



## Street Fair: getting ready

Preparations for the 1985 Coventry Village Street Fair, to be held on Saturday and Sunday June 29 and 30, are now taking final form. Committee meetings are becoming more intense, and are being held more frequently.

Many more volunteers are needed. Your help is needed watching barricades, helping with the Family Programs, tending the t-shirt booth, working with the music stages, and much more.

You can sign up now in the Fair office, located in the lower level of Coventry Mall. It is fun, and an enjoyable way to become more involved in your community.

May 15 is the deadline for submission to the poster contest, for audition tapes for bands and other musical performers, and booth applications from Coventry merchants. The deadline for booth applications from others is June 1.

Applications and further information are available at the Fair office, or by calling 321-2510.

Deborah Russell, chair of the Family Programming Sub-committee, is working with these organizations in planning the Sub-committee's activities: Jewish Community Center, Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education, Coventry School PTA, Noble School PTA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, St. Ann's PTO, Heights Parents Center, and United Cerebral Palsy Association.

The Family Programming Sub-committee needs the following things for a "hands-on" crafts area: yarn, felt scraps, fabric scraps, buttons, crayons, markers, chalk, clay, old socks, feathers, and old glue bottles. If you can contribute any of these items, please call the Fair office at 321-2510.

## Bistro plans are approved, August opening targeted

Bistro des Artistes, a 150 seat restaurant planned for 1823 Coventry Road, received the unanimous approval of the Cleveland Heights Planning Commission and City Council in mid-April. Alton Doody, backer of the proposal, expects to open for business by the end of August.

The restaurant will offer "California style" food. A typical lunch will cost about \$7.00 per person, and dinner about \$14.00, including a drink and coffee.

Jazz and classical music will be offered as background some evenings. Night club atmosphere will be discouraged.

A drawing of the new facade planned for the building appeared in these pages last month. The paved area surrounding the building will be re-surfaced.

Despite the severe parking shortage in Coventry Village, and the likelihood that a large new restaurant will worsen that problem, the proposal had broad and enthusiastic support. Coventry Neighbors, Inc., expressed strong support for the project. No member of the public expressed opposition.

Karen Lind, a Coventry Village resident and member of the Planning Commission, later called the project "dynamic" and "better than wonderful." She also expressed gratitude for the comments received from Coventry Neighbors, Inc.; she said that the Commission usually gets far too little citizen input.

In addition to the parking variance nearly always required for new restaurants here, the Commission had been asked to rule on a canopy that is to

[Continued on page 4]

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PERSONS wishing to submit copy for the May 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 May 16. While no unsigned items will be published, your name may be withheld on request. Phone 371-6095.

## Meeting Notes

### April Regular Meeting

Treasurer Cyganovich has resigned; she is moving out of Coventry Village.

Plans for Bistro des Artistes were presented by Alton Doody.

CNI determined to support Mr. Doody's plans before the Planning Commission and City Council.

A Pot-luck dinner will be held on Friday June 14; \$150 is allocated to the expenses of the event.

### Young, Hennes to appear on Viacom Cablevision

Bruce Hennes, President of Coventry Neighbors, Inc., and Kathryn Young, Chair of the 1985 Coventry Village Street Fair Committee, will discuss the Fair on an upcoming Viacom Eastwatch program.

The show will appear on Viacom's channel 27 several times in late May. Times and dates are not yet available. Dave Pelunis is host of the show.

## Letter to the Editor

### To the Editor:

The Heights Emergency Food Center offers a much-needed source of aid to many people in our community. The Center is run entirely by volunteers, and depends entirely on the caring support of people like you.

Your donation of canned food in February was a fantastic way to help us help others. We appreciate your efforts. Thank you for taking the time to care about your neighbors.

Kathleen Slater, Secretary  
Heights Emergency Food Center  
(Coventry Neighbors, Inc., (CNI))  
has been collecting canned food and other non-perishable food items at Quality Quilts, 1811 Coventry Road. Items left there will be taken to the Center. CNI also made a donation of \$100 in December.—Ed.]

## Of kids, cops, and curfew

At 11:30 PM on Saturday April 13, the small park in front of Coventryyard was crowded with teen-agers. Many of them were sporting the oddly-shaped and brightly-colored "punk" hair styles that older folk find so outrageous.

Tickets for the midnight showing of Rocky Horror Picture Show had just gone on sale, and patrons were filing into Coventry Cinema. There were few older people around. Everyone appeared, generally, well-behaved.

At about 11:40, Cleveland Heights Police Investigator John Coco, in uniform, walked into the center of the park. His partner, Lt. Tim Cannon, in plain clothes, watched from the sidelines as Coco explained the City's curfew law.

People who are not yet eighteen years old must be off the street by midnight, Coco said. He said that that meant *off the street*, not just out of the park or out of Coventry. He suggested that anyone who planned to remain be able to prove his or her age. Then he retreated into the shadows. The crowd began to thin.

Ten minutes later, Coco repeated his warning. More kids left. Some grumbled a bit, but none protested loudly.

As the moment of midnight approached, Coco gave his speech again. Most of what remained of the crowd left.

Just after the hour, Coco walked up to a tall but quite young-looking boy. Coco asked for proof of age. The boy, and most of what remained of the crowd, disappeared into the night.

A few moments later, Coco and Cannon were gone, responding to a radio call.

Similar preventative police actions, without arrests or other serious problems, have been routine these first weeks of warm weather.

Curfew hours are darkness to 6:00 AM for those under 12 years; 10:30 PM to 6:00 AM for persons between 12 and 15; and midnight to 6:00 AM for people aged 16 and 17. Certain exceptions, as for

## Downey, Lentz meet with Coventry merchants group

City Manager Bob Downey and Police Chief Martin Lentz met with Coventry Merchants Association (CMA) at the organization's meeting of April 4.

Downey praised CMA for its degree of organization and high level of productive activity. He said that CMA and Coventry Neighbors, Inc., were among the strongest organizations in Cleveland Heights. He said he is looking forward to a happy and productive working relationship with both groups.

For nearly an hour, Downey answered questions on City activities ranging from street cleaning to tree-planting.

Lentz briefly discussed the tactics of his Department in dealing with ill-behaved young people in the commercial area.

Later in the meeting, CMA elected new officers. They are: Steve Fishman (Popcorn Parlor), President; Marcia Polevoi (High Tide/Rock Bottom), Vice President; Kathryn Kearney (Metropolitan Savings), Treasurer; and Tom Lossh (Passport to Peru), Secretary.

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employment and legitimate business errands, are provided.

The Police Department plans firm enforcement of the curfew law all summer. Chief Martin Lentz says that his Department's goal is "not to make arrests, but to encourage compliance without arrests."

When arrests are made, Lentz says, first-offenders are not sent to juvenile Court, but to the Youth Services Center, where counseling is available from social workers. Lentz speaks proudly of the statistic that only about five percent of the young offenders sent to the Center ever again have contact with the Police Department.

—LB

Join Coventry Neighbors, Inc. now.

Bistro des Artistes . . . from page 1 extend from just above the front door of the restaurant to within about two feet of the curb. Similar canopies are common on elegant restaurants in many cities, but none has ever been installed in Cleveland Heights.

It now appears that the canopy will be allowed. That canopy was the only aspect of the proposal to which there was opposition.

Jules Koach, attorney to the Commission, argued at length against the canopy. Plans for the canopy called for two supports resting on the public sidewalk at about the line formed by the parking meters at curbside. Koach argued that pedestrians might bump into these supports, injuring themselves. Koach said that the City government might be liable for injuries thus sustained. He said that City Manager Bob Downey would act unilaterally to deny permission for the placement of the supports on public property; the liability exposure of the City would be too great, Koach said.

Commission member Jack Boyle, a former Mayor of Cleveland Heights, asked Koach why the supports for this canopy represented a greater hazard than parking meters, which pedestrians might also bump into. The audience applauded. Koach stuck firmly to his guns, saying that, for technical legal reasons, pedestrians injured by bumping into parking meters could not sue the City; those injured by walking into the supports could.

Boyle, an insurance broker by trade, suggested that Doody might accept any liability arising from the supports, and obtain insurance for that liability. Still Koach protested, saying that even this would not adequately protect the City from the risk of liability.

The tension of the situation was broken by Commission member Sandra Austin, who offered a motion approving the canopy as proposed, providing that risk of liability be shifted away from the City, and approving the parking variance. Austin offered a second

## Penalties toughened for drunk driving, littering

Cleveland Heights laws now provide stiffer penalties for drunk driving and for littering. The recent passage of both these laws had the strong support of Coventry Neighbors, Inc.

Until recently, drunk drivers here were charged under a local ordinance which provided far more mild penalties than the tough and much-publicized state law. The new Cleveland Heights law provides for the same tough penalties as the state law.

Dropping litter on the street can now get you a \$100 fine. Throwing trash from a car, upsetting trash receptacles, or salvaging trash set out for collection can bring a \$250 fine and thirty days in jail.

New legislation requiring the registration of hand guns was introduced recently. Present law requires the registration of owners, but not of their weapons. A move to prohibit the ownership of handguns was defeated last year.

## CNI Potluck Dinner is set for June 14

Coventry Neighbors, INC., will hold its annual Potluck Dinner on Friday, June 14, 7:00 PM, in the Street Fair Office on the lower level of Coventryyard.

This neighborhood event is open to all Coventry Village residents who bring food to share. CNI will provide beverages.

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motion, sending to the City Manager a "sense of the Commission" message asking that he not refuse permission for the canopy. Austin's second motion represented a very unusual step: ordinarily, the Commission just approves—or disapproves—of projects.

By the time the matter went to City Council five days later, a way of allowing the canopy had apparently been worked out.

--LB

## AROUND COVENTRY . . .

**NOT ORDINARY . . .** Hunan in Coventryard, the area's newest eatery, offers extraordinarily good food with efficient, gracious, and attentive service. It's in the space once occupied by the New England Clam House; it has been thoroughly and tastefully remodeled and refurbished.

We had lunch there the day the place opened. A bowl of hardy hot and sour soup was followed by a delightful collation of beef, green and red peppers, baby corn, and bamboo shoots. Dessert was a bowl containing a white, almond-flavored gelatin, cut into small squares, and topped with bits of Mandarin orange and a bright red cherry. Like the other offerings, its flavors, textures, and aesthetic qualities were perfect, far superior to what one is served in the ordinary cut of restaurants.

Hunan in Coventryard will be open for lunch and dinner every day except Sunday, when only dinner will be offered.

**CUT-THROUGH . . .** A small controversy has arisen over a few stairs built into the rear of Municipal Parking Lot 4, on Lancashire Road just east of the Unitarian Society building. That lot is now being expanded and completely rebuilt. The stairs were included in the design to allow people who live on Euclid Heights Boulevard easier access to the lot.

Thomas Frate, owner of the apartment building at 2757 Euclid Heights Boulevard, has objected to the stairway. The stairs lead to the rear of Frate's property. Frate contends that the stairs will encourage trespassing. He says that there has been vandalism to cars parked behind his building. He feels that formalizing the cut-through will make the situation worse.

City Planning Department officials say that Frate was informed of plans for the stairs in February, and that he didn't object until they were built a

few weeks ago. The City people say they are simply trying to provide better service to area residents. They point out that the area will be brightly lighted.

People using the parking lot--and others--have been cutting through the rear of Frate's property since the lot was built in 1956. Frate never installed a fence or even a sign to discourage trespass.

Bending to Frate's request, the City staff is now planning to install a gate across those stairs, ruining the cut-through.

Some participants, including Mayor Alan Rapoport, think that if a gate is to be built there, it should be paid for by Frate, not with public funds.

**FAREWELL . . .** Helen Payton has left the Heights Community Congress (HCC) after nearly nine years. She was its Assistant Director. She has accepted a position with the Child Conservation Council of Greater Cleveland. She plans to remain involved with the HCC on a volunteer basis.

This newsletter is printed on two very old A. B. Dick Mimeograph machines in a tiny room next to what was Payton's desk at the HCC office. Though the printing work was usually done by a junior staffer, Payton was always there to help and solve problems. When the printing equipment broke down, Payton could usually repair it.

We will miss her, immensely.

**NEW JOB . . .** Bruce M. Hennes, President of Coventry Neighbors, Inc., recently became Operations Manager for Motor Cars International/ISC Leasing in Cleveland Heights. The firm is affiliated with Honda Cars of Cleveland, Bedford Porsche-Audi, and Bedford Toyota-Volvo. Hennes is engaged in the leasing of all makes of cars and trucks, and in the sale of vehicles represented by those dealerships.

--Ed.

## Of the parking shortage, with some suggestions

by Bruce M. Hennes

The always-nasty parking shortage in Coventry Village has worsened in the past year. Coventry Cinema, which counted its patrons for sex films in the tens, now draws hundreds with popular films. Pick-n-Pay is open until 11:00. Faces Restaurant is far busier under its new management. The new Hunan in Coventryard has all the markings of a hit. The promised Bistro des Artistes and Gourmet de France will add further to the demand for parking.

I have finally begun to share the merchants' belief that the parking shortage is at the heart of their business problems. I have given up my old notion that poor marketing and merchandising explained their problems. Maybe it is true that the failure of Coventryard and the next building north to attract prime tenants has been due to the parking shortage.

Despite years of pleading from Coventry Neighbors, Inc., (CNI) and the Coventry Merchants Association (CMA) for additional commercial parking, only residential parking has been built. It is now obvious that any substantial addition to the supply of commercial parking remains far in the future. Cuts in the federal Block Grant and Revenue Sharing programs mean that money for parking facilities just doesn't exist.

Yet there are ways to create many parking spaces swiftly and at little cost.

Six or eight more spaces could be added by removing "no parking" signs from Lancashire Road, west of Coventry.

Perhaps thirty spaces could be created on land at the rear of the Pick-n-Pay lot, where two houses once stood. The City should obtain an easement on that land, grade it, and provide an inexpensive gravel or cinder pavement.

Some or all of the permit-only parking spaces in Muni Lots 15 and 20—in the business district—could be made into metered spaces. Folks owning per-

## Library Goings-on

Coventry Village Library will host a concert by the Covenant Bells Choir on Sunday May 5 at 3:00 PM. The Covenant Bells is a group of high school students organized at the Church of the Covenant by George Leggiero, University Circle's Carillonneur. The program honors the International Year of Youth, and is funded by Cleveland Heights-University Heights Friends of the Library. Bring your friends and family.

On May 8 at 3:30, Daniel Mantey will present a Chinese adventure for school-age children and their parents. Dan spent several months in Taiwan, where he learned to speak some Chinese, and learned to play Chinese flutes. He enjoys telling Chinese folk tales.

On May 16 at 7:00 PM, the Library will present Focusing on Photography with Jim Frier. Some of Mr. Frier's photography of children is now displayed in the windows of the Library's meeting room. He wants people to bring their cameras to this program.

Regular pre-school programs continue until the end on May, but the after-school program ends on May 8, so that the summer reading program can be readied.

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mits there could be given permits in the lots to the west, in the apartment district. That could free seventeen spaces for use by customers.

Many shopowners and their employees park right on Coventry and in the most convenient off-street spaces all day, continually feeding the parking meters. The spots occupied by these merchants and employees could be used by many shoppers—*paying customers*—during the day. Enforcement would be difficult, but if the merchants' parking problem is as serious as they allege, a way to enforce it could surely be found.

I have lost all sympathy with merchants who themselves park in prime customer spaces and who complain of a parking problem.

I hope you have too.

**Dear Friend of Coventry Village,**

If you want to see Coventry Village continue on the road to neighborhood and commercial revitalization, you should join Coventry Neighbors, Inc., now. Please take the time to complete this form, and send it with your check to:

Coventry Neighbors, Inc.  
2910 Hampshire Road  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

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 11 months; the *CVN* is not published in August.)  
I wish to make a tax-free contribution of .....

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PHONE: .....

ADDRESS: .....

ZIP: .....

I am now receiving the *Coventry Village News* by mail: YES..... NO.....  
All memberships include a subscription to the *Coventry Village News*.  
All memberships expire on December 31.

## Clean-up helps make a new image for Coventry

A traveling shoe salesman recently told Tom Loesh, proprietor of Passport to Peru, that Coventry Village was the cleanest, neatest urban business district he's ever seen. The salesman said his territory covers three states.

Many residents, merchants, and visitors here have commented favorably on the change in the appearance of the Village since the clean-up efforts began.

Not everyone is happy, though. Residents of apartments above stores on Coventry have protested loudly of the early-morning noise of the gas-powered vacuum cleaner that sweeps the street.

The \$1,200 cost of that vacuum cleaner, and the continuing cost of its operation (about \$65 for a recent week), have left the Coventry Merchants Association (CMA) struggling for funds to continue the effort. The machine, new late last summer, now needs minor repairs.

CMA, which now has about thirty members who pay \$85 in annual dues, is actively seeking more members. New and old members are being asked to donate more money to continue the effort.

The Cleveland Heights Service Department responded swiftly when its Director, Dominic Tomaro, was asked to cooperate by cleaning up an especially large mess on City property. The mess, which had been there for years, was gone in two days.

Any reader of this newsletter who thinks that the clean-up is a worthy cause and wants to see it continue can make a tax-deductible donation by sending it to Coventry Neighbors, Inc., (CNI), 2910 Hampshire Road, Cleveland Heights OH 44118.

CNI will forward all such donations to the merchants group. ---LB

**Coventry Village  
in Cleveland Heights**  
*where we all get along together  
pretty well*

## Treasurer Cyganovich to wed, resign post

Diana Cyganovich, Treasurer of Coventry Neighbors, Inc., (CNI) for the past year and a half, has resigned. She plans to move to Cleveland's West Side. On June 29 she will be married to David Heil, a teacher at Villa Angela Academy.

In her tenure as Treasurer, Cyganovich provided strong leadership in the management CNI's finances. She led the way to CNI's obtaining a tax status allowing donations to be deducted from contributors' federal tax liability. She oversaw the establishment of CNI's present system of fund accounting.

As Chairman of CNI's Refreshment Committee, Cyganovich provided the coffee and cookies served after each CNI meeting. She was active in the annual Street Fair, and served as its Assistant Chairman in 1984. She was a founder of the annual Halloween Party, and serves as liaison to the Coventry Youth Center.

She is an attorney with Hyatt Legal Clinics.

We wish her well in her future endeavors. She will be missed.

---Bruce M. Hennes, President of CNI

## Election Notice

Nominations will be accepted and a special election will be held to choose a new Treasurer for Coventry Neighbors, Inc., during the regular meeting of June 11.

## HCC seeks volunteers for Membership Phoneathon

The Annual Heights Community Congress Membership Phoneathon will begin on Tuesday May 28, and continue through Wednesday June 5. Its goal is to raise \$20,000 from the community to help support HCC programs. If you can volunteer time to help, call the HCC at 321-6775.

*I am not bald.* ---Mayor Alan Rapoport



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TIME VALUE -- PLEASE DELIVER BY FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1985

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

COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. Trustees Meeting, Thursday, June 6, 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)

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