



# Coventry Village News

MARCH, 1982

NEWSLETTER OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC

Vol. VII No. 3

## OFF-STREET/ON-STREET PARKING ISSUES TO BE AIRD

by

Barbara M. Littell

The repaving of Noble Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard has stirred a parking controversy that has been smoldering in Cleveland Heights for many years.

At a recent Council meeting Councilman Richard Weigand re-affirmed his commitment to off-street parking and stated he wished he had an opportunity to publicly review his rationale.

Last week the Public Safety and Health Committee of Council unanimously re-affirmed the goal of off-street parking throughout the city.

In order to set up a forum to publicly examine the issue the Community Affairs Committee of Coventry Neighbors, Inc. scheduled a meeting in February to hear Council's position and provide an opportunity for groups to question both Council and City staff. That meeting had to be rescheduled because it conflicted with the Annual Meeting of the Local Development Corporation (LDC). Many members of the LDC are deeply concerned about parking in the commercial districts.

The rescheduled meeting to examine Off-Street/On-Street Parking will be held March 11, at 7:30 PM at the Unitarian Society, 2779 Lancashire Road, Cleveland Heights.

Councilman Weigand will present the City's position and Michael Ring from the Cuyahoga County Engineers office will speak. Community groups and individuals are invited to present formal positions. Anyone wishing to get on the agenda may do so by calling Bobbie Littell at 321-8397. In an attempt to avoid repetition and save time formal presentations will be limited. Any group not on the agenda may submit a prepared, written statement to the Committee at that to be submitted to Council at a later date.

Following the formal portion of the meeting there will be a question and answer period. CNI's Secretary, and co-editor of the CVN, David R. Burwasser will preside.

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## COVENTRY TRUSTEE ELECTED L.D.C. PRESIDENT

by

David R. Burwasser

F. David Gill, Trustee and former officer of CNI, was elected President of the Cleveland Heights Local Development Corp. (LDC) at its February 24 meeting. The LDC is a City-created corporation that administers programs to upgrade the neighborhood business districts of Cleveland Heights. Gill, former Vice President and current Planning & Zoning Chair of CNI, had been appointed a Trustee of the LDC by Mayor Alan Rapoport at the February 16 meeting of Council.

At the same LDC meeting, Immediate past President Hudson Hyatt was elected Vice President; Dave Burwasser, Secretary of CNI, and Carol McMichael, head of the Cedar-Lee Ameritrust branch, were re-elected Secretary and Treasurer, respectively; and the membership application into the LDC of CNI President Charles Owen was accepted.

COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS is published monthly by COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. in cooperation with the HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CONGRESS.

CO-EDITORS:

David R. Burwasser and Barbara M. Littell

EDITORIAL BOARD

Charles Owen, Bruce Hennes, F. David Gill, Diane Bersnak and Dennis Coughlin.

EDITORIAL STAFF:

June Wortman, Carol Hamilton, L. E. Cannon and Mike Comella.

PRODUCTION STAFF:

Carol Gibson and the Heights Community Congress Staff.

ALL opinions and statements are strictly those of the respective writers, except when clearly identified as formal positions of CNI, CVN or the HCC. Circulation 1,500.

PERSONS wishing to submit items for the April issue may do so by sending them to the Editors, Coventry Village News, 1621 Eddington Rd. Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118 no later than March 26, 1982. Please include your name, address and phone number. While unsigned items will not be published, your name may be withheld upon request.

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\* COVENTRY VILLAGE. . . \*  
\* We Watch Out \*  
\* For Each Other \*  
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CNI MEETING NOTES. . Dave Burwasser, Secretary

Coventry Neighbors agreed at its January 9 meeting to collaborate with the Heights Community Congress to promote the HCC's Home Seller survey in Coventry, with the proviso that CNI retains control over any material sent out over its corporate signature.

CNI took note of the special problem that unshovelled residential sidewalks present to Musicians Towers residents trying to shop.

The organization recommended three changes in proposed rezoning of public lands (see related story, this issue).

CNI Crime Prevention Task Force plans to talk to Irv Gulko about the "scene" in front of Irv's Bar, before the annual problem makes its 1982 appearance to take the initiative rather than merely react. In a non-binding straw vote, CNI members present overwhelmingly favored a local option petition to dry up Irv's bar operation, if all else fails; local option procedure permits drying up sales of hard liquor by the drink while leaving carry-out sales and beer/wine drink service untouched. Irv's is the only bar in its precinct.

Mayor Alan Rapoport told CNI the city will probably go onto the ballot for Streets and Sewers bonding in the fall.

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1982 COVENTRY FAIR COMMITTEE MEETS

The 1982 Coventry Village Arts/Street Fair Committee will have its first meeting on Tuesday, March 23 at 8:00 PM at the home of Bruce and Lonnie Hennes, 2910 Hampshire Road.

This meeting will be convened by CNI President Charles Owen as mandated in the new CNI Constitution.

The first order of business will be to elect a chairman for this year's fair, discuss committee chairs, and begin to determine the format.

Volunteers are needed for various committees including, but not limited to, traffic and safety, sanitation, children's events, publicity, booth allocation, music, fine arts, and technical.

This year's fair will be held on Saturday, July 10 and Sunday, July 11, contingent upon official confirmation of these dates with the City.

CNI URGES CHANGES IN PUBLIC LAND REZONING PROPOSALS

by

David R. Burwasser

Coventry Neighbors, Inc., is asking the City to label two public land parcels more accurately, and reconsider the zoning fate of a third, in response to proposed legislation now before Council. The legislation will be the subject of a public hearing at City Hall on March 8, 1982.

Ordinance 16-1982 designated the Hampshire garage as a residential parking facility, and Turtle Park as open space. Neither is accurate, and each parcel is warmly defended in its present usage by concerned neighbors. CNI will ask that the former be labelled "storage and open space," and the latter "park," in the final statute. There is no objection to the proposed zoning category of either parcel.

The vacant lot at Derbyshire and Euclid Hts., Blvd, NE corner, is proposed to be rezoned Multi-Family. CNI recommends zoning to the more restrictive adjacent category, Single Family (small-lot). An MF zoning would be an open invitation either to a developer (Berkshire Lance Condo is next door) or for a city parking lot. If the more restrictive rezoning is effected, any such development would have to be defended specifically at a public hearing for further relaxation of zoning constraints. In this instance, as with the preceding two, a group of neighbors has become concerned about and alert to land use changes.

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BOOS & BRAVOS

- BRAVO:** The \$30 million "Top of the Hill" residential-retail-office complex proposed for the top of Cedar Glen Hill by Forest City Enterprises is a bold and exciting concept that could be a real plus for Cleveland Heights.
- BOO:** The shoddy way the present owners of Halle's closed down most of their Cleveland department stores showed a definite lack of class. The folding of the Severance Center store is certainly a loss of the Heights.
- BRAVO:** Cleveland Heights has hired the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, a private sector, non-profit organization to set up an "apartment improvement program." This is good news for Coventry Village, a neighborhood that has a very large number of apartment building residents.
- BRAVO:** A warm welcome to "bliss," a new Coventry eatery with some New York style. If looks count, then "bliss" is sure to be a winner.
- BOO:** The City of East Cleveland has terminated its emergency ambulance service. As a result, two severely burned East Clevelanders had to wait almost 25 minutes for a "private" ambulance service.
- BRAVO:** Many thanks to Coventryard Mall for their generous donation of \$100. to the Environmental Concerns Committee of Coventry Neighbors. The money will be used for a summer flower planting program in Coventry Park.

-- Charles J. Owen.

COVENTRY VILLAGE. . . We Watch Out For Each Other

TO THE EDITOR: INTEGRATION ISSUE CLARIFIED

In an interview in the February edition of the Coventry Village News, while listing goals and problems in Cleveland Heights, Alan Rapoport is quoted "we have physical integration but not social integration." He cites as "symbolic" of the problem the William Smith lawsuit against Cleveland Heights. I can't comment on the physical vs social integration "problem" because I'm not sure how it's possible to make such a broad generalization without some definition of terms. We are certainly not without social integration at least on some level, perhaps only in individual cases. My objection lies in the use of the Smith suit as example of that problem.

The Smith lawsuit is an example of a problem which has been clearly defined in our community for nearly two decades. The real estate industry, motivated by fear of the activities of fair housing organizations, has decided to make Cleveland Heights and the Heights Community Congress scapegoats in an attempt to paralyze these organizations. As an active member and former chair of the HCC Open Housing Task Force, I believe that individual real estate agents and, in some cases, real estate companies, violate the Fair Housing laws on a regular basis. The Congress and the Open Housing Task Force have been a thorn in the side of the industry for years. We have brought suit, made administrative complaints through HUD, written position papers, letters to the editor, and drafted proposed legislation which the real estate industry perceives as a threat to their right to operate in the traditional manner. The City has banned "For Sale" signs and door-to-door solicitation, operates a housing service, and conducts neighborhood reassurance programs.

The real estate industry has funded the Smith suit totally. The Ohio Board of Realtors has committed to \$50,000 for legal fees, with the Cleveland Area Board of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors each committing \$25,000. Smith is a procured complainant. The industry needed a citizen to file and found one. The suit claims that Smith is being deprived of the company of other Black neighbors. It says that we discriminate. Ironic, isn't it? They are suing to stop the programs which will bring integration in the truest sense -- so that people can decide where they want to live, without the "help" of the real estate industry.

This suit is clearly not related to the physical-social integration issue. It is the real estate industry v. Fair Housing. People, especially public officials, need to understand that very clearly. We cannot defend ourselves against an enemy which we cannot or will not see.

--Maureen O. Weigand, Euclid Heights Blvd.

TO THE EDITOR: CONDOMINIUMS IN COVENTRY

I have noticed in previous issues of COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS observations by Charles J. Owen lauding the state of Coventry Village and citing the new Berkshire Lane Condominiums as evidence of improvement. I do not believe that the best interests of Cleveland Heights or Coventry Village are served by uncritical praise of everything done in the city. The Berkshire Lane structures have all the character of a Kraft cheese box and, contrary to Mr. Owen's statement, most of the trees on the property were not retained. . . Also, the buildings detract from the historical Gill House on the adjacent property. . .

I question the view that condominiums are an asset to a residential area of single family dwellings. It has often been observed that Cleveland Heights' strength lies in the diversity of its housing stock. Yet there is a dangerous trend to rezone and destroy single family houses and duplexes for parking lots and apartments, presumably for a more favorable tax base. The failure to sell even half of the units at the Berkshire Lane Condominiums reveals the folly of this type of reasoning. . .

(Continued on page 5)

CRIME PREVENTION TASK FORCE REPORT . . . . . Bruce M. Hennes, Chair

Although the Task Force did not meet last month, we are pleased to report that a goodly number of calls have been received by the new COVENTRY VILLAGE RUMOR CONTROL HOT LINE. Hopefully, next month we will be able to give you some statistical information about the types of calls coming in. Please remember that you can call the HOT LINE from 9 to 5, Monday through Friday by calling Nancy Hubbert at 371-6620 or Gretta Ryan at 371-6625 and they will be able to answer most, if not all of your questions about rumored crime in Coventry Village.

In other actions, the Crime Prevention Task Force will be closely monitoring the situation at Irv's Restaurant. A meeting will be scheduled soon with Irv's management to continue discussions about making Irv's a better neighbor.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS REPORT. . . . . . Charles J. Owen, Chair

URBAN BEAUTIFICATION: Coventryard Mall has generously donated \$100 to the E.C.C. for flower plantings in Coventry Park. The plantings will complement other site improvements that the E.C.C. has arranged for the popular municipal park.

WHO ARE WE ANYWAY?: The Environmental Concerns Committee was established in 1980 in order to improve the physical environment of the Coventry Village residential and commercial districts. Why not join us? For more information on how you can help Coventry's environment, please call 321-1268 or 932-8733.

OUR NEXT MEETING: The E.C.C. will meet on Thursday, March 4, 1982 at the Marzocco residence, 14 Mornington Lane at 7:30 PM.

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STREET TALK

Some members of our fair community have referred to the ODDS 'N ENDS column as a light and frivolous piece. That is not what I intended it to be. Since the name seems to have a connotation I did not intend I henceforth will call the column STREET TALK - and leave it up to the reader to judge the nature of it for her/him self.

Alice Miller, of the Taping Service at the Cleveland Society for the Blind informs me that Natalie Crouter's "Forbidden Diary," written while she was interned, with her family, in a Japanese prison camp during WW II, has been made into a "Talking Book" and is available at the Cleveland Public Library for visually handicapped persons or persons unable to hold a book. Ms. Crouter is the mother of Coventry activist, June Wortman, who is mentioned frequently in the book.

There is a very small parking lot behind Ken Ross' buildings that house the Bike and TV shops. Cars in that lot park every-which-way resulting in much wasted parking space. Mr. Ross has been very cooperative in bringing his buildings in line with the design standards adopted by the Merchant Association. It would be very nice if he would take a good look at the lot and perhaps put some lines in that would make optimum use of this very much needed parking area.

Everyone please note: Dr. Phil Imperl has cleaned his drapes - thank you, Dr. Your windows look so much better. . . Did you know that Marv (Pee Wee) Rosenberg and Cella Balsam are planning a wedding? Best wishes to both of you.  
(Continued on page 9)

COVENTRY VILLAGE. . . We Watch Out for Each Other

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(Continued on page 9)

COVENTRY VILLAGE. . . We Watch Out For Each Other

ARSON AGAIN

by David R. Burwasser

The burned-out apartment building at 2764 Lancashire Road was struck by arson for the second time in two years on Monday evening, February 22, 1982. The building has been vacant since it was first torched in April, 1980. A spokesman for the Cleveland Heights Fire Chief's Office told CVN that the latest fire had started in the same place as the first; had travelled the same path within the building, although less vigorously because the gas had been turned off; and, like the first, had "definitely" been set.

Since the earlier fire, the building has been proposed as a site for Section 8 low-income housing, a proposal now in limbo due to cuts in federal funds. Both before and after the 1980 fire, building owners Roger Ritley and Lewis Zipkin have attempted to interest the City in buying the structure, possibly in conjunction with neighboring buildings, for conversion to commercial parking that would benefit adjacent commercial buildings facing Euclid Heights Blvd. Some of the latter are also owned by Ritley and Zipkin. The owners and the City have been unable to agree upon a price.

Since the reopening of fire-damaged Coventryard, the use of the burn-out's driveway for commercial trash removal through a residential district has been a source of friction between Coventryard management and the City.

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MAKE TRACKS FOR THE HEIGHTS -- WIN A '30 ROLLS!

The Cleveland Heights-University Heights Athletic Field Rehabilitation Project is offering a drawing for a 1930 Rolls Royce (Springfield Brewster Phantom 2). Drawing date: April 17; winner need not be present. Single ticket donation, \$2; one-book donation (6 tickets), \$10; 3-book donation, \$25; 15-book donation, \$100. All contributions are tax deductible. For information or tickets contact Ned S. Weingart, 581-8600 days, 932-6343 evs. Car can be seen at Jaguar-Cleveland Motors, 3020 Mayfield.

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HELP WANTED: Your Coventry Village News needs reporters, typists, collators. The hours are flexible. Production is during the last two weeks of the month.

Reporters are needed to cover specific "beats" such as the Library & School Boards, PTA's, etc. If you would like to write for CVN but aren't sure how the editors would be happy to work with you and help you to learn some of the "tricks of the trade."

CNI is also looking for someone to help with production: typing, layout and proofing. This is usually done at the Heights Community Congress office during the last week of each month.

Finally we need more people to help collate. That usually takes place on the last Sunday afternoon of each month (10 days before the meeting on the 2nd Tuesday). We start at 2 PM and work until we are finished. With a crew of six we usually finish around 5 PM. When there are just 2 it sometimes takes till 11 PM. You need not pledge to come every month. Carol Gibson is in charge of recruiting and she has a list of people she calls each month. Why not add your name to her list and come and join the fun.

Applicants for any of the positions may speak to one of the editors or to Carol. All jobs are volunteer.

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

## MARCH

LIBRARY NOTES

- 1 PUBLIC HEARING- Game Rooms - 7 PM - City Hall  
COUNCIL MEETING 7:30 PM City Hall
- 2 LIBRARY - After School Special - 2:30 & 3:30 PM
- 3 LIBRARY - Pre-school Story Hour - 10:30 AM 2:30 PM
- 4 CNI - Environmental Conceras - 7:30 PM - 14 Mornington Lane  
CNI - Trustees - 7:30 PM 2910 Hampshire Rd.
- 5 PTA COUNCIL - Wiley - 9 AM
- 7 LIBRARY - Poetry Reading - 2 PM TBA
- 8 PUBLIC HEARING - Land Use - 7:30 PM - City Hall
- 9 LIBRARY - A Very Special After School Special - 2:30 & 3:30 (see Library Notes - this page)  
CNI - Regular Meeting - Library - 7:30 PM
- 10 LIBRARY - Pre-school Story Hour
- 11 CNI - Off-Street/On-Street Parking - 7:30 Unitarian Society
- 15 COUNCIL MEETING - 7:30 PM - City Hall
- 16 LIBRARY - After School Special

The Coventry Village Library has been busy as ever these last few weeks and the circulation is still improving although we hope to see it increase a great deal more in the next few months.

We will begin Poetry Readings again the first Sunday in March. The poets are not yet confirmed.

Brad Zarin will bring his snakes on Tuesday, March 9 at 2:30 PM with a repeat performance at 3:30. Brad has a fine collection of snakes and frogs which he will share with all children who join us that day.

The Winter Reading Program entitled "The Pirate's Treasure Chest" will finish March 20. All children who have completed reading and reporting on ten books will be invited to a special program March 20 at 11 AM in which origami will be made.

Spring Vacation films have been planned for the Tuesday of public school vacation. More information will be in the next Coventry Village News.

HCC TO MONITOR HOME SALES IN COVENTRY

Is your home on the market? Is it being shown fairly to all relevant prospective buyers? You will get top dollar for your house if showings are not limited on the basis of race.

Beginning March 1, CNI and the Heights Community Congress will be contacting all Coventry homesellers whose homes are listed with a real estate company, requesting their cooperation in monitoring to the best of their ability, the companies showing their homes and the race of the prospect. This Homesellers Registry will be conducted simultaneously in each of the Cleveland Heights neighborhoods for a trial period of six months. In this way each neighborhood will be able to determine whether the houses in that neighborhood are being marketed fairly, providing the the top market value for each home.

If you are selling your home we urge you to cooperate in this endeavor, for your best interest and those of Coventry Neighbors. You will be contacted soon.

-- Tina Manuel

LOST: A beige capecoat was lost somewhere, probably in the Coventry area last October or November. All efforts to recover it or remember where it was lost have been futile. Please let Coventry Librarian, Debbie Graves know if you have any clues.

COVENTRY VILLAGE. . . We Watch Out For Each Other



- COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD -

JAZZERCISE OFFERED AT THE CIVIC

Jazzercise classes are now being offered at The Civic (formerly the Temple On the Heights), 3031 Mayfield Road, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 AM. A moderate fee covers five weekly sessions and you may start anytime. Baby sitting will be provided. For more information call Debra Srp, certified instructor, at 232-5876.

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GUNS OR BUTTER CONFERENCE TO BE HELD

The second Guns or Butter Conference sponsored by a coalition of religious, community and activist groups will be held on March 18, 19, & 20 in downtown Cleveland. Keynoter will be controversial theologian, William Sloane Coffin, Jr., minister of The Riverside Church in New York City. For further information call John Looney at 231-4245.

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MORE STREET TALK (Continued from page 6)

I decided to lunch in Coventry one day last week and as I approached the "Yard" I thought the smell of roasting coffee was stronger than usual. As I entered the "Yard" I saw people scurrying around, not in panic, but with obvious purpose. I went my way and was seated at a window table. Before I had placed my order there descended on Coventryard three fire trucks, two Fire Department station wagons, three police cars. I recognized Lt. Robert Maver, the only fireman I know. The coffee beans inadvertently got overcooked. I was, however, impressed with the behavior of the Mall employees who were "cool", the customers who stood around, curiously, but keeping out of the way, and the response of the CHFD who were there in less than five minutes. It is reassuring to know that our fire fighters respond so quickly without waiting for an assessment of the problem; and, they send enough equipment to do the big job on the first call.

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\* COVENTRY VILLAGE RUMOR CONTROL HOT LINE \*  
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\* MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 9-5 \*  
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\* CALL: NANCY HUBBERT 371-6620 \*  
\* GRETTA RYAN 371-6625 \*  
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\*\*COMMUNITY CALENDAR\*\*

- 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY LIBRARY - Pre-school Story Hour  
COVENTRY SCHOOL - Student Musical - "How The West Was Really Won" 7:30 PM - All Purpose Room
- 18 COVENTRY SCHOOL - Student Musical - (see above)
- 18, 19, 20 - GUNS OR BUTTER CONFERENCE (see announcement - this page)
- 20 LIBRARY - End of Pirates Treasure Chest - Special Program - 11 AM
- 21 LIBRARY - Dungeons & Dragons - 2 PM
- 23 LIBRARY - After School Special  
CNI - Street Fair Comm 8 PM - 2910 Hampshire
- 24 LIBRARY - Pre-school Story Hour
- 26 CVN Deadline
- 30 LIBRARY - After School Special  
Coventry SCHOOL - PTA Meeting 7:30 PM All Purpose Room
- 31 LIBRARY - Pre Schol Story Hour

APRIL

- 2 PTA COUNCIL - Northwood 9 AM
- 5-9 SPRING RECESS
- 11 EASTER SUNDAY
- 13 CNI - General Meeting  
Coventry Library - 7:30

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS DISCUSS ISSUES

by  
Mike Comella

At the first Cleveland Heights City Council meeting in January, Carol Edwards and Leonard Horowitz were sworn in as the newest members. Like the four other Council members, Edwards and Horowitz both were elected at-large, meaning they ran without ward designation; they are responsive and responsible to all residents of Cleveland Heights. Like the other Council members, Edwards and Horowitz each chair one Council committee and are members of two others. They serve together on both the Administrative Services Committee and the Community Relations and Recreation Committee.

Edwards has been a resident of Cleveland Heights for 21 years and feels a strong commitment to the city "because there are not many places where successful integrated living has been accomplished." She brings many years of experience to her post, including three years as Director of Community Relations for the City of Cleveland Heights (1976-79) and two years as C.H. Community Relations Coordinator (1974-76). Although she worked for five years in Community Relations, Edwards said that being on Council as a political person is "different" and "fascinating;" it presents new challenges, especially "becoming accustomed to being responsible to people. When I worked for Community Relations, I was responsive to people in one respect, but I was still an employee of the City. I was concerned about people's perceptions of government, but I was expected to present City Hall's programs and ideas," Edwards said. "I have a feeling as a Councilperson that the buck begins and ends with Council. You want to evaluate what the community wants, what the staff wants, and what you think are the best programs and ideas - and then come to some decision," she said.

In keeping with her campaign promise to tap "Cleveland Heights finest resource - its citizens," Edwards said the Administrative Service Committee is currently working on updating boards and commissions by trying to compile a file of resumes of residents who would like to serve. "We plan to open the process up as much as possible and to go to neighborhood organization to seek names," she said. "We want everybody in the community who feels they would like to serve in some capacity to submit a resume."

According to Horowitz, who chairs the Administrative Services Committee, Assistant City Manager Bob Downey is putting together a short summary of the boards and commissions; what they do and when they meet. These will be sent to community groups in order to draw people from those sources so that the boards are not "incestuous in the sense that only our friends and acquaintances are drawn in," he said.

The Community Relations and Recreation Committee which Edwards chairs is re-assessing public relations for the City. Edwards said public relations is extremely important for the City and cannot remain stagnant. "It must continue to change," she said.

Edwards is also a member of the Public Safety and Health Committee, which deals with off-street parking. It is currently considering the Elbon Cafe expansion, "the conflict between the rights of a citizen and their needs to have a quiet community and the rights of the owners on the commercial strip" is at issue here she said. In such a case, it's a difficult decision to make. "You want to do the right thing for everybody," she said.

Leonard Horowitz, owner of the earth by april restaurant on Lee Road, is the only merchant on Council. He finds nothing surprising or unique about the distinction. He feels that the present Council represents a cross section of occupations. It is unusual that there is only one lawyer, he said.

(Continued on page 11)

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS (Continued from page 10)

Horowitz views his first month and a half on Council as having involved more time and work than he originally expected but, he said, he is enjoying it. Aside from attending Council meetings and meetings of the three committees of which he is a member, Horowitz, like Edwards, takes the time to attend other Council committee meetings because he is concerned about a number of issues in the City.

One of Horowitz's most immediate concerns, the off-street parking issue, involves the Planning and Development Committee on which he serves as Vice Chair. "The contract we've signed with the county specifies that we will not have on-street parking or that we will remove on-street parking as soon as we get adequate off-street parking," he said. "There is a lot of subtlety in the county contract in terms of making exceptions for specific areas - which makes it (off-street parking) a complex issue, not easily resolved," he said. He will be present at the upcoming Coventry Neighbors meeting on the subject.

Not all of the issues Horowitz deals with on the Planning and Development Committee are as somber as off-street parking. He is enthusiastic about the top of Cedar Hill project which The Sun Press last week reported would involve a \$30 million complex of residential units, restaurants, shops, and personal service offices in a multi-level building. "It is exciting to be presented with drawings for such a project and to make decisions that will, hopefully, help the City." He will be concerned about making sure that once the project starts, the legitimate interests of everyone involved will be considered. Horowitz says he will also be concerned about making it compatible with the rest of the area in both form and function.

As chairman of the Administrative Services Committee, Horowitz is seeking to involve the community in initiating a Charter Review. A Charter Review Commission will be looking at the City Charter and may come up with recommendations to change certain parts, or may say it is fine the way it is. The Council will then review the commission's report and changes may be placed on the ballot in the form of a Charter Amendment. Voters will then have their choice of voting it up or down. The Charter was last reviewed in 1972. It really should be looked at every ten years to see if changing times have made revision necessary, he said.

Horowitz agrees with Mayor Rapoport that a strong committee structure is desirable. "If you live in an area like Cleveland Heights where the classic struggle is basic municipal services vs. basic human services, you get certain ideological splits and some debate. At times like that you need good discussion, organization, and committee structure so that you can examine the issues," he said. "Otherwise, you can end up with a rubber stamp group. You need all the expertise the community has to offer. You need to make sure that when you make a decision, it is the best one, because there is much less margin for error than there was twenty or thirty years ago," Horowitz said.

(Editors' Note: Mike Comella is a Journalism student at Cleveland State University)

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CALLING SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Citizen residents of Cleveland Heights who are interested in becoming involved and active as a group in the timely issues of our day are asked to contact Ben Selcer, Senior Class representative of the Heights Community Congress at 932-4963. You may also call the HCC at 321-6775 and leave a message for him.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REVIEWED

by  
Barbara M. Littell

The February issue of CVN examined the composition of Council Committees, the process by which our elected representatives review community issues, consider possible action, and establish priorities. There is another level of administrative functioning where individual citizens can provide input. That is the boards and commissions. There are fifteen (according to my present list) of these bodies. Some are established by statute and others are required by state and federal regulations. Almost all of them are appointed by Council. Council is currently reviewing the process by which qualified citizens can indicate their willingness to serve on these bodies.

In the next few issues, CVN will examine these bodies, their composition and their charges.

The Architectural Board of Review (ABR) is established under statute. Its members must all be registered architects, currently in practice. Appointments are made by the mayor upon recommendation of Council's Administrative Services Committee (ASC). ABR meets every other week on Tuesdays at 4 PM in the Planning Dept. office.

The ABR considers plans for new construction, re-construction or re-modeling to assure conformity to municipal standards, for the protection of other property owners.

There are three members, each appointed for a three year term, with rotating chairmanship. Members are paid a small stipend. The board is staffed by representatives of the Building Department who serve without vote. Determinations of the ABR are reported to the Building Department. Current members are: Joseph Ceruti, Devonshire Drive, Chair; Raymond Chaty, Delaware Drive; and Russell R. Peck of Overlook Road.

The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) meets the third Wednesday of each month in Council Chamber, 7:30 PM to hear appeals of determinations of the Building Dept. in regard to variances from zoning regulations regarding new construction or conditions which may be in violation. The BZA provides the citizen with a "court of appeal" in land use disputes with the City. The BZA reports to Council, which has the option of reversing approvals, but may not alter a negative finding.

The BZA is established by statute. Appointments to four year terms are made by council on the recommendations of ASC. There are four citizen members in addition to the City Manager who serves as a voting member. Members are paid a small stipend. Current members are: Fred S. Toguchi, Demington Drive, Chair; Robert J. Asman, Berkshire Rd (44106); Lynn Gordon, Berkshire Rd. (44118); James C. Graff, Ashton Road; and, City Manager Richard V. Robinson.

COMING UP NEXT: City Planning Commission; Civil Service Commission and the Cable Television Review and Advisory Commission.

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STILL MORE STREET TALK: (Continued from page 9)

Our friends at the Unitarian Society send an announcement of a meeting entitled "FOCUS on OUR FUTURE: Cleveland Heights in the 80's," Wednesday, March 10, 7:30 PM at the Society, 2728 Lancashire. Speakers will be Sara Hunter, Judge, CH Muni Court; Tom Bler, Senior Planner, Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency; and Dave Burwasser, Vice President, Neighborhoods, Heights Community Congress, and co-editor of CVN. Admission is free - everyone is invited.

Did you know that both Lady & Co., and Carroll Drug are in the process of remodeling? We look forward to seeing the results.

-- bobble littell

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH-DOG: OUR CHILDREN - THEY NEED YOUR HELP

SCHOOL FINANCING CRISIS The State of Ohio is in financial crisis. Due to the serious recession, there is a shortage of income from taxes amounting to \$1 billion, even with the 5% sales tax increase recently voted. As a result, public education in Ohio is in crisis. The State is proposing drastic cuts in funds in all areas. The heaviest cuts will be in public education. For Cleveland Heights-University Heights in 1982, this may mean a cut of \$1.5 - \$2.6 million, estimates varying. At an emergency meeting on January 25, the school boards of CH-UH, Shaker Hts., and Beechwood voted to explore all legal ways of fighting the proposed cuts. Any action of the school boards will have little effect unless a massive outpouring of public outrage backs them up.

Parents and their friends are urged to write the following legislators immediately, or call Western Union and send a night letter. Make it brief and simple. Present one idea: DO NOT CUT FUNDING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION. Address it to the following:

The Honorable M. Morris Jackson, Ohio Senate, Phone (614) 466-7483;  
 The Honorable Ben Skell, Ohio Senate. Phone (614) 466-7505  
 The Honorable Mary O. Boyle, Ohio House of Representatives (614) 466-7483  
 The Honorable Lee I. Fisher, Ohio House of Representatives (614) 466-1405

All have the same mailing address: State House, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Did you know that Ohio is 1st among all states in its financial support to non-public schools, but only 48 in its support to public schools? And that HB#576, having passed the House and now before the Senate, would provide \$14 million more for non-public schools?

DRUG PARAPHERNALIA VENDORS TAKE NOTE - THE PTAs ARE COMING! In their battles against game rooms, the PTAs have met with questions from parents: why the fuss over game rooms, when we have done nothing about the "drug-toy" shops? Well, Coventry and Roxboro Jr. High PTAs are doing something. Both have written Record Revolution and Sunshine II. While recognizing that the drug stuff being sold is not illegal, the PTAs are asking the stores to de-emphasize those items by keeping them out of the front display window, and making them less visible inside the stores. Both PTAs are sending copies of their letters to the chief of police. Record Revolution has already made some changes, and were sent a second letter from Rox. Jr. PTA thanking them. The changes include removing the nitrous oxide canisters from the front window, and shielding the drug toys inside from immediate view by placing them behind racks of T-shirts and behind record counters. Sunshine II has nothing else to sell except drug-related items. While the PTAs recognize the rights of adults to decide for themselves, we strongly champion the rights of children to protection from enticement toward drugs. If you agree with the PTAs' belief that these stores have a responsibility to protect our children by refraining from prominent display of drug-related items, you can express your opinion to the managers of these stores. You can also express your opinion to your city Council representatives and to the city manager.

INFORMING KIDS ABOUT WHERE HELP IS AVAILABLE Roxboro Jr. High PTA has initiated a program of posters, placed where kids will see them informing kids about where they can go for help. Other CH-UH schools are interested in displaying them. So, too, is the CH-UH Library system. Three agencies are listed, all within walking distance: Rapart Center, CIT-Mental Health Services, and The Free Clinic. We want kids to know they can take charge of their own lives and get help without waiting for others to do something. We also want adults to know where to refer a any child who comes to you with a problem that is too big for a kid to handle alone.

