



update on south euclid

A City of South Euclid Publication

Winter 2010

Of Interest

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day
- 4 Deadline to sign up for Tri-City "History of the American Musical Theater" program (See Tri-City column)
- 11 Hillcrest Art Guild Bill Gould watercolor demonstration 10 a.m. (morning time experimental)
- 18 Martin Luther King Birthday celebrated (city buildings closed)
- 20 Good Neighbor mtg.; City Hall jury room 6:30 p.m.
- 21 *Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce (HRCC) Business Breakfast Series "Employment Law 101: Hiring, Firing & Everything in Between" Daniel Messeloff A.M. McGregor 8 a.m.
- 25 *HRCC Mixer Costco 5:30-7:30
- 26 F.I.D.O mtg.

FEBRUARY

- 6 "Growing Great Neighborhoods" symposium Community Center 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. (See Councilwoman Goodman's column for more info)
- 8 Hillcrest Art Guild 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Presidents' Day
- 15 Ward 2 mtg. Community Center 7 p.m.
- 18 *HRCC Business Breakfast Series "Facebook Basics for Personal and Business Use" Brad Kleinman A.M. McGregor 8 a.m.
- 23 F.I.D.O. mtg.

Of Interest...Continued on page 5

Some thoughts from Mayor Welo...



Since becoming your mayor in 2004, your city council and administration have placed an emphasis on confronting, and not ignoring, the many challenges South Euclid faces as an older, inner-ring Cleveland suburb including:

- Implementing a plan to fix and replace our aging streets and underlying sewer systems
- Revitalizing our business districts
- Renewing our parks and providing unique new park amenities
- Keeping South Euclid a safe place to live and work with excellent police, fire and EMS forces, and
- Maintaining our tax base by promoting home renovations and new housing options to attract new residents and keep current residents in South Euclid.

We have had many successes, and our great community has been recognized for the unique programs and community initiatives we have introduced. However, like the majority of cities in our region, we are facing new and unforeseen challenges as a result of the economic recession, subsequent job losses and the national foreclosure crisis, brought on by predatory lending practices and fueled by greed.

In spite of these new challenges, by working together we have been able to weather the storm clouds that hover over our region. And in spite of these hardships, we must now, more than ever, keep pushing forward with a vision that will keep South Euclid a great community to live in today - and for future generations of residents.

In this winter issue of the community *Update*, we will highlight the progress of our Road and Infrastructure Repair Program. A portion of the city's road repair programs is funded through a road levy that comes before voters for approval every five years. The levy will be up for renewal this March.

Also in this issue, we will provide details on the progress of the Cedar Center Revitalization Project and our exciting and unique Green Neighborhoods Initiative that is gaining positive national attention and is being watched as a national model to revitalize foreclosed and vacant homes.

Thoughts...Continued on page 5

Update on the Update

As the new decade begins, a "new" *Update* will be mailed to residents on a quarterly basis, rather than bi-monthly as in the past.

Residents have been requesting the newsletter be brought back to provide them with information, but as everyone knows, economics play a great part in just about everything that is done today.

In an effort to reduce costs, yet provide you with the information you desire, the *Update on South Euclid* will be issued as winter, spring, summer and fall issues. Every effort will be made to provide all the information you need, but it will be done in a maximum of six pages.

As a result, council reports will be somewhat restricted. Reports from ward council members will alternate with reports from those elected at-large. This winter issue features information from the wards, and the spring issue will highlight information from the council members you elected at large.

By reducing the number of issues and number of pages, your city government will save on production, creative and postage costs yet still provide you with the information you want in as timely a manner as possible.

COUNCIL NEWS ...

Council contact information can be found on the back page of the Update.

Council President Moe Romeo, Ward 2

Are you ready for a disaster?

The American Red Cross suggests that it is important that you be prepared for a possible disaster or other emergency. Natural or human-caused disasters can strike at any time and anywhere. There are three actions every household can take that can help make a difference.

1. Get a Kit:

- Have at least three days of supplies in an easy-to-carry evacuation kit, with additional supplies on hand. (An easy way to get your kit started is to contact your local Red Cross or go online to www.redcross.org to order an emergency preparedness kit.)

2. Make a Plan:

- Planning ahead will help you have the best possible response to disaster.
- Discuss with your family the disasters that can happen.
- Establish responsibilities for each member of your household and plan to work together as a team in case of emergency.

3. Be informed:

- Know what may happen and how you can help.
- Learn what disasters or emergencies may occur where you live, work and play.
- Identify how local authorities will notify you during a disaster and how you will get important information.
- Learn what you can do to prepare for disasters by contacting your local Red Cross chapter.

Ward 2 Meeting

The Ward 2 update meeting has been scheduled for Monday, February 15 at 7 p.m. at the community center. Please mark your calendars and try to attend.

Ruth Gray Ward 1

As I begin my second term as councilperson for Ward 1, I am extremely grateful and humble to have served four years as your representative. Thank you.

We had a good turnout for our November meeting. The next Ward 1 meeting will be

Thursday, April 15 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Margaret Mary's church hall.

Four years ago the city purchased property on Greenvale. City council will be deciding whether to keep it as green space, develop it, or decide on a combination of both. I want to know your thoughts about this.

Be reminded that exterior inspections will begin soon. I suggest you pick up a copy of the inspection list from the building/housing department in order to know what it will be looking for so you can make repairs and avoid a citation.

The first of the year is a good time to start planning a get together with other neighbors. I believe it is important that we take the time to get to know our neighbors and especially the youth in our community. If you need assistance organizing your efforts, please call or e-mail me. I will be delighted to help you.

The next Good Neighbor meeting will be Wednesday, January 20 in the city hall jury room, from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

May you have a healthy and prosperous year!

Ed Icove Ward 3

If you have driven around the city lately chances are you have seen the "Discover South Euclid Green Neighborhoods" banners on Warrensville Center Rd. This exciting project is the result of the hard work of the city's housing department.

Housing Manager Sally Martin and Housing Programs Coordinator Tracie Zamiska have created an innovative initiative and obtained nearly \$800,000 in grant funds to purchase bungalows in the city and rehab them using green building techniques and universal design. These renovated homes will then be displayed to the public to showcase the potential of the city's housing stock and demonstrate the advantages of green building before being resold to lucky owner-occupants.

Others have collaborated on this project. The housing department is working with Zaremba Home Again Restoration, City Architecture, Cleveland Institute of Art, Notre Dame College, MBA students at John Carroll University, Whole Foods, Environmental Health Watch and the NEO chapter of the U.S. Green Building Coalition.

A team approach has made the project a success. As part of this initiative, a community garden



will be created on Warrendale Rd. which will be sponsored by Whole Foods, and possibly other gardens will follow. You can check out the progress of the green homes and community gardens on the city's newly updated website.

This is the kind of innovative thinking that makes South Euclid a leader among Northeast Ohio communities.

Should you have any questions regarding this or any other matter, please contact me at work or at home.

Jane Goodman Ward 4

Thank you for allowing me to serve you for another four years. Get Ward 4 news, project updates and more on my web site, www.janegoodman.com. There you'll also find the schedule for "Coffee with the Councilwoman" dates and places.



Saturday, February 6, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Councilwoman Simon and I will host the first "Growing Great Neighborhoods" symposium at the community center. We'll have one workshop for residents to define and design creative uses for vacant lots in our neighborhoods, another to start organizing summer street club activities and a third to develop connections between residents, businesses and organizations at work in our city.

We'll have a lunch speaker and door prizes, too. Go to my website for more information, and contact me if you'd like to volunteer or promote your group, local or home-based business at the event.

Wednesday, March 3, at 7 p.m. the first Ward 4 meeting of the year will be held at the community center.

Would you like to help organize a new walking club? Meet me at Bruegger's at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 10, to set up morning, midday and evening walk schedules and routes. See the city and get healthier at the same time!

HomeBase, the Home Based Business Association of South Euclid, will have its first networking event on Wednesday, May 5 from 7 - 9 p.m. in the city hall community room. Meet, greet, hear who's doing what, and set the calendar for the year. Bring brochures, cards and your "elevator speech."



From the Police Department

Kevin Nietert, Police Chief

For those who are considering travel during the winter months or possibly spending time in a warmer climate, we have some suggestions you may wish to take into consideration:

- Stop all deliveries or arrange for a neighbor to pick up your mail, newspapers or packages.
- Arrange for someone to handle snow removal.
- Use timers to turn on lights, radio and/or television.
- Don't announce your absence on your answering machine or social networking sites.
- Have a neighbor periodically park in your driveway. If you leave a car parked outside, have a neighbor move it occasionally so that it appears that it is being used. Also ask a neighbor to clear the snow off the vehicle.
- Notify the police department and ask that we check the residence in your absence.

The South Euclid Police Department will be holding its third Civilian Police Academy starting in April, 2010. The start date and day of week have yet to be determined. Applications are now available on the police department's website.

There will be a Community Shred day on March 20 in the rear lot of the South Euclid City Hall. Please limit shredding material to three bankers' boxes.

The department recently assigned Sgt. Rick Friedl and Ptrl. Christine Marabito to the Detective Bureau. We wish them well in their new assignments.

From the Fire Department

Thomas Cannell, Fire Chief

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a clear, odorless gas that is produced by combustion. Most CO is vented from your home through the chimneys provided to various appliances such as furnaces and hot water heaters.

Normal levels of CO in the home are well below 10 PPM. However, there are times when an appliance is not running correctly and you could get excessive accumulations of CO. That is why the fire department recommends you purchase a carbon monoxide detector for your home. They

are more expensive than a smoke detector, but equally important to have.

Place your CO detector where you will be able to hear it while sleeping! Keep your detector clean and always change the battery (if that is the type you have) as per manufacturers' specifications.

Just a few things to remember!

Never run your car in the garage. Even with the door open, CO gas can get into your home many different ways from an attached garage...

Always have your appliances serviced on an annual basis. A well-tuned appliance will not cause you headaches in the future.

Buy a carbon monoxide detector and install it when you bring it home. It won't do you any good sitting in the original box.

Should you have any additional questions about carbon monoxide or smoke detectors, or fire safety in general, please feel free to contact the city's Fire Prevention Bureau at 216-381-1214! It only takes a moment for things to get out of hand! Don't become a statistic!

From the Service Department

Ed Gallagher, Director

Winter Ice and Snow Road Maintenance

We will be following the same guidelines as 2009. We will be salting all main and secondary roads, hills, intersections and curves to ensure safe conditions. We will only be spot salting side streets near stop signs and intersections. However, they will be plowed as necessary when snow exceeds two to three inches.

Please remember we will do everything possible to keep the roads safe for travel, but you must do a few things to assist. Ensure tires are in good condition and properly inflated, be cautious and slow down and give yourself enough room to stop behind other vehicles on the road.

Thank you for your understanding. Please remember to keep your sidewalk on your property clear as we have more children walking to school than in previous years. This is the homeowner's responsibility.

2010 Special Recycling Schedule

Location: Service garage 4224 Monticello Blvd. at the corner of Green and Monticello behind the BP gas station, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Computer Round-up

Monday, April 5 through Wednesday, April 14

Household Hazardous Waste Round-up:

Monday, April 26 through Friday, April 30

Latex paint is **NOT** allowed! Please fill latex paint cans with kitty litter, which will absorb the paint. If the cans are dried up, still fill the kitty litter to the top. Leave cans open and put out on normal garbage day.

2010 Trash & Recycling Delay Due to the Holidays

New Years Day: January 1, 2010 is a Friday. Both your trash and recyclables will be picked up on Saturday, January 2.

Martin Luther King Day: There will be no delay in trash pick-up Monday, January 18. However there will be a delay in recycling pick-up. We will pick up recycling on Tuesday, January 19. This will not interfere with the normal Tuesday recycling route. Other recycling the week of January 18 will be the same as always.

From the Housing Manager

Sally Martin

The housing department needs your help! Please call or e-mail us if you are aware of a vacant home on your street so that we can properly monitor it. We drive through the city every day tracking vacant properties, but neighbors know best when it comes to the status of a property on their street.

This information is crucial in order for us to properly monitor and manage vacant property in the city. Also, we have seen an increase in unregistered rental properties. Please let us know if you suspect that a home on your street has recently become a rental property. Rental properties are required to be registered and inspected inside and out before a certificate of occupancy can be issued.

We are starting our first Green Neighborhoods Home at 4182 Wilmington Rd. This bungalow will be the first to be renovated using HUD Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funds. If you are out and about, be sure to check the progress. We plan to provide updates on the city's brand new website as well. Check it out and get some great "green" ideas for your own home.

We really appreciate how hard our residents work to maintain their homes and increase curb appeal. Thank you for all you do to keep South Euclid a great place to live, work and play.

Department News...Continued on page 4

Road Levy...Continued from page 4

Based on the inspection, the street is assigned a coded rating from 1 (Critical) to 5 (Excellent). The factors considered in assigning a rating include the age and condition of the surface, riding quality, frequency of repairs, integrity of street curbs, structural condition of the pavement, and, especially on concrete streets, the condition of the pavement joints. In addition, the amount of traffic on the street is taken into consideration based on reports from the police department's traffic commissioner.

The city's current road improvement program has resulted in significant progress since 2004. However, as an inner-ring suburb, South Euclid has the oldest streets, sewers and underlying infrastructure - some more than 100 years old and, as a result, it is necessary to "play" catch-up every year to maintain streets currently in good condition and find creative ways to reconstruct those streets in critical need of repair.

In Ohio, cities are dependent primarily on income tax and some property tax revenues to provide services for their residents. Unfortunately, as a result of the housing crisis and economic recession, these revenue resources have been reduced. In addition, the road levy initially approved by the voters was a 3-millage levy.

Because of economic conditions, it is now 1.22 mills!

The positive livability of this community is not guaranteed which is why everyone needs to work together to find ways to move forward in a positive direction. As a result, between now and May, community discussions will be held to gain citizen input and determine how to move forward in planning future road improvement programs. Below are some options for your consideration:

- Option #1: Renew the current 1.22 mill levy that will continue to provide approximately \$575,000 a year. This option currently costs each homeowner \$122 a year.
- Option #2: Replace it with a 2.00 mill levy that will provide approximately \$845,000 a year. This option would cost an additional \$82 a year.
- Option #3: Replace it with a 2.50 mill levy that would provide approximately \$1,056,985 a year. This option will cost an additional \$128 a year.

Your administration realizes these are tough and lean economic times for many residents, not only in South Euclid, but in the region, and the loss of funds due to the recession and foreclosure crisis have made it difficult just to keep pace. However, it is not a time for complacency. The continuing revitalization and maintenance of the city's infrastructure is one of the most important factors contributing to the health and vitality of this community. These repairs serve to beautify streets, increase property values, maintain safety and serve as a catalyst for neighborhood and home revitalization projects.

Further information regarding the city's road programs, including the 2009 Street Ratings, can be found on the city's website at www.cityofsoutheuclid.com.

The administration looks forward to hearing your feedback and ideas about how South Euclid should move forward with the road levy in May and thank you in advance for taking the time to offer your opinion and input.

The 2010 Census: Our voice in U.S. government!

In March of this year United States Census forms will be delivered to every residence in South Euclid and the United States.

Why is it so important? When you fill out the census form, you're making a statement about what resources South Euclid will need moving forward. Accurate census information will determine the city's eligibility for federally funded programs that help rebuild our aging streets and infrastructure and provide critical social services for our children, seniors and those in need of assistance.

It will also determine how money is spent in our schools, senior centers, hospitals, and emergency services. Data collected also help determine the number of seats Ohio will have in the U.S. House of Representatives and will determine how more than \$400 billion dollars of federal funding is spent each year.

When you receive your form, just answer the 10 short questions and then mail back the form in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you don't mail the form back, you will receive a visit from a "census taker" who will ask you the questions from the form. If you have any questions, you can link to the U.S. Census 2010 website from www.cityofsoutheuclid.com or visit www.2010.census.gov for more information.

Of Interest...continued from page 1

MARCH

- 3 Ward 4 mtg.
Community Center 7 p.m.
- 8 Hillcrest Art Guild 7:30 p.m.
- 18 *HRCC Business Breakfast
Series "Increasing Productivity
& Efficiency Through
Technology" Brian Rosenfelt
A.M. McGregor 8 a.m.
- 20 Community Shred Day (See
Police Dept. column for info.)
- 20 Poor Man's Raffle
(See community center column)
- 26 Deadline to purchase tickets
for April 3 Spring Festival
(formerly Egg Hunt)
- 27 Community Garage Sale
9a.m.-3p.m.
- 30 F.I.D.O. mtg.
- 30 First day of Passover

* There is a fee to attend these programs. For information about HRCC programs call (216) 397-7322

All programs are at South Euclid Community Center, unless otherwise noted. Call (216) 291-0772 for all Tri-City program information.

Thoughts...continued from page 1

In addition we will provide you with information about the upcoming 2010 United States census and how you can participate to make sure that every South Euclid resident is counted.

Even with the hard work of your city council and administration, we would not be able to succeed without your support, guidance, faith and understanding that there are no quick or easy solutions to many of our challenges. We have a lot left to accomplish — but by being creative and working together we have made great progress and have built a solid foundation for our community's continuing success and vitality.

Thank you again for your commitment to making South Euclid a better place to live, work, play and raise a family. We wish you the very best in the new year and decade ahead!





City of South Euclid
 1349 South Green Road
 South Euclid, Ohio 44121-3985

PRESORT Std.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Permit No. 1173
 Cleveland, Ohio

Around Our Community

Barbara Brown, principal and co-owner of BrownFlynn, is a recipient of the 2009 Most Powerful & Influential Women of Ohio award. Brown and 15 other women were chosen out of more than 50 nominations from across the state by a committee of executives and professionals.

The South Euclid Police Department won several awards at the recent Cuyahoga County DUI Task Force Law Enforcement Awards luncheon. The department received an award for Exemplary Service to the Task Force. It also received the Patrol Productivity Award for seat belt and child passenger safety citations. Traffic commissioner and motorcycle officer Robert Abele received the Outstanding Leadership Recognition Award for his continued work with the task force and Robert Baldyga received the Cuyahoga County Top OVI Cop Award.

Jim Lawless, poet and retired Plain Dealer reporter, read selections from his books, "Triscuits of Poems" and "Painting in the Eye," at a Tri-City luncheon at the S.E. community center. He previously had read his poetry at a similar luncheon in Lyndhurst. His work is "goofy, serious, pithy and sometimes tastes of apple pie."

Consortium's on the go

Upcoming Tri-City Consortium trips include:

- Jan. 24 Musical "Chicago" Playhouse Square \$60
- Jan. 28 Home & Garden Show Great lakes Expo Center Euclid \$28
- Feb. 11 Musical "Ain't Misbehavin'" Cleveland Playhouse \$53
- Feb. 28 "Is He Dead?" A new comedy Beck Center for the Arts \$53

A website is available to refer to upcoming events.

www.tri-cityseniors.org

Trips are open to active adults 55 and over, and include cost of coach. Call (440) 473-5138 for information, prices and reservations.

Printed on Recycled paper.

www.cityofsoutheuclid.com

South Euclid City Officials

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Georgine Welo

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CITY COUNCIL

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MUNICIPAL COURT

Patricia Ann Kleri – Judge

Hedy I. Rapeport – Magistrate

Lindsay P. Jones – Clerk of Court

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. – 381-2880

ADMINISTRATION

Police Chief..... Kevin Nietert

Asst. Police Chief..... James Franey

Fire Chief..... Thomas Cannell

Asst. Fire Chief Thomas Palmer

Public Service/

Economic Development Director..... Ed Gallagher

Finance Director Joseph G. Filippo

Building Commissioner Paul Kowalczyk

Housing Manager..... Sally Martin

Community Services Director..... Keith Benjamin

Law Director..... Michael Lograsso

Community Center Director..... Meg Martines