



Coventry Village News

FEBRUARY, 1982

NEWSLETTER OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC

Vol. VIII No. 2

REGIONAL SEWER PLANS MAY HAVE IMPACT ON COVENTRY

By

David R. Burwasser

The Heights Interceptor Sewer is coming, and it may come right up Coventry Road. The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS), which is planning this construction, held a public meeting at Main Library on January 13. The Heights Interceptor is part of a hundred-million-dollar eastern-suburbs project that has been in the offing for the better part of a decade. The new flurry of action is due to the change of Administration in Washington: if NEORS is not ready for construction at the beginning of 1984, the Federal subsidy share drops from a pre-Reagan 75% to a Reagan Era 55%.

The technical problem that the line addresses is hydrological. Our storm and sanitary sewers are laid in the same trenches, and communicate water during overloads. In addition, many Cleveland Heights structures have down-spouts that lead directly into the sanitary, not the storm, system. As a result the sanitary system is overloaded and the Easterly Treatment Plant, where it terminates, is inefficient because of the dilution. The Interceptor line will take sewage from all lines reaching it from the west (upstream) directly to the plant.

Of the many possible routes the line could take, the most probable is straight down Coventry Road. According to NEORS officials, it may be possible to lay the line by tunneling, but the soil must be right and the line big enough; it does not pay to dig a 6-foot-diameter tunnel for workers so they can bury a 3-foot-diameter pipe. Ironically, the better shape the Cleveland Heights system turns out to be in--NEORS will be measuring this in 1982/83--the more likely a cut rather than a tunnel, because a better-quality inflow system requires only a modest sized Interceptor.

A cut along the likeliest line of approach would tear open the center of the commercial district, Coventry Road. Associated with the cut would be stockpiling of pipe and gravel, and earth removed from the cut. Coventry Neighbors, Inc, has called on NEORS and the City to minimize disruption and, in the worst case, perform at the same time other necessary maintenance that would cause similar disruption in any case.

SPECIAL MEETING: Off Street Parking

Off street parking on Noble Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard will be considered at a special meeting sponsored by the Community Affairs Committee of Coventry Neighbors, Inc. on Wednesday, February 24, at 8:00 PM at the Unitarian Society, 2778 Lancashire Road, Cleveland Heights.

The meeting is called to provide the City of Cleveland Heights an opportunity to present its rationale for its position regarding off street parking and for its citizen to share their positions with their elected city officials. All interested citizens are urged to attend.

- * ON THE INSIDE. . . *
- * Mayor Alan Rapoport *
- * An Interview *
- * Game Room Hearing. *
- * Set *
- * Rumor Hot Line *
- * Council Committees *
- * Form *

BOOS AND BRAVOS

- BOO: To the nit wits that do such a fine job of clearing their driveways that they leave mountains of snow blocking the sidewalks. Please remember that the sidewalks are used in the wintertime also.
- BRAVO: Congratulations to the City of Cleveland Heights for being selected as one of five national model cities to participate in "The Affordable Communities Project". The Project, sponsored by the International City Managers Assoc., will use Cleveland Heights as a positive example of how to successfully stimulate housing, business, and community development.

-- Charles J. Owen

"A SCENT OF FLOWERS" OPENS AT DOBAMA

The Dobama Theatre's current play, "A Scent of Flowers," is a moving presentation. I urge you to attend but be sure to bring a couple of hankies.

The play's protagonist, Zoe (Cathy Long), is a young suicide; a university student devastated by an affair with a married lecturer. As the funeral ritual which is separating her from her family unfolds, the spirit of Zoe straddles two worlds, her still vivid presence in her family's lives kindling their many-faceted memories of her.

To her iron-hearted stepmother (Barbara Quill), whose life is ruled by facts, not emotions, Zoe was a difficult child whom she could not understand; to her well-bred English father (Ron Newell), whose impeccable manners prevented him from interfering even as Zoe floundered, she was the daughter whose independent life must remain her private domain; to her fanciful uncle (Gil Carpenter) who spun fairy tales to cosset her, she was his snow princess; and, to her doting brother (Jim Smith), a practical fixer of engines and all things mechanical, she was a skinny girl with a monkey face--an impressionable kid with a big heart.

As the play unfolds, Zoe's turbulent passions, conflicts and yearnings are revealed as she seeks the answers to life's questions from those who can offer her only facts, fairytales, convention and polemics. Zoe wonders if one finds the answers by sorting through the "button box" of one's various life experiences or if indeed there is a question after all. Life's mysteries remain inscrutable but the departing spirit of Zoe is touchingly comforted by her two gravediggers (Chuck Goodwill and Martin Barabas) who ease her transition from this life and from her pain.

Even as they take their leave of Zoe at her graveside, she is becoming to her family only a memory; she asks "do you remember me", "what do I look like?" Scrivens, the decorous undertaker (Mark Strapp), ushers Zoe from this world with the dignity accorded the human condition at the last. In the end there is only "a little silence, a light rain falling from a colourless sky and a slight scent of flowers."

The play runs through Saturday, February 20. Call the box office, 932-6838, for reservations, information and group rates. Reservations for the special dinner/theatre package on Thursdays and Saturdays may be obtained by calling the Mad Greek, 421-3333.

-- Carol Hamilton

COVENTRY VILLAGE. . . We Watch Out For Each Other

RAPOPORT REVIEWS CITY PROBLEMS, OPPORTUNITIES -- AN INTERVIEW

by
David R. Burwasser

Mayor Alan Rapoport puts restoration of smooth relationships between Council and other public and quasi-public bodies high on the list of goals for his two-year term, commenced January 4, 1982. He will seek to resolve differences with the Municipal Court, and to develop a more cooperative modus vivendi with the Heights Community Congress. In dealing with the Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District, the Mayor sees a number of common issues, and finds "diplomacy better than assertion of prerogative" in pursuing them.

Of the most severe problems Cleveland Heights must confront in this term, Rapoport puts housing preservation at the head of the list. "The City faces the task of improving stock during an economic crunch without causing unrest," he said, adding, "That's possibly impossible."

Running a close second is integration. "We have physical integration but not social integration," the Mayor declared, calling the William Smith lawsuit against the City and Heights Community Congress "symbolic" of the problem.

A closely allied problem, said Rapoport, is a crisis in confidence in the public schools. An indicator of this, he said, is the fact that the community is 20% black, while the fraction in the schools is 50%. It is possible, he said, for the city and the schools to cooperate on common issues such as drugs, curfew and delinquency. He cited the City's recent game room legislation (see related story, this issue) as an example of City sensitivity to the schools' situation.

In a more distant time frame, the Mayor sees solid waste disposal as the City's most serious long-term problem. A related problem is the sewer system--not merely the Heights Interceptor, he said, but badly needed work on Fairmount and elsewhere, he said.

A more subtle type of problem, said Rapoport, revolves around new technologies, which bring new opportunities for both constructive application and abuse. He referred specifically to the City's new in-house computer system, and the cable television system.

Rapoport's goals on Council are teamwork and a good committee system. "Many of the issues I'm personally interested in will get addressed by a good committee system," he said, adding that this Council has less average seniority than any recent Council, thus being "less guided and less burdened" by the past. (See related story, this issue).

YOU may become a member of COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. for fiscal 1982 simply by filling out this slip and returning it with your check, made payable to COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC., to 2747 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: _____

I am now receiving COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS by mail. _____ Yes _____ No.

CNI MEETING HIGHLIGHTS. Dave Burwasser, Secretary

The first meeting of Coventry Neighbors at the new Community Room in the Coventry Library was made more intimate by a power failure toward the beginning and brought to a timely adjournment by smell of smoke at the end. In between, CNI conferred honorary membership upon Joseph Mack Hennes, twelve days old as of the January 12 meeting date. With regard to the proposed Heights Interceptor sewer line (see related story, this issue), CNI resolved that: (1) if the sewer requires tearing up the length of Coventry, the community should get more tradeoff for the disruption by rebuilding of Coventry Road, burying of utility lines and refurbishment of curbs, sidewalks and amenities; and (2) that plans be developed for the sewer that will minimize the social and economic disruption arising from massive inconvenience to the neighborhood's commercial district. The Fire Department pronounced us free of combustion and we pronounced ourselves adjourned.

PLANNING & ZONING NOTES. F. David Gill, Chair

The Planning and Development of Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 1, regarding proposed Zoning Code changes intended to regulate game rooms (see related article, this issue). The Hearing is set for 7 PM in Council Chambers, City Hall. Public comment is solicited.

Approval was given by the Board of Zoning Appeals on January 20 for additional signage at the Coventry Village Library, to identify entrances for the Dance Center, the Potter's Co-op Guild, and handicapped access to the library itself.

ODDS 'N ENDS

We were all saddened by the death, recently, of Mrs. Fello, mother of Tommy. She was an energetic and courageous woman who worked beside her son to help him make his one of the most popular eating places on Coventry. Coventry Neighbors extends its sincerest sympathy to the Fello family and the staff of Tommy's.

Coventryard will attempt to dispell the mid-winter glooms from 12 noon till 4 PM February 6 and 7 with a Fiesta Food Fair, according to Susan Spitz, the new Mall Director. The fair will feature strolling musicians, all kinds of special foods at special prices and free samples. Haagen Dazs will offer ice cream cones for a quarter and the "Inn on Coventry" will feature deep fried vegetables, soups and blueberry muffins at special prices. Carol Norwalk of Feel Rite Foods will offer free samples of fruit juices, teas, honeys, rice cakes and frozen yogurt. Other stores will give 10 and 20% discounts on selected merchandise. They expect TV coverage by P.M. Magazine.

Susan tells me that "The Inn" and Haagen Dazs will continue their TGIF specials on Friday afternoons into the spring. In the spring, also we can look forward to the opening of the New England Clam House in the building in back where Rocco's used to be. They plan outside seating during the summer. . . Coventry Flower Mart has been forced to close because of the illness of Joe Cimino. We wish him well. . . Another gift store, this time from West Palm Beach plans to open in Coventryard in April. Eclectic will feature a variety of gifts including crystal and leather.

Bliss, run by Alan Sherwin, will open upstairs in Ritley Mall on February 1 replete with mirrors, chrome, pink formica and gray tiles with seats of royal blue. It is certainly not like anything else in Coventry. It will seat about 80 and will serve cafeteria style. The feature will be pasta of all kinds, fruit, cheese and a special Spanish sandwich, empanada. There will be wine and beer on tap. It will be open from 6:30 AM till 10 PM Mondays through Thursdays; Fridays from 6:30 till midnight and from 8 AM till 8 PM on Saturdays and Sundays. . . "Ritley Mall"

(Continued on page)

RUMOR CONTROL HOT LINE TO OPEN

by
Bruce M. Hennes

Somebody said there was a mugging in Coventry the other day. . . Your neighbor said there was a rape around the corner. . . a string of burglaries have taken place over the last few weeks. You haven't read about it in the paper or hear it on the news. DID it happen, or was it covered up?

Residents of Coventry Village will soon be able to call a phone number in City Hall and get direct answers to those questions relating to crime in the neighborhood.

The COVENTRY VILLAGE RUMOR CONTROL HOT LINE is a pilot project sponsored jointly by the Coventry Neighbors Crime Prevention Task Force, the Cleveland Heights Police Department, and the Cleveland Heights Community Relations Department.

Beginning on February 1, 1982 you will be able to call either Nancy Hubbert at 371-6620 or Gretta Ryan at 371-6625 during normal business hours and find out if, when, and where crimes in Coventry Village have occurred.

As of now you will only be able to ask questions about major crimes such as aggravated assault, homicide, robbery, rape and burglary in Coventry Village. Other categories of crimes and other neighborhoods may be added to the list in the future.

When you call the Hot Line you should be able to get your questions answered immediately. If Nancy or Gretta are away from their desks or the information is not available you may be asked to either leave your name so they can call you back or to call back again yourself. You do not have to leave your name. The privacy of anyone calling will be protected, as well as that of any individual allegedly involved in a crime in any way.

Plans for the COVENTRY VILLAGE RUMOR CONTROL HOT LINE were initiated by the Coventry Neighbors Crime Prevention Task Force in response to numerous citizen's request for confirmation of rumored crimes in the Village.

ZONING CONTROL OF GAMEROOMS

by
F. David Gill

Last month's Issue of the Coventry Village News described changes in the City's Business Code to regulate the commercial use of coin-operated amusement devices. Proposed Ordinance 6-1982 (PD), containing complementary changes in the Zoning Code, was introduced at the January 18 Council meeting. This ordinance will not become law until a public hearing has been held. That hearing will take place on March 1, 7 PM at City Hall.

The proposed rules will not apply to premises containing licensed amusement devices prior to the passage of the new ordinance, as long as the number of such games is not increased to more than three after passage.

Under the proposed ordinance gamerooms are defined as non-residential premises containing more than three Pool tables, bowling lanes, and/or coin-op games. Gamerooms may be approved as conditional uses within commercial and special use zoning districts by the Board of Zoning Appeals as long as: the premises pass fire safety inspection; there is enough supervision to keep order inside and outside; noise is kept inside; gamerooms located within 200 feet of a residential zoning district operate within the hours of 8 AM and midnight on Fridays and Saturdays, and from 8 AM to 10 PM on other days. According to City sources, the new law will require that there be either one parking space for each 200 square feet within the gameroom or one space per game device, whichever is greater.

****COMMUNITY CALENDAR****

- COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD -

FEBRUARY

LIBRARY NOTES

- 1 CIN's RUMOR CONTROL HOT LINE OPENS
DANCE CENTER - Registration 9:30 AM - 7:30 PM
Coventry Library (rear) till 2/6
COUNCIL MEETING: 7:30 City Hall
- 2 LIBRARY: After School Special - 2:30 & 3:30
- 3 LIBRARY: Preschool Story Hour - 10:30 AM 2:30 PM
- 4 CNI: Trustees - 7:30 PM 2910 Hampshire Road
- 5 PTA COUNCIL: Fairfax School - 9 AM
- 8 DANCE CENTER: Classes Begin
- 9 LIBRARY: After School Special - 2:30 & 3:30 PM
CNI: General Meeting 7:30 - Library Community Room
- 10 LIBRARY: Preschool Story Hour - 10:30 AM 2:30 PM
- 12 LINCOLN's BIRTHDAY
- 14 VALENTINE's DAY
- 15 PRESIDENT's DAY: School Closed
- 16 LIBRARY: After School Special - 2:30 & 3:30 PM
COUNCIL MEETING: 7:30 PM - City Hall
- 17 LIBRARY: Preschool Story Hour - 10:30 AM & 3:30 PM
BOARD OF ZONING APPEAL: 7:30 - City Hall

You DID it!! One million, twenty-one thousand, four-hundred-and-sixty-six books circulated from the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library in the year 1981. Thank you for your patronage this year.

This coming year we have some new goals. The Coventry Village Library circulated a little over 50,000 books last year. This year we want to know all the money and time put into the renovation of Coventry was worth it, by circulating over 100,000 books in 1982. We hope everyone in the neighborhood will support Coventry by using our services because we have what you need. Please come, see the new facility and use our resources. In the first week of January last year our circulation was 839 - this year it was 1331 - a fifty percent increase. The following week with snow storms and bad weather we still increased circulation, but not nearly as much. Circulation is only one measure of library use, but it is the one used to support our intangible personal property tax allocation.

Our children's programs have begun. Pre-School Story Hour with Mrs. Elizabeth Bellamy takes place Wednesdays at 10:30 AM and 2:30 PM.

After School Specials - games, stories and special activities for school aged children will be conducted by Mrs. Secherman and Mrs. Bellamy on Tuesdays at 2:30 and 3:30.

Dungeons and Dragons with Shawn Miller, Dragonmaster, will be on the third Sunday of every month till May

-- Debbie Graves, Librarian.

HCC SPONSORS NEW HOMEOWNER FAIR

Are you a new Cleveland Heights home owner? Would you like to know more about your new community? You are invited to attend the NEW HOMEOWNER FAIR to be held from 2 - 5 PM, Sunday, February 28, 1982 at the Cleveland Heights High School.

The fair is sponsored by the Heights Community Congress, the City of Cleveland Heights, the City of University Heights, the Cleveland Heights-University Heights School Board and the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Library.

DISPLAYS PRESENTATIONS QUESTIONS

COVENTRY VILLAGE. . . We Watch Out For Each Other

- COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD -

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

UNITARIANS INSTALL MINISTER

One of the newest Coventry Neighbors, Chris Bailey, was ordained and installed as minister to the congregation of the Unitarian Society of Cleveland on January 31.

Denominational officials, Unitarian ministers from the greater Cleveland area, Local clergy and Mayor Alan Rapoport joined with the congregation in celebration.

The Society has operated without a minister since 1973. The Reverend Bailey, who was called to the congregation in November, is the mother of six grown children. She served as Director of Religious Education for 25 years before she chose to enter the ministry. Although she graduated from Star King Theological Seminary in 1978 and served as Interim minister of the Walnut Creek Unitarian Church in California, she chose to delay her ordination until she was called to her own congregation. Chris joined CNI soon after her arrival and has attended meetings since. We know she will be an active member, we congratulate her on her ordination and welcome her to Coventry.

CNI HOSTS OFF-STREET PARKING MEETING

The City put "No Parking At Any Time" signs along Euclid Heights Boulevard (EHB) in December. An unsigned letter was distributed to EHB residents claiming the City had committed itself to making no changes in the parking regulations after the repaving was accomplished.

A number of Noble Road residents appeared before Council, January 18 to protest similar signs in their area. At that time Councilmember Richard Weigand expressed the wish for an opportunity to publically present the City's rationale for such action.

CNI's Community Affairs Committee will host a meeting for this purpose on February 24, at 7:30 PM at the Unitarian Society, 2778 Lancashire Road. Coventry residents, other Cleveland Heights neighborhood organizations, merchant groups and other interested groups are invited to participate. Any person or group wishing to make a formal presentation to Councilmembers and City Staff may be placed on the agenda by calling Bobbie Littell, at 321-8397

FEBRUARY

- 20 DOBAMA: "Scent of Flowers" last performance - 8:30 PM
- 21 LIBRARY: Dungeons & Dragons 2:00
- 23 LIBRARY: After School Special - 2:30 & 3:30 PM
COVENTRY PTA: Program 7:30 PM - Multi Purpose Room
- 24 ASH WEDNESDAY
LIBRARY: Preschool Story Hour - 10:30 AM & 2:30 PM
CNI: OFF STREET PARKING Meeting - 7:30 PM - Unitarian Society.
- 28 HCC: New Home Owner Fair 2 - 5 PM - CH High School

MARCH

- 1 COUNCIL: Planning & Zoning Committee - Public Hearing 7:PM - City Hall
COUNCIL: Regular Meeting - 7:30 - City Hall
- 2 LIBRARY: After School Special - 2:30 & 3:30 PM
- 3 LIBRARY: Preschool Story Hour - 1:30 AM & 2:30 PM
- 4 CNI: Trustee's Meeting - 7:30 PM - 2910 Hampshire Rd.
- 5 CH PTA COUNCIL: Meeting - Wylie Jr. High - 9 AM

*
* Items for the Community *
* Calendar may be sent to *
* The Editor, CVN, 1526 *
* Coventry Road, E. Cleve. *
*

THE DANCE CENTER RETURNS TO COVENTRY

The Dance Center, which moved to the University Heights Branch Library in July when remodeling of the Coventry Branch started, has returned to Coventry to the spot where the Library used to be.

An open house was held, January 31 to show off the new studio, new floor and to introduce Robert Pachette, the new artistic director.

Registration will be held from February 1 - 6 for expanded classes in jazz and boater dance, as well as the Center's usual ballet and modern dance offerings. Children's ballet classes will continue and there will be a NEW children's class in performance techniques for ages 8 and up.

Class cards will be available for advanced students and professionals.

Classes start February 8 and there will be open registration throughout the semester.

For further information call 932-4714, 9:30 AM - 5 PM Mondays thru Fridays; 9:30 AM - 3 PM Saturdays.

PEGASUS TAKES OFF AT COVENTRY

by

Barbara M. Littall

What DO you do with a pre-schooler who is ready to read? A new pilot program designed to address this problem began at Coventry School on February 1, when Project Pegasus, a program for gifted and talented three and four year olds was initiated.

The need for such a program was acknowledged in 1979 when the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Schools (CH-UHS) embarked on an enrichment program for gifted children. It was recognized at that time that a large percentage of children identified as underachievers in the 5th and 6th grades had entered school under an early enrollment plan which allowed gifted children to enter kindergarten before their fifth birthdays. It became apparent that early enrollment was not the answer. A study was started to define the special characteristics of the gifted child and design programs to meet his/her specific needs.

Project Pegasus is the latest of the programs that have been developed at the high school, junior high school and elementary levels. According to Mary Gardner, coordinator it is about six months ahead of preliminary planning.

Coventry School was chosen for the project because it has the space, a good location and it was felt that it would have a good working relationship with the staff. It will, however be administered as a separate, independent unit.

The teacher of the class, Marie Brown has had 14 years experience in nursery education and specific training in working with gifted children. The children will be provided with an opportunity to explore science, art, music drama and movement. Special attention will be given to the development of small motor skills, self concepts and coping skills.

One of the most important characteristics of the CH-UHS program for the gifted child is the staff development component, according to Gardner. Rather than isolate the gifted child in a special class, with a special teacher the program provides in-service training for the regular classroom teacher. Since 1981 the system has offered two special training opportunities for teachers from within the system to help them work with the gifted child and his family to develop his talents to the fullest. Over four hundred CH-UHS teachers have taken advantage of the opportunity - some of them have taken the training both times.

It is anticipated that once a pre-schooler enters regular school he will be assigned to teachers who have had the special training who will be able to help him with his specific needs and problems.

THE SALOON SAGA

by
L. E. Cannon

The Saloon, at Coventry and Mayfield, has been closed down by order of the Ohio State Board of Liquor Control (OBLC). The management had failed to comply with a temporary shut down order resulting from a conviction for serving a minor, earlier last year.

The OBLC has determined that the establishment may not be reopened while the liquor license is still owned by the present management.

A bid to purchase the license has been made by Dr. Phillip (Phil, the Drill) Imperl. To date no decision has been made. If, in fact, the bid is accepted Imperl and his two partners plan to maintain the neighborhood bar image, but to clean up the interior, increase their lunch offerings and make us all feel at home and comfortable in our own backyard. We all look forward to an establishment in which adults the neighborhood can comfortably meet our friends for some merrymen and relaxation.

MORE ODDS 'N ENDS: are still awaiting Board of Zoning Appeals approval to connect to Coventryard on the lower level. It is reported that a crafts and a book store are slated to open there this spring.

F. David Gill recommends Underground by David Macaulay for those who will be following the planning and construction of the Heights Interceptor sewer. It's a fascinating, whimsical study of the intricate support systems which lie beneath urban streets. Various sections deal specifically with aspects of this technology which may soon be all too familiar to Coventry residents: sewage removal, storm drainage, utility distribution, excavation and tunneling. Underground is available at the Coventry Village Library, or it can be ordered through Coventry Books.

Be sure to greet Bill Amato, the new beat cop who started in November. We're glad to have him serving us.

I'm glad to see the city is trying to enforce compliance with the snow shoveling ordinances. According to City Manager Robinson, thousands of warning letters went out during the last snow storm. One condominium owner I know was quite upset, however, her walkways were cleared but she got a letter anyway. City staff is investigating the cost of equipment to clean the walks - it looks like you'll get to decide: shovel your walks, or pay higher taxes. Robinson estimates that it will take five machines at \$24,000 per plus 2 - 4 extra staff people at \$15,000 - \$20,000 to institute such a program. Staff's findings will be presented to Council. One would hope that they also check into the effectiveness of such programs in neighboring communities.

CNI President, Charles Owen is looking for information on the history of the building popularly known as the "Hampshire Garage" located on the south side of Hampshire between the Lane and Overlook. It has been the site of the Coventry Village community garden for the past few summers. If you know anything (or anyone who might) call Charles at 321-1268 or 241-2414, or write to Coventry Neighbors, Inc. 2745 Hampshire, Cleveland Heights, 44106.

The Crooked River Anthology, a book of poems by Cleveland poets and edited by Coventry's poet laureate, Daniel Thompson, was celebrated at Coventry Books a few stormy Sundays ago. The people were few but very congenial, the poetry was moving and the hot cider was perfect. People who let snowy weather keep them at home miss a lot.

If that "erection" built by Sohio on the north-east corner of Coventry and Mayfield is any indication of the kind of architecture the Board of Zoning Appeals thinks is appropriate to Coventry, we had better start monitoring them more carefully.

--bobbie littell

COUNCIL COMMITTEES FORMED

by
Barbara M. Littell & David R. Burwasser

Mayor Alan Rapoport has instituted two major changes in Council procedures. One concerns the City's Community Development Block Grants. This was formerly handled exclusively by the Planning and Development Committee of Council, which consequently became "almost a separate entity within Council." Henceforth the CDBG budget will be handled by the Finance Committee, as with any other income source, and specific programs will be handled by whichever committee would be in charge of it if it were General Fund program.

The other change is conversion of the Personnel Committee to Administrative Services Committee. This committee will be responsible for affirmative action and equal economic opportunity, and Charter review, in addition to the appointment and salary bill duties of the old Personnel Committee.

Rapoport feels that these changes along with a greater reliance on the committees to examine issues and options will result in a better working relationship and increase communications within Council. The full Council is still considering specific changes to the committees.

The composition of Council committees for the next two years is as follows:

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

John Boyle, Chair
Leonard Horowitz
Joanne O'Brien

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH

Joanne O'Brien, Chair
Robert Arnold
Carol Edwards

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Robert Arnold, Chair
Richard Weigand
John Boyle

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND RECREATION

Carol Edwards, Chair
Joanne O'Brien
Leonard Horowitz

FINANCE

Richard Weigand, Chair
John Boyle
Robert Arnold

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Leonard Horowitz, Chair
Carol Edwards
Richard Weigand

YOUR DUES ARE DUE !!!

The fiscal year of Coventry Neighbors, Inc. is from January to December. Whenever you paid you 1981 dues - your 1982 membership is now due.

Dues money is used to pay the expenses of the CVN and other basic expenses such as postage, stationary and refreshments at meetings.

A membership blank appears at the bottom of page 4. Please fill it out and send it with your check TODAY.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCHDOG: HELP AVAILABLE - 24 hours a day

What is a crisis? To most it is the panic, helplessness, confusion, the something-must-be-done-NOW-or-everything-will-break-apart feeling. My dictionary calls it a decisive moment; a turning point; a time of difficulty, danger and suspense; a point of change in an illness toward either recovery or death.

Who can you turn to who won't make things worse, who won't feel as helpless or upset as you do, and who can respond now? The CIT Mental Health Services at 2177 South Taylor Road.

CIT (formerly known as the Crisis Intervention Team) is on call 24 hours a day. They can see you right away. They make home calls if necessary. They bring understanding, common sense, confidentiality, and professional skills. They help get things in control, prevent people or families from shattering under the blows of life. They help you find practical steps NOW, and then think about the long haul too. They are located one block south of Cedar, between Open Pantry and Helmen's, and can be reached by calling 371-6200.

What if the crisis isn't yours? What if your neighbors are having a violent fight at 3:00 AM? Call 371-6200. CIT, not having police authority, can not just barge in. They could call your fighting neighbors to ask if they can help. Usually people accept the offer. If the neighbors agree, a CIT worker could come out at 3:00 AM, sometimes in pairs. They explain in advance that the police would escort them only to ensure their safety. Then the police leave and the workers and fighters begin talking.

What about a quieter crisis? The young mother who cries a lot and can't get a hold of herself. The family with five children who have to provide for Aunt Jean who has just come out of the mental hospital. The family who have just learned that their child has a serious illness. The older couple who have suddenly separated. Your baby sitter who has run away from home, and come to you because her fights with her parents have become unbearable. The old man upstairs who has become suspicious, explosively angry, and looks so thin and frail. Call 371-6200 and ask how CIT can help, and how best to get it started.

I have stressed the emergencies, where you feel something must be done right away. But CIT has other kinds of help too. They have longer-term growth counseling to help people deal with life better, get along with others more comfortably, feel better about themselves. CIT has "Aftercare" for people over 18 who have had psychiatric hospitalizations - an extensive program of supervised medication, counseling, pre-vocational opportunities, social groups and activities, to help people stay out of the hospital. A Day Treatment program will be opening soon. CIT offers consultation to schools, courts, employers, and people like you and me. They are working experimentally with the Cleveland Hts. Municipal Court, prosecutor, and Community Relations Department to find ways to reach and help families before they get to court. CIT offers counseling to teen-agers, senior citizens, troubled marriages, separated families, and re-married families. They change and add new services as the need arises.

CIT Mental Health Services is a private, non-profit, agency that is supported by Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health and Retardation Board money, client fees, and donations. Fees are based on ability to pay. No one is denied service for lack of money. The agency staff of 35 includes psychiatrists, social workers, case managers, and support staff. They serve the eastern suburbs (Cleveland Hts., University Hts., Shaker Hts., South Euclid and Lyndhurst), and the University area in Cleveland. They can be reached day or night. They are a good place to call when you don't know where to begin - about your own problem, or about your wish to help someone else. 371-6200.

-- June C. Wortman

