

# SOUTH SIDE VOICE

Presented by United Way of Central Ohio and the City of Columbus

360 SOUTH 3RD STREET,  
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215  
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**Southern  
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## THE SOUTH SIDE GOES **SPOOKY**

Tips on making the most of "Halloween Month" *By Kamari Stevens*

**P**umpkins. Costumes. Horror films. Candy. All essential parts of Halloween, that people love. With Halloween creeping up on us, navigating the

treacherous path to a memorable Halloween can be daunting. That's why the South Side Voice has compiled a list of ways to enrich that spooky holiday that comes around every autumn.

**EVERYDAY IS HALLOWEEN IN OCTOBER** Just like Christmas, Halloween has a spirit that surrounds it. One that can't be experienced in a single day. There's plenty of ways to get into the Halloween spirit. Many of them include maintaining a healthy diet of scary movies throughout the month of October. Channels such as AMC or SyFy usually run movie marathons featuring all of the classic fright flicks people know and love. Cable TV will be playing various marathons of these movies, or you can visit your local library (at 845 Parsons Avenue) and borrow some for free. Most themed haunted houses and trails, like the Vassor Village's Walking Dead Haunted Mansion (see *events calendar, pages 6-7*), going on its fifth year of freaking people out, are also in full swing and are sure to get you and your family into the spirit. (Just be careful not to show your kids movies that are *too scary!*)

**PARTY TIME** Halloween is a great time for throwing a party. Seasonally speaking, it's great to get most of the

party bug out of your system before the cold weather starts to make going outside less exciting. Halloween parties, however, are nothing without the perfect Halloween costume. The goal is to stand out and the best way to do that is by balancing recognizability with creativity. If you are throwing your own party, decorations are a must. Spiderwebs and pumpkins are staples, but adding a surprise element will make your party more memorable. It's a Halloween party, and you're not doing it right if nobody is scared by at least one of your ornaments.

**I WANT CANDY** Most people fell in love with Halloween at a young age mainly because of the candy. The opportunity to trek across neighborhoods receiving free candy was a highlight. Whether you are an adult or a child you know how important candy is to Halloween. So, on October 30, your neighborhood is celebrating Halloween (or Beggar's night) from 6:00



p.m. to 8:00 p.m., be ready to get out there or, if you're staying at home, turn on that porch light and load up on the candy! Most dollar stores have a solid variety of candies at a decent price. And remember, raisins aren't an acceptable "treat." (*Editor's Note: While our senior writer Kamari is*

*a candy fiend, healthy options for treats add a little variety to a pillowcase full of sugary snacks; while raisins aren't always the most popular treat, crunchy granola bars are an alternative.*)

*Continued on page 5*

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**COLUMBUS**  
MICHAEL B. COLEMAN, MAYOR

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**AND MUCH MORE!**

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COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

# MINT IN THE ROUGH



From Left to Right: Coffee the dog, Marritt Vaessin, 25, Joel Bengson 26, CJ Brazelton 23, and Tia Luck 28

## Artists' group to bring creatives to South Side

*Photo and Story by Kamari Stevens*

Art can be found in the oddest of places and a group of forward-thinking creatives has found that in the form of an old meat factory located on the South Side.

Tucked neatly away from South High resides MINT, a newly debuted art space, located at 42 West Jenkins.

"The name came from the color of the warehouse," said CJ Brazelton, one of the dozen or so "broke, young artists" that the collective features. "[MINT] fit pretty well with what we are doing, which is bringing fresh ideas and projects to our surrounding community."

MINT is an art collective with the ambitious goal of building a thriving residence for artists of all mediums, as well as to make a lasting impact on the community that inhabits the South Side. Brazelton,

who dabbles in "painting, sculpture, videos..." and his cohorts have been renting out the space since the beginning of August. Maritt Vaessin, another MINT artist, said the group is in the process of becoming an LLC in order to apply for grants that will help the space flourish. Until then, the

*"[MINT] fit pretty well with what we are doing, which is bringing fresh ideas and projects to our surrounding community."*

current members are working together in an effort to restore the space that formerly housed a meat factory.

A remnant of which can be found in the gallery area in the form of a sign reading "MEAT SINK."

"Everyone is pitching in, supporting the space, help clean it," said Brazelton.

MINT has been doing tours of the space for artists potentially interested in becoming a part of the collective, and is drafting applications for those who want to join the fold. Long-term goals for the group include developing a community garden, holding workshops for students from local schools, as well as building a relationship with CCAD and The Ohio State University. Up next for MINT is their October 10 show featuring a performance from

electro-act Groundslava, and late October will feature the Dark Matter gallery, a Halloween themed show, with a reception taking place October 24.

"We're trying to have art shows that expose the community to new ideas while, at the same time, still being accessible," said Brazelton. ♦

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### ONLINE EDITION

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[www.allthingsouth.org](http://www.allthingsouth.org)

The South Side Voice is dedicated to providing the South Side of Columbus with a high quality community newspaper, which recognizes and celebrates the achievements of community members; shares pertinent news and information of interest to the community; and promotes neighborhood cohesion, community engagement and good citizenship.

For purposes of this newspaper, the "South Side" refers to the area including the ten civic associations in the Columbus South Side Area Commission and the six civic associations in the Far South Columbus Area Commission. This may be modified in the future as this newspaper grows. This newspaper is currently managed by the Southern Gateway Project Team on behalf of the City of Columbus and the United Way of Central Ohio, which is the presenting organization.

While presented by the UWCO, this newspaper shall be made available at no charge to any South Side resident or person with a substantial interest in the South Side. The availability of this newspaper in electronic format on the All Things South website is considered adequate availability for all residents outside the Southern Gateway Planning Area (approximately 3,100 households in Reeb-Hosack/Steelton Village, Hungarian Village, South Merion Village, Stambaugh-Elwood and that portion of Innis Gardens Village situated between Parsons Avenue and Lockbourne Road). Residents within the planning area shall also be provided one printed copy mailed or delivered to each residence. If needed, additional copies may be purchased at a per copy fee in effect at that time.

The South Side Voice's Editorial Committee, however, wishes to make hard copies available to as many residents, businesses and visitors as possible and will therefore consider expanding the distribution of hard copies by mail to additional households and through making copies available at area businesses and organizations. The use of story ideas and event listings submitted by the public and the number of copies to be printed, mailed or otherwise distributed is at the discretion of the Editorial Committee within the limits of available resources.

## FROM THE EDITOR



Photo by Megan Leigh Barnard

### Resilience, resourcefulness my favorite things about you, South Siders

You're a product of your environment, South Side, but you refuse to be a victim of it. That's probably what I love most about you.

I'm officially moved in, here in Merion Village, but I don't feel as though I'm quite out of my boxes yet. I don't know where anything is, and flailing around trying to make breakfast in a kitchen I'm not used to, going to new places, and occasionally dodging my neighbors (all of them lovely people, but all of whom also wish I would take the canoe down off the truck and weed my front garden) makes me cranky.

So it was while sitting in my backyard late one night, stewing in my own juices, that I heard a commotion in my back alley. I stood up on a chair to see over the fence and asked the woman going through my garbage what, exactly, she was looking for.

"Oh my...!" she gasped. "You startled the crap out of me!"

She soon told me that, as the single mother of an autistic child, she'd been forced to give up her job to stay home and take care of the kid. No job and little income meant that she had to find ways to make ends meet. That's why she would go out late at night (while her mother watched the son) and find other's trashed furniture, mirrors, and the

like; she takes those things home and makes arts and crafts with them, or refinishes them, to sell for extra cash.

I'm not so new to the world that I've never seen people out scrapping, but I was touched by her unique approach. I'm by no means wealthy, but I've got a couple roommates and have enough irons in the fire (and no children) and can support myself just fine.

So, while sitting in my backyard, irritated to have lost the cord to the deep fryer, this woman came along and helped jar me back to reality. *Her reality is a heckuva lot harder than YOUR reality*, I thought to myself. *How's about you just go ahead and roast the dang chicken, instead?*

I doubt she gets a confidence boost from digging around other people's trash, or going home smelling like garbage juice. But I saw the contents of her truck and it wasn't just wire and brake rotors: she's working. She's found a way to get by. And getting by is, sometimes, really hard.

I'm not saying the scrapping is a good idea. I doubt she feels very safe doing it, herself. Sometimes those going through your junk leave a mess strewn around your dumpster or trash can, which is certainly frustrating and inappropriate. That said, there's not many among us who haven't hit hard times in one way or another. It's awful easy to forget that and just yell at your neighbor, who's really only trying to get by. Hopefully that's something we can all remember.

Regards and good luck,

David S. Lewis  
Editor, South Side Voice

FOLLOW UP:



## RED RIBBON WEEK AND THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

**Last month's cover story, *The Road to Recovery*, detailed several paths away from addiction for residents of the South Side. Addiction is a powerful negative force and, here on the South Side, it is an especially big problem. This month's Follow Up aims to encourage you, your family, friends, and loved ones to participate in October's Red Ribbon Week, from October 23-31, a national effort to raise awareness and to fight drugs and addiction.**

From the South Side Community Action Network's Facebook page:

Saturday, October 25, from 3-8pm, will mark the first South Side Red Ribbon Week Celebration. This is an effort by the Substance Abuse Solutions Committee to begin a series of public

education events to help people understand the negative impact of substance abuse & addiction. The day will begin with a 3:00 p.m. gathering at Maloney Health Center to sign a banner and create posters with the theme of "Love Yourself, Don't Do Drugs." The group will leave Maloney around 4:00 p.m. to walk up Parsons Ave. to Barack Recreation Center where there will be musical entertainment. Those participating in the walk will receive tickets for a free meal at Barack and there will be a play put on by the APS Youth Group at 6:00 p.m., which we hope everyone will stay for. Please plan to join in (and invite friends, neighbors, youth of all ages etc.) to help begin the fight against addictions and the toll they take on the community and the people.

– *SSV Staff contributed to this story*

*For more information or to volunteer to help at the event, contact Jo Anne St. Clair at (614) 645-5220 or [jastclair@columbus.gov](mailto:jastclair@columbus.gov)*



Ohio Governor John R. Kasich and Columbus Mayor Michael B. Coleman, along with business leaders, local champions and South Side residents, break ground on the new Reeb Avenue Center, which will provide early childhood education, job training, job placement, and other services for the community.

PHOTO BY JUDY CZARNECKI

## Foundry Expansion Means Work For South Siders

Columbus Castings to nearly double workforce

By David S. Lewis

Columbus Castings, formerly Buckeye Steel, has been producing industrial parts on the South Side for more than a century. Now, the largest single-site foundry left in the U.S. is looking to grow its workforce 100 percent over the next few years in a return to industry Columbus Mayor Michael B. Coleman touts as among the most significant of his administration.

The city and state have been working with the metalwork giant over the past two years to provide incentives for the company's growth; a recent boom in railway car production has produced a market for the parts the company makes. The shortage in oil pipelines has been cited as the cause for increased railcar demand.

Columbus Castings is expanding now, but the story almost ended in 2002, when the company, still known as Buckeye Steel, filed for bankruptcy after the double blow of a weak rail market and the economic effects of the September 11, 2001 terror attacks.

Until that point it had been operating as an affiliate of Worthington industries, another major Columbus steel company. And, in fact, it was former Worthington Industries president Don Malenick that swooped in to lead the company out of its trouble, assembling a series of investors which purchased the company, at that point changing its name to Columbus Castings.

The company, which boasts a "pro-employee, union-free" philosophy on its website, says it engages in profit sharing with employees when business is thriving. And, according to their website, the company is hiring a variety of full-time General Labor and Skilled Trade positions right now, looking for certified welders with MIG, TIG, or Arc experience; skilled machinists, chippers, grinders, burners, and molders. Ideal candidates have experience in a heavy-manufacturing work environment, and must be able to work any shift (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>). Wages vary from approximately \$13 -- \$26 per hour.

And if you are interested but have no ex-

perience in heavy manufacturing, the company is gearing up to offer job skills training through the Reeb Avenue Center. At last month's groundbreaking, the historic school saw the City's Mayor, Michael B. Coleman, and Ohio Governor John Kasich, as well as a host of business leaders, local champions and residents turned over ceremonial shovels of dirt to announce the new \$13 million facility, according to a release from the Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation. The Reeb Center will host a variety of tenants geared to help people on the South Side and surrounding neighborhoods find jobs, job training, and even child care and education. The release also noted that Columbus Castings will hire and train new workers "with a focus on its surrounding neighborhood."

The company will also be the first major corporate partner of the Reeb Center's COWIC/Ohio Means Jobs training center, which

will include workforce training programs for neighborhood residents. The release also notes that Columbus Castings is committed to hiring "traditionally hard-to-place individuals, including those moving up and off of public assistance."

"The Southern Gateway is coming back," Mayor Coleman said. "The Reeb Avenue Center represents what can happen when a community comes together with a purpose. This outstanding investment by Columbus Castings reflects the newfound confidence generated by this neighborhood." ♦

For those interested in learning more, please visit [www.columbuscastings.com/careers](http://www.columbuscastings.com/careers), or call their human resources department at (614) 444-2121 and follow the prompts on the menu. You can also contact COWIC/Ohio Means Jobs at (614) 559-5025, or through their website, [www.cowic.org](http://www.cowic.org).

### TENANTS EXPECTED TO BE IN THE NEW REEB AVENUE CENTER:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Columbus
- City of Columbus South Side Neighborhood Pride Center
- Community Development for All People
- Connect Ohio
- COWIC/Ohio Means Jobs-Columbus-Franklin County
- Godman Guild
- Lutheran Social Services
- Mid-Ohio Foodbank
- St. Stephen's Community House Family to Family Program
- South Side Learning & Development Center

## EDITORIAL:



FROM YOUR REPRESENTATIVE:

## KEEPING SENIOR CITIZENS IN THEIR HOMES

By Ohio Representative Michael Stinziano

According to statistics from the Ohio Department of Health, between 2000 and 2010, Ohioans aged 65 and older experienced a 163-percent increase in the number of fatal falls and a 145-percent increase in the fall death rate. In 2010, an average of three older Ohioans suffered fatal falls each day. It is estimated that falls among older adults cost Ohioans more than \$645 million in 2010 in medical expenses.

Sadly, many senior falls occur in the older persons' own homes. It's estimated that more than a million older Americans live in homes that are not suited to their physical needs.

Instead of moving to nursing homes, as more and more senior citizens want to remain in their own homes longer as they get older, it's important that we give them the means to be able to alter their homes and to do just that.

That's why I'm encouraging my colleagues in the Ohio General Assembly to back a bill sponsored by state Rep. Cheryl Grossman, my colleague from Grove City, and me.

Our legislation would provide state tax credits – called “Livable Homes Tax Credits” -- for the building, purchasing, or remodeling of homes to incorporate accessibility and universal design features, features that would allow people to remain in their homes longer and to do so more safely and comfortably.

Accessibility renovations to homes are needed to promote independent living because many older citizens live in homes that were built in a time when accessibility issues were not important to homebuilders and homeowners.

Taxpayers who renovate their existing residence with universal designs would be eligible for a state tax credit of up to 50 percent of the total cost, not to exceed \$5,000. In addition, a taxpayer who purchases or constructs a new residence with universal designs is also eligible for a tax credit up to \$5,000, under our proposal.

Recent news reports suggest that the state continues to try and transition people from long-term care facilities back to homes. In fact, the state this past summer chronicled the 5,000<sup>th</sup> individual that has made that transition.

Indeed, such transitions dispel the notion that once people move into a nursing home, that they might be there for the rest of their lives. A better approach might be to keep people from needing to be placed into nursing homes in the first place, something our proposal might help with.

I hope my colleagues stand with Rep. Grossman and me to help our senior citizens remain in their own homes longer.

What do you think about our approach to solve this problem? I'd love to hear from you about this or any other issue.

Remember, when you have a problem, question, or concern, or anytime that I can be of service, call me at (614) 466-1896 or e-mail me at Rep18@ohio-house.gov, and I will do everything I can to help.

I'm at the Statehouse working for you.

*Rep. Michael Stinziano represents the 18th House District, including the great neighborhoods and businesses of the South Side.*

## THE SOUTH SIDE GOES SPOOKY, Continued from page 1

**THE FINAL COUNTDOWN** Halloween day is always bittersweet. It's the last you'll see of all the zombies, ghouls and goblins, and the last you'll hear of the shrieks, screams and “boos.” That's why it's important to go out with a blast. Spend the day in your Halloween attire. Take the kids out trick-or-treating early, if your neighborhood has a late beggar's night, or let them wear their costumes and throw a fun party at your house. Put on a DVD like ParaNorman or Frankenweenie. Hit up the last few parties to attend.

Listen to “Monster Mash” on the way home from the scary shindig. Then plop down on the couch, dim the lights, grab a bowl of popcorn and watch “Halloween” (the original version) and scream yourself to sleep. (Adults only!)

**OCTOBER 30 IS OFFICIAL BEGGAR'S NIGHT & TRICK OR TREAT IN COLUMBUS, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** Turn your porch light on to let Trick or Treaters know they are welcome during these hours!



## DIY (DO IT YOURSELF) COSTUME TIPS

from Rendezvous Stylist and Zombie-Maker Nessa Williamson

**These tips, from a professional costume artist, are great last minute (or cheap-skate!) costume options for you or your kids to gear up for spooky greatness:**

**BAG OF JELLY BEANS:**

“With a large clear garbage bag and colorful balloons you can instantly become this tasty confection,” says Nessa.

**ZOMBIFIED:**

“With a little latex or spirit gum, toilet tissue and fake blood, you can shamble with the living dead! Hollow out your facial features with dark makeup and ‘voila!’ Instant zombie!”

**GONE BATTY:** Dress up in all black and “with an old umbrella you can easily make bat wings.”

**UMBRELLA BATWING INSTRUCTIONS** adapted from IGA.com

**SUPPLIES:**

Good quality black umbrella  
Wire/side cutters  
Black electrical tape  
6 feet wide black ribbon  
Scissors

it more comfortable for the wings to attach to your child's arms.

**5.** At this point, there will be a lot of sharp metal edges from all of the cutting. Make sure you thoroughly cover all sharp edges with the electrical tape.

**6.** Attach the wings with the black ribbon with two small loops for the wrists and two loops of ribbon long enough to be shoulder straps attached to the wing's center

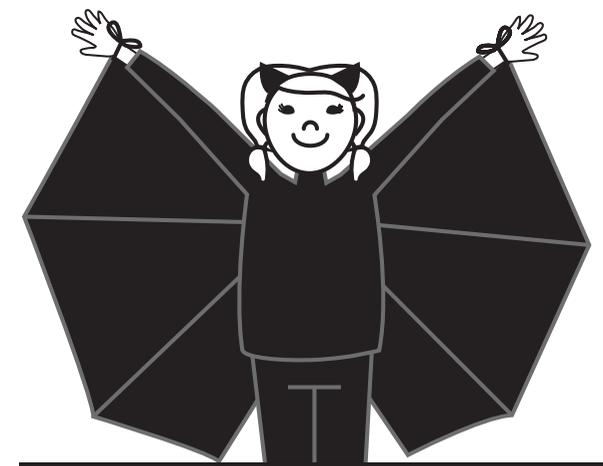
**Finishing touches:** Paint cardboard black and attach to a black headband for ears!

**TO MAKE:**

**1.** Turn an open umbrella upside down and cut out two triangles of material on opposite sides.

**2.** Use the wire cutters to cut off the metal supports that hold up the umbrella, the umbrella handle, and all the metal arms that join the umbrella together in the center.

**3.** There should still be supports inside the umbrella top (now the wings). Keep all of these except the two on the top (this will make



## OCTOBER COMMUNITY EVENTS



### OCTOBER 1, 9, AND 23

#### COMMUNITY MEETINGS ON ISSUES 6, 7, AND 8

*Various locations; see below*

Columbus residents will have the opportunity to learn more about ballot issues 6, 7, and 8, proposed amendments to the city charter, at a series of community meetings this fall.

Members of the Columbus Charter Review Commission will answer questions and provide information about the proposed charter amendments. These amendments, suggested by a citizen's panel, range from proposed changes to utilities administration to holding elected local officials to state law. This is a great opportunity to get a glimpse at how our city government operates.

#### Meeting dates and locations:

October 1 at the John R. Maloney Family Health & Wellness Center, 1905 Parsons Ave

October 9 at the Columbus Metropolitan Library Hilltop Branch, 511 S Hague Ave

October 23 at Barnett Recreation Center, 1184 Barnett Rd

All meetings will begin at 6pm and end at 7pm. For more information about ballot issues 6, 7, and 8, visit [www.columbus.gov/charter](http://www.columbus.gov/charter) or email [charter@columbus.gov](mailto:charter@columbus.gov).

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

#### FILM SERIES "MOVIES THAT TOUCH OUR HEARTS"

**6:30 p.m. at Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Avenue, Columbus**

*This month's film: "A Place at the Table"*

This movie examines the issue of hunger in America through the lens of three people struggling with food insecurity and shows us how hunger poses serious economic, social and cultural implications for our nation, and making healthy food available and afford-

able is in the best interest of us all.

Please call or email to reserve a bowl of popcorn and your seat for this powerful film!

(614) 512-3731 or [corpuschristi-centerofpeace@gmail.com](mailto:corpuschristi-centerofpeace@gmail.com)

This event is free, but you'll have the opportunity to make a free-will donation to support the work of CCCoP and the Ohio Association of Food Banks.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

**11:00 a.m., in the Corpus Christi parking lot Corner of Deshler and Linwood (enter from Deshler)**

It's a tradition on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and ecology, to bless our pets and all animals. All pets are welcome as long as they are on a leash, in a crate or fish bowl, or otherwise under the control of their humans. Please join us in blessing and celebrating the presence of animals in our lives!

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 ZOO DAY!

**2:00 - 4:00 p.m., in the parking lot of Corpus Christi Church (at the corner of Linwood and Stewart Ave)**

Columbus Zoo will be arriving with a van full of small zoo animals and will introduce us to each one, telling us all about the animal - where and how they live, what they eat, etc. - and will answer your questions, too. The Columbus Fire Department will be on hand for tours of the fire engine and fire safety house. And there will be tables with all kinds of community informa-

### OCTOBER 15-18 CIRCLEVILLE PUMPKIN SHOW

*Downtown Circleville*

Why not take a family day trip to check out GIANT pumpkins grown in Ohio and try some unusual Pumpkin-flavored treats (pumpkin chili anyone?) Entry to the event is free and free parking can usually be found on Circleville side streets. Check out the calendar of events at [www.pumpkinshow.com](http://www.pumpkinshow.com)

tion available. Free hotdogs, chips and drinks will be available for everyone!

### OCTOBER 9 AND NOVEMBER 14

#### WOMEN TO WOMEN LISTENING CIRCLE

**11:30 a.m. - simple lunch, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.: Listening Circle, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave.**

All women of any age or life circumstances are invited. This is a free event.

Women to Women is a safe, non-judgmental, confidential place where we can be who we are. There are no requirements. This is simply a place to step away, breathe and share with other women. No pre-registration is necessary. Just come as you are.

We don't have childcare available, so please make other arrangements for your little ones.

For information, call CCCoP at 614-512-3731 or email [corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com](mailto:corpuschristicenterofpeace@gmail.com), or visit [www.cccenterofpeace.org](http://www.cccenterofpeace.org)

### OCTOBER 9, 16, AND 23 DIVERSITY TEAMING IN THE COMMUNITY: THE RICHNESS OF OUR DIFFERENT VOICES.

**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., at Barack Recreation Center, 580 E. Woodrow Ave.**

Don't some people just drive you crazy sometimes? Work on a civic or for an organization that sometimes feels like chaos? You might be surprised to learn that the problem isn't that person, it's how you're trying to communicate with them! Come out for some great workshops facilitated by moderators who know their stuff.

Sponsored by the United Way of Central Ohio and hosted by the South Side Neighborhood Pride Center, this is a great

opportunity to add some powerful social skills to your own toolbox.

For questions and to register, contact Jo Anne St. Clair @ 645-5220 or [jastclair@co-lumbus.gov](mailto:jastclair@co-lumbus.gov). Please RSVP, maximum of 25 participants.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 FRESH PRODUCE GIVEAWAY

**9:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. (or supplies run out)**  
**Columbus Castings parking lot, 2211 Parsons Avenue 43207**

Fresh produce is essential for good nutrition, healthy hearts, and delicious dinners. Free for all income-eligible neighbors; bring your own bags, boxes, cart, or wagon. FREE; no ID required. First come, first served.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 2014 NEIGHBORHOOD BEST PRACTICES CONFERENCE

**Downtown High School, 364 S. 4th St.**

Sponsored by the City of Columbus and United Way Neighborhood Partnership Center, the conference will consist of workshops conducted by neighborhood groups who have successfully addressed a community problem or issue. These workshops will provide the opportunity for other communities to see what steps were taken, who was engaged in the process, and who the partners were. This 5<sup>th</sup> annual event will help to strengthen and promote communication and collaboration between neighborhood groups, community partners and local government. This conference will cover many of the important issues facing you and your neighbors, such as getting to know neighbors and reaching to young people to dealing with crime issues, such as gang activity, drugs, and graffiti, from beautification efforts to dealing with vacant or abandoned housing. For additional information go to [Liveunitedcentralohio.org](http://Liveunitedcentralohio.org), or call (614) 241-3071. There is a \$5/ person fee.

### OCTOBER 11 & 25 WALK WITH A DOC

**8:30 - 9:30 a.m. at Indian Mound Park, 3901 Parsons Ave.**

Meet at the shelter houses (in the gym if weather is bad). Great, free opportunity to get some medical questions answered and enjoy a healthy walk geared to all fitness levels.

**DON'T FORGET: RED RIBBON WEEK** is October 23-31, with a special FREE celebration event Oct. 25 at John Maloney Health Center (1905 Parsons Ave.) from 3 p.m. - 8 p.m. The

event includes a walk, poster displays, and a play presented by the APPS group, "Choices". Help the South Side pledge to leave dangerous substances and addition!

**OCTOBER 17, 18, 24, 25, 31, and NOVEMBER 1**

**VASSOR VILLAGE'S WALKING DEAD HAUNTED MANSION**

625 E Jenkins Ave, Columbus Ohio 43207, 7:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. during October; 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. on Nov. 1

The Walking Dead Mansion in Columbus Ohio is back for its fifth year. Last year over 1,000 people braved Columbus Ohio's scariest haunted house. This year's offering promises to be even more terrifying. The attraction has evolved into a full sensory assault, led by ghost child Emily...this non-gruesome haunted house only costs \$5, and the proceeds go to beautification projects for the neighborhood. Three scary weekends offer plenty of time to come see this bone-chilling attraction!

Proceeds will go to Hazel's House of Hope, The American Red Cross, and the Neighborhood Beautification Project.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 20**

**AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

2:00 - 7:00 p.m., in the lobby of the Corpus Christi Church (corner of Linwood and Stewart Ave.)

Your donation is DESPERATELY needed! Call 1-800-REDCROSS to schedule your appointment, or schedule online at redcrossblood.org and use the sponsor code "Centerof-peace." This drive is co-sponsored by the Edgewood Civic Association; get out there and help your neighbors.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25**

**COLUMBUS CARAT TEAM PRESENTS THE PEDIATRIC ASTHMA CONFERENCE**

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Columbus Public Health Department, 240 Parsons Ave. (park and enter in rear)

Pediatric asthma affects many children and families on the South Side. Causes can be genetic or environmental, and severe asthma can place a child in danger. This free event will help educate you on the symptoms and treat-



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 GANTHERS PLACE "BARK IN THE PARK"**

2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Green & Things Park, 573 Whittier St.

Bring your four-legged friends in their Halloween finest This dress-up party for dogs and cats is a hit every year, and everyone is invited to this free event!

ment of pediatric asthma. Space is limited, so please call Yvonne Foster-Smith at (614) 353- 0149 or Louella Jeter at (614) 306-9978

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26**

**TRUNK OR TREAT**

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Green & Things Park, 573 Whittier St.

This great event is a chance for your kids to test-drive their Halloween costumes! Participants decorate their cars and trunks and pass out candy to the South Side's little ghosts and goblins! Another fantastic free event, this will feature balloon animals, face painting, and refreshments! All are welcome.

**OCTOBER 30**

**OFFICIAL BEGGAR'S NIGHT & TRICK OR TREAT IN COLUMBUS**

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Turn your porch light on to let Trick or Treaters know they are welcome during these hours.

**PLAN AHEAD:**

**NOVEMBER 5 PAMA MEETING**

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Scrambler Marie's, 567 E Livingston Ave.

Monthly meeting of the Parsons Ave. Merchants Association. Anyone interested in the development of Parsons Ave. is welcome to attend. Improvements are being planned, so come learn about them and get involved! Meeting will be held in separate meeting room at Scrambler Marie's.

**NOVEMBER 6 SS STAY MEETING**

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the German Village Meeting Haus, 588 S 3rd St.

Complimentary childcare is provided (courtesy of The Village Community Church). Please RSVP if you plan to bring children.

**NOVEMBER 8**

**1ST BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR SOUTH SIDE INFANTS**

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at CD4AP, 946 Parsons Ave.

Come out, whether you're the mom, dad, grandparents, or siblings...but especially if it is your first birthday! This one-of-a-kind program exists to promote healthy habits for healthy babies, and is part of the area's overall efforts to reduce infant mortality in our neighborhood. Infants will receive a cupcake and an age-appropriate gift, so be sure to come out and wish the little ones a happy birthday!

**BE FEATURED ON THIS PAGE**

To have your meeting or event listed, send us a short description, date, time, location and web link (if any). [paper@southsidevoice.org](mailto:paper@southsidevoice.org)

**CIVIC ASSOCIATION LEADERS & MEETING TIMES**

**Schumacher Place**

Kathy Green, *President*  
[Kathryngreen@yahoo.com](mailto:Kathryngreen@yahoo.com)  
Meetings held third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at Planks Cafe on Parsons

**Hungarian Village**

Paula Copeland, *President*  
[hvsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:hvsociety@yahoo.com)  
614-222-2145, Meetings held second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., Hungarian Reform Church, 365 Woodrow Ave.

**SouthSide C.A.N.**

Debera Diggs, *President*  
614-598-2237. Meetings held second Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. For more information contact President Debera Diggs.

**Reeb-Hosack/ Steelton Village**

Linda Henry, *Co-chair*  
[lshenry4@gmail.com](mailto:lshenry4@gmail.com)  
Lillie Banner, *Co-chair*  
Meetings held second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Resurrection Missionary Baptist Church, 280 Hosack, Social/food 6:30 - 7:00 p.m.

**Vassor Village**

Kelly Coate, *President*  
[remaxpckellycoate@aol.com](mailto:remaxpckellycoate@aol.com)  
Meetings held first Wednesday of each month at Barack Recreation Center 580 Woodrow Ave., Block Watch at 6:30 p.m. Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.  
[www.vassorvillage.webs.com](http://www.vassorvillage.webs.com)

**Merion Village**

Tony Roell, *President*  
[anthonyroell@gmail.com](mailto:anthonyroell@gmail.com)  
Meetings held first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Merion Village Association, 1300 S. Fourth St.

**Innis Gardens Village**

Brenda Cummings, *President*  
[bndbhealthy@yahoo.com](mailto:bndbhealthy@yahoo.com)  
Meetings held third Thursday of the month from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. Block Watch 6:00 - 6:30 p.m., Come As You Are Ministries, 1402 Smith Rd. (corner of Fairwood & Smith)

**Deshler Park**

Earl Littlefield, *President*  
[earllittlefield@sbcglobal.net](mailto:earllittlefield@sbcglobal.net)  
614-329-5294  
Meetings held third Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Alvis House, 1755 Alum Creek Dr.

**Southern Orchards Southside United Neighbors**

Richard Shaffer, *President*  
[southernorchards.1982@gmail.com](mailto:southernorchards.1982@gmail.com), Meetings held first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m., Stowe Mission, 888 Parson Ave.

**Stambaugh-Elwood**

William Bibb, *Area Commissioner*  
[williambibb1@wowway.com](mailto:williambibb1@wowway.com) 614.500.2298;  
Meetings on fourth Saturday of every month at 11 a.m. Location varies, contact William Bibb for current location

## PARENT CORNER

# FIRST BIRTHDAYS FOR ALL BABIES

With infant mortality topping national charts, Community Development for All People is working through education and support to stem the tide of babies who don't reach their first birthday *By SSV Staff*

**“More than three babies die in our community every week, but too few in our community know about this crisis.**

Infant mortality is a globally accepted way to measure a community's wellbeing, and our state continues to have one of the highest rates in the country. In fact, as other communities decrease their infant mor-

tality rates, ours have increased. This is not who we are as a community, and we have everything we need to improve the lives of our babies.”- Greater Columbus Infant Mortality Task Force

So as a community, South Side Columbus wants to do something to make this outcome different. Our vision is that every baby born in our community will be welcomed and celebrated, surrounded by a supportive community, receive loving care, sleep only alone and on his or her back in a crib, reach their first birthday, and thrive in the years beyond!

Beginning on November 8th, and ongoing on a quarterly basis, anyone who is pregnant or has a child under 15

months of age and lives in the Southside (zip codes 43205, -06, and -07) is invited to come to our 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday Party – dads, parents, grandparents, and siblings, too!

### What happens at the party?

- Each baby who reaches their 1st birthday during the quarter will receive a gift and a cupcake with a candle to blow out! Gifts might include books or other learning toys suitable for 1 year old.
- Moms will receive a small gift, too!
- Cake and healthy snacks for everyone.
- Activity stations for various developmental stages for families & children.
- Useful information about pregnancy or baby's first year.
- Fun party games—a true celebration!

1st Birthday Parties will be sponsored by Community Development for All People and a variety of other partners. It is our hope to acknowledge milestones, support parents and create a ripple effect that educates the community on how we can make a difference regarding the infant mortality rate in our community. ♦

## CALLING SOUTH SIDE 4-YEAR-OLDS (AND THEIR PARENTS!)

.....By SSV Staff.....

**S**PARK is a great way to prep young kids for kindergarten

Do you live in zip codes 43205, 43206 or 43207 and also in the Columbus City Schools District? Do you have a four-year-old child who will be able to start Kindergarten in the fall of 2015? Do you want to learn some ways to help your child get ready for kindergarten? Do you want to learn how to help your child learn how to read? If so, let us help you!

Nationwide Children's Hospital is offering SPARK, with a focus in the Healthy Neighborhood Healthy Families Zone (Livingston Ave. to the north, Whittier St. to the south, Parsons Ave. to the west, and 22nd St. to the east). It is also available to families living in 43205, 43206 and in the Southern Gateway.

If you are a parent, guardian or grandparent of a four-year-old child, let us help you be your child's first and forever teacher. We will meet you at your home or a location of your choice for 1 1/2 to 2 hours morning, noon, and evenings on weekdays or on weekends.

### You and your child will work with a parent partner to learn ways to:

- Connect the letters of the alphabet to their sounds
- Learn more words
- Read stories together
- Do preschool math
- Use writing to learn how to read

### SPARK will help prepare your child for Kindergarten. SPARK is a FREE monthly program that includes:

- Story books and activities
- Guidance from your parent partner
- Linkages to health and nutrition services when needed
- Meetings with kindergarten teachers and principals to learn about school
- You will learn how to be your child's first and best teacher!

The studies of children who have been part of SPARK show that SPARK children had a good start to school, and performed much better on school readiness tests than children who were not part of SPARK. ♦

For more information about this great FREE program, please call Mickie at (614) 355-0714 or Christina at (614) 355-9892, or email [SPARK@nationwidechildrens.org](mailto:SPARK@nationwidechildrens.org)



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IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN OUR VERY FIRST 1ST BIRTHDAY PARTY, call Community Development for All People at 614-445-7342 and ask for Mallory so she can send you a party invitation.