

Running Clubs Formed

There are two newly formed running clubs in the Cleveland area: Cleveland Women Running and the University Circle Striders. Both groups are registered with the American Athletic Association and the Road Runners Association. While neither club is exclusively for men or for women, Cleveland Women Running will emphasize running for women of all ages and running experience. University Circle Striders and CWR will be closely affiliated with each other.

University Circle Striders will emphasize as many aspects of running--race walking, short and long distances, track and field--as there are interested members. For more information, contact Ted Creighton at the Complete Runner, 2218 Lee Road.

Cleveland Women Running has been formed by women just beginning to jog, as well as those interested in competition. They meet each Saturday and Sunday at 9:00 a.m. behind the Cleveland Heights Recreation Pavilion at Monticello and Mayfield Roads. They run anywhere from 1-8 miles through Forest Hills Park. The distance they run depends upon the women who come. For further information, call Carole Rounds at 301-5724.

The Cleveland Heights Office on Aging will again offer elderly and low-income residents assistance with income tax preparation through the cooperation of the Cleveland East Chapter of the National Association of Accountants.

Volunteer accountants will be available on two Saturdays - February 25th and March 4th - between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., at the Office on Aging, 2989 Mayfield Road.

Recreate!

Planning is now underway for the programs listed below. For information on these programs, call the Parks and Recreation Department, 321-0100, Ext. 283.

- School for Performing Arts: an exciting six week recreational/educational program is offered to youngsters presently in grades one through six; activities include dance, drama, art, and puppetry. Classes will meet Tuesday through Friday, June 27 - August 4. This is a full or part day program.

- Sports Camp: a four week day camp experience for youngsters in grades 3 to 6, this camp is centered around a wide variety of team and individual sports. Held at the Pavilion, camp will be from June 26 to July 21.

- Soccer: an eight week program this spring for students in grades four thru nine. This program, held at the Cain Park soccer field, will consist of four weeks of clinics and four weeks of competitive play.

- Basketball: two basketball programs are offered at the Pavilion from June 26 through August 4th for students in grades four through nine.

What Now?

I suppose it is premature to speculate about the fate of Coventryard. Certainly, its absence will have great impact on an already deteriorating situation on Coventry. However, I refuse to believe that the future of Coventry is as bleak as it may now seem. Many very promising developments are possible.

First and foremost, there is the imminent return of Tommy's. It will not have the same appearance or style of the old familiar restaurant, but its impact on Coventry even in a new location cannot be doubted. Tommy's drew people to Coventry--residents and visitors. It will do so again. Look for the store to finally open in March.

Second, there are the other parts of Coventry. It would be myopic to suggest that Coventryard is Coventry. It isn't and never was. Though the awful loss cannot be completely discounted, one must remember that most of the commercial strip is still healthy and alive.

Finally, the fire has created new possibilities for development. I can suggest some of those possibilities. A park? A parking area? New and smaller commercial structures? Perhaps some combination. I do not believe for a moment that the City is inclined to "abandon" Coventry, and with the help of a dedicated, enthusiastic, and talented crew of planners at City Hall, options are already being explored.

In sum, while the situation is bleak now, there is no reason to write-off Coventry as a failed experiment. Winters do end, folks. Come the spring, there is always new life and hope.

- Alan Rapoport

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****Typist's note: I certainly hope that AR is not referring in his last paragraph above to the Street Fair!!!!!!!*

COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS

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

Executive Editor: Alan Rapoport Contributing Editors: Bruce Hennes
F. David Gill
Dave Burwasser

Circulation: 700. 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 noted. Articles for publication should be sent to the Editor, c/o Apartment 301, 2753 Euclid Heights Boulevard, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106.

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Ancient Chinese Curse:

"May you live in interesting times."

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