

November
2009

The Voice of the East Row Historic Foundation is published monthly and paid for by the East Row Historic Foundation (ERHF). Diverse, responsible commentary is encouraged. All opinions are those of the authors and do not necessarily express those of the ERHF or its officers.

Articles, editorials, or calendar items should be e-mailed to Voice@EastRow.org.

Submissions must be signed to be considered for publication. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject submissions due to length, content, or appropriateness.

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Advertising: Deborah Duttle

Contributors to this issue:

Michelle Breen, Mary Beth Crocker, Bruce Murray, Capt. Howard Neimeier.

Deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month.

Next Meeting:

Joint meeting for Gateway and Mansion Hill neighborhoods is Tuesday, November 3 at 7 p.m. at The Sanctuary, Monroe and Sixth Streets.

East Row Historic Foundation Officers:

Chair: John Morrow,
Chair@EastRow.org

Secretary: Bruce Murray

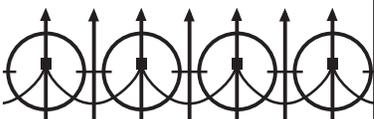
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Mansion Hill Rep: Joy Bishop,
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EastRow.org



Gateway

The **Voice**



Mansion Hill

OF THE East Row Historic Foundation

Volume 10

Issue 11

Annual Victorian Christmas Home Tour December 5 - 6

by Mary Beth Crocker

For visitors who mark their calendars every year for Newport's annual Victorian Christmas Tour in the East Row Historic District, the event signals the beginning of the holiday season. This year, our neighborhood presents its 16th Annual Victorian Christmas Tour from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 5-6. Seven historic homes plus the beautifully restored Gen. James Taylor Mansion, which houses the law firm of Gerner & Kearns Co., will be decorated with holiday finery. Six homes have never opened to the public.

Among the highlights:

- A magnificently renovated home owned by a Wiedemann Brewing magnate.
- The tour's first "Historic Home in Progress," meant to show visitors a first-hand look at the restoration process, is a circa 1895 Queen Anne undergoing a total restoration from a two-family to a one-family home. It will be featured on the 2010 tour.
- Two condominiums, one in the former historic Presbyterian Church and another at The Hannaford.
- A circa 1896 French chateau-style home, the only style of its kind in the East Row Historic District, that was renovated into a single family residence by the current owners.
- A circa 1891 Queen Anne home, with its exterior freshly painted in five historic shades, features a new kitchen and a screened-in porch.
- A circa 1877 Newport-plan Italianate with interiors designed by the owner, an interior designer, with eclectic furnishings, floor-to-ceiling window treatments, Asian and African accents and artwork.

A portion of the proceeds from the tour will go toward to St. Paul's Food Pantry operated by St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Newport. St. Paul's Food Pantry serves an average of 200 families per month in Newport and Bellevue.

New this year is a Victorian Christmas Tea from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Dec. 5-6 at a neighborhood home. A traditional savory-sweet English tea will be served including tea sandwiches, scones (with clotted cream and jam) and assorted cakes, tarts and cookies.

Tickets for both events may be purchased at the James Taylor Mansion, 335 E. Third St., during the days of the tour. Less expensive advanced tickets are available online at www.eastrow.org or at Kentucky Haus, 411 E. 10th St.

Also, St. John's United Church of Christ, 415 Park Ave., will present two free holiday programs on Saturday, Dec. 5. The Friendship Singers, a women's vocal group, will perform at 2 p.m. followed by the St. John's Chancel Ringers at 4 p.m.

To inquire about volunteering, volunteers, please contact Mary Ann Meyer at 859.431.1974 or mfixmeyer@fuse.net.

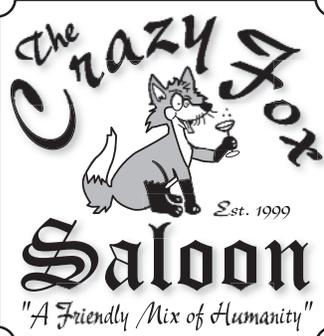


Neighborhood Watch – Call for Block Captains

We are now ready to move on to the second step of the process! Our first training group for Neighborhood Watch Captains will be scheduled in November with Capt Neimeier of the Newport PD. Anyone interested in being a Watch Captain for your block please contact Missy Richardson at missyrichardson@earthlink.net or Joy Bishop at therestitis@aol.com by Nov. 10 to sign up for the first training meeting.

The Morningstar Church at 510 Park Ave. has invited us to use their meeting space and serve as the Neighborhood Watch home. In the Oct. 15 meeting, Captain Neimeier provided material to introduce and review the concepts of the program, and provided a large supply for future reference. Should you wish a copy of these, contact Missy or Joy and they will deliver copies to you.

Thank-you for your help in making this program work for our neighborhood. We are so fortunate to have a REAL neighborhood, and keeping it safe will only continue and improve the many assets we already have. 🌿



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East Row Organizations win Bridge Planting Contest

by Bruce Murray

The Greater Cincinnati Master Gardener Association announced the winners of the fourth annual Purple People Bridge Planting Contest on Sept. 19 with a ceremony at the Civic Garden Center of Greater Cincinnati.

The plantings that won first and second place were planted by first year entrants: Gerner & Kearns, a Newport law firm took first place, and Newport's East Row Garden Club received second place honors. Third place was awarded to the Western Hills Garden Club (Cincinnati), which has been among the top three winners all four years of the contest. Other entrants were College Hill Garden Club, Children's Hospital, Diamond Oaks Horticulture, Downtown Residents Council, Tennis for Charity, Civic Garden Center, Findlay Market, and Children's Hospital Horticultural Therapy Dept.



Carole Weitner and Gerri Jones pose in front of the planter while assembling and planting the display last May. Ron Weitner is in the background.

In May, each of the eleven contestants planted a group of three large containers on the Bridge itself and the containers were judged in both late June and in September. Judges were horticulturists and/or landscape architects from the Hamilton County Parks (Tim Zelek), Kenton County Extension (Andrea Dee), Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden (Brian Jorg), Natorp's (Ron Wilson), Spring Grove Cemetery (Whiney Huang), and Campbell County Extension (Doris Meece).

The Purple People Bridge is an extremely difficult environment for plants due to lots of sun and nearly constant wind. Because of this, entrants in the contest were judged not only on beauty and design, but also suitability to this environment and longevity of the display.

The Greater Cincinnati Master Gardener Association has more than 250 members from Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. The GCMGA "Bridge Team" has been planting the bridge and the south plaza and approach since the fall of 2002 with the support of The Newport Southbank Bridge Company, a nonprofit corporation that owns the bridge. Members of the Master Gardener "Bridge Team" regularly walk the Bridge to maintain all the plantings. This year's growing and planting efforts were supplemented by the Campbell County Extension office, horticultural students from Diamond Oaks School in Cincinnati — participating for the third year — and Campbell County High School.

To donate to bridge maintenance, visit the web site, www.purplepeoplebridge.com. Or, to learn more about contributing to the gardens on the bridge, contact mgnnews08@fuse.net. 🌿

Meet Madeline

by Mary Beth Crocker

Madeline arrived at our home in the most unorthodox manner. On a busy Friday night in May, this blonde cocker spaniel dashed in front of our house on Fourth Street and continued running around the corner to Washington and down into heavy traffic at Newport on the Levee. Paying absolutely no attention to me, I chased her three blocks until this nice — and assertive — woman scooped her up and asked me 20 questions before she finally was convinced that I would take care of her. So, I picked up the dog — all 35 pounds of her — and hauled her home into the backyard. I could tell that she had health problems and the next day, our vet confirmed a lengthy list. Especially evident on her mouth was a nasty tumor the size of an extra large gumball. Our vet estimated that she was around 10 or 11 years old. And by the way, did I say she's totally deaf?



Since then, Madeline's health, with the exception of her hearing, has been restored, the tumor removed. We've learned that her "parents" — a young couple with a baby and a toddler — were unable to financially and physically care of her so when she ran off in late April, they decided to let her go in the hopes that she would find a good home and someone to love her. They gave us permission to give her that good home — and love.

Madeline is infinitely loveable. At exactly 7 a.m., she greets us by doing her liveliest Snoopy dance, turning in circles with her ears flying and her tiny snip of a tail wagging. She's the sweetest, prettiest thing, loves people, little children and other dogs and cats. Walks followed by naps are her favorite activities. She'll devour absolutely anything edible including fresh, ripe tomatoes, which she discovered on the kitchen counter. However, she is obstinate, too, and when she doesn't want to walk across the Purple People Bridge or get her feet wet on a rainy day, she is absolutely immovable.

Madeline is so similar to Mattie, the cocker spaniel I had as a child that died in 1973 at the age of 13. Her death was shortly after my high school graduation while I was away from home. Because I was unable to say good-bye, I never got over her loss. Madeline is healing that still empty void — and giving us laughter and joy. 🐾

Holiday Safety Tips

by Capt. Howard W. Niemeier, MA

Newport Police Department

This holiday season, don't let the spirit of giving lull you into giving burglars, muggers and pickpockets a better chance to do their dirty work. Crooks love the holidays as much as everyone else, but chiefly because it's an opportune time for crime.

IF YOU'RE TRAVELING

- Get an automatic time for your lights
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home, shovel snow, and park in driveway from time to time.
- Don't forget to have mail and newspaper delivery stopped.
- Contact the Newport Police Department for a vacation check request while you are away.

IF YOU'RE OUT FOR THE EVENING

- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it looks like someone's home.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Don't display gifts where they can be seen from outside.

IF YOU'RE SHOPPING

- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.
- Park in a well-lighted space, and be sure to lock the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay with a check or credit card whenever possible.
- Deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers. Don't overburden yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.
- Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.

IF A STRANGER COMES TO YOUR DOOR, BEWARE

Criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts. It's not uncommon for people to try to take advantage of others' generosity during the holidays by going door-to-door for charitable donations when there's no charity involved. Ask for identification, and find out how the funds will be used. If you aren't satisfied, don't give. Help a charitable organization you know and like instead.

Last but not least, don't let the holiday stress get the best of your holiday spirit. Make time to get together with family, friends, and neighbors. Think about reaching out to the spirit of the season and helping someone who's less fortunate or lonely.

TAKE A HOLIDAY INVENTORY

The holidays are a good time to update—or create—your home inventory. Take photos or make videos of items, and list descriptions and serial numbers. If your home is burglarized, having a detailed inventory can help identify stolen items and make insurance claims easier to file. Make sure things like TVs, DVD/VCRs, stereo equipment, jewelry, silver, computers, home office equipment, and power tools are on the list. Remember to check it twice. 🐾

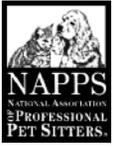
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November's Schedule of Events

at the Newport branch of the
Campbell County Public Library,
901 East Sixth St. 859.572.5035



Book Club - 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3

Join us in a discussion of this month's book *The Jazz Bird* by Craig Holden. Visitors welcome.

Adventure Club: Sticky-Stucky Bingo! - 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3

Win sticky hands, sticky feet, and all things gooey at this sticky bingo game! Ages 6-11. Please register.

Computer Basics - 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 5

This class offers training in the basic skills beginners need to utilize the computer.

A Day at the Movies in the 1920s - 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7

Join us for an all day showing of three of cinema's silent masterpieces of the 1920's. Adults. No registration required.

Job Searching and Resumes - 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9

Learn everything from the art of networking to how to produce a cover letter that will get attention. Adults. Please register.

Adventure Club: ArtReach presents: Anne Frank - 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10

Join us in the secret annex where Anne and her family hid from the Nazis for two years. Ages 6-11. Please register.

Internet Basics - 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 12

This class will assist you in gaining skills and understanding the concepts needed to utilize the Internet.

New Moonapalooza - 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13

Edward or Jacob? Jacob or Edward? After the Library closes the debate opens. Pizza, trivia, vampire trinkets and much more! Please register. Ages 11-18.

Interview and Become a Successful Employee - 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16

Learn the art of the interview, what the right answers are and how to be a great asset to any company. Adults. Please register.

Adventure Club: Native American Crafts - 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17

Make Native American crafts with beads, feathers and cords! Ages 6-11. Please register.

Anime Club - 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19

Bring your favorite anime or watch one of ours. Snacks provided. Ages 12-18.

Adventure Club: Turkey Jamboree - 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 24

Hoot, holler and play your homemade musical instruments along with Bear Foot Band! Ages 6-11. Please register.

John Hayden

Attorney at Law

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- Family Law
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East Row Garden Club News

by Michelle Breen

Have you ever wondered what those "hydroponic" stickers on your grocery store tomatoes mean? If so, please join the East Row Garden Club on Tuesday, Nov. 17 for a fascinating and fun presentation by Sarah Kaiser from "Worm's Way," an organic gardening store in Erlanger. Sarah is a Master Gardener and will speak on "Plant Propagation." She will share information and/or techniques on rooting, hydroponics and seeds. Attendees will be constructing miniature hydroponic gardens from two-liter pop containers, (bring your own), and plant cuttings supplied by Sarah.

All residents of Newport are invited to attend the monthly meetings which usually take place at The Sanctuary on the corner of Sixth and Monroe Streets, (unless otherwise announced), on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Meetings begin at 6:30 P.M. 🌱

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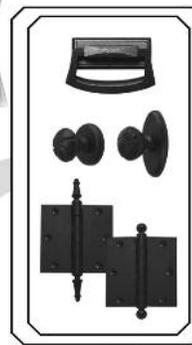
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