



Coventry Village News

JANUARY, 1981

NEWSLETTER OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC.

Vol. 7 No. 1

PICK-N-PAY REP AT JANUARY CNI MEETING

Ms. Susan Barlow, Consumer Representative for Pick-N-Pay, will be the program speaker at the January 13, 1981, meeting of Coventry Neighbors. Questions and concerns about any and all aspects of Pick-N-Pay's current operations and future plans will be in order. This is not limited to the Coventry store; Ms. Barlow is specifically prepared to share the chain's plans at Severance Center, and how those plans may affect the Coventry Pick-N-Pay operation. She will also be prepared to answer questions regarding the United Farm Workers boycott of Bruce Church's Red Coach lettuce discussed at the last CNI meeting.

Ms. Barlow is a Coventry resident and personally acquainted with some CNI members.

The January meeting will be at the usual location, The Unitarian Society, on Lancashire across from Musicians Towers, at 7:30 PM. All interested people are invited to attend.

RAPOPORT FORMING INSPECTION COMMITTEE

Councilmember Alan J. Rapoport is forming a Lay Advisory Committee on Inspectional Services, he informed the December 9, 1980, meeting of Coventry Neighbors. Mr. Rapoport is taking this action as Chair of the Public Safety & Health Committee of Council, which has responsibility for policy in the inspectional area. The lay committee is a close parallel to the Lay Finance Committees that have become common among local government units.

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SENIOR CHORE RELIEF PROGRAM

If you need help with snow shoveling, the Housing Preservation Office's Chore Relief Program might be your solution. The program supplies young and able volunteers to help elderly residents with some of the more difficult tasks around the house. To find out if you are eligible for a helping hand, call the Housing Preservation Office at 321-0100, Ext. 297.

--- C.H. Info Pack

LET'S FACE IT!

by

Charles J. Owen

Are you tired of all the litter and trash that abound in Coventry's residential and commercial areas? Have you ever been disgusted with certain property owners who usually have a garbage Dumpster blocking the sidewalk, or a couch sitting on the treelawn for a week or two awaiting pickup? Maybe you are the person that is fed up with freewheeling dogs regularly spoiling your yard and garden. Does this sound like you?

A new Coventry Neighbors committee, "Environmental Concerns," is now being formed to lead the quest for a cleaner and more beautiful Coventry. You DON'T have to be a CNI member to lend your neighborhood a hand. The only qualification is to have the optimism to believe that together we can make Coventry a better looking place that we can be proud of.

Let's see what we can do! Please fill out the tear slip below; you will be contacted within a short period of time. Everyone is invited; you can even bring a friend. You can be as heavily or lightly involved as your time permits.

If you are willing to become active on the Environmental Concerns Committee please fill out the attached tear slip and return to:

Coventry Neighbors, Inc.,
2745 Hampshire Road
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106

____ Yes, I would like to help make Coventry cleaner and more beautiful!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ When may we reach you? _____

What are your particular interests? _____

BOOS & BRAVOS

- BOO: The mere thought that the apartment buildings at 2764, 2768 and 2772 Lancashire should be destroyed for commercial area parking.
- BRAVO: "Beauty and the Beast," a production of Fairmount Theater of the Deaf, was aired nationwide by the Public Broadcasting Service.
- BOO: Almost every morning a brown-and-white Chevy Blazer truck, Ohio License CKU-485, blocks the sidewalk next to ABC Appliance between 7:30 and 8:00 am, forcing people into the street. Thank you for thinking only of yourself, CKU-485.
- BRAVO: Our Coventry Village Library is now an official Cleveland Heights Landmark.
- BOO: Sunshine II's (1809 Coventry) holiday greeting window display --"Line 'em up." "Whip it up" -- encouraging drug use was another of their continuing insults to this community. The window has since been changed.

--Charles J. Owen

ARTISTS GUILD SCHEDULES CLASSES

The Heights Guild of Artists & Artisans announces its 10 week winter classes, beginning on January 5th at the Coventry Library, 1925 Coventry Road. Fee schedules may be obtained by calling 371-2757. Fees include materials and firing: stone ware clay, glazes, and gas kiln. There is no registration charge.

Handbuilding/wheel for children (ages 8 - 12). Instructor: Miora Beale, Monday 4:00 - 5:30 pm.

Wheel for young adults (12 and up). Instructor: Johanna VandenBrock, Saturday 9:30 - 11:30 am.

Wheel/handbuilding for adults. Instructor: Honey Meir-Levi, Monday 7:30 - 9:30 pm.

Adult Sculpture. Instructor: Johanna VandenBrock, Friday 1:30 - 3:30 pm.

Glaze Theory - To be announced for February or March.

THE GUILD POTTERY COOPERATIVE is looking for new members. Studio space is available for the payment of modest dues plus a monthly rental charge which includes open studio, electric kiln and wheels, gas kiln, and glazes. (Clay and firing are extra.) For further information, call 371-2757

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FORMS

At its November, 1980 meeting Coventry Neighbors, Inc. authorized the formation of a number of committees. It was hoped that by grouping together similar reports and presenting them as one, the meeting would be speeded up.

I agreed to chair the COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE defined as a liaison with external organizations other than City of Cleveland Heights and Coventry Merchant Assn., such as street clubs, PTA, the Library, Heights Community Congress or any other group wishing to provide regular input to CNI.

This could be accomplished by publishing the COMMUNITY AFFAIRS report in the Coventry Village News. That would mean that at the time people receive their meeting notice, they would also learn of some of the agenda items and could be prepared to discuss them if they so wished; while at the same time serve the purpose of CVN by informing Coventry residents about what's going on in the community. I am planning a meeting in mid-January to set up the procedures. Any organization wishing to participate may call me at 321-8397 or see me at the January meeting. By then I will have set a meeting date.

-- bobbie littell

NEEDED: CNI DUES

The receipt of your dues is important to Coventry Neighbors. This is the only regular source of income for the Corporation. The greatest use of these dues is the production of COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS, which cost us approximately \$28.00 per month to distribute. Other uses for these dues are to defray the cost of refreshments for meetings, and to purchase office supplies. Accurate records are kept of our income and expenditures, and the account balance is given as a matter of record during our regular meeting.

Your payment of dues entitles you to vote on issues presented at our meetings. We need, and appreciate your contribution.

-- Diane Bersnak

You may become a member of Coventry Neighbors Inc., simply by filling out this tear slip and returning it with your check made payable to Coventry Neighbors, Inc. to Coventry Neighbors, 2745 Hampshire Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106.

Check one of the following classes of membership.

 Individual (\$5.00) Family (\$7.00) Senior (\$3.00)

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

ODDS 'N ENDS

Coventry Village put on a gorgeous show for itself and its friends this holiday season. There was music playing, the windows were festive, Marcia served goodies, Santa was handing out candies and at the Corkscrew the clerks were dressed as Dickens characters. T'was merry.

Work on Coventry Yard progresses; ceilings and partitions are going up. So far Arabica and a doll house store, "Oh, How Cute," are the only for sure tenants. Rumor has it, however, that negotiations are going on with a perfume boutique and Stouffers. Larry Beam of the Planning Department reported at last meeting the benches and bike racks have been ordered and should be in by spring. . . Rumor also claims that National Supermarkets, Inc., who run the supermarkets known nationally as First National Stores (parent company of Pick-N-Pay) are interested in purchasing the Seigler estate. Do you suppose they'll paint the building for us while they spend another year or so making plans?

The recent ceremony designating Coventry Library as a Cleveland Heights Landmark was a big occasion for Coventry. I was a little embarrassed by the poor turnout of Coventry Neighbors. There were more Library and City officials than community people in attendance. . . On December 15, CVN Editor, Dave Burwasser became the newest member of the Cleveland Heights Cable TV Advisory Commission, which is charged with overseeing operations and advising Council relative to the cable TV service currently being installed in our fair city. Congrats, Dave!

Heights Community Congress has moved its offices across the street from its old location at Cedar & Lee. It's now located at 2163 Lee Road, under the theatre marquee, the door to the right. It looks like it will be a great "new home" when they get all the construction finished. Mark your calendars now for the big community party at Playhouse Square which the Congress is sponsoring on Feb. 28: Cleveland Heights Night at Stompin' at the State. Sounds like fun - get your gang together and go. Tickets are \$8.50 (\$7.50 for seniors and students). Mail your check by February 14 to the above address to make sure you have a spot saved.

Speaking of moves - the Casbah is back, around the corner, next to the Taj Mahal. If you don't remember this neat Middle Eastern boutique from when they were next to the Laundromat, stop in and see them. . . But first stop in and have breakfast at the Taj Mahal. They have a standard American breakfast menu with a wide selection at very moderate prices. . . Euclid Heights Boulevard's rebuilding may have started by the time you read this. It is major undertaking which will take many months. As I remember, CNI offered to set up a liaison between City/builders/residents to help deal with some of the problems experienced by Cedar residents when that artery was being rebuilt. Sounds to me like a good idea.

Mr. Beam (CH Planning Dept.) mentioned that they have been receiving a number of inquiries about procedures for setting up game rooms on the strip. It is rumored (again) that a pinball emporium is being discussed for the empty store between one establishment which openly promotes the use of drugs and another which from time to time has lost its license for the illegal sale of alcoholic beverages to minors. The gangs of adolescents - most of them from outside our community according to CH Police - who congregate in the Coventry Pizza parking lot of a summer evening have been a continuing problem for the merchants and residents. Beam reported that he has informed callers that anyone wishing to open such a business would first have to make application to either the Board of Zoning Appeals, or the Planning Commission. It would behoove interested community residents to stay on top of this one - and be prepared to attend these meetings when one of these requests appear on the agenda.

For the CNI Trustees and the CVN staff - the happiest of New Years.

-- bobbie littell

PICK-N-PAY BUYING ITS OWN STORE

by

David R. Burwasser

The Coventry Pick-N-Pay will soon be its own landlord for the first time, consumer representative Susan Barlow told the Coventry Neighbors, Inc., meeting of January 13, 1981. The store has hitherto been a commercial tenant, and the fact that the landowner and storekeeper were different entities has been a serious obstacle to improvement of the store, a need acknowledged by everyone involved. Ms. Barlow, a Pick-N-Pay representative, told the organization that the property was in escrow and the title search underway as of the CNI meeting at which she spoke.

Pick-N-Pay is planning a much larger supermarket at the Coventry site, 30,000 square feet as compared with the present 12,000 square feet. This announcement was met with some warnings of probable--indeed, intended--opposition from the community.

Ms. Barlow did not have any information as to whether the chain planned to build additional commercial space or to participate in the federal UDAG grant for which the City is preparing an application. This raised the possibility that the input programmed into public meetings that are mandated under the UDAG process. City Manager Richard V. Robinson, speaking at the January 19 Council meeting, expressed confidence that the UDAG route would be used, and that in any event a project the size of the proposed store would be the subject of public hearings in the normal course of obtaining variances and other special permissions from the City.

Mr. Larry Beam of the CH Planning Dept. has indicated that the additional commercial space originally planned as part of the development was needed to generate enough revenue to keep Pick-N-Pay's net rental costs down to a reasonable level. With Pick-N-Pay now the landowner, that problem has been removed. If the additional space is not built, the UDAG application may have to be substantially changed.

Ms. Barlow reviewed Pick-N-Pay's plans at Severance Center for the CNI meeting. She assured residents that the Severance development does not presage withdrawal of Pick-N-Pay from Coventry, and cited its acquisition of the present site as evidence of Pick-N-Pay's commitment to Coventry.

ASCHERMAN GALLERY REORGANIZES

There's a new name on Coventry, The Cleveland Photographic Workshop. It's a new name but it has a familiar face. CPW is a private, non profit corporation. Its director is Herbert Ascherman. I went in and talked to Herb the other day and found that the change in name and status will enable him to do more of what he has been doing all along, and do it better. It will also enable the new corporation to accept grants and to use volunteers in its operation.

The stated aim of the new corporation is: to heighten the community awareness of photography as a fine art; to promote and develop photographers who reside in northeast Ohio; to educate the general public to the importance of photography; and to develop and provide a photographic resource center.

The CPW plans to meet these goals by holding photographic shows; providing a resource center; reviewing and critiqueing of photographic portfolios; holding workshops and seminars; and acquiring a permanent collection of prints of high artistic merit.

It sounds like this outgrowth of the Ascherman Gallery will be a distinct asset to our street. Congratulations, Herb. Keep up the good work.

bobbie littell