

The California Village News

Summer 2015

Next Meeting of the
California Community Council
7:30 P.M.
September 8th, 2015
Ebersole Community Center
5701 Kellogg Avenue



As most of you know, we are in our seventh year now on our lease with the City of Cincinnati for the Old California School (Ebersole Community Center). We rely on tax deductible membership contributions and donations to pay utilities, insurance and any supplies, furnishings, etc. We would like to thank all those who have contributed over the years. If anyone would like to join, volunteer or donate, contact David Ross at 513-624-6257 info@californiaohio.org or Jackie Frazier at 513-231-4402 jackiefrazier@aol.com.

Annual California Reunion

Heritage Day Celebration will be Saturday, September 19th, 2-4 at Ebersole / Old California School. Come see some of your old friends and neighbors!

2015 NSP / NBD Projects Update

1. Newsletter— Quarterly printed, emailed and posted to website.
2. Beautification—Streetscape Maintenance (Wimberg, looking good!).
3. Park / Entry Sign Mowing (California Grounds Care, also looking good!).
4. Website (Keeping updated.)
5. Ebersole—Nice new floor in kitchen!

Kellogg Avenue / Ohio River Trail

Update

The saga continues. Representatives from the city's transportation department presented their latest plans at the June CCC meeting and at a public meeting held June 15 at "A Touch of Elegance". They shared 4 concepts which are similar. Since the city's current administration does not allow for bike projects to alter traffic patterns, these concepts do not alter Kellogg Avenue car traffic. They all include a 5' wide paved trail on the river side of Kellogg from Salem to Ebersole. Options show variations for picking up again at Eldorado on the other side and extending to connect to the trail in Anderson at bike trails dimensions or 5'. At least one version shows running a connector along Linneman then up Eldorado to Kellogg. See their website for more information see www.cincinnati-oh.gov/bikes/news/ohio-river-trail-salem-road-to-sutton-road/ or call Jim Coppock at city 352-5305.

Looking Back in History

Many folks today living in California cannot remember some the interesting folks we had living with us over the years. Most are just too young so I try to relate some of these stories to you.

One was a HERMAN BECKER, lived at 5860 Panama St. while I was growing up. He lived with his mother, Anna, and his older sister. Lily, who was much older. Herman (Beck as we called him), was born in 1903. When Herman died at the age of 47 his mother was devastated and did not want him forgotten so she had a glass box made that had curtains

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Birthday Greetings to our Community Members and Friends



July Birthdays

1st	Courtney Shepherd
7th	Bob Hehn
7th	Joshua Hartmen
9th	Rhonda Reese
11th	Dave Hehn
14th	Mathew Bohart
15th	Ron Simpson
18th	Robert Carter
18th	Steven Ross
18th	Kim Leist
30th	Mason James Smith

August Birthdays

10th	Karolyn Wardlow
11th	George Wardlow
13th	Bess Carnes
13th	Melissa Shepherd
18th	Mildred Wiwi
20th	Tara Finn
21th	Sue Coultier
22th	Richard Wardlow
22th	Bridgett Woods
23th	Jack Carnes, Sr.
29th	Krissy Hehn

September Birthdays

2nd	John Forthuber
8th	Debbie Glutz
9th	Samantha Betscher
13th	George Nave
15th	Ron Scott
19th	Jack Carnes, Jr.
24th	Elaine Keys

Have a great summer!



Remember, there will be no CCC meetings for the months of July and August.

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Looking Back in History

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on all sides. Fresh flowers were placed inside the glass box. The box was mounted on Herman's grave. Since Anna didn't drive, her daughter drove her to the cemetery each morning and evening. Anna opened the curtains each morning and closed them each evening. The box was removed after Anna's death in 1955.

In addition to the cemetery Anna commissioned the creation of the beautiful arched entrance gate to the cemetery on Sutton Ave, donated in Herman's name. The Davis and Siehl Co. created a 4 ft. high iron gates that have an arch over them that says Mt. Washington Cemetery in cast iron. A bronze tablet on the right side of the gate reads "This entrance erected in memory of Herman Becker".

Anna also had a stained glass window custom made by Grau Art Glass Co. The subject of the window is "Christ in the Garden of Gethsamani". The window was installed in the California Community Methodist Church in 1953.

While the Becker family has passed on their generous gifts to the community in Herman's name insure that they are not forgotten. Herman was someone who kept you in stitches at all times and was one that hit the bottle most of the time. You could hear him coming up Rohde to the Tavern crowing like a rooster. Always happy and singing. I still can remember him in his painters pants and painter hat carrying a bottle of his vitamins (alcohol of some kind). I was surprised at his age of death as he looked much older.

Many thanks for Mt. Washington Cemetery sending this information on Facebook, as I did not know the exact age of Herman. So many Californians are buried in Mt. Washington Cemetery and I am hoping I will receive more info on some of our former residents.

Jackie Kuzniczci Frazier, California Historian
Info will be saved and on file at the Heritage Foundation

Memorial Day Service



The service was held at 11:00 at the W.W.2 Memorial. Was worried about what kind of service I would be able to have. Finally the last few days another V.F.W. volunteered and saved the day. Gun and salute and live bugle player w/ taps. Hopefully they will continue to do so for future Memorial Days. However, we would like to know who the wonderful person or persons were who worked and cleaned on the memorial, it looks great! If anyone has any idea who the workers were please let any of us know from the California Council so we can properly thank them.

Jackie Frazier

RECENT OBITUARIES

Sympathy to Ron and Arlene Potter over the death of their daughter who lived in Colorado. What a horrible thing to lose a child but to lose two is unbelievable. Sorry do not know her name. Please keep them in your prayers.

SHAWN RHODES, son of Traci Weir Seikbret of Eldorado Ave. What a sad situation with a newborn baby and two other daughters. Shawn lost his life in a motorcycle accident. Prayers for Anna, his wife, children, mother and family. Such a tragedy.

ED WIWI, resident of many years in California, leaves his mother of 102 yrs. old, daughters, sister, and good friend Kathy, and many grand children. Such a shock to all and to all of California. (See also detailed obit on next page).

Our deepest sympathies are extended to the families and loved ones, our town is suffering a great loss.

Please SLOW DOWN!

Would like to offer a word of advice - Please when driving down our small streets try to keep your speed down, we are a neighborhood with many children, animals, and people out and about. Just recently a little toddler was found roaming on Eldorado, alone, much, much too young to be alone, from the way most travel down Eldorado he would have been run over in a minute. You must think how awful it would be to be responsible for a baby's death.

Thanks!

A special thank you to **Rhonda Betscher** for coming to my aid and clear up, mow, and make the corner of Rohde and Kellogg look so much better. I could not stand to see the 3 ft. tall weeds growing around the poles and Kellogg, so I started trimming them down best I could. Rhonda volunteered to help and took over. Now we can see the beautiful flower container, which you couldn't before. So many kudos to Rhonda. While doing it I was hoping would volunteer to help. Kudos to **Dave Thiem** too for taking care of the Kellogg flags. Rhonda also put up some small flags along Kellogg.

GIVE US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!

As we continue to improve communications as well as try to save money, we would like to electronically keep everyone "in the loop" and provide periodic instant notifications from the city as well as the newsletter provided to your computer! Simply email us at info@californiaohio.org and we'll put you on our list. There may be a time in the future when we might not have to print the volume of newsletters that we do now which would be a significant savings in printing costs and delivery.

EDWARD L. WIWI

(Reprinted from Radel Funeral Homes website).

Edward L. Wiwi, 73, of Cincinnati, OH, passed away June 28, 2015 from a tractor accident. He was born to Louis and Mildred Wiwi in Brookville, IN in 1942. He graduated from Brookville High School and U.C. College of Architecture. He owned and operated Harbor Park Rental Properties in the small village of California- located in the Cincinnati area. He was an architect by trade and was the mayor of California for seven years. He loved the river and lived on a houseboat for many years. He liked fishing and playing golf. In his later years, he spent the winter months in Florida. Besides his fiancée, Kathleen Price, Edward is survived by his daughters, Sherri (Tony) Smith, Jeneda (Greg) Stevens and Julie (Joey) Bethel; his mother, Mildred Wiwi; sister, Joan Menda; 9 grandchildren; 1 great-granddaughter and 2 nephews. Memorial service will be held Monday, July 6, 2015 from 1-4 pm at Fares J. Radel Funeral Home, 5950 Kellogg Ave at I-275 Cincinnati, OH 45230. His family asks that donations be made to [Neuro Challenge Foundation Inc. for Parkinson's 5602 Marquesas Cir #211, Sarasota, FL 34233.](http://www.neurochallenge.org)



California Woods



With its 113 acres of forest, California Woods Nature Preserve offers something for all nature lovers. The park features 53 species of trees, more than 200 species of herbaceous plants, and Lick Run Creek, home to kingfishers, snapping turtles, small fish, myriad invertebrates and the occasional visit from grebes, mallards, wood ducks and beavers. *No Dogs Allowed*



**California Columbia
United Methodist Church**

Paster Denny Mullen

5751 Kellogg Avenue
California, Ohio
513-232-5077

SERVICE SCHEDULE

9:30 A.M. Sunday Service



**St. Jerome
Catholic Church**

*a mission church of Guardian Angels
Parish*

Father Carl Wollering
131 Rohde St.
California, Ohio
513-231-7042

MASS SCHEDULE

5:00 P.M. Saturdays

9:30 A.M. Sundays

7:30 P.M. Tuesdays

7:30 P.M. First Friday



Cincinnati's Southeastern Gateway

California

A Neighborhood of the City of Cincinnati

California Community Council

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Pangallo
Treasurer Kathleen Chandler

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5814 Kellogg Avenue, California, Ohio 45230

The California Village News is a publication of the California Community Council and published bi-monthly. The deadline for contributions to the CVN is the 20th of the month for inclusion in the following issue. The CVN welcomes letters to the editor or relevant articles and reserves the right to publish any or all submissions based on space available and appropriateness. Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the California Community Council, Board of Governors or it's Officers. The CVN is partially funded by the City of Cincinnati Neighborhood Support Program Fund.