

February 2015

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.

Editor: Jenny A. Hudson

Advertising: Deborah Dutle

Contributors to this issue:
Tom Fromme; Bev Holiday, Josh Tunning, Jeanetta Stacy.

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, March 3, at The Sanctuary (Monroe and 6th Streets.)

East Row Historic Foundation Officers:

Chair:

Angela Siddall
Chair@EastRow.org

Secretary:

John Robson

Treasurer:

Jason Ayers

Gateway Representative:

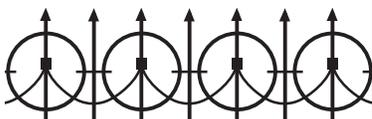
Currently vacant

Mansion Hill Representative:

Elizabeth Robson

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EastRow.org



State of the City of Newport 2015

by City Manager Tom Fromme

As we enter into a New Year, it is time to reflect on where we are and what we have accomplished during the last few years. Newport is celebrating her 220th birthday this year and looking forward to another 220! Newport is situated in the center of the Greater Cincinnati metropolitan area which creates advantages and opportunities. Our location, ease of access, walkability, affordable housing, diversity and safety are all tremendous advantages.

The continued success of Cincinnati, Covington and Newport will create wonderful opportunities for the entire region as we move into the future. One of these opportunities is the MLB All Star game in July, being played at Great American Ball Park. Another is the Red Bike program that promises to be a great addition to our area. There are also several exciting potential developments and attractions that we are currently working on to become a reality.

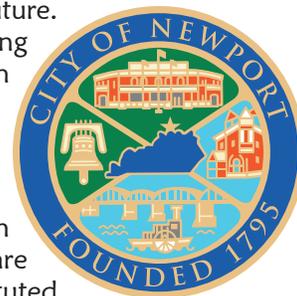
While we have many opportunities, there are also challenges. Much of our infrastructure is very old and must be maintained. As you are probably aware, an annual street maintenance program was instituted three years ago and has been very successful. This program is expensive, but we must continue this perpetually. Other maintenance items include City parks and baseball fields, landscaped areas, sidewalks, trees, street signs and markings, city-owned property, flood wall and gates, municipal complex and equipment. Other challenges include revenue stream, quality of housing and keeping current with ever-changing technology.

In 2014, we welcomed continued development at Newport Pavilion, the completion of the New Riff Distillery and Eight Ball Brewery, the St. Elizabeth Medical Arts Building and the Monmouth Row residential development. The Carothers Road improvement and Grand Avenue median beautification projects were also completed. XPO Logistics joined the growing list of businesses located in One Riverfront Place. In addition, a groundbreaking was held for the \$80 million mixed-use Aqua on the Levee development, adjacent to Newport on the Levee, and the Route 9 road construction has begun. We also welcomed 67 new businesses and added approximately 500 new jobs. A very successful year indeed!

The fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. The City had a general fund balance of \$1,970,784, allowing us to significantly pay down our Tax Anticipation Note (TAN). During the current fiscal year (2015), we anticipate spending nearly \$1 million on infrastructure improvement throughout the City, including more than \$250,000 on street improvements. A list of streets scheduled for work will be posted on the City web site at www.newportky.gov. We are also examining the issuance of a general obligation bond during the current fiscal year to address other infrastructure and capital improvement needs.

As always, if you have comments or questions, please call my office at **859.292.3687** or send an email to bholiday@newportky.gov.

Thanks for your efforts to continue to make Newport a great place to live, work, shop and play. Things are happening in Newport!



Newport Quality of Life

by Josh Tunning, Community Organizer at the Brighton Center

Established in 1795, Newport started off as a small town along the Ohio River and eventually grew into the bustling city that it is today. Over that time we have seen many things come and go in the city, such as a military post, floods, backdoor casinos, steel mills and a world-renowned club. Because of Newport's past, some thought that the city was only relevant when talking about history; however, recently we have seen that relevance and spotlight return to Newport. Just in the last 20 years, we have seen drastic changes, improvements and major development occur in the city, such as the beautification of the East Row neighborhood, the rising scores of our Newport Schools, the development of the Newport Aquarium, Newport on the Levee, and the soon to be Aqua on the Levee. These improvements occurred largely because of effective leadership, visioning and cooperation in the city and community. At Brighton Center, we are looking to help it continue and expand it.

Brighton Center has recently partnered with Local Initiatives Support Corporation, the Catalytic Development Fund, the City and the community to begin a Quality of Life Process for Newport. We've interviewed more than 100 community members to hear what they want to see in the future in terms of quality of life. We are about to begin a second and final round of interviews that will be done and administered by some of the community members we interviewed in the first round. During this process, we want to hear about the hopes, dreams and accomplishments of our community, and hopefully inspire what people wish to see in the future. This will all lead up to a Visioning Session this spring, where we

will invite the community to hear the results as well as understand what they would like from this process.

The final goal is by the end of the year, the community will develop a Quality of Life Plan that contains strategies and plans to accomplish goals set by the community.

To help ensure the process is transparent, I plan to write monthly and continue updating the community and asking for your support and input. I hope the readers of The Voice enjoy reading it as much as I do writing it!

It's going to be a heck of a journey to accomplish this feat over the next several months, but we hope you'll join us along the way!

If you are interested in learning more about the Quality of Life Process or participating in any way, you can look us up on Facebook by searching "Newport Quality of Life" or feel free to contact me at jtunning@brightoncenter.com or 859.491.8303 ext. 2421. ✍️



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Newport Business Association annual awards and elections Feb. 25

by Bev Holiday

The Newport Business Association (NBA) will host its annual awards and election of officers and board members meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 25 from 6 – 8 p.m. at The Newport Syndicate / Gangster's Dueling Piano Bar. Entertainment will be provided by Ricky Nye.

Evening activities include complimentary hors d' oeuvres and cash bar. The meeting is free for NBA members; non-members \$10 each. Please RSVP by Friday, Feb. 20 to Bev Holiday at bholiday@newportky.gov.

Awards to be presented:

2014 Community Leadership
2014 Volunteer of the Year
2014 Business of the Year
2014 New Business of the Year

Officers 2015-2016:

President | Lynne Cole, The Bank of Kentucky
Vice President | Jack Moreland, Southbank Partners
Secretary | Bev Holiday, City of Newport
Treasurer | Drew Bach, Michael P. Bach, P.S.C.

Renewed Board members:

Michael Bach, Michael P. Bach, P.S.C.
Chris Brewer, Zavoodi, Inc.
David Dalton, The Think Shop
Charlie Fry, Master Fry Defense Systems
Jaimie Niemczura, American Diversified Development, Inc.
Marvin Polinsky, Retired
Larry Weber, PNC Bank
Tammy Weidinger, Brighton Center

New Board Members:

Mark Ramler, Mansion Hill Properties
Tete Turner, Newport Board of Education
Peggy Cook, Newport on the Levee
Jon Salisbury, Nexigen



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. The group is moderated and you will receive an email when you have been accepted.



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Improvement planning for Newport schools

by Jeanetta Stacy, Supervisor of Curriculum

The process of improvement planning in Kentucky schools is designed for schools and districts to determine how they will plan to ensure that all students are college and career ready. Under the direction of the Board of Education, that process took on a whole new meaning this year for the Newport Independent School District.

The Kentucky Department of Education requires all districts to complete a Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) and schools to complete a Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP). Newport re-designed their school improvement planning model this year by working collaboratively with all schools. Improvement plans were written based on needs assessments and data analysis conducted at each school and the district level. Training was also provided on writing effective plans and the KDE rubric for school planning was utilized during the planning process. Meetings were held with individual schools during the process to ensure guidance was provided to meet the unique needs of each school.

Training is currently being provided to administrative teams from each school and district office personnel on School Improvement Tools. This includes the development and use of 30-60-90 plans to carry out the Improvement Plans. The use of 30-60-90 planning enables administrative teams to break long-term plans into short-term activities that lead to the final objective. The Quarterly Report will be a data-based check of the 30-60-90 plans that will be presented to the board and school councils on a quarterly basis by each school principal. This will provide accountability for improvement planning throughout the district.

The same process of the 30-60-90 planning is being used at the district level. The district administrative team has seven goals, 10 objectives, 23 strategies, and 66 activities for which they are accountable to the Board of Education. All of these are linked to provide solid academic support to the schools within the Newport Independent School District and increase school and district improvement. Amy Gilkison, the district's chief academic officer, will not only be checking on each school's plans, but will also be responsible for carrying out and monitoring the district improvement plan. Quarterly reporting to the board will also be done on the status of the district plan.

The Newport Independent School District has an improvement plan that is truly aligned to focus all efforts on improving student achievement for the students of Newport! By working together this year, the improvement plans truly will become living, breathing documents that will move Newport Independent students toward college and career readiness.

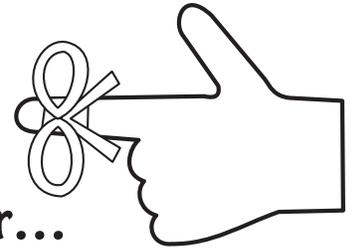
The Newport Independent School District board members

believe strongly that productivity is never an accident...it is always the result of a commitment to excellence, intelligent planning and focused effort. The upcoming year in Newport Independent Schools will prove to be just that!

The entire contents of the Newport Independent School District Comprehensive Improvement Plan may be found by scanning the QR Code shown here. 



Scan for NISD
CDIP



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 Historic Preservation Officer is Scott Clark, City of Newport, 859.655.6347, sclark@newportky.gov 

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