



Coventry Village News

APRIL, 1981

NEWSLETTER OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC.

Vol. VII No. 4

EUCLID HEIGHTS BOULEVARD RECONSTRUCTION STARTED

by
Barbara M. Littell

"It's going to be a difficult summer," said Commissioner of Community Relations and Publicity for the City of Cleveland Heights, Larry Mattes, speaking of the reconstruction and repaving of Euclid Heights Boulevard (EHB). After years of complaints and more years of jockeying with the state and county, a funding formula has been agreed upon, contracts have been awarded and preliminary work has begun.

This is something we all want. . . there will be many inconveniences but in the end it should be worth it, according to Mattes. Even by working together we probably won't make it perfect but we can hopefully minimize the inconvenience, he told a group of residents convened by CNI to help plan for communication between the residents and the City.

It is difficult to estimate how long a project of this size will take according to Dominic A. Tomaro, Director of Public Works. The contractor won't know until the work begins, the kinds of problems he will uncover. Therefore, only the most general timetable can be set.

The first phase, which began March 17, consists of sewer and drainage work in the westbound lane, the north side of the street. At that time the westbound lane of EHB was closed to traffic and two way traffic maintained in the eastbound lane. A speed limit of 20 MPH is in force until completion of the project. It is estimated that this phase will take three to four weeks depending on many variables including weather.

Once work starts there will be NO PARKING of any kind on EHB. There will be no parking on the median strip, which will be used for contractors material and equipment. Violators will be towed. Access to the area for residents will be maintained as long as possible. Parking bans will be lifted on adjacent side streets listed in the box on page 3.

During the second phase, which should take from two to three months, the road-bed will be done in sections starting at Cedar and moving eastward to Coventry. During that period residents of the specific areas under construction will be notified when access to their homes will be limited.

The third phase will consist of repeating
(Continued on page 3)

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* ON THE INSIDE . . .
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* PICK-N-PAY INPUT SOLICITED
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* STREET FAIR-PLANNING STARTED
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* CNI NAMED A-95 REVIEW
  ORGANIZATION
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* CRIME COMMITTEE LAUDED
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AND BRAVOS

BRAVO to Carl Jones, owner of Arabica, for putting together such a handsome coffee shop in the new CoventryYard.

BRAVO: The new CoventryYard is the talk of the town these days. Lew Zipkin is to be commended for developing such a fine looking project. Now if only the mini-park was finished. . .

BOO: to motorists who still, despite an armada of signs, use the Open Pantry parking lot as an illegal short cut during the morning rush hour.

BOO: to the "yahoos" who keep falling into the trees in front of The Saloon on Coventry Road.

BRAVO: to the City of Cleveland Heights for lifting the overnight parking ban on selected streets while the massive rebuilding of Euclid Heights Boulevard is underway. The information brochure distributed to local residents was excellent.

--Charles Owen

PICK -N-PAY INPUT SOLICITED

by

F. David Gill

Coventry Neighbors has the opportunity to make its attitudes regarding new development of the Pick-n-Pay Supermarket known to the City and the developer. Decisions on the nature of the upgraded supermarket will be made in the near future, and swift action by CNI may avoid the familiar situation of being asked later to comment on plans already so advanced that no non-trivial changes can be made. CNI's Planning & Zoning Committee will transmit any decisions taken at the April 14 meeting to the City, the supermarket chain and its architect.

Cleveland Heights City Manager Richard V. Robinson has promised that he will see that our feelings are given serious and fair consideration by those concerned. Of course, our recommendations are not binding upon any of the interested parties. Our wishes must nonetheless be made known if any of them are to be carried through in the project's design.

This will be Coventry's largest commercial development in over a half century. Its impact upon our values and our ways of life in this community must be very carefully examined. Anyone interested in participating in this process should attend the next CNI meeting. If you can't attend, please send name, address, phone number and ideas to this reporter at 2572 Kenilworth Road, Cleveland Heights, 44106.

SPRING ARRIVES - STREET FAIR PLANNING UNDERWAY

By the time you read this issue of the CVN, a dozen pale and sinister creatures will have quit their dark and underheated hovels after eight months of sublime privacy in order to plan the Coventry Village Street Fair.

Given the City Manager's approval, the Fair will be held on July 11 and 12.

Already under informal discussion among Street Fair veterans is a suggestion that the event's image as a first class music and arts festival could be enhanced by changing the Fair's name. Also being considered is an adjustment of the Fair's hours in order to minimize problems created by those who inevitably use the Fair as an excuse to get drunk in the street.

More details will be reported here and at CNI meetings as the planning progresses.

-- F. David Gill, 1981 Street Fair Chair

EUCLID HEIGHTS BOULEVARD RECONSTRUCTION STARTED (Continued from page 1)

phases one and two in the eastbound lane and will include the crossovers. At that time the eastbound lane will be closed and two way traffic will be maintained in the westbound lane.

Construction plans for the section of EHB east of Coventry and west of Lee have not been completed.

The original plans approved by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) called for the project to start at the western point and proceed eastward to completion. The county and the contractor have submitted a request to the ODOT to rebuild and repave the segment between Lee and Taylor Roads simultaneously to the Cedar/Coventry segment in hopes of completing the project before the end of '81. The go ahead for this was received March 21 and the work on this phase will begin the week of April 6.

The funding for this \$2,500,000 project is extremely complicated, according to City Manager, Richard V. Robinson. About 75% comes from the federal government and is administered by the ODOT. The other 25% comes from local sources. Of that about half comes from CDBG funds and bonds approved by the voters in 1977. As a result of negotiations all of EHB from Cedar to Taylor is included in this funding formula, even though some segments were not designated as "county" roads.

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- * THE NO-PARKING BAN will be relaxed on the * following streets: *
- * - WASHINGTON BLVD. from Edgemoor to the * circle; *
- * - north side of EDGEHILL from Washington to * Coventry; *
- * - both sides of EDGEHILL from Coventry to * Euclid Heights Boulevard; *
- * - both sides of EDGEHILL from Euclid Heights * Boulevard to Kenilworth *
- * - south side of LANCASHIRE from Euclid * Heights Boulevard to the business area just * west of Coventry; and, *
- * - south side of HAMPSHIRE from Euclid * Heights Boulevard to the business area * just west of Coventry. *
- *****

ANTI-CRIME TASK FORCE LAUDED

The responsible approach to local crime taken by the Coventry Neighbors' Anti-Crime Task Force was lauded recently in two articles and an editorial published by The Cleveland Press, in a favorable comparison with other community crimewatch organizations in neighboring cities.

Although the Anti-Crime Task Force was formed in reaction to a December 2 shooting, of Mark Donkin, it is seeking long-range solutions and intends to be a lasting crime prevention force in the Coventry area. We are primarily a crime reporting group which plans, through educational programs designed to raise community awareness, to help citizens learn how to watch their neighborhoods and know when to call police. In this way we intend to show our concern for each other while protecting ourselves and our property. We do not patrol as do some groups who thereby create more problems for the police.

Fortunately, we have the cooperation and assistance of Cleveland Heights Police Chief Martin Lentz, quoted by the Press as strongly supporting the Anti-Crime Task Force. Lentz and his staff have always been firm believers in community involvement. "With Citizen involvement and the excellent response time of the police, crime can be reduced," Lentz said. He feels that block watch groups can make the job of the police easier as long as they leave the job of patrolling to the police.

As Cleveland Heights has demonstrated, caring and cooperation do curb crime. Because of a quick phone call from a concerned Coventry neighbor, Mark Donkin's assailants were apprehended. It is this spirit of community which is making Coventry Village an increasingly safe and attractive area in which to live.

-- Carol Hamilton.

ILLUMINATI

by

Dave Burwasser

Over the past month you might have seen Charles Owen and F. David Gill going about the Coventry area by night peering at street lights through what appears to be a small telescope. To rescue the reputation of these stalwarts of Coventry Neighbors let it be known that they were acting under the influence only of civic concern.

The "telescope" was a diffraction spectrometer, a device that displays the spectrum of a light source in the manner of a prism. The spectrum of a glowing object--such as the guts of a street light--discloses the composition of the object.

According to a letter which F. David subsequently wrote to the City Manager, some of the streetlights that are supposed to be one sort, under an agreement with CEI, are actually a different sort. The substituted lights are cheaper, give marginally less illumination and--most importantly--distort the colors of the objects they illuminate. This last point could be crucial relative to police descriptions of clothing or cars.

Streetlights on Avondale, B^emar, Eddington, Glenmont and Hillcrest were found to be of the less optimal type.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT. F. David Gill, Chair

"THE DINNER PARTY" APPROVED! At our March 10 meeting, Coventry Neighbors, voted unanimous support of the proposed exhibit of Judy Chicago's monumental sculpture "The Dinner Party." At its March 18 public hearing, the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) did the same.

The Board granted a special permit to allow the exhibitors to conduct what the City saw as a commercial enterprise in an area zoned for office use. The Board also approved an attractive compromise plan for exterior signage.

Unless City Council does the inconceivable and overrides the BZA's decision, "The Dinner Party" will be on display from May 10 through the end of July at the former Temple on the Heights Building, 3120 Mayfield Road. Admission will be \$3.00.

Cleveland Heights will benefit greatly from the prestige and publicity attendant to this event. Our commercial districts should also get a boost from the thousands of out-of-towners coming to see this remarkable work of art.

ABC APPLIANCE SIGN TO COME DOWN. The BZA also unanimously upheld a decision of Building Commissioner George Hills, and ordered ABC Appliance, 1728 Coventry Road, to remove their projecting sign. A projecting sign is one that hangs perpendicular over the sidewalk. Other Coventry examples are the Pick-N-Pay and Central Bank Signs.

The present zoning code allows such existing signs to remain, but forbids the installation of new ones. According to the City, ABC was issued a permit in 1966 for a 9 square foot projecting sign. It was recently noted by a City Inspector that the present sign measures 22.5 sq. ft., and was allegedly installed without a permit. ABC did not bother to send a representative to the hearing to defend the sign, and the BZA ordered its removal amid Board grumblings about ill-mannered parking by ABC employees.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS REPORT. Charles Owen, Chair

CLEAN-UP DAY SLATED: A Coventry Village Spring Clean-up Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 2. (Rain date is May 3) Organized by the Coventry Neighbors Environmental Concerns Committee, the clean-up day is supported by Coventry School, local scouts, and a growing number of groups. Anyone who would like to be a part of the clean-up activities should meet at the mini-park in front of Coventry Yard at 10:30 AM for trash bags and instructions. An afternoon time may be scheduled if there seems to be some interest. If you are not able to join us you can still support this neighborhood effort by sprucing up your own yard or street. For more information please call 321-1268 or look for our flyers that will be out in the community very soon.

FLOWER FUND: The CNI Flower Fund has \$125.00 for flower plantings in the Coventry community. Planting teams will begin work as soon as weather permits. If you would like to make a donation to this project, please mail checks to the CNI Flower Fund, 2745 Hampshire Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106.

STREET TREES: Heights City Forester, Emerich Sabo, has begun planting the trees in the Coventry Village business district that were gifts of Coventry Neighbors in 1980.

CNI SELECTED AS A-95 REVIEW ORGANIZATION

by
Charles Owen

Coventry Neighbors, Inc. has been designated by the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOHACA) as an "A-95" reviewing organization. What this means to Coventry is that CNI's opinion will be solicited on federally funded projects that might have an impact on the Coventry community.

CNI's designation as an A-95 reviewing agency is a very significant step forward for CNI. We will now have much more influence on the City Planning process. The first project that CNI had an opportunity to review was a 50 unit "Section 8" family housing project proposal for Coventry. Other local organizations that have reviewed the Section 8 proposal are the Cleveland Heights/University Heights League of Women Voters, Heights Community Congress, and the City of Cleveland Heights.

"SECTION 8" HOUSING PLANNED

by
Charles Owen

Coventry Village could be the site of 50 units of federally subsidized family housing under the "Section 8" program. The developer of the units would be Kenneth R. Sacks, a developer of a number of other "Section 8" projects. The proposed sites are: 2716, 2725, 2741, and 2769 Hampshire Road; 2764, and 2768 Lancashire Road; and, 2836 Mayfield Road. It should be noted that the Lancashire Road properties, owned by Roger Ritley, have also been proposed as the site for a business district parking lot

According to the plans all of the apartment buildings will be completely renovated by the developer. The renovation will be financed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Once the 50 units are renovated, they will then be available to families of low and moderate income. Under the Section 8 program, families would pay 25% of their income for rent and the federal government would pick up the rest. Of the present residents living in the building, it is estimated that 25% would be eligible for the Section 8 program. According to Heights City Manager, Richard V. Robinson, Cleveland Heights residents will have the first opportunity to rent the renovated suites.

At the March 10th meeting of Coventry Neighbors, the membership voted to approve the proposed project under the federal A-95 review process.

It should be noted that not everyone is thrilled about the idea of having 50 units of subsidized family housing located in the same neighborhood. Concerns range from overcrowding, noise, and the possible lack of local control over the project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

by

David R. Burwasser

At its March meeting, Coventry Neighbors approved the concept of renovating certain buildings on Lancashire Road under a rental-assistance-housing program of HUD. A proposal to tear down the same properties for parking had been presented by Sheldon Goldstein and Joan Jordan on behalf of Lewis Zipkin and Roger Ritley. A motion to disapprove the parking-lot scheme was made but tabled, on the grounds that final approval of the rehab project by HUD had not yet occurred, and that the Coventry Merchant Association (CMA) had not yet examined the proposal from the commercial standpoint.

However, the CMA did not examine the proposal at its meeting the next night. When called on by CMA President Marcia Polevoi to discuss the project, Ms. Jordan stated that "something has happened in the last week and a half that makes it impossible for me to discuss the proposal in public," according to Larry Beam of the City planning staff, who was in attendance. Mr. Beam pointed out at the meeting that Ms. Jordan had discussed the proposal the night before at the CNI meeting; Ms. Jordan did not change her position.

Mr. Beam told the COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS he had learned subsequently that CMA leadership does not want to take a position on the project until Pick-N-Pay plans become public, and that the merchant group had several times in the past rebuffed attempts to garner formal support for the project.

In any event, the proposal is still "live" before Coventry Neighbors at least for the upcoming April meeting, and may be taken up for discussion and final disposition by appropriate motions.

JB AT DOBAMA: A REVIEW

Archibald MacLeish's JB opened at Dobama in mid March.

If you go to the theatre to be amused, diverted, entertained - skip this one, it's not for you. If, however, you would enjoy pondering the nature of God, the meaning of life with "The two best actors in America," playing at God and Satan, do see it.

It's a heavy show, based on the Biblical story of Job. It raises questions about God and life. It makes you feel and think about feeling. It is well done and is a satisfying theatrical experience.

Ron Newell's direction lives up to Dobama's high standards that he has maintained since he became co-artistic director, with Don Bianchi, in 1978. He demands much from his actors - and in most cases gets what he asks for.

Of special note are Mel Hart as JB and Mark Strapp as Nickles (Satan) whose love of the language underscore their lines. Betsy Burlingame's Sarah is enhanced by her vibrant, resonant voice so suited to tragedy.

A play in verse is not easy, particularly in ensemble. Some of the beauty of the poetry is lost in scenes where the actors are trying to maintain the integrity of their characters rather than the flow of line - but again maybe that's just me, I'm somewhat of a purist.

I could not imagine a circus set on Dobama's small stage but Newell does it admirably. When you enter, the set seems terribly crowded but as it plays, with actors, lights and music you lose the cramped feeling, thanks to a imaginative use of light and shadow; line and color.

The show runs till April 11. Curtains are at 8:30 Thursday and Saturdays; 9:00 Fridays and, 7:30 Sundays. Ticket prices at \$3.75 (5.00) on Saturdays are the best in town.

-- bobbie Littell

**** COMMUNITY CALENDAR ******APRIL**

- 6 LIBRARY - Indoor Bistro
Main - 10:00-1:00 & 6:00
8:00 pm
CNI Environmental Comm.
7:30, call 321-1268
CH COUNCIL - 7:30 City
Hall
- 7 LIBRARY - After School
Special 2:30 & 3:30
UH Branch - 7:00 BRS
Computer Demonstration
7:30 Children's Film
- 8 LIBRARY - Preschool
Storyhour 10:30 & 2:30
New Decade Players 4:00
Main - Library Revisited
7:00 - 9:00
CNI TRUSTEES - 7:30
2910 Hampshire
- 9 COVENTRY SCHOOL - Bike
Inspection 1:00-3:00
Wiley Jr. High - Pre-
school Fair, 7:00 pm
LIBRARY - Coventry
Book, Author Coffee
7:30 pm.
- 10 LIBRARY - Main, Child-
rens Room - Preview
of Video Cassettes, 7:00
- 11 LIBRARY - 2:00, Puppet
Show- "All Baba"- Noble
JUDY CHICAGO RECEPTION
8:00, 3130 Mayfield.
DOBAMA - Last performance
of JB - 8:30
- 12 CH RECREATION DEPT -
Bike Maintenance
Workshop - Pavilion
12:45 & 3:00.
- 13 CNI STREET FAIR COMM.
8:00, 2572 Kenilworth
- 14 LIBRARY - Vacation Movie
for School Kids 2:30
CNI GENERAL MEETING
7:30 Unitarian Society
FAIRMOUNT THEATRE OF
THE DEAF - Drama Classes
begin
- 15 LIBRARY - Vacation Movie
for Preschool Children
2:30

*** COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD *****LIBRARY NOTES Debbie Graves**

April will be a very busy and exciting month at Coventry Library. Along with our regular programs, the Library will be involved in three specials this month. National Library Week is being celebrated with offerings all week at the different public service depts. at Main and the three branches. (See calendar.)

Coventry Library staff members felt that we should celebrate the occasion with two of our best resources - books and people of Coventry area. Several authors will be present at the Coventry Book and Author Coffee: Natalie Crouter, Ben Berkey, Bert Stratton, Harvey Pekar, Harry Shapiro, Barbara Angell, Robert Wallace and Diane Kandig. To complete the celebration, we'd love to have as many Coventry friends and neighbors join us for coffee and cake; to meet and greet our Coventry Authors.

"Fight Inflation With Information" is the focus of a series of programs to be held in April and May. The first, April 21, will center on "Planning a Vegetable Garden" with Robert Negus from the County Cooperative Extension Service. He will also provide information about the available community gardens, one of which is on Hampshire. Our second program,

April 29 is a discussion of the book "Diet For a Small Planet" Joseph Kelly, a vegetarian, nutritionist will be on hand to answer questions about recent developments in vegetarian cooking and nutrition. On Monday, May 4, Shony Long will speak about fighting inflation with coupons and refunds, while Susan Barlow of Pick-n-Pay will discuss coupons and NutriScan, a new survey of the nutritional values of food. On May 19, Mrs. Montalvo will come from CEI to discuss home energy conservation in every day situations.

During school vacation, special movies will be shown at 2:30. On April 14, "Cricket in Times Square" and "The Amazing Awareness of Duffy Moon" will be shown. On April 15 the offering will be "Mole and The Green Star" and "Dr. Seuss on the Loose".

NEW MERCHANT ASSOC. OFFICERS CHOSEN. . Leslie Fortney

At its semi-annual meeting, the Coventry Merchant Association elected new officers for the six months: Joan Jordan (Coventry Yard) pres. Ellie Strong, VP and Gar Hyler, tres. (Coventry Books) Marcia Polevol, Sec. (High Tide Rock Bottom). New trustees are: Leslie Fortney (High Tide/Rock Bottom) Debbie Graves (Coventry Library) Carla Kirmayer (Resign Lines) Tim Mannen (Corkscrew) and Ernie Mook (Coventry Bike and Ski).

- COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD -

** COMMUNITY CALENDAR **

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE bobbie littell

APRIL

The Community Affairs Committee of CNI has set up a liaison between the residents of Euclid Heights affected directly by the reconstruction and the Community Relations and Public Works Depts. of the City.

The purpose of this liaison group is to provide two way communication about the inconvenience necessitated by the project. In the belief the inconvenience will be easier to tolerate if the residents understand why the decisions are made, this committee will attempt to keep the residents informed about aspects of the project which directly affect them.

Key communicators have been named who will serve as liaisons through which important information regarding the project will flow. These communicators will make sure that information is disseminated and encourage their neighbors to inform City Hall of the existence of any potential problem.

Currently all of the single family homes on EHB are covered and CNI would like to have a contact person in each apartment building to receive and disseminate information. Persons willing to help in this capacity, can call me at 321-8397

The key communicators for single family homes on EHB are: Monica Olszewski, 932-5007 and D'Arcy Siliars, 932-2781.

JUDY CHICAGO RECEPTION

On Saturday, April 11 at 8:00 pm, Judy Chicago will be at 3130 Mayfield, the former Temple-on-the-Heights where her sculpture, "The Dinner Party" will be on exhibit beginning Mothers Day, to talk about her work.

"The Dinner Party," a monumental art work, celebrating the achievement and contribution of women to Western Civilization, is an open triangular banquet table set with 39 places. Each place setting represents a significant achievement of a woman in history. Photographs, texts and a film documenting Chicago's goals, and her five year effort to create this controversial piece will be on display. Tickets at \$5.00 are available at Arabica and Coventry Books.

COVENTRY SCHOOL NOTES

The Cleveland Heights Police will be conducting a Bike Inspection at Coventry School on April 9 and 23 from 1:00 - 3:00. Those wishing to obtain 1981 licenses will need to know the type, size and serial number of bicycles as well as their name and address.

Cost of license is \$2.00. There will also be an opportunity to review safety regulations.

- 21 LIBRARY - After School Special 2:30 & 3:30
Fight Inflation with Information, "Planning Vegetable Gardens" 7:30
- 22 LIBRARY - Preschool Story Time 10:30 & 2:30
- 23 COVENTRY SCHOOL - Bike Inspection 1:00 - 3:00
CLEVELAND HEIGHTS HOME AND GARDEN SHOW 4:00 - 9:30
- 24 HOME AND GARDEN SHOW 4:00 - 9:30
- 25 HOME AND GARDEN SHOW 10:30 am - 9:30 pm
- 26 CNI CRIME TASK FORCE Brunch 12:00, 1656 Glenmont HOME AND GARDEN SHOW 11: am - 6:00 pm
- 27 LIBRARY - FIGHT INFLATION WITH INFORMATION 7:30
Book Discussion - Diet For Small Planet.
- 28 LIBRARY - After School Special, 2:30 & 3:30
COVENTRY SCHOOL - PTA CARNIVAL (K-3) 6:00 - 8:30 pm.
- 29 LIBRARY - Preschool Storyhour 10:30 & 2:30
- 30 COVENTRY SCHOOL - PTA CARNIVAL (4-6) 6:00 - 8:30
- 2 COVENTRY CLEAN UP DAY 10:30 am, Mini-Park
- 3 LIBRARY - Poetry Reading 2:30 pm
- 4 LIBRARY - FIGHT INFLATION WITH INFORMATION - Coupon Refunding & Nutrition 7:30
- 7 COVENTRY SCHOOL - Bike Rodeo 6:00 pm.
COVENTRY SCHOOL - Choir and Orchestra Concert, 7:30
CNI - TRUSTEES, 7:30
2910 Hampshire Road

 *
 * it seems to me, God *
 *
 * is a verb. *
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 * -Buckminster Fuller *
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR: COVENTRY CROSS-TOWN BUS PROPOSAL IS NOT DEAD

At a hearing before the RTA Operations Committee, March 12, we were told that our proposal was neither rejected nor accepted. We were instructed to discuss it further with Donald G. Yuratovac, Director of Service Development.

On Tuesday, March 24, a community group met with Mr. Yuratovac for several hours. We now have his figures to review in detail. He now has our needs more clearly spelled out, and he has our counterproposal to consider. We now know what evidence to gather in support of our case. We also know the importance of timing. With so many buses out of commission and needing repair, RTA can not serve the main lines; much less consider a new route. Both sides need time to re-group. Then we will begin another round of negotiations.

Our thanks to RTA Board member, Sarah Anne Vigil, the only consumer of public transportation on the Board, for saving us from a committee vote of rejection. Eternal gratitude to Richard Weigand and John Boyle who stuck with us so valiantly in City Council. Equal eternal gratitude to Alan Rapoport for his eloquent plea to the Operations Committee--with just the right mixture of strokes, jabs, and facts. Many thanks to CNI President, Charles Owen for his eloquent and astute comments at the hearing. Much appreciation to F. David Gill for his statistical acuity and diplomacy with Mr. Yuratovac. We couldn't have done without him.

To the many who took off from work, waited two hours for the hearing, a third hour during the hearing, only to find there was no time left for them to speak--our great appreciation for your presence and support.

We should all remember that the previous social actions initiated by Coventry PTA (all of which were successful) were not won quickly. Remember the C-Saw Cafe? Remember the Coventry Library struggle that took three years? Equally important is that none of these past victories came from the effort of one group alone, but only from the combined efforts of Coventry Neighbors, Coventry Merchants and the Coventry PTA. These same groups have all been working together for the Coventry bus. In addition, help has come from two school systems and PTA's in three cities; from political parties, hospitals, churches, city councils, library systems, and many cultural, commercial and semi-governmental groups. It is a miracle that all have worked so well together.

So our proposal is still alive. Any groups of citizens planning to write RTA a testimonial about your need for, and expected use of the proposed bus--please do write. Keep them reminded that we are alive and kicking. Keep the evidence piling up. It will take time, brains, many people, lots of cooperation, and a little bit of luck. But we will prevail!

-- June C. Wortman.

ON THE OTHER HAND

If it is possible for RTA to provide more services to the Coventry Neighborhood, would that added service best take the form of the cross-town Coventry line being advocated by a Coventry group, or should more vehicles be added to the now often crowded 7 and 9 lines? Is the provision of cross-town service linking Coventry with Shaker Square and points to the north worth less service on the 7 or 9 lines?

So far, public discussion of the proposed Coventry north-south bus has not addressed these questions. It should. The realities of RTA's budget are such that no new service can be added without cuts somewhere in the system. RTA officials have hinted, in discussions of other Cleveland Heights lines being promoted by neighborhood interests, that manpower and equipment would likely be reallocated from now-crowded lines if neighborhood interests get the untested or low-ridership lines they advocate.

--Larry Beam

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: CVN COVERAGE PROTESTED

I was more than a little disturbed to read in the current news letter sponsored by your organization, the item of adverse criticism leveled against my variety store on Coventry Road.

Your reporter takes me to task for my store not conforming "to the goals of the Coventry Merchant's Association."

I had been open only a matter of two days, when your criticism appeared in the news letter, which any unbiased individual would state is most premature!

Your reporter further chastises me for the "garish" poster adorning each panel of glass. The entire community is "concerned" about that particular sign, asserts your reporter. A call to the building inspection dept. at Cleveland Heights City Hall, brought this answer: "a sign or poster must not exceed more than 21% of the window glass." So my sign is not in violation. But a few steps in either direction of my store will produce evidence of window signs in violation of the sign code for store windows!

Your reporter blatantly ridicules the type of merchandise sold in my store, terming the merchandise "Inexpensive Items!"

Of course my merchandise, of good quality and manufacture, is less expensive than in many other stores.

In today's depressed economy, I want everybody, old and young alike, to save money, and get excellent quality at the same time.

A call to the law dept. at the City Hall brought forth this information: The Coventry Neighbors has not the authority to dictate to a store owner the type of merchandise he sells! This is entirely the province of the owner himself.

In the interests of fair and free enterprise, I request that an apology, or retraction be made in the next issue of your news letter.

-- R & A Discount
1831 Coventry Road

editor's note: Customarily, CVN prints letters without comment and allows the correspondent the "last word" on any given issue. The author of this letter, however, requests a response.

Certainly CNI does not enforce commercial restrictions; we are commentators, evaluators and reporters. Our bases for comment go beyond the technicalities of codes and include esthetic and environmental criteria. On both counts, the irrelevance of quoting an enforcement officer defensively should be clear.

To be sure, there are established shops on Coventry that are already esthetically offensive. The sensitivity of the CVN staff should therefore be understandable when a new shop opens up that is also esthetically offensive. Many CNI members are determined that insults to Coventry's environment be corrected, not proliferated.

Finally, "In the interests of free and fair enterprise," this newsletter will defend the right of a Coventry merchant to engage in any lawful trade, and will defend under the same principles the right of anyone to criticize the conduct of said trade. That is how a free market and free press function. -- dB

ODDS'N ENDS

Looks like a number of our young people are performing outside of our area. Got a notice from the Cleveland Play House Youth Theatre announcing the production of "Androcles and the Lion" for kids 3 to 103. A note from Mary Jane Sanders says that children from Coventry "participate in this program." Show runs April 15-17 at 2:00 in the Drury Theatre on 86th St., call 795-7000 for more information. Another notice states that Margaret Amer and Rebecca Wortman, both Coventry residents, are part of the Primavera Dance Company which will perform at Roxboro Jr. High on Saturday, May 2, at 8:30. This modern dance group from the Cleveland Music School Settlement, has performed at school throughout Cleveland. Tickets are \$3.00 for adults and \$1.50 for students, at the door.

Marie Schaffer of Meals on Wheels sends notice that they are looking for volunteers to help to provide hot, nutritious meals to elderly and disabled residents of CH & UH. This sounds like a very satisfying volunteer opportunity. If you are interested call Jane Little at 291-1797. . . Girl Scout Troup 1187 will be on the street April 9 & 10 from 4:00 - 8:00 and on the 11th from 12:00 - 6:00 selling cookies. If you missed your chance to order them, pick them up in front of High Tide, or in the back entryway of Pick-n-pay . . . Russell Stephenchick of High Tide is offering private classes in Jewelry Making. Stop in and pick up a registration form. . . The Fairmount Theatre of the Deaf is offering courses in both English and American Sign Language; beginning Sign Language and Creative Dramatics for Children. If interested call 932-2573. . . Welcome to 7 1/2 lb. Lindsay Elizabeth Fello, born to Tommy and his wife Cindy. . . June Wortman, MSW, is starting a support group for "People Living Through Separation and Divorce" at the Unitarian Society. For further information call her at 371-7698.

Cleveland school bus drivers, Rickie O'Harper and Ed Washington have discovered a trick to develop better rapport with their riders - they wear those crazy hats from High Tide Rock Bottom, and the kid's become more cooperative.

At the organizational meeting for the communicators in the EHB project, Monica Olszewski, came up with some handy tips for homeowners and residents. Be sure to know who your key communicator is; check your curbs and driveway apron to find out their condition before construction starts; if you are expecting delivery of furniture or major appliances, check with City Hall before you set your schedule; if you plan to move, check with both your mover and the City to be sure the truck will have access to your home.

The City is presenting its 13th Annual Home and Flower Show at the Pavilion, April 23-26. Special events are planned for this springtime event, with great ideas for homemakers and gardeners. Admission is free.

The Info-Pack announces a special program for parents of elementary and pre-school children. The program will be on April 9 at Wiley Junior High. The Pre-School Fair from 7:00 - 8:00 will provide an opportunity for parents of children just entering school to meet with representatives of a wide variety of educational, cultural and recreational organizations to learn about the many resources for CH & UH children. From 8:00 - 10:00, Dr. Alice Ginnot will talk about "Communication with Love." Ginnot will discuss ways to improve parent-child communication.

Coventry is a great place because it is a community which cares about its people and its people care about their community. People of Coventry have worked together many times, in many ways to make Coventry what it is. They worked initially to save Coventry from being destroyed - currently they are working for a cross-town boulevard. Under the aegis of the Coventry Merchant's Association, the people of Coventry have worked together to define design standards for the commercial strip - the way they want their street to look. To disregard these standards is to disregard the spirit which makes Coventry the great place it is.

-- bobble littell

Welcome also to Katie Rebecca Horowitz 8 lbs. 12 oz. born 5:04 4/5/81 to Lenny and Cheryl Horowitz (Former owner of Coventry's Food Project).

COUNCIL COMMENT

THE TRUTH COMES OUT. Councilman Alan Rapoport has taken more than one shellacking from his Council colleagues for the slow progress of the revised Point-of-Sale (POS) inspection law through his committee. Surprise! It turns out that Rapoport's colleagues, not Rapoport alone, are to blame; they can't agree on a revision that will muster the necessary votes. On March 16, Council re-extended the old POS law, which has a "sunset" clause, through June 30. Meanwhile the community awaits resolution of this impasse.

CLOSING TIME! Councilwatchers were treated to much ideological heavy breathing on the eve of St. Pat's Day, when two requests for D-3A liquor permits (2:30AM closing) were reviewed. Council's role here is advisory to the Ohio Dept. of Liquor Control. Opponents of the requests waxed eloquent that community sobriety be defended even though the City's old 1-AM closing law has been stricken in a court decision. Supporters were equally loquacious in denouncing such interference with business and such stereotyping of late-hour taverns and their patrons.

One Councilman, Jack Boyle, didn't participate in the symposium; he just voted. Unlike his colleagues, he voted differently on each request, favorably for Diane's on Coventry and adversely to the Knotty Pine Tavern. And such was the division of Council that his was the deciding vote on each.

In a telephone interview the following day, Boyle was quite forthcoming with his reasons. Diane's, he pointed out, is a restaurant with a full kitchen and live entertainment, representing fixed overhead costs that justify an extension of business hours. Such businesses, Boyle said, service the community by accommodating the after-theater crowd; indeed, he expressed hope that Diane's would be encouraged to extend its kitchen hours.

The Knotty Pine, on the other hand, is a relatively isolated neighborhood tavern, an extension of whose hours would indeed be a new impact on its area, Boyle said; while Coventry already has three places open till 2:30. This differentiation, Boyle said, he had consistently applied in the past.

Why did Boyle not outline these parameters to the rest of Council? Because, he said, he had felt that such a routine, practical statement would have been "out of place" in the setting of the night before. We can only agree.

WHERE'S THE PARTY? Some distress has been reported over a description in the COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS of a Council vote as "party-line." Some Councilmembers' positions on the particular issue arose, we are convincingly assured, from serious personal consideration of the many factors involved--party affiliation not among them--and could have been changed if others on Council had been amenable to some marginal compromises.

It should be clear that we use the phrases "partisan" and "party-line" purely as a descriptor--to indicate that a Council issue found all the Republicans on one side and all the Democrats on the other in the final roll call.

This is exactly the way certain Councilmembers use the same language--a characterization by party affiliation, with other variables set aside--on the stump and in the legislative seat. So long as any Councilmembers remain who ran for their offices on the issue of "partisanship," or belabor their fellow Councilmembers with such vocabulary, we will find it appropriate to note partisan alignments in our reportage.

-- Dave Burwasser

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Heights Community Congress
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EDITOR: David R. Burwasser. ASSOCIATED EDITOR: Bobbie Littell.
EDITORIAL BOARD: Charles J Owen, Bruce Hennes, F. David Gill, Diane Bersnak.
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XX

COVENTRY NEIGHBORS GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 14, 7:30 PM, downstairs at the Unitarian Society, 2728
Lancashire Road, Cleveland Heights. The public is urged to attend.

COVENTRY NEIGHBORS TRUSTEES MEETING

Thursday, May 7, 1981 at the home of Bruce Hennes, 7:30 PM, 2910
Lancashire Road. All interested members are invited to attend.