

METRO Neighbors

July, 2012

Serving Cincinnati's Northside & Uptown Neighborhoods

Mediaassociates@ella.net

Northside's 4th of July Parade brings people together



Jessica Jackson
the Photographer



Northside



Opening of Northside's Art Fair

PEACE *(hopefully)*

By Steve Sunderland

The puzzle of character

“Man doesn’t grow from below upwards but from within outwards. That is the fundamental condition of all freedom in life.

It is not an artfully constructed social environment but an attitude to oneself and to the world which is a struggle to maintain.” *G. Janouch (2012).*

Conversations with Kafka. New Directions.

1.) John Roberts: The puzzle of Chief Justice John Roberts is now confusing me. I was shocked by his decision to join the majority in supporting the Affordable Care Act. Becoming cynical about his leadership, about the predictability of his actions, I was also allowing myself to believe that Roberts was a tool of the majority.

The reasons for his decision are hidden in the long decision he wrote, perhaps in the switch from the “commerce clause” argument to a “tax.”

Yet, this is too simple an explanation of what is a major decision. He must have fought with himself about the implications of leaving his conservative members of the Supreme Court and joining the liberals.

What really happened, what really caused his decision, and his agreeing to create a major win for President Obama and the liberal cause of improved health care for millions may be more connected with his belief in what felt right as an element of his character. Isn’t it possible to believe that ideology, right or left, can both lift and soil our person-

See *Peace*, Page 3, Col. 1

CAIN thanks their summer interns

CAIN is extremely excited about all their extra help this summer! They have three current

summer interns who have been helping out with the pantry, publicity and the Northside Farmers Mar-

ket. Make sure to say hello to Chryssy, Emma and Donna next time you are at CAIN.

Also, thanks to Emily Shelton who was a communications intern for June and is back at college to train for volleyball. We are blessed by each of these wonderful young women! Thanks for sharing your summer with us!

METRO Neighbors, including

THE NORTHSIDER & UPTOWN NEWS

Published by MEDIA ASSOCIATES

Worley Rodehaver, publisher/editor—513-241-7539

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Have News?

Send it to:

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Peace—from Page 3
 alities? Doing what is right, in the moment that is a crisis, may say more about what makes up the concept of character in individuals who have an “attitude” towards themselves that defies easy decisions, comfortable assumptions, and the expectation of approval from friends.

Perhaps the Roberts decision should raise fundamental questions about the forces pulling and pushing mature decision making.

In a culture that demands ruthless orthodoxy of political, religious and personal decisions, it is clear that there is also a deeper force opposing false arguments for truth.

2.) George Gershwin: What puzzles me about Gershwin is why he bet on an opera about poor black people in Charleston, South Carolina. Here, Broadway and pop music’s master song writer, turns to an intense look at the violent and compassionate elements at play in the ghetto of a black community.

Watching the wonderful performance at Music Hall, I was amazed at what Gershwin was confronting the audience with in terms of racial and

poor images of people who do not fall within the label of “culture heros.” The play/opera revolves around a “cripple,” a man unable to move his legs, and his love of a woman with serious mental and physical health problems, namely, the addiction to violence and drugs. Gershwin was choosing to go down a path of unpredictability about both blacks and poor in the South in the early part of the twentieth century. He revealed the key characters as capable of courage, or deep love, and of compassion for a community in the face of a mainstream culture that vilified the poor Southern black individual and community. What was Gershwin trying to communicate about the values and character of this community other than we, as audience, have been led to a false and dangerous set of stereotypes about the descendants of slavery.

Why would Gershwin go down this path, believing that his art might transform our attitudes, open our hearts and make a change in the ways cultures celebrate the deepest and most important values?

See **Peace**, Page 7, Col. 1

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Fresh Strawberry Pie

By Barbara Rosenberg

Strawberries are reasonably priced in the supermarket, easy for the pickin'. Why not whip up a delicious fresh strawberry pie, a great summertime treat.....

Ingredients

Nine inch pie shell
(Marie Callandar is the best)

Two quarts strawberries
 (organic have more flavor)

One half cup granulated sugar

One tablespoon cornstarch

Two tablespoons Grand Marnier*(optional)*

One teaspoon vanilla

Four ounces whipped cream cheese

One half pint whipping cream

Two tablespoons powdered sugar

Preparation

Bake pie shell...Pre-heat oven broiler....Prick pie shell with fork, brush with melted butter....Put pie shell on middle shelf of oven....Take out of oven when lightly brownedReset oven to 350 degrees....pre-heatPut pie shell in oven until deep golden brown, about 15 minutes....Allow pie shell to cool



Preparing Strawberrys

Wash and dry strawberries....Divide berries as follows: Set aside about six big berries with stemsMeasure two cups berries and mash them....Slice remaining berries, set aside.....

Make glaze

Mix cornstarch and granulated sugar in saucepan, add Grand Marnier....Add mashed berries to cornstarch mixture....Cook until thickened, stirring constantly... Add vanilla Whip cream....Chill whipping cream and powdered sugar in bowl in freezer for about 30 minutes or until cream is partially frozen....Scrape

frozen cream from sides of bowl....Whip until stiff

Assemble pie

Dip big strawberries into glaze, set aside....Pour sliced berries into glaze, gently folding them in....Spread whipped cream cheese over pie shell....Pour berry mixture over cream cheese....Put whipped cream dollops over pieGarnish with large glazed berries.....What a beautiful creation, pleasing to the eyes and the tastebuds.

**Enjoy!
 Enjoy!
 Enjoy!**

“Dr. Bob”



Dr. Bob and Mite

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Home Page

By Dave Scharfenberger

City Council passes vacant Forclosure Registration Ordinance

City Council passed in June an ordinance with the aim of holding banks accountable for properties left vacant as a result of foreclosures.

The ordinance establishes a pilot program in five selected neighborhoods

(Westwood, West Price Hill, East Price Hill, College Hill and Madisonville) These had the largest number of foreclosures from 2006 – 2011.

Communities United For Action originally proposed charging a fee

to the banks for each fore-closed property, to pay for the damages caused by foreclosed properties. City Council-members P.G. Sittenfeld and Cecil Thomas after consultation with CUFA, City officials and other community leaders decided to introduce the registry.

Other facts about the ordinance:

Requires the banks to register correct and up to date information on all vacant foreclosed homes within the pilot neighborhoods with the name of the person or business agent within the state of Ohio who will be the responsible agent for the property.

Create maintenance guidelines for the vacant property to insure that the property is not a cause of blight and an outward appearance of foreclosure and vacancy.

Create a point of sale inspection to require all registered properties

meet city codes before being sold at judicial sale.

The pilot program will be funded by fees connected to the registration of vacant properties and property liens placed on vacant homes through the point of sale inspection.

According to City Officials, the program is expected to start by the end of the summer.

Foreclosures Down In 2011, Decrease Is Only Temporary

Foreclosures and the cumulative effects of fore-closures were the focus of Working In Neighborhoods' (WIN) recent fore-closure report for Hamilton County in 2011. There was a decline of 31.4percent decline in forecloses 2011 (2018 fore-closed properties). The decline was seen to be temporary and foreclosures are expected to rise again in 2012.

“One of our biggest

concerns is the trend to move towards more rental units and a decline in homeownership,” said Sr. Barbara Busch, executive director of WIN. “We are afraid that we are losing our home ownership base.” Busch expressed a concern about the cumulative effect of foreclosures over the last six years.

This year's foreclosure report contains three neighborhood case studies focusing on Avondale, Northside, and College Hill. A complete copy of WIN's report is available on WIN's web site, www.wincincy.org

Are you Interested In Homeownership?

Working In Neighborhoods is offering free homebuyer classes monthly for future homebuyers. The classes will be located at Working In Neighborhoods, 1814 Dream Avenue. Continental breakfast and

lunch will be provided. All participants are required to attend the class in order to receive the 9-hour homebuyer certificate needed to be eligible for ADDI Grant and other Down Payment Assistance Programs. The dates and times for the upcoming homebuyer classes are:

Saturday August 18 & 25, (Two consecutive Saturdays) 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Saturday September 22, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday October 13, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday November 3, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday December 1, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more information call 513-541-4109 or www.wincincy.org

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Harriet Courter

I attend The Gathering to fellowship with and learn from the Gatherers.

Our commitment to social justice inspires me!



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Peace—from Page 3
 3.) 9th Ward of New Orleans: And then there is New Orleans...Stuck in rebuilding the areas left in disaster by Hurricane Katrina, Stefanie and I recently toured the attempt to rebuild on the ground that still is in the shadow of the rebuilt levees. We stopped to talk to a woman who showed us on her map just where the storm hit and how it destroyed their house. "We're going ahead and rebuilding," she said with a cheeriness.

We left her wondering about the resiliency of people, the inner qualities of hope, love, and courage that are touched by the violent experience of a hurricane. Is it a rebuilding of not only the houses and streets but also of the capacity to believe in the self's talents, the self's deepest strengths and the self's greatest fact and fiction: "Life can go on with pride, with spirit, and with understanding." The lessons of citizenship in a demo-

cracy depend upon this kind of strong and beautiful recovery of hope and courage. What is growing in Roberts, Gershwin, and the residents of the Gulf, are fundamental human qualities that both serve as examples of loving a self and a community and examples of how deep are the strengths of victims. We are reminded that the work goes on, attitudes can be changed, **the space we call "freedom" can be enlarged.**

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