



Coventry Village News

FEBRUARY, 1984 NEWSLETTER OF COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. VOL 8, NO. 2

\$50 REWARD OFFERED FOR SPRAY PAINT VANDAL

a CNI/CVN editorial

Coventry Neighbors, Inc. offers \$50.00 as a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the recent rash of spray-paint graffiti in the Coventry neighborhood. Central National Bank, Vid Star, the Clam House, a wall of the cemetery, two bus shelters, and other walls in Coventry have been vandalized.

There will be one award of \$50.00. That one award may be shared among several people who provide information.

The Cleveland Heights Police Department is cooperating with the Crime Prevention Task Force and the Environmental Concerns Committee of CNI in making this reward offer.

All decisions about this cash award will be made by a special committee consisting of Bruce Hennes, President of CNI; Carol Gibson, Chair, CNI Environmental concerns Committee; and Martin Lents, Chief, Cleveland Heights Police Department. The decisions of the committee will be final.

CNI believes that responsibility for finding a solution to this problem lies partly with citizens, who can stop the vandalism by telling police if they see it being done. Partly, too, responsibility lies with the owners of vandalized buildings, who should remove the graffiti as soon as possible. CNI is trying to do its part by offering this reward, and we believe that the Police Department is doing the best it can.

YOUTH CENTER OPENS

The Coventry Youth Center opened on January 31. The Center provides supervised recreational activities and tutoring to students between the ages of eleven and sixteen. Recreational activities include basketball, karate, ping-pong, board games and music. The Center will be open Monday through Thursday, 4:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

Classes in creative arts, manual skills, and job-related skills will be added as the program develops. Youth development programs such as tutoring and discussion of adolescent problems will be available at the center, and youth will be encouraged to become involved in community service projects.

Students who wish to participate may obtain registration forms and information the the Youth Center or at its office, 1825 Coventry Road.

The Center is staffed by volunteers. More help is needed. For information about registration or about volunteer work, call 932-9785.

Remember: CNI dues and CVN subscriptions were due as of January 1.
See the form provided on the back page of this issue.

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PERSONS wishing to submit copy for the March issue may do so by sending it to the Editor, *Coventry Village News*, 1811 1/2 Coventry Road, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118, no later than March 16. While no unsigned items will be published, your name may be withheld on request. Phone 371-6095.

MEETING NOTES

January Regular Meeting

CNI voted unanimously to offer a \$50 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who have recently been painting graffiti on area walls.

A motion suggesting that the City find another site for the parking lot proposed for the "Crazy Suzie" site, at Lancashire and Euclid Heights, was defeated by a single vote. A motion asking that the City consider other sites was tabled.

A motion asking the City to share its plans for the Crazy Suzie parking facility with CNI--both by presenting the plans at a CNI meeting and by displaying them in a store window--passed.

Municipal Court Judge Sara Hunter and Inspectional Services Commissioner Bob Wilkenson will be invited to CNI's next meeting. Both will be asked to explain their actions in the Dinewitz case.

A motion asking the City to consider carefully the possibility of placing utility lines underground or behind buildings when Coventry Road is paved was passed.

The backers of the new pizza parlor, proposed for the former location of Coventry Bike and Ski, will be invited to the February Meeting of CNI.

HAMPSHIRE MANOR TO GET FIRST AIP LOAN

The Apartment Improvement Program (AIP) has agreed to lend \$60,000 to I.P.C. II, a general partnership that owns the Manor, 2742-50 Hampshire Road. The loan carries an interest rate substantially below the market, and is the first the AIP has made. An additional \$240,000 is currently available for similar loans for other buildings.

I.P.C. II will match this loan with funds of its own to replace kitchen floors and cabinets, and to install tub enclosures, storm windows, awnings, weather-stripping, and insulation. The heating and hot water systems, roof, mailboxes, buzzer systems, hallways, and outside stairs and walkways will also be repaired or replaced.

I.P.C. II has agreed to limit rent increases for tenants whose income is "low" or "moderate" by the standards of the Federal government. Annual rent increases for single-person households with incomes of less than \$16,000, or two-person households earning less than \$18,300, will be limited to 7%. These limits will continue for at least a year.

I.P.C. II will work and cooperate with the building's tenant organization and the AIP, who, with City staff, will monitor the construction work. All code violations will be repaired promptly.

The AIP is an association of City personnel, apartment owners, tenants, lenders, and area residents who are working for the improvement of apartment buildings in Coventry and other parts of Cleveland Heights. It is funded by the City's Community Development Block Grant program.

AIP offers all building owners a sophisticated computer analysis of apartment building finances. This analysis, offered without cost or obligation, takes into account all costs and revenues of apartment building ownership. AIP staff will use the results of the analysis as a foundation for counseling building owners about management techniques.

The AIP's central goal in 1984 is to meet with apartment building owners to explore more low interest loans like the one for the Manor. Other goals include encouraging the City to provide added off-street parking in sites that are convenient to tenants, and supporting City enforcement of the Housing Code, especially in those buildings with histories of chronic code violations.

The AIP recognizes that Coventry Neighbors, Inc. has been working toward similar goals for years, and hopes to work with CNI, Coventry Merchants, and other groups dedicated to improving the neighborhood.

The AIP is seeking applications for low-interest loans for the improvement of other buildings like the Manor. Further information may be had by calling Rosemary Woodruff, 371-6694, or Ken Montlack, 421-5800.

—Kenneth Montlack, Chair, AIP Partnership Committee

STREET FAIR: AUGUST 4 AND 5

The 1984 Coventry Village Street Fair will be held on Saturday and Sunday, August 4 and 5. The Fair will open on Saturday at 3:00 pm, and continue until 9:00 that evening. The Fair will reopen at noon the next day and continue until 9:00 pm.

For information on Booth space call Vicky Hunt, 321-1488, or Sue Haders, 371-4289. The Fair Committee hopes to have a streetfront office again this year.

The next meeting of the Fair Committee will be on Wednesday, February 22, 7:30 pm, at the home of Ann Siclare and Lisa Gitlin, 1552 Glenmont Road. Come join the fun of planning the Fair.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS REFLECT PRIORITIES AND POLITICS

by David Burwasser

Alan Rapoport was re-elected Mayor/President of Council, and Carol Edwards elected Vice Mayor/Vice President of Council, with the votes of Councilmembers Barbara Boyd, Edwards, Rapoport, and Leonard Horowitz—all endorsees of the Cleveland Heights Democrats (Dems)—at the first 1984 session of the new Council. Councilmembers Robert Arnold and JoAnne O'Brien, endorsees of the Committee for Heights Progress (CHP), voted for one another; Councilmember Richard Weigand, a Dem, attended the swearing-in of his wife Maureen to the School Board and was not present.

In 1982 a Council with 5 Dems and 2 CHPs was organized by a coalition of 2 CHPs and 2 Dems. The ability of this year's Dems to organize Council was due to the sole replacement—Boyd for retiring member John Boyle—and to Edwards' newfound willingness to support Rapoport. Any other choice on Edwards' part would have perpetuated Dem disunity.

Assignments to committees of Council were as follows:

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	VICE CHAIR	THIRD MEMBER
Administrative Services	Boyd	Edwards	Horowitz
Community Relations	Edwards	O'Brien	Boyd
Finance	O'Brien	Weigand	Arnold
Municipal Services	Arnold	Horowitz	Weigand
Planning & Development	Horowitz	Boyd	O'Brien
Public Safety & Health	Weigand	Arnold	Edwards

Obviously, the ruling majority gave itself the desirable assignments. The assignments therefore disclose the priorities of this faction. One is control; each chairs a committee to which another provides the definitive second of three votes.

Creation of a center of the majority's power on Administrative Services clearly underscores the importance of this committee and its newest assignment, Affirmative Action. Chair is Boyd, who has made clear that to her, Affirmative Action means promotion as well as hiring.

The presence of a CHP-controlled committee, Finance, puts an odd cast on recent grumblings of partisanship: when the CHP enjoyed a 5-2 majority in Marjorie Wright's first Mayoral term, there were no Dem-controlled committees. Finance may be no plum in a term in which the City might have to ask for a tax hike. However, this committee also controls the first draft of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) budget. Control of CDBG by CHP was always a CHP priority when they were in command; it cannot be claimed that CHP Councilmembers have been stripped of power.

Weigand's presence as the lone Dem on Finance can hardly be seen as a favor, and will certainly not be so seen by those familiar with the rivalry between him and Rapoport; but it gives the CHP members both an opportunity and a challenge. If they can secure Weigand's agreement on legislation, they can test whether Rapoport still intends to support his committee structure by giving any unanimous committee report the 4th vote it needs for a Council majority. If they try to ignore Weigand, he will be in a position he has faced before from the CHP and which he knows how to handle, much to the discomfort of others.

Weigand's position on Public Safety & Health, while no plum, puts him in the chair of the committee to which his pet legislation, gun control, has been

[continued on page 7]

AROUND COVENTRY

HAMPSHIRE GARAGE . . . The large garage building which stands incongruously among two-family houses at about 2652 Hampshire Road will be razed. The building has been owned by the City since 1957, and has been used for storage. Now in severe disrepair, it is widely regarded as a hazard and nuisance. Its large front yard has been used for several years now as a public garden. The future of the site remains in question; most neighbors want its use as a public garden to continue.

CLAM HOUSE . . . "We're going to make another go of it," says Sandy Biegelman, son of Jack Biegelman, owner of the New England Clam House. A deal which would have seen the restaurant change hands has fallen through. Sandy says that some vegetarian dishes, and more scrod and scallop dishes, will be added to the menu. The Clam House, located in the courtyard behind Coventryard, offers a pleasant environment with live but unobtrusive entertainment on weekend nights.

DAFFY DAN . . . "It's great to be working again," says Daffy Dan Gray, who is once again running the string of t-shirt shops he began. He hopes to re-open the shop at 1812 Coventry in mid-February. He's busy now building a fresh inventory from scratch. The new Daffy Dan's will offer a variety of custom services, including custom silkscreening and embroidery. Gray has purchased a large factory and retail building on Superior at 21st Street; he plans to rent part of that building and to use the rest of it to manufacture the things sold in his shops. Of his aborted plans to open a pizza parlor on Coventry, Gray says, "It wasn't just a good idea; it was a *great* idea. I still want to do it."

HEALTH FOOD . . . Peel-Rite Health Foods, in the lower level of Coventryard, has changed hands. Doug Rutti, the new owner, plans to add numerous new products, including health books, to the shop's offerings. Rutti, a former Caterpillar employee for whom this is a first business effort, has high hopes for the future of Coventryard.

FUND RAISER . . . The Heights Community Congress will hold its February Fun Fundraiser at Beaumont School on Saturday, February 25, 8:00 to midnight. The evening will include food, drinks, dancing and a silent auction. Prices: \$15 for 1, \$25 for 2, or \$90 for a table of 3. For further information, call the HCC at 321-6775.

PARKING LOT . . . The Parking Subcommittee of the Apartment Improvement Program's Partnership Committee is "skeptical" of the plan to build a parking lot on the corner of Lancashire Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard. That group is preparing a plan showing alternative sites which they believe would better serve the neighborhood's residents, owners, and merchants. Coventry Neighbors, Inc., at its January meeting, defeated a motion asking the City to build the proposed lot elsewhere. A second motion, asking the City to consider other sites, was tabled.

PIZZA . . . The City's Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the pizza parlor proposed for the old Coventry Bike and Ski location at its meeting on February 8. The public is invited to speak at the hearing, which will be held in Council Chambers at 7:30 pm. See the January CVN for details of the proposal.

STUDIO . . . New on Coventry is Living Letters Studio, a marketing, communications and calligraphy shop at 1850 Coventry, above the Turkey Ridge Tavern. Its proprietor is Adele Kisner.

CORRECTION . . . Isaac Dinewits owns the building at 2741 Hampshire, not 2749 as reported in this space last month.

LIBRARY GOINGS-ON

Coventry Village Library has a full schedule of events during February. We will enter the world of motion pictures with the animation Workshop, for students in grades four through nine, on Wednesdays at 4:00, beginning February 1. We hope to make a film of our own, using an original story. Registration is required.

Tax assistance for senior citizens, the handicapped, and low-income families will be available by appointment beginning February 2 and then every Thursday until mid-April.

Book discussions about political biographies, with David Eisler, will continue on Saturday February 4.

The month's poetry reading will be by Dennis McDonnell and Kristin Ban Tepper on Sunday February 5 at 2:30.

Our final teen fashion program will be a discussion of *Color Me Beautiful*, a book by Carole Jackson. The discussion will be led by Mrs. Deborah Shoup; Ms. Gina White and Ms. Monica Hardy will assist. All three have used the book's ideas.

The Singles Forum plans another excellent program on Monday, February 13, 7:30 pm. Ms. Sherry Lehman, a well-known psychologist and lecturer, will speak on the subject of loving.

This and several other programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Library. That organization provides great support to the Coventry Library; we hope that the neighborhood supports the Friends.

The Monday Cinema Series will visit Coventry on February 20 at 7:00 with five short films collectively called "The Day Before." These are naive nuclear preparedness films now more than thirty years old. Their individual titles include "You Can Beat the A-Bomb" (1950), "Patterns for Survival" (1950), "Atomic Alert" (1951), "Duck and Cover" (1952), and "Tale of Two Cities" (1949).

Learn backpacking with Gail Broughton on Tuesday February 21 at 2:30. This program is free to all school-age children, and is sponsored by Friends of the Library.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

Thanks for the article on Ricochet. It solved the mystery of the fireworks I saw land in my back yard at 2:30 a.m. one night. It was frightening. I had never seen shots from a flare gun before, and I didn't know what it was. I was relieved when I read the story, and was pleased to learn that the police had confiscated the gun.

Thanks again.

Mary Landis, Coventry Village

To the Editor:

I am very concerned about your story about Ricochet. You seem willing to publish anonymous articles as fact, allowing such articles to contain private information about human beings in the area.

I believe that many normal journalistic courtesies and certain legally-protected rights to privacy have been violated.

I wish to know if this a new policy of the *Coventry Village News*.

M. A. Swinarski, Cleveland

PARKING ON THE STREET

The right of Coventry area residents to park of their cars overnight on certain streets has been extended for another six months. City Council passed emergency legislation making the extension at its first meeting of the new year, on January 3. The new legislation makes no changes in the areas where overnight parking is allowed. All the curb-side areas exempted from the City's general ban on overnight, on-street parking are in apartment districts. A list of the areas exempted from that ban appears below.

Similar legislation has been passed each six months for as long as most observers can remember. For many years now, the City has held firm to the policy that on-street parking is dangerous, and so should be done away with. On-street parking has been completely removed in the last several years from some of the City's commercial and apartment areas, notably on Cedar and Noble Roads. In most of these areas, no new off-street parking was provided.

Some easing of this policy may be on the way. Legislation returning on-street parking to a portion of Noble Road (near Nela Park) is to be introduced in February. Merchants in that troubled commercial area assert that they lost substantial business because of the on-street parking ban.

STREETS EXEMPTED FROM NIGHT PARKING BAN

Parking on the street between 3:00 am and 6:00 am is permitted on these streets: Mayfield Road, from Eddington to Coventry; Euclid Heights Boulevard, from Coventry to Edgemoor; Derbyshire Road, from Euclid Heights to Norfolk; all of Surrey Road; Bellfield Avenue, from Cecil Place to North Park Boulevard; Middlehurst Road, from Mayfield to Hampshire; Hampshire, from Hampshire Lane to Coventry; and Grandview Avenue, from Cecil Place to West St. James Parkway. No signs are posted to identify these areas.

On all other streets in Cleveland Heights, no parking is allowed between 3:00 am and 6:00 am. The Police Department generally grants individual exceptions to this prohibition when good reason is provided; folks whose cars must remain on the street after 3:00 am should call the Police Department and give the make, year, and license number of the car or cars. Requests involving inoperable vehicles, parties, and drunken drivers are generally honored.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS . . . continued from page 4

assigned. If his first task is to persuade the other members of the committee, he could have had it worse. Arnold's handling of abortion and realty issues show him to be undaunted by pressure groups, and Edwards' support of a Nuclear Freeze resolution and switch to Rapoport show her open thinking --both qualities essential to clear legislative reflection on gun control.

A stated priority of this Council will be revision of the Building Code. (No, they didn't just do that: The recently revised *Housing Code* concerns maintenance; the *Building Code* governs new construction.) Concern arises in the context of economic development, to which the Building Code is apparently a frequent impediment. Reflecting this new context, the Code has been reassigned to Planning & Development, which will consider "modern thinking on Building Codes that could be applied," according to Mayor Rapoport in a *CVN* interview. "There is possibly room for improvement and definitely time for a discussion," the Mayor said.

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TIME VALUE -- PLEASE DELIVER BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1984

COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. General Meeting, Tuesday, February 14, 7:30 PM in the Community Room of the Coventry Village Library. The public is invited.

COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. Trustees Meeting, Thursday, March 8, 7:30 PM at 2910 Hampshire Road. Committee Chairpersons are asked to attend. The Trustees meeting is open to all dues-paid members of CNI.

NOW is the time to join COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. Membership includes a subscription to the *Coventry Village News*. All memberships expire on December 31 of each year. The form below may be used for renewals.

Please check one of the following:

Class of membership: _____ Individual (\$5.00) _____ Family (\$7.00) _____ Senior (\$3.00)
_____ Just a subscription to the *Coventry Village News*--no membership.
((\$5 for 12 months; the *CVN* is not published in August.)

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I am now receiving the *Coventry Village News*: YES..... NO.....

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