Fed Up Neighbors Victorious in Denial of Liquor Permit Renewal at Nuisance Bar

Shootings, fights, assaults, noise, profanity, sleepless nights – all because of the actions of the patrons of the Time Out Bar a.k.a. Roc Bar at West 105 and Western Avenue (3021 West 105).

Nearly homeowners and other businesses owners had enough. They were mad as hell and weren’t going to take it anymore! They had called the police, reported to Building & Housing, complained to Councilman Matt Zone’s office and to Cudell Improvement, Inc. at every block club meeting.

Consequently, under the guidance of Councilman Zone’s office and Cudell Improvement, neighbors kept logs of when the nuisance actions occurred (time and date), when the police, fire and/or EMS was called, took photos and gathered public records such as calls for service and police reports at that address.

When City Council received word that Time Out’s liquor license was up for renewal, Councilman Zone objected to the renewal based on the history of complaints at the site. Councilman Zone then explained what a battle it is to be victorious in getting a renewal denied. Councilman Zone distributed a letter to all constituents in the area, explaining the issue and urging people to get involved. Reassured by the documentation amassed by the neighbors and their willingness to testify in person, a date was set for the objection hearing.

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That Ohio Department of Liquor Control hearing

Detroit Shoreway Update

By Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization

Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO) recently completed the Dudley Triangle Pocket Park, located on W. 73rd & Dudley Avenue between Madison and Lorain. The vision behind this project was to create a central community gathering place for educational, environmental, and social events. The site for the park was identified in the Southwest Detroit Shoreway Master Plan prepared by Kent State Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative in 2016 and the design was created with input from community members last fall during a series of “design days” at Zone Recreation Center, the Lorain Library, and the site itself.

This pocket park was generously funded by support from the Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity Initiative, a program DSCDO is participating in with Cleveland Neighborhood Progress and other area CDCs. The grant allows Cleveland Neighborhood Progress to work closely with community development corporations, like DSCDO, to reduce energy usage, increase residents’ sense of environmental safety, and foster social cohesion and inclusion.

For eight weeks this past July-September, DSCDO hosted Recess Cleveland on Madison Avenue & W. 77th (funding support coming from the Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity Initiative and Councilman Zone). Each week DSCDO staff and the four Detroit Shoreway neighborhood resident climate ambassadors involved with the Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity Initiative (Moneeke Davis, Michael Armstrong, Jocelyn McCane, and Donna Friedman) helped put on Recess Cleveland and run different workshops that are aimed at making the community more prepared for a changing climate.

Look for more event updates this Fall on DSCDO social media. For more information about the Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity Initiative visit: clevelandnp.org/resilientcleveland/

Brewnuts opens in Councilman Zone’s Former Office at 65th and Detroit

The Gordon Square Arts District welcomes yet another small business to the neighborhood – Brewnuts, a donut and craft beer restaurant on the southwest corner of Detroit Avenue and West 65th Street.

The owners, John and Shelley Pippen, have been remodeling the space since last fall. The 100-year-old building, which once housed Councilman Matt Zone’s ward office and his family’s business Zone Travel, is owned by the non-profit Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization. “My family has been doing business in that building for a half century,” said Councilman Zone. “I am pleased to see another local business taking over that space and preserving a neighborhood landmark.

Brewnuts store-front space has been completely remodeled and fit with a kitchen, walk-in coolers and a marble top bar.

The Pippins have worked extremely hard over the past two years to make project happen. They received help from the City of Cleveland, Bad Girl Ventures, the Hebrew Free Loan Association and many donors on Kickstarter.

Brewnuts serves coffee in the mornings and a variety of food specials like pulled BBQ pork on a maple bacon donut. The handmade donuts, made with local craft beers, are available Tuesday through Friday mornings at 6:30 a.m. (Saturdays and Sundays at 8 a.m.) and into the evening hours. Try the popular maple bacon, coffee porter with toffee, or the classic glazed made with Great Lakes Dortmunder.
City Dogs Reunion

City Dogs, a program for adopting dogs from Cleveland's kennel, held its third annual reunion in August at Edgewater Park. More than 60 dogs that had been adopted through the program were among the families and kennel staff celebrating the event. "So many of our four-legged friends are in need of loving and caring families," said Councilman Matt Zone. "This program has created mucho stories with happy endings."

Cleveland's Division of Animal Control launched the program in 2014 as a way of finding homes for neglected dogs. The kennel, which takes in more than 75 dogs per week, is seeking volunteers. For more information, call 216-664-3476.

Wild Animals Gaining Ground in Urban Neighborhoods Across the City

Wild life continues to encroach into urban areas, including big cities like Cleveland, with more and more sightings of rarely seen critters like deer, coyote and fox. Councilman Zone wants you to know that the Ohio Division of Wildlife urges people not to feed wild animals or invite them into your yards or homes, attempting to domesticate them. Wild animals can get highly stressed by sights, sounds and smells from people and pets, causing health issues and the likelihood of death.

Wild animals can carry diseases and parasites, some of which are transmissible to people or pets. Some diseases, like rabies, can cause serious health problems. Finally, it is illegal in Ohio to possess, own, control, restrain, or keep any wild animal. Common problems associated with urban wildlife include squirrels in attics, skunks and groundhogs under back-yard decks and raccoons rooting through garbage.

But now we are seeing new wild guests in our back yards, including deer, turkeys, coyotes, possums and fox. Residents who are faced with wild animal problems and are not sure how to handle them, should call the Cleveland-area Division of Wildlife at 330-644-2293. Also visit the Nuisance Wildlife page: www.wildlife.ohiodnr.gov/ Those in need of trapping services for wildlife and stray dogs may also call the Division of Animal Control at 664-3069. Please note that traps are not placed inside homes nor in vacant lots or yards of vacant houses.

City Resumes Residential Leaf Pick-up in Various Neighborhoods

Cleveland is resuming its residential leaf pick-up program after six years of dormancy due to budget constraints. Residents will be seeing workers and trucks in various neighborhoods from November 6 to December 31, weather permitting.

Based on assessments conducted by the city's Department of Public Works, neighborhoods deemed "high-leaf generation areas" have been selected for the service. Residents in the designated areas should expect leaf pick-up signs posted one week prior to service. To streamline the pick-up process, residents are encouraged to rake leaves from their property onto the tree lawn.

To accommodate city crews, residents are asked to park off-street, if possible, during the service period. Each area will be serviced a minimum of two times within the 8-week period (weather permitting).

To learn whether you are in a designated "high-leaf generation area or for any details about the program, call 216-664-2510.

IF YOU ARE NOT IN A DESIGNATED AREA, do not pile leaves on tree lawns or in empty lots. And do not burn leaves because that is a violation of state law.
New Housing Project Receives State Tax Credits

Aspen Place, a new development for low-income renters at West 61st Street and Lorain Avenue, has received low-income housing tax credits from the Ohio Housing Finance Agency.

The Aspen Place project is a 49,000-square-foot new construction building in the heart of the EcolVillage – adjacent to the W. 65th Street RTA Station. Upon completion, Aspen Place will provide forty new units of affordable housing with a mixture of one, two and four-bedroom units.

Councilman Matt Zone leveraged $600,000 from the city’s Housing Trust Fund toward the project.

The apartment complex features a community room, laundry facilities, on-site parking, resident gardens and convenient access to public transportation. The project has formed a partnership with the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority to provide free transit/bus passes for tenants.

Construction is scheduled to start this fall and be completed by late fall 2018.

New Stores and Restaurants Coming to Clifton Boulevard

Space is scarce on Clifton Blvd. and highly desirable with a per square foot price tag to match the location. Even so, new retail has been drawn there this year. Whether it’s the soon to be completed Shoppes on Clifton, the EnhanceClifton Streetscape and/or the nearby, desirable residential housing, lots of investment is going on. Here are examples:

PROJECT: PIZZA – Are you hungry for a crispy, hot, delectable pizza in just three minutes? Then plan to belly up to the long counter to select from a phenomenal range of sauces, toppings, meats and cheeses to pile on your own style pizza – just the way you like it. Project: Pizza is located in the Wilshire Building at 10435 Clifton Blvd. near the fabulous Clifton Martini & Wine Bar.

Be greeted by owner Ahmed Davis, his father Jamal, or one of the other family members manning the 600 degree oven. That’s hot! Hence your pizza in three minutes. Debuting in early November when all final inspections and permits have been issued. Landmark Cafe, 11637 Clifton Blvd. (the southeast corner of Clifton and West 117th) will be open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Owner Constantine says, “About 1/3 of the menu will be smoked meats – that’s our mainstay. However, the other 2/3 will be more traditional fare including vegetarian options.” The smoker that has been installed is the only all wood burning one in the region. While you can see the housing for the smoker itself outside at the back of the building, the operation of it is handled from the kitchen inside. Hopefully, the aroma will permeate the neighborhood to beckon the hungry.

LANDMARK CAFE – We’ve seen the smoker being installed from West 117th Street. Now we can hardly wait to taste the sweet and smoky meats produced from the hickory logs that will be burning in it. The plan is to open in early November when all final inspections and permits have been issued. Landmark Cafe, 11637 Clifton Blvd. (the southeast corner of Clifton and West 117th) will be open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

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MORE TO COME – Very soon there will be one more addition to the building that houses Starbucks, Eddie’s BarberShop, Twist Social Club (check out the new signage) and Landmark Cafe. Not spilling the beans – but watch for it at 11627 Clifton Blvd.

Chipotle, at 11636 Clifton Blvd., has had its signage package reviewed by the Local Design Review committee and recommended for approval by the city of Cleveland Landmarks Commission. Watch for their grand opening soon too.

Interested in a Career in Public Safety?

The city of Cleveland will be adding more police, fire and EMS workers over the next several years. Check the city’s website for upcoming application dates. Go to ClevelandOhio.gov/careers.

SEE NEXT PAGE for Upcoming Police Hiring Events!
Property owners of a home that is currently vacant or an occupied multi-family home that has vacant units may apply for an exemption of the Solid Waste Collection Fee, which is $8.75 per unit per month. An application for exemption must be completed, signed, and returned back to the Division of Assessments and Licenses by November 30, 2017.

To obtain an application, call City Hall at 216-664-2272 or Councilman Matt Zone at 216-664-4235.