

December  
2011

*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](mailto: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.

**Editor:** Jenny A. Hudson

**Advertising:** Deborah Dutle

**Contributors to this issue:**  
Mary Beth Crocker, Bev Holiday, Sarah Dixon, Bruce Murray.

**Deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month.**

**Next Meeting:**

Joint meeting for Gateway and Mansion Hill neighborhoods is 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 6 at the Sanctuary (Monroe and 6th Streets.)

**East Row Historic Foundation Officers:**

**Chair:**  
Missy Richardson,  
[Chair@EastRow.org](mailto:Chair@EastRow.org)

**Secretary:**  
Pat Budd

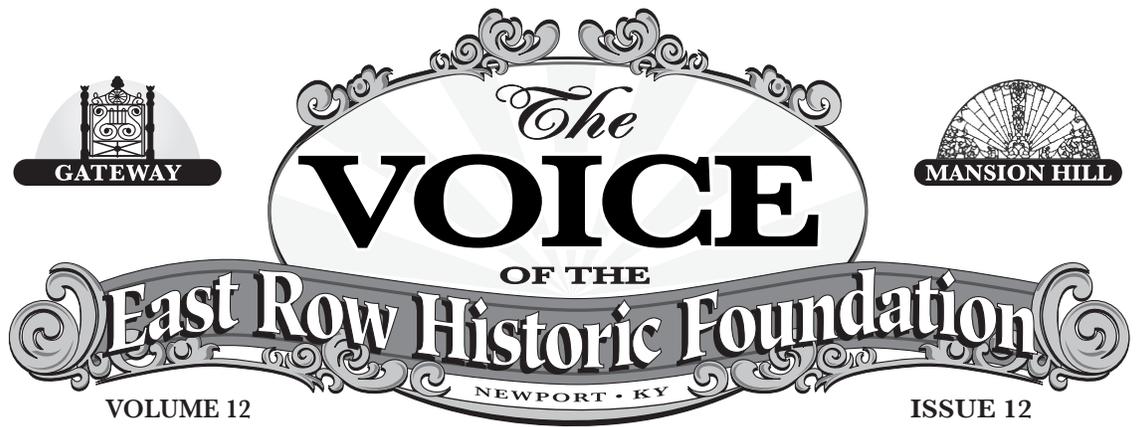
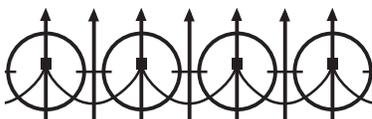
**Treasurer:**  
Sarah Dixon

**Mansion Hill Representative:**  
Rebecca Gilliam

**Gateway Representative:**  
Bob Weiler

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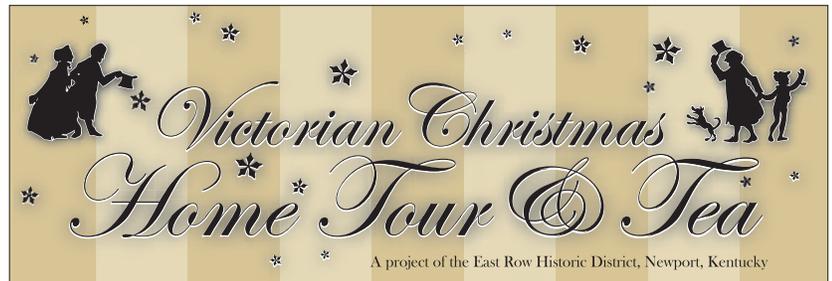
**EastRow.org**



## “Bonus” House Added to This Weekend’s Christmas Tour Lineup - Tickets Still Available for Victorian Tea

by Mary Beth Crocker

Once the Christmas decorations were put up in 2010 in her home on Overton, Debbie Luken never wanted to take them down. Residents in the neighborhood walked in front of the house, wondering why holiday decorations were perpetually in the front window, even in July. But Debbie knew that once the thousands of ornaments, artful displays and cherished Christmas villages — that never failed to enthrall her visiting grandchildren — were packed away in those 70 storage bins, they wouldn’t be put up again.



Deborah Jean Luken’s three-year battle with breast cancer ended with her death on October 24 at the too-young age of 54, along with her dream that husband Ray Westenhofer just might be able to open their holiday-bedecked home during the 18th Annual Victorian Christmas Home Tour this week — from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, December 3/4. Or so they thought.

Of course, the tour was only five weeks away, and plans were nearly complete. The volunteer list was nearly finished. The tickets were printed. The publicity was out. None of that mattered, however, to tour organizers. This weekend, Debbie’s dream will come true when the Luken-Westenhofer home will open its doors as the seventh tour home.

“She was more into Christmas than Santa Claus,” says Ray. “She liked everything about Christmas — especially the meaning.”

In addition to the tour, the popular Victorian Christmas Tea is also Saturday and Sunday in an 1883 Italianate home originally built for Charles Wiedemann. A portion of proceeds from both events will go to Henry Hosea House’s Echo Soup Kitchen, St. John’s United Church of Christ Food Pantry and St. Paul’s Episcopal Church Food Pantry. Tour tickets are \$15 in advance or \$18 at The Sanctuary, Sixth and Overton streets, Newport, during the tour hours. Children 12 and younger admitted free. Advance tickets available online or at A New Leaf Florist, 413 E. Third St. (859.581.8700). Tea tickets are \$25 per person. Seatings are at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. both days. Advance tickets available online. If there are any seats remaining, they will be sold at The Sanctuary.

Information: [www.eastrow.org](http://www.eastrow.org) or 859.491.7696.

# Update on Newport's Dog Park

by Sarah Dixon

We have come a long way since our initial meeting to discuss interest in creating a dog park in Newport. Since then, we have been interviewed for two *Enquirer* articles, have almost 80 people on our distribution list, the support of the city, and generous offers to donate services and time to help make the dog park a reality.

Now, the time has come for us to begin fundraising to cover the \$15,000 in estimated costs, and we need your help to make this happen! This amount is for the purchase of historically-appropriate fencing and building materials, plus additional funds for future improvements and repairs.



No donation is too large or too small, and we are also in need of items for the silent auction that will take place at the Syndicate in the coming months (details TBA), and contributions are tax-deductible.

Checks can be made out to the East Row Historic Foundation (be sure to record "dog park contribution" in the memo line) and sent to the East Row's P.O. Box (P.O. Box 72116, Newport KY 41072). If you have a cash or material contribution, please send an email to [NewportKYDogPark@gmail.com](mailto:NewportKYDogPark@gmail.com) and we can schedule a convenient time for pickup.

We are excited to add the dog park to the growing list of reasons why our neighborhood is great! Thanks for your support. 🐾

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# Historic Newport Christmas Walk/City Christmas Tree Lighting/Pub Crawl on Saturday, Dec. 3 beginning at 11:00 am on Monmouth between 3rd & 11th Streets

by Bev Holiday

The businesses along Monmouth Street are planning their first Christmas Walk/Pub Crawl to support local dining, entertainment and shopping venues in the historic downtown Newport business district.

A "shopper's card" will be offered by participating businesses. Shoppers are encouraged to visit the businesses for their personalized stamp. Completed stamped cards will be eligible for one free gift basket ticket.



Other activities include: complimentary gift wrapping by NKU's Delta Zeta Sorority, with receipt from a Dec. 3 purchase from participating businesses; strolling carolers; carriage rides; gift basket giveaways; Christmas tree sales at 623 Monmouth; artists and vendors set-up in shops/on sidewalk; plus shoppers who donate to "Toys for Tots" or make a canned good donation for Brighton Center will receive one free gift basket ticket.

**Free Santa Photos:** Free Santa Photos: 2 – 5 p.m. City Building firehouse at 998 Monmouth sponsored by Newport Parks and Recreation.

**City Christmas Tree Lighting:** 5:15p.m. City Christmas tree lighting ceremony at the City Building.

**Pub Crawl/Scavenger Hunt:** 7 – 10 p.m. Pub Crawl "Ugly Sweater and Mustache Scavenger Hunt" registration begins at 6:30 p.m. at JerZee's, 798 Monmouth. Participants include: Shortneck's, Barb'z, Birk's, Sis's and Mokka's. Sponsored by Stagnaro Distributing and Southern Wine and Spirits, featuring Miller Lite Girls and Jagermeister Girls

**Additional Activities:**  
Monmouth Theatre, 7 p.m.: Oak Hills High School Holiday Concert, 636 Monmouth [www.monmouththeatre.com](http://www.monmouththeatre.com)

Stained Glass Theatre 7:30 p.m.: Raison D'Etire Trio Holiday Concert, 802 York Street [www.stainedglasstheatre.com](http://www.stainedglasstheatre.com) 🐾



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# 2012 Calendar Sales Might Continue

All the first printing of East Row 2012 calendars were sold, but we're considering a second printing. If you're interested in ordering a calendar from the second printing, send an email to [bruceemky@yahoo.com](mailto:bruceemky@yahoo.com) or call 859 261-4940. If we do a second printing, this will be the last. Don't miss this opportunity for the calendar with East Row Stained Glass photos. All proceeds from calendar sales go to the East Row Historic Foundation. 

# East Row Listserv – How Do I Sign Up?

For those who may know about it, but may not know how to sign up to be part of it, here is the information on the East Row Listserv.

Just as an aside, a listserv is an electronic mailing list software application, consisting of a set of email addresses for a group, in which the sender can send one email and it will reach a variety of people.

To subscribe to the East Row Listserv, send an email to [east\\_row-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:east_row-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). The group is moderated and you will receive an email when you have been accepted. 

# The 6th Street Urns, Decorated for the Holidays

by Bruce Murray

On Saturday, Nov. 12, Mary Jo Gerwe and Beth Murray spent some time decorating the urns on 6th Street for the holidays. Greens, Christmas balls and ribbons were added to the perennial foliage to create a festive design.

You might be surprised that these are planted and maintained by volunteers in the neighborhood, with funding supplied by the East Row Historic Foundation (ERHF).

For the past several years, Mary Jo has taken the lead in planting and maintaining the plantings in the urns, and they have looked great. They haven't always looked that way.

The urns were put in place during the late 1990's when, according to John Brewer, who was on the Beautification Committee at the time and still works to replace damaged urns, "the Beautification Committee [of the ERHF] was much more active." The ERHF provided the funding to purchase and plant the urns and residents active in the ERHF have volunteered time to plant and water. Over the years, several urns have been replaced because of damage by vandals. One year, someone drove down 6th Street early in the morning bashing them, an action that required replacing four urns at more than \$500 each.

Jeff Hall took the first initiative to plant and developed many creative designs for seven years. When Jeff "retired", a number of residents took over and Mary Jo has taken leadership for the past three years. This year, Mary Jo, Carole Weitner and Missy Richardson did the spring planting.

It hasn't always been easy. At first the plants survived with just the rain that we normally get, but beginning in 2003, the very dry summer required that the ERHF gather volunteers to supplement watering done by the City of Newport Public works department. Many kinds of milk jugs, buckets and other containers were used at first, but in 2005, the ERHF bought a water tank and pump to make carrying water easier. Now, volunteers sign up and water for two week periods, ensuring that the plants in the urns continue to thrive.

Watering volunteers this year have been Joe and Mary Jo Gerwe, Bruce and Beth Murray, Mike Kolb, Rick Urb and Beth Robinson, Marlene Picton, Ryan Mitchell and Carole Weitner. When you pass the urns on the street, remember that it's our neighbors who do the work to keep them beautiful. 



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# December's Schedule of Events



at the Newport Branch of the  
Campbell County Public Library  
901 East Sixth Street, 859.572.5035

## Holiday Jazz with the Chris Comer Trio - 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3

Delight in the sounds of the Chris Comer Trio before the *Cookies with Santa* program for children begins at 1 p.m.

## Cookies with Santa - 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3

Join Santa from 1 – 2 p.m. for milk and cookies and get your picture taken with Jolly Old Saint Nick. Ages 0-8. Registration required.

## Internet Basics - 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 5

Learn the basic skills needed to operate a computer. Adults. Registration required.

## Newport Book Club - 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6

Join us for a discussion of *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption* by Laura Hillenbrand. Adults. Snacks provided. Visitors welcome.

## Adventure Club: Christmas Candy Bingo - 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6

Play Bingo using Christmas candy for Bingo markers. Ages 6 to 11. Registration required.

## Wreath Making - 6:30 p.m. Thursday Dec. 8

Heidi Wineland returns by popular demand to make seasonal wreaths using silk flowers, ribbon and a variety of embellishments. All craft materials supplied, including a variety of wreath bases and a wide selection of decor will be provided. Adults. Registration required.

## Holiday Gifts: Teen DIY Spa - 1 p.m. Thursday Dec. 8

Looking for that perfect holiday gift, or just want to make something for yourself? Learn to make bath salts and body glitter from ordinary household ingredients. Ages 12-19.

## Adventure Club: Decorate Christmas Cookies 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13

Spend an afternoon decorating cookies to eat and take home. Ages 6 to 11. Registration required.

## Cookie Decorating - 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15

Decorate holiday cookies with friends. Ages 12 to 19.

Create a Resume with MS Word 2007 - 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19 - Learn how to utilize the built-in resume template of MS Word to create fast and easy resumes. Adults. Registration required.

## Teen Cinema: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1 - 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28

End your year with a viewing of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 1. Part Two will be shown on Thursday, Dec. 29. Movie Rating: PG-13. Ages 13 to 19. Snacks provided.

## Teen Cinema: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1 - 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29

End your year with a viewing of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 2. Movie Rating: PG-13. Ages 13 to 19. Snacks provided.

## Just a Reminder...

As we live in a historic district, it is important to consult with the city's historic preservation representative prior to making any changes to the exterior of your home. This ensures the work conforms to the guidelines for the Historic District. It is also necessary to display a permit that shows the work has been approved. The new (part-time) Historic Preservation Officer is Scott Clark, City of Newport, 859.655.6347, [sclark@newportky.gov](mailto:sclark@newportky.gov)

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