FINAL REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON TOWN/GOWN RELATIONSHIPS

STRENGTHENING THE RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
AND THE
COMMUNITY OF KENT

Kent State University
Division of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs
Nancy A. Scott, Vice President and Dean

City of Kent
Kathleen Chandler, Mayor
Final Report of the
Committee on Town/Gown Relationships

STRENGTHENING THE RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
AND THE
COMMUNITY OF KENT

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July 1996

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### II. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A study such as this requires the cooperation and help of many more people than we can possibly mention. We are particularly grateful to all the students as well as other community people who met with the committee and provided written as well as verbal responses to our inquiries.

The committee greatly benefited from the members of the Greek Student Organizations who volunteered their time and energy to stuff envelopes for the survey conducted by the Economic Development Subcommittee. Special thanks go to Professor Larry Marks, Kent State University chair of the Marketing Department in the College of Business Administration, for his assistance in the development of the survey, and to the following people for their help in distributing surveys: Constance Foley, Kent State University director of Residence Services and Residence Assistants; Mary Hewitt, the City of Kent Staff, members of the Sigma Nu and Delta Chi fraternities; Chi Omega Sorority and the Office of Campus Life staff. To Professor Robert A. Zuckerman for his role in coordinating an analysis of the survey results.

In addition several students and community people appeared before the committee to provide input. The committee work was greatly boosted by a list of impressive speakers including: President Carol A. Cartwright; Vice President Emeritus Richard A. Bredemeier; Vice President Nancy A. Scott; Ray Flynn, University Coordinator for Judicial Affairs; Zach Brandon, Executive Director for Undergraduate Student Senate; Kathleen Chandler, Mayor of Kent; and the following Kent City administrators: Gary Locke, Plans Administrator; Captain John Peach, Kent City Police; and John Ferrilo, Kent Health Commissioner; Doug Fuller of Fuller Designs; Jennifer Gensch, President, Habitat for Humanity. The committee wishes to thank Anita Herington, Associate Vice President for Alumni and Community Relations, for her valuable suggestions during the early stages of the committee formation and a special thanks to Suzanne Allen, Associate Vice President for Human Relations and Marketing, and Paula Slimak, Executive Director, University News and Information, for producing the Executive Summary of this report.

The effort of the Town/Gown Relationship Committee could never have been completed without the commitment and dedication of the committee members, especially additional roles rendered by committee chairs and co-chairs. We wish to thank Kathleen Chandler and Student Senator Anthony Keys as co-chairs of the Campus Reciprocity Committee, Mary Michel and Zach Brandon as co-chairs of the Economic Development Committee, Tom Blair and Student Senator Sarah Kilby as co-chairs of the Health, Safety, and Security Committee, Constance Foley, Sarah Shumate and Noel Blankenship as co-chairs of the Housing Development Committee, Carol Neff and Randy Ristow, Director of Parking Services, co-chairs of Student Behavior Committee. We appreciate the assistance of Robin Gray for her help in coordinating committee schedules and her demanding role in
preparation of the manuscript as well as providing a multitude of other services, along with LuWanda Higgins for her invaluable suggestions and as a back-up to Robin Gray. A special thanks goes to Brenda Richardson for her earlier role as meeting coordinator. To Gregory Rogers for producing overhead material for the Board of Trustee and the City Council presentations. We are grateful for various readers who made comments on the earlier drafts, particularly John Gosky for his proof reading of the Executive Summary.

Finally, we are grateful to Jean Morgan, Manager of Publications and Printing for proofreading the entire manuscript. Any errors are, however, our own.
December 1995

Dear Members of the KSU and Greater Kent Community:

As higher education policies are shaped in preparation for the twenty-first century, societal issues such as the environment, the improvement of domestic relations, and our ability to meet basic human needs are moving to the forefront. Citizens are increasingly looking to higher education for workable solutions to many of today's major societal challenges. At the same time, many colleges and universities are attempting to design strategic plans that parallel a broad-based public agenda. By directing higher education resources to community service needs, universities can more clearly provide services that respond to the needs of their surrounding communities.

Perhaps there is no better context for the methods by which communities and universities will collaborate and work toward mutually-beneficial solutions to key issues in the twenty-first century than enhanced town/gown relationships. In this regard, the leadership provided this year by Mayor Kathleen Chandler of Kent and Assistant Dean Noah Midamba in bringing together individuals committed to the betterment of our community is to be commended.

This new and evolving partnership, known in its initial form as the Committee on Town/Gown Relationships, provided opportunities for city homeowners, University students, local business leaders, key city and University officials, and others to become better acquainted with issues and just as importantly, with one another. In a number of ways, a sense of mutual respect and understanding was established and strengthened as the Committee addressed several relevant topics of concern. These initial outcomes, I believe, represent significant steps in forging the working relationship between the City of Kent and Kent State University.

Your continued good efforts on behalf of our greater community are to be applauded.

Sincerely,

Nancy A. Scott
Vice President and Dean for Enrollment Management and Student Life
To the Kent City and University Communities,

One of the goals I have had as mayor has been to do my part to bring Kent State University, one of Kent's finest assets, and the community together to work toward the betterment of both city and university life.

The City of Kent values its small town atmosphere, is protective of the environment and is proud of its schools, churches, and parks. The University brings to our community cultural and other benefits usually found only in cities many times the size of Kent and for this we are indeed fortunate and appreciative.

One of our challenges, for both city and university, is to help each other take better advantage of the benefits we offer and at the same time to work together to resolve the many concerns and problems we face.

I believe the relationship between the university and city has never been better. Each year, for example, the city administration and council and the university president and cabinet meet together to become better acquainted, to share concerns, and to reaffirm our joint commitment to work in a spirit of cooperation. The Committee on Town/Gown Relationships is an outgrowth of this commitment and provides a vehicle for us to strengthen our working relationship.

The Committee's work this first year has been devoted to identifying ways we might begin the process and this report is designed to share our recommendations. The next step will be to select the most pressing areas of mutual concern and to assign teams of city and university people to work together to identify specific strategies for mutual implementation. For example, one task force might be assessing various ways to encourage residents to take advantage of the many campus activities available to them such as attending plays, concerts, athletic events, distinguished guest lectures or utilizing the ice arena, fieldhouse, theater, etc. Another task force might be working on resolving the conflicts which occur as the result of excess noise in residential neighborhoods.

I invite each and every member of our respective communities to step forward to offer ideas and contribute in any number of ways to this joint effort. We believe this collaboration is mutually beneficial and assists greatly in identifying solutions and taking advantage of the many opportunities we might provide for each other. Together we can make a difference!

Kathleen Chandler
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COMMITTEE ON TOWN/GOWN RELATIONSHIP

Introduction

In the true sense of the word “community,” the City of Kent and Kent State University recognize the need to articulate the way in which common goals enhancing the quality of life could be further developed and met. In the fall of 1994, the City and the University began a dialogue resulting in the establishment of a cross-representational committee consisting of Kent residents, business people, government officials and University faculty, staff and students. Common goals and challenges were identified by this important committee, and ideas to address these issues have been discussed. Specific issues were identified early in the committee process. Special subcommittees were formed to distinguish the more critical issues and challenges. A summary of the subcommittee reports follows.

Campus Reciprocity

This subcommittee was formed to enhance the City and University's understanding and cooperation through mutual sharing of information, facilities and resources. The main purpose of this subcommittee was to formulate ideas for building a better working relationship between the University and the Kent community. Ideas for identifying areas of mutual benefit and suggestions for greater communication links were recommended.

Mayor Kathleen Chandler and Kent State University student Anthony Keys co-chaired this subcommittee and worked with many individuals to develop action items and explore initiatives for improvement. Recommended areas for campus reciprocity included communications initiatives and calendar coordination efforts, the exploration of opportunities for Kent citizens to participate in more University fund-raising and scholarship activities, while developing a central contact point, serving as the clearing-house for community service activities, both on campus and in the community. Greater participation in special events was identified as critical to the success of a strong relationship, and the continuation of strengthening communication regarding current events was recommended. Procedures for recognizing reciprocal achievements and contribution were also suggested.

The implementation plan proposed that a committee should be formed for each recommended action item. These respective committees would set objectives and strategies for accomplishing them as well as procedures for evaluating the successes of the projects. The successes will be determined by the response from the Community and University.
Economic Development

The mission of this subcommittee was to provide information to appropriate constituencies on the economic impact and opportunities in Kent by identifying the current issues and attempting to define areas of highest need. Mary Michel, Executive Director of the Kent Area Chamber of Commerce and Zach Brandon, Executive Director of Undergraduate Student Senate, served as chairs. A critical issue examined was the University’s impact on the economy of Kent, both directly and indirectly. In addition, an assessment was conducted to determine how residents of Kent — students and non-students — spend their money in terms of types of stores and services.

To assess the aspects of the situation more fully, surveys were sent to Kent area residents, University faculty, students, and administrators with 2,120 surveys returned representing 11 per cent of the total. An analysis of this survey resulted in the following findings: from the tax withholding data of the past five years, the University is responsible for providing, through local taxes, over 25 per cent of the city of Kent’s revenues; the most desired type of business in Kent, as indicated by 69.4 per cent of respondents, was the clothing store. The second most mentioned type of business desired by 38 per cent of the respondents was “fine dining.” The extension of store hours beyond 5:00 p.m. was a strong recommendation of survey respondents.

Health, Safety, and Security

This subcommittee, chaired by Tom Blair, Director of Residence Services Physical Facilities for the University, and co-chaired by Student Senator Sarah Kilby, was dedicated to the mission of gathering information regarding health, safety and security issues and concerns pertaining to the improvement of City and University relations. A special emphasis was placed on the issue of safety.

Major health issues related to trash and health inspection. Specific issues regarding trash revolved around its weekly and yearly removal problems, especially in the areas of rental properties. Recommendations included educating students as to the weekly schedules and timing yearly pickups with the University’s calendar year, as well as asking local owners to provide open tops for the trash.

Health inspections can and often do lead to legal issues, with the students and owners at odds. The best solution identified by this subcommittee was the continued effort to educate off-campus students as to the problems related to health inspections. The subcommittee suggested a full-time University staff person to coordinate the off-campus student population’s health and safety issues.

The main thrusts of the subcommittee’s efforts were directed toward safety and security. For this report, the two areas were combined into one — specifically, the issue of safety. The major area of concern was the Water Street area, about which terms such as “the bar scene,”
“entertainment district,” “battle zone,” and “attractive nuisances” were used. While the issues of crowds, noise, and violence are concentrated downtown, some of the fringe areas of the downtown district have seen some of the same occurrences. It is noteworthy that, according to police crime statistics, 80 per-cent of arrests for violent acts involve individuals not connected with the University or the City of Kent. The Kent City Council has discussed various ideas to better address these problems.

The final issue was the possibility of University involvement in the “University District” that includes the streets near the campus. Currently, the University Police Mutual Aid Pact with the City does not include any routine involvement with the “University District.” Possibilities of a closer working relationship, especially on conduct and criminal cases, were recommended. More attention to the needs of this issue was proposed.

As a part of the implementation and evaluation analysis completed by this subcommittee, the members universally agreed that the concept of the Town/Gown Committee should become a permanent part of the governance of both the City of Kent and the University, perhaps through a single standing committee, and with a visible presence on the Kent City Council.

Housing Development

The purpose of the Housing Development Subcommittee was to identify and explore issues associated with off-campus housing and to recommend strategies to satisfactorily eliminate these barriers, thus improving the image of the City and of the University with regard to student housing. Constance Foley, the University’s Director of Residence Services, chaired the subcommittee. The subcommittee members identified meeting the varied housing needs of the University’s diverse student populations as their major issue.

Two specific needs were identified. The first recognized that the City of Kent needs to have a clean, safe, quiet residential environment, where all residents can peacefully coexist. Secondly, Kent State University needs to have safe, clean, and affordable housing within the City of Kent where students not obligated to live on-campus can live while pursuing a college education.

It was recommended that the University and the City work closely to provide an orientation for students living in the City and assistance to students living off-campus in matters related to leases, deposits, fair housing practices and Ohio Landlord and Tenant Laws. It was also suggested that the City work with the Office of Judicial Affairs to ensure that students living within the City who could pose a serious threat to both the City and University environments are subject to University policy as well as city ordinances. Another recommendation spoke to Greek housing needs and proposed that an area, perhaps in an incubator phase, within the jurisdiction of the University be provided so that fraternal bonds could be strengthened. Lastly, the subcommittee recommended that an ongoing committee composed of both University and City representatives be created to address, in a collaborative forum, current and future issues between the University and the City of Kent.
The implementation plan calls for support by the University and the City. Future evaluations could be implemented to assess the effectiveness of the recommended strategies through the use of surveys, focus groups, and other instruments of measurement. However, there is some concern over the lack of support evidenced by the community through minimal participation in these discussions in spite of attempts at public forums.

**Student Behavior**

The Student Behavior Subcommittee recognizes that the City of Kent is a harmonious college town, with a diverse population of short-term and long-term residents. To that end, multiple mutual problems for students and city residents, and the plan to encourage a more unified community through improved interaction, communication, and information/resource sharing, has been proposed. Councilwoman Carol Neff, representing the City, and Director of Parking Services Randy Ristow, from the University, served as co-chairs.

The subcommittee first identified the need to facilitate and improve communications and interactions between students and residents, focusing on each groups’ respective needs and sensitivities. Additionally, there seems to be a lack of understanding of the various city ordinances and zoning regulations on both groups’ parts. Each group has its own set of complaints and the subcommittee heard several scenarios which illustrated examples of existing problems among residents, students, City agencies and University policies. The subcommittee repeated its charge that they do not want to be involved in specific issues, rather they want to concentrate on those circumstances in which student behavior is involved. However, a distinct impression is held by some residents that the University chooses not to be involved in student behavior off campus, and chooses not to be involved in any sanction and enforcement efforts.

The recommendations included student educational orientations which define the standards of acceptable behavior in off-campus housing, as well as encourage these students to become more involved with community organizations. Also recommended was the need for City Council to have increased presence on campus and to identify legitimate concerns of both residents and students regarding noise ordinances, zoning codes, the payment or collection of unpaid city, county, or municipal fines, and other City/University policies. It was felt that through shared resources, a full-time position within the Division of Enrollment Management and Student Life could be created. This position would specifically address the resident/student problems with an emphasis on early intervention. Additional communication among the City administration, Council, and University officials, as well as working teams dedicated to joint projects and problems, was also a part of the suggestions.

Potential barriers to implementation include governmental restrictions, financial problems, and both apathy and mistrust by the various constituencies. With the need to foster a willingness to work together, both the City and the University must seek compromise.
Conclusion

All subcommittee reports spoke to the need for more communication initiatives and efforts between the City of Kent and Kent State University. All cited the need for action within their individual areas, as well as means by which to implement the recommendations. Assessment and evaluatory measures were also included, calling for on-going feedback and change.

Both the City and the University have challenges indigenous to their respective missions and constituent groups. However, through concerted efforts and true understanding, the City and the University can realize an enhanced functional interdependence and a greater sense of true “community.” This mission is focused on the greater good of the community and the future of this now established town/gown relationship.
I. INTRODUCTION: Purpose and Objective

No matter what year, or even what decade, the issues regarding the relationship between universities and surrounding communities are on the minds of those who work with students. Classic town/gown questions such as “How can we encourage students to live in cooperation with their neighbors” as well as new ones regarding governance of off-campus student behavior continue to be asked by the Kent community members. It is this consistency and frequency of questions that prompted us to focus on town/gown relationships.

Building a positive relationship between Kent State University and the greater Kent community has been a struggle since the early days in 1910. Historically, most of the negative issues center on student behavior off-campus, alcohol abuse, and noise problems for residents near the University. Over the years, the City struck back with a number of local ordinances designed to control behavior. These ordinances vary from limits on the number of unrelated individuals who can live in residential housing to the development of strict noise regulations. In response to these issues, a forty-four member committee, composed of representatives from the greater Kent community, the students, City of Kent elected officials, members of the Kent area Chamber of Commerce, all major administrative departments of the University as well as the City was formed in February 1995 by Vice President Emeritus Dr. Richard A. Bredemeier of Kent State University’s Division of Enrollment Management and Student Life and Kathleen Chandler, Mayor of the City of Kent, to study critical issues mentioned and to develop guidelines for joint University-City actions.

Dr. Bredemeier and Mayor Chandler set the purpose and objectives of the committee as follows:

**Purpose:** Kent State University and the Kent community are dedicated to maintaining the best possible relationship. To that end, the Town/Gown Relationship Committee has been established to accomplish the following:

- To acknowledge the town's awareness and concern regarding the functional interdependence between the Kent Campus and the surrounding community.
- To establish ways that will allow the University, and its surrounding constituencies, to be engaged in ongoing, positive dialogue.
- To identify areas of common interest and concern for the city and the University and take joint responsibility and proactive measures to deal with them.
To seek resolution from students, governmental departments, and citizen representatives to the identified interests and concerns.

To develop a set of guidelines or standards to be used as an outcome measure of the Committee's activities.

II. A Design for Implementation: Anticipating Kent Community Needs at a Deliberate Pace

Kent State University and the City of Kent have kept pace with this important national movement. This report distills the best information and incorporates elements of more promising proposals from the subcommittees. At the same time, the report gives life to the University’s role and Mission statement, at least in respect to service to the local community as an important goal. The goal reads as follows:

"Kent State University is committed to being a catalyst in finding solutions to the social, economic, and cultural challenges facing society . . . "

Community and Student Support for Town/Gown Committee’s Efforts


III. The Committee at Work: University and Kent Community-Wide Involvement

From the beginning, the committee as listed above viewed itself as a community-wide committee, devoid of political partisanship and departmental bias. The most singular feature of the committee process has been forging of a group dynamic. The group dynamic served two purposes: 1) To hold the committee together, helping to keep it on track, and 2) to produce a willing cooperation of diverse community people, University as well as City departments, students, faculty from a broad spectrum of disciplines that resulted in submission, examination, and approval of an ample variety of ideas.
In addition to the above committee's five charges by Dr. Bredemeier and Mayor Chandler, the subcommittee added specific mission objectives for their committees.

Our approach to the Town/Gown Relationship Committee was unique in two ways when compared with similar efforts at other colleges and universities. One, this was not simply a student affairs or student life program. It had support and representation from all major departments from within the University and City as well as active community involvement. Secondly, the committee went beyond the boundaries of defining the problems and making recommendations, which is where most of the Town/Gown relationships end. The committees, with the student, faculty, and community support designed an implementation process as well. The University and City of Kent will continuously explore the issues and find resolutions as more resources become available.

**Committee as a Whole**

As one of the first orders of business, the committee composed, revised, and approved a planning agenda (see Appendix A) and definition of terms (see Appendix H).

**Critical Issues Considered**

The Committee established the following list of critical questions to guide us in our deliberation as a second order of business:

- Who are the key people in the University, City, and Community that have an interest in Town/Gown problems?
- What organizations within the University, City, and Community have resources that could help solve the problems?
- How can students and the community be constructively involved in finding ways and means to solve the problems?
- What is the nature and issues to be addressed?
- What is the focus population?
- What current available data indicates severity and trends of problems?
- What individuals or organizations within the City-University are currently involved with Town/Gown issues? What are their roles, resources, etc.?
- What current University-City practices and policies adversely affect Town/Gown relationships?
- What new roles could students, faculty, and community people play in addressing Town/Gown issues?
- What incentive could the University and City profile, or what disincentives could they remove to encourage a greater faculty, student, and community relationship?
- What are the expected impacts (costs and benefits) of the recommendations being considered?
- Who will monitor and report on the progress of the Town/Gown relationship?

The planning agenda, the committee charge, statement, and the questions outlined above, become the standard by which all ideas generated by the committee members were approved for inclusion in this report.

**Subcommittee Recommendations**

After meeting as a whole committee in the month of January 1995, the committee formed five subcommittees in order to facilitate production of the preliminary and final report. The subcommittees' recommendations are summarized below.
# TOWN/GOWN RELATIONSHIP COMMITTEE
(City of Kent and Kent State University)

## Planning Time Line

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| January 23 | - Introduction and charge of the Committee  
  * Richard A. Bredemeier - Vice President and Dean for Enrollment Management and Student Life  
  * Kathleen Chandler - Mayor of the City of Kent  
  - Appointment of Noah Midamba, Assistant Dean for Enrollment Management and Student Life, as Chair  
  - Outline of critical issues before the committee  
  - Introduction of policy options as a framework for discussion  
  - Selection of the workings subcommittees  
  - Setting future meetings  |
|            |            |
| February 15| - The role of Student Conduct Office  
  * Ray Flynn, Coordinator, Student Conduct  
  - Subcommittees established as follows:  
    (a) Economic Development  
    (b) Housing Development  
    (c) Student Behavior  
    (d) Health, Safety, and Security  
    (e) Campus Reciprocity  |
|            |            |
| March 15   | - Student's Perspective on Town/Gown  
  * Zach Brandon, Executive Director, Undergraduate Student Senate  
  - Subcommittee updates  |
| Conference Suite  Kent Student Center | |
April 19
261 Michael Schwartz Center

- Community Perspective (Panel)
  * Mayor Chandler

- Speakers:
  * Gary Locke - Plans Administrator, City of Kent
  * James Peach, Captain, Kent City Police
  * John Ferilo - Health Commissioner, City of Kent

- Subcommittee Updates

May 10
261 Michael Schwartz Center

- The University Perspective
  * Carol Cartwright, President, Kent State University

- Subcommittee updates

June 21
316 Kent Student Center

- A Historical Perspective
  * Richard Bredemeier

- Subcommittee updates

July 19
310 Kent Student Center

- History of the Town/Gown Relationship
  * Loris Troyer, Editor Emeritus, Record Courier

- Community/Greek Relationship, From a Student’s Perspective
  * Eric Hancsak, President, Delta Tau Delta

- Subcommittee updates

August 16
309 Kent Student Center

- Overview of New Position and Responsibilities
  * Nancy Scott, Vice President and Dean for Enrollment Management and Student Life

- A Business Perspective
  * Doug Fuller, Past President, Chamber of Commerce

- Subcommittee updates

September 20
306A Kent Student Center

- Sister City Relationship with Zimbabwe Report
  * Mayor Chandler

- A Student’s Perspective on Community Service
  * Jennifer Gensch, President, Habitat for Humanity

- Subcommittee updates
October 16
7 - 9 P.M.
Kent Roosevelt High School

October 18
310 (A&B) Kent Student Center

October 30
7 - 9 P.M.
306 (A-C) Kent Student Center

December 12
5 - 7 P.M.
306 (A-C) Kent Student Center

- **Town/Gown Evening Meeting**
  Open Forum - Coordinated by Mayor Chandler

- **Town’s Perspective**
  * Charlie Thomas, owner of Ray’s Place

- **The City Noise Ordinance and Its Impact on Students**
  * Brady Rubin, Undergraduate Student Senator for Community Affairs

- **Town/Gown Evening Meeting**
  Open Forum - Co-sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Senate and the Student Quality Advisory Committee

- **Summation & Reception**
  * Introduction by Dr. Scott
  * Remarks by President Cartwright
  * Remarks by Mayor Chandler
CAMPUS RECIPROCITY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Kathleen Chandler and Anthony Keys- Co-Chairs, Suzanne Allen, Molly Gasgo, Ann Gosky, Ann Marie Halal, Paul Milton, Tom Simpson, Paula Slimak, Sheryl Smith, Jody Swenderman, and James Watson

The Mission of the Campus Reciprocity Subcommittee:

To enhance City and University understanding and cooperation through mutual sharing of information, facilities and resources.

The Issue:

The subcommittee formulated ideas for building a better working relationship between Kent State University and the Kent Community. The subcommittee developed ideas for identifying areas of mutual benefit and made suggestions for better communication links between the Community and University to encourage greater two-way access and cooperation.

Recommendations: Action Items and Exploratory Initiatives:

1. Initiate preemptive exchanges between the City of Kent and the appropriate University parties to encourage communication and shared input toward solutions for items of mutual interest.

2. Continue the Community Calendar listing in the Record-Courier initiated as a result of early Town/Gown meetings, with the help of the University’s News and Information office, which is providing expanded calendar entries used in the INSIDE publication to share with the Record Courier readers.

3. Initiate overture to the City of Kent to integrate major public events that could attract the university community into INSIDE’s faculty and staff abbreviated calendar listings.
4. Explore potential of calendar listings to be integrated into the Kent State University’s “Home Page” (an “InterNet” for Kent State University) and into any similar initiatives that may be undertaken by the City of Kent.

5. Explore the idea of providing opportunities to involve Kent citizens in University fund-raising events and activities and the University in community fund-raising events and activities to provide for University scholarships and Community Projects.

6. Continue the "Kent Pride" activities - perhaps consider a City/University Logo to highlight the strengthening sense of community between the University and City.

7. Establish a "Community Day" with an open house by academic units and opening university facilities for public schools and the community at large. This would be a day when people from the community would visit the campus, various departments, classrooms, sporting events, etc.

8. Continue the "Art in the Park" joint activity with the City Parks hosting art displays from students and the community, suggest that the City Parks intensify overtures for student and faculty participation from the University, and encourage the planning of a "picnic in the park" at the same time to encourage family participation.

9. Develop a central contact point and clearing house for community-service activities undertaken by students giving service in the community and by community members giving service on the campus.

10. Develop a formal procedure of providing recognition and celebration of reciprocal achievements and contributions made by members of the University and members of the Community. Explore the potential of creating two-way awards, one for a University award for being a friend to the City and the other a City award for being a friend to the University.

11. Encourage two-way participation for such events as Veterans Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Black History Month, National Youth Service Week, etc., to encourage participation from both the City and University community members in each other's events or in a jointly planned activity. For example, veteran organizations will present the color guard at the University football game on Veterans Day.
12. Encourage City of Kent citizenry, when planning public event observations, to approach respective academic areas with matching special interests as a means of involving University citizens.

13. Continue the annual dinner among the president of the University, the cabinet, the mayor, city council, the manager and department heads.

14. Explore the idea of having joint family events with University and City of Kent citizens and/or public employees.

15. Explore the idea of expanding River Day events to involve more students and community members.

16. Create additional links between high school and University students by developing joint activities.

17. Create an "Adopt A Student Day" to better acquaint international students with community life and to create an interest in the host family program.

18. Continue to provide opportunities for identifying mutually beneficial vehicles for developing strategies for future growth and development. Examples are: the recreation feasibility committee, expediting construction of Greek housing, economic development strategies, South Africa Business Opportunity Summit program, etc.

19. Consider expanding the Bowman Breakfast to include speakers from the student population and the community at large. (Presently speakers are from either the University administration and faculty or they are members of the Chamber of Commerce.)

20. Continue to form joint University/City committees to resolve mutual problems, such as racial discrimination, and to communicate Town/Gown success stories/examples to demonstrate vehicles in place to consider mutual problems.

**Strategy:**

The relative success of each of the recommendations will be determined by the response from the community and University. The committees could help to evaluate the success and make recommendations for change.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Mary Michel and Zach Brandon - Co-Chairs, Jack Armul, Anita Herington, Brady Rubin, Mike Schleich, Jim Tinnin, Angela Wilson, and Robert Zuckerman

The Issue:

In order for the members to actualize the Mission of the subcommittee, it was first necessary to inventory current information so as to gain perspective on the University’s impact on the economy of Kent – both directly and indirectly. Secondly, the committee was interested in identifying how residents of Kent, students and non-students, spend their money in terms of types of stores or services.

Recommendations: Action Items and Exploratory Initiatives:

1. The subcommittee developed a strategy to:
   A. Identify data sources
   B. Determine accessibility
   C. Gather data
   D. Evaluate data
   E. Propose action to appropriate constituencies.

2. Existing data was obtained from the Economic Impact Study, the Office of Financial Affairs, and the City of Kent. A survey was constructed and nearly 20,000 copies were distributed to City and campus residents, Kent State University faculty and staff, and Kent businesses.

Strategies:

The results of the data gathering efforts of the EIS and the survey appear below. The results were distributed to the Town/Gown Relationship Committee, City of Kent Administration and Council, Kent State University Administration, Kent State University Board of Trustees, Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Management Advisory Council.

Our recommendation is to distribute the results and further analyze the responses to the open-ended questions in which individuals identified the names of stores or services they would like to see in Kent. In addition, conduct focus groups to obtain information to clarify some of the data pertaining to desired types of stores and services.
Economic Impacts

To examine the economic impacts of Kent State University upon the City of Kent, a variety of data from the University and City was required. Several sources provided the following data that reveal the degree to which the University financially impacts the city.

Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>KSU Amounts Withheld</th>
<th>Total City of Kent Tax Revenues</th>
<th>KSU as Percentage of Kent City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>$2,083,877</td>
<td>$7,842,173</td>
<td>26.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>2,254,160</td>
<td>8,205,727</td>
<td>27.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>2,248,792</td>
<td>8,518,526</td>
<td>26.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>2,215,932</td>
<td>8,888,566</td>
<td>24.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>2,237,611</td>
<td>9,011,745</td>
<td>24.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the tax withholding data of the past five years, the University is responsible for providing through local taxes over 25% of the City of Kent's tax revenues. That represents a direct dollar amount to the city's budget.

Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1991-92 Kent Expenditure Sources (in Millions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Inter-University Council of Ohio)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income Tax</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Indirect economic impacts can be further seen when data on expenditures by a variety of sources is identified. In 1991-92 academic year, the University, its employees and students, and visitors to the University were responsible for approximately $504.9 million in expenditures. Much of this money entered the local economy.

**University Payment to Kent Zip Code Vendors in 1994**

(University Financial Affairs)

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>$1,808,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 1994, the University made payments to vendors in the Kent area of a little over $1.8 million.

**Table 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kent City Resident Data Tax Year 1994</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Source: Helen Carpenter, Manager, Human Resource System)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Student Employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Employees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents By Primary Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Kent Town/Gown Survey - 2,210 surveys returned)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent City Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Resident of Kent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSU Campus Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-blank-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents By Employment Location</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed in Kent</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed by KSU</td>
<td>742</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside of Kent</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-blank-</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents By Student Status</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time student</td>
<td>1466</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time student</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-student</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-blank-</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondents By Sex</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>1546</td>
<td>72.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-blank-</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 8

Respondents By Age
(Kent Town/Gown Survey -1995)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;21 years</td>
<td>1282</td>
<td>60.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-35 years</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-59</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 years+</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-blank-</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 9

Respondents By Marital Status
(Kent Town/Gown Survey -1995)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>1583</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-blank-</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Store/Service*</td>
<td>frequency</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>1472</td>
<td>69.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Dining</td>
<td>806</td>
<td>38.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar/Night Clubs</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>26.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groceries</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>20.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>18.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie Theater</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitness</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video Rental</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service/Mechanical</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>12.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair &amp; Nail Care</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>12.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio/Video Equip</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fast Food</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Meals</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>11.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playing Sports</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental/Eye Care</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appliances</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watching Sports</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanning</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Counsel</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automobiles</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tires/Muffler Etc</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel Services</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountant</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Respondents were to identify the top three store/services they would like to see more of in Kent.

What would attract you to shop in Kent?

27.9% Easy, inexpensive public transportation to stores/services.
28.2% Convenient parking.
49.1% More national chain stores in Kent.
59.9% A greater variety of retail stores in Kent
45.9% Having the particular store (or facility) that I like in Kent.
28.9% More convenient store hours.

Which extended hours preferred?

3.1% Open before 9:00 a.m.
91.8% Stay open after 5:00 p.m.

**Interpreting Town/Gown Survey Responses**

The most desired type of business indicated by respondents was the clothing store: 1,472 surveys (viz. 69.4% of respondents) identified “Clothing” as one of their three choices of the types of stores they would like to see in Kent. The respondents further noted where they went for the business or service and 80.3% indicated that they shop for clothing outside of Kent.

The second most mentioned type of business wanted by the respondents was “Fine Dining.” The frequency of the second place choice was 806 respondents (38.0%)

The remaining types of business/services, 27 of them, had response percentages less than 30%.

Respondents go to Kent City for bars, night clubs, grocery stores, movie theaters, video rental stores, and fast food. The strongest response on the survey was that 91.8% of the respondents indicated a preference for store hours after 5:00 p.m.
Health, Safety, and Security Subcommittee Report

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Tom Blair and Sarah Kilby, Co-Chairs. Barry Blankenship, John Ferlito, Diana Hultren, John Peach, and Jay Cranston

The Mission of the Health, Safety, and Security Subcommittee:

To gather information and make recommendations about current issues and concerns regarding student health, safety, and security, and to present suggestions for both maintaining and, more important, improving relations between the Kent community and the University.

The Issues:

While the committee concentrated on issues of health and safety, it was evident that many of these concerns overlapped into areas being discussed by other subcommittees.

The Kent Health Department inspects all "multiple use" rentals (more than 1 lessee/residence) on an annual basis, as well as attempting to resolve health or safety related complaints. Follow-up on some of these complaints can be difficult and can end up in court. Also, there is no clear mechanism for discovering when an owner converts his property from single use to multiple use rental. Consequently, some rentals may avoid inspections.

Trash removal is also a concern, with some off-campus students assuming trash pickup is automatic if refuse is left at the curb. Students moving out at the end of the year results in large amounts of trash and abandoned property left at curbside.

Many of the issues in the area of safety and security have to do with the Water Street area. Terms such as "the bar scene," "entertainment district," "Battle Zone," and "attractive nuisance" were used. While issues of crowds, noise and violence were concentrated downtown, areas adjacent to downtown have experienced some of the same problems. Lt. Weiss expressed a concern that by concentrating law enforcement downtown, the rest of the City might not be quite as safe.

It is noteworthy that crime statistics demonstrate that as much as 80% of the arrests for violent acts involve individuals who are not associated with the University or City. The
increase in violence is reflective of society in general and demonstrates a generalized lack of respect for others and the law. Both Lt. Weiss and Charlie Thomas (owner, Ray's Place) felt that the bar owners need to take a more proactive role in the downtown problems. Violence that originates in the bars often spills out to the streets, sometimes at the urging of bar employees. The Kent Licensed Beverage Association has discussed this issue many times, and City Council has explored concepts that may force some issues to ease the problem. Another solution that was proposed to reduce alcohol-related problems out in the neighborhood was to limit the amount of alcohol at any party.

Another possibility that was discussed was the creation of a "University District" involving the neighborhoods immediately adjacent to campus, where Kent State University Police Department could be used for law enforcement. Currently the mutual aid pact between the City and the University does not recognize any such district. University of Akron's Security Director, Ron Heineking, indicated the mutual aid pact with Akron does include some areas adjacent to the University, because University of Akron Police go through these streets to get to other University property.

The interaction between the University and City with regard to conduct and criminal cases, especially those occurring just off-campus, was considered. Current feelings are that the University's conduct system does not allow the City to feel comfortable with the sharing of information and conduct issues.

Recreational bonfires is perceived as a threat by many residents, as reported by the neighborhood associations. The City apparently has no ordinance to govern this activity, and the guidelines applied when complaints are registered seem somewhat vague.

The Noise Ordinance is another sensitive point. Students feel that enforcement may be arbitrary, that they are being singled out, or that the ordinance is too broad and strict. Police statistics, however, suggest there are many more warnings than citations, and the police feel residents prefer the current situation to that before the ordinance become effective.

The committee was concerned that the lack of involvement of City Council on the Town/Gown Committee may have had an impact on the credibility of our recommendations. While the Mayor was a valuable resource, the power center in Kent is the Council and City Manager.

Recommendations:

1. The Town/Gown Relationship Committee should become a permanent part of the governance of the City and the University.
2. Many of the health-and safety-related issues could be favorably impacted through an educational program. This would require a full-time staff position at the University.

3. Coordinate the spring citywide trash pick-up with the end of the semester.

4. The interaction between the City and the University involving a student’s off-campus criminal behavior needs to be examined and more carefully defined.

5. The City needs a clearly stated recreational fire ordinance.

6. Council should reexamine the Noise Ordinance to see if it could be improved.

7. The Zoning Department should develop a mechanism to ensure appropriate notification to the City when a residence is converted to multiple use.

**Strategies:**

Efforts should begin immediately to find the funds, organizational location and a suitable individual to deal with the off-campus issues referred to above. Discussions in the areas of the Noise Ordinance, proposed fire ordinance, and the zoning issues above should also be quickly initiated, as well as further exploration into the question of the University’s response to off-campus student criminal activity. The contract with the trash company is being renegotiated in January 1996, which would be the appropriate time to suggest coordinating spring citywide pickup with the end of the academic school year.
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sarah Shumate and Constance Foley - Co-Chairs. Chris Briddick, George Bingham, Matt Ward, and Kathleen Chandler, ex-officio member

The Mission:
The purpose of the Housing Development Subcommittee was to identify and explore issues associated with off-campus housing and recommend strategies to satisfactorily eliminate these barriers, thus improving the image of the City and the University with regard to student housing.

The Issues:
Students are required to live on-campus for the first two years of their college career. Students seek housing off-campus as a means of obtaining greater independence and less expensive housing, usually after fulfilling the residence requirement. Students also seek off-campus housing as a means of avoiding adherence to the rules and regulations of Residence Services. Students who are members of Greek organizations seek housing in the community as a means of enhancing the bonds of fraternal life by living together. These students tend to be more full-time, traditional age college students (20-25) who want to live in proximity to the University. Older, non-traditional students, often have families and attend part-time. Although they often may live within the City, proximity to campus is not an issue with them. The Kent community also attracts a number of non-students who wish to live in the same community as college-age students, thus increasing the need for rental property as opposed to single family dwellings.

Because there has never been a planned approach to developing student housing in the community, students live in many neighborhoods under diverse conditions. The majority of students live in large apartment complexes such as Glen Morris, College Towers, Holly Park, Dramouth Place and Dale Terrace, fraternity/sorority houses, or in boarding houses within walking distance of the University. Those in boarding houses share the neighborhood with primarily middle-class families, the elderly and University faculty and staff.

Although addressed by another subcommittee, student behavior continues to be an issue. Excessive noise, trash-strewn yards, illegally parked cars, and student behavior while under the influence of alcohol provide disruptions to the neighborhood environment. Such discrepancies have had an impact on law enforcement, the health department, parking and traffic, and community relations.
Due to zoning restrictions within the City of Kent, many fraternity houses have gone "underground." Members of an organization live within a boarding house and participate in fraternal activities within benefit of official recognition as a fraternity house. Attempts have been made to attract developers to build Greek housing on campus but, due to prohibitive costs to the Greek organizations, have been unsuccessful.

Students often request help in issues such as leases, deposits, fair housing practices and Ohio Landlord Tenant laws. There is currently no support from the University for assistance in these areas.

Community and University Needs:
The City of Kent needs to have a clean, safe, quiet residential environment, where all residents can peacefully co-exist.

Kent State University needs to have safe, clean, and affordable housing available within the City of Kent where students, not obligated to live on-campus, can live while pursuing a college education.

Recommendations:

1. The University, in conjunction with the City of Kent, should provide an orientation for students living within the City of Kent on the expectations for community behavior.

2. The City of Kent should work closely with the Office of Judicial Affairs to ensure that students, living within the City, posing a serious threat to the City and University environment, are subject to University policy as well as City ordinances.

3. Greek housing should be provided within an area that falls under the jurisdiction of the University.

4. Kent State University needs to attract upper class students to an on-campus housing program which meets their needs and is different from the housing options provided to freshmen and sophomores.

5. Kent State University needs to provide assistance to students living off-campus in matters related to leases, deposits, fair housing practices and Ohio Landlord and Tenant Laws.

6. Kent State University needs to inform its on-campus residents of the policies and regulations regarding expectations for student behavior - both on-campus and within the local community as representatives of Kent State University.
7. An ongoing committee composed of both City and University representatives should be created to address, in a collaborative forum, current and future issues between the University and City.

8. Provide a housing area within the City where both the City and University have joint responsibility and jurisdiction.

9. Provide Greek Housing on campus in an incubator phase for Greek organizations in which to experience a living environment to strengthen fraternal bonds.

Guidelines for Joint University/City Actions:
The Housing Development Subcommittee specifically addressed the issues of Greek Housing and expectations of community behavior. With the resolution of these two issues, the Community should benefit by having fewer noise, parking, and substance abuse violations and a higher level of satisfaction from non-student residents residing in the area adjacent to the University. The University should benefit by having a quality living environment for students, thus increasing support for academic success, and increased involvement in fraternal activities by members of Greek organizations.

Implementation Plan:
There is some evidence of Community and University support for the implementation of the above listed strategies. There is some concern over a possible lack of support from the Community and even a possible lack of identification of the issues due to minimal participation on the part of the Community on the subcommittee. Support is also needed from departments such as Judicial Affairs, Campus Life, and Orientation.

Some of the above strategies are already in place or are being pursued such as those pertaining to Greek housing. Other strategies could be implemented as early as fall 1995.

Evaluation:
Various assessment methods could be implemented to assess the effectiveness of the above strategies. Surveys of Greeks, commuters, landlords and non-University affiliated Kent residents living in proximity to the University could be administered. Focus groups composed of Greeks, commuters, landlords, Kent residents could also be conducted.
STUDENT BEHAVIOR SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Carol Neff and Randy Ristow, Co-Chairs. Ed Bargerstock, Julie Bargerstock, Jay Cranston, Ray Flynn, Don Polyak, Brandon Henning, and Merry Houser.

The Mission of the Student Behavior Subcommittee:
To encourage a more unified community through improved interaction, communication, and information/resource sharing. The proposed communication and cooperation on issues will reflect an integrated view of the campus and city as one community.

Issues:
Student behavior on and off campus affects the relationship between the residents and students, both on an individual, as well as institutional, basis. To improve this relationship, we need to facilitate and improve the communication and interaction between students and residents. Further, we need to enhance a mutual understanding of each other’s needs and sensitivities.

In addition, there seems to be a lack of understanding of various city ordinances and zoning regulations on the part of both the students as well as the residents. The students allege selective enforcement of the Noise Ordinance. In fact, the committee was told that some organizations now routinely include fines as part of their social budget. It was also noted that the ordinance limits certain appropriate behavior of both students and residents, e.g., graduation parties, caroling, etc.

On the other hand, residents are complaining about lack of enforcement regarding recreational bonfires and single family dwellings that somehow “overnight” turn into multiple use (student housing) in violation of zoning codes. The subcommittee also heard several scenarios which demonstrated a problem between specific residents and specific city agencies. The subcommittee wants to emphasize it does not want to be involved in these issues, but rather, wants to concentrate on those circumstances where student behavior is involved.

There is a general lack of awareness that a good deal of the offending behavior out in the community comes from non-students living in student neighborhoods, over whom the University has no control whatsoever, and an unwillingness to accept that this behavior is more likely to occur in student-dense housing areas.

Finally, there seems to be the distinct impression on the residents’ part that the University could not care less about student behavior off campus, let alone be involved in any enforcement/sanction efforts.
Recommendations:

1. Improve students’ orientation to the City via freshman orientation or a student handbook to define standards of acceptable student behavior in off-campus housing.

2. Encourage student involvement in community organizations, e.g., Civic associations, neighborhood groups, landlords’ association, and city government and encourage both student and University representation at City Council meetings.

3. Encourage City Council members to have more of a presence on campus, including committee involvement when appropriate.

4. Identify and develop City and University resources to provide the creation of a full-time position within the Student Affairs Office that would work with a designated liaison of the City, to address resident/student problems with an emphasis on early intervention and mediation. These positions would work with landlord/students with health, police and zoning issues.

5. Educate residents, students, and Kent State University officials regarding relevant city ordinances, zoning codes, etc., and develop a mechanism for Kent State University to discover when Kent State University affiliate groups or activities are not in compliance with these city codes. For example, when fraternities and sororities register an address, they must present a copy of a zoning certificate for this property to the University which states the appropriate use of said property.

6. Ask City Council to have the Police Chief identify and review the legitimate concerns that both students and residents have addressed concerning the Noise Ordinance and bring these back to Council for their input and action if necessary.

7. Improve information exchange between the City and the University through the use of existing media, development of a joint University/City publication and/or University orientation program for City residents possibly using the Kent State University Ambassador structure already in place.

8. Ask City, County, and University officials to designate their legal representatives to look into the possibility/feasibility of involving the University in the collection of unpaid fines by students for municipal violations by putting them on registration and graduation hold.
9. Downsize the existing Town/Gown Relationship Committee to a workable number, have it meet at least quarterly, and focus on some of the recommendations coming from this year's committee.

Strategies:
In order to facilitate the implementation of these recommendations, the City will need to continue support of the neighborhood associations and planning groups. Additionally, increased and regular contact among the city administration, Council, and University officials (initially via Enrollment Management and Student Life), as well as formation of committees made up of community and University personnel to deal with future joint projects will also help expedite some of the actions suggested above.

Work could begin immediately on recommendation Number 4 with the University official and City liaison addressing resident/student/landlord problems such as zoning and noise ordinances, etc. Work could also begin immediately on recommendation Number 8 with the designation of individuals from the City, University, and County that need to be involved on all levels. A subgroup of the Town/Gown Relationship Committee could initiate efforts to create appropriate written orientation materials and off-campus behavioral standards, as was listed in Number 1 of the recommendations.

Potential barriers to implementation include governmental restrictions, financial problems, and both apathy and mistrust by the various constituencies. It, therefore, will be essential to foster a willingness to work together, with increased contact and communication, to compromise, yet seek common ground. Together, the University and City can realize enhanced functional interdependence and sense of a true community.
Kent nightlife magnet
for violence?

Arrest stats show outsiders problem

By Ann Marie Halal
Record-Courier staff writer

While instances of violence in downtown Kent appear to be on the increase in both severity and number, most believe it's not Portage County residents at the root of the problem.

"This town has a reputation throughout Northeast Ohio," Kent Police Capt. James Peach said. "We're getting a lot more people from Stark, Trumbull, Mahoning, Summit, Cuyahoga counties. Those people are coming here because of the nightlife.

They bring their values with them and it's not mixing with the Kent community."

In general, fewer than one-third of those arrested over a typical weekend in Kent are connected with Kent State University or the area, Peach said. In fact, many of those arrested who are from out of town are not even in Kent to visit someone they may know here.

Peach said the increase of people coming from out of town has been a gradual change over the past few years. The shift was noticeable, but police weren't sure at
(See Kent, page A10)

From page A1
first if a trend was beginning.

But the outside crowds were major players in what police classified as a riot that occurred on South DePeyster and East Main streets at around 2 a.m. Nov. 4. About 80 people were involved in the incident, which occurred after people left the nearby Tremors nightclub, resulting in bystanders being assulted.

KSU police: Severity of crimes up

By Cait Anastis
Record-Courier staff writer

The rise in violent crime in the Kent community is also being felt on the Kent State University campus, although there is no increase in the number of violent crimes reported.

Rather than seeing the number of violent incidents grow, Kent State University police have seen an increase in the severity of crimes taking place, said John Peach, director of KSU Police. Peach is the brother of Capt. James Peach of the Kent Police Department.

Where a dispute in the past might have stopped at two people shoving each other, Peach said things now escalate.

"It isn't enough just to neutralize a person," he said, "now (the intent) is to harm a person, physically harm a person."

Once an incident has taken place, Peach said, there are no actions the police department can take to mitigate the damage already sustained by a person. All they can do is deal with the offender and try to be sensitive to the victim.

(See KSU, page A10)

'People are less tolerant of each other, and that continues to grow'

— Kent Police Chief William Lillich
KSU police see increase in severity of campus crime

from page A1

The university's police department also benefits from other defense systems in place on campus, each said, including campus security, student conduct and staff members who may be more willing to call in and report crimes than a witness to a crime in the city.

"I think we are doing as well as can be expected," Peach said.

The department is also impacted by any increase in violence in the city through calls for mutual aid, he said.

"We're being called upon more frequently by the city to respond," Peach said. "Anytime they are responding down there, they are leaving their turf."

While the campus is never left unprotected during a mutual aid call, he said there are fewer offices available to deal with a problem should it arise on campus.

However, the KSU Police Department will continue to respond to calls for mutual aid from the surrounding community, he said.

"We have a moral responsibility to try to make Kent city a safe environment," he said.

While the police department alone cannot do much to stem the growing trend toward more violent crimes, he said the university as a whole is working to find ways to change the attitudes that lead to those crimes.

"I'm not sure there is anything the university police alone can do about it," he said.

The University Task Force on Violence recently submitted a report, which included a series of suggestions for changing attitudes toward violence both on campus and in the community. An ad hoc diversity committee is also exploring ways to prevent conflicts from escalating on campus.

"There are ways where the university can act as one to try to get a sense of a standard of values that everyone can accept, where people either by peer pressure or by sanctions, people can conform," he said. "It really extends beyond mere violence, it's all those steps that fall short of violence, too."

KSU officials are also working to handle some of the conflicts between students and residents in the community, said Dr. Jay Cranston, who is on special assignment with KSU's student conduct office.

"The university is in the process of forming a community relations board to help deal with some of the issues that arise," Cranston said. "I think it's going to be an involvement between the campus constituency and the community constituency."

The board is expected to meet for the first time after Thanksgiving and will help smooth relations between the two communities, Cranston said.

"I don't think in some cases the community is aware of certain student concerns, nor are the students completely conversant with community concerns," he said.

"And it never hurts to talk."

While these committees struggle with the underlying issues of violence in the community, there is not much the university can do about individual incidents, Cranston said.

"There's not much I can do about the one-on-one fights outside of (bars)," he said. "If the bar owners can't stop it and the police can't stop it, what can the university do?"
Kent nightlife drawing violence downtown

Police reports show outsiders make up bulk of problems

"It's hard to predict what's going to take place," Peach said. "We may really have a big Thursday night, but not that much following Saturday. It's difficult to properly plan for the activity in the evening hours. We're seeing more and more people just hanging out and waiting around instead of just leaving the bars. Kent has acquired some notoriety."

Kent Police Chief William Lillich said many of the incidents are "coming more violent and frequent in nature. He attributes people having less of a concern for humanity and more of an interest in physically acting out conflicts being part of the problem."

"Sometimes, the number of incidents comes and goes," Lillich said. "This year, we expect the number of severe assaults to be the same as last year, but our simple assaults are on the rise. People are less tolerant of each other, and that continues to grow."

While the number of serious assaults in Kent is predicted to rise from 78 in 1993 to 80 by the end of this year, simple assaults are predicted to rise from 5 to 479.

Ed Heritage, owner of College Street Library, one of Kent's largest downtown bars, maintains his business has relatively little trouble considering its size, popularity and typical year-round operation. But "at he does see concerns him."

"What has happened is that the city has come to Kent," Heritage said. "We do not have it trouble with Portage County people. Gangs are coming to Kent to expand their business here. These people who are coming in from out of town have the temperament of a pit bull and the same intellect."

They have no soul, no humanity. They are violent for no reason. There is no way to prevent someone who has no humanity from fighting. They just don't care. It is not a bar problem. It is a society problem.

"They have no family, no father, no faith, no education, no discipline and no goals," Heritage said. "It's a serious, serious problem. You can have 30 bartenders and 30 cops and they couldn't solve the problem. There's no solution. There's nothing you can say or do that makes sense to them."

Heritage doesn't have bouncers at his bar, saying that unless they are properly trained, their presence can cause more problems than they solve. Instead, employees keep alert of the crowd and when a fight begins to break out, bartenders work immediately to get those involved outside.

"We have very little trouble, as big as we are. It breaks my heart when someone gets hurt here. It shouldn't happen and it's totally unreasonable. It's totally non-logic," Heritage said.

Peach said many of the people who come to Kent from out of town are groups of people who are affiliated with each other and might be from the inner city, but they don't necessarily constitute gangs.

But the groups do bring their "values" to Kent with them, he said.

"I would say safely the increase of violence is more a result of people coming in from out of town," Peach said.

Weapons, namely handguns and knives, are much more prevalent in Kent than in the past. So is drug activity - college towns such as Kent have young crowds who inherently tend to experiment with drugs. The Portage County Drug Task Force does monitor drug activity in Kent, Peach said.

Police have said the bar owners aren't the source of the problem, but the presence of alcohol naturally helps escalate situations.

Kent police officials have already met with owners of the town's larger bars - Tremors, College Street Library, JB's and the Robin Hood - and a second meeting for all Kent bar owners is scheduled for Dec. 6.

The meetings aren't adversarial, but an attempt at cooperation. In many ways, Lillich said, the concerns of the police and of the bar owners are the same.

"The owners have to let us know of problems as soon as possible," Lillich said. "When they call us out we'll do a walkthrough. If we still anticipate problems, we'll concentrate our on-duty staff there when the bar closes down."

Peach said some bars are reluctant to call the police because they don't want to acquire a reputation for having problems inside.

"Our concern is not how many times they call us, but how many times they don't call us," he said.

Tremors manager Jay Chercourt has taken what he believes to be a simple and effective step to halting some of the violence by switching to only serving beer in aluminum cans instead of bottles, which can be broken and used as weapons in fights. He urges other bar owners to do the same.

"That's not going to hurt you," Chercourt said, pointing to a can of beer on the counter. "A bottle will. (Cans) will be a lot more safe and people won't be hurt."

"I'm looking out for the kids, why can't every else?" Chercourt said. "If one would get on the scene for safety, a lot of these problems would be solved. Every should get together on this. Can't we?"

Chairs and tables surround the dance floor inside Tremors, all made of plastic, which less of a danger than wooden ones when they are in fights.

"I frisk everyone who comes through my door," Chercourt said. "I check every I.D. fully, and if they have a fake I take it."

Since October, Kent police assigned four additional officers downtown foot patrol on a regular basis on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, the times which usually have the highest activity.

Having officers on foot patrol is part of the department's neighborhood policing program, which started in 1991 as a reaction what Kent police considered a dangerous problem - the Wood Courts apartment complex.

"Have the increased foot patrol worked in the downtown?" Lillich said. "We're hoping it has some affect in terms of intimidating a deterrent."

Today, some groups perceive getting into fights even challenging the police sometimes an honor. It used to be common practice, instead of resting people involved in a fight to separate them and send them on their way, Lillich said. The approach isn't as effective to when police need to make arrests in those situations.

"But we don't solve this deal with the societal sympt
Kent forms committee to study community

Group to review areas around KSU

By Ann Marie Halal
Record-Courier staff writer

Kent City Council’s health and safety committee took steps Wednesday to form a separate committee to study the problems in neighborhoods surrounding Kent State University.

Dr. Jay Cranston, who is on special assignment in KSU’s office of student conduct, approached city council in October to initiate a dialogue regarding the increased conflict that has been shown between some residents and students in the community, in addition to some students’ concerns that the city’s noise ordinance is too strict or is being enforced unfairly.

Council’s health and safety committee on Wednesday decided to appoint two KSU students, two neighborhood landlords and two homeowners to the committee. An additional ad-hoc committee would consist of a representative from the city’s police, fire and health departments, in addition to Cranston and either the chair or vice chair of council’s health and safety and community development committees.

The ad-hoc committee will meet first to discuss a mission for the study committee, and then come back to council to finalize the mission.
Committee considers joint project to build a rec center

Francisco Duque
Staff Writer

The Town/Gown Relationship Committee of the City of Kent and Kent State University is considering a joint project to build a recreation center with an outdoor pool that would serve and, in theory, bring together Kent State students and the residents of Kent.

Zach Brandon, executive director of Undergraduate Student Senate, said at the committee meeting Wednesday he would like to see the recreation center built near campus.

Kent Police Chief William Lich said Brandon was slanted toward the interests of students. After all, he said, the recreation center is supposed to serve both the Kent community and the students.

"I wouldn't be doing my job if I didn't have a slant," Brandon said.

After the meeting, committee member Robert Zuckerman said the issue of site is irrelevant since students can use the Campus Bus Service to get anywhere in town. And typically, he said, a recreation center attracts residents living within a three-mile radius, which would include all of Kent.

The committee, which was formed in January and will hold monthly meetings through June, discussed ways to improve economic development and also addressed the issue of off-campus housing for students.

Town/Gown committees have been formed around the country by members of a given university and residents of the surrounding community to address issues that affect both.

The next meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. April 19 in the Michael Schwartz Center, Room 251.
Kent

Committee to help city-KSU relations

The Kent City Council last night created a committee to meet with the Kent State University Community Relations Committee to try to resolve longstanding problems between the city and the university.

The council committee will be composed of council members and representatives of the city police, fire and health departments.

Dr. Jay Cranston of the KSU Student Relations Office said there has been a steady, dwindling lack of respect between city residents and the university for the last 10 years.

He said that was highlighted earlier this year when a student allegedly attacked an elderly resident.

Some of the problems the committees will deal with include the city noise ordinance and trash and litter problems in the university area.

Neighborhoods around the campus have been the site of problems concerning rowdiness, noise and trash in recent months, officials said.

— NED ADAMSON
LOCAL

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Bridging the gap

KSU administrator and his 49-member Town/Gown Relationship Committee are striving to make Kent a better place for permanent residents and students.

BY COLETTE M. JENKINS

Kent: When Noah Midamba moved to Kent six years ago, he couldn't find the spices and other ingredients he needed to prepare his native African cuisine or the hair care products that he needed or a barber to cut his hair.

Today, he still travels to Akron for a haircut and Cleveland to buy one of the most important ingredients for his food — the matooke, a green banana that is boiled before it is eaten.

"There are many international students enrolled at Kent State University and the merchants in the area need to be sensitive to the needs of these students," said Midamba, assistant dean of enrollment management and student life at KSU.

Midamba and the 49-member Town/Gown Relationship Committee, which he chairs, are working to help the Kent business community become more aware of the products and services needed by the diverse student population. They also want to better the relationship between the city's permanent residents and the student population. That relationship has

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Ozone readings

Police crack down
Cross yesterday gave Hammers the maximum sentence, eight to 15 years, plus three years for using a gun in the crime. Cross also appointed Medina attorney Theodore J. Lesiak to handle an appeal Hammers intends to file.

Hammers' former wife, Judie, later married the victim, Garland C. Wilson Jr.

According to a Medina County sheriff's report, Hammers was in his pickup truck, waiting for Wilson when he left work Nov. 10. Hammers rammed the rear of the car with his pickup, then chased him on Seville Road at speeds up to 100 mph, firing four shots at the car with a revolver.

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**KENT**

- Residents, students paint different pictures

Continued from Page C1

been described as amicable in some instances and violently hostile in others.

"There are two different types of students, the daytime student and the nighttime rowdies," said resident Edward Bargerstock. "For the most part, students are accepted by the community and integrate well with the community, but we have a small percentage who feel the law doesn't apply to them."

Bargerstock, who has lived on Willow Street near the university since 1975, said he is fed up with the loud parties, underage drinking, illegal fraternity houses, public urination, littering, assaults and other violence that has escalated in his neighborhood during the past couple years.

"There is a large number of retired people living in our neighborhood and they have a right to live in a quiet neighborhood and the students must be held responsible for their behavior," Bargerstock, 41, said. "As permanent residents, our main concern is to have people live together in peace and harmony within our community."

Zach Brandon, a KSU undergraduate student and executive director of Student Senate, said the student body is an example of how the university student has exaggerated.

"There really is a misunderstanding between students and the city residents," Brandon, 22, said. "There is a dislike for students. It's almost like people have forgotten they are in a college town with the college comes college students."

Brandon, who has lived in Kent for 10 years, said city residents need to be more aware of the students' needs and that students need to be more respectful of the permanent residents.

Brandon chairs the economic development subcommittee of the Town/Gown Relationship Committee. His subcommittee is focusing on the product and service needs of the diverse university student population and trying to develop the city as a place for technology — such as liquid crystals.

In addition to the issue of economic development, the steering committee has created subcommittees to deal with housing, student behavior, health issues related to housing, safety and security and campus reciprocity — programs and festivals that would be jointly sponsored by the city and university.

A subcommittee has been signed to examine each of the areas and instruct to submit report of its findings, possible solutions to any problems identified, plan to implement the solutions and a procedure for evaluating the plan's effectiveness.

Bargerstock, an insurance and real estate agent in Kent, serves the student behavior and health safety and security subcommittee. He said he has taken on the role of community spokesman because most people in his neighborhood fear retaliation by students if they speak out about the problems.

Bargerstock said he believes the city and the university should enter into a contractual agreement that students who have failed probation with legal violations or if they are convicted of violations of ordinances regulating noise, zoning, parking and litter, the diplomas withheld until the fines are paid.

Brandon, who lives off campus, said he believes ordinances such as the zoning law that prohibits more than two nonrelatives from living in a single-family dwelling discriminate against students. He said students also are skeptical of the committee's ability to bring student and residents together.

"It seems that the city wants someone watching the students in one area and not worry about the upkeep of the rental properties we live in," Brandon said.

Midamba seems to have a work cut out for him as chairman of the Town/Gown Committee, but he is willing to do it. The committee is made up of university faculty, city administrators, business owners, city residents and students.

A similar effort that began more than a year ago in Cincinnati, he said, resulted in a better relationship between Xavier University, its students and the surrounding community.

"At one time, Xavier had a very hands-off approach to student conduct off campus. We viewed an off-campus situation between the university and the student," said Ger Beauport, director of community and government relations at Xavier.

"Now we have taken a more aggressive stance toward controlling off-campus behavior. We have rewritten our student discipline policy to reflect that."

Beauport said the relationship between the university and the community began to improve a few years ago when representatives from each school started to talk to each other.
KSU-city panel to seek input on Kent concerns

Town-gown unit plans forums

By Ann Marie Halal

A committee set up to bridge relations between the Kent State University and Kent city communities is planning to hold public forums soon to seek more input and hear concerns.

"The community has got to have a sense of ownership. (The university) is theirs," said Noah Midamba, assistant dean for enrollment management and student life at KSU and chairman of the 49-member Town/Gown Relationship Committee. "The university must never leave the community. It will always be a part of this community."

The committee has been meeting since February, and the catalyst to its formation was a rash of problems that erupted last summer between permanent residents and students in the South Willow Street/College Avenue neighborhood. The goals are to establish an ongoing dialogue between the two segments of the community, improve relations, identify concerns and seek solutions.

Since then, committee members — who represent a cross-section of KSU staff, faculty and students and Kent city residents, business people and government officials — have broken into five subcommittees who are in the process of completing draft reports of their ideas and progress. The subcommittees address the issues of economic development, housing development, student behavior, campus reciprocity, and health, safety and security.

Various speakers have also addressed the committee from their perspective regarding town/gown relations, issues and concerns.

Within the next two weeks, Midamba said the committee will announce the dates and early evening times of two public forums — one at the university and the other in the Kent community — to receive input, gather information and listen to concerns.

Fliers announcing the meetings will be mass-mailed to all Kent residents. The public forums are planned to take place in September, and the comments generated from them will be used to draft the committee's final report.

Kent Mayor Kathleen Chandler, who chairs the campus reciprocity subcommittee, encouraged community members to attend the meetings to "find ways in which we can mutually benefit both the university and community."

Among the ideas to come from the committee so far include a KSU Community Day planned for 1996, creating a university zoning district specifically for student or Greek housing, and creating a permanent "roving ambassador" position at KSU whose specific job is to work with the community on a regular basis.
Kent town-gown group seeks input at community forum

By Ann Marie Halal
Record-Courier staff writer

When it comes time to assemble the 13,000 newsletters the city of Kent sends to residents four times a year, the work is usually done out-of-house.

But in the spirit of city-university relations, about 16 Kent State University students joined city staffers at Kent City Hall to help prepare the most recent mailing.

On Monday, the Kent community will have an opportunity to share concerns and issues about city-university relations and offer ideas about how to improve them at a public forum from 7 to 9 p.m. in the cafeteria of Theodore Roosevelt High School.

Sponsored by the Town-and-Gown Relationship Committee, a group dedicated to improving relations between the city and KSU, Monday’s forum is the first of two being held to receive public input. The second meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Oct. 30 in room 306 A and B of the Kent Student Center.

Kent Mayor Kathleen Chandler, a member of the committee and chair of Monday’s forum, invited residents to come to the meeting to share ideas about ways the university and the community can work together.

“‘What we are going to do is present an overview of the specific recommendations that have been made by the subcommittees and we would like to have the community respond to those and some of the issues they are concerned about,’” Midamba said.

The input generated from the two public forums will be included in the committee’s final report, Midamba said.

Also at Monday’s forum, participants will have an opportunity to complete a survey about their shopping, retail and service needs.

The survey, developed by the Town-and-Gown’s economic development subcommittee, was mailed this month to Kent residents in the city’s newsletter and also distributed to KSU students, faculty, staff and administrators.

“The one thing that is so exciting is the level of response from the university and the community,” said Mary Michel, executive director of the Kent Area Chamber of Commerce and chair of the economic development subcommittee. “To date, we are close to 900 responses. I am very pleased with the time people took. Their thoughts provided us with some valuable input.”

Kent

From page A1

Chaired by Noah Midamba, assistant dean of enrollment management and student life at KSU, the 53-member committee has been meeting as a whole and in subcommittees since February.

The catalyst to its formation was a rash of problems that erupted in the summer of 1994 between permanent residents and students in the South Willow Street/College Avenue neighborhood.

The goals of the committee are to establish an ongoing dialogue between the two segments of the community, improve relations, identify concerns and seek solutions. Committee members — who represent a cross-section of KSU staff, faculty and students and Kent city residents, business people and government officials — have broken into five subcommittees in the areas of economic development, housing development, student behavior, campus reciprocity, and health, safety and security.
Campus & Community:
Town/Gown Initiatives Strengthen Bonds

Community: an interacting population of various kinds of individuals in a common location.

Webster's definition of community helps explain why Dr. Noah Midamba, Mayor Kathleen Chandler and other individuals from the University and the City of Kent have joined together to resolve differences and to unite in common goals.

"University faculty, staff and students and residents of Kent all make up our community, and we all need to recognize that what we do affects one another," explained Dr. Noah Midamba, assistant dean for Enrollment Management and Student Life and chair of the Town/Gown Relationship Committee between Kent State University and the City of Kent.

"The University was created by this community, and the community must continue to feel proud of it and have access to it," said Midamba. "There is a dual obligation to treat each other with civility and to develop goals that will be mutually beneficial for all of us."

This idea of campus serving community and vice versa is the very cornerstone of the town/gown committee meetings, according to Midamba.

Earlier this year, a committee comprised of a cross-representation of University faculty, staff and students and Kent residents, business people and government officials began planning to provide open forums for discussion of ideas, suggestions and concerns relating to the greater community.

The second of these meetings will be held on Monday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. in Room 306 of the Kent Student Center. The entire University community is invited and encouraged to attend.

"It is very, very important for faculty and staff to show not only their support to the students and committee members who have worked on this project, but to demonstrate a keen interest in embracing the community," added Midamba. "We all must help in creating a viable community that is vibrant -- one that will work for all of us in the future if we strengthen the bonds that exist."

Mayor Chandler also strongly encouraged University employees to attend the meeting, saying that she believes the union will help to "enhance everyone's lives."

"The University is such a big part of the community, and we are thrilled that it is here, but sometimes problems arise, and a forum such as this is ideal for creating positive solutions," added Chandler. "A meeting like this serves everyone's best interest, and, in my opinion, the relationship between the University and the community has never been better."

-- Dr. Noah Midamba
Assistant Dean for Enrollment Management and Student Life
Noise issue dominates meeting

Angie DeRosa
Staff Writer

The Kent City noise ordinance was the main topic of discussion for the Town/Gown meeting Monday in Room 306 of the Student Center.

During the meeting, students and residents of the Kent community had the chance to speak out issues concerning them. Zach Brandon, executive director of Undergraduate Student Senate, was the facilitator for the discussion.

"It’s always a benefit to the community to hear students’ concerns and issues," Brandon said.

Sybil Moran, a senior art history major and president of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority, related a recent incident when she was a target of the noise ordinance.

Moran said she and fellow sorority sisters were recently given a noise violation for serenading fraternities.

"Basically, we were serenading, introducing ourselves and our new members," she said. They were on Sherman Street at the Tau Kappa Epsilon house at the time.

"We finished singing and the cops pulled up. It’s just singing. It’s good, clean fun without alcohol," she said.

But Kent resident Ed Bargerstock said he does not feel that the law is aimed specifically at students, and he is not against students living around him.

"People in the neighborhood are

See NOISE on 9.

Brandon said there is no specific about crowd size, and he criticized the regulation as arbitrary.

"Things become invalid because they’re too vague," he said. "I believe the ordinance gives too much discretion to the city police department."

In other matters, different Town/Gown subcommittees brought forth several recommendations to improve the relationship between the city and the university.

One committee proposed an "Adopt A Student" program that would aid international students in becoming familiar with Kent. Area families would host the students and introduce them to the area.
Kent students, residents working together

Town-Gown meetings improve understanding and communication between Kent residents

Kent State University students and city residents should be applauded for turning out in large numbers Monday night to discuss all aspects of student/resident relations in Kent.

The nearly 70 people who attended the Town-and-Gown Relationship Committee forum aired concerns about substandard housing, the city’s noise ordinance and student/resident relations. The meeting was part of an on-going effort to improve communication between students and Kent city residents.

The committee, which has been meeting since February, consists of 53 members who represent a cross-section of KSU staff, faculty and students, as well as city residents, business owners and government officials.

Though student input at the meetings was lacking in the beginning, it has since picked up and resulted in positive and successful discussions.

One of students’ biggest concerns voiced at Monday’s meeting was the city’s noise ordinance. The ordinance isn’t new to Kent, but many students feel they are being unjustly and frequently singled out for violations.

Some claimed that Greeks -- fraternities in particular -- often receive the brunt of violations and are usually not warned before being served a citation.

More and improved communication may solve the problem with the noise ordinance. If students and their neighbors would make a commitment to work together, then phone numbers could be exchanged and residents could call their student neighbors if they’re making too much noise -- and vice versa. This might help resolve the problem quickly and peacefully without bringing the police into the situation.

Several people also complained about landlords who don’t make improvements to rental property that does not meet health standards. So, some students suggested forming city beautification committees that would help students fix up their boarding houses and the property around them. Still others encouraged student residents to notify city and county housing and health officials if their houses are in poor condition.

Though both sides will probably never agree on the noise ordinance issue, the fact is students and residents are talking about it. They are engaging in positive and respectful discussions and really listening to one another, which in the end will lead to changes and improvements in city laws and relations.

The committee will present its final report at the end of the month. This report will contain suggestions and improvements based on the input gathered from students and residents.

It’s nice to see the community and the university working together to address their problems and reach mutual solutions for the future.
DEFINITION OF TERMS

- **Public Sector:** Governance powers (including regulation and deregulation, tax, policy changes, changes in administrative procedures) and relations with non-governmental sector.

- **Private Sectors:** Business operations, investment decisions, corporate giving, in-kind manpower and facilities, and business "clout."

- **Community:** Self-help cooperative actions, voluntary assistance, advocacy, family and informal network.

- **Policies:** Written rules or unmodified practices that govern the behavior of institutions or groups of people.

- **Policy Options:** Possible changes in such rules or practices that can alter behavior and lead to different outcomes.
CITY REGULATIONS

General Offenses Code

VAGRANTS (City of Kent, Section 509.10)
(a) "Vagrant," within the meaning of this section, means any person able to work and support himself or herself, who lives idly and without any visible means to support himself or herself; and

(1) Who shall be found loitering or strolling about in any street, alley, park or any public or private place within the Municipality; or

(2) Who shall go about begging in the Municipality, not having any regular lawful business; or

(3) Who shall occupy for the purpose of lodging any barn, shed, shop or place other than such as is provided for that purpose, without permission of the owner or person entitled to possession thereof; or

(4) Who shall be the keeper, proprietor or exhibitor of any device for swindling, or shall be an assistant or attendant to any such device; or

(5) Who, for the purpose of gaming or gambling, travels about from place to place or frequents taverns or public places in the Municipality for that purpose; or

(6) Upon whom shall be found any instrument or thing used for the commission of burglary, or for picking locks or pockets, and who shall fail to give a good account of his possession of the same; or

(7) Who shall be engaged in any fraudulent scheme, device or trick upon the streets or public or private places in the Municipality.

UNLAWFUL NOISE (City of Kent, Section 509.12)
(a) The following acts, among others, are declared to be loud, disturbing, injurious and unnecessary and unlawful noises in violation of this section, but this enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive; namely:

(1) **Horns and Signal Devices.** The sounding of any horn or signal device on any automobile, motorcycle, bus or train, or any other vehicle while not in motion, except as a danger signal or
to give warning of intent to get into motion, or, if in motion, only as a danger signal after or as brakes are being applied and decelerating of the vehicle has begun; the creation by means of such signal devices of any unreasonable loud or harsh sounds; and the sounding of any signal device for any unreasonable or unnecessary period of time.

(2) **Radio, Stereo, Musical Instruments.** The playing of any radio, stereo, television set, amplified or unamplified musical instruments, loudspeaker, tape recorder, or other electronic sound-producing devices, in such a manner or with such volume at any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort or repose of persons in any office or in any dwelling, hotel, hospital or other type of residence, or of any persons in the vicinity. The operation of any such set, instrument, phonograph, machine or device in such a manner as to be plainly audible on a property or in a dwelling unit other than that in which it is located, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this section.

(3) **Loud Noises or Disturbances.** Yelling, shouting, hooting or the making of any other loud noises on the public streets, or the making of any such noise at any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort or repose of persons in any dwelling, hotel, hospital or other type of residence, or in any office or of any persons in the vicinity.

(4) **Animal Noises.** The keeping of any animal, which by causing frequent or long continued noise shall disturb the comfort or repose of any person.

(5) **Whistle or Siren.** The blowing of any whistles or sirens, except to give notice of the time to begin or stop work or as a warning of fire or danger.

(6) **Engine Exhaust.** The discharge into the open air of the exhaust of any engine, or internal combustion engine, except through a muffler or other device which effectively prevents loud or explosive noises therefrom.

(7) **Noise Advertising.** No person shall, by ringing a bell or gong, or by using a phonograph or other instrument for producing or reproducing sounds, or by using loud or boisterous language or by any unusual noise or means whatever, advertise goods, wares, or merchandise for sale, or advertise any show, theater, exhibition, or entertainment.

(8) **Noisy Machinery.** No person shall maintain, run, or operate any steam, gas, gasoline, or other engine, boiler, press, machine, or other apparatus so constructed or operated as to make any unnecessary noise, to the annoyance and discomfort of the people of the City, except in the course of making an
emergency repair and for weather necessitated activities. (Ord. 1994-85. Passed 9-7-94)

(9) **Noise-producing Instruments.** The use of any device, apparatus, radio, ticker or other noise-making and noise-emitting device for general advertising purposes, or for the purpose of soliciting trade or attracting attention to any wares, goods, merchandise, instrument or device offered for sale is prohibited.

(b) **SOUND GENERATED BY DEVICES OR INSTRUMENTS** It is prima facie unlawful for a person to generate or permit to be generated sound by the above described devices or instruments in the following circumstances:

(1) On private property between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. of the following day in a residential area where the sound is audible past the property line of the property on which the source of the sound is located; or

(2) On a street, highway or in the public right-of-way where the sound is audible thirty (30) feet from the device generating the sound. Persons in possession of a current parade permit, assemblage permit, or a current loud-speaker permit are exempt from the provisions of this sub-paragraph.

(3) By conducting an unduly large gathering at a private residence or in a private residential area which generates excessive noise at any time.

(c) No person being the owner, or person in possession of a premise for person in control of the premises by reason of employment, agency, or otherwise, whether such ownership, possession or control is exclusive or joint, shall permit a violation of this section.

(d) **WARNING AND ALARM DEVICES** Warning and alarm devices which have the purpose of signaling unsafe or dangerous situations or calling for police are exempted from the prohibitions of this section when used for such purposes and are in proper working order.

(e) **AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES** Agricultural activities conducted within an agricultural district as authorized in Chapter 929 of the Ohio Revised Code, shall be exempted from the prohibitions of this section when the activities are not in conflict with federal, state or local laws or are conducted in accordance with generally accepted agricultural practices.

(f) **VIOLATION** Whoever violates this section is guilty of generating unreasonable noise and a minor misdemeanor. If the offender persists in generating, or permitting to be generated, unreasonable noise after reasonable warning or request to desist, is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.
SUMMARY OF MAJOR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS
AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Kent State University has a number of Community Service programs and activities scattered widely across offices and departments of the University.

**U-SERVE**

This is a clearing-house that individually matches students at one of thirty area campus or community agencies to gain community service and/or service-learning experiences.

**Kent Educational Assistance Program**

This organization provides college students as volunteers to elementary and secondary schools in Portage County during fall and spring semesters. Projects are determined by matching school needs and student skills/abilities. Approximately forty Kent State University students participate each year.

**KSU Mentor Program**

This organization matches college-age “mentors” with at-risk youth through the local King Kennedy Community Center. The organization also utilizes faculty/staff from Kent's campus to provide social, cultural, and educational programming for mentees and their parents. Up to thirty mentors and mentees are paired yearly.

**Progressive Education Community School**

A joint endeavor of the Pan-African Studies Department and the Black United Students, brings twenty to twenty-five African American youth from lower income homes to campus every Saturday. During this time they receive educational tutoring and programs on building self-esteem, African American history, etc.

**Students for the King Kennedy Center**

This group provides volunteers to the King Kennedy Community Center. The group also raises money for the center through fundraisers and a “tuition check-off box” on bills. Fifteen students actively participate throughout the semester.
**Project Pass**

This joint project, initiated by the Office of Campus Life and the Honors College, provides tutors to junior and senior high school students in the county who have failed the State Proficiency Test multiple times. Tutoring was conducted over four weekends with an average of fifteen student participants per weekend.

**Think Globally, Act Locally**

The goal of this program is to increase freshman students' awareness of global issues and provide opportunities for them to become involved with various student organizations and community agencies.

**Into the Streets**

This program was sponsored by over thirty national service organizations and is a student-run, national initiative designed to introduce students to thoughtful community service and provide learning experiences that will challenge them to volunteer on a regular basis. The program engages students in one-day projects, determined by matching their interests with critical community needs. Kent State University participated between 1991-1993, with an average of about 500 students participating yearly. Agencies involved have included Big Brothers and Big Sisters, the Animal Protective League, the American Cancer Society, and various nursing homes, just to name a few.

This list is not inclusive. Other programs exist throughout the institution and are continuing as one-time projects. There is no present system for identifying their programs or assessing their effectiveness.
KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Requirements

Identifiable office with budget, equipment, and secretarial support;

Coordinating staff members with the authority to represent the University in relation to community agencies and internal University offices and departments;

Student coordinating "council" or "network" composed of representatives of major student organizations involved with community service at Kent (currently on the agenda of Undergraduate Student Senate).

Additional Requirement for Academic Component

At least one part-time faculty coordinator, with support of the Provost, to work with academic departments to integrate "Service-Learning" for academic credit into curriculum.
The City of Kent and Kent State University are dedicated to the best possible relationships with each other. To that end, the Town/Gown Relationship Committee was established to develop ideas, guidelines and programs to build on this effort. In order to create a better consumer environment, the Economic Vitality Subcommittee is very interested in hearing from you about your purchasing decisions. Please take a few moments to complete this survey and return to the address on the back of this form by October 16, 1995. Thank you.

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Kent Town Town Survey

Side 2 - Please use a No 2 pencil only. When completed, turn over and complete Side 1.

1. Considering those times when you shop OUTSIDE Kent, what would attract you to shop IN Kent (bubble all that apply).
   - Easy, inexpensive public transportation to stores and services.
   - Convenient parking.
   - More national chain stores in Kent.
   - A greater variety of retail stores in Kent.
   - Having the particular store (or facility) that I like in Kent.
   - More convenient store hours.

2. If stores were to extend their hours, which would you prefer?
   - Open before 9:00 AM
   - Stay open after 5:00 PM

3. Please tell us the name(s) of the store(s) you would like to have in Kent:

4. What other things would attract you to shop in Kent?

5. We would like to know more about you. Please bubble the most appropriate entry in each column:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Residence</th>
<th>Employment Location</th>
<th>Student Status</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Number in Household</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kent City Resident</td>
<td>Employed in Kent</td>
<td>Full-time Student</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>21 years and younger</td>
<td>Married</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Resident of Kent</td>
<td>Employed by KSU</td>
<td>Part-time Student</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>22-35 years</td>
<td>Single</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSU Campus Resident</td>
<td>Outside of Kent</td>
<td>Non Student</td>
<td></td>
<td>36-59 years</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Retired</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60 years or older</td>
<td></td>
<td>6 or more</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. If you are willing to participate in a Focus Group on how to create a better shopping environment in Kent, please complete your name and address below:

   Name: ____________________________
   Address: _________________________
   Phone: __________________________
   Daytime: ________________________
   Evening: ________________________

7. Please return completed forms by October 16, 1995 to:
   - Kent Area Chamber of Commerce  OR  Undergraduate Student Senate
     152 Franklin Ave.
     Kent, Ohio 44240
   - Box 75 Office of Campus Life
     246 Kent Student Center
     Kent, Ohio 44242

Any questions regarding this survey may be directed to the Kent Area Chamber of Commerce office at 673-9855.