



Kennedy Heights News

January, 2007

Kennedy Heights Community Council



Make Way for the Cave!

After consideration of the evidence and arguments of counsel, the Commission finds said appeal well taken and reverses the decision of the Superintendent of the Liquor Control Division. 11/22/06

With a single sentence Ohio's three Liquor Control Commissioners ended a 3-year battle to block a Kentucky / Madeira developer from operating a beer/wine drive-thru at the corner of Kennedy & Montgomery.

The Commissioners disregarded the testimony of almost 100 KH residents who took the time and expense to bus to Columbus (twice) to express the community's opposition to the *Beverage Cave*. Some of the strongest testimony came from members of Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church, who have not relished the prospect of sharing that corner with the Cave.

Ballet at Mr. Kelly's?

A performing ballet company plans to move its studio to Kennedy Heights into the Montgomery Rd. building many know only as "the old Mr. Kelly's."

The building is directly opposite the Kennedy Heights Arts Center, where the company is temporarily holding classes. Whether a lease had been inked was unconfirmed at press time, but the word at Winterfest was that the deal was on and since has been that they are "very close."

Stay tuned!

Woodford Open Enrollment

- Limited slots for popular, successful Paideia program
- Apply 8 am-4 pm
- The sooner, the better
- Birth certificate, SSI card, immunization record & proof of address

Conventional wisdom has it that the Commissioners' preference is to grant new permits and put the burden on communities to oppose the annual permit renewal with any evidence that the business has not been a good neighbor.

In his testimony before the Commission, Dr. Jackson (a Madeira dentist) and his son, Buddy, promised to be good neighbors, not to sell individual bottles of alcohol, keep the premises well-lit with security cameras, provide off-duty security police, and close by 11:00 p.m.

Shortly before the Liquor decision, the Ohio Supreme Court refused to review a local court decision finding that the City of Cincinnati had improperly refused to grant SKYY Properties a building permit for the Cave.

"What next?" will be on the agenda of the 1/17 KHCC meeting.

2007 Calendar Inside

Included with this issue is a Community Calendar for the full year.

The calendar was conceived by Jim Zarnowiecki of the KH Arts Center. Many of the photos were produced by students at the Center's Summer Arts Camp.

The hope: You'll hang it on the hall, add your own birthdays & such, & use it as a handy reminder of much of what's going on in & around Kennedy Heights.

Design note: Removing this & the back page leaves you with an 8 page calendar

KHCC Meets

- Beverage Cave: What Next?
 - UR Freedom Center
 - 2007 Budget
 - School Siting Status
 - Kennedy Connector Update
- 1/16/07 7:30 pm**
KH Presbyterian Church



Winterfest 2006

Our best event ever, I'd say! That's how Richard Cooke summed up Winterfest 2006. Richard is president of the KH Arts Center and chaired (for a third year) Winterfest.

The weather was appropriate: Cold by anyone's definition!

Total attendance at the Arts Center & PR Rec Center topped 1,000.

The Big Top Tent on the Arts Center lawn was heated this year, with music by the Nativity Jazz Band and graceful selections from the *Nutcracker* (on shaky plywood!) by young ladies from BalletTech.

The only true casualty of the weather: hundreds of candle-lit bags that lined Montgomery Road and quickly succumbed to the high wind.

City Councilmember Jim Tarbell wished he "could bottle up this amazing community spirit and distribute to other Cincinnati neighborhoods."

Special thanks to Cincinnati Police and KH Citizens on Patrol and dozens more volunteers who made Winterfest possible.

"There were so many smiling faces. It was awesome. This is a great neighborhood filled with amazing people!" Richard Cooke



Councilman Tarbell & Winterfest Chair Cooke

Teen Murders Stun KH

Two homicides / murders in two weeks is not the kind of community news we enjoy reporting. But those are the unfortunate facts. Here's what happened as reported by the *Enquirer*.

November 19

17-year-old Kevin Stevenson (Mount Healthy) was shot and killed in the parking lot of the former Mr. Kelly's on Montgomery Rd.

Police believe Kevin Stevenson was trying to rob a man selling shirts from a booth in the parking lot when gunfire broke out

December 3

According to Cincinnati police, a gunman burst into an apartment on Northdale Place (a dead end street off Kennedy Ave.) and killed 17-year old David Slaughter.

Police have arrested a 21-year old man accused of aiding two others in the fatal shooting.

Police are asking for help in both shootings,

Call Crime Stoppers **(352-3040)**. You don't have to give your name and you may be eligible for a reward if your tips lead to an arrest.

State Approves Permit Renewal

The Ohio Liquor Control Division has approved renewal of permit to sell beer & wine at Zinsle & Red Bank if and when Wilson's Grocery re-opens .

On 11/17 the Division heard testimony at City Hall for and against renewal of the permit, which has been "in safekeeping" (unused) for several years.

Witnesses opposed to the permit renewal included KHCC president Ernie Barbeau and board member Kathy Tyler, and representatives of the Cincinnati Police, Building, & Recreation Departments. Wilson's Grocery shares the corner Zinsle corner with a playground that the Recreation Department has recently outfitted with new equipment.

Owner George Wilson & William Canty (both KH residents) spoke in favor of the permit renewal.

The City has indicated it intends to appeal the decision to the Ohio Liquor Commission.

KH Residents Respond With Prayer & Action

Rev. Duane Holm (Kinoll)

Understandably, members of our community felt despair and anger over the loss of these young lives. They responded with both prayer & action.

Prayer

In an effort to promote healing, a group of residents worked with our local faith groups to organize vigils in response to the shootings. They were both well attended and participants prayed to reconsecrate the land, bless the families who experienced a loss due to the shooting, and to ask for guidance so that we all might recommit to working toward a better community.

Local congregations leading the Prayer Vigils:

- All Saints Episcopal Church (Re. Kenneth Hitch)
- Bread of Life Christian Center (Rev. Eric White)
- Church of Christ, KH
- Church of the Nativity of Our Lord (Rev. Paul DeLuca)
- Cincinnati Islamic Center (Malik Muslim)
- Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church (Rev. Henry Wilson)
- First Baptist Church of KH (Rev. Robert Harper)
- KH Presbyterian Church (Rev. Mark Wright)
- Olivet Baptist Church
- St. Mark AME Zion Church (Rev. Jermaine Armour)
- St. Peter's United Church of Christ (Rev. Mendle Adams)



Action

KH CPOP Team and Citizens on Patrol have begun working on long-term solutions.

The KHCC Board has committed to assuring that the School Board builds a new school in the community with a community learning center that includes recreation facilities.

*Yet in the dark streets shineth
The everlasting light
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in Thee tonight.*

Park Jobs Available

Hamilton Co. Parks is looking for over 100 new employees. Departments that are hiring include such things as camping, boating, fishing, food service, golf, landscape, maintenance, naturalist, & safety.

**Employment Open House
Saturday, February 3
lcurran@greatparks.org 521-7275**

KHer Joins Lighthouse Board

KH resident **Mollie Ferrigan** has joined the board of directors of Lighthouse Youth Services. Ms. Ferrigan also serves as the chair of BEAM (Be Engaged and Make a Difference), Lighthouse's young professionals volunteer group.

Ms. Ferrigan is a Learning Strategist for Convergys and serves on Mayor Mallory's *Young Professionals Kitchen Cabinet*, an advisory group created to help generate ideas for keeping young people in the city.

Lighthouse provides residential care each day for more than 250 children in its foster homes, group homes, residential treatment centers, supervised apartments and other residential programs.

Congratulations, Molly!

KH Forum

Late March

It's been 3 years since KHCC adopted its *Comprehensive Community Plan*.

It's time to revisit, review, tweak, & (if needed) revise the plan.

Got a beef? Concerns? Ideas? Want to hear from others?

The precise date will be in the 2/07

News



Education in KH

Ce Holm, chair, Education Committee

Woodford & Silverton Make the Cut

On December 6, the Cincinnati School Board voted to eliminate 13 schools from its building plans. The cuts were made because of declining enrollment.

While the cuts were bad news for many neighborhoods, both Woodford & Silverton Elementary Schools survived the cuts. That means the Board still intends to rebuild both of those schools which serve KH residents.

City Manager Tours KH

On December 4 the new City Manager, Milton Dohoney, met with members of the KHCC Board and other residents at the KH Arts Center after a guided tour through the neighborhood.

He told us that our message was "crystal clear" that we wanted to have a meaningful partnership with the City, and that he was very impressed with our level of activity and of the residents' involvement.

Ernest Barbeau, President, KHCC

Within the next couple of months the Board should select an architect for Woodford.

The KHCC Board resolved at its December meeting to actively advocate that the Board incorporate into the new school a community learning center that includes recreational facilities, that the school be built at the corner of Kennedy & Montgomery, and that it be designed to accommodate at least 550 students.

City Hall Endorses Priorities

Recently, City Hall granted two of KHCC's Community Priority

1) Development of a Gateway Master Plan

This project includes a concept and design, scoping of materials and location selection for appropriate signs at community entrances and gateways. Funding requested will also cover installation of plants, posts and signs at community entrances.

2) **Repaving Drake Park**
KHCC's 2003 comprehensive emphasizes continual upkeep and improvement of our parks and green spaces, which are among the best assets our community has to offer families and other residents. The parks get a lot of use and are a high priority for residents.

Neighborhood Summit

1/20 Cintas Ctr. (XU)

Invest in Neighborhoods and City Hall co-sponsor the annual *Neighborhood Summit*.

It's a chance to meet & "network" with folks from City Hall as well as other communities...and to find out who's doing what.

The final session will be a workshop involving on how the city and neighborhood organizations can grow grassroots participation.

Free lunch!

Register Now
921-5502

www.investinneighborhoods.com

KHCC's Roots

The community of Kennedy Heights dates to the mid-1800's.

But the Community Council (KHCC) is much younger, born in the civil rights struggles of the 1960's to combat "block busting."

In the early 1960's, some members of the KH African American community united to prevent a zoning change that would have allowed outside interests to increase housing density in much of KH. At the same time residents were concerned about "panic selling" and "block busting" in the neighborhood after black families moved onto some streets.

In 1963 these two groups met at the KH Presbyterian Church and formed the KHCC, with aim of "*fostering harmonious neighborhood relationships among all residents in Kennedy Heights.*"

KHCC's continuing purpose also includes the improvement of the community's schools, parks, housing, recreating, and youth programs. KHCC is the neighborhood's voice before City Council.

Adapted from a longer article by KH's unofficial historian, Dr. James Cebula (Davenant), printed in the program for KHCC's 15th anniversary....in 1978.

KHCC

Constitutional Amendments?

The KHCC Board is proposing several amendments to the constitution with the aim of changing the Council year to match the calendar. This would move elections from June to late fall.

Accomplishing this "simple" change will require amendment of several sections of the constitution.

The proposed changes will be presented at the 1/16 Council meeting.

KH Montessori Open House

2/7/07 7 pm Woodford School

KH Montessori Center has been serving KH & neighboring communities since 1973.

Ages 3 --Kindergarten

631-8135

www.kennedyheightsmontessori.org

Metallic Club Meets

KH Presbyterian (KHPC) 10:00 am
PR Presbyterian (PRPC)

- 1/12: Aircraft Engine Manufacturing Technology C.W. Hill PRPC
- 1/19 News on the Reds John Fay, Cinti Enquirer KHPC
- 1/26 GE Engine Testing for Certification Russ Aire PRPC

For Up-To-Date KH News

Tune your computer to
www.kennedyheights.org



Remembrance

Luther W. Church, a long-time resident of Kennedy Heights (Dickens Ave.), died on December 5, at the age of 73. He was the husband of Alice, and the father of Kevin Church and Karon Church Williams, and the grandfather of six children.

Luther retired as the Executive Director of Citizens Committee on Youth.

Community Calendar

Give KHCC Its Due

KHCC has no "dues." If you live in KH (or even on the other side of a boundary street), you are a full-fledged member. Doesn't cost you a penny.

But...

KHCC functions in the real world--and has bills to pay. We maintain an office on Kennedy Ave., publish & deliver this newsletter (almost monthly), advocate community issues before City Council, the School Board, & elsewhere.

- The projected 2006 budget is about \$30,000. Less than half is from grants. The remainder depends on fund raising events and about \$5,000 in donations.
- Chances are good that no one has knocked on your door or rung your phone asking for a donation in 2006. That does **not** mean KHCC doesn't want & need your donation...just that we've lacked the people power to do the "personal ask."
- Invest in your Community Council. Add your check to this handy form, a stamp, and envelope. Bonus: If you itemize...it is deductible!

My KHCC Donation

Name: _____

Address: _____

email: _____

Amount: \$ _____

Mail to:

Kennedy Heights Community Council
 6463 Kennedy Ave.
 Cincinnati, OH 45213
 531-4041 www.kennedyheights.org

- 1/12** Movie at Bread of Life
- 1/12** Metallic Club
- 1/13** ML King Program at PR Library
- 1/15** Martin L. King, Jr. Day
- 1/16** KHCC Meets
- 1/19** Metallic Club
- 1/23** KH CPOP Meets
- 1/26** Metallic Club
- 2/13** KHCC Board Meets

Bob Keeps Knocking!

Bob Kamp (Wyatt) is a familiar face to many residents. For years he has been KHCC's best (and often only) fund raiser.

Chances are he's knocked on your door one or time or another, greeted you with a smile and handshake...and asked for a donation to Community Council.

Thanks!

Free Movie
1/12 6 pm

The Truth About Hip Hop will be shown at the Bread of Life Christian Center on Robison Rd. **Everyone is invited!**

Ridge Donut Shop

The best pastries for miles around!

At Woodford & Ridge
 Adjacent to UDF



Kennedy Heights Community Council
 President Ernest Barbeau
 Vice – President Natalie Boyer
 V.P. Community Planning Jennifer Hackman
 Treasurer Kevin Holt
 Secretary Michelle Dillingham
 Members at Large
 Clyde Otis Kathy Tyler
 Joshua Swain

Committees

Neighborhood Services.....Vacant
 Clean & Safe..... Joshua Swain
 Development..... Van Foster
 Parks & Recreation Karen Thomas
 Youth Kathy Tyler
 Education Cecelia Holm
 Park Advisory Councils
 Kennedy: Katie Kern
 Daniel Drake: Michelle Dragga

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**Recommended
 New Year's Resolutions**

- Attend at least one KHCC meeting
- Join a KHCC committee
- Volunteer for Litter Magic Cleanup
- Run, walk, bike...& eat at the Sap Run
- Attend the Progressive Dinner
- Help make KH an even greater place to live!

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**Council Next Meets on
 Tuesday 1/16/07
 7:30 p.m.**

Bonus Calendar Edition
 2007 Community Calendar Inside
 Save it & Use it!