

More Development Talk Hits Coventry Again

In case you are wondering what should be happening soon to a variety of projects, I have the following items to report. The reader should take care to note the purposeful blending of fact and conjecture--and the absence of a crystal ball.

Coventryyard. It is not rebuilt yet, but as luck and circumstances would have it, it is not torn down neither. Discussions between Mr. Zipkin and the City were started after some prodding by CNI. As a result of these discussions, certain perceived obstacles to the issuance of a building permit may have been removed.

However, the project is far from ready to go. Mr. Zipkin will be applying for a renewal of his parking variance and use permits. The application will be heard by the Board of Zoning Appeals at a public hearing at City Hall about 8 p.m. on Wednesday, June 20. If the BZA gives its approval, City Council could act as early as July 2 to confirm BZA actions. Mr. Zipkin says work could then begin "immediately."

Mr. Zipkin will ask CNI for its support at the next meeting.

Pick-N-Pay. The City plans to replace the present store with a "food palace" are still being developed. Federal Community Development Block Grant money was used to pay for a traffic and marketing survey to study the ramifications of such a project. Cynics suggest that the study will prove what it is supposed to prove, noting that the marketing study in particular was ineptly and inadequately handled by Creative Research Services, Inc.

The most recent site plan shown publically by the City shows a food store of 30,000 square feet, another 30,000 square foot building intended to house about 15 shops, and a decked parking facility for 400 cars. The present PNP is about 12,500 square feet. If built, this development could end up replacing a huge chunk of Coventry from Metropolitan Savings as far as Coventry Pizza and as far back as Rock Court. Public response to these plans will be solicited at meetings in the near future which will be announced.

Irv's. Some unexpected engineering problems have been discovered, but nothing crucial. Irv Guiko now tells people that he expects to open for business in mid-August, about two weeks later than expected. We shall see.

All these subjects will be discussed in more detail at the next CNI meeting, along with such old favorite topics as parking, Euclid Heights Boulevard reconstruction, and the Coventry Street Fair.

-- Alan Rapoport

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THE NEXT MEETING OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 1979, 7:30 p.m., AT THE UNITARIAN SOCIETY ON LANCASHIRE ROAD, ACROSS FROM THE MUSICIANS' TOWER.

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### S T R E E T W A L K I N G

To me spring in Coventry is the best time of year because after a winter in relative isolation the street comes alive and is a real old fashioned neighborhood, in a very basic sense. One woman I know, while talking about this expressed her concern about the mess and debris in the area. She suggested that she would be willing to work co-operatively with others on a clean up project. It sounds like a great idea and I would be happy to facilitate such a project. Any like-minded persons can call me at 321-8397 after 5:00 PM or on week-ends and I will put you in touch with my friend.

I stopped the young man on the unicycle the other day and found that his name is Jeff Weissman. He claims that there is another one around but it doesn't get up on the street very often.

Part of the fun of STREETWALKING is the tips I get. For instance someone told me that Brunati's, one of the victims of the Coventry yard fire, had a new chef. Sure enough, Don Lanese, formerly of Night Town has moved over to Coventry. As a result Brunati's is sporting a new menu with a wider range of choices and prices. Top item is Veal Oscar made of veal and crabmeat with a Bernaise sauce. My steak sandwich was ample, well cooked and moderately priced. The garlic toast was super.

I was enchanted by the satin flamingos in the Lady, Co. window which were by Benita Cullinan, Cleveland artist who received notice with a similar offering at the recent May Show. Adrian Ratner is to be commended for providing an opportunity for local artists to use her window. Note too, the interesting ceramics by T. Ciocia. There are also some original pieces in the window of the Cedar Chest; and, if you need an extra hand, there are some neat ones in Rainblu's window.

Carol Lindemuth has got some very nice denim things which use Molas trim. Handcrafted on an island off the coast of Panama by the Cuñá Indians, this unusual art form (kind of a reverse applique) is based on original designs from the Indian mythology.

Speaking of crafts, there is a book being published on the street. Joan Jordan, of Quilt Galleries at 2802 Mayfield, upstairs, is going to press shortly with "Tomorrows Tradition," the first in her series of design workbooks called "Creative Quilting." For further information you can call her at 321-8303.

My street walking has taken me a little off the street itself to a couple of shops I feel worth noting, Scan Design and Thought Form and Fantasy in the 2900 block of Mayfield. I was particularly taken by the latter which has a number of hand made items produced in the neighborhood.

We regretfully note the passing of the Generation Gap. Word is that Myne Koury, proprietor of Chesters, has discussed opening an "oyster bar" at that spot.

With summer coming and so many activities available, now's the time to think of registration for summer programs at Fairmount and the C.H. recreation program. The range of choices for our young people is truly amazing and again emphasises what a great community we live in.

Bobbie Littell





A CHALLENGE FOR THE CHALLENGE FUND

Since 1974, the Forest Hill Church Housing Corporation (a non-profit organization) has administered and developed a loan guarantee program to help low- or moderate-income residents of Cleveland Heights obtain financing for home repairs when conventional financing is not available to them. Privately donated money is used to guarantee bank financing through the Cleveland Trust Company, thereby "leveraging" money in the Challenge Fund to bring home improvement money into the City.

Now the Challenge Fund faces the largest challenge of its short existence. The prestigious Cleveland Foundation has given a grant to the Fund in the amount of \$50,000. There is, however, a condition--the Fund must raise private matching funds in an equal amount.

If the Cleveland Foundation grant and matching funds are obtained, the Challenge Fund will be able to leverage an estimated \$487,000 of home improvement loans which would otherwise not be made in Cleveland Heights. These loans would be made in almost every part of the City, and would do much to benefit the entire community by helping improve housing stock and helping increase sale value of affected houses.

To meet its goal, the Challenge Fund needs your help and it needs it now. This is a one-shot fund raising effort, and any and all contributions are welcome. Donations to the fund are tax deductible and may be sent to the Housing Corporation offices at 3101 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, 44118.

For more details about the Challenge Fund and its history, you can contact Diana Woodbridge during the day at 321-3920.

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ANNOUNCING: A COVENTRY MERCHANT MIDNIGHT SALE!

In a mad burst of energy marking the Coming Of Spring, nineteen Coventry merchants are banding together to have a Midnight Sale on Friday, June 8 between 6 p.m. and midnight. Many items will be on sale, and the public is cordially invited to come and have a fun time on Coventry Road.

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