

# Cincinnati

## more changes

renovations, retirements, returns...

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**THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD FREEDOM CENTER OPENED IN BETWEEN THE GREAT AMERICAN BALLPARK AND THE PAUL BROWN STADIUM.** Although it is surrounded by two sports venues, it has the potential to overshadow them in importance to the city. The Freedom Center pays a tribute to those who risked their lives to help free others from slavery. It raised 90 million out of the 110 million needed from Cincinnatians all around, which is why it is such a good representation of our city. North of the Ohio River was free in the days of slavery, which is the reason why the Freedom Center was built on the riverfront.

**IT'S NO SURPRISE** when we say that Cincinnati is not the most entertaining, exciting, happening city on earth, but it is not that bad, right? Or is it?

Cincinnati has been growing and growing as new buildings, businesses and things to do are popping up faster than we know it. Things such as the new addition to the **Kenwood Towne Centre**, **The Freedom Center**, **Tallstacks**, and **the Cicada Invasion**, are all new additions to Cincinnati. Year by year, Cincinnati is accumulating more and more tourist attractions and reasons for out of towners and locals to enjoy their time in the city.

## They're ba-a-ack....

The Broad X Invasion.



**S**ome of us may remember the last invasion of the

cicadas, but it does not compare to what recently came. An estimated 90 million swarmed the Cincinnati area in 1987, while the return of the

noisy insects in 2004 reached 5 billion. The harmless bug that emerges from the ground every 17 years came in May and flew around for 6 weeks. Cicadas came out to mate one time. The female lays 400-600 eggs on tree branches where they sit until August and fall to the ground. The eggs fall into tiny cracks in the earth, where they spend the next 17 years until they return as adults. Their familiar loud, obnoxious buzzing sound is also known as their mating call. Within 2 days, the buzzing sound of these creatures was so loud, you were not able to carry on a normal conversation. Some people waited 17 years for this, while others dreaded it. Either way, you were not able to escape the cicadas!