

April Highlights



1. Community Conversation on Crime and Safety at the Louisville Central Community Centers
2. Vision Russell Joint Task Force Meeting at the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage
3. Louisville Grow's Russell Tree Planting Day 4&5. Louisville Metro Government & Louisville Metro Housing Authority Cleanup Day in Russell 6&7. Louisville Urban League Cleanup Day in Russell

Louisville Metro Housing Authority
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday | June 6th, 2016

Overview of Russell Transformation Plan, featuring Beecher Terrace Design Concepts

Join us for an overview of the Russell Neighborhood Transformation Plan, including the evolving plans for the new Beecher Terrace community, ideas for new housing, parks and recreational areas.

Time
6:00 PM

Location
Baxter Community Center
1125 Cedar Court
Louisville, KY 40203

Saturday | June 4th, 2016

The Center for Neighborhoods 2016 Neighborhood Summit

Enjoy lunch with your Metro Louisville neighbors and celebrate the great work happening at the neighborhood level across the region.

Choose between 12-16 breakout workshops covering topics which may include: Public Safety, Local Governance, Walkable/Bikable Communities & more.

Time
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Location
Kentucky Expo Center
937 Phillips Lane
Louisville, KY 40209

Russell Choice Neighborhood Planning Initiative

NEWSLETTER



CONNECTING FOR A BETTER NEIGHBORHOOD

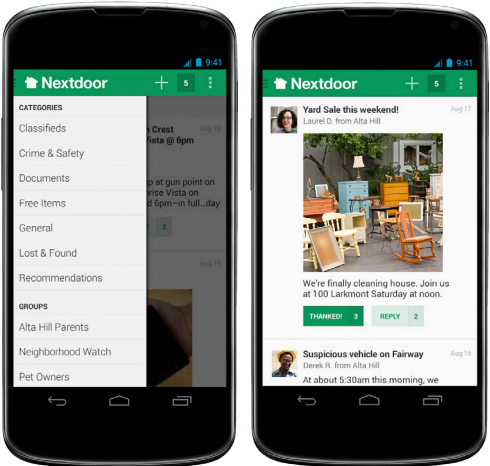
Have you heard of Nextdoor?

It's a free social network that helps people connect with their neighbors. With Nextdoor, neighborhoods can create their own private websites where they can share information with neighbors about safety issues, community events and activities, yard sales, services, and even lost pets. The Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD) is also able to post information on a neighborhood's website, such as emergency notifications, alerts about vandalism and criminal activity, and news about programs and events.

Nextdoor's popularity has grown quickly in Louisville with over 300 neighborhoods now participating, including Russell. "Having the ability to easily communicate with residents is extremely vital to increasing safety and reducing crime within our communities," said LMPD Chief Steve Conrad, who is encouraging even more residents to sign on. "With Nextdoor, neighbors are empowered to keep their communities safe and collaborate on neighborhood watch efforts." Each participating neighborhood manages its own private Nextdoor website, which is

accessible to the residents of that neighborhood. Some neighborhoods also make their information available to nearby neighborhoods. All members must verify that they live within the neighborhood before joining. Information shared on Nextdoor is password protected and cannot be accessed by Google or other search engines.

To join Russell's Nextdoor website go to www.nextdoor.com and enter your address. Additional information about Nextdoor can be found at nextdoor.com.



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Resident Spotlight: *Nannie Bibbs*

Nannie enjoys serving her community in a variety of ways. She is an Associate Minister at the Baptized Pentecostal Church, and recently became a board member of the Kentucky Alliance for Racism and Repression and One Voice Prayer Movement – a group that prays for our community, city, nation and world leaders.

It would bring Nannie great joy to see her neighbors come together and form committees to serve the Russell community. Improving safety and security is part of her vision for the neighborhood, and she sees zoning changes on the horizon. “We need city

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planners to listen”, says Nannie of the wonderful ideas coming from friends and neighbors during Russell’s planning process. “We can’t just leave change up to our political officials. As residents, we have to do our part.”

Nannie loves living in Russell and the accessibility of having everything she needs within her community. “My church, Kroger, the park, post office, laundromat, bank, the Nia Center, the plaza that contains City Trends, Family Dollar, and the Lyles Mall are all located close by - everything is in walking distance if a person doesn’t have transportation.”

Chef Space

Community Ventures, as part of their longstanding commitment to growing Kentucky communities, is focusing their efforts on two significant development projects in the historic Russell neighborhood: Chef Space and Cedar Street.

The first of its kind in the city, Chef Space is changing the way Louisville thinks about food. Located in the old Jay’s Cafeteria, Chef Space is a 13,000-square-foot kitchen incubator with a shared commercial kitchen space for food entrepreneurs.

Chef Space opened in November 2015 with six members, and has since grown to twenty members who are now using the fully-equipped professional kitchen. Members are able to rent at affordable rates and access resources to build and

sustain their food businesses. Chef Space adds to the vibrancy and excitement of Louisville’s growing food scene while creating a community of like-minded entrepreneurs dedicated to preparing and distributing healthy foods to West Louisville residents. Adjacent to Chef Space is the Cedar Street Development Project, where Community Ventures is building 25 new, market-rate homes.

Additional homeownership opportunities, like Cedar Street, are critical to the successful transformation of Russell. The 25 new homes in the Cedar Street development will help reduce the number of vacant lots in Russell while increasing its homeownership rate, (currently at 18% compared to 62% city-wide). Buyers will



be able to select which floor plan they would like, and will also take part in homeownership training.

Community Ventures values the shared vision for Russell, and is excited to contribute to the neighborhood revitalization while creating a sense of place for area residents.

To learn more about Community Ventures’ projects in the Russell neighborhood, visit: cvky.org/cedar-street. Read more about Chef Space at chefspace.org.

New Choice Implementation Grant Opportunity

The Department of Housing and Urban Development recently announced it is accepting applications for Choice Neighborhoods Initiative Implementation grants. This highly competitive grant program can provide up to \$30 million to communities who have developed comprehensive transformation plans and committed additional funding to a neighborhood revitalization effort.

The Louisville Metro Housing Authority and Louisville Metro Government are now putting together a CNI grant application to help implement Russell’s transformation plan. If awarded, these funds will be used to rebuild Beecher Terrace with high-quality, mixed-income housing and to make other improvements throughout the neighborhood that are important to Russell families. Applications are due on 6/28/16 and approximately four grants are expected to be awarded. You can learn more about this exciting opportunity at the upcoming community meeting at the Baxter Community Center on June 6th (see Upcoming Events).

Calling All Artists

The Fran Huettig Public Art Project series, presented by the Fund for the Arts in partnership with Louisville Metro Government and the Commission on Public Art, invites artists to submit a plan to develop and implement a community-engaged public art project in the Russell neighborhood to begin in the fall of 2016. A total of \$20,000 has been budgeted for the project. Submissions are due by June 9th.

More details on how to apply can be found at <https://louisvilleky.gov/government/public-art/opportunities> or by calling Sarah Lindgren at (502) 574-1554

Community Resources 101 (and 2-1-1 and 3-1-1)

Attending Vision Russell meetings is a great way to learn about the many resources that are available to community members. But you can also call the following numbers to connect to a variety of helpful community and city services:

2-1-1 Metro United Way’s 2-1-1 help referral service directs people looking for resources to the appropriate service provider. If 2-1-1 doesn’t work from your phone, an alternative number to call is 1-877-566-4968.

Some Reasons to call 2-1-1

- To find quality childcare
- Help with utilities and rent payments
- Assistance preparing taxes
- To address a potential foreclosure
- To find adequate food, clothing or shelter for you or someone you know
- To locate job training services

3-1-1 MetroCall’s 3-1-1 connects you to city services. If 3-1-1 doesn’t work from your phone, you can reach MetroCall at (502) 574-5000.

Some Reasons to call 3-1-1

- Issues related to:
- Animals or Insects
 - Building & Construction
 - Business Concerns
 - Drainage and Flooding Issues
 - Garbage and Recycling
 - Parks and Trails
 - Property Maintenance
 - Sewers, Streets and Sidewalks
 - Other Non-Emergency Issues



METROCALL 3-1-1

