



Coventry Village News

MARCH, 1981

NEWSLETTER OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC.

Vol VII No.3

ANTI-CRIME COMMITTEE MEETS

by
Carol Hamilton

The first meeting of the Coventry Neighbors Anti-Crime Committee on February 17 was an exchange of ideas and experiences with the goal of defining what everyone agreed is a local crime problem. Chairman, Bruce Hennes, Coventry Neighbors' Vice President asked the group what they thought they can do as citizens to combat crime and from there discussion centered on three major categories of crime: personal injury, burglary and Coventry crime.

Suggestions offered for coping with the ever-increasing threat to personal safety included: (1) self-defense seminars at neighborhood locations; (2) educational drives to disseminate crime prevention information and instruct people when to call the police; (3) expanded safety education in the schools; (4) implementation of the proposed "Helping Hand" program which designates "safe" houses for children in any emergency arising on their way to and from school; (5) an enforced curfew (up to age 14, 9:30 pm; ages 14-16, 10:30 pm) and (6) cultivation of a reputation for community awareness expressed in the slogan "we look out for each other," perhaps using the media to advertise that policy (it has been demonstrated that alert communities have lower crime rates).

Regarding Coventry crime, some residents feel strongly that there should be an all-night beat patrol on the commercial strip after 6:00 pm and that we should pressure our councilmen in this election year for better protection. It was also hoped that the Coventry merchants could be influenced to maintain a high level of quality in the conduct of their businesses as their efforts to (Continued on Page 2)

LANCASHIRE APARTMENTS DEMOLITION PROPOSED

by
Charles Owen

Local developers Lewis Zipkin and Roger Ritely have plans to demolish the apartment buildings at 2764, 2768 and 2772 Lancashire Road, to provide for a rear plaza, parking and a service entrance for CoventryYard. If implemented, this project would dramatically alter the face of the Lancashire Road community and Coventry in a major way.

Neighborhood residents attending the March 10 Coventry Neighbors meeting will have an opportunity to see plans and provide commentary. Mr. Sheldon Goldstein, architect of the proposed project, will be on hand to discuss the project.

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HOW TO BE A NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVIST: A PRIMER

"Coventry Neighbors doesn't need my help." "I can't do that."

The above statements are not true.

Members of CNI didn't start out as activists. They cared about Coventry. They didn't ask if they knew how: they just saw a job that needed doing and did it, and had fun working with others to accomplish something important.

You too, can become a "Coventry" activist. Come to a meeting, volunteer for a committee! CNI meets at 7:30 pm on the second Tues. of every month at the Unitarian Society on Lancashire.

We need your help! We'll find something you can do!

-- bobbie littell & Bruce Hennes.

BOOS & BRAVOS

BRAVO: Many thanks to Ron (Newill) and all the folks at Dobama Theater for the Special invitation they extended to CNI members to see "Waltz of the Toreadors." Dobama Theater is an organization of which all Coventry is most proud.

BRAVO: A "tip of the lid" goes to Tom Hannen of Milton Road for cleaning not only his sidewalk but his neighbor's as well.

BRAVO: When plans become somewhat firmer, Pick-N-Pay will be seeking neighborhood input on the plans for their new store.

BRAVO: A study is, in fact, currently being conducted by the RTA on the feasibility of establishing bus service between the Superior Road station and Shaker Square.

BRAVO: Coventry Neighbors meetings are indeed getting shorter. The last two meetings were adjourned by 9:30 pm.

-- Charles Owen

ANTI CRIME COMMITTEE MEETS (Continued from page 1)

strive for excellence determine in great part the caliber of people attracted to our area. Some people said they were sorry to see electronic pinball machines at the Coventry Laundromat when that establishment expanded.

Preparatory to the next meeting, March 12, (Note: date change) volunteers are compiling Cleveland Heights crime statistics and contacting various organizations and communities with successful crime prevention programs. New faces will be a welcome sight at the next Anti-Crime Committee meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 7:15 pm, at the Hennes home at 2910 Hampshire (at Milton).

letter to the editor:

POLICE UPDATE

At the community meeting of January 15 one of our mutual concerns was the robbery and shooting of Mark Donkin by three teenagers during a holdup attempt on December 2, 1980. At the time I informed the residents present that the Cleveland Heights Police had apprehended two of the suspects after a chase of their auto which ended on East 90th Street, north of St. Clair. The third suspect at the time of the meeting was still being sought by our Police Department. After numerous visits to the 17-year-old's Kinsman Road area neighborhood and residence, the third suspect was apprehended and arrested on January 26th, 1981. At the request of the Police and the County Prosecutor's office, Juvenile Court considered and granted a motion that in the case of the first two suspects apprehended they be bound over to the Grand Jury to stand trial as adults. In the case of the third suspect apprehended on January 26th a similar motion is pending. The reason for our request that Juvenile Court relinquish jurisdiction to Common Pleas Court is the extreme seriousness and viciousness of the crime committed.

The second violent incident occurring in the Coventry area during the past few months, and which I discussed at the meeting, was the attempted robbery of a resident on January 5th in the 2700 block of Hampshire Road. The lady victim, a resident of the area, was knocked to the ground and struck her head. She was treated and released at the hospital. On January 23rd the Cleveland Heights Police arrested and charged Brody Porter, age 35, of 3725 East 147th Street, Cleveland with this crime. Porter has been charged with Aggravated Assault.

On February 16th a 15-year-old female was threatened and robbed at Coventry and Edgemoor Roads. On February 19th the Cleveland Heights Police arrested and charged a 17-year-old juvenile with Aggravated Robbery and Attempted Rape. Because of the seriousness of this crime the Police are also asking that Juvenile Court transfer jurisdiction to the Common Pleas Court and the suspect be required to stand trial as an adult.

It should be noted that in the first two cases above, residents of the area supplied investigative leads to the police that ultimately lead to the apprehension and arrest of the suspects involved. On behalf of the Police Department I would ask that through the Coventry Neighbors newsletter you thank all of the area residents for their tremendous co-operation and assistance to the Police in helping us maintain the high degree of public safety in the general neighborhood. The residents may be assured that the enthusiasm and dedication of the Police to this task will not wane.

If additional violent incidents should occur in the Coventry area I will keep you advised as to the solution of the case or description of the suspect being sought.

-- Martin G. Lentz, Chief of Police

 *
 * Councilman Alan Rapoport informs the CVN that there was NO -- *
 * repeat -- NO fire in Coventry Yard on February 24. Smoke from *
 * a coffee roaster was vented out the roof, and as the visible *
 * plume spread, someone called the Fire Department. But there *
 * was NO FIRE. *
 * *

 * HOUSING SERVICE REINSTATES VOLUNTEER NETWORK *
 * The Heights Housing Service is reinstating its volun- *
 * teen network. Housing Service volunteers will once again *
 * be providing information to home sellers on their street *
 * about the H.H.S. and the Preferred Realty Office Program *
 * (P.R.O. Program), act as resource persons to H.H.S. and *
 * P.R.O prospects about their street and neighborhood. *
 * Interested? Call the Housing Service at 321-2762. *
 * -- Susan Burkons *
 * Real Estate Programs *
 * City of Cleveland Heights *

CNI PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED
 BY
 F. David Gill

At its February, 1981 general meeting, Coventry Neighbors, Inc. established a Planning and Zoning Committee. This step formalizes functions heretofore performed sporadically by various CNI members, including your correspondent, who is action as committee chair.

The Committee will assure that at least one CNI representative is present to monitor matters of community concern at each public hearing of the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) and the Planning Commission (PC), as well as Council's Public Meetings.

For BZA and PC cases which may be of interest to the Coventry Community, notices will be published in the Coventry Village News under the heading of "Planning and Zoning Notes," so that interested Citizens may observe or speak at such hearings. These matters will also be presented for discussion at the regular CNI meetings. Finally, the CVN will publish the outcome of these hearings and any subsequent Council action.

The new committee will also assist CNI in its role as a sounding board for neighborhood reactions to developmental proposals.

PLANNING AND ZONING NOTES

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING: 7:30 pm, March 18, 1981, City Hall

Calendar item No. 1459: Temple Associates Ltd. wishes to exhibit a major work of art, Judy Chicago's "Dinner Party," at the former Temple on the Heights building, 3120 Mayfield Road, during May, June and July. Since the sculpture recently drew 100,000 viewers in New York, the City has expressed concerns regarding emergency evacuation facilities within the building. The exhibitors also wish to advertise the event by placing signs on the building which exceed in size and number those permitted by the Zoning code.

COUNCIL KILLS BUS RESOLUTION WITHOUT DEBATE

Maybe it was the full moon out that night. . .

At its February 17th meeting, City Council snuffed out Councilmember Richard Weigand's resolution on the proposed Coventry bus with a party-line vote on a parliamentary maneuver --"tabling the motion" --that killed the measure without debate. Councilmember Marjorie Wright spent several minutes at her microphone criticizing the measure, then made the motion that prevented anyone from rebutting her. Vice Mayor Patricia Blakely seconded, and they and their fellow Republicans-- Mayor Robert Arnold and Joanne O'Brien--voted to table (kill). Weigand and his fellow Democrats, John Boyle and Alan Rapoport, voted unsuccessfully against tabling.

The extinguished resolution didn't even endorse the Coventry bus. It noted that the proposed route, inspiration of Coventry resident June Wortman, had generated both support and opposition in the community; and urged that R.T.A. make a timely assessment of the idea. Some of the Republicans suggested that it was inappropriate for Council thus to address another public body.

Yet Council had very recently admonished the U.S. Senate on how cable television should be regulated, and regional authorities on management of radio-active waste transportation.

Most surprising was the suppression of debate. This Council and its immediate predecessors has tackled abortion, tax revolt, safety of schoolchildren, relocation of fire stations and disposition of nuclear waste. Councilmembers have very occasionally had to restrain members of the audience; they have not previously found it necessary to silence one another.

But perhaps the legislators took the less embarrassing route, at that. Prior to Council's non-debate, citizen proponents and adversaries of the Coventry bus route spoke; and while the resolution itself was guardedly neutral, the pro-bus speakers favored the resolution while the anti-bus speakers opposed it. And some of the opponents, mostly from Roxboro area, offered logic that was, to be kind, unique.

One opponent seemed personally offended that controversial issues such as this arise in Cleveland Heights. Another suggested that parents who seek public transportation for their kids are guilty of child neglect. If a Councilmember walked into the room determined to give those folks aid and comfort, a desire to do so without identifying with any of their arguments is understandable.

But why did four members of Council walk in so determined?

Maybe there are power blocs to whom a politician cannot afford to say "no."

Maybe there are folks to whom some politicians cannot stand to say "yes."

And maybe it was the full moon. . .

-- Dave Burwasser

** COMMUNITY CALENDAR **

- - - COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - - -

MARCH

- 2 CH CITY COUNCIL
7:30 - City Hall
- 3 LIBRARY - After School
Special 2:30 & 3:30
- 4 LIBRARY - Preschool
Storyhour - 10:30 &
2:30
New Decade Players 4:00
- 5 MERCHANTS ASSOC. Board
9:00 am at Irv's
CNI - Trustees - 7:30
2910 Hampshire
- 8 LIBRARY - Poetry
Reading - 2:30
Bonnie Jacobson &
Leonard Trawick
- 9 CNI - Environmental
Concerns - 7:30 call
321-1268 for info.
CNI - Constitution &
& By-Laws - 7:30
2910 Hampshire
- 10 LIBRARY - After School
Special
CVN - General Meeting
7:30 - Unitarian Soc.
- 11 LIBRARY - Preschool
Storyhour
New Decade Players
MERCHANTS ASSOC. -
General Meeting - 7:30
New World Haircuts.
- 12 CNI - Crime Prevention
Task Force - 7:15
2910 Hampshire
- 16 CH CITY COUNCIL
7:30 City Hall
- 17 LIBRARY - After School
Special
- 18 LIBRARY - Preschool
Storyhour.
BZA - 7:30 City Hall
COALITION FOR HEIGHTS
SCHOOLS - General
Meeting - 8:00, Rm. B
Main Library.
- 19 DOBMA - J.B. opens
runs until April 11.

LIBRARY NOTES Debbie Graves

April 9th the Coventry Library will hold a Book/Author Coffee for all Coventry authors and all Coventry neighbors who are interested in meeting and talking with their published neighbors. However, we need the names of area authors as soon as possible, so that we can send them special invitations. The Book/Author Coffee will be in celebration of National Library Week.

During National Library Week, the first week in April at the CH-UH Libraries will celebrate with special programs presented by the branches and service departments.

On Monday, the 6th there will be an Indoor Bistro in the lobby of the Main Library where they will serve free coffee from 10:00-1:00 and from 6:00-8:00.

On Tuesday at the University Heights Branch there will be a demonstration of some of the new electronic equipment from 7:00 - 8:00 and children's films from 7:00-8:30. Refreshments will be served.

On Wednesday, at Main, the Adult Services will present "Library Revisited" which provides an update on the use of the automated equipment being used in our Libraries. Reservations required, call 321-3600 Ex. 31.

On April 10 in the Children's Room at Main from 7:00-9:00 they will have a sneak preview of new video tape cassettes, sponsored by the Children's Dept. The week will close on Saturday with a Puppet Show, "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" at the Noble Branch at 2:00. Refreshments will be served.

Circulation Alert: I'm afraid the weather did not allow many people to get to the library in January and we saw a 7% decrease in circulation. February is looking better. We'd love to see as many of our neighbors as possible, taking out as many books as possible!

We need more help on our card catalog project at Coventry Library. We think we are at about the half-way mark. We'd love to see more Coventry neighbors join us for an hour or so a week on this project.

THE COALITION FOR HEIGHTS SCHOOLS. . bobbie littlell

A Coalition for Heights Schools has been formed to select a slate of qualified school board candidates and to actively support that slate throughout the campaign. (Continued on Page 7)

* God, I feel is a verb. *
* -- R. Buckminster Fuller *

** COMMUNITY CALENDAR **

- - - - COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - - - -

MARCH

- 23 CNI - Environmental Concerns - 7:30 call 321-1268.
CNI - Constitution & By-Laws - 7:30
2910 Hampshire LIBRARY - 7:30 - Book Discussion - Jane Eyre
- 24 LIBRARY - After School Special 2:30 & 3:30
COVENTRY PTA -Book Fair - 7:30 - Runs till March 31
- 25 LIBRARY - Preschool Storyhour 10:30 & 2:30
New Decade Players 4:00
- 27 CVN - Deadline
- 28 & 29 HEIGHTS CITIZENS FOR RECYCLING - Paper Drive
- 31 LIBRARY -After School Special
SCHOOL COMMUNITY RELATIONS - Senior Adult Dinner Dance.

THE COALITION FOR HEIGHTS SCHOOLS (Continued from P.6)

Co-chairpersons are Baird Tenney and Joyce Norr. Sally Rutsky is recording secretary and Jan Apple corresponding secretary. Chairpersons of the six standing committees are:

- Candidate Recruitment, Alan Rutsky
- Interview, Bob Apple
- Campaign, Bob Soltz
- Finance, Faith Wyse
- Publicity, Dave Fredman
- Outreach, Mina Saidel

Persons interested in maintaining a strong school board; preserving and improving quality education in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District; supporting qualified candidates; and, encouraging potential candidates may call Mina Saidel at 321-1557.

The education of our children is a community RESPONSIBILITY -- they represent our future.

LAY ADVISORY MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE. . .Beth Logan

The Lay Advisory Master Plan Committee's (LAMP) preliminary report was presented to an open School Board meeting on Saturday, February 28. This committee was formed by the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education to "evaluate all present facilities and recommend possible changes in the grade level organizational structure and/or opportunities for consolidation that would result in more efficient building usage during the period of 1982-1990."

Members of the committee from Cleveland Heights are:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Robert L. Lewis, Chm. | George McPherson |
| Carole Anderson | Nancy Nicoll |
| Richard Baznek | Joanne O'Brien |
| Connie Boyd | Donald Ramos |
| Joan Farragher | Gerald Saidel |
| Robert Hartford, Jr. | Joan Somers |
| Beth Logan | Sam Wolpert |

Decisions made by the Board will be based on the LAMP Committees reports. If you have special concerns, or questions talk to one of the committee members. They need the input that can only come from citizens.

COVENTRY PTA.

A Book Fair from the 24th to the 31st, a Kindergarten Round up on April 6,7 & 8. Call the school for more information.

APRIL

- 1 ASCHERMAN GALLERY - Last day for Bill Pappas Show.
LIBRARY - Preschool Storyhour
New Decade Players
- 3 ASCHERMAN GALLERY - Board Show opening 7:30 - Refreshments
- 6 COVENTRY SCHOOL- Kindergarten Round Up
CH COUNCIL - 7:30
City Hall
- 7 COV. SCHOOL Kindergarten Round Up.
LIBRARY - After School Special
- 8 LIBRARY - Preschool Storyhour
New Decade Players
SCHOOL - Kindergarten Round Up.
CNI - Trustees meeting 7:30 - 2910 Hampshire
- 9 COVENTRY SCHOOL - Bike Inspection 1:00 - 3:00
- 10 DOBAMA - J.B. Closes
- 14 CNI - General meeting 7:30 Unitarian Society

ODDS'N ENDS

Apologies to Marv Rosenburg (PEE WEE) for having erroneously reported that he was closing up shop -- he is NOT -- he's just going away for a few well earned days in the sun, as he does every year. He'll be back -- at the same old stand in the spring with a full stock of new models for spring and summer -- I am truly sorry if I caused you any inconvenience, Pee Wee. . . Another reported move has been canceled. Bill Jones will stay where he is . . . Arabica, by this time should have moved to its new location in Coventry Yard. A gala opening is planned for Friday March 6. . . CNI's Environmental Concerns Committee is just starting to consider planting flowers in the mini-park -- by coincidence Coventry merchant, George Fitzpatrick has offered to create a flower fund -- he will match each donated dollar with a dollar up to \$100.00. Make Checks payable to CNI Flower Fund and send it to 2745 Hampshire Road, 44106. . . F. David Gill reports Tommy's attempt to beat inflation resulted in a happy surprise for Tommy regulars. When green pepper became too expensive, he substituted radishes and alfalfa sprouts in his sandwiches creating a new "taste treat."

We were saddened when Fred Toguchi, chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals announced in the fall that he did not wish to continue in that role in 1981. We are happy to see that he has reconsidered and again is using his vast knowledge, taste and tact on behalf of the city that's "GOT IT."

Word has it that bids are being considered for space in the basement of the remodeled Library. We do hope that the CH-UH Library Board will consider community needs as well as monetary ones. It is hard to compare oranges with apples when you only consider price. The Pottery Co-op fills a unique need in Coventry and we would hate to loose it in favor a group that can pay more rent. . . The Co-op is planning some innovative spring and summer programing for seniors and youngsters. They need some input. If you might be interested call Nina Esrafi at 371-2757 after 5:00 PM.

What's black and white and read all over? The books with black, white and red covers which will be 20% off at Coventry Books, March 12-15. . . Herb Ascherman is looking for a part time clerk. See The man. . . The Unitarian Society announces new hours: Thursdays, 10-4; Fridays, 10-4; and Saturdays, 11-3. . . Heard Irv Gulko is ill. Get well soon, Irv.

A new shop has opened on Coventry next to Coventry Beverage and Pizza. One would hope that the operators would be more aware of the goals of the Coventry Merchant's Association in regards to design standards. It's hard to describe the merchandise as anything but a melange of inexpensive items unattractively displayed, neither a dime or discount store. Of great concern to villagers are the garish "Grand Opening" signes, the paper bags and empty cartons stored in the window, making the whole operation singularly unattractive. One would hope that the new operators would attempt to conform to the standards the community has defined for itself.

We are getting press releases from worthy organizations outside of Coventry. Many of the activities have appeal to Coventry residents and we would love to be able to include everything. Space limitations are a reality and we are forced to draw up guidelines. We will try to report on all activities directly related to the Village. Others, such as activities at J.C.C., Phoenix Theater, Footpath Dance Co or Judson Park we will include only when there is space. . . Note: Health & Fitness Week, at JCC, March 9-12 offers free medical screening, health lectures and physical education instructions. Open to the public.

-- bobbie littell

J. P. OPENS AT DORAMA

The fourth offering by Dobama this season is Archibald Macleish's "J.B." a modern adaptation of the Biblical tale of Job, which opens March 19 and runs till April 11. Those who attended the theater party in early February will agree the production of "Maltz of the Toreadors" was as high quality as you'll find anywhere. We have superb theater here on Coventry with both Dobama and the Fairmount Theatre of the Deaf. It surprises me that so few Coventry Neighbors frequent these theaters. It also surprised me that so few came to the theater party.

Dobama tickets are only \$3.75 (\$5.00 on Saturdays) which is less than most movies these days. Most shows open Thursdays and run though four weekends. Curtains are at 8:30 on Thursdays and Saturdays, 9:00 on Fridays and 7:30 Sundays. It is one of the best entertainment buy's in town. Try it - you, too, could get to be a "theater nut" like I am.

In the same vein, Fairmount Theatre of the Deaf will be dark for March and April after the refreshing production of "The Miser" closes. The company will be on tour throughout Ohio playing in such widely seperated places as Cleveland's West Shore Unitarian Church and the Wright State University's branch in Celina. They'll return in April to start rehearsals on Edward Albee's "Seascapes" - a sad/funny look at marriage and society. Robert Blumenstein, head of the New Dominion Theater of the Deaf in Richmond virginia will be guest director. Watch for it.

-- bobbie littell

HEIGHTS CITIZENS FOR RECYCLING

&

BOY SCOUT TROUP #83

are sponsoring a

N E W S P A P E R D R I V E

Saturday and Sunday, March 28 & 29

10:00 AM till 5:00 PM

Cleveland Heights Recreation Pavilion's Parking Lot
Superior & Mayfield

Aluminum cans, frozen food trays, foil and grocery bags also accepted
No Magazines.

--- cut --- cut --- cut --- cut --- cut --- cut --- cut --- cut --- cut ---

Our membership year is January to December. If you haven't paid, your dues are due.

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 memberships.

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

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Heights Community Congress
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Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118

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CVN

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EDITOR: David R. Burwasser, ASSOCIATED EDITOR: Bobbie Littell. EDITORIAL BOARD: Charles J. Owen, Bruce Hennes, F. David Gill, Diane Bersnak. PRODUCTION STAFF: Reid Robbins and Ann Siclare.

Persons wishing to submit items for the April Issue of CVN may do so by sending them to the Editor, COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS, 1621 Eddington Road, Cleveland Heights, 44118 no later than March 20. Please include your name, address and phone number. While unsigned items will not be considered, publication of your name may be withheld upon request.

CNI

CONVENTRY NEIGHBORS GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, March 10, 7:30 PM, downstairs at the Unitarian Society, 2728
Lancashire Road, Cleveland Heights. The public is urged to attend.

CONVENTRY NEIGHBORS TRUSTEES MEETING

Wednesday, April 8, 1981 at the home of Bruce Hennes, 7:30 PM, 2910
Hampshire Road. Dues paying members are invited to attend.