



Coventry Village News

APRIL, 1982

NEWSLETTER OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC.

Vol. VII No. 4

ARSONIST STALKS COVENTRY

by

Barbara M. Littell

"Where's the fire?" is not a rhetorical question in Coventry. "Where's the fire?" translates to "Who will be the next victim of the arsonist stalking our village?"

There have been nine fires in two neighborhoods of Cleveland Heights (Coventry and Superior Park) since February 7. Most of them have been set in apartment basement locker or laundry rooms.

Coventry residents are scared. What can you do to protect yourself against a crime which seems to have little pattern or logic?

Fire Chief Vincent J. Brice says the first, very important thing you can do is check your smoke detector. Most detectors were installed, as the result of legislation, over a year ago, according to Brice. If the original batteries have not been replaced chances are by now they are inoperable. Replace them.

Lock access doors and windows in basements and keep them locked. Cooperate with your landlord's attempts to comply with security ordinances.

Be alert to strangers loitering behind buildings and in garages or hallways. If you see someone who does not belong - call the police.

Clear away debris from hallways and basements - it can be easily ignited.

Talk with other residents of your building about how you can work together in case of emergency.

The city departments are all working on the problem according to City Manager Richard V. Robinson. A letter concerning security has been sent to building owners and posted in hallways by the city. Inspectional Services will ticket landlords not in compliance with city security ordinances.

The Police Department tactical units have been assigned to the area. The stranger you report loitering might be a plain clothes policeman. That's OK.

The Community Relations Department have set up neighborhood meetings for residents in the affected area. A flyer has been prepared with consultation from CVN staff suggesting things one can do for protection. This has been distributed to businesses on the commercial strip by CVN staff.

In COVENTRY VILLAGE. . .(where) We Watch Out For Each Other, we can cope with this problem if we work together. The most important things to remember are:

- Be smart - take reasonable precautions
- Be alert - if you see, hear or smell something questionable, call for help
- Be cool, Don't go it alone - call the experts, let them do it.

POLICE: 321-1234

FIRE: 321-1212

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 * ON THE INSIDE. . . *
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 * Street Fair Plans *
 * Begun *
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 * Off Street Parking *
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 * Sitting Meters Being *
 * Considered *
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 * Council to Perform *
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COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS is published monthly by COVENTRY NEIGHBORS INC. in cooperation with the HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CONGRESS.

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* COVENTRY VILLAGE . . . *
* We Watch Out *
* For Each Other *
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* * * * *

CNI MEETING NOTES. . . Dave Burwasser, Secretary

CNI appointed Tom Lee as its general counsel at the March 9 meeting.

At the next CNI meeting, April 13, motions will be in order regarding NEIGHBORS IN ACTION (NIA) grant applications that CNI might submit to the City. NIA is funded out of Community Development Block Grant moneys and has a \$2500 upper limit per project, but an organization may submit more than one project proposal. Eligible activities must make an improvement in the public areas of a neighborhood. Projects involving on-going maintenance or the acquisition of property by private organizations will not be funded.

STREET FAIR PLANING BEGINS

The 9th Annual Coventry Village Street Fair will be held on Saturday, July 10 and Sunday, July 11 pending City approval.

Hours have not yet been set. The Fair Committee is looking forward to an expanded Fine Arts area, many more activities for families with young children, and an exciting complement of interesting booths and vendors new to this year's Fair.

The next committee meeting will be on April 5 at 8 PM at the home of Bruce and Lonnie Hennes, 2910 Hampshire Road (at Wilton). If you are interested in serving on any of the following sub-committees, please attend.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Technical Support | Children's Programs |
| Booth Allocation/Information | Music |
| Fair Guide Production | Traffic/Safety |
| Communications | Fine Arts |
| Public Relations | Sanitation |
| Senior/Handicapped Transportation | Finance |

For committee information you may call 321-4670. Information on booth availability and prices will not be ready until May. See next month's CVN.

Participation is not limited to CNI members. Your help is needed to plan and run this year's Fair. Please join us.

-- Bruce M. Hennes, Chairman

MERCHANTS, RESIDENTS, CITY DISAGREE ON PARKING

by

David R. Burwasser

Merchants concerned about the survival of their businesses, and residents seeking preservation of the quality of life in Cleveland Heights, collided with City officials worried about crime, traffic safety and future funding, at the CNI Community Affairs Committee's public meeting on the removal of on-street parking from recently rebuilt County Roads in Cleveland Heights.

In the course of the evening, the City clarified its relationship with the County Engineer in making such decisions; two professional architects who have worked on City-sponsored neighborhood design plans disputed the City's position on the matter; and the possibility emerged of merchant opposition to the June streets bond issue.

Councilmember Richard Weigand, representing the City government, presented the removal of onstreet parking in the context of dismantling an earlier City policy. He said the City had discouraged county traffic through Cleveland Heights by means of obstructive traffic regulations on the main thoroughfares. This, Weigand contended, had produced intense cut-through traffic on residential side streets, such to the consternation of residents. Weigand said that, at every neighborhood meeting he had attended on that subject, neighbors had conceded they themselves were frequent cut-through drivers within the City due to the same obstructions. Weigand had concluded that opening up the thoroughfares was the only equitable solution. He identified onstreet parking as part of the obstruction, and its removal as part of the solution.

Mr. Weigand essentially abandoned the City's one-time claim that the County Engineer was forcing onstreet parking removal, in a concession that the County was flexible on these matters and that the final decision of where to retain parking was Council's. City manager Richard V. Robinson stated, almost immediately, a claim that the Federal government was doing the external forcing. Federal funding had been used for the recent road work, he said, and the parking exemption process would involve negotiation with Washington and Columbus as well as the County. Mr. Robinson suggested that Cleveland Heights might never again receive Federal funds if it requested onstreet parking reinstatement. In response to a question, Mr. Robinson acknowledged that this was his impression of the Federal bureaucracy, but one that he felt no need to check out.

Architect Harry Henshaw, who redesigned the Cedar-Lee intersection for the City, and Philmore Hart, who wrote the Coventry Commercial Improvement Guide for the City's Local Development Corporation, presented the professional case for onstreet parking. Henshaw said the City erred in viewing onstreet parking as a pure evil, to be tolerated only when unavoidable. On the contrary, he said, it is frequently a good--eg, as a buffer for pedestrians--and should be recognized as such.

Hart said the City government was ignoring its natural function. It is a natural function of the Federal and County governments, he said, to promote traffic movement between states and between cities, respectively. The natural function of the City government, he said, is to defend the local way of life. In his view, the City should be leading, not opposing, the movement to retain onstreet parking.

Noble-Hela and Noble Monticello merchants were insistent that removal of onstreet parking on Noble Road would destroy their competitiveness. With this the City simply disagreed, citing the overall economy as a factor in the merchants' current problems. Weigand said that policymakers had to balance all of the interests affected, and that the merchants shared "one parochial viewpoint" out of many others.

Euclid Heights Blvd resident Patricia Solomon cited an apparent inconsistency on the City's part. For some time, she said, EHS residents between Superior and Coventry had sought a traffic light at Wilton or Cadwell for the Coventry Elementary School crossing. She stated that the City had told residents that traffic volume did not warrant a light, a traffic volume the City now says warrants a 24-hour onstreet parking ban.

In view of the depth of feeling reflected in the overall discussion, there was surprising agree-

ment on some key points. No one denied the problem created by the maintenance or the removal of onstreet parking. No one favored rush-hour thoroughfare parking, or overnight onstreet parking where avoidable. In the latter context the safety and security arguments presented by Police Chief Martin J. Lentz made little impression on the merchants. Much of Chief Lentz's material was primarily germane to mid-night-to-dawn and peak-traffic hours, which the merchants regarded as irrelevant to onstreet parking during non rush business hours.

During the evening the merchants discovered some potential political leverage. Coventry resident and activist P. David Gill pointed out that merchants would be unlikely to support the Streets bond issue on the June ballot. He said that no guarantees against a possible further erosion of onstreet commercial parking. City representatives could give no such promise, and groups of merchants were displaying active opposition to the issue as the meeting broke up.

Present in the audience, but seated across the room, one merchant saw his participation in the discussion, were Councilmembers Carol Edwards, Leonard Horowitz and JoAnne O'Brien.

PUBLIC LAND REZONING DRAWS CONCERNS

by

David R. Burwasser

A call for parkland zoning, a complaint from the Board of Education and a position by Coventry Neighbors, Inc, were among the messages to Council at the March 8, 1982, public hearing of Council's Planning & Development Committee, chaired by Councilmember John Boyle. The hearing was on legislation rezoning publicly-owned land in Cleveland Heights.

CNI brought three concerns: That Turtle Park and the Hampshire city garage and lot be correctly described as such in the legislation; and that the vacant lot across Derbyshire from First English Lutheran Church be designated single-family rather than multi-family. Boyle acknowledged that the two disputed designations were "in the mistake category." He asked the staff for a factual review of the third item, stating his impression that the lot in question was surrounded by multi-family zoning, contrary to CNI's statement that single-family zoning was also adjacent.

A call for a special parkland zoning category, more restrictive even than large-lot single family zoning, was made by Mrs Barbara Bray, who resides near Shaker Lakes. She pointed out that some of that parkland is owned by the City of Cleveland, an entity not accountable to Cleveland Heights residents. As on the last occasion when this had been suggested--in a 1981 hearing on related legislation, by architect Philmore Hart--City staff was disinclined to tackle such a change.

A representative of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education asserted that the City was being more restrictive to the School Board than to itself in its choices of zoning assignment to the land owned by each public body. Boyle agreed to a review of the assignments from that viewpoint.

METERS SLATED FOR MINI-PARK

by

Rollo Piaf

The City of Cleveland Heights plans to install sitting meters on the new benches in front of Coventryard. A City official told CVN that the meters closely resemble parking meters, and would be installed by June 1.

Larry Beam, who frequently represents the City's Planning and Development office to CNI, denies allegations that the City's purpose in installing these meters is to raise money. Mr. Beam says that the meters will be installed to encourage turn-over of sitting space. "By installing these meters," Mr. Beam said, "we can avoid domination of sitting space by non-shoppers. Our aim is to save sitting space for buying customers--the folks who matter in commercial areas."

When asked why the sitting meters had not been shown in publicly displayed and discussed plans for the park, Beam replied that no need for them had been perceived at that time.

"We just hadn't realized," he said, "how many Coventry residents would spend nearly all day in the park. This is producing a sitting problem nearly as serious as the area's parking problem."

City Manager Richard V. Robinson said that legislation to control sitting in all public areas of the City was being prepared. Robinson refused to discuss details, but usually-knowledgeable sources tell CVN that the sidewalk just in front of Coventryard will become a "no sitting zone," and that no decision has yet been reached as to the hours that the sitting regulations would be enforced.

SENIOR RESIDENTS REQUEST OLD FIRE STATION FOR CLINIC

The Heights Commission on Aging wants to locate a Senior Health Clinic in one of the old Cleveland Heights fire stations, when the two new stations are in service.

The Senior Alliance of Huron Road Hospital has been seeking a suitable site for such a facility. At its January 18, 1982, meeting, the Commission on Aging drafted a request to Council to consider one of the old stations. The request was presented to newly elected Councilmember Carol Edwards, who was present, for conveyance to Council. The request does not preclude further search for alternate sites.

Ben Selcer, Senior Citizen Class Trustee of the Heights Community Congress, urges support for the fire station conversion, in the form of letters to Councilmembers and the City Manager, from the public.

--Ben Selcer

COUNCIL TO PERFORM AT ARABICA

by
Lirpa Loof

Popo and the CouncilManics, Cleveland Heights hottest up-and-coming rock group, will perform "live at Arabica" on Saturday, April 10. The group consists of City Council members.

Mayor and lead guitarist Alan ("Popo") Rapoport told CVN the group got started during a break from a Committee of the Whole session on off-street parking. "Everybody was bored to death, and Bob pulled out his bass and started strumming, and things just happened from there." Popo formerly played with a minor blues group, Registered Democrat, which broke up after a nasty royalty fight following their hit release, "Circular Firing Squad."

Bassist and Vice Mayor Robert Arnold was himself once mayor and lead player of the reorganized Wright Wing, formerly a strong heavy-metal group with widespread following. Their impact dwindled after the flop of their last album, "Firehouse Blues."

Drummer JoAnne O'Brien also played for Wright Wing. She joined that group at the height of its dominance, after a long stint with the Oxford Connection, where she figured strongly in their cryptic single, "RTA 41-A."

Keyboard wizard Lenny Horowitz comes to CouncilManics from an extended engagement with the Local Development Corporation, a large group of shifting membership and few releases, best known for its cult anthology, "Let There Be Architects." Horowitz is also a veteran of Registered Democrat.

Acoustic guitarists Jack Boyle and Dick Weigand continue the unique musical partnership that organized Registered Democrat and formed the backbone of that group's predecessor, Cleanslate, which enjoyed dominance in the early Seventies. Then as now, Boyle specialized in the high notes and Weigand in the low notes, an unforgettable combination. In CouncilManics they provide a contrast to Popo's vocals, which shift unpredictable between high and low notes.

Feature vocalist Carol Edwards has played the community circuit solo for the past few years. Her style is clearly influenced by the old Cleanslate, and she sincerely regrets the breakup of Registered Democrat, her previous group. In the new arrangement, she hopes to make the sound of CouncilManics "significant to each member of the audience."

CouncilManics will perform at Arabica from 8 PM to 11 PM, and will be taped for rebroadcast over WLCV. In the two intermissions, Bruce Hennes will read the poetry of Marty Lentz.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT Bobbie Littell, Chair

Forty representatives of various organizations and institutions in Cleveland Heights heard Councilman Richard Weigand review the background of Council's Off-Street parking policy at a special meeting called by CNI's Community Affairs Committee, recently.

Michael Ring representing the Cuyahoga County Engineer explained the hands-off position of his office.

Councilman Weigand then was addressed by merchants associations, a Library Board representative and residents who detailed their problems with the policy in the hope that the Council would work with them to find solutions to these problems.

Present at the meeting were members of City Council, City Manager Richard V. Robinson, Police Chief Martin J. Lentz, Howard Maier and Larry Beam of the CH Planning Department and a Community Relations staff member and a representative from the Northern Ohio Area Coordinating Agency.

In addition to residents and CNI members, representatives of Oxford Neighbors and Neighbors for Noble-Nela attended.

Merchant association representatives from Noble-Monticello, Cedar-Fairmount, Noble-Nela and Coventry attended as did two of the architects employed by the Local Development Corporation to plan commercial redevelopment.

A detailed analysis of the meeting can be found on page 3 and a residents reaction on page 11.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS REPORT Charles J. Owen, Chair

SPRUCE DAY!!: our popular semiannual Coventry Village clean-up event will be held on Saturday, April 24 (rain date, May 1). Telephone 321-1268 or 932-8733 for more details. Be sure to watch for our Spruce Day posters.

PLANNING & ZONING NOTES

A public hearing of the Board of Zoning Appeals will be held at 7:30 PM at City Hall. On the agenda will be a request of J & N Heights Mechanical, 2916 Mayfield Road, for a variance to install a free standing sign to advertise a service station.

Last year, Coventry Neighbors, Inc. backed the issuance of a permit required to re-open this gas station at the corner of Mayfield and Middlehurst Roads. The BZA issued that permit with the provisions that an obsolete light pole be removed, and that attractive landscaping be done.

Neither of these provisions has been satisfied. Discussion and possible adoption of an organizational position in this matter will be in order at the April 13 CNI meeting.

G.E.M.S FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED

Taken from the Cleveland Heights Info-Pak

A new emergency response program went into operation recently. Sponsored by the Jewish Family Service, in cooperation with Mt. Sinai Medical Center, the new Geriatric Emergency and Monitoring Service (G.E.M.S.) was designed to help elderly and disabled people with 24 hour monitoring service and medical help in emergencies. GEMS subscribers receive a home unit wired to their phone line and a portable transmitter ("Help" button) that can be worn on clothing or carried in a pocket. When pressed, the button sends a signal to Mt. Sinai central switchboard. The program also provides professional workers to assess the needs of a subscriber, maintain periodic contacts, and follow up after emergency use of the system. Subscribers pay a monthly service charge and for the home units. Applications and brochures: Jewish Family Service, Gail Schwartz, 371-2600.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: PICK-N-PAY VIEWS

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some information concerning our Coventry Pick-N-Pay Supermarket. Let's begin with basic shopping issues and proceed to larger ones.

One of the things we emphasize with all our customers is to "tell it to the manager" if a shopping problem exists. If you find an out of stock situation or long checkout lines, bring it to the manager's attention. He can make the needed decisions to correct the problem, or refer you to the proper person.

What about general store conditions? The Coventry store gets the same allocation of resources for upgrading as any of our supermarkets. In the past month the store passed a complete city interior and exterior inspection and is in compliance with all city safety and building codes.

"My problem concerns the fact that we need a new store," you may be saying. We agree with you 100% and are ourselves disappointed with the progress we have been able to accomplish with the city, other landowners in the area and on related matters.

We are committed to the Coventry area, and have already invested heavily in it. We have had input from consumers and businessmen in the area on proposed plans for a new supermarket, and are taking these ideas into consideration as negotiations and plans develop.

I would like to share with you some "definites," regarding the new store, but I cannot, other than to say that we are doing our best to provide the community with a new store and will continue to do so.

Susan Barlow, Director, Consumer Center
First National Supermarkets, Inc.

BOOS AND BRAVOS

- BOO: To the insensitivity and inflexibility of City officials who tell us the loss of our precious on-street parking is good for us. City Hall must realize that decision making is not to be done in a vacuum. How long will tail continue to wag the dog on this vital issue?
- BRAVO: Many thanks to the some 31 firefighters from Cleveland Heights, East Cleveland and Shaker Heights for their efforts at the tragic Pasedena Apartments fire on Overlook. A speedy recovery for Heights Fireman Earl Hanley, who was cut on the eye at the blaze.
- BRAVO: To the Cleveland Hts-University Hts Council of PTA's on the celebration of their 60th anniversary of service. Keep up the good work!
- BRAVO: A "tip of the lid" to our neighbor, Cleveland, for being designated an "All-American City" by the National Municipal League.
- BRAVO: According to a recent NOACA study, Cleveland Heights leaped from 40th to 14 place in Cuyahoga County home price appreciations from 1977 to 1981. This spectacular increase in relative demand was surpassed only by Valley View.

--Charles J. Owen

****COMMUNITY CALENDAR******- BULLETIN BOARD -**

APRIL

- 2 PTA COUNCIL - Northwood
9 AM
- 4 PALM SUNDAY
- 5-9 PUBLIC SCHOOL -
Spring Recess
- 5 LIBRARY - Income Tax
Assistance 1-5 by
appointment
CH CITY COUNCIL - 7:30
PM - City Hall
- 6 LIBRARY- After School
Special 2:30 & 3:30 PM
Vacation Filmstrips
- 7 LIBRARY - Pre School
Story Time - 10:30 &
2:30
- 8 JEWISH PASSOVER
LIBRARY - Vacation
Films - 3:30 - "Free
to be. . . You and Me"
& "Annie and the Old
One"
- 9 GOOD FRIDAY
- 11 EASTER SUNDAY
- 12 PUBLIC SCHOOL RESUMES
LIBRARY - Income Tax
Assistance - 1-5 by
appointment
- 13 LIBRARY - After School
Special
CNI - General Meeting
7:30 - Coventry Village
Library
- 14 LIBRARY - Toddlers
Story Time - Please
register 9:30 AM
Pre School Story Time
10:30 AM & 2:30 PM
- 15 LIBRARY - Adult Dis-
cussion Group - 7 PM
"Mr Sammler's Planet"

LIBRARY NOTES

by
Debbie Graves

The highlight of Coventry Village Library (CVL) week long celebration of National Library week will be the Second Annual Book and Authors Dessert, on Thursday, April 22 at 7:30 PM. Local authors have been invited to come, have dessert, meet the public and talk about their works. All the authors' books will be on display, with a special section of Coventry's own Ben Berkey's books and illustrations.

All during the week of April 18-24 CVL will be celebrating authors and their books. On Tuesday, April 20 Arlene Mosel, who began her storytelling at Coventry Library, when it was the Main Library for Cleveland Heights, will tell the story of her books. Mosel received the coveted Caldecott Award for her "Tikki Tikki Tembo" and a Caldecott Honorable Mention award for "Funny Little Woman." She is looking forward to her third book which is coming out soon.

On Thurs at 3:30, Mr David Cockley will create a book with the children. He has published two children's books about Cleveland, Cleveland is a Warm, Fuzzy Place and Cleveland is a Wild, Wooly Place. We sincerely hope all Coventry neighbors will join us to meet neighborhood authors and poets.

On Sunday April 25 there will be a poetry reading. This month Thomas Barsen and Cyril Dostal will read their poetry. The next scheduled reading will be May 22, at which "Great poems of By-Gone Days" will be read by Barbara Angell and Cyril Dostal.

A new book discussion group for adults will begin Thursday, April 15 at 7 PM. Mr David Eisler will lead the group in a discussion of Mr. Sammler's Planet by Saul Bellow. Copies are available at Coventry Library. The next book, Hard Times by Studs Terkel, will be discussed May 20th.

A new Toddler Storytime will begin for children aged 30-33 months and their mothers Wednesday, April 14 at 9:30 AM. Elizabeth Bellamy did a pilot project at Main this winter and was very successful. It is hoped that mothers and their children will attend the eight sessions together from April 14 till June 2. Since the size of the group is important it will be necessary to request interested mothers to register.

COVENTRY VILLAGE. . .

We Watch Out For Each Other

- BULLETIN BOARD -POTTERY CLASSES TO START

The Guild Potters Co-Op will offer new, expanded classes beginning April 19. They will run for nine weeks.

In addition to classes for beginners, there will be classes in intermediate projects and fantasy construction.

Highly qualified and experienced teachers will cover techniques of handbuilding and wheel throwing, glazing and firing.

Children's classes will meet on Thursday afternoons and Saturday. Teen classes are on Saturdays from noon until 2 PM; adults will meet on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Registration is from April 1-16. Moderate fees include all clay, glazes and firing. For forms and information call 321-6015.

The Guild Potters Co-Op POT SALE will be held May 1 from 10 AM - 6 PM in the studio on the lower level of Coventry Library off of Washington Blvd. Parking is available at Coventry School.

OLD MAYFIELD HEIGHTS TO BE TOURED

On Sunday, May 2, Ken Goldberg, a past officer of the Western Reserve Architectural Historians, will lead a walking tour of the sections of Coventry Village once called Mayfield Heights.

Around 1898, real estate developer M. M. Brown gave the quadrant bounded by Superior, Euclid Heights, Coventry and Hampshire road the name of Mayfield Heights. The tour which will concentrate on the architectural features of that area is sponsored by the Radnor Road Irregulars a loosely knit group of residents.

Participants will meet in front of 1778 Radnor Road at 3 PM rain or shine. A small fee will be charged per family.

GROUND ZERO WEEK SCHEDULED

Ground Zero Week is a national program designed to teach the public about the effects and realities of nuclear war. It will take place April 18 - 25, and will be kicked off in Cleveland on April 17 by a twelve hour teach-in at Case Western Reserve University.

Many events have been scheduled on various campuses in the Greater Cleveland area, under the sponsorship of a coalition of church and civic groups, professional organizations and unions.

Watch for schedules to be published in your daily newspapers, or call Salvo Tardio, 321-6015 for more information.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- 16 GUILD POTTERS CO-OP -
Registration ends
- 17,18 & 19 - HEIGHTS HOME &
GARDEN SHOW - Pavilion
- 17 HEIGHTS ATHLETIC FIELD
DEV. COM. - Rolls Royce
Raffle/Flea Market
Pavilion
- 18 LIBRARY - Dungeons &
Dragons 2 - 5 PM
- 19 GUILD POTTERS CO-OP -
Classes begin
COUNCIL MEETS - 7:30 PM
City Hall
- 20 LIBRARY - After School
Special - Arlene Mosel -
Storyteller - Filmstrips
2:30 & 3:30 PM.
- 21 LIBRARY - Toddler Story
Time 9:30 AM
BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL
7:30 - City Hall
- 22 LIBRARY - David Cockley
3:30 PM
Second Annual Books &
Authors Desert - 7:30 PM
- 24 CNI - Environmental Con-
cerns Comm. - Spruce Day
- 24 LIBRARY - Poetry Reading -
2:30 PM - Thomas Barsen &
Cyril Dostal
- 27 LIBRARY - After School
Special
COVENTRY SCHOOL - Carnival
6 PM - 8:30 PM
- 28 LIBRARY - Toddlers Story
Time - 9:30 AM
Preschool Story Hour
- 29 COVENTRY SCHOOL - Carnival
6 PM - 8:30 PM

MAY

1 COVENTRY SCHOOL - Carnival
6 PM - 8:30 PM

S T R E E T T A L K

One of the more noteworthy events this month is not on the street but rather at the Pavilion, the Heights Home and Garden Show, April 17, 18 & 19. In the past it has opened on a Friday and continued through Sunday. This year the show will run from Saturday through Monday. The hours will be from 10 AM till 10 PM on Saturday and Sunday and from noon till 8 PM on Monday. Many special events are planned including a Pancake Breakfast for 99¢ on Saturday by the Heights JC's; a Bagel Brunch for 99¢ sponsored by Euclid B'nai B'rith on Sunday; and a Spagetti Dinner sponsored by the Heights Athletic Field Development Committee (HAFDC). On Saturday evening the HAFDC will raffle the Rolls Royce that it has been selling tickets for. The auto will be on display Saturday.

Radio station WERE will broadcast remote on Saturday; there will be a stage for live performances and demonstrations that include Jazzercise, microwave cooking, home repair demonstrations; a Dramatic Fashion Show, and Energy Conservation Demonstrations. There will door prizes each day and a Grand Prize of a week-end for four at Cedar Point will be awarded on Monday. A coloring contest sponsored by a local newspaper will be held and bicycles will be awarded in two age categories, 4-6 and 7-10. Sounds like a bigger and better show - one not to miss.

Nina Ezrati called to say the Heights Guild of Artists and Artisans will be offering classes in sculpture and pottery for all ages, beginning the week of April 19. Teachers will be Johanna VandenBroek and Don Holtzman. For information and registration call 371-2757 after 5 PM. Location of classes is as yet undetermined.

When the City flyers on how to protect yourself from arson were being distributed to merchants on the street - the only one who would not take some was "Lilia."

Marcia Polevoi of High Tide/Rock Bottom has been elected president of the Coventry Merchant Association. VP is Ellen Strong of Coventry Books; Sec., Carol Norwalk, of Peel Rite Foods; and the Treas. is Gladys Noble from Coventry Books. Joyce Casey from Dobama; Debbie Graves from the Library; Catherine Kearney of the Metropolitan Savings and Ernie Mooke from Coventry Bike & Ski were elected to the Board.

Marv (PeeWee) Rosenberg and Celia Balsam were married on March 28. I wish them the best.

Video games are proliferating on the street. One of the latest is at Pick-N-Pay. I'm sure it's a big money maker because someone is always using it when I go in to shop. However, if I have to push my way past many more lines of kids in order to get my groceries out the back door, I may start going to Russo's.

Herb Ascherman is celebrating his fifth year on the street with his fiftieth show. Stop in and see it. Gallery Inuit is currently showing some neat paper constructions. We sadly note the passing of Key West Fragrance on the lower level of Coventryyard Mall.

Remember the COVENTRY VILLAGE RUMOR CONTROL HOT LINE, Monday through Fridays from 9-5. You may call either Nancy at 371-6620 or Gretta at 371-6625 to check out rumors of crimes committed in the Coventry area.

Two of the stories in this issue of COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS are of special note. If you will study carefully the names of the authors of a story on page 4 and one on page 5 you will understand.

-- bobbie littell

COVENTRY VILLAGE. . . We Watch Out For Each Other

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCHDOG:

PLEASE, MAY I PARK HERE?

by

D'Arcy Sillars

(EDITORS NOTE: NEIGHBORHOOD WATCHDOG, June Wortman and the CVN editors invited Ms. Sillars to present her reactions to the recent Parking meeting sponsored by CNI's Community Affairs Committee. Ms. Sillars is a homeowner, taxpayer, mother and resident of Euclid Heights Boulevard.)

Why did I leave the On-Off Street parking meeting thinking "What a waste of time? We weren't heard again!" Though Councilman Richard Weigand had opened with an eloquent plea for us to put aside our biases and listen to him, he did not return the favor and at least consider what we had said and respond to us. As far as he is concerned, the decision to remove all on street parking from the "main arteries" of Cleveland Heights that was made by a lay committee in the mid 70s is carved in granite and cannot be reconsidered. In effect, Cleveland Heights' main streets are supposed to replace the Clark Freeway as the highways to the eastern suburbs. Part of the difficulty comes from the no parking clause in the County Engineer's agreement signed when it provided part of the funding to repave Cedar, Noble and Euclid Heights.

Both homeowners and businessmen want the original decision reviewed and avenues of compromise explored. The homeowners don't want speedways in front of their houses. They feel it is discourteous to expect their visitors to walk around the block from their cars; and on Euclid Heights, apartment dwellers have freedom of parking on the streets while homeowners, direct taxpayers, don't. The merchants say that removal of onstreet parking has dramatically diminished their business. One druggist reports his prescription business has dropped 50%. Have people suddenly become healthier in his neighborhood, or is convenience of parking really important to his customers? Aren't economic times hard enough on store owners without government making parking so difficult that customers go elsewhere? What will the quality of life be like if our neighborhood shops are forced to close because they can't make it here? Is Councilman Weigand really acting in our best interests when he tries to ram his "all parking in parking lots" policy down our throats?

This is only Act I of a three act play that may well turn into a tragedy for our city. Act II will be played by City Council as they do or do not respond to what was presented. Will they continue to pursue the policy to remove on street parking, no matter who suffers, or will they help the suffering merchants and homeowners explore the possibility of new agreements with the county giving us parking where we need it during off peak hours? Are city officials standing firm on the refrain "The County Engineer makes us do it," to remove themselves from having to work for the well being of Cleveland Heights residents and merchants? Doesn't what we want count for anything?

Act III will be up to the voters. In June we are to vote on raising our taxes to replace sewers and repave more streets. Will parking be eliminated from those streets to be repaved with our money? We must insist on knowing this before we vote on this project. Otherwise, we may find ourselves further inconvenienced as we try to shop or visit a friend on a "new" street. If on street parking is important to you, please contact your Council members and ask for less restrictive parking policies. We aren't asking to increase overnight parking, but we need a fair parking policy that keeps the needs of the Cleveland Heights residents in mind. Let's see if we have a responsive City Council!

