

*“Autumn leaves don’t fall, they fly.
They take their time and wander
on this their only chance to soar.”*

– Delia Owens, American Author and Zoologist

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President's Message

By Steve Goodin

Welcome to the renewed and revitalized Clifton Chronicle.

As a former journalist, I feel qualified to say there is something indefinably wonderful about holding newsprint in your hands. Such is especially true when the content is exclusively local and community-sourced, as is definitely the case here. A special thanks to Jan Checco and all of the donors, advertisers, editors, and contributors who moved mountains to make this publication a reality once again.

Now, on to business. Since taking over as president of the Clifton Town Meeting, several of my former City Hall colleagues have questioned, with various degrees of respectfulness, the soundness of my judgment and/or my mental acuity. Isn't CTM a "problematic" community council, they ask, given to needless conflict and controversy? To these well-meaning folks, I would say – well, first, hello, I hope you're doing well and we really need to talk about Connected Communities and the public engagement around it.

Second, I would say CTM meetings are the most edifying and entertaining proceedings I've had the privilege of attending during my decades of government

service. They are a high-minded amalgamation of Quaker meetings and group therapy sessions – free-wheeling, open, and sometimes very, very direct. So far this year, topics have ranged from ad hoc discussions of Brutalist architecture (we concluded it has no place in Clifton, BTW) to detailed explorations of the planned redesign of Clifton Avenue to the most humane ways to help the panhandlers and unhoused individuals who often congregate on Ludlow Avenue.

Roberts Rules of Order be damned – they are actual conversations, with the attendees directly interacting with the trustees. In short, there is nothing else like it.

On a personal note, my primary goals are to ensure that our inevitable disagreements are respectful and civil and that CTM operations are transparent and have buy-in from the community at large. If you have any suggestions, my email address is stevegoodin@cliftoncommunity.org.

Some highlights from our (very busy) year so far:

Diggs Plaza Renovations. Thanks to timely grant funding, you will soon see new concrete game tables, art bike racks, and a bike repair station in this beloved and well-used public space. Our goal is to continue activating it

like never before. As always, we value your feedback as to what would be most useful for you and your family.

Clifton Golf Outing. Yet another successful community event – with proceeds benefitting the inestimable Keep Cincinnati Beautiful. Look for that group to bring a new focus on Clifton litter prevention and graffiti abatement in the remaining months of 2024.

Clifton Community Arts Center Opening. If you haven't been to CCAC, go – immediately. It's an amazing addition to our community spaces and as cool as you've probably heard.

Another Successful Clifton House Tour. This one brought a record number of visitors to our community last May for what turned out to be yet another excellent showcase for our incredible architecture and history. Cincinnati has many beautiful neighborhoods, but none can boast our history and the sense of loving preservation and conservancy you feel when walking down our streets. Proceeds from this event will go to a revitalized Clifton-Fest in 2025.

An Exceptionally Well-Attended Memorial Day Cook-Out. Despite bad weather forcing us indoors, we had an incredible turnout for our annual Memorial Day

festivities. If you weren't there, you missed a chance to have a burger prepared by our local congressman (thanks to the Honorable Greg Landsman for attending) and some excellent local bluegrass music. It was a great family event and set a high bar for next year.

Refreshing the Clifton Master Plan. We are working with the City's planning professionals to update our neighborhood master plan for the first time since 1980. This is long overdue and presents a great opportunity for our community to think seriously about our future and the unique challenges Clifton faces. We expect this work to continue well into 2025 and welcome any and all insights and comments.

Watch for more news on the aforementioned efforts and discussions regarding the redesign of certain aspects of Clifton Avenue, including a possible extension and renovation of the bike path's current structure. Given the many different viewpoints expressed within the community, we're soliciting additional feedback about this and also seeking input for a revival of CliftonFest.

It's an honor and privilege to serve Clifton in this capacity. Come to the Rec Center on the first Monday night of the month, and give us what-for. ■

2024 CTM Leadership

Board of Trustees

Steve Goodin (President), Mindi Rich (Vice President), Gérald Checco (Treasurer), Barry Gee (Secretary), Jan Brown Checco, Leah Kottyan, Kevin Leahy, Nestor Melnyk, Tim Noonan, Justin Ogilby, Ben Pantoja, Jayme Ritter, Genet Singh, Rachel Wells, John Whedon

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Clifton Soccer – Mindi Rich
Parks – Rachel Wells
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Invest in Neighborhoods – Gérald Checco
Golf Outing – John Whedon
Clifton Community Fund – Gérald Checco
Clifton Business Association – Jan Brown Checco, Genet Singh
Neighborhoods of Uptown – Rachel Wells

You Matter. Become a Member of CTM

Clifton Town Meeting (CTM) is your community council, advocating on behalf of the Clifton community. We sponsor many initiatives and activities throughout the year. To continue this important work, we need your input. Membership is open to all neighborhood residents age 18 or older. Membership dues—our second largest means of support—

cover 12 months and are tax deductible. CTM also accepts donations. To join, go to cliftoncommunity.org/membership or scan the QR code below. You can also fill out this form with a check or money order payable to: **Clifton Town Meeting, P.O. Box 20042, Cincinnati, OH 45220-0042.**

Name(s): _____
Address: _____
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or activities _____
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___ Business (1 vote)	\$40
___ Senior citizen, 65+ (1 vote)	\$10
___ Senior household, 65+ (2 votes)	\$14
___ Life membership (2 votes)	\$180
___ Donation of \$_____	



VOTE!

Clifton Town Meeting's annual election will be held at our monthly meeting, which is scheduled for Monday, **November 18th, 6–7 pm**, at the Clifton Rec Center on McAlpin Avenue. Remember to renew or become a member to be eligible to vote for trustee candidates and other governance-related proposals.

From: *The Editor*

By Michael Moreland

Once a simple newsletter, The Chronicle has become much more to the residents and readers who turn each page. From civic initiatives to parties in the park, our paper is a quarterly snapshot of the original suburb—an archive of the milestones, moments, and memories that can only happen here.

At a time when news is fleeting, noisy, and never-ending, The Chronicle offers all of us a chance to pause, slow down, and yield to the rich storytelling and curated content deserving of our time and attention. And so, when I learned The Chronicle needed a new Editor, I felt compelled (possessed even) to raise my hand.

My name is Michael Moreland. My partner Robert and I moved to Cincinnati just over 10 years ago. Coming from Chicago, we were immediately wowed and comforted by the diversity and uniqueness of Clifton, a neighborhood we now proudly call home. Professionally, I've worked in Communication Design for over 15 years, so when this potential role presented itself, I knew it would be an opportunity to uniquely give back to a neighborhood I love so much.

It's also become an opportunity for the paper. For me, The Chronicle has always been a mix of method and magic—testimonies and tall tales. I trust many Cliftonites feel the same. So, while I knew the paper would grow and evolve; I also knew this spirit had to remain intact.

The new Chronicle will consist of five main sections: Community, Business, Lifestyle, History, and Events & Announcements. This framework helps organize the paper and ensure each edition is well-rounded, providing insightful and relevant content to all readers—something for everyone, as they say.

In this fall issue, we cover everything from bountiful plum trees to exciting studio classes. I'm incredibly grateful to all of our content contributors and storytellers, as well as the investments made by our advertisers (which help support production).

Finally, I want to thank Jan Brown Checco for her immense stewardship and dedication to this paper over the past four years. Today, we're able to continue sharing our stories and successes because of it.

Here's to everyone who makes the paper possible; this, our very own neighborhood publication. ■



Contribute to The Chronicle *Writers*

To become a content contributor and learn more about article guidelines and submission, email our Editor, Michael Moreland, at mycliftonchronicle@gmail.com.

Advertisers

If you're interested in advertising in The Clifton Chronicle, we'd love to have you! For more information, please email our Ad Manager, Jan Checco, at ctm.chronicle@gmail.com.

Questions?

Please send requests for more information to mycliftonchronicle@gmail.com.



The Chronicle Is Online!

Checkout our latest newsletter and our archive of past issues by scanning the QR code or go to cliftoncommunity.org/clifton-town-meeting/clifton-chronicle.



Join The Clifton Chronicle Facebook page for more news and daily updates!

Connect

For announcements, community updates, and links to virtual Clifton Town Meetings, visit our website at cliftoncommunity.org

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To subscribe for a printed paper or to request your Chronicle by email only, please provide your postal mailing or email address(es) and full name(s) to ctm.chronicle@gmail.com

Volunteer

Our community council depends on the support of volunteers like you! If you'd like to help with an event or serve on one of our committees, email us at ctmpresident@cliftoncommunity.org

Describing the House of Your Dreams

By Ann Baumgardner

New School Montessori 2nd graders began their writing project with great anticipation as their teacher, Catherine Pray Bollmann, began class by setting a wrapped present in the middle of their circle. “What’s the present about?” “Is it somebody’s birthday?” Catherine answered, “The present in front of us is a noun. It’s an object. Let’s describe this object with adjectives.”

Students rattled off adjectives, peppering the room with sentences like “It’s kind of heavy.” “It’s rectangular in shape.” Once opened, students were overjoyed that an air popper and popcorn would be part of their lesson. Catherine explained that good writing requires using all of one’s senses. Each student then wrote words describing the sound, taste, smell, and look of the popcorn, and the way it felt as they touched it. All this was to awaken their senses and keep those descriptive adjectives flowing as they worked on their writing project—to describe their dream house. Students were encouraged to return to the drawing board, revisit their

draft descriptions, and make final changes. Once completed, students worked on a visual rendering of their house as well.

This student shows her house plans, complete with a fourth-floor water slide, an in-ground pool in the backyard, and a cave with a window into the pool. Above ground, the backyard has four pink trampolines. She ends her expository writing project by asking, “What would you include in the house of your dreams?”

This exercise will long be remembered, as these students call upon all of their senses throughout their lives to make their personal visions and dreams known.

The New School Montessori invites you and your family to visit our open house on Sunday, October 20th, between 2 and 4 pm. You’ll enjoy meeting with teachers, seeing classrooms, visiting our wooded playgrounds and beautiful gardens, and enjoying our charming Victorian interior. The New School Montessori is nestled among neighbors and friends in beautiful North Avondale at 3 Burton Woods Lane.

For over 50 years, The New School Montessori has led the way as a model for Montessori methodology and philosophy and is Cincinnati’s only Montessori school accredited by AMS and ISACS. TNSM embraces diversity – valuing differences in race, culture, family, and thought. Healthy, chef-prepared lunches are covered in the cost of tuition and include many vegetarian options. In a Cincinnati Magazine article, Tray Chic, the author wrote, “You’d expect to find tilapia and asparagus on a restaurant menu but in a school cafeteria?”

TNSM offers half-day, part-time, full-day, and before- and after-school programs for children ages 3 through grade 6. Our experienced Montessori-credentialed teachers support the whole child, ensuring children’s academic, social, and emotional development and allowing them to discover their innate love of learning.

You can get to know us better through our school website at newschoolmontessori.com, call **513-281-7999** with questions, or schedule a private tour. ■



Safety Update

By Tim Noonan, Public Safety Chair

I’m happy to share that crime is down in Clifton for the first half of 2024. This is largely due to a decrease in Motor Vehicle Theft. Fortunately, offenses (largely involving Kias and Hyundais) appear to be ending.

Criminal Damaging (property damage) continues to be the majority of reported offenses in Clifton, with 53 instances. Motor Vehicle Theft came in second with 34 instances. Unfortunately, Assault is the third most prevalent crime, with 23 instances in 2024.

The Clifton Business Association continues to address the aggressive panhandler issue in the Ludlow Business District. As has been stated in past issues, please do not give cash to panhandlers. Strategies to End Homelessness told CTM that 70% of the street panhandlers are not homeless. Giving money to panhandlers is counterproductive and only



leads to more panhandling and an increase in petty crimes. The alternative is giving generously to social agencies that serve those in need.

We continue to raise funds to schedule extra police presence in our business district. The Clifton Cares campaign gives everyone a way to contribute and help support our shopkeepers. Each hour of security costs \$75. To chip in with a tax-deductible donation,

go to cliftoncommunity.org/products-page and scroll down to Clifton Cares 2024 Safety Fund or scan the QR code below.

Any amount you contribute helps protect our neighbors, customers, and businesses on Ludlow Avenue. ■



Curiosity Welcome at Klau Library

By Abigail Bacon, Head of Public Services and Outreach



This fall, the Klau Library will offer an exciting array of free public programs, and we hope you'll come and join us! All our programs are suitable for the general public, no matter your religious or educational background. Beginning with our fall series in September, the Klau Library and American Jewish Archives will feature tours of the archives and the rare book room. If you've ever wondered what some of the

most valuable and important rare books and manuscripts in our collections are, make sure to sign up for one (or both!) of these fascinating tours.

Later in September, we are partnering with the John Miller Burnam Classics Library of the University of Cincinnati for a joint exhibit and lecture as we prepare for "Spooky Season." Tales of Imaginary Creatures in Medieval and Renaissance Books and Manuscripts will feature

items from our collection decorated with dragons, mermen, unicorns, and more. Learn about illuminated book culture from Dr. Chris Platts, Assistant Professor of Art History at UC, in this personalized gallery talk while enjoying some of the most magical items from our collections featuring books and manuscripts that are hundreds of years old. To sign up for his talk, "Creatures in Medieval and Early Modern Books: Forms, Functions,

and Artistic Fantasy," or learn more about this event, head to huc.edu/libraryseries

If you have even a passing interest in the Bible or ancient history, look at our events in November and December. On November 7th, Dr. Steven Donnally's class, Friends or Foes? Belonging in Biblical Narrative will explore the lives of the ancient Israelites and their relationships with some of the surrounding neighbors from the biblical stories of Rahab,

Samson, and David. Dr. Anegla Erisman will be giving our December 3rd class on Literature as Politics: The Exodus Narrative, examining its connection to the legends of Saragon.

All Klau Library events are free and open to the public with advanced registration, and light refreshments are served. Come and join us for some or all of these programs, and sign up for a library card so you can also check out items from our vast collection. ■

Most Clifton residents know there is a speeding problem throughout the city but many may not realize how serious the matter has become.

CTM and its Transportation Committee receive the most frequent traffic complaints about speeding on Clifton Avenue. These complaints come from residents, visitors, and many parents of children who attend one of the three elementary schools located on Clifton Avenue.

In response to these complaints, the Transportation Committee conducted tests to record the speed of vehicles on Clifton. Fully 76% of vehicles were speeding, with some drivers traveling faster than 70mph.

Several actions are being taken to address this problem.

The first action consists of narrowing northbound Clifton Avenue between Ludlow and Bryant from two lanes to one.

Traffic tends to speed up in this area as the road widens from one lane along Burnet Woods to two lanes past Ludlow. This additional lane causes passing and faster driving and is a major concern considering the large number of pedestrians at the Ludlow intersection and the increasing number of schoolchildren walking down Clifton Avenue for after-school programming at the Clifton Cultural Arts Center.

By extending the Clifton Ave bike path north to terminate at Bryant instead of Ludlow, we will increase safety by slowing traffic and reducing opportunities for dangerous driving behavior.

Funding for this project has been approved and construction work is expected during 2024. The committee is working with DOTE to make the bike path markings more attractive than those used along Burnet Woods.

The second action is a re-design of Clifton Avenue from

Ludlow to Lafayette. This re-design is being done by the Transportation Committee in conjunction with the traffic engineers from the city's Department of Transportation and Engineering. It will consider the number of lanes, lane width, and other factors that affect speed. Special attention is being given to 3 problem areas. These are 1) the above-mentioned section of Clifton between Ludlow and Bryant, 2) the intersections of Clifton with McAlpin and Woolper, where heavy turning movement occurs near the schools, and 3) the intersection of Clifton with Lafayette, where the curve presents a blind spot.

Input to guide the work has been sought from residents, the schools, and other affected Clifton Avenue institutions. The work is currently in process and will be presented to CTM and the neighborhood in the fall for review and approval. ■

Traffic Update

By Justin Ogilby, Transportation Chair



Beyond Books at the Clifton Public Library

By Eric Davis, Librarian, Clifton Branch

As late summer slips into autumn and the days are pleasant and perfect for walking through our lovely Clifton community, you are invited to stroll up Ludlow Avenue and visit us at The Library. Beyond books, physical tools, and electronic resources, the library is a wonderful place to meet, gather, enjoy quiet study time, and attend fun and educational events and programs. We offer a variety of programs for people of all ages and welcome minds of all kinds. Check out what's happening this fall!

Clifton Welcome and Connect / September 7th, 2 – 4 pm

The Library is excited to partner with UC and CTM as we welcome international individuals and families to Clifton, connect them with needed resources and services, and celebrate the incredible diversity that makes our neighborhood rich and wonderful. We will meet on the library lawn.

Cincinnati International Children's Day / September 21st, 11 am – 3 pm

This free event celebrates children of the world and the culture and heritage of our neighbors and friends. Join us for a fun-filled day of activities, including information about our sister cities, a parade of flags, a circus juggler/stilt-walker, library crafts, and storytime, Miss Joanie Whittaker performing her songs, and the Wump Mucket Puppets. We hope to see you there!

Opera Storybook Hour / October 5th, 11 am – 12 pm

From Cincy Opera's Website: "Embark on a captivating storytelling journey with Cincinnati Opera! Our engaging program breathes life into opera-inspired stories through the vibrant voices of our skilled artists who read, sing, and play enchanting opera music. Following the story, students will dive into an enjoyable craft activity." Best for kids in K–3rd grades.

Plant Club / Third Saturdays (9/21, 10/19, 11/16, 12/21), 10:30 – 11:30 am

Whether you are a well-established gardener or an aspiring house plant parent, this club invites everyone to come together and get curious about the wide world of plants. Suitable for adults and teens.

Crafternoon / Fourth Saturdays (9/28, 10/26, 11/23, 12/28), 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Join us for an afternoon of crafting and socializing with friends and neighbors. Details are to be announced a few weeks before each month's program. Suitable for adults and teens.

The Library is so happy to be an integral part of this vibrant and diverse community, and we look forward to seeing you soon! ■



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Dive in with DAAP

By Pam Rezai,
Assistant Director of
Marketing and
Publications, DAAP

We are thrilled to invite you to an enriching series of lectures and workshops hosted by the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP). These engaging events are designed to inspire, educate, and foster a deeper understanding of a variety of fascinating topics. Whether you're passionate about the arts, ecosystems, or current affairs, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Exciting Topics and Workshops

Our upcoming lecture series and workshops promise to be both diverse and thought-provoking. Here's a sneak peek of what we have lined up this fall:

- "Designing Interactions: Urban Communication in the Age of GenAI" by Dr. Nettrice R. Gaskins, artist, author, educator, and researcher
- "Gardening for Moths" by Jim McCormac, botanist, conservationist, and renowned photographer
- John Knight, artist
- "Ceramics: Planter for Plants Sake" Workshop in the Ceramics Lab

Engage with Knowledge and Community

These are not just opportunities to learn from experts; they're also chances to connect with fellow community members who share your interests. Each event encourages lively discussions and exchanging ideas, making them perfect for expanding your horizons and making new connections.

To learn more, please scan the QR code below.



DePaul Cristo Rey High School's First Valedictorian Returns for Milestone Commencement

By Margee Garbsch, Director of Communications & Marketing, DePaul Cristo Rey



From its first class of students who graduated in 2015 to the Class of 2024, DePaul Cristo Rey High School (DPCR) is proud to recognize the success of its graduates and demonstrate its place in the Clifton community, where it was established in 2011.

DPCR celebrated the milestone of its 10th commencement on May 28th at Mount St. Joseph University. **Ruvarashe Chimusoro**, valedictorian of the Class of 2015, was the guest speaker. A graduate of the University of Cincinnati, she now resides in Austin, Texas, where she is a Microsoft Education Program Manager and Business Development Manager for tech company SHI International. She shared many words of wisdom and advice with the graduates, including, "Class of 2024, as you embark on this new chapter of your lives, remember that you are

not alone. You are part of a vast and supportive Bruin community that stands ready to cheer you on, uplift you in times of need, and celebrate your successes, no matter how big or small. Lean on each other, lift each other up, and continue to uphold the values of integrity, compassion, and excellence that have defined our time at DePaul Cristo Rey."

Ruvarashe is pictured with the Class of 2024 Valedictorian, **Alaisha Velazquez Diaz**, who was DPCR's first Hispanic valedictorian. She is attending Berea College on a full scholarship this fall.

DPCR reserves its highest senior honors for the graduation ceremony. **Aunist Hope** received the Credo Perago Floreo Award as the graduate who most exemplified the transformation of the school's motto, "Believe, Achieve, Become." Aunist will attend Miami University this fall

on a full Evans Scholarship. He is pictured with DPCR President Siobhan Taylor.

Jo'Von Walker received the Distinguished Young Professional Award for his outstanding performance in DPCR's Corporate Work Study Program. Jo'Von will attend Miami University this fall.

Additionally, the class as a whole (67 graduates) achieved a number of DPCR "firsts" including:

- They achieved 100% college acceptance (every senior was accepted to college) earlier than any other class in school history.
- Nine class members earned full-tuition scholarships to Berea College, Miami University, Mount St. Joseph University, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Dayton, and the University of Notre Dame.
- They inaugurated DPCR's award-winning film program,

helping to produce both a full-length documentary and award-winning short films.

Five graduates were among a group of students and teachers taking DPCR's first school-sponsored international trip when they visited Tanzania in July.

DePaul Cristo Rey is a Catholic, college-preparatory high school with a mission to educate young people who have the potential but limited financial means to go to college. This is accomplished through a dynamic academic program partnered with an innovative Corporate Work Study Program, unavailable at any other local high school. Sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, DPCR is one of 39 high schools nationwide, and Cristo Rey Network® serves 12,300 young people. ■

From left: Alaisha and Ruvarashe, Aunist, Jo'Von

Potential Development of the Hillside Adjacent To Mt. Storm Park

By Patrick Donnelly

Walking along Lafayette Avenue in Clifton, you pass many of the historic Clifton Mansions. This walk tells a story of the history of not only Clifton but also our amazing city. We are known for our Seven Hills and our hillsides. As you drive the I-75 corridor between Mitchell Ave and I-74, you can see one of the beautiful hillsides that make our city unique. This hillside creates overlooks with outstanding vistas and an opportunity to appreciate Mount Storm

Park and its amazing wildlife, nature, and spectacular sunsets.

Recently, the Deaconess Foundation subdivided properties once attached to a locally extended care facility at Scarlet Oaks which are now for sale. This parcel abuts Mount Storm Park and wraps around the north side of Scarlet Oaks. It is a twenty-seven-acre wooded greenbelt, primarily hillside. If developed, this could present our neighborhood and community with multiple challenges.

As a result, a group of private

citizens are working with the Hillside Trust to test the viability of acquiring and preserving this property to protect it as a vital community asset. Our group includes Jeff Amend, Gene VanLeeuwen, Bill Chappie, Scott Allgyer, Barbara Sferra, Herb Robinson, Patty Leonard Donnelly, and Patrick Donnelly. The Hillside Trust of Cincinnati and its Executive Director, Eric Russo, have agreed to partner with our citizens' group. The Hillside Trust is a 501(c)3 with a mission to preserve and advocate for

our hillsides in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. They have agreed to accept this property as a gift to care for it and protect it from future development.

We are beginning a series of "neighbor gatherings," and we would love to hear from you. Please reach out to any of the individuals listed in this article or contact Jeff Amend at cliftonhillsides@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from our Clifton community and welcome questions and requests for more information. ■

An Invitation to Adopt-A-Spot

By Mark Jeffreys, City Councilman



One of the things that I love about Clifton is how many of our neighbors spend hours cleaning up litter on our streets, graffiti on our walls, or other beautification efforts. No one asks them to; they do it because they have a sense of pride in place.

But on some streets, such as Clifton Avenue going down the hill toward Kenard, along MLK by I-75, and throughout other parts of the city, keeping our streets free of litter and blight seems like a game of whack-a-mole.

To help those already doing this work and expand the scope of clean-ups, I secured funding last month to relaunch the Adopt-A-Spot program in Cincinnati in partnership with a generous private donor. Keep Cincinnati Beautiful (KCB) is taking the lead on the relaunch. We aim to reach the same level as Indianapolis, which has over 1,000 blocks as a part of its Adopt-A-Spot program. Here's how it works:

- Individuals or groups (e.g., faith groups, civic groups, etc.) and Community Councils, such as Clifton Town Meeting, can sign up to be Captains and adopt an area together or individually.
- They commit to cleaning the area at least once per month and share the results with KCB.
- Spots can be in Clifton or another part of town.
- KCB provides all the supplies and an official sign recognizing your efforts.

Adopt-A-Spot won't solve our litter problem by itself. We need behavior change, too. But it's a part of the solution that you can shape. If you're interested, you can reach out to Madison Lentz at Madison@keepcincinnatibeautiful.org or 513-352-4383.

As always, I invite anyone to reach out to me at Mark.Jeffreys@cincinnati-oh.gov with comments or concerns. I appreciate the opportunity to hear from residents and serve the people of Cincinnati. ■



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AFS-USA is supported through funding from the U.S. Department of State. AFS-USA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Fewer Deer in Your Headlights?

By Beth Whelan

With another year in the books for the Clifton Deer Program, we have more good news to report!

- The deer population in the study area (the ~1 square mile bounded by I-75, Ludlow Ave, and Clifton Ave) is down 8% in the past year and 41% since the program began.
- With about 98% of the adult does in the study area sterilized, births this year were down from 32 fawns per 50 adults when the program began to just one fawn per 50 adults.
- Thanks to our local volunteers and the UCAN Nonprofit Pet Care Clinic, our annual operating costs remain less than a quarter of our costs in Year 1.

Now what? Good question! While immigration has been modest to date, we saw a slight uptick this year, even as mortality among our aging herd remains surprisingly low. (Fun fact: more than 45% of our tagged does are now between the ages of 10 and 14+ – that's old for wild deer!). If mortality remains low over the next few years and immigration increases, population levels could plateau or even increase slightly in the short term. However, if

immigration remains steady, as a significant percentage of our older deer reach the end of their natural lifespans, we could see a few years of rapid decline before the population levels off. Whatever happens, we'll be carefully watching and reporting to the community and treating any new immigrants to the herd until the population reaches an eco-sustainable level.

Our celebration of this year's good news is tinged with sadness. CliftonDeer.org co-founder, Vice President, and Parks Liaison Bob Rack died on March 20th, 2024. Bob played an essential role in launching the Clifton Deer Program and making it a success. Those lucky enough to have worked alongside him will do their best to emulate his leadership, tenacity, problem-solving skills, good humor, and love and respect for our beautiful Clifton parks and the creatures who call them home as the Program moves forward.

The Clifton Deer Program is grateful to our generous donors, enthusiastic and unflappable volunteers, and gracious neighbors who volunteer their yards for bait sites and who report deer sightings through the "Report Tagged Deer" portal at cliftondeer.org.



Doe #100 was the fifth and final deer treated during Clifton Deer's 2023/2024 field season.



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- Our Reconciling Statement



Special Events This Fall:

Fall Kick Off Sunday Sept 8th

Join us on our front lawn around noon for a community picnic with music and activities



Bishop Cedric D. Bridgeforth Special Guest: Sunday Oct 20

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(513) 961-2998

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Job Density Drives the Economic Impact of Uptown on the Cincinnati Metro Area

By Uptown Consortium, Inc. Staff

Uptown is poised to become the largest employment center over the next few years.

Uptown has become a place defined by the convergence of innovation, redevelopment, and inclusion, which are drivers for future growth for the city and the five neighborhoods that provide its footprint – Avondale, Clifton, Corryville, CUF (Clifton Heights, University Heights, and Fairview), and Mt. Auburn. It is one of the most vibrant parts of the Queen City.

The University of Cincinnati Economics Center has completed an updated study of Uptown's economic impact on the Cincinnati Metropolitan Area and the State of Ohio. The study looked at 2023 data, including the annual monetary and fiscal effects of anchor institutions, which include Uptown's largest employers and UCI's four Member institutions – Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, The Christ Hospital, TriHealth, University of Cincinnati and UC Health. The study also accounts for the economic impact of the 1,063 auxiliary businesses in Uptown.

Key Insights

Overall, anchor institutions located both in and outside of Uptown and auxiliary businesses in Uptown contributed the following total impact:

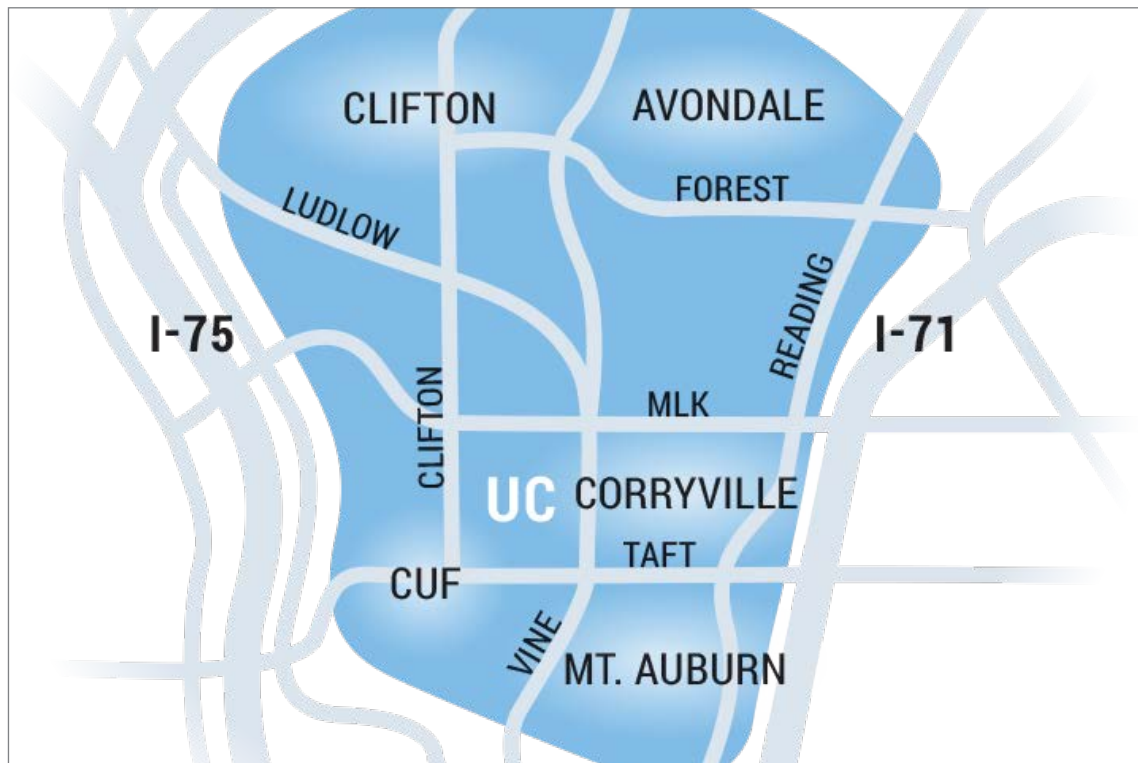
- Total Economic Impact = \$24.5 billion
- Jobs = 176,871
- Earnings = \$9.8 billion

Anchor institutions and auxiliary businesses inside Uptown contributed the following direct impact:

- Direct Economic Impact = \$10.7 billion
- Jobs = 74,521
- Earnings = \$5.2 billion

Further Comparison

The study also compared Uptown's economic growth from 2002 to 2022, finding that the neighborhoods have grown considerably. Employment in Uptown is up 28.8%, compared to relatively flat employment in the City of Cincinnati (-5.2%) and statewide (-0.2%). Wages have also increased 17.2%, just topping Cincinnati's wage increase (14.9%) and Ohio's wage increase (9.5%).



Uptown Residents are Younger

In total, 48,100 people live in Uptown. The Economics Center used 2022 data from the US Census Bureau to analyze the demographics of Uptown residents compared to the rest of Cincinnati. Uptown residents are younger, given the high concentration of students (average age

29 vs. 33), more educated (45.3% vs. 40.5% with bachelor's or higher) yet have less household income on average (\$63,100 vs. \$80,000) than the rest of Cincinnati.

Future Growth

UCI and its partners are leading several development projects in Uptown at MLK & Reading Road and Burnet Av-

enue. The UC Economics Center found that these projects are estimated to contribute \$2.0 billion to the Cincinnati Metropolitan Area economy, earn \$815.4 million annually, and create 7,806 jobs.

To learn more about Uptown's growth and future projects, sign up for Uptown Updates on UCI's website and follow Uptown Consortium, Inc. on LinkedIn and Facebook. ■



Two Seven Two Celebrates One Year in Clifton!

By Blair Fornshell, Owner/Baker

Time flies. Last June, we celebrated the 1 Year Anniversary of Two Seven Two! With it came a rewarding opportunity for reflection and appreciation. From the curious and smiling faces we've connected with throughout our development to the many new and now familiar faces we've welcomed into the bakery since opening, we've felt warmly welcomed into the Clifton community. It's been incredibly gratifying

to feel the appreciation and to provide a welcoming place for everyone to come together over a shared love of bread and pastries. We're humbled, honored by your support, and excited for our bakery's future evolution and growth. Many thanks and cheers to a fantastic first year together!

For updates on our menu and what's happening at the bakery, please follow us on Instagram at @two.seven.two or visit our website at twoseventwobakery.com. ■

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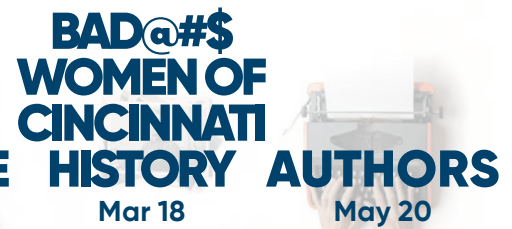
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events



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Sep 8 – A Taste of India

Oct 13 – A Pirate-y Peter Pan

Nov 10 – Rhythms of Our Land

Dec 8 – CSO Holiday Concert

Jan 12 – A Taste of Ireland

Feb 9 – Circus Youth in Action

Mar 9 – Marionette Variety Show

Apr 13 – Alice in the Hundred Acre Wood

Enjoy a FREE, family-focused theater or cultural performance each month by one of Cincinnati's premiere performance groups.



Oct 5



Oct 12



Oct 26

Drive up and enjoy an outdoor movie at the Clifton Recreation Center. Reserve your spot by pre-paying \$5 toward concessions.



Sep 5 – Jess Lamb

Sep 12 – Muwosi

Sep 19 – Daven Roberson Trio

Sep 26 – Annie D

Oct 3 – Colin Palmieri Quartet

Oct 10 – The Faux Frenchmen

Take your Thursday evenings to the top with local musicians, a stocked bar, and intimate sunset concerts at The Rooftop Sessions.

exhibits



Generations
Juried Exhibit

Sep 27 – Oct 30



The Golden Ticket
Juried Exhibit

Nov 8 – Dec 6



Oil and Dust
Paul Loehle

Dec 13 – Jan 3



fall 2024

education

CCAC has over 75 classes and workshops for you to learn and express yourself this fall. Opportunities are available for all ages and in a variety of disciplines like **VISUAL ARTS**, **DANCE**, **MUSIC**, **WELLNESS**, **THEATRE**, and **CREATIVE WRITING**.

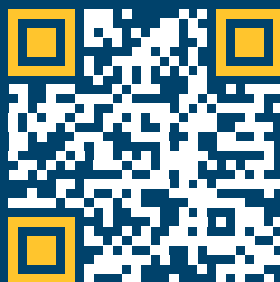
Give your little one a creative outlet with our **After School** programs, add some fun to your happy hour with **Crafts & Cocktails**, or create lasting memories together at our **Family Workshops**.

Visit cliftonculturalarts.org/classes to see the complete educational line up and register now!



3412 Clifton Ave
Cincinnati, OH 45220

513.497.2860
cliftonculturalarts.org



CCAC introduces “Fair Share Pricing,” a new tuition assistance model

Clifton Cultural Arts Center (CCAC) has launched an innovative new program called “Fair Share Pricing” aimed at making arts education and participation more accessible to all residents of Clifton, Uptown Cincinnati, and beyond.

Emerging from CCAC’s belief that everyone has the right to express themselves, the Fair Share Pricing program works similarly to a sliding scale model. At the time of registration, participants can choose to pay the full tuition price or select one of three predetermined scholarship levels that fits their household’s budget without filling out a scholarship application. While they may suggest a certain price point for your household, CCAC’s website states “You decide which level you can afford, and we will never ask for additional verification or paperwork.”

“CCAC has always been about bringing different people together through the shared experience of art,” says Executive Director, Leslie Mooney. “Making our programs more financially accessible is a big part of creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for everyone, no matter their socio-economic status.”

A majority of CCAC’s classes are now eligible for Fair Share Pricing, and traditional scholarships are still available for all others. Mooney says that they would love to extend the program even further when funding becomes available. “We are so grateful to the Gerald H. Fitzgerald Scholarship Fund for providing a generous donation to help seed this program, and I can’t wait to see how it continues to grow.”

For more information about Fair Share Pricing and to register for upcoming classes, visit CCAC’s website at cliftonculturalarts.org.



Bailey's Plum

An artisanal flavor at Dojo Gelato, By Jan Brown Checco

It's just a small Methley Plum tree in a Clifton front yard that we planted 15 years ago for the joy of spring flowers and maybe the pleasure of turning out a few jars of plum jam, a treat on toast when the weather turns cold. But recently, this little tree has had other ideas.

Two years ago, it dropped a hundred pounds of fruit. Stunned, we scrambled to keep up, and after a week of canning and pie baking, we bagged up the remainder and "gifted" ripening fruit to neighbors, who graciously accepted the remainder of our harvest.



In April 2023, despite abundant blooming on lacy white branches, we saw just one plum that summer. What happened? Was it the cold snap? Not enough pollinators? A signal of demise from over-exertion? Exercising caution, we did not prune the tree in July as we typically would to prepare for summer growth. Gently, gently little tree...then, in mid-March, the branches were once again crazy dense with plum blossoms. Would we see fruit?

We continued our practice of no herbicides or pesticides but continued fertilizing and counting on ultimate support from the winged workers populating our pollinator garden.

By April, fruit was forming on every branch and twig. By the first week of June, plums were beginning to fall, and three weeks later, we had dutifully picked 300 pounds of them! Branches bent low were propped with bamboo poles to help bear the excess weight, yet many important limbs splintered and snapped. For two weeks, we were in the canopy for an hour every morning on a 10-foot ladder, picking fruit to lighten the tree's burden. (Note: A pro came to prune out the damage, so we hope for the best next spring.)

Our kitchen became a jam/pie/crisp/eau de vie factory for two weeks without rest. We put together gift bags of plums as they



ripened progressively, with a total of 50 pounds delivered to our friends, the bakers at Two Seven Two. Then, one morning, our grandson Bailey brought us a

plum sorbet he had confectioned at home with the bagful of plums we had abandoned on their doorstep. He brought us the result to sample, and it was so delicious we talked about expanding that initiative. He took 30 pounds of plums to his summer employer at Dojo Gelato in Northside. The chefs worked their fruit fantasy magic with Bailey's morning pickings fresh off the tree and whipped up their recipe - a small batch of Bailey's Plum gelato.



It's a completely Clifton product, grown and harvested from a garden on Resor and transformed by Michael Christner (Clifton resident) and his Dojo chefs. Get a taste of this chilly and tart rhubarbesque plum delight in a cup or cone while it lasts. If you are really lucky, Bailey might be at the Dojo sliding window to scoop it for you!

Dojo Gelato in Northside is located at 1735 Blue Rock Road. Hours: Monday & Tuesday closed; Wednesday – Friday open 5:30 – 9:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday open 1:30 – 9:30 pm. ■

About Those Mortgage Rates

By Robert DiTomassi, Realtor

It seems everyone I talk to lately has mortgage rates on their mind. The pandemic ushered in record-low rates for years, spurring a huge demand for real estate. Then rates went up. Many predicted the rise would bring the market to a halt. It hasn't. As we enter fall, rates are predicted to be lowered once again. So what does this mean for homeowners?

In many cases, moving is the result of a life change. The kids are gone, and it's time to downsize. The family is growing, and it's time to up-size. When life happens, mortgages have options. Do you take a higher interest rate today, knowing you can refinance it in the future? Do you buy with a 15-year mortgage vs. a 30-year for a lower rate? Do you buy down your rate with points? And so on, and so on.

The real estate market in Cincinnati is moving quickly. I experience this firsthand with buyers and sellers throughout the city, especially here in Clifton. Homes continue to spend little time on the market, with

most going under contract within days (sometimes hours) of being listed.

Still, with the prospect of lower mortgage rates on the horizon, some buyers are biding their time. By waiting for lower rates, however, they could also be putting themselves in a situation where more buyers enter the market as affordability grows. Lower rates and more buyers in the market could also push housing prices higher.

The good news is that Clifton is a great place to be. Many new buyers are seeking the craftsmanship, character, and charm of the richly built homes comprising our neighborhood. Homeowners in Clifton are also investing more than ever, with renovations and restorations increasing home values from street to street.

But back to those mortgage rates. I trust we'll see an uptick in buying and selling if rates come down, but I also believe all things are relative. As they say, every pot has a lid—every seller has a buyer; it's just a matter of finding that perfect fit (lower rates or not). ■



*Lenten Roses**Salvia**Asters*

Gaslight Gardening

By Leah Kottyan, Thrall Street

The gardens of Clifton are part of our neighborhood's identity. We use our sidewalks; we enjoy each other; we love being outdoors together. In the Gaslight Gardening column, we celebrate the flora of Clifton. Common names for plants are used to make these articles accessible to everyone.

"Where flowers bloom, so does hope." – Lady Bird Johnson

If you are new to gardening or have been considering what you should plant in your Clifton garden, the options can be intimidating. Walking through garden stores, it is easy to get lost in the rows of plants that come in every

possible shape and size. In this quarter's column, I share three of my favorite flowering plants that thrive in many Cliftonite gardens from early Spring through late Winter. Each of these plants is a perennial—once planted, they will come back year after year.

I always remember that Winter is not permanent and Spring will come when my lenten roses emerge from icy mulch and start blooming. Lenten roses have gorgeous dark green leaves with flowers that vary from deep purple (almost black) to white, depending on the variety. Walking through Clifton in early Spring, you will find lenten roses in gardens with

many different sun exposures. These plants generally do well in north-facing beds and those with dappled shade. After the flowers fade, the evergreen foliage is beautiful throughout the summer.

In later Spring, salvia provides beautiful velvety tubular blooms for humans, bees, and hummingbirds to enjoy. They also add a wonderful fragrance to your garden. Often seen decorating the borders of gardens in Clifton, these plants like sun. Because rabbits and deer do not enjoy salvia, they make good additions to gardens located outside of fenced yards. If you remove the faded blooms (a process known as

"deadheading"), these gorgeous plants will continue to bloom throughout the summer. Several years ago, when I first planted salvia, I was surprised that garden salvia/sage and cooking salvia are distinct plants, with cooking salvia being much smaller.

Asters bring magnificent purple and blue blooms to Clifton just as the cool breezes of fall sweep through. At 3–6 feet, these taller plants bring sprays of flowers to September, October, and even November gardens. While also deer-resistant, these hardy plants are beloved by many birds and pollinators. If you cut established asters back by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ in

June, the plants will be bushier and produce many more flowers throughout the fall months.

It is possible to start lenten roses, salvia, and asters from seed, but the easiest way to get started is with small plants – either from a garden center or a split from a neighbor. As with many perennials, you can cut the plants down nearly to the ground and cover them with mulch after the first hard frost. They will greet you and your Clifton neighbors next Spring!

For Winter's Gaslight Gardening column, we will explore the vegetables grown in Clifton gardens. ■

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Manifest Drawing Center

By Kevin Leigh-Manuelli, Program Coordinator

Manifest Drawing Center's new permanent home at 3464 Central Parkway is a fully equipped, 15,000-square-foot facility located at the edge of the historic neighborhood of Clifton. Manifest's studio programs offer a diverse range of professionally instructed drawing, painting, and photography courses and uninstructed 'open' sessions, all centered on the Manifest mission of standing for and promoting visual literacy, critical thinking, and quality in the visual arts. Local professional artists teach our instructed courses and follow an approach similar to college-level courses. They vary in subject and level of experience required depending on the current term of courses. Manifest's courses and sessions balance artistic rigor with an approachable atmosphere of creativity and support. Studio programs include:



Drawing As Mindfulness | Mondays 7 – 9 pm

This weekly offering is designed for anyone, from those with no skill, talent, or experience to those who have studied art all their lives. Drawing as Mindfulness is a thoughtful observational approach to drawing and an invitation to get to know yourself on a deeper level.

Open Figure Sessions | Tuesdays – Sundays (times vary)

As Manifest's oldest running program, operating continuously since 2004, the Open Figure Sessions continue to provide the Greater Cincinnati region a valuable life-drawing opportunity in which professionals, students, novices, teachers, and the creative public can work side-by-side in the common pursuit of shared learning around the discipline of drawing while working from the nude (or clothed) model. Open Figure sessions are now offered weekly on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays throughout the year.

Open Photo Lab | Sundays – Thursdays (times vary)

The Open Lab Sessions are an opportunity to cultivate and strengthen photographic communities within the Greater Cincinnati region. They use a shared black-and-white darkroom and film processing station in the rich and supportive environment of the Manifest Drawing Center facility. Open Lab Sessions provide the chemistry and equipment to print and freely develop film in a relaxed but vibrant environment.

Drawing Essentials | Tuesdays 6 – 9 pm

Whether you're picking up a pencil for the first time or brushing up on your skills after a studio sabbatical, Drawing Essentials is the perfect place to start. This ten-class series offers a foundation in basic observational drawing practices and techniques to unite the hand, the head, and the heart. Sign up for any class within the series individually—as a “refresher” on a specific topic—or register for the entire series for a significant discount!

Study Hall | Fridays 1:30 – 4 pm, Sundays 4:40 – 7 pm

Study Hall is a FREE weekly opportunity for students, professionals, and the creative public to utilize Manifest Drawing Center's most supportive resources—including our growing collection of classical anatomical casts and an impressive natural specimen library. Cast drawing allows artists to practice a variety of fundamental drawing skills while also allowing for the study of classical proportions and historical works. With the help of a moderator, casts will be set up and lit early during the sessions. ■



Inked

By D Shield

I'm not sure when I began to notice the increase in tattoos, but it seemed that more and more of those I met on the streets of Clifton had adornments of one kind or another. When I was a kid (eons ago), tattoos were rare, seemingly reserved for military returning from war. Even then, most were modest and generally hidden under clothing. An exception was my father, a wild man in his youth with a full-bodied hula girl on his inner forearm and a portrait of a Western beauty on the upper.

Bad boys or not, I do remember the 1950s/60s biker gangs storming into our small town with their full-bodied tattoos, thus giving a bad name to the tattooed others for decades to come. Each era seemed to have its anti-establishment types flashing hostile images of exposed body parts. What is known is that skin inking is an ancient and global art form practiced by many cultures for any number of reasons, be it societal, tribal, or religious rituals, to name a few.

In the here and now, tattoos are wildly popular and generally accepted by most segments of society. Several informants I talked to on Ludlow confessed to having hidden tattoos or wanting to have one but were too timid to make the final move. At one time, I thought that going to a tattooist was like going to the dentist; in both instances, it meant allowing

a stranger to enter my personal space while coming at me with an instrument of “torture.” Then I met up with Bret Smith, our own Clifton tattooist, and quickly changed my mind; he is not only an artist of talent, but his approach is both sensitive and reassuring.

I wanted some statistics, and he could provide a few based on his own experiences. For instance, 50% of those with tattoos are in their 30s or under; after that, the percentage falls as folks age. What didn't surprise me was the desired location of tattoos on bodies: the highest score on a ratio of 1 to 5 was the arm and the back (5), torso, chest, and leg (4), and the lowest score head/face/neck (1). In the image category, no surprise there either: flora/fauna (5), with family, romance, faith-based, and fantasy a rousing (4). Other categories also merit even though they don't score as high.

Fiction also comes into its own. For instance, I talked to a lad on Ludlow tattooed on his chest/neck/arm illustrating Norwegian mythology. Preserving memories through body inking is also significant; just ask the latte ladies dancing their adornments across the counter as they wait on you. And one humorous moment – while sitting in the plaza one afternoon, I heard a young boy ask his mother why people have graffiti all over their skin. Now I ask you... ■



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Clifton History Shoe Box

By The History Buffs



Clifton's a neighborhood full of proud history, and the new Clifton History Shoe Box will capture stories about our heritage, cultural diversity, and quality of life. Collected artifacts, images, and testimonies will be archived at our library for public access.

This project is a collaboration of Clifton History Buffs (well known to the Chronicle readers), the Clifton Branch Library, the Clifton Chronicle, and the Clifton Cultural Arts Center. The information collected at in-person gatherings and through a newly created portal (with a simple Google Form) will be assembled for on-site study at the Clifton Branch Library in their Local History section.

Testimonies can cover many topics – histories of local families, architecture, events, businesses, and people. We will scan in pictures and documents, or you can use an email provided in the Google Form to simplify the transfer of pictures: cliftonshoebbox@gmail.com

You can start by filling out the form in Clifton History Shoe Box by going to tinyurl.com/4nvmexb or scanning the QR code below. Let's help preserve stories and memories about our fascinating community, our people, and our culture. ■



Everyone Comes to The Clifton House

By Larry Holt

There are a lot of houses in Clifton, but there's only one Clifton House. Owned and operated by Nancy Niehaus since 2001, The Clifton House is not your average B&B!

But first, a little history. The Clifton House was built by Henry Morgenthau in 1908. Fun fact: Because Morgenthau developed much of this part of the neighborhood, he could name streets. His grandson, David Morgenthau, told Nancy that Harry Alley (located behind Howell Ave.) was named for his dad, who was called "Harry" and used to play back there; hence, "Harry Alley."

Since then, it has had a few owners, including the Catholic

Marianist Brothers, for 30 years. It was also the original location for the Marjorie P. Lee Retirement Home for ten years.

The current version of the Clifton House began in 2001 when Linda Mallory, a court reporter, said to her friend Nancy Niehaus, also a court reporter, "We ought to open a bed and breakfast!" Most people who say that never do. Linda and Nancy did! Then, the adventure began. To have a B&B, you must have a place to put the beds and serve breakfast. You need a house... and The Clifton House is the place they found.

That was step one. Then, the entire interior (including the cottage in the rear) had to be upgraded, decorated, and furnished—

lots of work while Nancy and Linda were still court reporting!

Finally, in June 2001, The Clifton House opened its doors to paying guests for the first time, and the door has been open for the last 23 years to guests from all over the world and every walk of life. Architects, engineers, authors, artists, world-famous musicians, or sports car designers—name the industry, and one of its icons has stayed at The Clifton House. That's one reason The Clifton House is not your average cute little place to stay while visiting a new city. You have no idea who you might be talking to when you come down to breakfast!

Another reason The Clifton House is unique is that it's not

a stuffy, museum-stiff, can't-sit-on-the-good-furniture place. Nancy makes sure guests have a really good time. You're even allowed in the kitchen while she's cooking. That's when she might tell you one of her many crazy Clifton House stories.

Over the years, Nancy has hosted her famous New Year's Eve parties, 187 weddings, Halloween parties, birthday parties, and the famous Tongue & Groove music salons, produced by Tracy Connor, that sold out four times a year for nine years, presenting fiction & non-fiction authors, poets from around the world plus every genre of music from bluegrass to opera.

Like I said...everyone comes to The Clifton House! ■

The History Buffs Upcoming Events

History Harvests

Thursdays (April to October) 4 – 7 pm @ Clifton Plaza Makers Market

Talk to Dora at the plaza, pick up a hard copy of our information-sharing form, and learn more about how you can share your stories and be notified about History Buffs activities.

Clifton Is Haunted!

This fall

Presented by American Legacy Tours – a historical, spooky, spine-tingling walking tour debuts this fall in the Clifton neighborhood. We'll uncover eerie tales, ghostly legends, crimes of long ago, mysterious apparitions, and unexplained phenomena revealed by experienced guides. Check for upcoming tour dates beginning in September and reserve your spot at americanlegacytours.com. Have your own ghostly tale about Clifton? Email miranda@americanlegacytours.com or Carol Brammer CPTcincy@gmail.com.

History Bash

September 21st, 9:30 am – 12 pm @ CCAC, 3rd floor

Featuring Ann Senefeld of Digging Cincinnati, join us for a virtual walk-through of the Reuben Resor Mansion and a "Show & Tell" session to share your historical pictures and prepare them for publication in The Clifton Chronicle. Then, join an open discussion of future projects that uncover and share Clifton's past. Coffee will be provided.

Private Historical Tour of Spring Grove Cemetery

October 20th, 1 pm and 3 pm

Experience a magnificent guided tour of Spring Grove's most notable Clifton grave sights and mausoleums with docent Amanda Frietsch. A \$20 per person fee helps to fund the arboretum and support The History Buffs. To register, please visit cliftonculturalarts.org/SpringGrove or call 513-497-2860.

Clifton at the Center of Cincinnati

October 25th, 9:30 am @ Ohio Living Llanfair

Gerald Checco will present an OLLI slide lecture about the village of Clifton, pre- and post-annexation to the City of Cincinnati. The lecture will be held at 1701 Llanfair Avenue in College Hill, 45224. For more information, call 513-681-4230.

Shoe Box Histories

November 30th, 3 – 5 pm @ Clifton Branch Library

Bring your home-for-the-holiday visitors and share collective memories through oral history storytelling, old documents, photo albums, and mementos. Help us establish an archive of Clifton history that includes your memories.

History Bash

December 14th, 9:30 am – 12 pm @ CCAC, 3rd floor

Featuring Beth Johnson, Director of Cincinnati Preservations Association, join us for virtual tours, presentations about Clifton gems, and the sharing of project ideas. Coffee will be provided.

AWAKENINGS

*Stories of Recovery and Emergence
from Schizophrenia*



**A Book Signing at Clifton Cultural Arts Center
on October 5, 2024 from 10 am to noon**

with Clifton resident and author Bethany Yeiser. Her book **Awakenings** recounts stories of individuals who have fully recovered from schizophrenia and now lead successful lives. The author has recovered from schizophrenia and now leads a Cincinnati-based foundation - CURESZ - which provides advocacy and education on schizophrenia.

"My hope is that this book helps to move the needle from the nihilistic "good enough" care that assumes inevitable disability to optimal care, with lives full of purpose and meaning." – Dr. Robert Laitman

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Clifton's New (Old) Relic

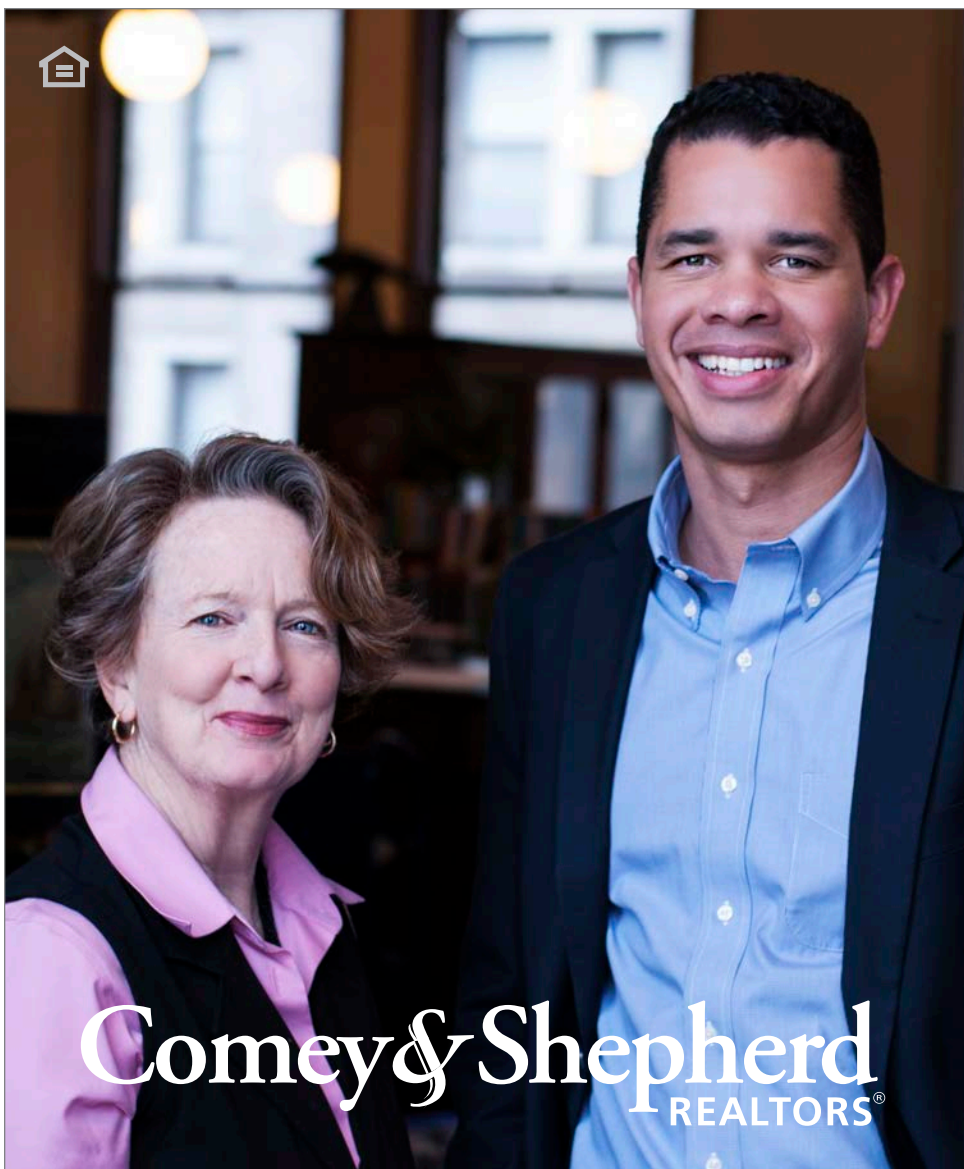
By Geoff Gelke, The History Buffs

Since childhood, I have admired Clifton's last two horse hitching posts in front of the old Brill house at 3340 Whitfield Avenue, and I imagine all the horses tethered there while visitors gathered with the Brills on social calls. And so I did until recently when I was horrified to notice they had disappeared. Well, that was too much of a loss for me – I marched right up to the door and knocked indignantly. Surprisingly, the sanguine gentleman owner, Jerry Trombly, answered the door and relayed the post's fate. Recently, a car ran into one of them and knocked it onto the ground. Unknowns then stole it. The second post suffered the same soon after, but this time, Mr. Trombly had the chance to

drag it back to safekeeping in his garage/carriage house. And there it was; even if broken at its base, it still holds all the secrets of its past 130 years. Were both posts the target of theft? Probably so.

It became apparent that I was not the only Cliftonite concerned about the loss, so Jerry Trombly, John Osterman, and I are now in the process of resurrecting our last hitching post to a place of prominence and safety due to its unique aesthetic design, its old patina, and its place in our cherished Clifton history.

After some repairs, look for it somewhere in Clifton, where it can be enjoyed with our other beloved relics, like the millstones in Clifton Plaza and our Probasco Fountain near CANS. Give it a whinny when you approach!■



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The Reuben P. Resor Mansion Revisited

By Geoff Gelke, *The History Buffs*

The saga of Reuben P. Resor (1813–1853) begins at the Resor homestead with his brothers, William and Jacob, and sisters, Lydia Ann and Sarah Ann, nestled in the Greendale Avenue area (see map). Older brother Jacob had founded the Phoenix Iron Factory back in 1819, with William and Reuben joining later to create the fortune to be, largely due to the success of their cast iron cooking stove, “The Monitor Oak,” commonly found in most kitchens of the day, from the now known Wm. Resor Company. Success allowed the family to move into the bucolic setting of Clifton and establish the estate they dubbed “Greendale” in 1843. Their early Federal-styled frame home facing Clifton Avenue on seventeen acres became increasingly crowded with family, prompting Reuben to build a Federal-styled brick home where the Unitarian Church now stands on Resor Avenue in about 1845. This was followed by a three-room cottage he had built for his widowed mother, where the Ellis Mansion, later known as “Batterbury” (built over the cottage in the 1850s), now standing at 3553 Resor Place, in its Second Empire style makeover. Notice the pretty stable built behind this gem, built in 1854, to complement the mansion’s style.

It wasn’t long before Reuben aspired to build Clifton’s grandest mansion on his 110-acre estate, perched on its highest point, to view all the lower supporting terrains and sing out the glorious accomplishments of its owner. He would pass on his first home, now on Resor Avenue, to brother Jacob, then to Captain Hosea (of steamboat fame). Now, Reuben engaged local architect Isaiah Rogers to design the Gothic-Italianate mansion we see today at 3517 Cornell Place for himself. The mansion construction began in December 1850 with architect Rogers’s first sketch and lasted until 1853, when Reuben dashed off to New York to buy all the grand furniture the mansion would demand. But there, he contracted spotted fever and suddenly died in February of 1853. He was only forty years of age and never got to live in his dream mansion!

Thus, all the aspirations of the mansion were dashed and twisted, leading to a downward spiral of compromises. The original plot was rapidly subdivided, mainly for family members and then for other interested buyers.

The carriageway to the mansion from Clifton Avenue would become Resor Avenue, occupied only by the Resor/Hosea and Resor/Ellis homes. Later, in the 1860s, the York/Thrall and George Washington McAlpin homes on the South side of the drive would follow (see map). Later, heirs would sell the remaining parcels, creating what we see today.

Reuben’s widow and two children hung on to the estate until 1866, when she sold it to David Gibson, a brewer, who ran with it until he, in turn, was forced to sell due to debts in 1872—this time, to Winifred M. Evans and husband Seth Evans, a pork packer. The Evans family quickly moved into the mansion and began acquiring adjacent lands to develop the surrounding Evanswood Place neighborhood we see today. This long and complex development is the subject of Tom Lohr’s interesting treatise on creating the Evanswood Place homes. Subsequently, the passing of Seth Evans in 1890 sets the mansion on another course and to its subsequent sale in 1900 to George Bartholomew and E. Antoinette Ely, both educators: he from the Chickering Institute and she from Miss Ely’s Clifton School for Girls. The union would be called: “Bartholomew-Ely School Consolidated” and would serve as Clifton’s finishing school for upper-crust girls on their way to Bryn Mawr and other Eastern colleges. The academy became known simply as “Miss Ely’s Academy” and was complete with a residence hall for students just down at 3443 Cornell Place. Then it took another twist and abruptly closed in 1920 (a ghost of one of the girls is said to be responsible). This brings the mansion to a time when, due to expenses, such large abodes were starting to become sliced into multi-family residences, which was also its fate.

From this point onward, the mansion has passed through sev-

eral ownerships to its present owner, Benjamin Tallarigo, who is determined to keep its 175-year history alive and well.

Of note, the mansion’s architect, Isaiah Rogers (1800–1868), was one of Cincinnati’s earliest bonafide architects, with the famous Burnet House Hotel, Pike’s Opera House, Hill Forest, and scores of other structures to his credit. As for Clifton, he also worked with Robert Bowlser to create his mansion, “Mount Storm,” complete with gatehouse, greenhouses, fountain, wine cellars, stables, and the still-standing “Temple of Love,” to cover the cistern built for watering the lavish gardens. This “temple,” architecturally known as a “Tholos,” was a signature trait of Rogers and is perhaps the most beautiful structure in Clifton! A Tholos was a small ancient circular Greek Temple with columns all around to house iconic statues. Rogers used smaller-scale Tholos atop most of his buildings (Burnet House, Ohio State Capital Building, etc.) to provide that crowning touch. He also kept and consulted with his prized works of ancient Roman architect Vitruvius for structural design and French architect Louis Durand’s books for interior design as prized references. Oh, if only today’s architects would do the same! And, since Rogers was an acquaintance of the Resor family, it is thought that he was involved in the makeover of William Resor’s home, over on Greendale Avenue, from vernacular Federal style, into the Second Empire style house with the added third floor, that it is seen today at 254 Greendale Avenue, sometime in the 1860s, to accommodate their burgeoning family. Later, in the 1890s, the house was moved to its present location to accommodate the layout of the present-day Greendale Avenue subdivision of fine homes on both sides of the newly constructed street, which runs straight down the middle of the original estate, “Greendale.” Isaiah Rogers, his wife Emily, and noted architect son Solomon Willard Rogers are all buried in, of course, Spring Grove Cemetery, with all the other Clifton notables.■



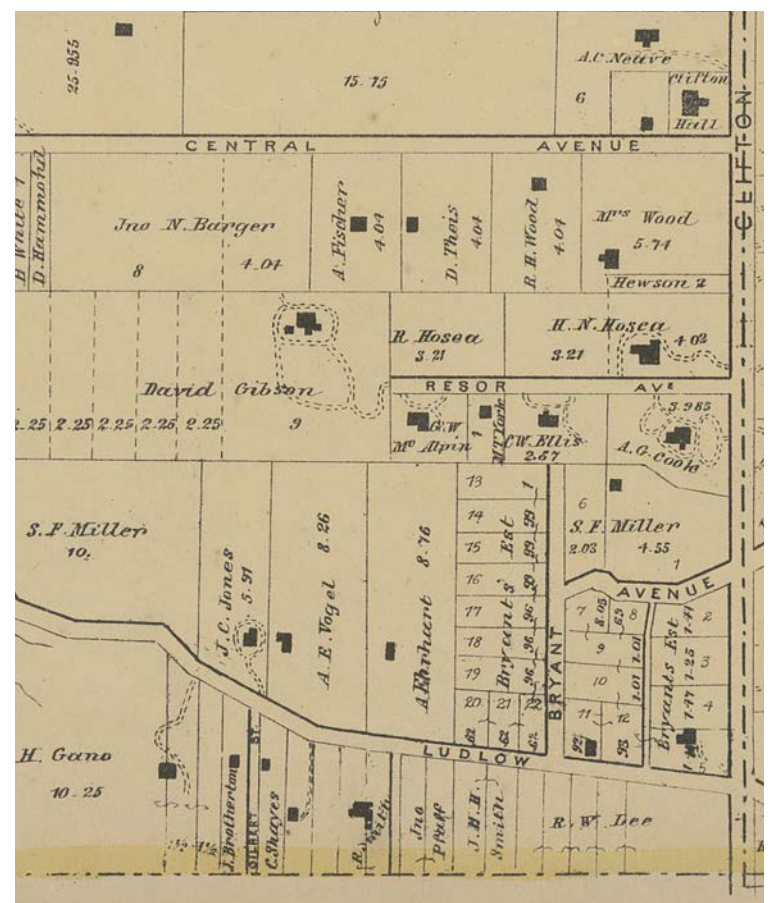
Reuben Resor Mansion 1850’s



Isaiah Rogers, about 1865



Temple of Love (Tholos) presently



Area map of 1869

International Children's Day

By Joe Hamrick

Cincinnati's 4th Annual International Children's Day will take place on Saturday, September 21st, 2024, from 11 am to 3 pm at the Burnet Woods Trailside Nature Center. This free event celebrates children worldwide and the culture and heritage of our neighbors and friends.

Cincinnati's Sister City partnerships will staff booths throughout the day where children can learn about our Sister Cities and collect free prizes and giveaways representing each city.

Prizes include country flags, floral headbands, puzzles, fans, chopsticks, and other giveaways. Children will also be given passports that they can use to collect stamps at each booth to show their "trip around the world." Activities for the day include a Parade of Flags, canoe rides on

the lake, Storytime by Mr. Eric of the Clifton Library, and button making, where kids can make a button with the flag of the country of their choosing. There will also be food trucks to satisfy your appetite.

Entertainment throughout the day will include a Petting Zoo, fun with Cincinnati Circus, musical entertainment with Joanie Whitaker, and a Puppet Show by Wump Mucket Puppets. All in all, it will be a fun-filled day that will celebrate children and various cultures around the world.

Cincinnati's International Children's Day is a collaboration of the Cincinnati USA Sister City Association, Cincinnati Parks, the Cincinnati Parks Foundation, the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library, the Camping & Education Foundation, and USA Balloonatics. ■

Ludloween



Trick-or-Treat on Ludlow

Thursday, October 31st

5:30 – 7:30 pm

In shops that display the poster

Fall Fest in Burnet Woods

By Lisa Haglund

Please join us at Fall Fest to help celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Burnet Woods! On Saturday, October 12th, from 1 to 5 pm, in front of the Trailside Nature Center (near the lake), enjoy a free pumpkin carving and decorating party for kids (big and small), music, entertainment, educational exhibits, and a food truck. The Trailside Nature Center will be open, thanks to Nature Education of Cincinnati Parks. And don't miss out on meeting some big birds with our special guest Raptors Inc.

New this year: During the morning of Saturday, October 12th, you will be able to visit with several Historical Reenactors who will be illustrating the 150-year history of Burnet Woods. Groups of 10-15 visitors, each accompanied by a docent, will start at the Bandstand and take an accessible walking tour to hear from several reenactors on a trail that will wind

through Burnet Woods and finish at Trailside. Along the way, you will learn the stories of some of the characters who were instrumental in creating the park we have today. Many thanks to the Cincinnati Parks Foundation and Preserve Burnet Woods (PBW) for the financial support of these free events.

The afternoon pumpkin party remains free and open to the public. The morning historical reenactment walk will also be free; however, to accommodate visitors and reenactors, we are asking visitors to sign up ahead of time for timed slots. Sign-ups for the free historical walk will be available on the PBW website in late September. Signs with more events and sign-up information will also be posted in shops on Ludlow Avenue and at local Cincinnati Public Libraries and Cincinnati Rec Centers. Hope to see you there!

Contact Lisa Haglund for more info: lisahaglund61@gmail.com. ■

Clifton Pop Up Pup Party

Join us in the Clifton Plaza on the fourth Monday of every month from 6 – 8 pm for off-the-leash fun!
Dates: 9/23 & 10/28



Special Thanks

Production of The Chronicle is made possible thanks to our advertisers, grants from the City of Cincinnati's Neighborhood Support Program and Neighborhood Activation Funds, and a generous anonymous sponsor.

Moving?

Please send your full name and updated mailing address to ctm.chronicle@gmail.com

Thursdays on the Clifton Plaza: Gardeners and Makers Market

On Thursdays until October 26, 4-7 pm, Clifton residents are invited to set up at the Plaza to sell homemade & garden goods.

Participants, park in the Merchants Lot on Howell Avenue, and carry your gear up the steps to the Plaza. **Vendors are responsible for set up and clean up.**

No registration necessary!

By permission of Clifton Community LLC that owns and operates this space.

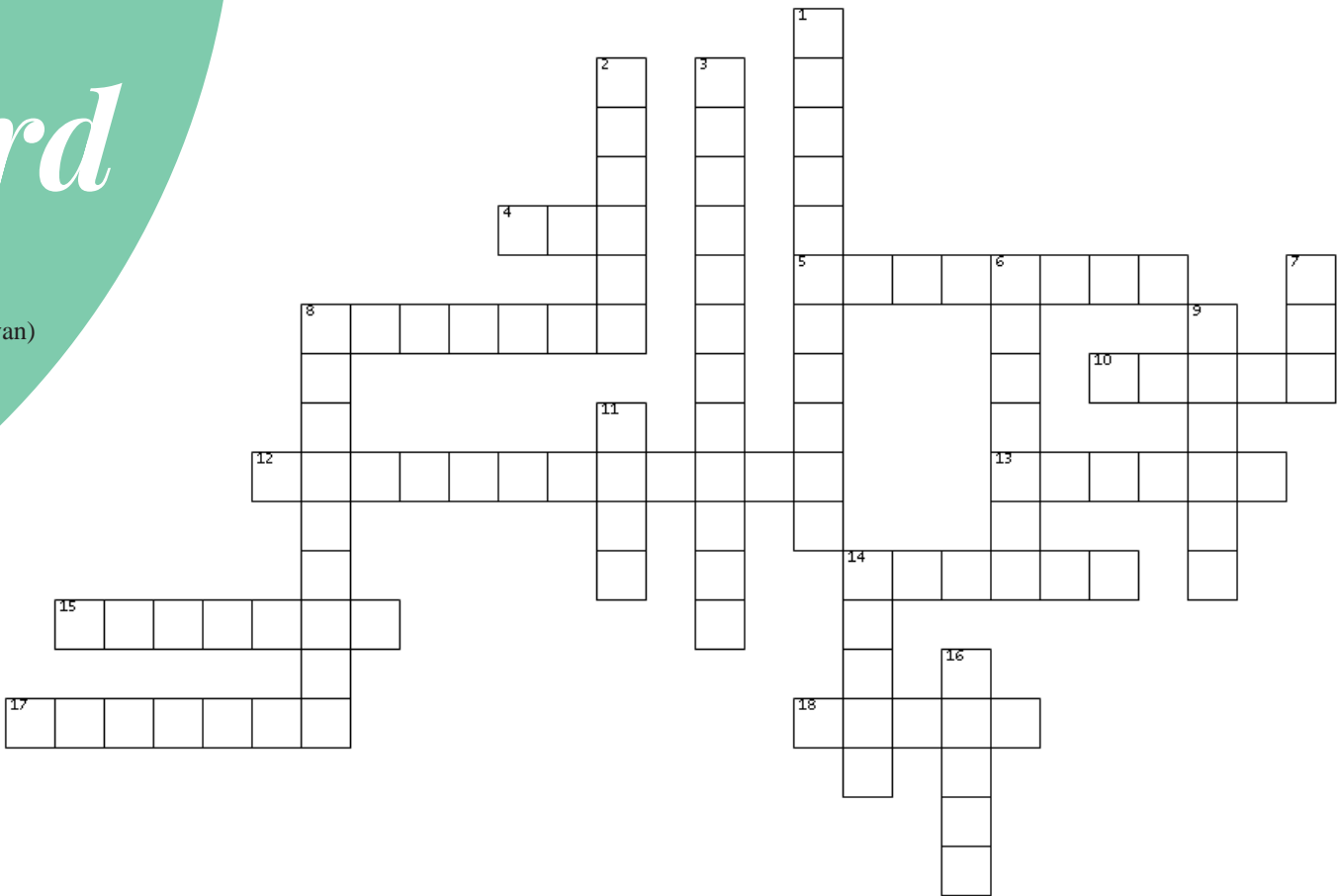
Clifton Crossword

Across

- 4. Where there's helpful hardware folks (like Bryan)
- 5. Second act
- 8. Spooky drinks at Alive & Well
- 10. PNC & US
- 12. Fried potatoes with or without onions?
- 13. 'Yes, and' in this underground theater
- 14. Biscuits and baths to bark about
- 15. Fresh fade from Cody or Brandon
- 17. Puts the D in Chicken Daal
- 18. Shine bright like a diamond

Down

- 1. Sit with this bronze English playwright
- 2. 17" pies
- 3. Part of the Romero Academy
- 6. Enjoy the show
- 7. Place to fill a script
- 8. Not so sweet at Two Seven Two
- 9. Make it a 5-Way with beans and _____
- 11. Good for World Peace and flexibility
- 14. Nothing's greater than Graeter's bourbon _____
- 16. Place to relax, rejuvenate, and restore



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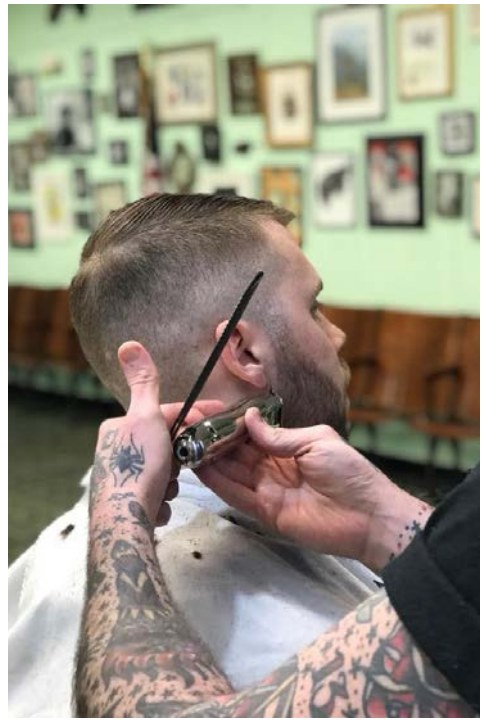
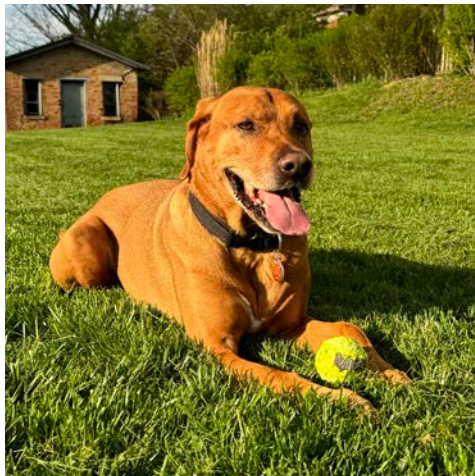
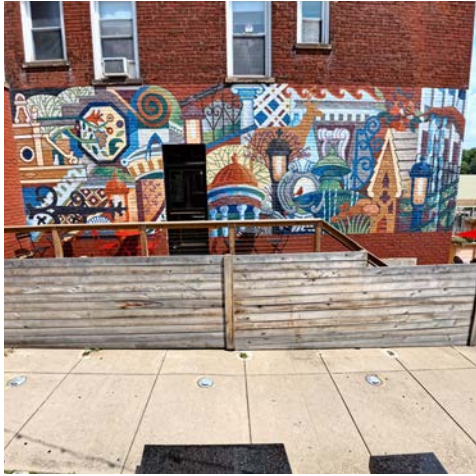
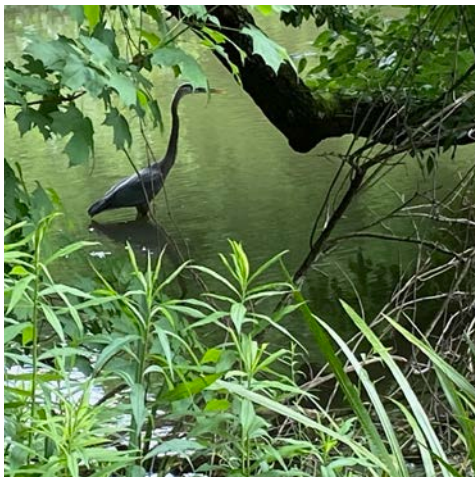
11.5.24

As Cliftonites, Cincinnatians, and Amerians, we have the privilege to cast our vote in every local, state, and national election. Exercise your right to vote on (or before) Tuesday, November 5th, 2024.

To make sure you're registered, visit **vote.gov**. The deadline for registration is October, 7th.

vote.gov

- Across**
- 4. Ace
 - 5. Sitwells
 - 8. Spirits
 - 10. Banks
 - 12. Proud Rooster
 - 13. Improv
 - 14. Peley's
 - 15. Haircut
 - 17. Dusmesh
 - 18. Paolo
- Down**
- 1. Shakespeare
 - 2. Dewey's
 - 3. Annunciation
 - 6. Esquire
 - 7. CVS
 - 8. Sourdough
 - 9. Onions
 - 11. Yoga
 - 14. Pecan
 - 16. Elora



Add your photo to our next issue! Send your image to mycliftonchronicle@gmail.com