

July-Aug-Sept 2002

A Publication of the
Roselawn
Community Council

Roselawn Community Council Newsletter

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

(Effective July 1, 2002)

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Paul Probst (President)

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Nancy Sunnenberg

Committee Chairs:

Reginald Boggs - Law &

Safety

Mary Donaldson - Newsletter

Roy Jones - Business

Sonya Kirkland - Newsletter

Jim Miller - Youth

Gary Moffett - Litter

Maureen Royle - Membership

Cynthia Shafer - Law & Safety

Nancy Sunnenberg -

Beautification

A word from the President ---

For those of us in Roselawn, behind us lies a road leading through a rich heritage. To some that road has meant long hours of hard work and sacrifice. The benefit to us today is that we are heirs of the work of dedicated officers and trustees. I personally want to thank those officers, trustees, and other volunteers who have invested time and many hours of hard work in the Community over the past year. Whether you made an investment in a project such as 1000 Hands, the Election Forum, or the Great American Cleanup, or an ongoing task such as a committee or officer position, thank you so much for your contributions. Roselawn would not be the community it is today without your sacrifice and personal investment in maintaining our rich heritage. Now it is time for others to pick up the torch to help carry the work forward.

Some of the best ways to get involved in the community are to attend the monthly RCC meetings at Our Mother of Sorrows School Library, on the 2nd Thursday of every month except August. Yet another way to participate might be to help recruit your neighbor, or become active as a trustee or on one of the committees. For example, the Litter Committee and the Law and Safety Committee are both striving diligently to maintain and in fact raise our quality of life in Roselawn.

An upcoming event coordinated by the Law and Safety Committee will be on August 6, 2002. That night is National Night Out, a night affirming community and police partnership to maintain the safety of our neighborhoods. For that night, the Law and Safety Committee is planning mini ice cream socials to be held on streets all over Roselawn. If you are interested in whether one is planned on or near your street, or if you are interested in spearheading one on your street, please contact the Roselawn Community Council Office at **513-821-8918**.

Other RCC Committees are working in various ways to better the community. Who knows but what you would be interested in helping on one of these committees? Or, maybe your style is a "bite-sized" project. Whatever your interest, RCC has a place for your participation.

Today, Roselawn has a lot to offer. The Valley Shopping Center is gaining momentum as new tenants are coming in and opening up their businesses. Positive newspaper articles highlighting several of Roselawn's restaurants have been published, also indicating that good things are happening in Roselawn.

It is the duty of each and every one of us to make a deliberate choice to ensure that Roselawn continues in this positive direction. We must all pull together throughout this next year to keep the good things happening in Roselawn.

Have a wonderful and prosperous summer,

Paul Probst

The Great American CleanUp held on April 27 was a success. Twenty-eight volunteers, including a delegation of young women from our PRIDE group, collected approximately 60 bags of trash, 7 tires, and miscellaneous items. Thanks again to all the volunteers, the Roselawn Branch library for providing our "headquarters" area, the Roselawn LaRosa's for providing our pizza lunch, The Legacy for providing our "lunchroom", and Cindy Shafer for baking yet another batch of blue-ribbon chocolate chip cookies for dessert at the pizza lunch. We hope to see you at the 2003 Great American CleanUp!

Roselawn Park Beautification – Every summer over 40,000 visitors use the three baseball diamonds at Roselawn Park. The RCC maintains a working partnership with the Cincinnati Recreation Commission at the park, and seeks opportunities to enrich this community asset. In June 2001, INVEST awarded a Neighborhood Network Merit Grant to create a treed garden with benches at the Eastlawn entrance. Volunteers created the garden during the build of the 1000 Hands playground in May. Under the Urban Forestry's Spring Re-Leaf program, Dogwoods, Magnolias, and Hedge Maples have been planted at the park, as well. The installation of a Bluebird Trail has begun, with the installation of special birdhouses that attract these insect-loving birds. In the near future you will be seeing bat houses, in addition to the bluebird and purple martin houses already in place. Be glad you're not a mosquito!

Is there someone you would like to honor in Roselawn? Consider participating in the **Tree Recognition Program**. This initiative brings new tree stock into the park, while creating a lasting, living tribute to the honoree. For more information about this program contact the RCC office, **821-8918**.

Our Schools and Youth

Montessori Learning Center moving to Roselawn – Have you seen the new construction at the Valley Shopping Center? A new addition is being constructed to create additional classrooms for the Montessori Learning Center (MLC). For the past 30 years, MLC has served a diverse community of children with a teaching staff dedicated to creating the best possible environment for preschool, kindergarten and extended day children. The MLC will be open from 6:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Pamela Riley, a MLC administrator, invites inquiries about the school, enrollment, the summer session and plans for the move. Interested parents and caregiver may call Pam, and other staff members, Michael or Antonia, at **585-9960**. A community open house is planned for September.

Harmony School purchases Jewish Community Center building – As we go to press, plans are being finalized for Harmony School, a charter school in the Cincinnati Public School system, to gain a permanent home in Roselawn. Curtis Fuller, Director of Development for Harmony School, spoke at the June community council meeting and answered questions about the move.

Roselawn Condon School –Principal Randy Yunker has announced an "Ice Cream Social" on Friday, August 23 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. This will provide an opportunity for students and parents to meet teachers, administrators, new staff members, and employees from Gradison McDonald Investments, Roselawn Condon's Partner in Education. Roselawn Condon students will receive free school supplies. Fall classes will begin on Monday, August 26.

RCC Youth Committee News...

The School Connector, a program that works with students on academic and behavior issues at Roselawn Condon, has completed another successful year. About a dozen students met after school on Mondays with Gary Schreiber, Youth Program director, and a student from Xavier University. These students have shown improvement in both their academics and school behavior. Plans are being made to continue this program for the 2002-2003 school year.

PRIDE Group meets this summer on Monday and Tuesday afternoons, 3:30-5:30PM, at Roselawn Lutheran Church. Shelley Davis leads this group of upper elementary and middle school youth in living a drug-free, alcohol-free and violence-free lifestyle. The **PRIDE Group** makes presentations on these topics using dance, skits and rap. For further information, contact Shelley at **351-1636**. Also, a number of PRIDE members did well on the recent proficiency tests at Roselawn Condon School.

Summer Plans - The Youth Program will again sponsor 3-on-3 basketball, probably at the Roselawn Condon courts, for teens. There are tentative plans for roller skating events, if funding can be secured. Later in the summer, selected teens will be invited to an overnight at Camp Livingston in Indiana. For further information, contact Jamie Davis at **351-1636**.

Community Notes - Up & Coming

August 6 - National Night Out is an annual event to promote the partnership of communities and law enforcement to prevent crime and promote safety. The RCC Law & Safety Committee is organizing **ice cream socials throughout Roselawn**. We are looking for people who would like to be in charge of distributing a flyer (supplied by the Committee) and setting up a table outside to host their neighbors on two or three streets. We are also in search of donations of ice cream or money so that we can supply the ice cream and copies of the flyers. If you are interested in helping, please call the RCC office at **821-8918** and leave your name and telephone number.

The History of Roselawn by Gary Moffett, part 3

The Roselawn Tavern building, once located at the northwest corner of Reading Road and Northwood Avenue, burned in the spring of 2001, and was demolished later that year. At the time of its demise, the building held only one business, Ron's Hunt Club, located in the basement area.

I have spoken to a few people who remember the restaurant that was located there - the Roselawn Tavern. They recall it was a fine restaurant. A newspaper from 1949 contains an advertisement for the establishment touting their steaks, pork chops and the rathskeller available for parties located in the basement (which I am guessing later housed Ron's Hunt Club).

During the World War II years, in addition to the restaurant, the building housed the offices of Robert Wachendorf (the main developer of the Roselawn area), Lang Bros., Inc. (one of the main contractors associated with the development of Roselawn), the Ann Page Beauty Shop, the Roselawn Pharmacy, and the local post office.

In future issues of the newsletter, I am planning to cover the life of the building from the end of World War II to its demise fifty-six years later. Also, I'll fill you in on the story behind the "wishing well" located on the corner of Reading and Northwood.

Roselawn Restaurants and Eateries are in the news

During the past few months, the ***Cincinnati Enquirer*** has published major articles about three Roselawn food purveyors. The most recent positive review was written about ***Lana's***, 7750 Reading Road, and cited her home cooking. Earlier this spring ***Yummie Yummie***, 7523 Reading Road received full-page coverage noting the owners' Russian heritage and fare. ***Song Long***, 1737 Section Road, (long a Roselawn fixture), was featured last fall - the reviewer waxed poetic on the fresh and authentic Vietnamese offerings.

Rare Elegance Café has opened at 7765 Reading Road. Proprietor and chef, Diane Mitchell, a Cincinnati native, has returned home to be closer to family and is featuring heart-smart entrees, salads and grilled fare. ***Rare Elegance Café*** is open Monday through Friday to the public, and available on weekends for private functions. Ms. Mitchell is looking forward to meeting you.

Off the Hook, serving up fried fish and spicy wings in the Valley Shopping Center opened quietly last fall in the store once occupied by Ron's Fish House. Items are available for carryout only and every order is prepared fresh.

Information you can use

We have received the following information to share with our readers from the ***League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area***. Alarmed at the increase in predatory lending practices that trap vulnerable borrowers into high cost loans that strip equity from their homes and often lead to home foreclosure, they have prepared these tips for protecting yourself, as well as your elders and parents from unscrupulous lenders:

- ✓ Never allow yourself to be pressured or sweet-talked by a loan salesman. Take time to read documents and ask a friend or relative to review the documents with you. Don't trust what the lender tells you. The terms of the loan are in the documents, not in the reassuring words of the salesman. Remember, you are gambling with your home!
- ✓ Choose your own lender. Don't feel obligated to use the lender who calls you or who is referred by a contractor. Go shopping and compare costs and terms.
- ✓ Get free counseling from a non-profit organization, like the Better Housing League or the Home Ownership Center, before you shop for a loan. They can help you understand the various loans, how they work, and how to shop for the best terms. They can also tell you about city or county programs that may help finance home repairs at a lower loan rate.
- ✓ If you are 62 years or older and need a loan to pay for home repairs or other major expenses, look into an FHA reverse mortgage. These loans require no payments while you live in the house and come with protections for the borrower. Banks and housing counseling agencies can help you find this type of loan.
- ✓ If you feel you have been the subject of predatory lending and are threatened with the loss of your home, don't give up without a fight. Consult an attorney or the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati.

Specialist Charlie Dukes, District 4 of the Cincinnati Police has a new pager number. It is **269-0547**. Please note, he is required to turn the pager off when he is not on duty. His regular hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., although special duties frequently change his schedule. His email address is charles.dukes@rcc.org

Those of us who prepare the RCC newsletter are interested in hearing from you, the reader. If you have ideas for newsletter stories, or would like to have specific information provided, please let us know. You may leave a message for Mary Donaldson at **821-9682**, or email mdonaldson@fuse.net. Thank you!
Sonya Kirkland & Mary Donaldson

On the Street Where You Live

C E S C C M O A C X H S R B N C S E S E
D E N F A D I O M A W L A E J R U D R F
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Beaverton
Blackstone
Bluefield
Brookcrest
Castleton
Corvallis

Eastlawn
Glendon
Greenbriar
Greenland
Kenova
Lakeland

Larchwood
Losantiville
Miramar
Northwood
Parkdale
Reading

Robinwood
Rosecliff
Seymour
Shenandoah
Stonybrook
Summit