moving on to Public Relations and theatre. While in California she joined in a partnership with

two other women and started Delectable Edibles Catering.

Upon her return to Columbus in 1983, she put Delectable Edibles in the closet and worked with the National Black Programming Consortium. While at NBPC her interest in catering never diminished.

In 2000, Jackie decided to strike back out on her own to develop the business that was



her passion.

Since 2000, Delectable Edibles has grown, providing catering for numerous organizations such as the Columbus Urban League, The Ohio Coalition On Homeless In Ohio, The Community Shelter Board, The Columbus Bar Association, The Women's Resource Center, The Corporation for Supportive Housing, The Columbus Compact, The Columbus International Program, The Martin Luther King Arts Complex and many private customers.

Delectable Edibles is dedicated to providing savory, healthy food at affordable prices. Beside chicken and waffles, they specialize in fresh, healthy box lunches, unique finger food, quality hot buffet selections and amazing dinner selections.

The brunch is being held every Sunday from 10am - 2pm. Cost is \$9.95 and half price for children under 12. For more info or to make a reservation contact Jacqueline Tshaka, Delectable Edibles Catering, 1971 Merryhill Drive, Columbus 43219, 614.252.7183.

Jewish Family Services Hosted New and Dynamic May Events



Easton Town Center Job Fair began with opening remarks from Council Member Mary Jo Hudson. She offered support and commitment to improve jobs and work life in Columbus. This event was con-

ceived through collaboration with Ben Tyson, Media Planner/Buyer of Easton Town Center and the EMO (Jewish Family Services, The Salvation Army, Central Community House, Community Connection, and St. John Learning Center) and Tim Woodhall, Director of Sales and Marketing for Hilton Columbus of Easton Town Center. The May Job Fair had 63 businesses recruited by Lynn Aspey, EMO

Business Coordinator, on hand with opportunities and salaries ranging from \$10,000-\$75,000. This collaboration benefited over 1000 job seekers recruited by Karlene Forde, EMO CBO Coordinator. Chuck Weiden, Executive Director of Jewish Family Services stated that, "by working together and building relationships we can have a strong workforce and a healthy economy."

A timely seminar, "Violence in the Workplace," was provided by the collaboration of Lynn Aspey, Jewish Family Services; Chris Kitchen, Columbus Regional Airport Authority; and Darla Reid, The King Arts Complex. Held at The King Arts Complex, Scott Warrick, JD,

continued on pg 5

Compact Board Update

The Board of Trustees of the Columbus Compact Corporation (“the Compact”) governs the Columbus Empowerment Zone. A number of activities were discussed at meetings on April 5th (Executive Committee) and June 15th (full Board meeting).

In April, the Board authorized additional funding for the United Way Neighborhood Partnership Center. This funding creates a Neighborhood Training Academy within the center. A wide variety of 38 training programs are set for the period from June through November, with topics including Neighborhood Merchants Associations, Community Organizing, Running Effective Meetings, Developing a Market Study, Historic Preservation, Urban Parks and Green Space, Maintaining Older and Historic Housing, and Vacant Property Revitalization. Further information about the United Way Neighborhood Partnership Center is available by phone at 227-8704 (Michael Wilkos, Director), by email at npc@uwcentralohio.org, or by Internet at www.uwcentralohio.org/npc.asp.

The Executive Committee also determined to address a series of real estate sales by the Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing (“OCCH”) and the Main Street Business Association (“MSBA”) that it believes are inappropriate and that perhaps involve ethical issues, and that it believes will set back economic development on the Near East side of Columbus. Through these transactions, properties from the “Broad Street Management” portfolio have been sold at very low prices by OCCH to the Main Homes Community Development Corporation (MSBA). Rather than ensure the properties were sold to developers at a low cost (which was the community strategy behind disposing of the properties from the Broad Street Management portfolio), MSBA/Main Homes then sold the properties at much higher prices to other parties on the same day. The Compact believes those “flipping” transactions have drained investment dollars from the central city – money that otherwise would have been invested in the housing units was inappropriately sucked out without adding any value whatsoever to the housing stock. The more likely result is that the properties will remain substandard housing that serves to depress the surrounding area.

Executive Committee also: 1) reviewed progress being made to attract a grocer and other national retailers to targeted locations on East Main Street, 2) discussed funding for Empowerment Zone educational initiatives, 3) reviewed the budget development process for FY 2006, and heard about a 15-city trip to Washington, DC to educate Congress about the importance of the Empowerment Zone initiative.

In June, the Board of Trustees adopted a budget for FY 2006 (July 1st through June 30th). As expected, there were dramatic cuts in funding for programs previously funded by the Empowerment Zone. The \$4.3 million budget represents a 42% cut from the previous year’s budget; however, because much of the budget included a carryover of expenses, there was only \$1 million in new program funding in this budget. Programs receiving funding at reduced levels included business financing and technical assistance, real estate development, job training, Neighborhood Partnership Center, neighborhood advocate, youth development, youth arts, and area marketing.

Programs that were eliminated include the popular Neighborhood Grants program, After School Programs, Housing Rehabilitation, Homeownership Downpayment Assistance,

Neighborhood Safety, Community Development Corporation Support, Tax Incentives Marketing, and Health Care.

The Compact has been working with our congressional delegation to seek the funding that was originally promised to the Empowerment Zone program; however, we have been unsuccessful in efforts to restore program funding after three years of increasing federal cuts. Representative Deborah Pryce and Senator Mike DeWine have committed to seeking increased funding; however, other legislators have not made that commitment.

In June, the Board of Trustees also authorized four contingent loan agreements to businesses interested in locating in the King-Lincoln District. The Board recognized that a number of coordinated efforts would need to occur for the businesses to be successful, and thus concurred with staff recommendations making such loans contingent upon larger and better coordination of efforts in the area. Two art galleries, a jewelry/candle/gift store, and a coffee shop were conditionally approved for financing. Finally, the Board heard a presentation on \$50-80 million in New Markets Tax Credits funding that the Compact will seek to bring to Columbus next spring.

Compact Proposing New Way to Fund Empowerment Zones

For the past three years, the federal government has cut the Empowerment Zone program substantially. The program was originally designed to be \$10 million per year, for each of 10 years, however, last year’s federal funding was less than \$1 million and this year’s prospects look even worse than last year’s. In addition to the federal cash grant, the Empowerment Zone program includes a variety of targeted federal tax credits for businesses.

In theory, those tax credits are designed to spur business investment and hiring of Empowerment Zone residents. However, the Compact’s practical experience working with businesses shows that the tax cuts are not working as envisioned, and that they merely result in less money collected by the federal government and less money for the program.

The Compact has drafted legislative language that would close some of these tax loopholes, thus allowing the federal government to collect more funds that would then be distributed back to the Empowerment Zones as grants. Compact President Jonathan Beard says “quite simply, the grants have been critical to our progress and the tax cuts are a waste of money – they just do not work. It is time for the federal government to get serious about doing what works, quit the game playing, and quit paying lip service to revitalization of America’s most distressed communities. We need a type of leadership that cares about the people and small businesses in our central cities, and that is willing to work with us.”

Federal Funding Update

The Compact is seeking support from our local congressional delegation to revise Empowerment Zone funding. Each year over the past three, the federal budget deficit and other large federal programs have squeezed funding from the smaller Empowerment Zone program. At the same time, the Empowerment Zone program has tax incentives that increase the budget deficit, while providing little to no benefit to the Empowerment Zone and its residents.

The 15 Round II Empowerment Zone Directors wrote a May 3rd letter to the President’s Advisory Panel on Federal Tax

Reform that lays out the inadequacies of the tax incentives program, and recommends fixing the problems. In addition, the zones will be working over the summer to inform Congress about its ability to fix the problems in the program, and create better results for residents of the 15 Empowerment Zones. The Zone Directors seek to amend the program to reduce the federal tax giveaways, and to channel a portion of those dollars into the grant program.

A Bird’s Eye View from the Compact

The Compact recently had brick tuck pointing and other masonry work done on its office building, Engine House No. 11 at 1000 E. Main Street. The work was done by H.K. Phillips Restoration. Tuck pointing is a process by which brick masons scrape out loose mortar and fill it with new mortar. It is a tricky process in an older, historic building like Engine House No. 11.

The type of brick used to build the Engine House No. 11, and many other older buildings and homes, is a soft, baked clay brick. The outer layer of the brick was closest to the heat of the kiln when it was fired and is hard, but the inside of the brick is quite soft and porous. Bricks like this “breathe”: when it rains, bricks absorb water; when it is dry, bricks breathe the water back out. Buildings also move. As they warm and cool (or freeze and thaw), they expand and contract. This movement places stress on buildings. For soft brick like that on Engine House No. 11, it is important that the mortar used for tuckpointing be softer than the brick, or problems develop.

Sometime in the past – likely in the 1950s – Engine House No. 11 was tuckpointed with a hard cement mortar. In a building like Engine House No. 11 which was tuckpointed with a hard mortar, when the building expands and contracts, the hard mortar stays rigid and the softer brick begins to crack and spall (the facing of the brick flakes off). When a softer mortar is used, it is the mortar that gives way, which keeps the brick intact.

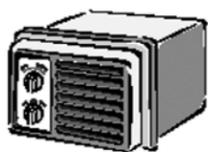
H.K. Phillips won the bid to repaint the hose tower, which had begun to show signs of damage from the previous mortar job. The mason ground out the concrete mortar at the top of the hose tower to get to the original soft, lime-based mortar. They then cleaned the brick with a low pressure power wash, tuckpointed with a soft mortar, replaced heavily damaged bricks, sealed the parapet, and sealed the hose tower brick with a silicone-based sealant.

Historic preservation experts are split on the use of a brick sealant. In the past, sealants were made of a material that changed the look of the bricks (made them look glossy in some cases) and trapped moisture and salts inside the bricks leading to faster degrading. Current sealants have solved those problems, and are often recommended by masonry companies that work with historic properties. In this case, three of the four bids received by the Compact by firms which do restoration work examined the condition of the bricks on the hose tower and recommended that a sealant be applied to minimize further weathering of the building.

The Compact believes Engine House No. 11 is a historic property and a city and neighborhood treasure. As the current owners of the building and custodian of its care, we will continue to preserve and improve it, so that it stands in good condition for generations to come.

For more info on the Columbus Compact Corporation visit www.colcompact.com or call 614.251.0926.

Bits & Pieces



HOW TO MAINTAIN A WINDOW AIR CONDITIONER

Those who own older homes, or live in parts of the country that don't require central heating, often depend on window air conditioning units to keep them cool on the hottest days of summer. For some, these units offer the only shelter from punishing heat that can be life threatening. A little bit of care and maintenance can go a long way toward ensuring that this important appliance doesn't break down when you need it most.

Clean air filter once a month while in use: The air filter is the most important part of your cooling system. If it becomes clogged, then your system will have to work harder and longer to supply the same amount of cool air.

1. Turn off the air conditioner.
2. Remove the foam air filter from the unit.
3. Wash any dirt from the filter with water and let it dry completely.
4. Replace the filter.

Clean exterior fins once a year: Exterior fins are responsible for dissipating heat. Dirty fins cannot perform their job as effectively, wasting electricity and money.

1. Turn off the air conditioner.
2. Use a garden hose or a bucket of water and a soft brush and remove any dirt or debris on the exterior fins.
3. Be careful not to bend the fins, but if you find bent fins they can be straightened with a fin comb available from refrigeration supply dealers.



CAROLINA PULLED PORK SANDWICH

Nothing says summer time like BBQ. Here is a great recipe for pulled pork fans. Mmmmm. Delicious!

- 1/4 cup butter
- 1 1/2 cups chopped onion

- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 tablespoon powdered mustard
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 cups catsup
- 1/4 cup packed dark brown sugar
- 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
- 2 cups water
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 whole (5 pound) Boston pork butt
- 12 soft hamburger buns

- Melt butter in saucepan. Add onion and garlic; cook until softened, 5 minutes. Add mustard, paprika, cumin and cayenne; cook 1 minute. Add catsup, sugar, vinegar and water; simmer, covered, 30 minutes. Uncover; simmer 30 minutes. Add salt and pepper. This can be made two days ahead, then refrigerated, covered. Before using, simmer 3 minutes.

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Heat oil in large ovenproof Dutch oven; add pork; brown for 10 minutes.

- Bake, uncovered for 30 minutes. Pour 1 cup of barbecue sauce over pork. Cover pot. Lower heat to 250 degrees F. Bake 3 to 3 1/2 hours, basting meat occasionally, until a thermometer inserted in the middle of the roast registers 170 degrees F to 180 degrees F.

- Let cool slightly. Trim off excess fat. Pull meat apart using two forks. Mix pulled meat with remaining barbecue sauce in a large bowl.

- Serve on buns with cole slaw.



HOW YOU COMMUTE TO WORK MATTERS

Driving alone to work is expensive, not only for fuel and parking, but also wear and tear on your vehicle and YOU! Why not carpool or vanpool?

RideSolutions, a program of Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, offers short-to-long term transportation arrangements to

and/or from work (not an on-demand service). Give us a call, we provide free matchlists, with no obligation, to help you carpool or vanpool one or more days a week. Simply call 1-888-742-RIDE (7433) and Barb does the rest.

They Want You! If you want to offer a ride to a co-worker with poor transportation, get on the list by calling RideSolutions today. You'll be matched by home and work locations and hours – what could be easier?

Partnering With COTA: If you rely on bus transportation to your job site, and you think your route may be changed due to a bus strike, you are welcome to call RideSolutions to see what's available before a problem arises. Remember, at any time in your career, should you need or want transportation options, just call 1-888-742-RIDE.



COMPACT MOVES TO TELEPHONE AUTO ATTENDANT

Effective immediately, the Compact will be utilizing the "Auto Attendant" function with our telephone system. This move is implemented to better

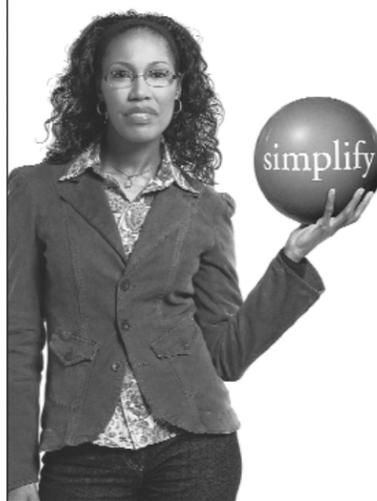
serve our customers in light of staff reductions. Please note the list of extensions provided below for your convenience.

Columbus Compact Auto Attendant Telephone Extensions

General Mailbox	100
BAKER, Robin	110
BEARD, Jon	103 or 101
DAVIS, Cynthia	103
ROBINSON, Adero	111
TABIT, George	108
THOMAS, Lita	105
WALLER, Steve	102
WOODLY, Deborah	104
EZ NEWS	106

Note: For purposes of outside caller's utilization of the 'alpha' first name extension directory – *Angelita Thomas has been programmed as Lita.*

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EZ News

THE NEWS YOU CAN USE

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EMO Spring Job Fair a Success

The EMO spring job fair was a successful endeavor. Chuck Weiden, Executive Director of Jewish Family Services, opened the Easton Town Center/EMO job fair by introducing City Council Member Mary Jo Hudson, who welcomed the job seekers and offered her support in continuing efforts to help improve the Columbus economy by supporting Workforce Development efforts to keep "Columbus working." She also had an opportunity to meet some of the employers and to learn more about the partnerships and industries that the EMO had developed.

The Hilton Columbus at Easton Town Center was host to 63 businesses from a variety of industries. Over 1000 job seekers attended and through the EMO and Easton Town Center Partnerships, many individuals will have the opportunity to work and to become self sufficient.

The goal for this job fair was to:

- 1) Build relationships with new businesses that had not partnered previously with the EMO,
- 2) Recruit 60 or more businesses that had a broad salary range for entry level to highly professional,
- 3) Advertise through the mail bags that were delivered to every Empowerment Zone household as well as through television and various newspapers, and
- 4) Recruit politicians to have them attend and support the efforts of the EMO of having employment opportunities for the variety of job seekers. The EMO continues to provide opportunities for individuals and partnerships with businesses that will extend services for Empowerment Zone residents.

Firstlink Announces Summer Luncheon Series

Looking to improve your business skills? This series is designed to engage you in timely topics that will definitely benefit your non-profit organization and promote valuable networking contacts. The various presenters, who are leaders in their field, will offer their topics in a casual, interactive format.

Register now for the entire series for only \$70.00 which includes a light lunch. Individual sessions are available for \$15.00 per person. Sessions are scheduled from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. On-street metered parking is available on Grant Avenue, 6th, Spring & Naughton Streets. Look for the 12 hour meters. Arrive early for best parking. For further information call William S. McCulley, Education Administrator at 221-6766 ext.123 or email at education@firstlink.org.

The following Summer Luncheon Special Topic Series will brighten your Life. Be ready to have fun, learn and share your experience and wisdom with a community of "friends." All sessions will be conducted in FirstLink Training Room at 195 N Grant Avenue. It is highly recommended that you attend all 6 sessions.

Where's the Power Series Schedule

July 20: What Is (my potential) Agency Capacity? We must first define what this means before we can decide what capacity we already have and how it can realistically become more powerful. Agency capacity is a unique treasure to each organization whether you are faith based or a 501(C)(3)...or not. This discussion will be led by Janet Davis, President & CEO-AP, Westerville Chamber of Commerce.

July 27: Where Do I Find Mid-level Funding Streams? All too often we only consider the big foundations and grantees to fund our programs and projects. There are many funding sources available that are frequently untapped to their capacity to provide powerful building blocks to your mission's success. Trying to put all your eggs into one basket is never a secure plan. Discover available funding streams you may not be aware of and learn how to best approach them. This discussion will be led by Amy Fair, The Columbus Foundation.

August 3: How Can I Effectively Engage My Board? Is the energy of your board Kinetic or Potential? How can you discover and develop the "potential" power of your board and effectively guide the kinetic energy to the fulfillment of your project and/or mission? This discussion will be led by A. Elizabeth Eck, Vice president Training and Volunteer Services, FIRSTLINK.

August 10: How Do I Build Powerful Relationships? Successful relationship building, networking and collaborations will enhance the power of your mission and help ensure your sustainability. Power does not necessarily mean what you think it does. What are the power links that fit your mission's puzzle? This discussion will be led by Chris Adams, Bascom & Adams Business Solutions, FIRSTLINK Board Member.



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To register on-line go to:
http://www.firstlink.org/public/professional/training_registration_form.php



Construction of Main Street COTA Transit Center

Construction on the COTA Transit Center is well underway, with completion



scheduled for August 31. Masonry work is currently being finished on the building's exterior, and interior buildout will start soon. Children's Hospital will occupy the majority of the building, however up to 2,000 sq.ft. of space is still available. For more information on space availability and rates, contact Laura Miller, NAI Welsh, at (614) 280-4815.

Family Dollar Project Underway



A new Family Dollar store is under construction on the northwest corner of the Four Corners development in South Linden. The Columbus Compact Corporation partnered in the development of the site by assembling the land, performing asbestos abatement, demolishing existing abandoned buildings and re-zoning the property. The Compact sold the property to a Family Dollar developer in late February. After a few delays in securing building permits construction is now underway and the new store is expected to open by September 11th.

EZ News Advertising Helps Businesses Grow, Increase Profits

The *EZ News* is an excellent way for businesses and community organizations to reach a broad customer base. The quarterly publication is delivered to more than 27,000 households in the Empowerment Zone. Advertising rates are competitive and simple design services are available at cost.

For obtain a rate card, copy of the advertising policy or to obtain general information on advertising in the *EZ News* contact Eulaunda Jones at 251-0926, ext. 106 or e-mail ezadvertising@colcompact.com.

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MLHR, SPHR, a noted and renowned speaker, provided insight into this topic for the 110 businesses that were present. It was exciting to be a part of a partnership between businesses and community-based organizations learning how to create safer work life environments. He addresses these areas: 1.) How do you define Workplace Violence; 2.) What is the most dangerous job in America; 3.) What signs should everyone look for in preventing workplace violence; 4.) What are employers required to do under the law/ what are employees required to do; 5.) What are your chances of becoming a victim of workplace violence; and 6.) How can this session save you thousands on your worker compensation?

To complete these dynamic offerings, EMO partners presented the major event of the season, "Partnering for Success." This technical training program brought together 74 businesses and community-based organizations to learn about how customer service affects your bottom line. The event featured two experts in the field, Nancy Case, Director of

Employment Community Impact, and Debora Myles, Consultant. Nancy provided an overview on the impact of unemployment and poverty on the Columbus economy. Ms. Case suggested that a combination of trainings and employment opportunities create a more skilled and efficient workforce that has a positive impact on our economy.

Debora took the day's participants through an Emotional Intelligence process that clearly impacts the bottom line of customer service. The premise that she presented concluded that businesses' positive communication to their employees translates to a positive effect on customers and stakeholders. In doing this, the business creates customer loyalty, an essential part of business success.

Through building relationships and bringing businesses to the table with community-based organizations, we can do a better job of matching people to jobs and resources and businesses to both people and resources, which will aid with retention and ultimately improve the Columbus, Ohio, economy.

Business Resource Guide

Central Ohio Minority Business Association
1393 E Broad St, 2nd fl, 43205
614.252.8005
<http://www.comba.com>
mcbap@alink.com

Columbus Enterprise Center
1393 E Broad St, 43205
614.252.7805
colsenderprisecenter.com

E. Fifth Avenue Business Association
Donald Love, President
S.O.U.L. CDC
3147 E. Fifth Ave, 43219
614.231-9150
e-mail: d.l.love@att.net
Meets 3rd Wednesday of month, 10a, at E 5th Ave Community Center, 2743 E 5th Ave

Franklinton Board of Trade
Dick Bangs, Executive Director
455 W Broad St, 43215
614.224.7550
e-mail: fbt@copper.net
www.franklintonboardoftrade.org
Meets 3rd Thursday of month, 12p, at Florentine Restaurant, 907 W. Broad Street

Greater Hilltop Community Development Corporation (GHCCDC)
Alina Butler, Director
2300 W Broad, 43204

614.276-0060
e-mail: alinamb@aol.com
<http://GHCCDC.tripod.com>
Board of Trustees meets 2nd Thursday, 5:30p

Greater Linden Development Corp.
Ronald Dozier, Executive Director
2572 Cleveland Ave, 43211
614.263.2492
info@greaterlinden.org
www.greaterlinden.org

Hilltop Business Association
Barbara Lowry, President
P.O. Box 44217, 43204
614.527.6829
General meeting the 2nd Wednesday, 5:30p at various locations.

Linden Business Network
Linden Resource Center
2572 Cleveland Ave
Contact: Angela McBride
614.231.4175
Meets 4th Thurs of month, 5:30p

The Livingston Avenue Collaborative For Community Development
1376 E. Livingston Ave, 43205
614.257.1376
LACCDoffice@aol.com
www.Neighborhoodlink.com/colmbus/laccd

LACCD Economic Development Committee and the Livingston Avenue Business Group meets 3rd Tuesday, 8a at the St. John's Center 640 S. Ohio Avenue

Long Street Business Association
Adam Porter, President
823½ East Long St, Suite 200, 43203
lsbainc@aol.com
Contact: Anne J. Ross-Womack
614.251.6038

Main Street Business Association
Walter Cates, President/CEO
923 East Main St, 43205
614.253.2963
mainstreetbusiness@ameritech.net
Meets quarterly on 3rd Thur, 6p

Milo-Grogan Business Association
Jeff Werner, President
1152 Sydney St, 43201
614.470.2576
Meets 1st Thursday, 5:30p at various locations

Mt Vernon Avenue District Improvement Association
OSU University Hospital East
1492 E Broad St, lower level
President: Melvin Steward
614.258.3130
Meets 3rd Wednesday, 11a

North Linden Business Association
5030 Westerville Rd, 43231
614.882.0800
Walt Reiner, President
Meets 2nd Tuesday at noon at Stan's Restaurant-4333 Westerville Rd

North Market District Business Association
59 W Spruce St, 43215
614.563.3533
NMBDA@columbus.rr.com
Contact: Brian Higgs
Call for meeting times.

Olde Towne East Business Association
afoot765@cs.com
Meets 1st Tuesday of month, 5:30p at Design Center Community Meeting Room 65 Parsons Avenue

Parsons Avenue Merchants Association
Jeff Knoll, Coordinator
827 Parsons Ave, 43206
614.444.2192
jknoll@columbus.rr.com
www.parsonsavenue.org
Meets 1st Thur, 12p, at Plank's Café, 743 Parsons Avenue

Short North Business Association
120 W. Goodale St, 43215-2357
614.228.8050
snbacols@shortnorth.org
www.shortnorth.org
SNBA meets 1st Wednesday each month at 9:30a at Union Station, 630 N. High Street

University Community Business Association
Pasquale Grado, Executive Director
N High St, 43201
614.299.2866
Meets every 2 months, 2nd Wednesday, 11:30a at the Holiday Inn on Lane Ave

Ohio Women's Business Resource Center- (OWBRN-WBC)
1393 E Broad St 2nd fl
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614.258.4811/ 866-923-2378
614.258.4813 fax
Web site: www.owbrn.org
Email: owbrnwbc@sbcglobal.net
WNET Roundtables 2nd Mon 11:30a-1:30p meets at 1393 E Broad St 1st fl
Workshops 1st Mondays 6p-8p (various locations)

Take Steps to Supplement Your Retirement Plan



If you follow the news - or even if you don't - you're probably aware that the country is debating the future of Social Security. However, this discussion, while important, may be obscuring another key issue - namely, that many people are finding their employer-sponsored retirement plans are falling short of providing the expected level of benefits. Clearly, this is a huge problem for retirees - and a scary prospect for workers. Consequently, if you are in this second group, you will want to act now to bolster your retirement savings. Before we look at some moves you can make, let's review two factors behind

the current concerns in company-funded plans:

Economic pressures - For a variety of reasons, pension plans are becoming more expensive for companies to fund; consequently, some plans go underfunded. As long as a company remains solvent, its pension plan - even an underfunded one - will pay out full benefits, but the financial pressure on the company to fully fund the plan is enormous, and can cause a drag on earnings. If companies are in danger of insolvency, they may not fund their pensions at all. When a company terminates its plan, participants still won't lose their benefits, but they will lose out on potentially valuable future accruals, which typically correspond with age and length of service.

Switch from "defined-benefit" to "defined contribution" - In 1979, more than 80 percent of workers covered by a company retirement plan had a "defined-benefit" plan - that is, a traditional pension that paid monthly benefits based on years of service. But by 2001, this percentage had dropped to just over 40 percent, according to the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, as companies began offering "defined contribution" plans, such as 401(k)s. This shift from "defined benefit" to "defined contribution" means that employees are now much more responsible for planning and saving for their own retirements.

What you can do:

You cannot control "big-picture" events, such as a plan termination or a switch to another type of retirement plan. You can take steps to boost your retirement savings inside and outside your plan. Here are a few ideas:

• **Prioritize and quantify retirement goals** - Whether you plan to spend your retirement years

traveling, volunteering, pursuing hobbies or even opening a small business, rank your retirement goals in order of importance and determine how much they are likely to cost. You may want to get help from a qualified financial professional.

• **"Max out" on your IRA** - Try to fully fund your Roth or traditional IRA every year. A Roth IRA grows tax-free, provided you meet certain conditions; a traditional IRA's gains and earnings grow tax deferred.

• **Consider delaying early retirement** - If you enjoy your work, consider extending your career by a couple of years, or take advantage of "phased retirement." You'll be able to contribute more money to your employer-sponsored retirement plan.

• **Increase 401(k) contributions annually** - Try to increase your 401(k) contributions each year, especially if you get annual raises.

• **Don't "overload" on company stock** - Avoid putting too much company stock into your employer's retirement plan; you could incur significant risk if your company goes through some ups and downs. Most financial experts recommend limiting company stock to 10 percent of your retirement plan assets.

You can't always predict what will happen with your employer-sponsored retirement plan. But by following your own savings and investment strategies, you can go a long way toward achieving the retirement lifestyle you've envisioned.

For more information on any of these topics or for personal financial planning contact David Cunningham, Edward Jones, 179 E Beck St, Columbus, OH 43206, 614.461.5803 or see www.edwardjones.com

Tips on Paying for College



If you have a college-bound senior in your house, you know that the end of this school year means the beginning of a new adventure. However, while college can be exciting, it's also expensive. If you haven't saved as much as you would have liked, don't despair - even at this late date, you can take some steps to help pay those college bills.

Here are a few ideas to consider:

Don't panic - You don't have to pay the full year's tuition, room and board up front - you will likely be billed in installments that may correspond to the school's quarter or semester system. This payment system doesn't lessen your overall costs, of course, but it does give you a bit of time to come up with additional funding sources. For example, if you have a bond coming due in the middle of the college calendar, you can use the

proceeds to help pay for school.

Liquidate assets in timely manner - If you've earmarked certain investments for college, try not to liquidate them until it's absolutely time to write out a check - the longer you can keep your investments growing, the better off you'll be.

Look at Roth IRA - If you have a Roth IRA, you can withdraw contributions, tax- and penalty-free, to help pay for your child's education. Certain conditions apply to penalty-free withdrawals, so you should talk to your tax advisor for more information. And keep in mind, if you start withdrawing earnings, you'll have to pay taxes on them unless you meet certain conditions.

If you have more time - If you still have a few years before your children head off to school, you may want to take advantage of some of the more popular college-savings plans. Here are two to consider:

Section 529 plans - When you set up a Section 529 savings plan, you put money in specific investments, which are managed by the plan administrator. If you participate in your own state's Section 529 plan, you may be able to deduct your contributions from your state income taxes. Your plan contribution limits are high, and your withdrawals are free from federal income

taxes, as long as the money is used for qualified college or graduate school expenses.

Withdrawals for expenses other than qualified education expenditures may be subject to federal, state and penalty taxes.

(Section 529 tax benefits are only effective through 2010, unless extended by Congress. Also, a Section 529 plan could reduce your child's or grandchild's ability to qualify for financial aid. Because tax issues for 529 plans can be complicated, please consult your tax adviser.)

Coverdell Education Savings Account - Depending on your income level, you can contribute up to \$2,000 annually to a Coverdell Education Savings Account. Your Coverdell earnings and withdrawals will be tax-free, provided you use the money for qualified education expenses. (Any non-education withdrawals from a Coverdell Account may be subject to a 10 percent penalty.) You can fund your Coverdell Education Savings Account with virtually any investment you choose - stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, etc. And you can contribute to a Coverdell Account in the same year that you put money into a Section 529 plan.

Consider all options - Putting together a good college-funding plan - either at the last minute or years in advance - can test your resources and ingenuity. But by diligently exploring all your options, it's a test you should be able to "pass."

What Does Interest Rate Hike Mean to You?

As expected, the Federal Reserve raised short-term interest rates five consecutive times since June. These rate hikes may make the evening news — but what do they mean to you, as an investor?

Before you can answer this question, you need to be somewhat familiar with why the Federal Reserve raises rates in the first place. In a nutshell, the Fed increases rates in hopes of curbing economic growth just enough to combat inflation — but not enough to derail an economic expansion.

The Fed reiterated that it intends to raise rates at a gradual “measured” pace to a more neutral level. However, it also added that it would respond to changes that raised the threat of inflation. There continues to be some uncertainty regarding how much and how long the Fed will raise rates. However, those questions can only be answered by the future strength of the economy. Therefore, economic indicators will be looked at closely in order to get a better idea of what the Fed might do.

In short, there’s no formulaic way to gauge the effect of the Fed’s actions on your investments. However, you probably can’t go wrong if you take these steps:

Don’t panic — Keep in mind that interest rates were very low before the Fed’s decision. In fact, the Fed had actually lowered rates 13 times since 2001, resulting in a federal funds rate of 1 percent — the lowest since 1958. And the Fed’s action only moved the funds rate to 1.25 percent — still extraordinarily low by any standards. In short, you don’t need to consider drastic measures, because, as yet, things haven’t changed that much.

Diversify — Build and maintain a diversified portfolio of stocks, bonds, government securities, certificates of deposit and other investments. Diversification can help protect you against sharp price declines that may primarily affect just one asset class.

Look for quality — Keep investing in high-quality stocks. Over the long term, high-quality companies — those with solid management,

competitive products and strong track records of profitability and earnings — are likely to reward you, no matter where interest rates are headed.

“Buy and hold “ — If you’ve chosen high-quality stocks, you don’t need to unload them solely because interest rates may be rising. You’re much better off holding these stocks for the long term — until either your needs change or the companies themselves move in a different direction.

Build a bond ladder — If you invest in bonds, you don’t want to constantly adjust your holdings in response to changes in interest rates. Instead, build a “bond ladder” — a group of bonds of varying maturities. When rates are rising, you’ll be able to reinvest the proceeds of short-term bonds that come due, and when rates are falling, you’ll have your long-term bonds, with higher rates, working for you.

You can’t predict the future course of interest rates. But by making these basic moves, you can go a long way toward achieving investment success — in all interest-rate environments.

Discuss Finances Before Wedding - and After Honeymoon

It’s summer - a popular time for weddings. If you’re planning on getting married this month, you’ve got a lot of things to think about: guests, flowers, honeymoon, etc. However, there’s one factor you won’t want to overlook: how you will handle finances as a couple. It may not be as much fun to talk about as the food you will have at your reception, but as your marriage progresses, it will be far more important.

In fact, financial troubles are often cited as one of the leading causes of divorce. And, as you go through life, you’ll find that you can’t prevent every type of financial woe, such as a job loss, an unexpected medical bill, and so on. But there’s a lot you can control - if you work together.

Before the wedding: Open the books

Before you get married, you should already know your fiancée’s temperament, likes and dislikes and favorite activities. But do you know how much money he or she makes? How about debt? How large are his or her debt payments each month? What amount of savings will your future spouse bring into the marriage?

It may feel strange to talk about these issues before you “tie the knot.” But it will be a valuable conversation. Try to conduct it when you both have plenty of time, and aren’t stressed out over wedding plans or other issues. And don’t keep any secrets: Bring out all sources of income, all debts, all savings and investments - everything you both will bring into the marriage. Once you’re married, neither one of you should be surprised at what the other owns or owes.

After the wedding: Chart your course

Early in your marriage, you’ll want to make some long-lasting financial decisions. Here are two to consider:

Joint or separate checking? - Should you maintain a joint checking account, two separate accounts, or a joint account plus individual accounts? There’s really no one right answer for everyone. You might want to use a joint checkbook to pay for the mortgage, utilities, car payment and other major expenses that you incur together, while keeping individual accounts to pay for personal expenses or purchases. However, if you do keep a joint account, you

should both agree on what it’s to be used for, and how much you will each contribute to it.

What are your investment goals? - Talk about those goals for which you’ll want to invest, such as a house or a specific retirement lifestyle. If you have children, you may want to save for college. In any case, once you know what you’re saving for, you’ll be able to establish appropriate investment strategies, possibly with the help of a financial professional. Keep in mind that you and your spouse may have different tendencies - that is, you might favor aggressive investments, while your spouse may be more conservative. You’ll need to reach some common ground if you’re going to invest in a way that will satisfy both of you.

Communication is key

Ultimately, the biggest factor behind your financial success as a couple isn’t how much you make or how cleverly you manage your money - it’s how well you communicate. If you’re always on the same page, your story will likely have a happy ending.

Finance Resource Guide

City of Columbus
Finance Department
645-8200
Income Tax
645-7370

Columbus Compact Corporation
Engine House 11
1000 E Main St
Columbus, OH 43205

BankOne
Personal Banking 800.310.1111
Small Business Banking 800.404.4111
First Mortgages
800.800.4663
Job Line
614.248.0779
www.bankone.com

David Cunningham, Edward Jones
Investment Representative
179 E Beck St
Columbus, OH 43206
614.461.5803

ELH & Associates
Relationship/Wealth Mgt
1983 Merryhill Drive
Columbus, OH 43219
614.209.9748

Fifth Third Bank
Small Business Lending 614.233.4691
Mortgages
614.233.4648
Job Line
614.341.2611
www.53.com

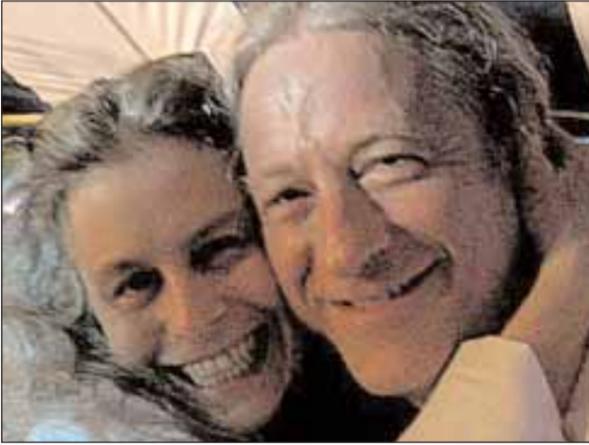
Huntington National Bank
Personal Banking 614.480.2265
Commercial Lending 614.480.5279
Mortgage Loans
614.480.6505
Job Opportunity
614.480.5627
www.huntington.com

National City
Personal Banking 800.347.5626
New Small Business 888.622.4249
Mortgage Loans
800.752.0508
www.nationalcity.com

Have a Financial resource that should be listed?
Just give us a call at 614.251.0926.
Listings are free!

Neighborhood Life

Hot Times Sizzles in September



The 29th Annual Hot Times Community Arts and Music Festival will sizzle on September 9, 10 & 11, 2005 at 240 Parsons Avenue, on the lawns of the Columbus Health Department (corner of Main & Parsons).

Hot Times is an independent, three-day event that includes entertainment, art, activities and delicious food. It's a house-rockin' party of friends and everyone is invited!

The Main Street Stage features a strong line-up of local, regional and national favorites: "Concerts To Remember", features a performance dedicated to the memory of Near East Community artist, neighbor or friend who was active in the Arts or community.

The Listen For the Jazz All-Star Jam led by Gene Walker fills the stage on Sunday afternoon with an ever-changing performing ensemble. Jazz musicians are welcome to come and jam. This year the Jam is dedicated to the memory of Jazz veterans Sammy Hopkins and Billy Brown.

The Community Stage, blossoms with a bigger and better schedule filled with spoken word, drumming, dance, and choirs. and Myke Rock's SoloFest. The Poetry Slam organized by Is Said



on Sunday afternoon is always a treat.

The Columbus Children's Parade, organized by Central Community House, steps off Saturday at 11:30 A.M. from Linwood and Bryden – Kids and parents gather at Kwanzaa Playground and march right up the middle of Bryden Road, to the Festival, in a noisy and energetic group!

The Hot Times Art Car Show is the largest gathering of Art Cars in the Central Ohio –. What a Hot Times sight on the streets of Columbus! See Art Cars close up – visit the artists!

The Hot Times Street Fair is always full of rare treasures, collectibles, and art. Visual Arts components including; an art exhibit by community artists, organized by photographer Kojo Kamau; "Wali" Walt Neal will paint a new mural on the grounds during the Festival; award winning art educator Jim Arter will create an audience inner-active, art project; and a Hot Times Art Car will be assembled.

Hot Times Honored Community Artists for 05 will be chosen in July – nominations will be taken anytime between now and July 15, at hottimesfestival@cs.com. Artists and arts admin-



istrators with activities in the Near East or Central City Area may be nominated.

Delicious Food will include everything from ribs, brats and hot dogs, fried fish sandwiches, salads, red beans and rice, stir fry and smoothies, pastries, middle eastern delights, Caribbean treats and more!

There is plenty of free parking! Both stages are sheltered from sun and rain!

The Festival is strongly supported by area and regional businesses, The Ohio Arts Council, The Franklin County Arts Fund, Greater Columbus Arts Council, The Columbus Health Department, The City of Columbus, BP, ComFest, Central Community House, The Columbus Foundation, and Roots Records.

To become part of the festival or to volunteer, send email to: hottimesfestival@cs.com. Visit the web site at www.hottimesfestival.com.



"Plant Pride, Not Litter" A Success

On Saturday, April 16th, more than 400 volunteers gathered to clean-up and spruce up targeted areas in the Driving Park and King-Lincoln-Bronzeville neighborhoods. The festive kick-off culminated more than four months of planning toward launching a year around effort to abate litter and beautify select sites in residential areas and in commercial corridors.

On the day, more than 500 bags of litter were removed from EZ streets and alleyways, graffiti removed from buildings, a ball field manicured, tree limbs from the winter storm set to the curbs, and old tires removed from streets and alleys. The most impressive part of the effort was the number of EZ residents and youthful volunteers that took part in the project. Energy and the spirit of volunteerism exuded from participants. From the start of the kick-off speeches, through the regimen of

calisthenics demonstrated by the City Year "Young Heroes", the excitement of service was contagious. As a result of the effort, regularly scheduled clean-ups and beautification efforts will occur through the end of the year in both the Driving Park and King-Lincoln-Bronzeville communities, a Litter Forum will be facilitated by ODNR, and an on-going marketing campaign to encourage residents and businesses to keep their properties litter-free and beautified.

Partners in the project continue to include the King-Lincoln-Bronzeville Neighborhood Association, Driving Park Area Commission, City Year, Keep Columbus Beautiful, Near East Pride Center, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Recycling and Litter Prevention, Ohio Department of Transportation, the Urban League, the Columbus Housing

Partnership, and the Labor and Industry Council for a Cleaner Ohio. The project combined the efforts of ODNR's "Plant Pride, Not Litter" program, Keep America Beautiful's "Great American Clean-Up" initiatives and the annual celebration of "Earth Day". Special thanks are extended to Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Columbus, Donatos Pizza, Lowe's-Hudson Avenue, Livingston Avenue merchants for their generous contributions made to the project.

Future plans include the development of an on-going working group to steer the effort, recruitment of additional volunteers and corporate sponsors and expansion into other EZ neighborhoods. To get involved in the project as a volunteer or if you are interested in donating planting materials to aid in beautification efforts contact Steven Waller at (614) 251-0926 or swaller@colscmpact.com.



What Do You Know About Community Partners

History of Community Partners

Recognizing that young people lack the opportunity for positive experiences and activities, Community Partners was established in January of 1999 as a non-profit youth development organization for Columbus' inner-city youth to come together in a structured forum to devise and carry out service projects in their own community.

Organization Vision

Community Partners rest on the premise that young people are a respectable, concerned, powerful, yet under-utilized force in their community. The organization views children as assets who have the time, ideas, creativity, and connections in the community, and are willing to work hard in order to help themselves and others. Providing them with support and encouragement, experience and skills, Community Partners proves that young people, given a chance, can be a strong and positive change agents, playing a meaningful role in meeting their community's needs. They require only enthusiasm and an open heart.

Organization Mission

Community Partners' Mission is to be a leading provider of youth development services giving every child the opportunity to achieve excellence in any area and be leaders in their communities.

Current Programs

Community Partners currently has programs catering to youth ranging from elementary to college levels. The programs are designed to improve social, educational, and personal skills of today's youth. Current programs include: After-School Enrichment Programs, Educare Tutorial Program, All Aboard Reading Program, Family Links Parenting Program, Hand-in-Hand Mentoring Program, Young Entrepreneur Club, Young Investor Club, Esteem Builders, Recreational Arts Program (RAP), Business & Entrepreneur Support Team, and Rising Star Sport Camp.

Recreation Arts Program (RAP)

Community Partners is devoted to arts education for children and the community as a whole.

With innovative outreach programs, Community Partners will bring the arts to chil-

dren in schools, as well as taking children to concerts, studios, plays, museums, and galleries. RAP is designed to enhance the awareness of both the performing and fine arts.

RAP also conducts workshops, which include an arts career/occupational focused discussion introducing the participants to the arts. Participants will meet and learn directly from successfully professional musicians, producers, artists, and consultants who will assist in mentoring of participants from a variety of arts related careers.

RAP Goals

1. To assist young people in obtaining equitable access to careers and opportunities in the performing and fine arts where they are under represented.
2. To introduce young people the variety of occupations and careers available. (i.e. Music Entertainment, Fine Arts, Fashion Apparel and Surface Design.
3. To provide participants with a general understanding of the T-shirt apparel industry by allowing them the opportunity to produce a quality garment with their own original art.
4. To introduce the basics of entrepreneurship through their art and provide counseling and information about further education, training, mentoring, and financial aid that might support their career goals and expectations.

Events

Community Partners presents the Midwest Urban Music Showcase. This conference and showcase presents the critical components to educating one's self about intangible information regarding the entertainment industry. Sessions focusing on management, "shopping" for a record deal, publishing rights, legal issues, along with marketing and promotions were presented and discussed by reputable individuals from various record labels, performing rights societies, publishing companies, and industry organizations. National recording artists such as Bow Wow, Queen Pen, Parrish Smith of EPMD, Bizzy Bone of Bone Thugs In Harmony, DJ Mix Master Ice, Farrah Franklin (formerly of Destiny's Child), and others have been guest panelists who have testified to both the triumphs

as well as the often unheard tribulations experienced in the day to day operations of music and entertainment.

In a time now when other music conferences have strayed away from educating and have shifted the focus more towards the entertainment activities for the weekend, Community Partners' mission is to equip the aspiring artist with the necessary tools upon which to build a solid foundation. The goal is to bring aspiring and inquisitive individuals, of various demographic backgrounds, from the Midwest region together for a day-long showcase and workshop that will strongly encourage a sense of research, education, and networking opportunities. Our target city market has been extended to cover major cities in the region such as Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Louisville, and others.

Community Partners, 67 Parsons Ave, Columbus, OH 43215. Executive Director, Derrick Pannell, Sr.

1st Annual Franklinton Board of Trade Golf Outing at Cooks Creek Golf Course

Franklinton Board of Trade announces its first ever golf outing on Wednesday, August 24. The networking/socializing/fundraising event has a 10:00am shotgun start.

Cooks Creek is 6648 yds and 72par. It has a 71.3 course rating and a 131 slope.

Price is \$75.00 per golfer or \$300.00 per foursome! Hole sponsors are needed!

Cooks Creek Golf Club is located at 16405 US Highway 23 South, Ashville, OH 43103.

Come support FBT and have a great time!

For additional information contact Franklinton Board of Trade at 614-224-7550.



King Arts Complex 7th Annual Heritage Concert Series

The 7th Annual Heritage Concert Series returns this year to Mayme Moore Park Thursdays in July and August. The concerts will offer several new venues for our patrons during the 05/06 seasons. There will be a wine patio which was introduced last season but we will actually have a fenced



in area outside of the Multi-Purpose Room for our patrons to purchase wine and beer and listen to the concerts.

They are also adding a Food Court along the back of the parking lot featuring a selection of fish, chicken, barbeque and desserts. The King Arts Complex will sell all beverages.

Vendors can purchase a table for businesses that assist the community, such as Urban League, Columbus Realist, etc. If you know of any businesses that would like to purchase a table for \$100 per concert, or \$600 for the entire series, please have them contact CarrMel Ford White, Performing Arts Director - (614) 645-0629

7th Annual Heritage Concert Series Line Up

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| July 21 | NexLevel (Jazz) |
| July 28 | S 17th (Jazz/Classic R&B) & Therepi (Neo Soul) |
| Aug 4 | Afro Rican Ensemble (Latin Jazz) |
| Aug 11 | FYI Band (Jazz) |
| Aug 18 | Bobby Floyd (Jazz) |
| Aug 25 | Shawn "Thunder" Wallace (Jazz) |



Neighborhood Training Academy Announces Course Offerings

Creating strong neighborhoods requires constant effort and collaboration.

Neighborhood groups deal with everything from zoning and historic preservation, to managing conflict and understanding cultural change, to designing a newsletter and using effective public relations. In response to these diverse needs, the Neighborhood Partnership Center at United Way of Central Ohio has launched its Neighborhood Training Academy for 2005 including nearly 40 courses on leadership and organizational development, financial management, program development and community organizing.

The Neighborhood Training Academy has partnered with nearly 20 consultants, non-profit organizations, government agencies and faith-based institutions to provide training. "The training academy is a creative learning environment designed for neighborhood groups and individuals. The center empowers residents to promote positive change in their neighborhoods," said Michael Wilkos, Director of Neighborhood Development at United Way.

Classes began in early June and will run through the end of the year. All are open to the public, and range from free to \$20. Most of the classes are held at United Way's downtown office and generally occur in the evening to accommodate work

schedules.

The Neighborhood Training Academy is a partnership between the United Way of Central Ohio and the Columbus Compact Corporation.

"We believe neighborhoods are best served by the people and organizations in them, and our training academy helps to build the capacity of these neighborhoods from within," said Wilkos. Nearly a dozen successful neighborhood training academies were studied from around the nation in order to determine the type of courses the Neighborhood Training Academy should provide, he added.

"Columbus is fortunate to have so many incredibly vibrant neighborhoods and the Neighborhood Training Academy is working to grow and strengthen these neighborhoods through technical assistance, training, and capacity building efforts," Wilkos added.

The Neighborhood Training Academy also offers computer terminals with internet access and a resource library. For a complete listing of classes, you can log on to www.uwcentralohio.org or call (614) 241-3072. Copies of the calendar of courses can also be picked up at the office of United Way of Central Ohio, 360 South Third Street.

The following courses will be offered from July through September:

Course	Date	Facilitator	Cost
Value of Historic Preservation	7-18-05	Columbus Landmarks & Historic Preservation Office	\$20.00
Developing A Neighborhood Market Study	7-19-05	In Cooperation with The Danter Company	\$10.00
Starting a Neighborhood Blockwatch	7-20-05	Columbus Department of Public Safety	Free
Creating an Effective Newsletter and Brochure	7-21-05	Formation Studio	\$20.00
Measuring Success of Your Neighborhood Project	7-26-05	United Way	\$10.00
Insurance for Nonprofits	7-27-05	Nonprofit Specialty Insurance	\$10.00
The A.R.T. of Collaborations	8-10-05	Neighborhood House	\$15.00
Urban Parks & Green Space	8-16-05	KnowledgePlex	Free
Simple Techniques to Maintaining Older and Historic Housing	8-17-05	Columbus Landmarks Foundation; Durable Slate	\$20.00
Cultural Change and Understanding	8-23-05	Columbus Community Relations Commission	\$10.00
Best Practices for Improving Your Neighborhood Park	8-30-05	Columbus Recreation & Parks	Free
Community Leadership and Organizing	9-7-05	BREAD Organization	\$15.00
Conducting Effective Meetings	9-14-05	Mary Remson, Consultant	\$15.00
Linking Housing, Retail and Jobs	9-16-05	KnowledgePlex	Free
Introductory Grant Writing	9-21&28-05	Columbus State Community College	\$15.00
Comprehensive Neighborhood Strategies	9-27-05	Enterprise Foundation	\$15.00

Short North Business Assoc Gets New Director



John Angelo, SNBA Executive Director (left) and Gina Cronley, SNBA Board President (right) meet with Mayor Michael Coleman to discuss plans for the SNBA's 2005 Via Colori Street Painting Festival.

The SNBA was established in 1986. Its primary purpose was to promote the Short North as the up-and-coming Arts District. Over the years, as the Short North prospered, the scope of the organization's role steadily grew to include community relations, event production, fundraising, economic collaborations, regional marketing and business development.

Gina Cronley, SNBA Board President noted: "The SNBA took the selection of its new Executive Director very seriously. The Short North is the most celebrated Arts District in the region and one of Columbus' most valuable, signature assets. Our prime location creates amazing opportunities for collaborations with OSU, the Convention Center, the Arena District and the Uptown District. Our mix of galleries, shops, restaurants and entertainment venues makes us one of the most vibrant and attractive destinations in the city. As our stature has grown, so has the complexity of the Director's duties. We needed a person who could juggle the daily operations and existing commitments while pioneering new frontiers with a long-range perspective."

An exhaustive, three-month search yielded nearly 100 potential candidates. Ultimately, the SNBA selected Angelo, a community developer and owner of an event-consulting firm based in Cincinnati.

Dean Berlon, Search Committee chair, comments: "We were impressed with John's holistic approach to fostering a healthy business and arts environment. His experience in building coalitions and strategic marketing has yielded strong results in Cincinnati and meshes extremely well with our development vision."

Angelo will transition to Columbus and into the SNBA role beginning June 15th. In addition to managing the SNBA's daily operations, Angelo will play an integral role in the SNBA's public relations and marketing campaigns, promotional projects, public events, membership communications, business development and community outreach initiatives.

On Columbus and the Short North, Angelo offers: "I have been a fan of the Short North for years. As is the rest of the world, I am drawn to the energy, spirit and flavor of the area. As the district matures it has to compete effectively with other shopping and entertainment destinations vying for customers' dollars. Packaging and promoting are essential and focusing on the customer's experience from beginning to end is paramount. Making the Short North Arts District even more of a destination for locals, suburbanites and tourists is the goal. To this end, I want to tell the District's story and be a part of its evolution. I'm looking forward to working with the businesses, the city and our partners in nurturing and promoting this jewel of the Midwest."

A former Procter & Gamble analyst, Angelo graduated from the University of Florida and received his MBA in marketing from the University of Cincinnati.

Positive and Productive Summer Vacation Ideas

The final school bell of the year has rung and our neighborhoods and living rooms are once again filled with children. If left entirely to their own devices, many children would simply spend their time this summer watching daytime TV or movies or playing video games. What can parents do this summer to make our children's summer vacation a more productive and positive experience?

Keep Reading Alive. Child educators know how hard it can be to start school again in the fall when children have just vegetated all summer. By taking a positive approach to a summer reading program, you can help their minds stay active all summer. While shopping, purchase a few new books to build your child's personal library. Most public libraries offer a summer reading program where kids can check out books, read them and qualify for some rewards during the summer. Find the branch your local library nearest you and make a call or visit the library's website for more summer reading program information.



Consider Day Camps. During the summer, there are lots of organizations that offer summer day camps. These may be one day, or every day for a week or two, or a few days during the summer. SummerDayCamps.com offers a free listing of day camps. Also contact organizations such as the local parks and recreation department, Boys and Girls Club, colleges and universities, YM/YWCA or local churches to determine what day camp services are available.



Summer is Recreation Time. Your local community probably offers inexpensive summer recreation programs. You might consider swimming lessons or a sport with which your child is not yet familiar. Tennis, golf, outdoor education programs are often on the menu. Some youth centers will offer music lessons, softball and baseball leagues



and more. You can contact local youth serving agencies to find out more. Keeping your child physically active during the summer months is a great way to promote family fitness.

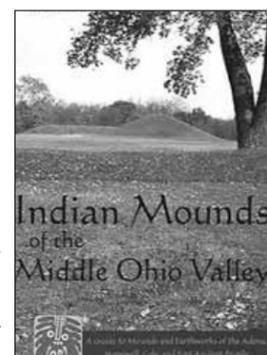
Consider daylong field trips. Some of the most memorable experiences for families are field trips to museums, historical sites, aquariums and the like. Learning experiences abound with visits to a local planetarium, children's museum, zoo, professional sports contest or other resources. It can be great fun and a great learning experience at the same time.



How about giving back? Many families find that volunteering is a great summer activity. You may be surprised to know that there are many opportunities for adults and children to volunteer together in your own community. Volunteer Match is a great website that lists community volunteering opportunities in the community; you can search by zip code and interest to find things you can do to give of yourselves this summer.



Take an Education Vacation. While it is fun to camp and fish, or to head to a famous amusement park, another fun alternative is to take a trip that involves learning. State, regional or national historic sites within driving distance make for great educational opportunities. If you are visiting another city this summer, check out the local museums and other sites of interest. You may be surprised at finding out the depth and breadth of the community you are visiting.



Summer vacation is an opportunity for a break from the regimented world of the school year. But it doesn't have to be a time for just relaxing. By balancing the need for a little down time with a focus on a productive summer, families can make the most of this great time of year.

Neighborhood Resource Guide

NEIGHBORHOOD ADVOCATES

Sylvia A. Garrett
1259 Crooked Tree Ct, 43081
614.890.9009ph 614.890.6203fx
GarrettSG@aol.com

Rosalyn R White, President
Accent & Arts Technology Services
PO Box 09045, 432309
614.579.4734
rwhitell@columbus.rr.com

Suzanne Parks
294-2 N. Roosevelt Avenue, 43209
614.239.1650ph 614.235.0837fx
Sparks1548@aol.com

Doyline Williams, President
Business Resources Unlimited
92 Edgevale Road, 43209
614.470.0229ph 614.235.7542fx
thepeoplewhoknow@netwalk.com

Indira Mulligan
209 Piedmont Rd, 43214
614.262.1589
indiramulligan@yahoo.com

CITY OF COLUMBUS
Recreation & Parks 614.645.3300
Neighborhood Services 614.645.2869

COLUMBUS COMPACT CORPORATION
Engine House 11
1000 E Main St
Columbus, OH 43205
Contact: Dr Steven Waller
614.251.0926

THE HERITAGE DISTRICTS

Contact: Christopher Hayes
614.251.0926

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS AND COMMISSIONS

The Argyle Park Civic Association
Duxberry Elementary,
1779 W. Maynard Ave.
Meets 2nd Tuesday of month, 6:30p
Contact: Gloria Zebs Anderson 614.267.2693

Driving Park Area Commission
Hope Lutheran Church
820 Lilley Ave
Meets 4th Tuesday of month, 7p
Contact: David Glenn 614.252.9162

East Columbus Civic Association
E. Columbus Community Center,
2743 E 5th Ave
Meets 3rd Thursday of month, 6:30p
Chair: Dr Troy Shaw 614.253.9388

The Franklinton Area Commission
Franklinton Library
1061 W Town St
Meets 2nd Tuesday of month, 6:30p
Chair: Helen Evans 614.274.8967

Franklin Park Area Association
Franklin Park Conservatory
1777 E Broad St, lower level room
Meets 4th Tuesday of month, 6:30p
Contact: Sandi Potts 614.258.9767

Greater Hilltop Area Commission
The Hilltop Library
511 S Hague Ave
Meets 1st Tuesday of month, 7:30p
Contact: Patrick McLean
614.272.5146

Italian Village Historic Review
Commission
109 N Front St.
Meets 3rd Tuesday of month, 6:15p
Chair: Steve Hurtt 614.299.9028

King-Lincoln Bronzeville
Bethany Presbyterian Church
206 N Garfield Ave
Meets 1st Saturday of month, 4p
614.258.6842
Contact: Willis Brown

Milo Grogan Commission
Tried Stone Missionary Baptist Church
858 E 3rd Ave.
Meets 2nd Tuesday of month, 7p
Chair: Rick Mann 614.294.0450

Mount Vernon Avenue District
Improvement Association
University Hospital East
1492 E Broad St
Meets 3rd Wed of month, 11a
Contact: Melvin Steward

Near East Area Commission
12th Precinct Community Policing
Center
950 East Main St
Meets 2nd Thurs. of month, 6:30p
Chair: Kathleen Bailey 614.252.3283

North Central Area Commission
Brittany Hills Recreation Center
2618 Bethesda Ave
Meets 4th Thursday of month, 6:30p
Chair: Jimmie Moreland, III
614.291.4399

Old Oaks Civic Association
St. John's Learning Center,
640 S Ohio Ave, enter in back
Meets 2nd Monday of month, 6:30p

Shepard Community Association
St. Paul United Methodist Church
2260 E 5th Ave.
Meets 3rd Saturday of month 10:30a
Except August.
Chair: Sharon Archie 614.252.4303

South Linden Area Commission
Linden Resource Center
2572 Cleveland Ave.
Meets 3rd Tuesday of month, 7p
Chair: George Walker, Jr 614.294.0273

University Community Association
Northwood & High Building
2231 N High St, Rm. 200
Meets 2nd Wed. of month, 6:30p
Chair: Sharon Young 614.294.5113

The Temperature is Rising: Tips to Avoid Summer Heat Emergencies



With the advent of summer, torrid temperatures will follow. With rising temperatures comes the risk of heat related illness. The risk of heat exhaustion and heat stroke rises along with the temperature and humidity. Commonsense precautions and an awareness of symptoms can help you prevent the illnesses—or get prompt treatment for them.

General advice. Heat illnesses occur when the body's own cooling mechanism becomes overloaded. Follow these tips to make things easy on yourself:

- Dress lightly in hot weather.
- Limit physical exertion.
- Take frequent cooling-off breaks in the shade or air conditioning.
- Drink plenty of liquids to prevent dehydration from perspiring. Bring water along when you will be out in the heat for many hours, and drink before, during, and after outdoor activities. Be very cautious with caffeine and alcohol; they can cause your body to lose more fluid than you take in.

Heat exhaustion is marked by muscle cramps, often in the calf, heavy perspiring, nausea, weakness, and dizziness or faintness. If symptoms occur, stop what you're doing, get out of the heat, and have a cool drink. Stretch or massage cramped muscles. If cooling off doesn't resolve faintness, or if confusion, high fever, or seizures occur, seek emergency medical help.

Heat stroke is a life-threatening emergency that can damage almost every major organ. Symptoms can include profound confusion and a gradual loss of consciousness or even coma, racing pulse, rapid breathing, and convulsions. Body temperature soars to 105° F or more. Call for emergency help immediately.

Heat stroke is treated with intravenous fluids and by cooling the body as rapidly as possible. While waiting for help to arrive, have the person lie down in a cool place with legs elevated, loosen or remove sweat-soaked clothes, and apply cool cloths or ice packs to the armpits, wrists, ankles, and groin. Offer cool water only when the person is fully conscious.

Safety Tips and Preventive Skills for a Safe and Fun Summer

Summertime Safety for children

Summertime is now here. This usually means more time outdoors for children of all ages and that you have to keep their safety in mind at all times to prevent injuries.

Hazards to children in the summer and which can pose a risk for serious injury and death include drownings, food poisoning, and fireworks injuries. You should also take precautions to protect your children from sunburn, poison ivy, and insect bites and stings.

Water Safety

According to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission, an estimated 260 children under five years of age drown each year in residential swimming pools and spas. The Commission estimates that another 3,000 children under age five are treated in hospital emergency rooms following submersion accidents each year. Some of these submersion accidents result in permanent brain damage. Nationally, drowning is the fourth leading cause of death to children under five. In some states such as California, Florida and Arizona, drowning is the leading cause of accidental death to children under five.

To ensure that your children are safe, never leave them unsupervised around water. Here are some tips to keep your child safe around the water this summer:

Teach your child to swim, but remember that younger children shouldn't be left unsupervised around water even if they know how to swim. The AAP recommends that children under age four not be given formal swimming lessons, especially as a primary means to prevent the risk of drowning. Always wear a safety approved life jacket when on a lake, river or ocean while boating, water skiing, jet skiing or tubing. Warn your children about playing in canals or other fast moving water. Do not let your child play around any water (lake, pool, ocean, etc.) without adult supervision (even if he is a good swimmer). Don't allow running or rough play around the water. Childproof your swimming pool with a fence around your backyard and a fence (at least 4 feet high) around the pool, with a self-closing, self-latching gate. Also consider having a phone poolside and learning CPR in case of emergencies.

Sun Safety

It is now well known that exposure to sun puts people at risk for skin cancer and premature aging and that most of that exposure comes during childhood (80% of a person's lifetime sun exposure occurs before they are 21). Regular use of sunscreen in children can lower their risk of skin cancer by almost 78%.

There are many sunscreens available for safe use in children over six months old. Pick one that offers UVA and UVB protection and that has a SPF of 15 or higher (especially if your child has light skin). Apply the sunscreen in a thick coat at least 30-45 minutes before going outside and reapply every two hours (or more often in he is swimming or perspiring heavily).

Here are some other tips to protect your child from the damaging effects of the sun.

Wear protective clothing, including a hat and long sleeve shirt and long pants. Keep in mind that most clothing only has a SPF of 5-9, so you can still get sun damage with a shirt on.

Limit exposure to the sun when it is at its strongest (10am-4pm).

Protect your child's eyes with sunglasses that protect against UVA and UVB radiation.

Use sunscreen daily, even if it is cloudy, since most of the sun's radiation penetrates clouds and can still cause sunburn.

Consider using a sunscreen with ingredients (such as zinc oxide or titanium dioxide) that physically block the sun's radiation if your child has sensitive skin. Deet lowers the effectiveness of sunscreens, so use a higher SPF if you are using a combination product that has both a sunscreen and an insect repellent.

Playgrounds and Park Safety

Playgrounds and Parks are a great source of fun during the Summer months, and following a few simple guidelines can make sure that they are a safe source of fun too.

Never leave children unattended by water. Even a small or shallow "kiddie pool" can be dangerous, because children can drown in as little as one inch of water.

If your child enjoys biking, rollerblading, skateboarding or riding a scooter, make sure that they know they have to wear a helmet at all times.

When in the Playground supervise your children carefully and make sure they stay clear of the front and back of swings when they are in use. Remove drawstrings from windbreakers, sweatshirts or other outerwear to prevent the risk of strangulation.

Keep children away from fires and barbecues, and always have water around when a fire is in use. Never let a child use lighter fluid, and never leave lighter fluid unattended.

Fireworks Safety

The American traditions of parades, cookouts, and fireworks help us celebrate the summer season. Fireworks were also be a part of many celebrations welcoming the new millennium. However, fireworks can turn a joyful celebration into a painful memory when children and adults are injured while incorrectly using fireworks. Consumers should be aware that fireworks — even legal fireworks — can be dangerous, causing serious burn and eye injuries. Illegal fireworks are especially dangerous and present substantial risks that can result in deaths, blindings, amputations and severe burns. The US consumer Product safety Commission strongly recommends that consumers leave fireworks to the professionals.

LEAVE FIREWORKS TO THE PROFESSIONALS!

But if the fireworks are legal where you live and you decide to set them off on your own, be sure to follow these important safety tips:

- Never allow children to play with or ignite fire works.
- Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from the house, dry leaves, and flammable materials.
- Never try to re-light fireworks that have not fully functioned.
- Keep a bucket of water handy in case of a malfunction or a fire.

Burglary Prevention

Physical security constitutes 90 percent of burglary prevention. If your home is locked and unautho-

OSU Hospital East Celebrates the Opening of New Emergency Department

The Ohio State University Hospital East celebrated the opening of its new emergency department at a ribbon cutting ceremony Thursday, June 23 at 1:30 p.m.

Since The Ohio State University Medical Center established University Hospital East in 1999, a significant investment in facilities, equipment, staff and programs has occurred, supporting the expansion and strengthening of services to the east Columbus community.

In response to the dramatic increase in emergency department visits, OSU Medical Center has invested in a new, larger emergency department facility that complements the expertise of the emergency physicians and staff at University Hospital East.

The new \$5 million expansion more than doubles the size of the existing emergency department. In the new facility, approximately 15,000 square feet of space is devoted to direct patient care. Another 10,000 square feet will be utilized as support space for advanced treatment technology, including enhanced radiology testing.

“We have a great team of emergency department physicians and staff,” says Karen Mlawsky, executive director of University Hospital East. “Our new ED will provide a facility to match their skills and will enhance our ability to care for people needing emergency treatment.”

The expanded department includes 26 private examination rooms that provide more privacy and comfort for patients and their family members, three triage areas enabling a quicker and more efficient intake process and a larger waiting area featuring a play space for children, complete with a large aquarium.

New features of the department include an enhanced radiology suite containing one of the

area’s most advanced computerized tomography scanners, which will expedite diagnostic imaging procedures, two specially-designed trauma resuscitation suites and special negative air pressure rooms that prevent the spread of contagious diseases through the ventilation system.



In addition, new communication technology, including highly advanced cardiac monitoring, enables staff to respond quickly to patient needs. Also, two examination rooms with private showers are available for obstetric and gynecologic patients.

The emergency medical service personnel entrance at the new facility minimizes congestion for arriving squads. The entrance located next to the nursing station and trauma rooms provides

staff immediate access to the patients. The emergency department also has a dedicated decontamination room and exterior power outlets to support the auxiliary needs of parked ambulances.

The new emergency department was designed with input from the emergency department staff, patients and the emergency medical service community. The larger, more comfortable and private accommodations were designed around the unique needs of ill or injured patients and their families.

Dr. Michael Dick, medical director of the emergency department, says that he is excited about the opening of the new facility. “The design of the department will provide patients with the most efficient and state-of-the-art-care in the community. Convenient access and leading-edge features will help us better serve our patients,” he said.

In addition, the new emergency department’s enhanced security features support patient, family and staff safety. And, free and expanded parking will increase convenience and access.

In 1999, when University Hospital East was purchased, the emergency department was treating approximately 20,000 people per year. Now, the hospital sees about 34,000 patients in its emergency department annually.

Ohio State purchased the former Park Medical Center in April 1999, renamed it OSU Hospital East and immediately began strengthening and increasing services at the licensed 404-bed facility, located at 1492 E. Broad St. While many of the programs, such as emergency and family medicine, provide vital services to residents of the Columbus community, others, like orthopedic surgery, cardiology, wound healing, addiction medicine and sleep medicine, are attracting patients from throughout Ohio.

Health Resource Guide

HOTLINES

National AIDS Hotline
800.342.2437
National HIV/AIDS Hotline
Spanish.
800.344.7432
National Immunization Hotline
English.
800.232.2522
National Immunization Hotline
Spanish.
800.232.0233
National STD Hotline
800.227.8922
Traveler's Health
877.394.8747
The Ohio Tobacco Quit Line
800.934.4840

Alcoholics Anonymous

1561 Leonard Ave
Columbus, OH 43219-2580
614.253.8501/800.870.3795

Alcohol, Drug and Related Counseling of Columbus

209 S High St
Columbus, OH 43215
614.461.6303

American Lung Association of Ohio Central Region

Molly Fontana, Executive Director
1950 Arlingate Ln
Columbus, Ohio 43228-4102
614. 279.1700
614. 279.4940fx
molly1@ohiolung.org

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Rd
Atlanta, GA 30333
U.S.A
404. 639.3311
404. 639.3312 TTY.
800. 311.3435
www.cdc.gov/netinfo.html

Children's Hospital

700 Children's Dr
Columbus, OH 43205
614.722.2000
www.childrenscolumbus.org

Columbus AIDS Task Force

1751 E. Long St
Columbus, OH 43203
614.299.2437
www.catf.net

Columbus Health Department

240 Parsons Ave
Columbus OH 43215
614.645.7417
www.cmhhealth.org

Columbus Medical Association Foundation

431 E Broad St
Columbus, OH 43215-3820
614. 240.7420
www.cmaf-ohio.org

The Columbus Ohio Partnership for Inner-City Asthma Education (COPICAE)

899 E Broad St
Columbus, OH 43205
614.242.3904
contact: Tilynn Johnson Program Manager. johnsoti@chi.osu.edu
www.copicae.com

Ohio Commission on Minority Health

77 S High St, 7th fl
Columbus, OH
614.466.4000
www.state.oh.us/mih/

Ohio Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Foundation

300 E Broad St, Suite 310
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614. 644.1114
614. 995.4575fx
General Inquiries: info@standohio.org
Grant Program Inquiries: grants@standohio.org

Project LOVE

(childhood vaccinations)
614.654-LOVE (5683)

State of Ohio Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services

2 Nationwide Plaza, 2nd floor,
Columbus, OH 43215
614.728.5090

Have a Health resource that should be listed?

Just give us a call at 614.251.0926.

Listings are free!

Warning Signs of Drug Activity in Neighborhoods

Warm weather brings many positive elements and activities to our community: backyard cookouts, park festivals, swimming, or just drinking a cold glass of lemonade on the porch. Warm weather can also increase other behaviors that are illegal, dangerous, and can lessen the quality of life in our neighborhoods – such as drug activity.

The following list describes signs of drug activity that either you or neighbors may observe. As the list will show, many indicators are visible at times when the landlord is not present. This is one reason why a solid partnership between landlords and neighbors is important.



DEALING

Dealers sell to the end user – so they typically sell small quantities to many purchasers. Dealing locations are like convenience stores – there is a high customer traffic with each customer buying a small amount.

Neighbors may observe:

Heavy traffic. Cars and pedestrians stopping at a home for only brief periods. Traffic may be cyclical, increasing on weekends or late at night, or minimal for a few weeks and then intense for a period of a few days – particularly pay days.

Exchanges of money. Cash and packets traded through windows, mail slots, or under doorways.

Lack of familiarity. Visitors appear to be acquaintances rather than friends.

People bring “valuables” into the unit. Visitors regularly bring televisions, bikes, VCRs, cameras – and leave empty-handed.

Odd car behavior. Visitors may sit in the car for a while after leaving the residence or may leave one person in the car while the other visits. Visitors may also park around a corner or a few blocks away and approach on foot.

“Lookouts.” Frequently these will be younger people who tend to hang around the rental during heavy traffic hours.

Regular activity at extremely late hours. For example, frequent commotion between midnight and 4:00 in the morning on weeknights. (Both cocaine and methamphetamine are stimulants – users tend to stay up at night.)

Various obvious signs. This may include people exchanging small packets for cash, people using drugs while sitting in their cars, syringes left in common areas or on neighboring property, or other paraphernalia lying about.

Landlords may observe:

Failure to meet responsibilities. Failure to pay utility bills or rent, failure to maintain the unit in appropriate condition, general damage to the property. Some dealers smoke or inject much

of their profits – as they get more involved in the drugs, they are more likely to ignore bills, maintenance, and housekeeping.

DISTRIBUTION

Distributors are those who sell larger quantities of drugs to individual dealers or other, smaller distributors. They are the “wholesale” component, while dealers are the “retail” component. If the distributors are not taking the drugs themselves, they can be difficult to identify. A combination of the following indicators may be significant:

Expensive vehicles. Particularly when owned by people otherwise associated with a lower standard of living. Some distributors make it a practice to spend their money on items that are easily moved – so they might drive a \$50,000 car while renting a \$20,000 unit.

Pagers and cellular phones. Particularly when used by people who have no visible means of support.

A tendency to make frequent late-night trips. Many people work swing shifts or have other legitimate reasons to come and go at late hours. However, if you are seeing a number of other signs along with frequent late-night trips, this could be an indicator.

Secretive loading of vehicles. Trucks, trailers, or cars being loaded and unloaded late at night in a hurried, clandestine manner. “Load and distribution houses” (most likely to be found in border states) are essentially repackaging locations and involve moving large quantities of drugs.



MARIJUANA GROW OPERATIONS

Grow operations are hard to identify from the street. They are more likely to be found in single-family residential units than in apartments. In addition to the general signs of excessive fortifications or overly paranoid behavior, other signs are listed below.

Neighbors may observe:

Electrical wiring that has been tampered with. For example, evidence of residents tampering with wiring and hooking directly into power lines.

Powerful lights on all night in the attic or basement. Growers will be using powerful lights to speed the development of the plants.

Landlords may observe:

A sudden jump in utility bills. Grow opera-

tions require strong lighting.

A surprisingly high humidity level in the unit. Grow operations require a lot of moisture. In addition to feeling the humidity, landlords may observe peeling paint or mildewed wall-board or carpet.

Rewiring efforts or bypassed circuitry. Again, grow operations require a lot of electricity – some use 1,000-watt bulbs that require 220-volt circuits. The extra circuitry generally exceeds the power rating for the rental and can burn out the wiring – resulting in fires in some cases, or often the need to rewire before you can rent the property again.

Various obvious signs. For example, basements or attics filled with plants, lights, and highly reflective material (e.g., tinfoil) to speed growing.



METHAMPHETAMINE (METH) LABS

Once a meth “cook” has collected the chemicals and set up the equipment, it doesn’t take long to make the drugs – about 12 hours for one batch. Clandestine labs have been set up in all manner of living quarters, from hotel rooms and RVs, to single-family rentals or apartment units. Lab operators favor units that offer extra privacy. In rural settings it’s barns or houses well away from other residences. In urban settings it might be houses with plenty of trees and shrubs blocking the views, or apartment or hotel units that are well away from the easy view of management. However, while seclusion is preferred, clandestine labs have been found in virtually all types of rental units.

Neighbors may observe:

Strong ammonia smell. Very similar to cat box odor (amalgam process of methamphetamine production).

Other odd chemical odors. The smell of other chemicals or solvents not typically associated with residential housing.

Chemical containers. Chemical drums or other chemical containers with their labels painted over.

Smoke breaks. If other suspicious signs are present, individuals leaving the premises just long enough to smoke a cigarette may also be an indicator. Ether is used in meth production. Ether is highly explosive. Methamphetamine “cooks” get away from it before lighting up.

Landlords may observe:

Strong unpleasant/chemical odors. A par-

ticularly strong cat box/ammonia smell within the rental may indicate usage of the amalgam process for methamphetamine production. The odor of ether, chloroform, or other solvents may also be present.

Chemistry equipment. The presence of flasks, beakers, and rubber tubing consistent with high school chemistry classes. Very few people practice chemistry as a hobby – if you see such articles, don't take it lightly.

A maroon-colored residue on aluminum sashes or other aluminum materials in the unit. The ephedrine process of methamphetamine production is a more expensive process, but it does not give off the telltale ammonia/cat box odor. However the hydroiodic acid involved *does* eat metals and, in particular, leaves a maroon residue on aluminum.

Bottles or jugs used extensively for secondary purposes. For example, milk jugs and screw-top beer bottles full of mysterious liquids.

Discarded chemistry equipment. Garbage containing broken flasks, beakers, tubing, or other chemical paraphernalia.

Note: *If you have reason to believe there is a meth lab on your property, leave immediately, wash your face and hands, and call the narcotics division of your local law enforcement agency to report what you know. If you have reason to believe your exposure has been extensive, contact your doctor – some of the chemicals involved are highly toxic. For more information about meth labs, see the chapter on clandestine drug labs.*

GENERAL

The following may apply to dealing, distribution, or manufacturing.

Neighbors may observe:

Expensive vehicles. Regular visits by people in extremely expensive cars to renters who

appear to be significantly impoverished.

A dramatic drop in activity after police are called. If activity stops after police have been called, but before they arrive, this may indicate usage of a radio scanner, monitoring police bands.

Unusually strong fortification of the unit. Blacked-out windows, window bars, extra deadbolts, surprising amounts spent on alarm systems. Note that grow operators and meth "cooks," in particular, often emphasize fortifications – extra locks and thorough window coverings are typical.

Frequent late-night motorcycle or bicycle trips. This would only be a significant sign if the trips are made from a location where other indicators of drug activity are also observed.

Firearms. Particularly assault weapons and those that have been modified for concealment, such as sawed-off shotguns.

Landlords may observe:

A willingness to pay rent months in advance, particularly in cash. If an applicant offers you six months' rent in advance, resist the urge to accept, and require the person to go through the application process. By accepting the cash without checking, you might have more money in the short run, but your rental may suffer damage, and you may also damage the livability of the neighborhood and the value of your long-term investment.

A tendency to pay in cash combined with a lack of visible means of support. Some honest people simply don't like writing checks, so cash payments by themselves certainly don't indicate illegal activity. However, if other signs are also noted, and there are large amounts of cash with no apparent source of income, get suspicious.

Unusual fortification of individual rooms. For example, deadbolts or alarms on interior

doors.

Willingness to install expensive exterior fortifications. If your tenants offer to pay surprisingly high dollar amounts to install window bars and other exterior fortifications, they may be interested in more than prevention of the average burglary.

Presence of any obvious evidence. Bags of white powder, syringes, marijuana plants, etc. Also note that very small plastic bags – the type that jewelry or beads are sometimes kept in – are not generally used in quantities by most people. The presence of such bags, combined with other factors, should cause suspicion.

Unusually sophisticated weigh scales. The average home might have a food scale or a letter scale – perhaps accurate to an ounce. The scales typically used by drug dealers, distributors, and manufacturers are noticeably more sophisticated – accurate to gram weights and smaller. (Of course, there are legitimate reasons to have such scales as well, so don't consider a scale by itself, as an indicator.)

Large amounts of tinfoil, baking soda, or electrical cords. Tinfoil is used in grow operations and meth production. Baking soda is used in meth production and in the process of converting cocaine to crack. Electrical cords are used in meth labs and grow operations.

Text courtesy of the Landlord Training Program – Keeping Illegal Activity Out of Rental Properties, developed by Campbell DeLong Resources, Inc.



Home Resource Guide

Africentric Personal Development Shop, Inc
1409 E Livingston Ave
Columbus, OH 43205-2926
614.253.4448
www.apdsinc.org
apdsinc@apdsinc.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters Assoc. of Central Ohio
1855 E Dublin Granville Rd, 1st fl
Columbus, OH 43229-3516
614.839.BIGS (2447)
www.bbbscolumbus.org
bbbs@bbbscolumbus.org

Columbus Housing Partnership (CHP)
Down Payment Assistance
562 E Main St
Columbus, OH 43215
614.221.8889 x134
www.chpcolumbus.org

City of Columbus
Fire Division 645-8308
Housing Services 645-7795
Police Division 645-4600
Public Utilities 645-6141
Refuse Collection 645-7620
Sewerage & Drainage 645-7175
Water Division 645-7020

Columbia Gas
200 Civic Center Dr, PO Box 117
Columbus, OH 43216
800.344.4077
www.columbiagasohio.com

Cup of Joy Resource Center, Inc.
95 N 20th St, PO Box 29711
Columbus, OH 43229-0711
614.847.0276
www.acupofjoy.org
singleparents@acupofjoy.org

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC)
Rehabilitation Grants, Homebuyer Education, Down Payment Assistance, Weatherization
285 East Main St
Columbus OH 43215
614-228-2663
www.morpc.org

Rebuilding Together Columbus
Home Repair Program and Building Supply Donations
PO Box 1347
Grove City, OH 43123-6347
614.258.6392
CCIA_98@yahoo.com

Have a Neighborhood resource that should be listed?
Just give us a call at 614.251.0926.

rized entry is made difficult, time consuming, and conspicuous, chances of a successful burglary are minimized.

- Locks on all outside entrances should be double-cylinder deadbolts with movable collars.
- Door jams must be solid. Exposed hinges should be pinned to prevent removal.
- Windows should have secure locks and should stay locked.
- Lights must provide optimum visibility inside and out, with vandal-proof covers over the outside lights and power source.
- The perimeter must be well-lit, especially around all entry points.
- Alarm systems should be supplied by a licensed alarm company with a central monitoring station.
- Your NCDL or Social Security number should be engraved on enticing objects.
- Keep accurate records of serial numbers on all items to help in recovery.

Home Security Tips

Often, an intruder will be deterred from entering your home if you make it a noisy, difficult, time-consuming, and highly visible task.

- When away, try to make your home look as if it is occupied. Leave lights and a radio on.
- Have a friend or neighbor get your mail and newspaper, or cut the grass if needed.
- Be creative when hiding your valuables; burglars often go straight to the bedroom to look under mattresses, in bedside stands, and in closets for money and jewelry.
- Be a nosy neighbor by reporting any suspicious activity.
- If your community has a Community Watch, join it and support it. If not, hold a meeting with your neighbors to discuss starting such a program in your neighborhood.

Vehicle Theft

Auto Theft is big business and the “pros” can enter and steal a car within seconds. By following a few common rules when using your automobile, you can greatly reduce your chance of becoming a victim of theft.

- Always lock your vehicle;
- Park in well-lit, populated areas that are easily observed by passers-by;
- Never leave the keys inside your car or the engine running unattended;
- Engrave audio and phone equipment with your NCDL or ID number;
- Always lock valuables in the trunk; never leave them in plain view.
- In the event of an auto theft, have a thorough description of your vehicle (including serial and license plate numbers) ready for the police. Report the stolen vehicle as soon as possible!

Bicycle Theft - In order to deter a potential thief, a bicycle should have its owner's NCDL or other ID number engraved on its frame. This number, along with the bicycle's serial number and description, should be recorded and kept on hand for police in case of a theft. A few proactive steps can also be taken to increase the security of your bicycle.

- Never leave your bicycle unattended.
- Always store your bicycle in a safe place.
- If you cannot store your bike inside, secure it from theft with a good chain and lock.
- Avoid leaving even a locked bicycle in a public area overnight.
- Do not leave detachable items unsecured on your bicycle. If you have a pouch for carrying money and small items attached to your seat, empty it or take it with you.

Personal Security

The most important tool in crime prevention is your mind. When used effectively and coupled with a confident attitude and keen awareness, you can avoid dangerous confrontations with potential assailants. This will decrease your chances of becoming a victim. Conversely, a timid or fearful demeanor signals a would-be assailant that you are an easy target. Make it a habit to protect yourself from harm by using common sense and a few standard security devices. But remember, even the most expensive security devices will not keep you safe if you do not use them.

Here are some tips to reduce your chance of being victimized:

- Answer doors and phones so a potential burglar will know your home is occupied.
- Never tell a caller you are alone; give the impression that someone is with you.
- Look through the peephole to see who is outside the door. Never open it to anyone you do not know and trust.
- Verify repairmen with their dispatchers before allowing them inside; have a friend with you or have them call you several times; make these precautions obvious.
- If someone you do not know asks to make an emergency phone call, do not open the door; make the call for them.
- Children are less cautious; be careful about letting them answer the door or phone at an early age.
- If you think that a forced entry has been made, do not go inside! Go to a safe place and get help as soon as possible!
- Plan escape routes and keep emergency numbers posted by your phones.
- In apartment complexes, be cautious of laundry rooms, parking lots, and isolated areas; insist that they be well-lit; use them only when accompanied by a trusted friend or neighbor.
- Consider installing a Caller-ID system to your existing phone line.
- Never give out information about yourself or where you live.
- Do not indicate on your mailbox or in the phone directory that you are a

female or living alone.

- If you are confronted and must yell for help, yell “Fire!” This phrase gets the best response from bystanders. Break glass or blow a car horn — anything to bring attention to your plight.
- There is strength in numbers. Join with neighbors to start an effective Community • Watch in your community.
- Never carry large sums of money.
- Carry your purse firmly near your body.
- Avoid flashing money or expensive jewelry.
- Avoid being in isolated areas where an assailant can easily attack you without being witnessed.
- If confronted in an assaultive manner, remove yourself from the situation ASAP and notify police.
- If you are the target of an armed robbery, give the robber what he wants and seek safety immediately. Remember, material possessions can be replaced; your life cannot!

Travel Safety

Outside of the home, the most common place for an assault to occur is in a vehicle or on a highway. A vehicle is an appealing target for attackers because it provides them with two key elements: privacy and mobility.

- Travel, walk, and park in lighted, populated areas.
- Remember where you park so you can easily find your car.
- Ask for an escort if you feel at risk.
- Keep some money hidden in your car for taxis or unexpected problems.
- Keep car doors locked and windows up at all times, especially while you are in it.
- Have your keys ready so you can enter your car quickly.
- Before entering, look in, under, and around the car to ensure that no robbers are awaiting your arrival. If anything seems amiss, do not get in your vehicle! Seek safety and ask for help.
- Be cautious of anyone standing near your car or offering assistance if it is disabled. This could be a ploy by a potential attacker waiting for his next victim.
- Keep your car in good running condition with at least a quarter tank of gas in it at all times.
- Lock gas caps and hood releases to deter sabotage attempts.
- Learn to change a flat tire to prevent being stranded. If a flat occurs in an unsafe place, continue driving at a reduced speed until you find a busy, well-lighted place to stop.
- If your car breaks down, raise the hood or tie a white cloth to your antenna. Stay in your car with the windows up and doors locked. If someone stops, roll down your window slightly and ask them to call the police or a towing service. Display a large “CALL POLICE” sign if you have one.
- Do not assist stranded motorists; call the police to assist them as soon as you can.
- You must stop your car if you are summoned by a vehicle with blue lights. If you believe, however, that the vehicle is bogus or that you are in danger, drive to a well-lit occupied area before stopping. Unmarked police cars must flash their blue lights and sound their siren if they summon you to stop after dark.
- While stopping at an intersection, leave enough room between your car and the one in front of you so you can get around it if necessary.
- If someone tries to enter your car and you cannot move it, honk the horn and scream to attract attention. If someone unexpected enters your car, throw the keys out and exit immediately.
- An assailant may cause an accident in order to set up his next victim. If you have an accident in an isolated place, drive to the nearest safe place and call police. Safely inform the other driver of these plans. After you have notified police, meet them back at the accident scene.
- Carry a cellular phone with battery pack.
- Advise friends or family of your travel plans, i.e. departure time, route, stop ping points, estimated arrival time, etc.
- Know where you are going, the safest routes, and what time you should arrive; have someone monitor your arrival.

How to avoid “Slamming”

“Slamming” is not about NBA basketball. It is the illegal practice of someone else changing your telephone provider without your consent — and it is occurring with increasing frequency.

Here are some tips on how to avoid being slammed:

- Never sign anything without reading it carefully. Don't sign “cash bonus checks” or respond to contest offers without reading the fine print. You may be changing telephone companies and not know it.
- If you receive a phone call about long distance or local toll service, ask questions about which service they're offering and at what cost. Find out what you're paying now and compare offers.
- If you haven't switched services but receive a letter or postcard verifying a switch, notify the sender that you did not authorize the change.
- Read your phone bill carefully each month. If you see any unfamiliar names or charges you can't identify, call the company issuing the charges or your local phone company.

If You Are Slammed:

- Call your local phone provider at the customer service number on your bill to have your service switched back.
- Call the company that slammed you and ask for proof that you authorized a switch. Tell them you'll only pay the charges your preferred carrier would have charged.
- You can also call the company you were switched from, tell them you were slammed and ask to be reconnected. There should be no charge to reconnect.