

FREE PUBLICATION

Southside

COLUMBUS

Guide

January 2019



Achieving
the **American**
Dream

**Can I Really
Buy a Home?**

Plus

- **A New Season: A New Identity**
- **Free Winter Fitness Ideas**
- **Neighborhood Resources**

Recommended Reading

Public Libraries

Visit a branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library to discover great genres for all ages and interests.



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2740 Lockbourne Rd,
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S. High Street Branch

3540 S High St,
Columbus, OH 43207

Parsons Avenue Branch

1113 Parsons Ave,
Columbus, OH 43206

Driving Park Branch

1422 E Livingston Ave,
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STORIES**

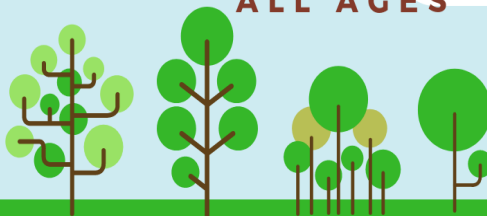
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**READING FOR
ALL AGES**



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The Southside Guide

The Southside Guide is a free print publication that showcases our proud residents, businesses and community resources on the south side of Columbus.

The publication is printed, in part, with support from Southside Hope CDC, Inc.

Our mission is to positively impact the lives of those in our community by sharing our South Side Pride!

Share the Good News!

- > **Share your success stories**
- > **Promote your services**
- > **Reach new customers**

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for more details or to get
included in an upcoming
issue.



Achieving
the **American**
Dream

Winter Issue

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PROMOTING PRIDE ON THE SOUTH SIDE



GETTING CONNECTED IN *YOUR* COMMUNITY

As South Side residents, we have many opportunities to shape where we live, work and play.

AREA COMMISSIONS

The purpose of an area commission is to act as a liaison between neighborhood groups, property owners, residents, developers and city officials. There are two area commissions on the South Side:

COLUMBUS SOUTH SIDE AREA COMMISSION

Commission meetings take place on the **Fourth Tuesday** of the month at **6:30 pm** at the Parsons Avenue Library located at 1113 Parsons Avenue.

FAR SOUTH COLUMBUS AREA COMMISSION

Commission meetings take place on the **First Thursday** of each month at **6:30 pm** at the Fire Training Academy located at 3639 Parsons Avenue.

The Far South Columbus Area Commission covers 25 square miles on the southern edge of the city.

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"The Far South Columbus Area Commission covers a large territory and represents a diverse group of neighborhoods," shares Commission Chair, Robin Watson. A life long resident of the south side, Ms. Watson, has served as the Far South Columbus Area Commission Chair for a number of years.

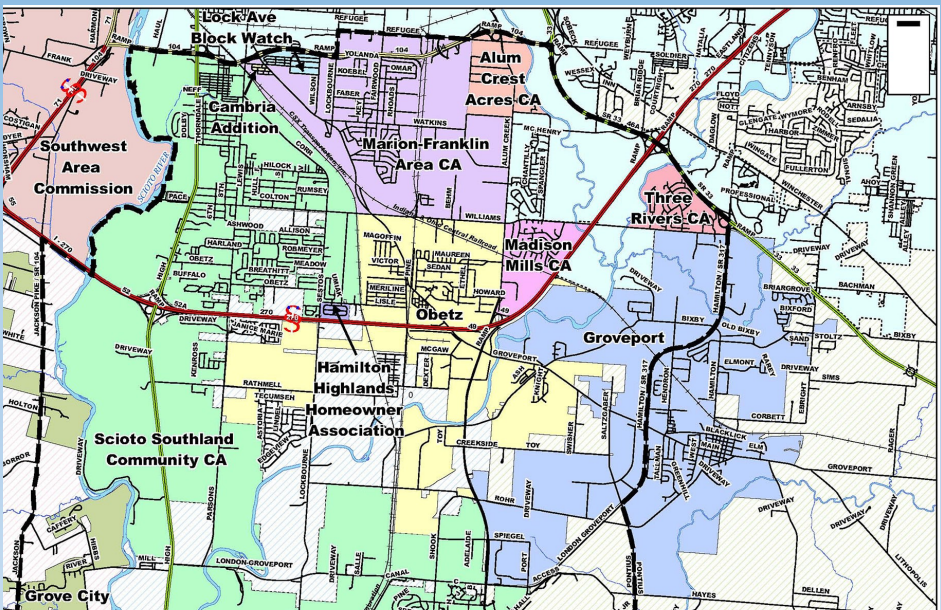
"The Commission represents the interests and concerns of all residents throughout the area to City Council," Watson explained.

KEEPING US CONNECTED

"The Far South Columbus Area Commission also helps keep the individual neighborhoods connected," Ms. Watson shared. "Local civic associations meet regularly and then share their concerns and ideas with each other at the area commission level. It is a way to keep all of the neighborhoods connected to each other. We all want safe and thriving communities," she reminds.

Get connected in your community by engaging with neighbors and area civic associations. Check out the list of local civic associations and get involved. Share your ideas, voice your concerns and connect with your neighbors. Together, we can **build a stronger community**.

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THE SOUTHSIDE GUIDE

www.wesleychurchofhope.org/southside-guide

GETTING CONNECTED IN *YOUR* COMMUNITY



NEIGHBORHOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

Attending monthly civic association meetings allows residents to voice local concerns, share ideas that benefit the community and bring neighbors together. Here are some of the area neighborhood civic groups on the South Side:

- **MARION-FRANKLIN AREA CIVIC ASSOCIATION**
Civic association meetings take place on the **Second Tuesday** of each month at **6:00 pm** at the Marion-Franklin High School.
- **ALUM CREST ACRES CIVIC ASSOCIATION**
- **CAMBRIA ADDITION**
- **HAMILTON HIGHLANDS HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION**
- **LOCK AVENUE BLOCK WATCH**
- **MADISON MILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION**
- **SCIOTO SOUTHLAND COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION**
- **THREE RIVERS CIVIC ASSOCIATION**

Neighborhood Liaison

Beth Fairman Kinney
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Local Produce Giveaways



HandsOn is Central Ohio's leader in providing Information, Resource Referral, and Community Data Insights that serve residents of a Smart City in a growing region.

The Right Resources, at the Right Time, in the Right Place

If you are running low on food, there are several local produce giveaways and food pantries in the area that may be able to help.

South Side Roots Cafe & Market

280 Reeb Avenue
Columbus, OH 43207

Southfield Baptist Church

1399 Augmont Avenue
Columbus, OH 43207

Leave a Mark Church

4818 Parsons Avenue
Columbus, OH 43207

Search online at
handsoncentralohio.org for
free access to other available
community resources and
programs.



HandsOn
CENTRAL OHIO



For more than 20 years Rebuilding Together Central Ohio (RTCO) has helped preserve affordable homeownership. RTCO believes every person deserves a safe and healthy home. They bring volunteers and the community together to improve the homes and lives of our neighbors in need.

MOD SQUAD

Fix it. Modify it. Replace it.

Fix It

- Leaky Faucet
- Running Toilet
- Faulty Switch
- Loose Handrail
- Broken Doorbell
- Weather Caulking
- Creaky Door
- Damaged Seal

Modify It

- Curtain Rods
- Closet
- Organizers
- Light Fixtures
- Shower Fixtures
- Ramps & Runners
- Furniture Assembly
- Grab Bars
- Shelving

Replace It

- Ceiling Fans
- Microwaves
- Faucets & Vanities
- Toilets & Hardware
- Doors & Hardware
- Sump Pumps
- Disposals
- Doorbells

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THE MOD SQUAD

Make your home more comfortable, more beautiful, and more functional with help from the Mod Squad. The Mod Squad is a trusted team of experienced home maintenance pros. They have more than 100 years of combined experience and are bonded and insured. **The Mod Squad can fix it, modify it or replace it.**

The Mod Squad can help you customize a menu of home maintenance services to meet your unique needs, style and budget. And, every project helps fund a similar project for a local family in need.

Call Julie Smith at 614-258-6392 today to discuss your next project.



Rebuilding Together Central Ohio also offers a safe home program for seniors and a tool library to assist homeowners.

SAFE AT HOME

Safe at Home offers quality emergency repairs and home modifications, helping low-income senior and disabled homeowners age in place. Services are provided by dedicated volunteers and professional contractors to qualified homeowners.

This program focuses on the areas of heating, plumbing, electrical, falls prevention, fire prevention, indoor air quality, and energy efficiency. For more information on assistance and qualification call (614) 258.6392, Monday – Thursday from 7am – 4pm.

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Tool Library

RTCO has loaned thousands of tools through the tool library. The Tool Library, founded in 1976, is one of the oldest and most established in the country.



Nearly 4,500 individual hand and power tools are available, providing members with the equipment they need for home repairs and community revitalization. The Tool Library not only provides the community with tools, but also access to a collection of “How To” guides, videos and tutorials.

The tool library is open to Franklin County homeowners, tenants, and non-profit partners.

Lend A Helping Hand to A Neighbor in Need

Well-kept homes strengthen neighborhoods, sustain home values, and restore pride. Illness, age, or other hardship can force people to forego repairs. Because RTCO helps low-income homeowners at no charge, volunteers are the backbone of their services. Whether you are a

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skilled tradesperson or weekend warrior, an amateur mechanic or graphic designer, there are many ways to make a difference with Rebuilding Together Central Ohio.

To find out how or for more information, call (614) 258-6392 or email caroline@rtcentralohio.org.



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FREE LAYAWAY

Can I Really Buy a Home?



Achieving
the **American**
Dream

By Angela Wright, MBA, Realtor

The vision of the “American Dream” looks different to each person. To one it may be financial freedom or maybe graduating from college. Yet to another, homeownership is their idea of the “American Dream.” What do you envision?

Buying a house for the first time might seem unattainable. Yet with proper planning, preparation and discipline, you CAN become a homeowner. This series will focus on achieving homeownership as a piece of the “American Dream.”

First-time homebuyers who need to get their finances in shape will have more success if they plan early. Here are some smart money tips you can make today to get on track to homeownership.

First Time Homebuyer Tips:

- Step 1. Attend a Homebuyer Seminar
- Step 2. Check your credit (and repair it)
- Step 3. Determine a budget (how much home can you afford)
- Step 4. Get your assets in place (save money)
- Step 5. Shop multiple lenders (best rate)
- Step 6. Hire a real estate agent (home buying expert)
- Step 7. Maintain the status quo (no job changes/no new credit purchases)

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Get Professional Advice

First-time homebuyers should seek assistance with the entire homebuying process. Reach out to an expert who knows the ins and outs of real estate...a licensed Real Estate Agent.

If you do not personally know any realtors, I would be more than happy to assist. I may be reached at 614-537-8007.

You can also get additional questions answered by attending one of the upcoming Homebuyer Workshops being held on Saturday, February 2, March 23, and April 27, 2019 from 11am – 1:30pm at the Marion-Franklin Opportunity Center.

The workshops will cover every step in the process to purchase a home, including qualifying for a mortgage. Attendance is free, but you must register. For more information, visit www.SouthsideHope.org.



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GET FIT THIS W

FREE & LOW COST FITNESS WORKOUTS



If getting fit is one of your resolutions for the new year, we've got some ideas to help you slim your waist and not your pockets.

Working out can be expensive if you join a gym, but there are plenty of free and low-cost exercise programs available throughout Columbus.

Check out these options to get and stay fit during the winter.

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Roller Skating: You probably did a lot of roller skating while you were a kid – and for good reason...it's tons of fun! United Skates of America on Refugee Rd has plenty of family skate and discount days.

Columbus Metro Parks Winter Hike Series: The Metro Parks offers guided hikes from 1-7 miles in different Metro parks each weekend in January and February.

YouTube: There are tons of free fitness videos on YouTube. From kick-boxing to yoga, you can find it.

Fitness apps: There are free exercise apps available on iTunes or GooglePlay. Download an app, commit to using it!

Walks with a Doc on the South Side doesn't begin until Spring, but it is a free way to get healthy and commit to be fit. The group meets at the Marion Franklin Community Center on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. from April – November 10



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THE SOUTHSIDE GUIDE

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SEASON & IDENTITY

The Shifting of Inward Culture

By Dr. Charles W. Ferguson

The greatest challenge of an individual is dealing with the introspective analysis of his or her current condition. Most people are doing everything in their power to excel, provide, and expand their reach in life. The influences of life and circumstances continue to press potentially false narratives about who and what we are destined to become in this world. The truth is that we must take the time to examine how we are making moves toward the vision and purpose for our lives.



Introspection is difficult because we expose ourselves to confronting many challenges that linger within our minds and souls. We will have to come to grips to the aspects we do not like or find appealing. We must address our insecurities. We must admit that we are not as settled in our lives as we desire. We must deal with it. Introspection is difficult, but it is necessary if we are going to enter a new season of life.

I recently transitioned from the corporate world back into full time ministry. (The term, full time ministry, is misleading. Ministry is a non-stop call that goes beyond pay and compensation.) I have not been able to fully immerse myself into serving God on this type of

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SEASON & IDENTITY *The Shifting of Inward Culture*



level in 2 ½ years. Why? Many churches were not open to giving me a chance to use my skills, gifts, and calling. In other instances, people were worried about compensating for my education and beyond.

You can only imagine what I was going through. I wanted to use everything God has given me to lift the local church and the community. However, my season was not to focus on what I called to do in life. My period of quiet was to address many issues that were dragging my inner existence. God was providing for me the chance to deal with me.

I worked in warehouses, air fields, call centers, and other jobs to make sure I was providing for my family. Multiple degrees to do anything else in life, but I could not get more than an entry level job. I grew frustrated, angry, and sad. I was frustrated because my skill set said I could do more. I was angry because I felt that God fired me from being successful. I became sad because nobody outside of my family and close inner circle valued me.

I asked God why I could not go any further. Then, my wife began talking to me in very clear terms. *Did you learn your lesson this time?* Initially I thought to myself, *what lesson should I be learning?* Then God made me work.

I was still angry about rejection from over 30 years ago. I discovered my deep seeded abandonment issues were still raw. I saw how isolation was hurting the people I loved. I had to repent for selling out to keep a

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DR. CHARLES W. FERGUSON, PASTOR





Birthday Freebies & Discounts

Over 160 Columbus Birthday Freebies & Discounts

This list is sure to gain you some great stuff each year for your birthday. Most require sign up for an email or text club, but you'll also receive a bonus freebie when you join the club. Sign up for email and rewards clubs a few months before your birthday to use your rewards before they expire.

Discover over 160 Columbus birthday freebies at
columbusonthecheap.com.

TIP: If you don't want your email inbox flooded with emails throughout the year, you may want to create a separate email address for these signups, or have them sent directly to a folder.

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SEASON & IDENTITY

The Shifting of Inward Culture

paycheck. I needed to repent for denying my uniqueness in life, love and ministry. I was forced to finally own that my struggles were dragging me to a dark place that my effort would not provide deliverance.

There must be a bright side to all this pain, right?

Of course....



Dr. Charles W. Ferguson

All the digging in my heart and mind unearthed the genuine me that I thought was lost. I rediscovered love for my wife and son that was buried under a misunderstanding of manhood. I learned new aspects of creativity in life and ministry that was lost under cookie cutter processing. I discovered who I am.

That discovery has led to a better relationship with my family. I am now the pastor of two churches (Wesley Church of Hope and Clair

United Methodist Church). I am the President of Southside Hope Community Development Corporation. But most of all, I am free from the burden of my past.

In this season of life, it is time to reconnect and rediscover who you are. You are not created to be like anyone else.

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SEASON & IDENTITY *The Shifting of Inward Culture*



You were made to make impact. You are designed to shift the outside culture. But you can not shift the culture until you are ready and willing to shift yourself. In order to do that, you need these tools.

Intentional Time—Get away from the noise of life for more than a minute. Hear God. Hear your spirit. Free yourself from the agitation of negative opinions.

Honesty—Be real with yourself. Make changes for yourself. Doing those things will aide you in living on purpose for yourself.

Willingness—Be willing to change. Be willing to grow. Be willing to succeed. Make the decision to pursue without being crippled by fear.

Don't wait until you think it is too late. Go for it. Pursue greater. Be great. Your season depends on it!

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