



Coventry Village News

JANUARY, 1983

NEWSLETTER OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. Vol. VIII No. 1

ELECTION LAWSUIT HALTED

by

David R. Burwasser

Coventry Neighbors, Inc., secured an agreement to dismiss a lawsuit filed against CNI by Leah Gulko and Charlotte Apel, both Coventry residents. Mrs. Gulko is mother of Irv's Bar owner Irv Gulko, and a resident of Musicians Tower.

The suit claimed improper election practices in the recent local option election, a charge in which CNI found no merit. In an out-of-court settlement, CNI agreed not to object to an injunction that would delay enforcement of the local option election till Gulko gets new carry-out permits. This is well within the bureaucratic delay CNI anticipated. In exchange, the Gulkos have agreed to withdraw their suit.

~~What Gulko gains from the settlement is continuity. He has applied for permits for the carry-out business to which he is now largely limited, and now will be able to use his old permits till the new ones arrive. Since CNI never intended to disrupt Gulko's carry-out business, the Trustees agreed.~~

CNI was represented by General Counsel Thomas J. Lee, of Kelley McCann & Livingston.

In a separate action, legislative language to object to Gulko's new permits was placed automatically before Cleveland Heights City Council at its December 20, 1982, meeting. Public Safety & Health Chair Joanne O'Brien said the draft would be kept pending until her committee gathers more information. The City's right to object is purely advisory; discretion for issuance of the permits lies with the state Board of Liquor Control.

VIACOM TO AIR CNI'S "TOP-OF-THE-HILL" DOCUMENTARY

by

Bruce Hennes

The "Top-of-the-Hill" project proposed for the Cedar-Euclid Heights Boulevard intersection will be subject of a TV Special produced by COVENTRY NEIGHBORS on Viacom Community Access, Channel 27 at 8:30 PM on January 25.

"Top-of-the-Hill," rivaled in scale in this city only by Severance Center, may raise as high as twenty stories in some sections. The present description calls for 40,000 square feet of retail space, about 600 restaurant seats, and 180 condominium apartment units.

Featured will be a discussion of the project and its implications for Cleveland Heights. The public will be invited to phone in questions via direct lines to the Viacom studio.

Architect, Phil Hart will moderate; participants will include City Manager, Richard V. Robinson, representatives of Forest City Rental Enterprises, Inc, developer; a representative of the Cedar-Fairmount merchants organization and local-resident

The hour-long documentary, believed to be the first of this sort in Cleveland Heights will be produced for CNI by Larry Beam, formerly of the CH Planning Dept., and Bruce Hennes, Vice President.

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PERSONS wishing to submit copy for the February issue may do so by sending it to the EDITOR, COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS, 1526 Coventry Road, #4, East Cleveland, Ohio 44118 no later than January 19. Please include your name, address and phone number. While unsigned items will not be published, your name may be withheld upon request.

COVENTRY VILLAGE . . .

We Watch Out For Each Other

PLANNING & ZONING NOTES

F. David Gill

The Cleveland Heights Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:30 PM, January 12, 1983, at City Hall pertaining to the "Top Of The Hill" project.

Forest City Enterprises and Keeva Kekst, Architects (doing business as "Top Of The Hill Associates") requests a conditional use permit to allow them to construct a multi-use building on the land currently owned by The City of Cleveland Heights at the intersection of Cedar Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard. The land is zoned "S - 2," a special development zoning district. The proposed construction would accomodate 40,000 square feet of retail use, 20,000 square feet of restaurant space, 180 dwelling units, and a multi-level parking facility.

STREET TALK

Those who did not take the opportunity to hear the Coventry School Chorus in its Christmas Concert at the Library missed a real treat. As a parent of grown children I have attended many-a school Christmas program and went to this mainly out of nostalgia. My surprise verged on wonder at what I saw. I could hardly believe this vibrant, vital little show was created by the young participants. It was sheer fun--for the students and the audience. Lucky, indeed, are students who attend a school where their talent and creativity is fostered by such loving and imaginative adults. Our community should be proud of all of them. The Library is to be commended for providing the neighbors with the opportunity to see them do their show.

We were sorry to hear of the recent illness of Sherry Speeth, street "regular" and sometimes jazz fiddle player and pleased with his speedy recovery. We were very distressed, however, to learn of the tragic accident in which he was struck by a car while in a crosswalk on Coventry. We wish him a quick and complete recovery.

Turkey Ridge's manager, Jeff Lindbloom and Alice Barman are looking starry-eyed as they, too, start planning their future together. Congratulations and best wishes. (Page 3)

STREET TALK (Continued from page 2)

Congratulations, too, to Susan and Michael Hennenberg on the birth of their son.

Christmas Caroling was fun for the couple of dozen hearty souls who braved sloppy, slushy snow to bring musical merriment to the street on the Sunday before Christmas. After an initial run-through, the group sounded better and better each time it stopped to sing. Thanks to all who participated; to Tommy Fello for providing the hot chocolate served afterwards; to Tom Lee for the use of his home; to the Unitarian Society for the use of theirs; the Heights Community Congress for the word-sheets; to Larry Beam, photographer; and especially to song leader, Gusti. The consensus seems to have been, "Just wait till you hear us next year!"

On December 20 the Cleveland Heights City Council displayed great wisdom in appointing architect Philmore Hart to the vacant seat on the Board of Zoning Appeals caused by the recent, untimely death of architect Fred Toguchi. Although Phil Hart lives in the Fairfax neighborhood he is truly a Coventry Neighbor as defined by Coventry Neighbors, Inc: A Coventry Neighbor is not a resident from within a certain geographical boundry, but rather adherants to a life-style which respects people and honors their differences. It is as a people centered architect that he will be able to make his most telling impact on the City of Cleveland Heights.

According to Hart his main contribution to the Board will be in his professional ability to sight-read architectural plans and to interpret the consequences and impact of the proposals under consideration for other members of the board whose expertise lie in other disciplines. He firmly believes in the zoning process as a legal means of assuring that people respect each other by adherence to agreed upon rules. He feels these rules must be interpreted with sensitivity and variances allowed when there is conflict between the rules and people's regarding the use of their space and environment.

Architecture is an art form but it is unique in that it is the only one that people live in - not just with, he says. They must be able to do just that. To live in it and to "touch it, and feel it, and kick it, or lick it, or whatever people do."

Many of us in Coventry know Phil Hart since he was one of the Design Team that produced the Coventry Merchants Association Design Standards. We know what he believes about life in our community, we share these beliefs and we worked with him to help build them into the design standards for our neighborhood. We know he is a good architect and sensitive man. I am pleased that in the appointment of Hart, Cleveland Heights City Council has re-affirmed its commitment to keeping Cleveland Heights a people city.

-- bobbie littell

HELP WANTED!

Do you like to be in on the know? Do you have a few hours a month to devote to working with other people, having fun and making Coventry the kind of community to be proud of? If so you ought to be volunteering to help with the COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS or with one of the other very interesting, and important projects that are undertaken by CNI every year.

If you want to find out more about how to volunteer for CVN, or to help keep the streets pretty, or safe, to help with the Street Fair, Call Bobbie Littell evenings 321-8397.

