



Coventry Village News

JULY, 1980

NEWSLETTER OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC.

VOL. VI No. 7

SUMMER'S HERE -- IT'S STREET FAIR TIME!

The 1980 Coventry Village Street Fair will be held in the Coventry commercial district from 6 to 11 PM on Saturday, July 12 and from 1 to 7 PM on Sunday, July 13. This is the fourth consecutive year in which the Fair has been produced by Coventry Neighbors, Inc. in cooperation with the Coventry Merchant Association and the City of Cleveland Heights. The 1980 Fair will feature:

MUSIC: Gusti; Alex Bevan; Baxter Shadowfield & the Employees; Tim Wallace; Gair Linhart & Rob Lax; Charlie Weiner; Jim Ballard; Gary Hall; Michael Spiro; Cindy MacKay; Jim Glover; Eastward; Lost Bob & the Ozone Ramblers; Rock, Salt & Nails; Mr. Stress Blues Band; Windwords; Norm^oTroy; Mud in Your Eye; White Birch; Kaya; I-tal; Flap Jack; Mary Martin & the 9th St. Tunas; Johnny & the Turkees; MORE!!

JURIED CRAFTS: Bonsai, ceramics, textiles, stoneware, woodworks, calligraphy, ceramic sculpture, leather, porcelain, airbrush T-shirts, wooden flutes, toys, hand-made puppets, jewelry, stained glass, prints, photographs, framing, cloisonne and grisaille enamels, raku, brass rubbings, pottery, quilts.

FOOD & DRINK: Indian snacks, chicken curry, tofu sandwiches, shishkabob, lemonade, burritos, African food, salads, submarines, sausage sandwiches, felafels, health food snacks, bakery goods, French waffles, steak sandwiches, ice cream, crepes, Mexican food, cotton candy, gyros, baklava.

Coventry Village Library invites parents and their children to enjoy the Sunday festivities on the Library and School grounds, with old games/new games, jugglers, puppeteers, magic, face painting and a Cleveland Heights fire engine.

Free transportation for senior citizens and their guests via shuttle bus between JCC and Coventry, between 1 - 6 PM on Sunday will run about every 15 minutes.

The Producers assure the public their production will be second to none!

-- F. David Gill, 1980 Street Fair Chairman



COVENTRY TRUSTEE ON PLANNING COMMISSION

Karen Lind, Coventry Neighbors Inc. Trustee and former CNI President, was appointed last month to the planning commission of Cleveland Heights. Ms. Lind will complete the term of another long-time Coventry resident, K. Eric Lundquist. Karen Lind is an employee of NOACA, the seven-county planning agency. In her role as a citizen and CNI member, her timely knowledge of where pertinent information is to be found has aided her neighbors in developing intelligent, effective decisions. City Council could hardly have made a better choice. -- Dave Burwasser.

YOUR SCHOOLS

The Cleveland Heights-University Heights schools issue is one of vital importance to our community. The defeat of the recent 1 1/4 mil school levy, the subsequent cut-backs in personnel and programs, and the restitution of selected programs as the result of citizen pressure has generated a lot of feeling.

Many of us complain about feeling powerless to influence decisions which affect our lives. In a sense this is a reality. By the time an issue gets on the ballot we are locked into one of two alternatives - for or against. The time to make a difference is before an issue is placed on the ballot.

One concerned individual by himself usually cannot make much difference. But many people, asking appropriate questions and expressing realistic concerns can help to determine the values, set the goals and influence the priorities which are reflected in the choices we are offered at the polls.

Included in this issue of the CVN is the REPORT, newsletter of Your Schools, an organization very much involved in asking appropriate questions, expressing realistic concerns and determining values which they would like to see reflected in the CH-UH schools. If you would like to be involved in decision making that is vital to your community, read the newsletter and get involved.

-- bobbie littell

SIGN WAVE HITS COVENTRY

Sheriff Gerald McFaul, Barry Commoner, Edward Kennedy and Peabody's Cafe all have one thing in common. They all employ "overzealous campaign workers" who have vandalized Coventry Village public spaces over the past few weeks by "signing us to death."

Things have really gotten out of hand. We're not talking about one or two signs, but rather a complete inundation of visual clutter that other, responsible people have to rip down. For example, it seems odd that campaigners for Sheriff Mc Faul would openly disregard local laws just so their candidate would win. I suppose the end justified the means in this case. Ditto for the Commoner and Kennedy campaigns.

While one might expect to put up with this sort of thing during a presidential campaign, it is particularly distressing when a club with the fine reputation of Peabody's Cafe has to vandalize Coventry in order to make a buck. Did they really have to put up over 60 signs (4 and 5 to a pole) to let us know that jazz musician, Woody Shaw was giving a concert? C'mon now, what if every merchant advertized this way? Can you picture Coventry Beverage and Pizza putting up 60 signs covering every pole in the neighborhood informing us they sell pizza? Or how about signs for razor blades and shaving cream sales at Carroll Drug or Revco? Maybe Higbee's could advertize their latest sale on men's socks. Ridiculous, isn't it?

I suppose that the easiest solution to this mess is that everyone keep taking the signs down and maybe the vandals will get tired of putting them up.

-- Charles Owen

COVENTRY SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

Coventry Neighbors, Inc., has secured the services of two Cleveland Heights youths through the Summer Youth Employment Program for cleanup work in the Coventry Village commercial district and neighboring side streets.

The program is not designed to relieve merchants of their clean-up responsibilities, but rather to help maintain the area in general. The program will run for 10 weeks during the summer months.

-- Charles Owen.

COVENTRY LIBRARY NOTES

BY

Debby Graves, Branch Librarian

The summer reading program, called the School for Detectives, is in full force at this time, with many children signed up. Those who have read at least one book have a trenchcoat with his/her name on it hanging in the library. More are always welcome to join.

The Super Sleuths Club will feature Mr. Don Altemus and his small animals from the Metroparks Zoo on July 10 at 2 PM. He will show how many clues we get about animals by observing their actions. Children are invited.

The Fantasy Festival is scheduled for Sunday, September 21, with the Society for Creative Anachronism leading the way. More information will follow.

By the time this newsletter hits the street, we expect all will be settled and the Library Board will have possession of the Fairmount Center. We look forward to your continued support during the next year or two as we remodel the building and ready ourselves and the book collection for the new quarters.

BLUSH

An error of fact in a neighborhood journal is always embarrassing personally; all the more so when there are two errors at the inadvertant expense of the same victim. Last month's COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS carried two distinct boo-boos regarding the Library.

First of all, there will NOT be "child care" provided at the Coventry Otreet Fair, by the Librarian or anyone else—at least not in the sense of a place where parents may dump their kids off all day to party on Coventry. There WILL be children's programs at stated times under the usual arrangements, namely, parents are expected to be on hand.

Secondly, the Friends of the Library has \$2,500--NOT \$25,000--designated for application at the Coventry Branch.

-- Dave Burwasser
Red-faced Editor

ODDS "N ENDS

The flower boxes in front of Irv's seemed like such a nice idea. Irv promised faithfully, at a recent Coventry Neighbors meeting (when he asked for CNI's endorsement for his request for a parking variance) to maintain them properly. Now, I must admit that he has "maintained" them, i.e. he has kept the empty flower boxes free of trash, and for that I give him full credit; but, where are the flower? It would seem that if he had intended to put in "street furniture" - he might have put in something more comfortable than flower boxes to sit on.

Speaking of greenery, the knee high growth at the base of the tree in front of Dobama looks a little bit like oats, how novel.

The F & T Deli, 2879 Mayfield Road will soon be called the Heights Deli by its new proprietors, Bob & Joe Wirt. They, along with Joe's wife Claire, are cleaning up and restocking it. They have a good barbaque - ribs and chicken - a variety of salads and a speciality, steamed clams. The great part of it is, if you live north of Mayfield you can pick up a six-pack or a loaf of bread without worrying about pushing your way through a gang of kids - or getting snarled in a mammoth traffic jam. Welcome to Coventry Village, fellows. . . Have heard tell that there is also going to be a new flower shop next to Coventry Beverage and Pizza . . . The word is out that Ken Ross has promised to "encourage" his tenants to be more cooperative in our clean up efforts. Now if we could only get Pick-n-Pay to at least apply some paint to the front of its building. It sometimes takes a long time to make major changes in a community - and in the meantime we have to put up with that eyesore, because they are "planning" That's dumb

Welcome, too, to the latest art gallery on the street which opened last Saturday. Eileen Roth's "Inuit" which stands for Eskimo, is quite plush. I expected to find some primitive artifacts and was surprised to find such a variety of type and style from striking primitives to sensitive, delicate drawings. . . Be sure to see the Dance Center's Fine Arts sampler quilt which will be raffled July 13 at the Street Fair. It will be on display at Coventry Art from July 2-7, at the Cleveland Heights Main Library at 2345 Lee Road from July 7-12. Tickets are available from the Dance Center, 1925 Coventry, and are only \$1.00 or 5 for \$6.00. This is a fund raising project for the Dance Center, and we know we certainly want them to be able to continue at their present location, the Library/Fairmount Center building. . . Michael Carroll, the young man on the fancy tricycle with the baskets for his "pets" has some new ones; a six week old raccoon, named Bogart; and a 10 week old skunk. He makes quite a stir when he brings them onto the street.

It's just a few days before the Fair, the nights are hot and there are a lot of people out milling around in the Village - a feeling of expectancy seems to hover over all. It is disturbing to see such a large number of young people aimlessly milling around the parking lot next to Coventry Beverage. Groups of people window shopping, sitting around talking, or listening to music has always been a feature of Coventry. But a gang milling around waiting for something to happen can be trouble. Coventry is a friendly place. We need everyone's help to keep it that way.

--Bobbie Littell



REPORT

NEWSLETTER OF YOUR SCHOOLS

JULY, 1980

This year the goals for YOUR SCHOOLS will be to work for quality public education, sound financial management of the community's resources, and greater citizen participation, according to President Gerry Saidel following the meeting on June 16. In order to accomplish this the following Action Groups have been formed:

- Community Confidence in the School Board and Administration
- Public Relations Campaign
- Lay Finance Committee
- Membership and Financial Support
- Communications Network
- Voter Registration
- Levy Campaign.

These Action Groups will define specific action to promote YOUR SCHOOLS stated goals.

The School Board and Administration Action Group will attend School Board meetings and report on their deliberations to the general membership. This Action Group will be headed by Gene Kirsch.

Each Thursday spot ads will be placed in the Sun Press to highlight issues vital to Cleveland Heights-University Heights schools and to recruit others who are concerned about our schools, but who feel powerless to take action on their own. It is hoped that by providing Cleveland Heights-University Heights citizens with a vehicle for combined action such as YOUR SCHOOLS, people will be encouraged to make their ideas known to the community and work together for better schools. This activity is the work of the Public Relations Action Group, headed by Dave Burvasser.

The first YOUR SCHOOLS Forum of the 1980-81 school year will be held in September and will focus on the Report to the School Board by the Lay Finance Committee. Panel members will be available to discuss and comment upon the Report. Understanding the report and its ramifications is imperative if we are to monitor the management of our community's financial resources. Place and time for this meeting will be announced in the August REPORT. The Forum will be arranged by the Lay Finance Committee Action Group headed by Alex Dybbs. (Over)

*
 * THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING OF YOUR SCHOOLS WILL BE HELD ON JULY 29 AT 8:00 PM AT
 * THE HOME OF ADRIE COHN AT 4004 MONTICELLO BLVD. MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW AND
 * PLEASE TO ATTEND
 *

The Membership and Financial Support Action Group will seek resources to support the work of the Action Groups. This will be headed by Minna Saidel.

The Communication Action Group will have many different facets including the newsletter, personal contact (both door to door and phone), forums, meetings and merchant involvement. These will be coordinated by Joyce Horr.

The Action Group on Voter Registration is headed by Barbara Pausley and will work to register as many eligible CH-UH voters as possible before the Nov. 4th election.

In September 1980, a series of Neighborhood Meetings will be held to discuss topics of interest and concern to the members of each neighborhood. Times and places will be announced in the August newsletter. Currently, meeting sponsors include:

- Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Dybbs, 2588 Edgerton
- Mr. & Mrs. Gerry Saidel, 3149 Chelsea Drive
- Mr. & Mrs. Edric Wald, 2469 Kenilworth

Plans for the Levy Campaign Action Group will be formulated once the School Board determines if it will put a levy on the ballot in November.

YOUR SCHOOLS was founded in 1945 to help the community define its educational values and to work to see that the CH-UH school system reflects those values. Over the years programs such as remedial reading, elementary school libraries, counseling services, etc., have been defined and promoted by YOUR SCHOOLS. YOUR SCHOOLS has worked for school levies, bond issues, promoted qualified school board candidates and monitored their performance.

If this sounds like your kind of organization, call 321-1557 for more information or fill out the attached tear slip and mail to Minna Saidel, 3149 Chelsea Drive Cleveland Heights, 44118.

YOUR SCHOOLS REPORT is published in Cleveland Heights-University Heights, through the cooperation of the Heights Community Congress. EDITOR, Beth Logan. ASSISTANTS, Margery Collins and Bobbie Littell

Yes, I would like to know more about YOUR SCHOOLS

NAME _____ Phone _____
 ADDRESS _____

I would be interested in working with the following Action Group(s)

School Board & Administration Public Relations Lay Finance
 Membership and Finance Communications Voter Registration
 Levy

