

Central Community Family Festival

The First Annual Central Community Family Festival took place on Saturday, September 23, 2006 at Friendly Inn Settlement House.

Organizers of the festival included staff from BBC and Friendly Inn Settlement House, as well as community residents from Central neighborhoods including Arbor Park Village and CMHA estates. The event was supported by Councilwoman Phyllis Cleveland and several other corporate sponsors.

The event featured talent of local youth in the form of dance, music, drama and poetry as well as a drum call to open and close the ceremony. Additional performances included Joe DeJarnette, the Prayer Warriors, Gabriel's Horns and African Soul Dance Troupe.

BBC is proud to help bring this event to life for the community at large. We know that many people, near and far, came from the Central neighborhood. They include John D Rockefeller, Dorothy Dandridge, Jane Edna Hunter, Carl & Louis Stokes, Academy Award nominee Terrence Howard and Judge Jean Murrell Capers.

The festival theme, "Coming Together to Build a Stronger Central Community", was selected by area youth, who identified it as something of high importance to them. This community holds so much promise and the festival is a conduit to positive, creative, and fun activities for families to engage in.

Several sponsors, including Ward 5 Councilwoman Phyllis Cleveland, Rysar Properties, KeyBank, Cleveland Public



These performers attracted quite a crowd with their music. They were part of a full day of music and dance that took place on two stages.



This magician drew large crowds of both kids and adults.

Power, and St. Vincent Charity Hospital, helped make the first annual Central Community Family Festival a success.

This youngster takes a plunge down an inflatable slide. In addition to this slide, the kids could take turns jumping in the bounce house or climbing an inflatable rock wall.

Boys and girls had the opportunity to show off their moves by competing in a dance-off on the City of Cleveland's Show Wagon stage.

Marshall Avenue Residents Get Prepared for School

Residents of Marshall Avenue and the surrounding streets near E. 93rd Street prepared to return to school at the Marshall Avenue Back-to-School Safety Fair and Block Party. The event took place on Saturday, September 9, 2006. Residents received useful information from the County Auditor's Office, Child Fingerprinting Kits from the County Prosecutors Office, and valuable school supplies and other items to get the school year off to a great start.

Everyone in attendance also enjoyed music from DJ Dionne and the South High School Band, fun activities, and a visit from the Cleveland Cavaliers Dance Team. The event was completely planned and coordinated by residents and was sponsored in part by a grant from Neighborhood Connections of the Cleveland Foundation and donations from local businesses and neighbors.



Youth from the neighborhood pause from their activities to take a picture with members of the Cleveland Cavaliers Dance team

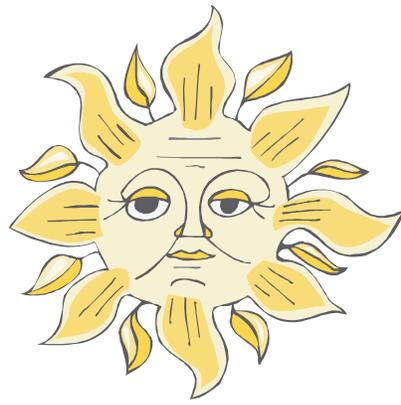


A representative from the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office explains the Child Fingerprinting Kit

-Joy Johnson

Volunteers

make a difference in Ward 5 this summer



Volunteers of all ages helped residents this summer

This summer, volunteers from throughout Northeast Ohio have worked diligently to beautify Ward 5 and provide assistance to several residents in need.

Volunteer groups painted 3 homes in the ward at no cost to the homeowners. As mentioned in the summer edition of the Community Connector, two Ward 5 seniors were selected by the nonprofit group Rebuilding Together to receive house-painting, yard maintenance, and light repairs free of charge. With **BBC**, the City of Cleveland Department of Aging and Cleveland Hope

program also arranged for the Union Trades Council to paint the exterior of a resident's home on East 74th Street. More opportunities for exterior house-painting for eligible senior citizens are anticipated to be available beginning next spring.

In July, four seniors living between Cedar and Central Avenues had their yards thoroughly cleaned by the service group Youth

for Christ and Cleveland Central Weed & Seed. Volunteers and staff removed brush and yard debris, trimmed bushes and low-hanging tree branches, and disposed of old appliances for homeowners. Planning is now underway for similar neighborhood improvement projects to be performed with Youth for Christ and other groups in the near future.

The season also marked the beginning of **BBC's** partnership with Purpose Painters, a one-of-a-kind faith-based initiative that offers eligible single-parent families, grandparent-headed families, and foster-parent households the opportunity to receive an interior-only painting ranging in scope from one room to one floor. Both materials and labor are provided at no cost, however, recipients are required to supply at least 50% of the labor, which can include family, friends, and neighbors. Two families have already participated in the Purpose Painters program, and **BBC** is currently accepting applications for many more qualified residents to participate. Please contact **BBC** at (216) 341-1455 for more information.

Last but not least, all summer long, Court Community Service has supplied hundreds of hours of manpower to **BBC** and the community by sweeping streets, collecting and disposing litter, maintaining vacant lots, and setting up for special neighborhood events.

BBC sincerely thanks all who have volunteered their time and resources for the betterment of Ward 5 this summer and continue to perform service in the community!

—Jeffrey Sugalski

Homestead Programs

BBC has compiled a partial list of programs available to eligible senior citizens living in Ward 5. For assistance in completing and submitting applications, please contact **BBC** at (216) 341-1455.

Cuyahoga County Auditor Homestead Program – The Cuyahoga County Auditor's office can help to significantly reduce your property taxes each year. To qualify, applicants must be at least 65 years of age, own and occupy their home, and have a household income of \$25,400 or less. For more information, please call (216) 443-7050.

Cleveland Water Department Homestead Program – Senior Citizens 65 years of age and older that receive less than \$25,000 annually can sign up for discounted water bills. Contact customer service at (216) 664-3130

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Homestead Program – District customers age 65 or older, or anyone under 65 who is totally disabled may be eligible to receive a rate decrease on their sewer bills. Applicants must have a household income of \$26,200 or less, and must own and occupy their property. Interested? Call (216) 881-8247.

—Jeffrey Sugalski

LIFE ENRICHMENT

Job Seeker's Corner

Fall is not only a great time to head back-to-school but also to head to work. Below is information on various FREE programs for area job seekers:

Employment Connections

Employment Connections offers various resources to all residents of Cuyahoga County. Job seekers can receive job placement assistance, career counseling and coaching, and free workshops on topics ranging from Computer Basics to Money Management. Employment assistance is also available for seniors, ex-offenders, and veterans. For more information, contact their downtown office on 1701 E. 13th Street at (216) 664-4673.

Cleveland Municipal School District-Adult Education and Career Training Center

The CMSD Adult Education and Career Training Center provides adults with continuing education and supportive services. Participants can enroll in courses such as Automotive Body Repair, Carpentry, Early Childhood Development, STNA, and more. The Center also offers literacy education and computer technology courses. For more information call the Office of Adult and Continuing Education at (216) 574-8200.

CEOGC Customer Service Training Program

This agency provides a Customer Service Training Program for any resident of Cuyahoga County with a High School Diploma or GED at least 19 years of age that meets income guidelines. The program consists of a review of communications skills, human relations and attitudes training, telephone techniques, and instruction on how to get along with difficult people. To sign up for this program, call the CEOGC Hough Learning Center at (216) 421-4196.

United Labor Agency Job Start Employment and Training Center

The United Labor Agency provides support and services for dislocated workers with their Job Start Employment and Training Center. The center assists those who have lost jobs due to a lay-off or downsizing. They provide job skills training, job search workshops, a job club, job fairs, and job placement assistance. To get started, sign up for their next orientation session by calling their downtown office (3328 Carnegie Avenue) at (216) 391-0900.

-Joy Johnson

WARD 5 MASTER PLANNING

Acknowledging the importance of planning for the future of our community, BBC and Ward 5 Councilwoman Phyllis Cleveland are working with Richard Bowen & Associates, Ubiquitous Architects, and the Kent State Urban Design Center to develop a master plan for our entire service area. We have divided the planning into smaller neighborhoods and will hold several community forums to garner community input for the plan.

Understanding the significance of community planning, BBC is committed to facilitating the process of community engagement for the future of neighborhoods we serve. Creation of a Master Plan entails many hours of dialogue between community members, planners, architects, and stakeholders. Maintaining open lines of communication

with residents, churches, businesses, social service agencies, and other stakeholders can result in communities growing with a thoughtful and deliberate direction.

We are working to develop master plans for the following neighborhoods: the Forgotten Triangle including the Garden Valley area; Upper Central; Lower Central; and the Kinsman Union area. An asset inventory is taken of a particular area, and community members come to the table to share their vision and ideas for what is needed and what constitutes sustainability for the future land use.

We invite you to be a part of our next planning meetings to be held in October. Information on the next meetings will be distributed throughout the various neighborhoods.

-Kim Scott

PICK YOUR NEIGHBOR AND RECEIVE \$500!

Attention new homeowners in the Villages of Central! Rysar Properties is offering \$500 to any new homeowner that refers a friend or family member to purchase a home in the Villages of Central. For more information on the Villages of Central referral program, please call Jeannette Hollowell at (216) 431-1188.

-Joy Johnson

Get Rid of Hazardous Waste

Need to get rid of old household chemicals like pesticides, motor oil, or paint thinner?

The City of Cleveland is having a **Household Hazardous Waste Round-Up** October 26th to 28th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The City will accept all residential waste items free of charge in our neighborhood at the Carr Center located at 5600 Carnegie Avenue. They will also be accepting items on the West Side at the Ridge Road Station,

3727 Ridge Road.

On Saturday October 28 they will also give away FREE thermometers to those who turn in old mercury thermometers. Please bring your old thermometers sealed in a plastic back or container.

For more information, or a list of acceptable products, please call the City of Cleveland Recycling Hotline at (216) 664-3717.

-Joy Johnson

VOUCHER

Housing Choice Voucher Program Waiting List Lottery

CMHA is now accepting entry forms for their Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) Waiting List Lottery. Selection in this lottery will determine placement on the HCVP waiting list.

Lottery entry forms are available September 25 - October 9, 2006 at all Cleveland Public Library locations, all Cuyahoga County Library locations, and various county offices. There is no fee to enter.

Completed lottery forms must be submitted by October 16, 2006. All lottery winners will be notified by December 11, 2006. Lottery winners will be placed on the voucher waiting list.

For more information, please call CMHA at (216) 426-2800 or visit their website at www.cmha.net.

-Joy Johnson

BBC WELCOMES THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

BBC would like to welcome our three newest board members, who will begin serving in October. They are:

SHERRELL HARDY

Sherrell Hardy is a resident of the Kinsman-Union Neighborhood. Ms. Hardy is Founder and CEO of Quick Employment, LLC, an employment and staffing agency in downtown Cleveland.

MICHAEL SCHOOP, PH. D.

Michael Schoop, Ph.D. is Campus President/College Vice President of Cuyahoga Community College's Metro Campus. Mr. Schoop's election to the board continues BBC's tradition of having a representative from the college on our Board of Directors. Tri-C is a valued asset in our neighborhood and we are excited to continue this partnership.

DANNY WILLIAMS

Danny Williams is a resident of the Rawlings area. He is President of the Ward 5 Club and has been a Deacon at St. Paul's Baptist Church on E. 55th St for 15 years. Mr. Williams also ran for councilman of Ward 5 in 2005.

BBC also recently elected a new Board President, Mildred Cephus, who has served on BBC's Board of Directors for the past 10 years.

BBC is honored to have such valued community members join our board. We look forward to working with them.

-Joy Johnson

BBC welcomes Nailah Ingram to the staff

BBC is happy to welcome Nailah Ingram to our staff! Nailah is BBC's administrative assistant. In this position she will assist with administrative and office matters. Nailah worked with BBC in Fall 2005 as a temporary employee, where she helped with the City of Cleveland Paint Program, the Weed & Seed Safety Fair, and various office functions. The staff is pleased to have her on board as a full-time staff person.

-Joy Johnson

Burten, Bell, Carr Development, Incorporated

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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JOSHUA WALLACE Weed & Seed Safe Haven Coordinator

JOY JOHNSON Administrative Officer

NAILAH INGRAM Administrative Assistant

Programs Available to Assist with Utilities

Residents now have several options available to help them stay connected to their utility services. In addition to the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) and the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) for those who are income eligible, Ohio's winter reconnect program is an option regardless of a household's income. Any consumer who has been disconnected will be able to have their electric or natural gas service reconnected for \$175 and a small reconnection fee. Lifeline programs also are available to low income consumers and offer discounts on basic local telephone service.

Ohio Winter Reconnect Program

Ohio's winter reconnect program allows households that have been disconnected or are threatened with disconnection due to non-payment of a utility bill to have service restored during the winter months. The program runs from October 16, 2006 until April 13, 2007. Through the program, consumers can pay either the total amount they owe to the utility company or \$175, whichever is less, plus a reconnection fee of no more than \$20. For income eligible households, money given through the Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program (E-HEAP) may be used to pay these fees.

Budget Billing

Budget billing programs allow consumers who are current on their payments to spread the amount they owe over a 12-month period. Consumers should contact their utility company to inquire about how to participate.

Payment Plans

When facing disconnection, consumers can propose a payment plan that works best for them. If the company finds the proposed payment plan not acceptable, it must provide an option of participating in either the 1/3 (where customers pay 1/3 of the total amount due each month, which includes their past due balance and current bill) or 1/6 (where customers pay 1/6 of the balance amount in addition to paying the full amount of the current bill) payment plan.

Telephone Lifeline

The majority of Ohio's local telephone companies offer Lifeline programs to ensure that those who are in need of a phone are always connected. Most households that qualify for HEAP are automatically eligible for Lifeline. Anyone at or below 150 percent of the poverty level (\$28,735 for a family of four) also are eligible. Under Lifeline, fees to establish telephone service are waived. Consumers also receive a discount off the monthly basic local charges in addition to other benefits determined by each company.

For more information on the assistance programs, contact the Ohio Consumers Counsel at **1-877-PICKOCC (1-877-742-5622)**, or online at **www.pickocc.org**.

U P C O M I N G B B C P R O J E C T S

Look to the On the Horizon section for updates on new projects in the BBC service area.

ON THE HORIZON

BBC to Unveil Re-Designed Website

BBC staff members have designed a new website which will feature our new agency logo and colors. The new website is coming soon. In the meantime, please visit our current website at www.bbcddevelopment.org for information on our programs and projects.

New Shopping Centers

BBC has just given names to our two new shopping centers we are currently developing in the area. Bridgeport Place is a 13,200 square foot shopping center which will be located at E. 72nd and Kinsman. In addition to bringing services to the Garden Valley neighborhood, Bridgeport Place will also be home to BBC's new office. We are developing another retail shopping center at E. 93rd and Kinsman, to be named Kingsbury Crossings. Look for more information in future newsletters or on our website.

For information on any of our various programs, please call us at (216) 341-1455.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	ADDRESS
Oct. 14	12:00 PM	Ward 5 Club	Vocational Guidance Services	2235 E. 55th St.
Oct. 16	5:00 PM	Hsg. Choice Voucher Program Lottery Deadline		
Oct. 17	6:00 PM	Weed & Seed Block Club Mtg.	Weed & Seed Safe Haven	7504 Cedar Ave.
Oct. 26-28	9 AM - 2 PM	Household Hazardous Waste Round-Up	Carr Center	5600 Carnegie Ave.
Oct. 31	6:00 PM	Kinsman-Union Association Mtg.	Union Library	3463 E. 93rd St.
Nov. TBD	TBD	Central Neighborhood Master Planning Mtg.	TBD	
Nov. TBD	TBD	Kinsman-Union Neighborhood Master Planning Mtg.	Union Library	3463 E. 93rd St.
Nov. TBD	TBD	Forgotten Triangle Master Planning Mtg.	TBD	
Nov. 7	6:30 AM - 7:30 PM	Election Day	Polling Locations	
Nov. 9	6:30 PM	Friendship Village Community Mtg.	Tree of Life Ministries Church	5901 Quincy Ave.
Nov. 11	12:00 PM	Ward 5 Club	Vocational Guidance Services	2235 E. 55th St.
Nov. 11	10 AM - 3 PM	Weed & Seed Info Summit and Job Fair	City Mission	5310 Carnegie Ave.
Nov. 23		Thanksgiving Day-BBC Closed		
Nov. 24		BBC Closed		
Dec. 14	6:30 PM	Friendship Village Community Mtg.	Tree of Life Ministries Church	5901 Quincy Ave.
Dec. 22		Christmas Eve (Observed) - BBC Closed		
Dec. 25		Christmas Day - BBC Closed		
Dec. 29		New Year's Eve (Observed) - BBC Closed		

CURRENT EVENTS

If you would like to submit an event to our Current Events calendar, please contact Joy Johnson at BBC, (216) 341-1455. Please call Councilwoman Cleveland's office to confirm all community meetings (216) 664-2309.

Thank You

We're on the web! www.bbcddevelopment.org

3226 E. 93rd Street
Cleveland, OH 44104
Phone: (216) 341-1455
Fax: (216) 341-2683



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