

ATTENTION BEECHER TERRACE RESIDENTS!



VACCINATION COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS

DO YOU NEED HELP SCHEDULING A COVID-19 VACCINE APPOINTMENT? IF SO, URBAN STRATEGIES, INC. CAN HELP!

Contact your USI case manager or call our office at (502) 384-0786 and we will assist you in scheduling a COVID-19 vaccine appointment.

Louisville Metro Housing Authority
420 S. 8th Street
Louisville, KY 40203
Phone: (502) 569-3400
www.visionrussell.org



Russell

Choice Neighborhood Initiative Newsletter

BEECHER TERRACE IS BACK

If you have driven by the Beecher Terrace redevelopment community recently you have probably caught a glimpse of families moving back to the site. Residents started moving into The 450 Roy Wilkins Building in February 2021. This 117-unit, four-story building, designed exclusively for people age 55+, is located at the corner of Roy Wilkins (aka 9th Street) and the new West Liberty Street connector, which will run through the entirety of the site once it's completed. The Roy Wilkins building features on-site management offices, a community room, fitness center, crafting room, visiting doctor's office, hair salon, bicycle repair station and laundry rooms on all four floors.



Families have also begun moving into the 108-units in Phase II, which includes townhome and garden style apartments. These units are equipped with washers and dryers.

Plans for a grand opening celebration, which will likely be a combined virtual and live event, are in the works for sometime in early June 2021. For more information about touring or leasing an apartment at Beecher Terrace, or the upcoming grand opening, please visit: www.visionrussell.org.

450 Roy Wilkins Building Management Office
(55+ Community)
www.beecherterracesenior.com /
(502) 618-4374

980 West Liberty Street Management Office
www.beecherterrace-aps.com /
(502) 384-5522

GRAND OPENING



Save the Date!

July 9th, 2021, 10:00am
The Village @ West Jefferson
1219 W. Jefferson Street

MOLO Village Community Development Corporation (MOLO CDC) is thrilled to announce the opening of The Village @ West Jefferson, a new 30,000 square foot, two-story mixed-use retail and office development located at the gateway to Louisville's Central Business District, on the corner of West Jefferson and 12th streets. The Village @ West Jefferson is one of five Choice Neighborhoods, Critical Community Improvement initiatives in the Russell neighborhood.

The development has been designed to support the transformation of the Russell Community, filling retail and service gaps in the neighborhood. Visitors will find banking services, food and beverages, along with job skills training and business incubation, early childhood education, healthcare, and other community services.

NOW OPEN:

- Leverage Property Management Realty & Property Management
- Louisville Metro Housing Authority Choice Neighborhoods Offices
- MOLO Village CDC Administrative/Meeting Space/Computer Resource Center
- Sponsor 4 Success/Louisville Independent Business Alliance (LIBA) Office/Administrative
- Academy of Music Production Education and Development (AMPED) Technology Incubator

COMING SOON:

- Tha Drippin Crab Restaurant featuring the cuisine of celebrity chef Darnell Ferguson
- Park Community Credit Union Bank Branch / ITM
- Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative (OVEC) Early Learning Center – Head Start and Pre-K (see page 6 for information on how to enroll)
- The Bridge – Suite 106 Incubator Retail
- Norton Healthcare Institute of Health Equity – Healthcare



MOLO Village CDC Computer Resource Center



AMPED's offices at the Village @ West Jefferson

BEECHER TERRACE RECREATIONAL AMENITIES PLANNING PROGRESS

As part of the Russell/Beecher Terrace Choice Neighborhoods Implementation grant, Louisville Metro Housing Authority and the Louisville Metro Government want to recreate and enhance significant recreational amenities on and near Beecher Terrace. The vision is to replace Old Walnut Street Park with a new park and recreational facilities on the former Porter Paints site at 13th Street and W. Muhammad Ali Boulevard, and to renovate the historic Baxter Community Center building.

Following a series of resident and other stakeholder meetings, the planning firm of Urban Design Associates created preliminary design concepts for these two recreational amenities which will better serve the needs identified by the community. The vision for the restored Baxter Community Center has the building serving again as a recreational and educational center, with a new addition and elevator on the west side that makes the center fully accessible. The vision for the Porter Paints site



Vision for the Baxter Community Center

features a youth soccer/football field, playgrounds, splash pad, state-of-the-art pavilion with restrooms, parking areas, as well as an area for a future mixed-use building.

Conceptual drawings, along with additional information about the ongoing community engagement process and fundraising efforts, can be found at www.visionrussell.org and www.engagetheteam.com/BeecherTerrace. Phased construction is expected to begin soon, and both projects are anticipated to be completed sometime in 2022.



Vision for the former Porter Paints site

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHTS – RETURNING TO BEECHER TERRACE

VIVIAN MORGAN:



Vivian Morgan, a former Beecher Terrace resident for 18-years, is excited to now

be calling the new 450 Roy Wilkins Building home. “I Just Love It. I love everything about my new place, everything is here for us, everything that I need is right here.” Ms. Morgan says that being back downtown in this new building designed exclusively for people age 55+ allows her to be close to her family.

Ms. Morgan appreciates her building’s many amenities, as well as those planned for the Beecher Terrace community in the future. She also enjoys having easy access to transportation. “It is great to have TARC right here close to where I live - the bus stop is right outside of the building.”

Best of all, Ms. Morgan loves being back in Russell - “It’s nice to see so many people you know in the neighborhood,” adding that she likes seeing all the new faces sitting outside of The 450 Roy Wilkins Building, when she returns home from her outings. Ms. Morgan is looking forward to playing bingo, and enjoying holiday dinners with old and new neighbors alike once the Baxter Community Center reopens.

KAY McFALL:

Kay McFall moved to Beecher Terrace after relocating from Clarksdale in the Phoenix Hill neighborhood prior to the site’s redevelopment. When asked what she likes the most about her new apartment, Ms. McFall exclaimed “I love my whole apartment, it’s cozy,” plus “it’s nice to see everyone back!”

Being downtown allows her to be close to her doctor, making it easier for Ms. McFall to get to appointments. She loves having TARC close by, as it allows her to get to the Dollar Store and surrounding businesses. Ms. McFall is also looking forward to attending events at the Baxter Community Center upon it’s reopening, and plans on spending time in Baxter Square Park.



Mechele Turner:



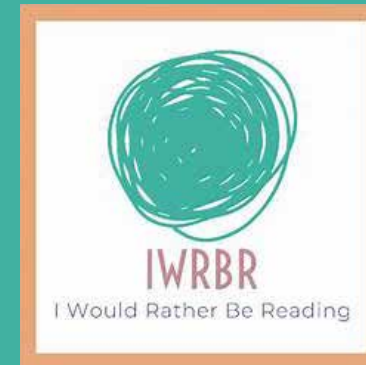
Mechele Turner first became a Beecher Terrace resident in 2005. She felt that Beecher Terrace was such a beautiful area in which to live, that she decided to move nearby to the 550 Apartments during relocation. Now, after watching her new home being built from the ground up, Ms. Turner has returned home. “it just feels right to come back.”

When asked what she loves most about her new home, Ms. Turner replied “I’m back in the same spot.” She loved being near Baxter Square Park in her previous apartment and her new home in the Phase II has her back in the same location with another wonderful view. “I feel that I’ve come full circle, back to where I’m supposed to be.” She also appreciates always having great neighbors, as well as easy access to the expressway.

Ms. Turner says that she loves her new home and being able to be the first to live in her new space is a blessing. She is also grateful that her apartment is fully accessible, which meets her needs. “I’m truly excited to be back at Beecher Terrace, and part of the transformation of the Russell neighborhood.”

FOCUS ON EDUCATION – SUMMER PROGRAMS

As schools open back up, and with summer around the corner, Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI) has compiled a list of FREE educational services and opportunities available for Beecher Terrace Families. These include (but are not limited to):



Russell Community Read to Lead

I Would Rather Be Reading (IWRBR) has partnered with USI and Collaborative for Teaching and Learning to open an After-School opportunity in Russell. This program will help students catch up to grade level in reading and math, as well as receive small group literacy interventions.

The program, which started on April 12th, 2021, still has openings available. Sessions are held on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 until 7:30 at Greater Israel Baptist Church, 1509 Magazine Street. Limited transportation is available based on need. IWRBR is also providing a Read to Lead Summer Program option.

To register for either program, please visit <https://www.iwouldratherbereading.org/about-basic>

Do you like working with students or planning events?

I Would Rather Be Reading is always looking for quality volunteers to help with programs, work with students, plan events and make a difference for students.

Let us know how you would like to help! Visit <https://www.iwouldratherbereading.org/volunteer> for more information and to register as a volunteer.



Working in partnership with Family and Children's Place, Greater Louisville Head Start is a free program that helps nearly 450 families each year by:

- Enhancing each child's growth and development,
- Strengthening parents' ability to nurture their child,
- Connecting families with needed community resources, and
- Providing children with educational, health, and nutritional services.

Early Head Start is designed for income-eligible children from birth through age 3, with families choosing between daily programs at learning centers around Louisville, or weekly home visits. Head Start is designed for income-eligible children from ages 3 to 5 and is offered only at learning centers. Both Early Head Start and Head Start are inclusive of children and families with disabilities and/or special needs.

For more information about Head Start programs, please call 502-974-1206 or complete the interest form at <https://www.4cforkids.org/head-start> or <https://www.ovec.org>. Enroll early as there are a limited number of slots available.

In addition to the above programs, a variety of other out-of-school and summer programs options are available, including tutoring/mentoring programs, enrollment and application assistance, college/career guidance and placement services, adult education, developmental and disability screenings, and parent engagement and life skills coaching.

For more information, or to receive direct assistance with enrollment in one of the aforementioned programs, please call

**Beth Dunn (502)
553-2133 or email
Beth.Dunn@
UrbanStrategiesInc.
org.**

An Educational Blog with information about resources, opportunities, and activities for youth/families can also be found at (<https://useducationlouisville.blogspot.com>).

TWO-WAY STREETS COMING TO RUSSELL

Two-way streets are coming to West Louisville thanks to the Louisville Metro Council's allocation of \$1 million in the city's Fiscal Year 2021 budget for safety improvements to current one-way streets. Chestnut Street/River Park Drive and Muhammad Ali Blvd, from 9th Street to Southwestern Parkway, have been identified as priority corridors for these safety improvements.

The Neighborhood Safety Improvement Project aims to improve safety and connectivity on Chestnut St/River Park Dr and Muhammad Ali Blvd by converting one-way streets to two-way streets, and modifying select intersections by replacing existing traffic signals with four-way stops. The goals of this project, which will begin with an initial trial period, include decreasing speeding, reducing accidents, while maintaining on-street parking, and improving pedestrian safety.

To learn more about this project and to take part in a brief survey, visit <https://louisvilleky.gov/government/advanced-planning-and-sustainability/two-way-street-conversion> or go to www.louisvilleky.gov and search for keywords "two way street conversion."

