



Paddock Press

A publication for the neighborhood of Paddock Hills, Cincinnati, Ohio. Funded by The Neighborhood Support Program.
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for ten monthly issues. President Lina Orr, turnerorr2@aol.com and 242-2221.

February 2009

Volume #16, Issue #1

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Newsletter

email Alexandria Turner
newsletter@paddockhills.org

Frequently Called Numbers

Unattended, abandoned cars litter, overgrown grass, weeds large trash, Christmas trees, etc. Snow removal, pot holes, dead animals, sidewalk repair, and graffiti, etc.

Cinti. Public Works, 591-6000

Serious home structure problems

Bldg. & Inspec. Dept., 352-3978

Cinti. Police—Street Corner Drug Enforcement

Community Police Officer

Jana Cruse 513-8654

jana.cruse@cincinnati-oh.gov.

Avon Woods Nature Center

861-3435

Paddock Hills Has Ground Hogs!

We have seen them. They are sometime called hedge hogs also. They look like a beaver-fat and big without the broad tail. They like to eat tender young perennials as they come up in the Spring. All our Black-Eyed Susans have disappeared and our lilies too (and we're faulting the Plant Nursery). We found out that ground hogs hibernate so we guess he was (they) asleep until February 2nd.



Since he's up now, this old folk song is a warning to Mr. Ground Hog and maybe he'll decide to move on!

Shoulder up your gun and whistle out your dog (sing 2x)

Away to the woods to ketch a ground hog.

GROUND HOG!

Here comes Mary with a great long pole (sing 2x)

To twist that ground hog out of his hole.

GROUND HOG!

Sharpen up your knife and take off his hide (sing 2x)

We like ground hog both stewed and fried.

GROUND HOG!

Song's in a minor key. The Cartwrights next door have Mr. Ground Hog sometimes sleeping under their back deck-even hired a Critter Gitter type exterminator they managed to catch raccoons, opossum but no ground hog-smart too?

~Joann Garner

.....
"Don't gain the world and lose your soul, wisdom is better than silver or gold..." Bob Marley
.....

Upcoming Events

Sun., 3/22 5-8pm Volunteer Recognition Dinner Location TBD

Just Talk...



The Cincinnati diners are shocked to hear that Pigall's is closing and that a less fancy restaurant will appear in its place. It seems to me that we should not despair.

There are special occasion restaurants all over the place. Last week I hosted a little dinner party at Boca's in Oakley and I found it to be a delightful place to entertain very special guests. Boca's is an attractive place with exposed brick wall and lots of art and very high ceilings so that the sound is kept to a minimum. Even though this was in the middle of the week there was a lively crowd both at the bar (quite gorgeous with dark cherry wood details) and in the dining room. The food is interesting and different but delicious. Since it was a very cold evening the waiter brought us a demitasse cup of hot chocolate with a little chocolate straw to cheer us up. What a lovely start .All of us chose an interesting caesar salad to begin dinner. Hard to explain but it comes as a rectangle with a really tasty dressing. We all devoured it. We all chose different entrees which included the fish(skate), roasted duck, and a wonderful chicken dish. Naturally, everybody had a taste of everybody else's main course. That is the fun about ordering different things. The roasted brussel sprouts were divine considering that I don't even like brussel sprouts. While I do not drink, my guests said the wine was excellent. Naturally, the bread was excellent too. Even though we were quite satisfied we had to try a couple of desserts to share. We had a gelato and a semifreddo pomegrante. This was followed by hot tea or coffee for all. The service was amazing. After every course, all the silverware was removed from the table. It is a small touch but an impressive one. All of this is presided over by Chef David Fark who is not an import at all. He graduated from Summit before he went off to learn how to make brussel sprouts so tasty.... Happy Eating!

~Gari Silverblatt

How about some personal news from folks?

I for one, have some. I have three grown daughters; one has just sold her home where she and her husband and two (now grown) sons have lived for over 25 years and bought a one floor home an hour away, with garden and pool in Sanoma, California where (you guessed it) they are very happy. Another daughter lives a busy New York City apartment life where she and her husband and two children have lived since 1981. She and her husband are taking off over President's Day for a quick (and cheap!) trip through the Panama Canal. She teaches ESL and runs two book groups (for one of which she even sets a salary!). The third daughter has lived in the same house in Cambridge, Mass. for over 25 years and has a job within walking distance working for a Spanish institute. She is going next week on a ten day trip to Africa.

Meanwhile I am content here at home with my little dog and have written an historical fiction book which will be coming out in the spring. Will let one and all know when it is available!

~Vivian Kline

Children's Hospital by Bea Katz

I've been reading the recent book on Children's Hospital by Bea Katz, who lives on Perth Lane, and perhaps others are also locating a copy of this work and enjoying its vivid picture of a longtime Cincinnati institution.

As other neighbors know, I'm sure, our Children's Hospital is a class act, something wonderful to have in our midst and only fifteen minutes away from Paddock Hills. Last summer my husband and I had to take a grandchild to Children's emergency room. We spent four hours in its keeping, finding exactly the help we needed and admiring the careful and comprehensive way problems are addressed there and the respectful cordiality of the staff.

For her book, Bea collected an amazing treasure of photographs over the years, from the beginnings of the hospital in a rented house in Walnut Hills up to the present day. The book's pictures are the main feature, but each one is explained in Bea's clear and detailed captions.

That first home of 1884, a charity hospital for poor kids called the Protestant Episcopal Hospital, had only 38 children, with a nurse, a housemother, and four volunteer doctors. It accepted kids of all races and religions, and care was free.

Since then, care has been extended to all children. A great number of interesting individuals have worked at Children's, many of them known personally to Bea in her long tenure there, and here they all are in this book – at work with kids and parents and colleagues in dramatic photos.

This volume has proved popular with readers and with hospital departments needing to make their work better understood among new doctors and staff. I found a copy at Joseph-Beth Bookstore in Rookwood Commons, but no doubt other stores are also stocking this work on their shelves for local books.

~Martha Stephens

History of Paddock Hills

I lived on Westminster Drive from 1929 until 1953. There is much history that transpired not to mention the years accumulated by the writer over past decades. As I write it is snowing outside which recalls the early winter days in Paddock Hills when the city would block off Avon Drive entrance from Reading Road so we could sled-ride all the way down the hill and often our sled would cross Reading Road and stop after hitting the curb by Nature's Landscaping (now in Montgomery). Hard to imagine with today's traffic.

Many vacant lots were still waiting for houses to be built until building increased after World War II. During the early years the neighborhood mainly consisted of business owners and professional's (Doctors, Lawyers, Teachers etc.). The list of neighbors would be familiar to many and mention just a few you may recall. The Gradison Family lived on Bristol Lane (there son Bill became a Congressman in Washington), The Dolle family (Lodge & Shipley Machine Tools) also lived on Bristol, Joe Buse Family (Buse and Borgman Funeral Directors) lived on the corner of Perth Lane and Westminster Drive and Elmer Hunsicker (Judge and Lawyer) lived on the opposite corner across the Street. The Huber Family (Huber Lumber), Hocks Family (Hocks Buick), Frank Family (Frank Tea and Spice Co.) Edward Schott Family (an owner of Coney Island), the Gross Family (Pepsi-Cola), the Avril Family (Avril Meats) all lived in Paddock Hills at one time or another to name just a few. The list could go on and on.

Volumes could be written about Paddock Hills and the early years. Here are a few items that may be of interest.

- After Christmas all the Christmas trees would be collected and later placed in the middle of the street where a huge bonfire was lit for all the neighbors to enjoy.
- The Fourth of July was a big celebration with a decorated bike parade, all day party with beer keg located in the middle of the street for adult consumption only to be followed by a night of fireworks (legal in those days) to rival commercial displays.
- Victory Riding Stable was located just South of Avon Drive on Reading Road where present day Key Bank and Sugar & Spice are located. You could rent a horse and ride the bridal path along Victory Parkway all the way to the former Alms Hotel located at McMillan and Victory Parkway. Children would often see residents of Paddock Hills wearing their riding pants and boots walking down Avon Drive on their way to Victory Stables.

Paddock Hills was a unique area and remains so today. Much credit is due to the original developer (Spilker) you designed no outlet streets with entrance into the sub-division via Paddock Road or Avon Drive

I hope you enjoyed this very brief glimpse into the Paddock Hills past.

~Jay Eckert

The foreclosure crisis continues to grow in our community threatening the property values in our neighborhoods. At the State of the State address, Governor Strickland highlighted that Ohio foreclosures more than doubled in 2008 from already record levels in 2007. The most contributing factors to this increase include:

- Homeowners fall victim to the myriad automatic mailings they receive when the public foreclosure filing occurs
- Homeowners who do not know where to turn for assistance and are embarrassed to go public
- Homeowners who freeze into inaction from the complication of the foreclosure process
- Homeowners find it difficult to access and navigate their lender’s mitigation process

On Tuesday, February 24, 2009, the Home Ownership Center in partnership with CET and WCPO TV will have a Foreclosure Prevention Phone-a-thon designed to address these issues. In a telethon format at CET, homeowners call a phone number that links them to prevention assistance from the privacy of their phone. Here is how it works:

- Homeowners call the 1-877-728-9987 to access the Phone-a-thon at Channel 48
- Overflow calls are answered at the Fannie Mae call center in Reston, Virginia.
- The call takes about 20 minutes and results in a three page intake sheet
- The Home Ownership Center creates an action plan for each intake sheet
- The Home Ownership Center provides counseling to the homeowners to mitigate the foreclosures
- Counseling includes budget management skill development, mortgage loan analysis and education, lender negotiation, referral services, funding allocation, clinics explaining the foreclosure process and alternatives, and delinquent taxes negotiation

The Home Ownership Center also has limited funding available to eligible homeowners for foreclosure prevention purposes including the paying of late mortgage payments to become current. Watch Channel 9 during the month of February to learn more.

Please encourage all residents at risk to take advantage of the services available to avoid foreclosure. Avoiding foreclosures helps to protect our neighborhood property values.

*Rick Williams, President/CEO of The Home Ownership Center
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Cincinnati, Ohio 45219*

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