UCHMNEWS
UNITED CRESCENT HILL MINISTRIES

For Clifton Heights resident Al Jarboe, UCHM's 60-plus program brought joy back into his life.

Al Jarboe is dancing again

Al Jarboe had seen it before. People in grief fall apart. His mother, abandoned by her husband with two children to raise, lost her grip.

His sister, too. When her husband died, she had to be hospitalized.

Then, in 2017, it was his turn to fight the darkness. "I'm just cracking up sitting here, talking to myself and just crying."

He'd lost Donnittia, his wife of 52 years, the woman who won his heart with a milkshake.

...

Al Jarboe at 91, in some ways, is the same as he was in his twenties. He loved to dance then, and he loves it now. He loves to be busy.

"I was young and running around, doing everything," he recalls. "We'd go everywhere because I had a car." And he had a car because of the scrapyard.

When his father ran off with another woman, Al had just turned 16. His mother was too proud to accept a handout. "Sometimes we didn't have lights or gas," Al remembers.

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Get ready to be wowed!

Photographer John Hultgren uses his vivid conservation photography to advocate for the environment. He will share his art 10:15 Thursday, July 23 during the 60-plus get together.

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Crescent Hill Garden Tour big boost to UCHM

UCHM was proud to participate in the 32nd annual Crescent Hill Garden Club Garden Tour on June 6, which attracted more than 400 attendees and raised an estimated $8,000 for community causes, including United Crescent Hill Ministries.

UCHM board member Natalie Yates and Executive Director Stephanie Henry-Floyd handed out information at the annual garden tour.

UCHM Executive Director Stephanie Henry-Floyd and several board members welcomed guests at the Peterson Dumensnil House. Serenaded by the Louisville Mandolin Society, they shared information about our emergency assistance and senior and youth programs with guests on their way to view 12 fabulous neighborhood gardens.

United Crescent Hill Ministries

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uchmlouky.org

United Crescent Hill Ministry is a 501c3 organization dedicated to acting as a safety net for our 40206 community and the city of Louisville through food, rent and utilities assistance as well as programs for children and older adults.

Executive Director: Stephanie Henry-Floyd
Associate Director: Courtney Goff
60-Plus Coordinator: Monique Shaughnessy

Board of Directors

Dianne Feltham, Karen Scott, Jeff Cummins, Theresa Vail, John Davis, Allison Gousha, Karen Phillips, Nicholas Wolf, Chris Broughton, Dan Vonderheide, Natalie Yates, Jenni Laidman

Newsletter editor: Jenni Laidman

Join our Monthly Supporters Circle

It's been quite a year, and we're only half-way done! In the first six months, we replaced our leaky roof, tackled our leaky plumbing, and dealt with a failing phone system, all while we kept families in their homes by helping with rent, utilities and groceries.

It takes a steady stream of income to juggle all the bills this involves, and by joining our Monthly Supporters Circle, you make it a little easier for us to breathe as we meet your neighbors needs.

Use the QR code above to become a monthly donor, or call (502) 893-0346.

Party Space Available

Looking for a location for that baby shower or anniversary party? You might want to check out the UCHM community room.

To enquire for more details, call (502) 893-0346.

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Al's story

So he tried to run his father's Ohio Street scrap yard. "I couldn't take care of it," he says. "People were just taking stuff, and they'd say they'd pay me next week, then maybe they'd give me $5 or nothing." Plus, his father had left the place in debt.

Al somehow paid his father's bills, but he couldn't manage the unpaid taxes and the state took the property. About all he got for his efforts were three junk cars.

A truant officer got him into a training program at Precision Tool & Die. He was a natural and became a tool-and-die maker, eventually taking a job closer to his mother's home at the American Printing House in 1958.

But because of that scrapyard and his mechanical skill, he always had a car, his ticket to dances all over town. One dance left a real mark. People got rowdy and Al took a fist to his jaw. It broke. Considering what happened next, maybe he should have shaken his assailant's hand.

With jaw wired shut, Al made a stop at the Mellwood Dairy. He'd been a regular there since he began working at the American Printing House. Donnittia, the young woman in charge, had an idea: She'd make him milkshakes so he could take in more calories. Al brought eggs from his mother's chickens, and Donnittia would add them to the mix. "I did it for about a month. Then one morning she wasn't there," Al says.

Turns out, she had car trouble and was on her way from Edith Road on foot. Al decided to rescue her. He saw her walking along the road in her clean white uniform and pulled up in his 1956 Chevy. And that was how it started.

Those three junk cars, restored under Al's hands, became the down payment on a fire-damaged house in Clifton Heights. He moved in while Donnittia, now pregnant, stayed with her mother. He spent every spare hour sanding floors and repairing walls. Donnittia worked with him when she could. It was a big job, Al recalls. "But I seemed happy to do it." When their son Rodney was born, the couple brought him home to the neat little house on Cleveland Avenue. A few years later, they had their second son, Michael.

"I was really happy to be a father. I was right happy to have children," Al says. "And she was too."

Al dances with Dorothy Miller at UCHM

Donnittia never liked to sit still, and their home is vivid with her life: When Al replaced their windows, she painted a flower garden on one, and it hangs in their kitchen. Every curio cabinet teems with her collections of glass or figurines, most walls decorated with her cross-stitch. But most remarkable are her quilts, one on each bed and stacks more tucked everywhere.

"She made something every day," Al said. "She was a genius." She'd pick up someone's castoff lamp, fix the wiring, and spruce it up to use or sell. And when she retired, she'd be up late into the night, the sewing machine humming.

Then cancer came. Then silence. He'd visit Donnittia's grave at Cave Hill Cemetery, sometimes twice a week, bringing her flowers and talking to her. His sons took away his handgun when he said he wanted to be with Donnittia.

Then he remembered United Crescent Hill Ministries. His sister came to love its 60-Plus program. Now he walked into UCHM with grief of his own and met with Monique Shaughnessy, coordinator of UCHM's 60-plus program.

Now he comes to yoga and strength training, plays bingo twice a week, and joins the group for lunch. And every time there's music, there's Al on the dance floor with a woman in his arms.

"You can't go to the graveyard every day and cry," he says. "You know there ain't nothing there – in your own self you know it. She's in heaven."

Easy money!

Kroger

You can throw a few dollars our way every time you shop at Kroger, and it doesn't cost you a cent.

1 Log into Kroger.com and look in the upper right corner for a blue square with your name on it. Notice the little arrow beside your name, circled below.

2 When you click on that arrow, you'll see the drop-down menu – shown on the left.

You want to select "My Account," which is circled here in red.

3 Clicking on "My Account"

4 Clicking on "Community Rewards" will open a page that instructs you to "Find an Organization," as you see below.

5 Type "United Crescent Hill Ministries" into the search box and strike your shift key. When the box with UCHM name comes up, click on "enroll." And that's it. Every time you buy, Kroger will give a few cents to UCHM. It's not a lot of money, but it doesn't come out of your account. Every penny counts as we work to help our neighbors stay housed and fed.

Learn to go viral for UCHM July 24

Pretend you're a virus. We'd like you to get catchy on behalf of United Crescent Hill Ministries.

We'll tell you how you can do that at a meeting at our 150 S. State Street location at 5:30 p.m. July 24. We'd like you to join us.

The infection we want to spread is HOPE, and when you have hope, CHARITY follows.

On Sept. 10 people all over Louisville will be donating to charitable organizations during the annual Give for Good day.

To make that day a success for our neighborhood, we need vectors – or maybe we should call you ambassadors – to carry the message of UCHM and the hope it offers to our neighbors throughout the community.

The training on July 24 will teach you how to do that.

Give for Good Louisville
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF LOUISVILLE

Last year, we broke all previous UCHM records by bringing in $16,000. But we could do a lot better with your help.

What's at stake? Last year we had to turn away more than 500 people who needed assistance because we ran out of money.

We'd like to lower that number dramatically if not completely.

To register for our training, visit bit.ly/UCHMtraining or call 502-893-0346.

Christmas in July?

More like ready, set, get ready to run in the 30th Annual Santa Sprint

Are you ready for Christmas? Of course not! But you can prepare for some holiday fun now by registering today for the 30th Annual Santa Sprint & Stroll Dec. 19.

This 5K jaunt through rolling Cherokee Park isn't just a blast, with jogging gingerbread men, Santas and all kinds of elves, it's an enjoyable way to help United Crescent Hill Ministries

Every participant receives a race T-shirt and a finisher medal. Plus all are eligible for age-group awards.

Chow down on post-race refreshments, and don't miss taking a selfie with our official, fresh from the North Pole Santa.

New this year is a virtual 5K option for those who are participating from another part of town – or the globe.

To register, use the QR code at right , or visit bit.ly/GoSanta2026.

Sign up for school supplies

Any child in the 40206 zip code can receive school supplies for the 2026-2027 school year.

Families should apply for the supplies before July 17 by visiting bit.ly/40206school.

Each student will receive grade-appropriate items, a backpack, underwear and socks.

Parents who have registered can pick up the supplies July 24-27.

Sponsor A Student

You can provide a student with all the supplies she or he will need with a $30 donation.

Use the QR code below or visit UCHMlouky.org/give. Or send a check made out to UCHM to 150 S. State Street, Louisville 40206. Make sure to indicate that gift is for children's programs.

Questions, call us at (502)893-0346.

Join the UCHM Mahjong Mob

We have a seat waiting for you at the Mahjong table!

Join us from 5-8 p.m. July 14 and Aug. 12 at 150 S. State Street off Frankfort Avenue for our popular Mahjong night.

UCHM volunteer Allison Gousha hosts games every second Wednesday. Admission is $5 or a donation to the UCHM food pantry. The July donations are hygiene items. The August donations are meals in a can, such as Chef Boyardee's lasagna or ravioli.

Bring your own tiles, and we also have tiles on hand.

Rental assistance funds depleted

Rental assistance is a critical part of the help United Crescent Hill Ministries provide. But we are out of money to help pay rent until more funds become available in the fall.

Since July of 2025, 75 families in the 40206 zip code received help paying their rent. That means 160 people, including 59 children, had stable housing for another month. Our hope is that this aid gives those families a chance to catch up on their obligations.

We still have funds available to help with utility bills.

Every year, UCHM has to turn away more than 500 people when need outruns our resources.

This occurs in the face of rising federal cuts to assistance programs including SNAP – the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Medicaid financing, and the Affordable Care Act. In addition, the government has slashed food deliveries to food pantries, including ours, and even school food programs, as inflation continues to plague consumers.

Northeast Christian blitz-cleaned our space

If faith is known by works, then Northeast Christian Church's faith moves mountains.

A team of 36 from the Brownsboro Road church scrubbed down every square inch of our building and pantry last month. They even trimmed the trees!

Then the church further donated $1,500 to make our summer camp a success.

Northeast Christian, you rock!

Clifton council says celebrate!

Classic rockers The Moon Dogs will headline the Clifton Say Goodbye to Summer celebration from 6-9 p.m. Friday, July 24th. The event is sponsored by the Clifton Community Council

All you have to do is bring new school supplies, kids socks and underwear. More on that in a moment.

Besides fun, upbeat music, Ramino's Cantina and Churro Stand will be on hand for excellent yummies.

Cornhole games and face painting are just some of the fun you can expect when you visit the lot adjacent to the Nazareth Home—Clifton Campus, 2120 Payne Street.

Now, about those school supplies. They go to the United Crescent Hill Ministries Back to School drive. UCHM provides new school supplies, a backpack, socks and underwear to kids of all grade levels to families in need in the 40206 zip code.

The Moon Dogs are ready to rock July 24 in Clifton.

If you don't time to shop, UCHM will accept checks and donations via its website: www.uchmlouky.org/give

Carolyn Seiffertt

We are sorry to say goodby to Carolyn Seiffertt, a long-time and active supporter of United Crescent Hill Ministries. Mrs. Seiffert died in April.

She and her surviving husband, the Rev. Gordon Seiffert, were honored in 2025 as the first Hands & Hearts recipients for their long service to the organization.

She taught in Bates, Audubon, Hartstern and Franklin Elementary Schools, and after retirement, for the Reading Recovery program.

She is survived by a daughter Michelle, son Michael, and three grandchildren.

Gratitude JOURNAL

It's always heartening to see our community turn out to help their neighbors, and the last two months have been no exception.

So many unnamed individuals stop by every week to drop off food and hygiene supplies for their neighbors. We need pantry donations more than ever, and you keep answering the call. We're in awe of your awesomeness. Thank you.

The Sierra Club of Louisville really stepped up and ran a pantry drive to help fill our shelves and feed our neighbors.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Frankfort Avenue made UCHM their May Mission, which led to the congregation making donations and even brought us a new volunteer – and we really need volunteers.

Feed Louisville is a team of professional chefs focused on keeping good food out of landfills and feeding the hungry. We're grateful that they've shared their goodies with our food pantry. And if you ever have thought about volunteering at UCHM, we need you to help us make the most of Feed Louisville's generosity.

One of the smartest, most fun events that has grown at UCHM in recent months is our monthly mahjong night. We are so grateful for the donations **our mahjong players** make, and for **Allison Gousha,** who makes it all happen without a hitch.

Empty shelves, long lines

Our food pantry needs your help

Please consider picking up some extra items next time you're at the grocery store and dropping them off at 150 State Street between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The federal government has greatly reduced its contributions to pantries at the same time it has reduced food and healthcare assistance. Rising prices are applying further pressure to families in Louisville. Below are some suggestions for donations:

- beef, chicken, fish, pork, hot dogs, sausage
- milk, butter, eggs, yogurt
- canned meat, such as Spam
- canned beans
- meals in a can, such as Spaghetti O's, Chef Boyardee lasagna and ravioli, Dinty Moore Beef Stew, pork & beans
- soup of all kinds
- spaghetti and spaghetti sauce
- rice
- tuna in cans or pouches
- peanut butter
- canned green beans
- canned corn
- canned peas
- fresh produce such as tomatoes, lettuce, cabbage, onions, salad mixes, apples, peaches, berries, cherries, melons
- soup, shampoo and conditioner
- toilet paper
- diapers – all sizes
- laundry pods

60-PLUS JULY

TUESDAYS

- **10:15 a.m. Every week:** Chair yoga. Open to all.
- **10:30 a.m. every week:** Bring a board game. Check with Monique: We may also have line-dance lessons at this time.
- **11:15 a.m. every week:** Join us for lunch. Diners must make reservations one week ahead of time by calling 502-893-0346
- **11:30 a.m. every week:** Bingo follows lunch

WEDNESDAYS

- **10 a.m. Every week:** Strength and resistance training with Joe.
- **10 a.m. every week:** Crochet group. All ages welcome.

Betty Burlie was one of many who cooudn't stay seated when the Wandering Minstrels performed for our 60-Plus program in June.

THURSDAYS

- **11:15 a.m. every week:** Lunch.. Diners must make reservations one week ahead of time by calling (502) 893- 0346
- **11:30 a.m. every week:** Bingo.
- **10:30 a.m., July 2:** We'll celebrate Independence Day
- **10:30 a.m., July 9 :** Karaoke
- **10:15 July 16:** Aunt Sally crafts and nutrional education.
- **10:30 a.m. July 23:** Photographer John Hultgren shows his photography and talks about it.
- **10:30 a.m., July 30:** Brad Mann plays piano and sings.

There's a place for you at UCHM

We rely on our volunteers. And the fact is, we could use more people to help us make United Crescent Hill Ministries everything it could be.

For instance, right now, we can't take full advantate of some places that could provide food because we don't have enough people available to pick up food from their locations.

Many of our fundraising activities would benefit from more hands. We need people who can make brochures or write about our clients.

We need people who can make fun or engaging presentations for our 60-plus group, or who can provide entertainment.

We need people who can teach children fun skills and crafts.

If you have time and would like to pitch in, or if you have a talent you'd like to share, please use the QR code on this page and let us know.

VOLUNTEER

After-school program upgrade

We're upgrading our after-school program to better meet the needs of children in our community. The program will be on hiatus for the 2026-2027 school year. We intend to be up and running again in 2027-2028.