

Southside

COLUMBUS

Guide

SPRING 2020

**SPRING
TRIVIA
CONTEST
WIN \$50**

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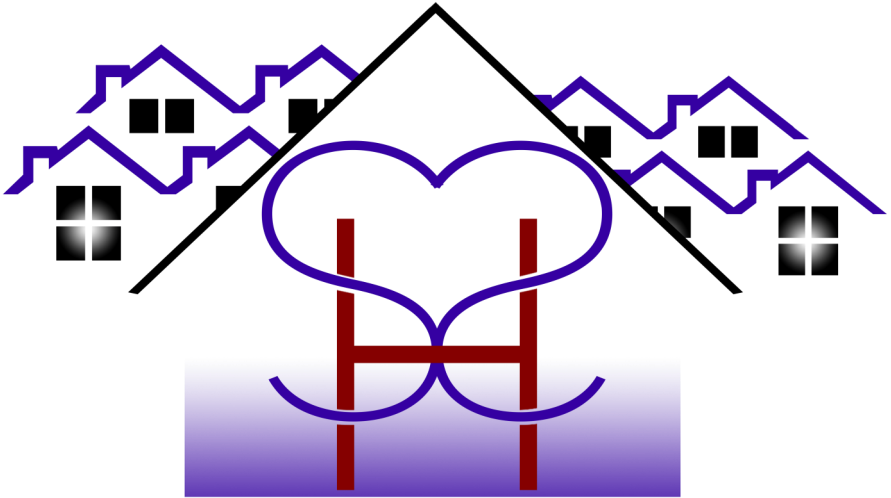
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SOUTH SIDE HOPE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, INC

Southside Hope's mission is to embrace the community, enhance the environment, and enlighten the Spirit of individuals in our surrounding community.

Current initiatives include programs for **increasing home ownership, reducing vacant and abandoned properties, and promoting long-term tenants and residency** in Far South Columbus.

For more information, visit southsidehope.org.



Southside Hope Celebrates First New Home Owner

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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 South Side Hope CDC, Inc. and Wesley Church of Hope UMC.

Our goal is to make a positive impact in our community by sharing our South Side Pride!

Contact Lori Fisher

614-886-9922

lfisher@southsidehope.org

to get included in the next issue

PROMOTING PRIDE ON THE SOUTH SIDE

Making Community Connections



By Lori Fisher

It was the end of a busy Tuesday at Buckeye Middle School. When I arrived at the school office, it was still buzzing. Various groups of people were wrapping up their duties. My attention was drawn to a young girl who entered with her teacher. She was visibly upset and the adult with her was trying to ease her concerns. It was another reminder of just how much patience and caring are needed to nurture and guide our children. Buckeye Middle School does more than just educate our kids. The school has a history of making connections in the community.

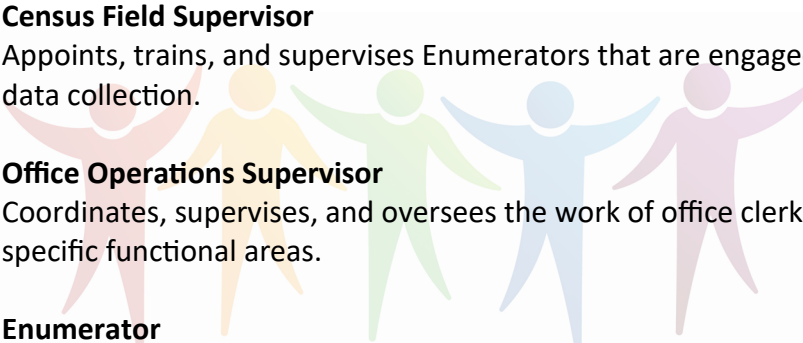


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Buckeye is a resource for parents and area residents seeking employment and other opportunities. They recently partnered with the U.S. Census Bureau to connect residents to good paying jobs starting at \$20 per hour. Each week in March, the Census Bureau is conducting employment application workshops to help guide residents through the process of applying for work with the Census.

“The workshops have been successful. One of our parents was hired from the connection and a few other residents are in the hiring pipeline,” shares Janet Love, Assistant Principal.

The U.S. Census Bureau began actively hiring last year, but a variety of fulltime and part-time positions are still available in Columbus:

- 
- **Recruiting Assistant**
Assists in recruiting and testing job applicants.
 - **Census Field Supervisor**
Appoints, trains, and supervises Enumerators that are engaged in data collection.
 - **Office Operations Supervisor**
Coordinates, supervises, and oversees the work of office clerks in specific functional areas.
 - **Enumerator**
Locally hired workers who perform field enumeration activities in and around their respective neighborhoods.
 - **Clerk**
Office clerks perform a wide variety of clerical functions in support of field data collection, recruiting, payroll/personnel, automation technology, and quality assurance operations.

APPLY NOW AT [2020CENSUS.GOV/JOBS](https://2020census.gov/jobs)

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Making Community Connections

Buckeye Middle School is helping the community make connections and they invite community support for their students and activities.

“We welcome additional support for our students,” says Love. “The community is encouraged to attend Buckeye Middle School athletics, concerts and other programs. We also have a strong need for mentors and volunteers.”

GET CONNECTED

Here are a few ways to strengthen your connection to Buckeye Middle School:

- **Attend Buckeye Middle School Events**
- **Follow Buckeye Middle School on Facebook** for updates @BuckeyeMiddleSchool1
- **Volunteer at the school**



VOLUNTEER AT BUCKEYE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Volunteers are needed to support and mentor the students during their academic progress reviews and other achievements. Contact the school at **614-365-5417** for more information.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20
SATURDAY, APRIL 25
FRIDAY, MAY 15

FREE ADMISSION



WESLEYCHURCHOFHOPE.ORG/MOVIES

STRONG VOICES

COMMUNITY

Join the Marion-Franklin Civic Association

WWW.MARIONFRANKLIN.ORG

2020 Census

**Shape your roads.
Shape your community.
Shape your schools.**

The 2020 Census is more than a population count. It's an opportunity to shape the future of your community.



Your response matters.

Health clinics. Fire departments. Schools. Even roads and highways. The census can shape many different aspects of our community.

Census results help determine how many seats in Congress each state gets.



Census results help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding flow into states and communities each year.

Impact in Your Community

School lunches. Plans for highways. Support for firefighters and families in need. Census results affect your community every day.



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2020 Census—Shape Your Community



Your privacy matters.

By law, the Census Bureau cannot release any identifiable information about you, your home, or your business, even to law enforcement agencies. That's protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Code.

Spread the word

Through your social media channels, your voice can make a difference. Share Census 2020 facts with your neighbors, family, and friends.



Census results affect planning and funding for healthcare—including programs such as Medicaid, Medicare Part B, State Children's Health Insurance, and the prevention and treatment of substance abuse.

Shaping the future

Invitations to respond to the 2020 Census will be delivered between March 12-20. Once you receive that invitation, you can respond online, by phone, or by mail.



INCREASING YOUR BUYING POWER

It should come as no surprise that inflation decreases the amount of stuff you can buy. A year from now, the same amount of money will probably buy you less house, less car and less of anything else. Boosting your purchasing power will come in handy, particularly when you buy a home or other pricey merchandise you want.

Generate a Second Income

Making more money can increase how much money a lender lets you borrow and lowers the interest rate on the money you borrow.

It's amazing how a few extra dollars can add up over time. Consider freelancing part-time or pursuing a small, home-based business on the side to add to your income. Both good credit and a higher income give you more buying power.

Good credit increases your purchasing power

Unfortunately, a less-than-perfect credit score is going to buy you less of anything you want. Your credit score affects your buying power and is especially important when shopping for a big-ticket item like a home or vehicle. To make up for a lower score, you're probably going to need to use more of your total amount of credit available which

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INCREASING YOUR **BUYING POWER**

can actually lower your score even more, which is exactly what you don't want to happen. According to myFICO, owing fewer debts and paying all your bills on time are key factors credit reporting agencies use to calculate your score. Another way to boost your score is not to open any new credit accounts that you don't need.

Steps to improve your credit score

Repairing bad credit or building credit for the first time takes patience and discipline. There is no quick way to fix a credit score.

Check your credit report for errors

Carefully review your credit report directly from all three credit reporting agencies for any incorrect information. Dispute inaccurate or missing information by contacting the credit reporting agency and your lender. Remember: checking your own credit report has no impact on your credit score.

Pay bills on time

Making payments on time to your lenders and creditors is one of the biggest contributing factors to your credit score. Delinquent payments, even if only a few days late, and collections can have a negative impact on your credit score. Past problems like missed or late payments are not easily fixed, but the longer you pay your bills on time after being late, the more your credit score should increase. Consider enrolling in automatic payments to have payments automatically debited from your bank account.

If you are having trouble making ends meet, contact your creditors as soon as possible and seek a legitimate credit counselor. The sooner you seek help the faster you can get back on track. Seeking assistance from a credit counseling service will not hurt your credit score.

Reduce the amount of debt you owe

High outstanding debt balances can negatively affect a credit score. You can increase your buying power by keeping balances low on credit cards and other revolving credit. Don't close unused credit cards as a short-term strategy to raise your scores; and don't open several new credit cards you don't need to increase your available credit. This approach

INCREASING YOUR **BUYING POWER**

could backfire and actually lower your credit scores. Be aware that paying off a collection account will not remove it from your credit report: it will stay on your report for seven years.



Pay Off Some Debt

Getting rid of short- to medium-term debts gives you more money to spend. After wiping out your credit-card debt, work next on paying off any student loans. Student loans are usually low interest, but the loan terms can extend out over 10 years or more and you might not want the debt hanging over your head for that long.

Think Down Payment

Sometimes it makes better sense not to take all your money to pay off debt. You may actually do better to hold on to some cash, especially if you are looking to buy a house. Saving up for a larger down payment increases your purchasing power, which can help you get more house for your money.

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INCREASING YOUR **BUYING POWER**

A Starter Home

So many people say, “How could I ever buy a decent house in this town?” Well, start thinking smaller. Instead of a \$300,000 house, you need to find the one that fits your budget today. There will be plenty of time to upgrade that starter home into a bigger dream home later. This is where the term “starter home” came from! Get into a home you can afford now. Begin to pay it down, hopefully build some equity, and then in five or more years, it’s possible that you may be able to upgrade.



Consider a Home in Far South Columbus

Buying your first home or renting in a transitional area allows you to get into the market relatively cheaply, and increase your buying power. Many Far South Columbus neighborhoods are transitional areas and as they improve, so will your potential for increased home value. Compared to more popular areas with high home prices and rent, you can increase your buying power while saving money and building equity.

For more information regarding home buying, contact Southside Hope CDC at 614-886-9922.



REAL VISION

HEALS COMPLACENCY AND DISCOURAGEMENT

By Dr. Charles W. Ferguson

*Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off
restraint, but blessed is he who keeps the law
.—Proverbs 29:18, ESV*

One of the great pet peeves of my life is finding people who refuse to see beyond their current moment. It becomes a challenge to vision plan, imagine

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Real Call for Vision

greater, and pursue more when others are constantly speaking of their current condition only. I guess my pet peeve might be somewhat of a character flaw. However, I believe it grants insight into the difference between those who pursue vision and those content with the status quo.

On my social media feed, I came across something that made me laugh and brought a sobering reality to how many organizations and people operate daily. It was a meme of a pastoral search committee. The caption read, "Basically, we're looking for an innovative pastor with fresh vision who will inspire our church to remain exactly the same." I laughed really hard because my history with pastoral search committees have looked just like that.

Yet, I had to sit back and consider for a moment. Many groups of people possess this groupthink ideology of remaining the same while appearing to have a vision of going forward. Most people are afraid of forward thinking because it requires admitting that some methods have not worked. Brothers and sisters, this way of thinking and living is not going to elevate our ability to possess greater for our lives, community, and the future.

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© 2014 Dennis Fletcher

"Basically, we're looking for an innovative pastor with a fresh vision who will inspire our church to remain exactly the same."

Real Call for Vision

The scripture that is posted is a simple proverb that suggests that when vision is not giving people become discouraged. Discouragement and status quo living can only be healed by a proactive and intentional vision for the future. The question is how do we get to a greater future?



First and foremost, we must stop hindering ourselves by saying that today is all we have. We must begin to look at our community with different eyes. What does our future look like? How do we envision the community in 20 years? We must have fresh eyes that see the future not only in line with the surrounding trends, but birth innovators that will make our communities trendsetters.

Second, we must embrace visionary and innovative thinkers. We can no longer afford to reject individuals that present and give a fresh perspective on the outlook before us. We cannot say that what has worked is the only method to what shall be in the future. If that was the case, we would have no need of innovation. So many people are birthed out of our communities who are on the cutting edge of bringing renewal to all areas of life. Yet, they have felt that their abilities are not welcomed. If we do not change our attitudes, we will suffer like other great civilizations and organizations of history.

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Real Call for Vision

Third, we must finally admit that our complacency has brought us to this moment. We need to stop blaming everything else as to why we have not gone further. As an African-American man, I am a part of a lineage that has birthed many innovations, businesses, communities, and other trend setting avenues. I cannot except the thought that we lack the ability to do new things. If we have arrived at the moment of discouragement, it begins with us examining how much time and effort we have put in to being disenchanted without being determined. We must stop the cycle of letting others dictate to us what can be and reestablish our call to arms to change our atmosphere for the better.

It is time to heal the disenchantment of those who want more. We must cast the prophetic vision before our people perish.



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SUN 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.**

OPERATION SOUTHFIELD



PRIDE

Cleaner streets and safer neighborhoods is on everyone's list for improvements to the quality of life on the south side. Several residents decided it was time for action. They banded together to form "Operation Southfield" to clean up the streets and bring pride back to the community.

"Fighting litter is a community effort. Southside Hope is committed to working with the community to make a difference," says Lori Fisher, Director of Southside Hope CDC. "We're asking residents and area businesses to partner with us to keep our community clean."

Neighbors and local businesses are being asked to pick up litter along the perimeter of their own property. Operation Southfield will focus on cleaning up the major intersections and along the major access roads.

Southside Hope CDC is sponsoring the safety vests, gloves, and trash cans for Operation Southfield. The group will work with the City's Keep Columbus Beautiful program for other needed supplies.

The group of volunteers will begin weekly clean ups that target high volume traffic areas in the Marion-Franklin and surrounding neighborhoods in late March.

WE NEED YOU! ENLIST NOW!



For more info or to volunteer, visit...

southsidehope.org/pride



Saturday, September 12

11:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Watkins Elementary School
1520 Watkins Road
Columbus, OH 43207**

southsidehope.org/hopefest-2020



Call 614-886-9922 for info



The area commission and local civic groups are available to hear your ideas for improving your neighborhood and any concerns about proposed development projects. Share your ideas, voice your concerns, and connect with your neighbors.

AREA COMMISSIONS HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE

Get connected in your community by engaging with neighbors and area civic associations. There are two area commissions in our area.

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IMPACTING **CHANGE** IN *YOUR* COMMUNITY



COLUMBUS SOUTH SIDE AREA COMMISSION

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

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 Far 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**

GOOD NEWS

A Brighter Tomorrow

In times of stress, sadness, hardship or illness, *the struggle is real*. The good news is, **you are not alone.**

LOVE

We are a supportive and caring community that believes everyone is worthy of God's love and grace.

Your past doesn't define your future!

We all make mistakes in life. You don't have to let your past define you.

HOPE

There is hope for a brighter tomorrow no matter what challenges you face today.

**Join us for worship on
Sundays at 11:15 am**



**2935 BULEN AVENUE
COLUMBUS OH 43207**



WESLEYCHURCHOFFHOPE.ORG



HOLIDAY TRIVIA CONTEST

**The holidays are upon us, but how well do you know them?
Enter our Holiday Trivia Contest for a chance to win up to \$50**

We will select one winner each from the correct entries for 1st place (\$50.00), 2nd place (\$25.00) and 3rd place (\$10.00).

- 1 This year Passover begins at sunset on April 8, 2020.?**
 - a. True
 - b. False
- 2 Easter this year is April 12, 2020.**
 - a. True
 - b. False
- 3 Ramadan begins at sunset April 23, 2020.**
 - a. True
 - b. False
- 4 Where was Jesus baptized? (Luke 3:1-6)**
 - a. The Sea of Galilee
 - b. The Jordan River
 - c. He was not baptized
- 5 After Jesus' baptism, what bird descended from heaven? (Matthew 3:16-17)**
 - a. Eagle
 - b. Robin
 - c. Dove
 - d. Sparrow
- 6 What city did Jesus enter on the day we call Palm Sunday? (Luke 19:28-40)**
 - a. Galilee
 - b. Egypt
 - c. Jerusalem
 - d. Bethlehem
- 7 What religious holiday do Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus?**
 - a. Passover
 - b. Easter
 - c. Tax Day
 - d. Good Friday
- 8 How did Judas identify Jesus to the Roman soldiers? (Mark 14:44-46)**
 - a. Kissed him
 - b. Gave him a drink
 - c. He knelt
 - d. Pointed to him
- 9 How did Jesus enter Jerusalem (John 12:12-19)**
 - a. Riding in a limo
 - b. In a horse driven carriage
 - c. Riding on a donkey
 - d. Walking, waving and smiling
- 10 Where was Jesus when he was arrested? (Matthew 26:36-27:2)**
 - a. Preaching
 - b. Healing the sick
 - c. On his way to the Red Sea
 - d. In the Garden of Gethsemane

**Enter online at
wesleychurchofhope.org/trivia
or mail the entry form on the
reverse to submit your trivia
answers.**

ENTER TO WIN!

Sponsored by Wesley Church of Hope UMC



Enter online at wesleychurchofhope.org/trivia or mail the form below to submit your trivia answers.

HOLIDAY TRIVIA CONTEST ENTRY

NAME:

PHONE: ZIPCODE:

EMAIL:

1	<input type="text"/>	5	<input type="text"/>	9	<input type="text"/>
2	<input type="text"/>	6	<input type="text"/>	10	<input type="text"/>
3	<input type="text"/>	7	<input type="text"/>		
4	<input type="text"/>	8	<input type="text"/>		

Mail to: WCOH, 2935 Bulen Avenue, Columbus, OH 43207
Winners will be selected from correct responses postmarked by April 30, 2020.



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We have more than 20 years experience in marketing and management. We use our expertise to help a variety of companies succeed.



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It's movie time

**Free fun for the entire family!
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**Friday, March 20
Saturday, April 25
Friday, May 15**

**Reserve your free seats at
wesleychurchofhope.org/movies**

2935 Bulen Avenue, Columbus, OH 43207