ilewsletter of Coventry Heighbors, Inc.

The Return of Tommy's?

Regular readers of this newsletter have no doubt noticed that the continuing saga of Tommy's has been a feature for many months now. It appears that the saga is far from over and that the story has taken on a fascinating twist in the past two months. If all goes well, Tommy's may be back on Coventry as early as mid-July.

Tommy's has made arrangements to relocate at 1820 Coventry Road, unich is presently the site of the Coventry Cafe. Plans call for a 76 seat facility, including seating on the first floor level for 35 and an additional 40 seats on a mezzanine level. According to Tommy Fello, the mezzanine level would allow customers to drink alcoholic beverages with meals in an area separate from a main floor area frequented by small children. This proposed use of the mezzanine level will require Tommy's to secure a state liquor permit other than that which it had at the old Euclid Heights Boulevard location.

The plans are not yet final. At least one major stumbling block exists. In order to set up a restaurant as planned, Tommy's will need to secure a parking variance from the City of Cleveland Heights—and this will be no mean feat.

A parking variance is a grant of grace which, in effect, excuses an owner or occupier of land from the usual parking requirements under the City Code. Given the proposed use, Tommy's would have to build 26 parking spaces unless the City agreed to "vary" the requirement down to zero. Of course, there is no place to build 25 parking spaces even if themoney is available. Therefore, without the parking variance, Tommy's could not do business at the proposed location.

The dimensions of the parking problem in Coventry are familiar to all Coventry residents. Hany variances have been granted in past years, the most notable being the variance of over 100 spaces given to Coventryard (which is as yet unfilled, making it difficult to guess what parking problems this commercial development will eventually cause.) Other variances have been granted to Chester's, Fairmount Center, the Saloon, Belladonna, and the new submarine sandwich shop presently being built. More recently, however, variances have become difficult to obtain. A variance sought by a Chinese restaurant wishing to locate in the building roughly between Coventry Pizza and the site of the old C-Saw Cafe was granted by the Board of Zoning Appeals, but then denied by the City Council.

Interestingly enough, the building in which the Chinese restaurant wished to locate is owned by the Ross family, which also owns the building into which Tommy's seeks to move. The parallel doesn't end there. Tommy's request for a variance of 26 spaces is very close to the former request, which was for 24 spaces.

(continued next page)

THE NEXT MEETING OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 1977, AT 8:00 P.M., AT THE UNITARIAN SOCIETY ON LANCASHIRE ROAD, ACROSS FROM MUSICIAN'S TOWERS. ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE TOWNY'S, ROCCO'S AND THE 1977 COVENTRY STREET FAIR.

Tommy's (continued)

There can be no doubt that Tommy's would cause more automobile traffic to generate in and around Coventry. For this reason, a favorable ruling by the Board of Zoning Appeals (and by the City Council) cannot be taken for granted. The request for a parking variance will come up for a public hearing before the Board of Zoning Appeals on Wednesday, June 15 at 8:00 p.m. in the Council chambers on the second floor of City Hall. Hembers of the public will be permitted to state their opinions on the merits of Tommy's request. Coventry Neighbors, Inc. will discuss its position on the request at its next general meeting.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL COVENTRY STREET FAIR

At the same meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals at which Tommy's request for a parking variance will be considered, Coventry Neighbors, Inc. will be requesting a special permit to allow a community street fair to be held on Coventry Road on Saturday, July 23 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and on Sunday, July 24 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. This matter will be subject to a public hearing before the Board. CNI organizers are optimistic about chances of getting City approval, given the past record of street fairs.

Unlike previous years, the permit will be taken out by CNI instead of by a Coventry merchants association. Present plans call for more crafts, more food, and more music than in the past, all at a lesser cost to participating merchants. A CNI committee of eight members has been meeting bi-weekly for almost two months now to assure that all plans are properly made.

The fair will be financed mainly by the issuance of street vendor permits. Basic costs will be incurred for police protection, advertising, and logistical support for musicians. Any funds which remain following the payment of these items will be held in a specially restricted CNI bank account, to be used in some manner designed to enhance and improve the appearance of the Coventry commercial strip.

Applications for street vendor permits are presently being taken by CNI, and interested parties are advised to contact the following persons:

Elvie Zell (Crafts) - (N: 321-1108; W: 687-2133)

David Budin (Music) - (H: 932-3741; W: 371-6093)

Alan Rapoport (Food) - (H: 932-1144; W: 241-7313)

More details on the Street Fair will be advertised when they are finalized. For now, CNI is holding back until the City grants the special permit.

News Flash: The Library Board has secured a new short term lease for the Coventry branch of the Library. More details in our next issue.

Euclid Heights - Coventry Reconstruction to Get Underway

Cleveland Heights City Council voted at its May 16 meeting to let the City Manager seek bids for reconstruction of the intersection of Coventry Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard. This is an item originally planned under the second year Community Development Block Grant Program, and has been awaited by the neighborhood for some time.

When the truncation of Washington Boulevard reduced this intersection from a 5-way to a 4-way, the remaining streets were then crossing at an unnecessarily peculiar angle, which will be rectified. At the same time, the extra right-turn lane from southbound Coventry onto westbound Euclid Heights will be eliminated. No longer justified to circumvent either a 5-way corner or a set of strange angles, it would be a definite detriment as an additional hazard to pedestrians. It will be filled in by a park/walkway area in front of Tommy's old location reaching the present safety island and harboring several semi-on-street parking places.

Completion is expected in 45 to 60 days.

- Dave Burwasser

Sunday on Stage

The Fairmount Center for Creative and Performing Arts is pleased to announce a summer music festivat, Sunday on Stage, beginning Sunday, May 29th and continuing every Sunday afternoon through August 14th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. The festival is designed to give folk and accoustic artists the opportunity to present their talents in a relaxed, outdoor atomosphere. Scheduled to perform are:

June 12: Frank Thedford

July 3:

Joseph and Ornas

Cindy McKay

Alan Leatherwood

June 19: Ken Metz

July 10: Mary Robertson

Timothy Moonenstart

June 26: Gusti

July 17: Wesley Malone

Additional performers will be announced at a later date. This series is free and open to the public and will be held on the grounds of the Fairmount Center, 1925 Coventry Road (at the corner of Coventry Road and Euclid Heights Blvd.) in Cleveland Heights. You are invited to bring a lunch and enjoy some of Cleveland's finest musical entertainment.

HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CONGRESS TELETHON!

In the coming week, you can expect to receive a call from a Coventry resident requesting from you a financial contribution to assist the HCC in continuing its valuable service to our community. When you are called, please be prepared to dig deep for this organization. It needs your help if it is to continue its fine work in Cleveland Heights. Thank you.

Letter from the City Hanager

Dear Resident:

The City will soon begin a systematic single-family Interior Safety Inspection Program. I want to share with you what has brought us to this point. For years, the City has been doing interior inspections on two-family and multifamily units. We have also done single family interior inspections where requested.

Interior Safety Inspections are a necessary factor in the maintenance of property values. This has been borne out in all of our discussions with the Financial Institutions Advisory Committee (FIAC), which has been studying the housing delivery system and particularly the investment posture of major lending institutions. All have recommended this type of program: because such a program will greatly improve our housing stock and its value in the market place, which will benefit all residents of this community.

Authority for inspections is found in both the Housing and Fire Codes. The Safety Inspections themselves will be done by Firefighters who, for years, have performed commercial and residential safety inspections. They will also review with each property owner/resident fire hazards, escape techniques, smoke alarm advantages and location, and will leave safety material with the owner/occupant. Questions will be answered and a copy of the completed inspection form left at the time of the visit.

There will be no inspection of "lifestyle." We will make every effort to carry out this program as efficiently, effectively, and professionally as possible and we are seeking your cooperation to accomplish this. A variety of programs have been, or soon will be, implemented to assist and advise owner/occupants on methods and financing of home maintenance and improvement projects. A description of these aids will also be included in the materials left by the inspectors.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Marcia Molan in the Housing Preservation Office (321-0100).

Sincerely,

Robert A. Edwards, City Manager

Editor's Note:

According to the inspection form issued by the City, the following areas will be examined by inspectors: electrical wiring, appliance motors, extension and appliance cords, fuse panel and grounding, heating appliances, flue connectors, cooking appliances, fireplaces, flammable liquids, combustible liquids, combustible waste materials, cleaning fluids and waxes, plaster, plumbing and structural.

Annual Stawberry Festival:

Homemade cake, Ica-creame, stawberries! 50¢ 75¢ at the door

Date: Wednesday, June 8 Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Location: Fairmount Presbyterian Church

2757 Fairmount Boulevard

COVERTRY VILLAGE PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

Thellerbert Ascherman Gallery, 1765 Coventry Road, is sponsoring an art photography show from July 7 to July 30. The rules for entries are as follows:

- Subject matter must deal with the spirit of Coventry Village ~ either its people, activities or local.
- 2. Photographs must be taken in or around the Coventry Village area.
- The show is open to all caliber of photographers.
- 4. Each photographer may submit up to three (3) prints.
- There is a \$1.50 submission fee for each photograph submitted.
- Photographs may be black and white or color.
- All photographs must be mounted, preferably framed. The maximum overall size accepted will be 16 x 20.
- 3. A purchase award will be made by the gallery.
- 9. Entries shall be judged on originality and treatment of subject.
- Each entry must have photographers name, address, phone, title (if any), price of print or NFS (not for sale) secured to the back of each entry.
- Submissions will be accepted June 13-14 during gallery hours and judged June 17.
- Notification of acceptance or rejection will be made by mail.

Herbert Ascherman Gallery is open daily, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Sundays and evenings by appointment. Call 321-0055 for additional information.

SUNDAY TMCOVENTRY MEANS you DON'T GET ANY HOT WATER BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE ΑT HOME TAKING BATHS... SMOKTNG DOPE CNA MAKTING

LOVE.

01977/KATE

CONGRATULATIONS! The Great American Mime Experiment has been invited to participate in the International Festival of Fools in Amsterdam, June 3-19. In conjunction with this festival, the group has arranged performance bookings in Brussels and Waterloo, Belgium.

Cedar-Fairmount to Get 120 New Parking Spaces; Neighbors Protest One Site

City Council determined at its May 16th meeting to go ahead with construction of a 70-space parking not at the corner of Ceder and Morfold, and authorized the City Manager to proceed with bids for a 50 space addition to the parking already available at the "Top of the Hill." Neighborhood residdents protested the Norfolk lot, as they had at previous Council meetings.

The decisions were not without some internal conflict. Councilman Dick Meigand was sympathetic to the feelings of the protesting residents, and criticized the City's handling of informing the neighborhood of the planned construction. But after a pressoal count of apartment units and evailable offstreet spaces in the Norfolk area, and in the face of the impending ben by the County Engineer on parking on Ceder after the street is rebuilt, Weigand could find no alternative but to proceed. The City already owns the land, so no acquisition is needed. Neighbors object to the razing of a single-family home on the property and introduction of the non-residential use.

The Council also paged the semi-annual exemption of certain streets--mostly in the Coventry and Cedar continuount areas -- from the overnight parking ban. When both Cedar/Fairmount parking additions are ready, City Manager Edwards hopes to remove Cedar, Norfolk, Derbyshire and Surrey from the exempt list.

- Dave Burwasser

DOBAMA OFFERS FREE THEATRE

Dobama Theatre will present its annual "free theatre" from Wednesday, June 8 through Saturday, June 11. Performacnes will be at 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. There will be no reservations or tickets and the first 200 people who arrive will be admitted free.

Those who attend will see "Hard Traveling - The Store and Songs of Woody Guthrie," a musical revue dealing with Guthrie's childhood in Oklahoma, his travels during the depression years, his experiences in World War II, and other subjects.

COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS

A Publication of Coventry Neighbors, Inc. and the Heights Community Congress

Executive Editor: Alan Rapoport Contributing Editors: At Lustig

David Burwasser

Circulation: 550

Karen Lind

All opinions contained in the Coventry Village News are solely those of the author, unless otherwise specified. Official pronouncements of Coventry Neighbors, Inc. will be specifically noted. Articles for publication, letters to the Editor, and comments, would be most welcome and should be sent to the Editor, c/o Apt. 301, 2753 Euclid Heights Boulevard, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106.

Feed your meter!



CONFERENCE FEATURES Keynote Speaker:

ERNEST WITHERS, ASSISTANT Deputy Chairman Dem. Party

Workshops:

- 1. National Litigation & You
- 2. Funding Your Organization
- 3. School Desegregation
- 4. Coalition Building Theories & Strategy
- 5. Landlord/Tenant Relations
- 6. Redlining

1977 Annual Conference

Information & Conference Registration Cleveland Heights City Half 321-0100 Susanna Niermann Ext. 277

Time & Location

John Carroll University June 16, 4:00 pm thru June 19, 11:00 am

Cost: \$12.50 entire conference Lunches All Workshops Saturday Nite Party

By June 6

R.S.V.P.

Saturday Dinner Dance Sponsored by H.C.C.

H.C.C. Heights Community Congress 2158 Lee Road Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118 321-6775	Saturday June 18 John Carroll University Ratskeller	6-7 pm Cocktails 7-8 pm Dinner 8-1 am DISCO Cash Bar
		Cash par
I will attend Dinner & Dance		
[\$2.00 for non-conference registrants]		Relish Tray
		Tossed Salad Bar
i will attend Dance only		Italian Spaghetti & Meatballs
[No charge]		Garlic Bread Spumoni Ice Cream
	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	Coffee • Tea • Milk
NAME		_
ADDRESS		
PHONE		
NO. ATTENDING		
No	is by WI VT DIGGO O	
IVIUS	ic by WLYT DISCO 9:	4