

Roselawn Community Council Newsletter

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

(Effective July 1, 2003)

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Rick Menefield

Hogarth Merrick

Ruby Metts

Paul Probst (President)

Maureen Royle

Cynthia Shafer (Secretary)

Nancy Sunnenberg

Maurice Taylor

Committee Chairs:

Reginald Boggs - Law & Safety

Mary Donaldson - Newsletter

Roy Jones - Business

Sonya Kirkland - Newsletter

Gary Moffett - Litter

Maureen Royle - Membership

Cynthia Shafer - Law & Safety

Nancy Sunnenberg -

Beautification

Roselawn Community Council meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the library of Our Mother of Sorrows School. There is no meeting in August.

A word from the President ---

What does the name Huntington Meadows mean to you? To some in Roselawn the name conjures up images of acres of affordable apartment houses teeming with pride; some might know it as a vast expanse of dozens of boarded-up buildings. To a few in Roselawn the name may have, at one time, meant home. Others, no doubt, remember it as the terminus for numerous crimes in our neighborhood.

These images and memories are all true, and yet the Huntington Meadows we know today is indeed approximately fifty acres of empty, lifeless, boarded-up and decaying apartment buildings. It is not an area where people live, or come out to support the surrounding business districts in either Roselawn or Bond Hill. In its present condition, the recent effort by our Mayor to turn the property into single-family housing is like a breath of fresh air, and certainly a welcome idea to many in our community. However, before this vision is realized, it will require support from the Roselawn community and its residents.

We will be discussing Huntington Meadows and its future at the October 9 Members Meeting. We are expecting the Mayor and one or more guests from Bond Hill, another housing agency, and perhaps one or more City Council Members. Please plan on attending to show your support for a new direction for Huntington Meadows.

Being an election year, City Council candidates are eager to gain your vote, and will be interested in what you think. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the **Election Forum** sponsored by the Roselawn Community Council, to be held on **Thursday, October, 23, 2003, 7:00 p.m. at Roselawn Condon School Auditorium**. This will be a perfect time to hear how the candidates stack up so you can go to the polls on November 4th and cast your ballot as an informed voter.

Have an enjoyable fall.

Paul Probst, President

Great American Fall Cleanup - Make A Difference Day in Roselawn Saturday, October 25, 2003, 9:30 a.m. - Noon

Please mark your calendar now and plan to help with our fall litter clean-up event. Our community property needs our attention. Come to the Roselawn library, in the Valley Shopping Center, at 9:30 a.m. We will work in small groups up and down Reading Road, and at other Roselawn sites. Wear work gloves if you have them, thick-soled shoes and bright colored clothing. Trash bags and gloves will be provided. Have an extra rake or broom? Bring it along! We'll have tasty refreshments at the end of our cleanup morning. Let's keep Roselawn beautiful! Questions? Call Gary Moffett at 731-4559. Please pitch in to help make Roselawn a cleaner and brighter place to live and work.

Note from the Council Committees

A report from the Beautification Committee Chair – Nancy Sunnenberg

2003 has been a year of mixed results on the Beautification front in Roselawn. I say this because our volunteer manpower, sadly, does not match our dream for a more beautiful community. Three grants totaling \$1,750 funded two very important projects in our neighborhood this year. The designer park benches in Roselawn Park were created by UC students using lumber from our City street trees as part of a Design Competition sponsored by Keep Cincinnati Beautiful (one of the benches is installed at our community garden at Reading and Rosecliff). A KCB/UDF mini grant provided the brass placards for each of the benches that identify the design teams. The 2003 Neighbor Network Merit Grant awarded \$1000 for trees to populate the new parking lot at Roselawn Park.

Thanks to Gary Moffett, the Reading and Summit garden had a consistently groomed appearance this summer. Birds and squirrels at The Arches have Gerald Gill and Tampala Black to thank for stocking the birdfeeder there through the 2002-03 winter. Students from Hebrew Day School (Golf Manor) planted the containers at the Eastlawn Garden for Earth Day 2003. A handful of stalwart souls (you know who you are) did their best to show The Arches to advantage this summer, a heroic effort for which we thank them. As of 12/31/03 the Chairmanship of the Beautification Committee will be vacant. Interested parties should contact the RCC office to apply for this position.

Speaking for our community and all the travelers who pass through it, Thank You, to all the volunteers who have worked at our garden sites in Roselawn during my watch as Beautification Chair.

From Cindy Shafer, Business Committee:

Many improvements are happening right now at the **Valley Shopping Center!** As part of an ongoing commitment to Roselawn, **Franklin Savings** is adding a drive-up ATM, night deposit and drive-through window. The main entrance into the bank lobby will be updated and enhancements to the parking area and interior are also planned. **Ridge Donut Shop** has leased space formerly occupied by Marx Hot Bagels and work is underway to renovate and expand the old Cotton Mill space to accommodate a **Save-A-Lot** grocery store that is expected to open in about six months. The Reading Road entrances and exits to the shopping center are also being improved. **Remember: Patronizing the businesses in Roselawn helps all of us!**

Don't forget: Election Forum sponsored by the RCC, Thursday, October, 23, 2003, 7:00 p.m. in the Roselawn Condon School Auditorium.

Is there someone you would like to honor in Roselawn? Consider participating in the **Tree Recognition Program**. This brings new tree stock into Roselawn Park and creates a lasting, living tribute to the honoree. Recently the RCC Trustees adopted nomination guidelines. To receive a copy via email, please contact mdonaldson@fuse.net. To receive a mailed copy, contact the RCC office, **821-8918**.

Community Notes

Wanted: Box Tops for Education. Please continue to support this program benefiting Roselawn Condon. Save your box tops – with program decals – from General Mills products (cereals, fruit snacks, Lloyd's, Betty Crocker & Yoplait products). Drop them off at school or bring them to the RCC meeting. This helps buy computers, learning materials and sports equipment.

The Cincinnati Fire Department will be celebrating its **150th Anniversary** on Saturday, October 11, 2003 by opening its 26 fire stations to the public. Our station is located at 18 E. Seymour Avenue.

Roselawn is scheduled for the **Neighborhood Improvement Program** during the week of October 13-17. During this time City services will be concentrated in our area. Have a suggestion for a situation that needs addressing? Bring it to the attention of the RCC by calling 821-8918 so it can be put on the list.

United Way has set up a new phone system, similar to 911, to connect you to community services and volunteer opportunities. You may **call 211** at any time to get information on services such as: helping your child or aging parent, employment issues, counseling, health information, and opportunities to volunteer. **This is free and confidential!**

"Toys for Tots '03" will be starting soon. **St. Bernard Self Storage** is an official collection site. Toys must be new, and unwrapped (wrap stuffed toys in clear plastic.) They are located at 1020 Kieley Place, near Paddock Rd. and Tennessee Avenue. For more information, collection hours or directions, call 641-4772 and make a difference in the life of a child this Holiday Season!

School Notes From Principal Yunker at Roselawn Condon School

Roselawn Condon School is implementing the Voyager Universal Literacy Program in grades K-3. To learn more about this program, highly effective in teaching young children to read, attend the October PTA meeting. Parents, be sure your child arrives at school by 9:15 am. Also, please check to see that your child is completing the homework assignments. Parents are always welcomed at Roselawn Condon School. We encourage you to make an appointment with the teacher or administrator prior to coming. When you arrive, check in at the main office to receive a visitor's pass.

Important Upcoming Dates

- Monday, October 13, 3rd & 4th Gr. Standardized Reading Testing Administered.
- Wednesday, October 15, PTA Mtg. at 6:00 p.m. Resource Center
- Friday, October 17, District Release Day. No school for students.
- Thursday, October 23, Conference Night 3:30 -8:30 p.m.
- Friday, October 24, Conference Day: No school
- Friday, October 31, Fall Festival Parade

Roselawn Achievers in the News

Did you enjoy the last newsletter's informative article about Roselawn sports star **Joshua Duncan**? If so, you'll be interested to know of two other Roselawn residents who do us all proud.

Annie Ruth, poet, visual artist, Roselawn resident, and *Cincinnati Enquirer* Woman of the Year has been awarded the prestigious designation **Duncanson Artist-In-Residence** by the Taft Museum of Art. This residency is named for Robert S. Duncanson (1821-1872), the renowned African American painter of the murals at the Taft Museum. Her residency will take place November 3 – 16, 2003. According to the Taft Museum's Programs and Education department, "She'll present her unique blend of poetry, music and visual art in workshops, programs and performances for school and public audiences." A full-time literacy and performing artist since 1994, Annie Ruth creates both literary and visual art. Want to know more about her art? Check out the Taft Museum website at www.taftmuseum.org/duncanson.htm.

Have you heard about **Tariq Ramsey**, son of **Tim and Damita Ramsey**? This summer Tariq made his acting debut in the Broadway U.S. touring production of **The Lion King** in Cleveland, OH. The former Losantiville Elementary School student plays the lead role of **Simba**, the lion cub. According to an article in the *Enquirer*, 11 year old Tariq "already has a two-page resume full of acting and dance experiences. He will attend classes at the School for the Creative and Performing Arts in Pendleton at the conclusion of his **Lion King** tour."

Opportunities

Do you know a young father who would like to strengthen his parenting skills? There is a new, 13-week **Nurturing Fathers Class** being offered by The **Fatherhood Project** in Walnut Hills. This class, conducted by trained staff and volunteers will provide individual and personal attention from a "father coach," paid stipends for attendance, free transportation and food, and guaranteed job opportunities for those completing the program. The program is sponsored by CM Personnel Services and Cuts Plus Barber Shop. It is a program of SUMA (Services Uniting Mothers and Adolescents) in partnership with Santa Maria Community Services. Call **487-7862** for enrollment information.

Important Phone Numbers

If you wish to report litter, trash or overgrown grass and weeds:

Occupied Property.....352-2908
 Vacant residential building.....352-3275
 Vacant lot.....564-1750
 Vacant Commercial Property ...352-3267 / 352-2908
 Roselawn Community Council.....821-8918
 Police Non-Emergency.....765-1212
 Abandoned Vehicles.....352-3576
 (provide address, license plate number, if any, and description of vehicle. Ask that the report be put in the **overtime parking book**.)



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It's time to fill out your 2004 **Membership Form**. Joining the Roselawn Community Council is quick, easy and a bargain. Either mail the form in with your check or bring it to a meeting. We invite you to attend—your input is encouraged. This is a lively, congenial event and you'll hear all the latest news about your community. Take part actively, or just sit back and listen — you'll be welcomed. Find out why Roselawn is regarded as an engaged and organized neighborhood by City Hall. If you are a new member, we'd love to meet you. If you're a renewing member, we welcome you back, and thanks to all!