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## **Councilwoman Ruth Gray Questions Publishing of Insensitive "Golden Jubilee" Quote about Klu Klux Klan**

South Euclid Councilwoman Ruth Gray denounced an incendiary statement in this week's Sun Messenger and is demanding an explanation on why it was published. In its weekly "Sun Fact," the Sun Messenger cited, according to the book, "Golden Jubilee: South Euclid, 1917-1967, 'The Ku Klux Klan, in 1923, burned a fiery cross and held a bedsheet parade at Mayfield and Green roads.' The book states that there was not a police officer in sight."

Councilwoman Gray said, "I am incensed that the paper would dangle an incendiary statement like the Klu Klux Klan's parade of hate with no apparent reason or context. Publishing such a statement on the eve of Labor Day weekend where thousands will participate in celebratory parades around this county is insensitive and offensive. This community deserves answers as to why reprinting a book called the Golden Jubilee that speaks to racism in its most vile symbolism -- the Klu Klux Klan -- is a so-called 'Sun Fact'?"

Councilwoman Gray wants to speak personally to Sun News Editors to begin a dialogue to encourage the newspaper to cover events that reports on the progress the community has made in terms of race relations as well as an educational component to inform our children of the past as well as the progress that has been made through the years. Until the Sun News gives an explanation and full apology for posting this "Sun Fact," without proper context, we urge all South Euclid subscribers to cancel their subscriptions and for retail partners not to advertise in the Sun Messenger until they figure out how to publish articles and "facts" that embrace the diversity of our city.

Councilwoman Gray concluded, "Through diligent effort, our community has evolved into a welcoming, diverse, warm home for our young and old. This purported isolated historic fact in a book titled "Golden Jubilee" has no place in our community newspaper and represents the very opposite of what our community stands for today. Statements like this remind us to continue working together for the betterment of all."

Stand with us at 10:30am on the corner of Green and Mayfield on Tuesday Sept 6, 2011, the location where the white sheets were burned, to celebrate the diversity of the South Euclid community. We encourage all races, creeds, and religious faiths to attend this historic and important event.