

Paula S. Burleson, Commissioner

I moved to the Columbus area from southern Ohio in 1985 to work at The Ohio State University Safety Department. Bought a house in the North Linden area known as Kenmore Park in 1986.

Work experience includes working at Battelle Memorial Institute, serving as a Safety Manager for a small hazardous waste remediation firm and work at Lockheed Martin Energy Systems in Piketon, Ohio. Presently I work for the BWC OSHA On-site Consultation Program as a Construction Safety Consultant.

Have been active in the North Linden community having formed the Kenmore Park Block Watch (BW) and am presently a BW street captain. Organized cleanup days, participated in the Linden Litter league activities and on tire roundups and presently serve on the North Linden Area Commission for several years. Participate in area roundtable meetings and city outreach initiatives. Organized the neighborhood National Night Out Activities for many years and hosted celebrations in my front yard to foster community spirit.

I am proud of my house and my neighborhood and will do all that I can to ensure that it remains a safe place to live. I work to identify problem areas within my neighborhood and initiate problem-solving activities through alley clean ups, call in of 311 problems and organization of neighborhood cookouts which connect neighbors with city departments and officials and with one another.

I ask you to allow me to be your Commissioner in 2018 and ask for your vote and support.

What North Linden issue most concerns you most and how do you believe you can personally be involved to find a solution.

My issue, as well as knowing that others are also concerned with this, is keeping our houses, alleys and yards looking nice and reducing litter in individual neighborhoods. This is a strong indicator of whether or not people care about where they live. A Quality of Life Issue!

Benefits of this are:

- Develops personal pride in property
- Makes it look like we care about where we live and thus tells criminals that this is a caring community and we will look out for one another.
- Keeps property values up -this benefits all who wish to sell and provides an inviting neighborhood to move into.
- Holds landlords accountable to maintaining their property in a clean and compliant manner (roofs intact, gutters not falling down, trees pruned, grass cut, etc.).
- Catching illegal dumpers in alleys and along dumpsters.
- Develops a sense of community where neighbors help neighbors (especially the elderly who may need additional help). Also can provide an opportunity to engage young people in this endeavor. They learn a sense of 'giving back' and pride in developing their own sense of community.

- Gets cleanouts off the streets faster and not be allowed to blow around or fester and get moldy or bring rodents.

How can I contribute:

- Engage others in Litter Surveys of their streets
- Participate/organize in block/alley cleanups (have already done this several times in our neighborhood)
- Work with Keep Columbus Beautiful to provide useful resources to residents. Do annual clean up day with Kick Butt Columbus
- Educate home owners as to city codes regarding parking of cars, commercial vehicles, maintenance of property, height of grass, maintenance of alleyways (half way to mid line).
- Participate in Rock the Block activities with Habitat for Humanity.
- I am still able to cut brush, run a lawn mower, use the pruners, and pick up trash for the betterment of North Linden. I will personally engage in these endeavors over my time in office and have done these things continually during my time that I have lived in North Linden. I frequently work to keep the circles clean and tidy of trash and weeds.
- I will take any opportunity to educate homeowners as to their responsibilities towards maintaining their property in a safe, clean and compliant manner. And I will actively do my part to clean up the area and park where I live.

We only have one earth and one opportunity to keep it clean – I rode my bike in the first Earth Day and will continue to work towards maintaining a healthy climate and a tidy neighborhood to my elder years.



See associated picture of a Neighborhood Clean-up Day that I organized in Kenmore Park.

The neighborhood clean-up day, sponsored by the North Linden Area Commission, was held on Saturday October 21st from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The commission wants to thank the neighbors and fellow commissioners for their participation. Several alleys were addressed this outing east and west of 3001 Bremen. We look forward to

our next event and are hopeful of increased property owner involvement; all the necessary tools and supplies are provided by Keep Columbus Beautiful. We can accomplish much more with your support and participation.