

# November 2008

*The Voice* of the East Row Historic Foundation is published monthly and paid for by the East Row Historic Foundation (ERHF). Diverse, responsible commentary is encouraged. All opinions are those of the authors and do not necessarily express those of the ERHF or its officers.

Articles, editorials, or calendar items should be dropped off at 402 East Fourth St., or e-mailed to [Voice@EastRow.org](mailto:Voice@EastRow.org). Submissions must be signed to be considered for publication. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject submissions due to length, content, or appropriateness.

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**Advertising:** Deborah Duttle

**Contributors to this issue:**  
Mary Beth Crocker, K. John Morrow, Jr., Kiki Dreyer-Burke, Bruce Murray, Peter Lloyd.  
**Photography** by Bruce Murray.

**Deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month.**

## Next Meeting:

Joint meeting for Gateway and Mansion Hill neighborhoods is November 4, 2008, at 7 p.m. at St. Mark's Church, 8th and Monroe Streets.

## East Row Historic Foundation Officers:

**Chair:** John Morrow,  
[Chair@EastRow.org](mailto:Chair@EastRow.org)

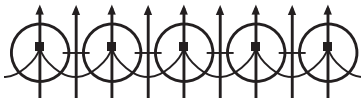
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Gateway

# The Voice



Mansion Hill

## OF THE East Row Historic Foundation

Volume 9

Issue 11

## Plans in Final Stages for Victorian Christmas Tour

by Mary Beth Crocker



## Christmas Tour

For visitors who mark their calendars every year for Newport's annual Victorian Christmas Tour in the East Row Historic District, the event often signals the beginning of the holiday season. This year, our neighborhood presents its 15th Annual Victorian Christmas Tour from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6-7. Six historic homes plus the beautifully restored Gen. James Taylor Mansion, which houses the law firm of Gerner & Kearns Co., will be decorated with the most stunning — and sometimes fun — holiday finery. Three homes are opening to the public for the first time, while two have undergone interior renovations, one under a new owner.

The new changes continue from last year including the location for ticket sales on the days of the tour. Tickets, which are \$15 per person, will be sold at the Taylor Mansion, 335 E. Third St., during tour hours. Children under the age of 12, when accompanied by an adult, will be admitted free. Advanced tickets may also be purchased online at [www.eastrow.org](http://www.eastrow.org) or at the following Newport businesses: Kentucky Haus, 411 E. 10th St., The Galleries Together, 701 Park Ave., and Steamboat Bagels, 336 Monmouth St.

A portion of the proceeds will go toward the Brighton Center, which provides 41 programs for individuals and families throughout Northern Kentucky.

As always, volunteers are needed. Each volunteer receives one complimentary tour ticket. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Mary Ann Meyer at 431-1974 or [mfixmeyer@fuse.net](mailto:mfixmeyer@fuse.net).



# Message from the Chair

by K. John Morrow, Jr.

The November meeting of the East Row Neighborhood will be held on Tuesday, November 4, at our traditional meeting place, St Mark's Church. We have opted for a permanent move to the Sanctuary, but Ashley Sheppard informs us that the neighborhood Christmas Party would be the most opportune time to initiate the move due to work still being in progress.

Please note that because of the election, we will not have a speaker, and the meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. This will allow time for joy and celebration on the part of those of you whose favored candidates pull in a winning number of votes, and an opportunity for deep and profound mourning and soul-searching for those not so fortunate.

Please plan to attend; even a shortened meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss some issues that have been considered, but not acted upon at previous meetings. ✂

## Just a Reminder...

As we live in a historic district, it is important to consult with Newport's Historic Preservation officer Emily Jarzen, prior to making any changes to the exterior of your home. This ensures the work conforms to the guidelines for the Historic District. It is also necessary to display a permit that shows the work has been approved.

Emily can be reached at 859.292.3637 or at [ejarzen@newportky.gov](mailto:ejarzen@newportky.gov). ✂

# The New Water Main Adventure

by Bruce Murray

We had a warning as Northern Kentucky Water District workers placed signs at the side of our Fourth Street block about a week before they recently started work. Suddenly, they started digging at 7 a.m. one morning, and kept at it for a week. They dug a huge trench, dropped in a line of pipes, and covered the pipes with sand and concrete. The tractors were huge and noisy, but they stopped in the late afternoon to give us peace overnight.

The NKY Water District workers were efficient and finished the block in a week, except for the intersection at Overton. They saved that for the following week, leaving huge metal plates over the holes. Over the weekend, every time a car drove over the metal plates, we were reminded with a CLANG that sometimes shook the house that the work wasn't finished.

But they finished in the second week and continued with pipes, tractors and metal plates on their westward way down Fourth Street. According to the NKY Water District, they will continue on Fourth to York Street, and then hook the old 4-inch water main to the new 12-inch main.

Customers will be attached to the line with minimum disturbance before the end of the year. Water Main repairs and replacement will continue as needed in the city of Newport. ✂



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# The Big Circle

by Peter Lloyd

I've been walking Monk, the Merle Great Dane, long enough now to have heard just about every big-dog comment you can imagine. Give me a nickel for every time I've endured, "that's a big dog," and I'll never have to buy kibble again!

Of course, it's perfectly understandable. After all, how many people have seen a dog weigh in at 110 pounds or reach six-foot-four standing up on its hind legs?

Besides, big-dog comments get laughs. Every time Monk and I approach a small dog whose owner shows signs of concern, I pretend to reassure them. "It's all right, he's already had breakfast."

Only once did a Monk comment make me laugh out loud. It came from a toddler, a girl Monk and I passed one Sunday morning. It's going to be a long time before anyone tops her observation.

I saw her tooling her tricycle toward us, as Monk tugged me north along Overton. She stopped and stared, a band-aid on her knee, her wide eyes trained on Monk—not afraid, maybe a little cautious, and definitely curious.

As Monk powered past the little girl, his head held high, tongue draped over the edge of his jaw, he towered over her. The way she fixed her gaze on him left me with little doubt that he was the first dog she had ever looked up to.

We slipped around her in silence. Ten paces or so down the way, I glanced back to see that she was still studying Monk with her eyes. She seemed fascinated with his long, upward-curving tail.

About twenty paces away from her, Monk and I approached a young woman, who was keeping an eye on the little cyclist.

"Mommy," the girl suddenly announced for anyone on the block to hear. "You know how all dogs got a circle on their butt?"

The mother's expression told me she expected innocent, uncensored candor from her daughter.

"That dog's got a really big circle!" 🐾

# Welcome to Studio P!

*A new Pilates fitness studio joins the Monmouth business community*

It won't be long now before holiday cookies and eggnog rear their ugly heads, looking to add inches to your waist and pounds to your body. But it doesn't have to be that way this year! Get ahead of those temptations and treat yourself and your body to a wonderful workout at Studio P, your Pilates community.

Pilates, for anyone not familiar with it, is a physical fitness system developed in the early 20th century by Joseph Pilates. The program focuses on the core postural muscles which help keep the body balanced and which are essential to providing support for the spine. In particular, Pilates exercises teach awareness of breath and alignment of the spine, and aim to strengthen the deep torso muscles.

Studio P is owned by Patricia LaRosa, a lifelong Newport resident and former teacher in the Covington Holmes Advanced Programs, at Villa Madonna, Grandview Elementary, and at Bellevue High School. She received her initial Pilates certification in 2004 at Pendleton Pilates, in downtown Cincinnati, and taught Pilates part-time at Pendleton and at Revolution Fitness, also in Cincinnati. She left teaching last May to take over the Pilates program at Revolution, and in July of 2007 began the training to receive her Qualified Fletcher Pilates Instructor Certificate.

"I began the actual training program in Easton, PA last November," says Patricia. "For the last 11 months, I have traveled to Pennsylvania every six weeks for five days to train. A few weeks ago, I did my Level II test out and received my Qualified Fletcher Pilates Instructor Certificate." (The Ron Fletcher Comprehensive Program of Study covers the curriculum created by Ron and Joe and Clara Pilates.)

Studio P. is a fully equipped Pilates studio offering individual and group classes. Our equipment includes Reformers, Cadillac, Barrels, Ped-i-Pul, Combo Chair, Fletcher Towelwork™, Magic Circle, Fletcher Floorwork™, and Mat.

Studio P is at 913 Monmouth and the phone number is 859.261.7728. Call for rates and schedules.

Studio P will have a Grand Opening Reception from 7-10 p.m. on Friday, November 7, and an Open House on Saturday, November 8, from 12-5 p.m. Their web site is [studiopilates.com](http://studiopilates.com). 🐾

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# Meet Your Four-Legged Furry Neighbors

Say hello to Rebecca Gilliam, Lexington Street resident, and her buddy Cicero. They've been one happy family for a little under a year. 🐾



# Meet Alice

by Bruce Murray

Alice has lived in the neighborhood at Third and Overton longer than many of us. She arrived in 1992, in the middle of winter, with small kittens.



Alice is a cat.

Mel, her guardian, (with a cat it's sometimes difficult to determine who owns who), found Alice and her kittens in a closed cardboard box and took her in. Since then, she had another litter, was spayed and has lived outside the house for more than 16 years.

She's somewhat deaf and refuses to let anyone pick her up, except for Mel and friend Melody, who helps take care of cats. She has a bed on one of the porches and always stays outside. According to Mel, she "hates to be inside" and is happy sharing the porch and lawn with another occasional cat.

Alice is truly one remarkable cat! 🐾

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# Garden Club News

by Mary Beth Crocker

Looking to order spring and summer flowering bulbs for your garden? Linda Wallpe, a 20-year member of the American Daffodil Society, was the featured speaker at the October meeting of the East Row Garden Club, and she offered a few of her favorite mail order catalogs including:

- [www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com](http://www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com)
  - [www.colorblends.com](http://www.colorblends.com)
  - [www.daffodilsandmore.com](http://www.daffodilsandmore.com)
- and
- [www.odysseybulbs.com](http://www.odysseybulbs.com)

And by the way, you have plenty of time to plant bulbs as long as the ground isn't frozen and you can easily work it.

## Final meeting for 2008:

**November 18:** Green roofs are the topic for Virginia Russell, an associate professor with the University of Cincinnati School of Architecture and Interior Design, and a licensed trainer for Green Roofs for Healthy Cities ([www.greenroofs.org](http://www.greenroofs.org)). Christine Plepys, an East Row resident, will also speak about her rooftop garden on her garage.

The Garden Club will host a holiday party in December for members only. The club meets every third Tuesday of the month at The Sanctuary, Sixth and Monroe streets, unless otherwise announced. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. with a social time followed at 7 p.m. with a speaker and business meeting. New members from throughout Newport are welcome. Annual membership is \$30 per household. For more information, contact Mary Beth Crocker, president, at [marybethcrocker@fuse.net](mailto:marybethcrocker@fuse.net). ❀



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# November's Schedule of Events

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*All events take place at the Newport branch of the Campbell County Public Library, 901 East Sixth St. 859.572.5035*

## Learn the Art of Lace Tatting - 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3

Learn the art of lace tatting with Sheila Boniface, local tatter and regular demonstrator at the Greater Cincinnati Appalachian Festival.

## Adventure Club: Make Native American Jewelry! 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 4

Make necklaces, ankle bracelets and more with beads, bear claws and feathers! Ages 6-11. Please register.

## Book Club - 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 4

Discuss this month's book *Rumspringa: To Be or Not to Be Amish* by Tom Shachtman. Visitors welcome. No need to register.

## Warriors 'Tween Book Club -

**3:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 10 and Wednesday, Nov. 12**  
Discuss the Warrior book series by Erin Hunter. On Monday, make a plaster cat mask that will fit only your face, and come back on Wednesday to paint it. Ages 9-13. Please register.

## Adventure Club: Popcorn and a Movie - 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11

Join us for popcorn and a showing of a panda with Kung Fu moves! Ages 6-11. Please register.

## Video Game Fest - 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15

Join us for a night of Rock Band, DDR and Mario Kart! You can bring your own Wii® or PS2® video games but ESRB rating must be T or E. Ages 11-18.

## Adventure Club: Recycled Rhythms with Bear Foot 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18

Learn how to make musical instruments and play in an old fashioned "jug band!" Ages 6-11. Please register.

## Manga and Anime Club -

### 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19

Join us as we watch and discuss anime and manga. Snacks provided. Ages 11 and up.

## Meet Kentucky Author George Ella Lyon - 10 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 20

Award-winning Kentucky children's author George Ella Lyon will show slides of her most recent picture book and the story of how it came about! Ages 6-11.

## ArtReach Presents: A Christmas Carol - 4 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 26

Treat your family to the tale of Ebenezer Scrooge and the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future in one of the best loved holiday stories of all time.



# John Hayden

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