



LONGFELLOW HERALD

Newsletter of the Longfellow Community Association

February/March 2010

Mailing Address: LCA, 909 E. 30TH St. Apt 12, KC, MO, 64109

Web site: www.longfellowkc.org

Meeting Place: New Ronald McDonald House, 25th St. and Cherry, first and last Monday of every month.

SIGN UP FOR EMAILS.

Please make sure you've signed up to receive neighborhood updates via email. Visit <http://www.longfellowkc.org/> and click the 'Sign Up' link on the left side of the page. Fill in your name and email address and click 'Submit.' It's that easy. Be sure to add the following address to your address book to ensure our emails don't get caught in your spam filter: LongfellowCommunityAssociation@longfellowkc.org

PARKING PETITION MEETING

Neighborhood resident and LCA steering committee member David Holding has 2 pieces of his art for sale. Visit <http://thunderchild.net/> to view David's work and contact him at dholding@att.net if you'd like to purchase an original or print.

MID 27th FOOD MART LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST

We have received notice of an application for a 24/7 package liquor license for the Mid 27 Food Mart at 901 East 27th Street. This will not be approved. We ask that no one sign a consent (**or an abstain**) for their application. Make your objection known to Neighborhood & Community Services, Regulated Industries Division, by calling 816-784-9000. Better yet, send it in writing to them at 635 Woodland Ave., Suite 2101, KC, MO 64106, Attn: Patrice Winston. The surrounding property owners, and many other Longfellow residents, as well as Beacon Hill, Hyde Park, and Union Hill residents, have contacted us in opposition to this intrusion on the area's quality of life. We all must stand firm in opposition to this license application. The full text of the LCA's position letter is included with this newsletter.

UPDATE ON 2608 CAMPBELL

The circuit court hearing scheduled for the 2608 Campbell receivership was once again continued. We want to recognize Chris Zaroor for his work on LCA's Scope of Work documents which were prepared for the case. Our plans are to turn the neighborhood nuisance this property has become into a positive asset, and then to sell it.

SPRING CLEANUP AND A WORD ABOUT DUMPSTER FUN

As we look to the spring clean-up, we will be looking for ways to pay for the dumpster before scheduling them. Any donation will be appreciated! Likewise for the annual LCA yard sale on June 12. Your donations will help us continue these community projects.

Allen's done a great job detailing all the positive changes in our neighborhood recently. Please take some time to read...

SOME THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year! We have entered into 2010 at a fast pace.

The Longfellow area is continuing to enjoy a unique presence in the downtown area of Kansas City. As we continue to implement good, solid improvements to maintain our quality of life, we realize we will have as safe and as healthy a place to live, work and play as we demand and create for ourselves.

We continue to enjoy the support of our various institutional and commercial neighbors, e.g.,

- Hallmark World Headquarters and the Crown Center retail, office, and entertainment areas.
- On the west side of Union Station is the new National Archives depository, offering sources for historical references on our national history. It is truly a great source of information for the public.
- The beautification and development of the 22nd Street expressway continues east from 71 Highway.
- Our Hospital Hill institutions continue to expand their employment and their health and education services to the community. Children's Mercy Hospital will soon start construction on a \$12,000,000 expansion at 2300 Holmes. The UMKC Health Sciences Department continues to expand with increasing enrollment in the Medical, Dental, Nursing, and Pharmacy Schools. The combined teaching and health services of Hospital Hill/Truman Medical Center are providing an extremely important service to the community at large.
- The Area Transportation Authority (ATA) is progressing with the Troost Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). The new MAX will follow the present Troost route south to 95th Street. Improvements are planned for a new covered transit stop at 25th and Campbell as well as on Charlotte and Holmes, north of 25th Street. There will be a major transfer station at 31st and Troost with a Park & Ride and a parked-out area. There are also plans for a mini park and pergola/stage for the southeast corner of 31st and Harrison. Finally, we have something positive to clean up this distressed corner in the Longfellow area.
- We say thank you to the Vitale family for the recent improvements to the commercial building that they own on 27th and Charlotte.
- What was originally the Meiner's Meat Market and most recently the Pub & Grub at 26th and Holmes have re-opened as the Succotash Restaurant. New owners have rehabbed the corner, and their restaurant has relocated from the River Market area. They are open for breakfast and lunch.
- We have received notice of the Gutierrez family's plans to expand and improve the Teocali Mexican Restaurant at 2512 Holmes. The restaurant has operated smoothly for several years, and has been a welcome addition to the neighborhood.

- The LCA Steering Committee has established a community garden committee, chaired by Tim Buster. Tim owns Enhance Your Art, a frame shop at 2930 Cherry Street. He is now creating a plan for a community garden in the alley behind the 2900 block of Cherry and is looking for tax deductible donations to LCA to finish the garden project. Volunteers are welcome! Contact Tim at 816-674-6969.

A lot is going on! It is your neighborhood. Get involved! General membership meeting is on the first Monday of the month (unless a holiday) at 6:30 PM at Ronald McDonald House in the park, 25th & Cherry Streets.

Allen Norman, President

Text from the letter regarding Mid 27 Food Mart liquor license request

To Whom It May Concern:

Per the Notice of an Application for:

1. Full Liquor by the Package sales license
2. Sunday sales license to sell alcohol
3. Unknown applicant's proposal to operate 24 hours, 7 days a week with liquor sales as "outlined" in the ordinance

As the President, on behalf of the Longfellow Community Association, we are emphatically in opposition to any liquor sales of any type at this location. For the record, LCA opposed the location of the food mart at this location just a few years ago, but were denied the opportunity of a public hearing on the license for the market at that time. Some years before that, though the certificate of non-compliance issued many years earlier had been expired several years, a city employee advised the applicant for a business not to apply for a new certificate of non-compliance because that would require a public hearing. Instead, the applicant was allowed to "renew" the expired certification.

Mid 27 Food Mart is located in the middle of a residential area. To call the present operation a "food mart" is perhaps stretching it a bit. It appears that, while they may sell some grocery items, the operation is primarily a smokes and junk food store. This type of use of the location is not consistent with the present and future development of the neighborhood.

Even now, the following situations present a nuisance for the neighborhood with apparently no concern of these negative effects by the operators of the present food mart: 1) sidewalk signage, 2) lighting, 3) industrial-style chain link fence, 4) restricted vision for oncoming traffic, 5) inordinate amount of trash on the sidewalks, in the gutters, and on private yards within the vicinity of the store. Even more considerable negative social effects will occur if this effort to expand the operation by allowing 24/7 liquor sales succeeds.

This is a quality of life, safety, and values issue. To be clear, as the designated neighborhood association, our position is: **no liquor sales at this location, at any time!**

Firmly,

Allen Norman, President
Longfellow Community Association

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HELP INFO

CITY SERVICES. . . 311
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