



COTTONTOWN NEWS

The Cottontown/Bellevue Historic District Neighborhood Association

Summer 2007

Homeless “Hub” Proposed for Elmwood Ave.

Town meeting called for nearby residents

When: Thursday, Aug. 9, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Reformation Lutheran Church, River Dr.

An inner city ministry group is proposing to build a major new facility to serve as a central “hub” for services to the homeless, including a shelter, detox center, medical and mental health services. The proposed facility would be located at Elmwood Ave. and Main Street at the site of the former Hampton Pontiac dealership. City Councilman Sam

Davis has called a meeting for residents of the Cottontown, Elmwood Park and Earlewood neighborhoods to hear from project planners about the facility and ask questions. You can learn more at www.christcentral.info. Residents are also encouraged to contact any member of the Cottontown Board of Directors to share their comments or questions.



An artist's rendering of the main entrance of the proposed shelter at Elmwood and Main.

2007 Board of Directors

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Help Fight Crime at National Night Out

Neighbors will gather at the North Main Street fire station on Tuesday, August 7 to observe **National Night Out**, an annual event bringing neighborhoods together to show solidarity against crime. Residents are encouraged to turn on their porch lights, then meet their neighbors at the fire station at 6:50 p.m for refreshments and time to get acquainted. Cottontown will also use this occasion to revitalize its Crime Watch program. City police officials will be there to discuss the program. Help take a bite out of crime in Cottontown and participate in National Night Out! For more info, contact Carol Latimer-Finethy at imgfxr@bellsouth.net or 256-7415.

Visit our neighborhood web site:

www.cottontown.us

Tips for Preventing Auto Break-Ins

Cottontown has experienced a high number of auto break-ins this spring and summer. A variety of crime prevention and insurance web sites offer the following tips for discouraging and preventing auto break-ins and theft:

- Park in well-lit, high traffic areas
- Do not leave personal belongings in plain sight
- Do not leave firearms in your car
- Roll up the windows and lock the doors when leaving your car
- Consider installing an alarm system, especially if you've invested in custom stereo equipment
- Call 911 immediately if you see an auto break-in or suspicious activity – remember details so you can give a good description of the suspect.

North Main Streetscaping Update

The City of Columbia says it will begin advertising for bids in September on the North Main Street redevelopment project, and present those bids to City Council at its November 7 meeting. The work will begin at Elmwood Avenue and proceed in phases moving north up Main Street. The entire project is expected to take two years to complete.

Historic Preservation Project Ready to Begin!

Volunteers needed to help with photography

Cottontown is ready to move ahead with its effort to gain city recognition as a historic district with architectural protections. Part of the project includes extensive photo documentation of current structures in the neighborhood. If you have a good digital camera and would be willing to help take photos of the neighborhood, please contact Rusty Sox at 252-4270 or soxmoore@earthlink.net.

Carol Latimer-Finethy Joins Cottontown Board

Carol Latimer-Finethy has been appointed to the Cottontown Board of Directors to fill a vacancy created by the departure of Robbie Sockwell. Robbie has moved out of the neighborhood. Cottontown bylaws call on the president to appoint members when a vacancy occurs between annual elections. Carol is a long-time Cottontown resident. She lives on Marion Street with her husband and their two children. She has been active on neighborhood committees, and most recently has coordinated special events such as the July 4th parade and the upcoming National Night Out observance on August 7.

Important Phone Numbers

911 - For emergencies or to report any suspicious person or activity in progress.

252-2911 – Columbia police/fire dispatch for non-emergencies.

754-0706 – Crimestoppers

714-7444 – Abuse/Neglect 24-Hour Report Line

254-3061 – Richland County EMS

1-800-222-1222 – Poison Control

776-PETS – Animal Control

1-888-333-4465 – SCE&G Power Outages

1-800-815-0083 – SCE&G Gas Leaks

545-3000 – Columbia City Hall

Clip this list and keep it near your phone!

Notice: The neighborhood association's dues will change to \$5.00 per adult effective in October 2007. There will no longer be a household rate.

City Offers Online Code Violations Reports

Anyone can now go online and see what city code violations have been reported in area neighborhoods. The reports include maps of Columbia neighborhoods along with tables listing the address, type of violation and the status of each case. Reports are updated every 60 days. To check out these reports for yourself, go online to www.columbiadevelopmentservices.net/maps_pz.asp.

E-waste Recycling For Electronics

Have you wondered what to do with that obsolete computer or that broken DVD player? Many electronics may contain lead and other hazardous materials, and putting them in landfills could contaminate soil and groundwater. The City of Columbia now has an “e-waste” recycling program to reduce the disposal of obsolete electronics and electrical equipment in our landfills. Items can be dropped off at the Public Works headquarters, 2910 Colonial Drive (off of Slighs Road behind the City's First Tee Golf Center.) Only e-waste will be accepted at this location between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Proof of residency is required. Items dropped off will become the property of the City of Columbia and cannot be reclaimed. E-waste includes end-of-life computers, monitors, televisions, VCRs, DVD players, audio and stereo equipment, cellular phones, digital cameras, and other electronic devices. For more information on e-waste recycling, contact the city's Solid Waste division at 545-3800.



Recycling Refreshers

The city will pick up the following items in your blue recycling bin:

- clear, brown and green glass
- aluminum cans
- newspapers
- magazines
- plastics marked HDPE #2 and PETE #1
- food and juice cans
- aluminum foil

- ✓ Rinse all containers and remove lids
- ✓ Empty all aerosol containers
- ✓ No pesticides or other products ending in “icide”
- ✓ Place bin in front of your property on Tuesday morning
- ✓ Do not mark, write on or paint the recycling bin
- ✓ Report damaged bins to 545-3800



New Committee Working for a Greener Columbia

Columbia's Climate Protection Action Committee (CPAC) is exploring a broad range of programs and educational opportunities to encourage “green living” in Columbia. Want to know more or get involved? Visit www.coccpac.com.

