

FREE TAKE ONE

Volume 1  
Number 7  
October 7, 2008

# HEIGHTS OBSERVER

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM CLEVELAND HEIGHTS AND UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

## Residents prefer avenue to boulevard for Cedar-Fairmount

Deanna Bremer Fisher

Consultants presented three options for a potential redesign of the Cedar-Fairmount business district at a public meeting on Sept. 18 at the Cleveland Heights Community Center. Option A would leave the current footprint of Cedar Road and the sidewalks. Option B would expand the sidewalks on both the north and south sides, creating the feel of a grand avenue. Option C would place a median down the center of Cedar Road, providing a safe stopping place for pedestrians crossing the busy street. Residents broke into three groups to evaluate each option. When the entire group reconvened, Option B seemed to be the clear winner.

The city of Cleveland Heights has retained City Architecture Inc., an architectural firm known for its streetscape plans in urban environ-



Option B would expand the sidewalks on the north and south side of Cedar Road, creating the feel of a grand avenue and enhancing pedestrian safety.

ments, and Michael Baker, Jr. Inc., an engineering and consulting firm, to assess existing conditions and evaluate opportunities to enhance the Cedar-Fairmount commercial district.

Funding for the study is provided by the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) through its Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative, which helps existing communities in Northeast Ohio obtain federal funding and technical assistance for planning transportation projects that strengthen community livability.

Both options B and C would put Cedar Road on a diet. Option B would reduce the number of lanes from six to five, with two drive lanes in either

direction and a fifth lane, on the north, for unrestricted on street parking. Option C would also reduce the number of lanes to five, two in either direction. One of the north bound lanes would allow on street parking only during nonpeak times; the middle lane would be a planted median and turn lane. Under Option C, when cars are parked at the curb lane, only one lane would be available for through traffic.

As one of the main arteries connecting east side commuters to University Circle and downtown Cleveland, the area needs to handle a lot of cars. Some residents expressed concern that eliminating lanes would stall traffic flow and create a headache for commuters.

Coordinating the four traffic lights that currently exist in the district would improve traffic flow. This could likely be accomplished without changing the configuration of the lanes. More trees and other street amenities could be added to enhance the pedestrian experience. Utilities could also be coordinated to decrease the number of power lines and poles, thus reducing visual clutter and removing obstacles to pedestrian movement. However, Option A would not address the safety issues pedestrians face while trying to cross the street. Nor would it enhance the sense of place of the Cedar-Fairmount neighborhood, residents concluded.

continued on page 3

A MEMBER OF THE OBSERVER MEDIA GROUP AND AN OFFICIAL GOOGLE NEWS SOURCE  
A PROJECT OF  
**Future Heights**

Home delivery now available!  
Call 320-1423 or email  
info@futureheights.org.

## CH-UH scores show district's strengths, weaknesses

Simone Quartell

After three years of steady increases in test scores, the CH-UH school system saw some decline on the 2007-2008 Ohio Department of Education Report Card.

On the 2006-2007 report card, seven elementary schools and Cleveland Heights High School were rated Effective. In 2007-2008 only Canterbury Elementary, Roxboro Elementary and Roxboro Middle were rated Effective, with all other schools rated Continuous Improvement. The district as a whole missed the Effective rating by 3.2 points, failing to move up from the Continuous Improvement designation.

Board of Education President Mike Cicero didn't pretend to be happy with the decline. "I don't like it," he said, "and we need to reverse this trend immediately. It just adds fuel to the fire of district naysayers."

During the 2006-2007 school year, when the test scores were broken down by small schools, Renaissance School met the Excellent designation. That did not happen this year because the school did not meet the attendance indicator. Renaissance Principal James Reed informed the students of this at their first day of school assembly and stressed the importance of not having unexcused

continued on page 3

## Ratings don't rate

Greg Donley

Every summer, *Cleveland Magazine* publishes its Rating the Suburbs issue and injects another dose of steroids into outer-suburban development. No surprise: the ratings are meant to affirm what matters to the people who advertise in *Cleveland Magazine*.

But these numbers are of little use to people who want to live in a close-in place like Cleveland Heights, University Heights, or Lakewood. We need a rating that measures the things that matter to people who value culture, walkable neighborhoods, aesthetic quality, true community diversity, easy access to urban amenities, a strong presence of local independent businesses, and, of course, good schools, good property values, and reasonable taxes. Call it the WMI: the What Matters Index.

Let's start with property taxes and an interesting comparison. Much is made of the "killer taxes" in inner ring places. Cleveland Heights had a median

### OPINION

home value of \$109,500 in the 2000 census while in Solon that figure was \$215,800. In CH the tax rate is 2.83% of the residential market value. In Solon the tax rate is only 1.89% of market value. No wonder people complain. But here's a more pragmatic look at those numbers: 2.83% of \$109,500 is \$3,099, while 1.89% of \$215,800 is \$4,079. In other words, your typical Cleveland Heights homeowner actually pays less property tax every year than the typical Solon homeowner, even though the tax rate in CH is higher. Why? Probably because it costs somewhere between \$3,000 and \$4,000 per household to run the schools and other things funded by property taxes, and if the homes cost more, the tax rate can be less to get to that dollar figure. Conversely, where home prices are lower, rates have to be higher to get to the same dollar figure.

So should the Heights area be made to look bad simply because housing is a better value here? I don't think so. The figure used in our index should be the median annual property tax per household. Add that to the median annual mortgage payment (much lower in CH than in Solon) to get the median annual cost of home ownership.

The other issues that matter with property values are the range of affordability and reliability of appreciation. Give points for a wide range of values from least expensive to most, and then

continued on page 4

IN THIS ISSUE	
Opinion	2-4
City News	5
Heights Schools	6-7
Heights Neighborhoods	8-9
Heights Shops	10-11
Community News	12-13
Heights Library	14
Heights Arts/Kids	15



The July 4 parade on Kingston Road matters.

## HEIGHTS OBSERVER

The Heights Observer is a citizen-based news source published monthly by FutureHeights, a nonprofit, 501 (c)3 organization dedicated to civic engagement and quality of life.  
2163 Lee Rd., #103,  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118.  
216.320.1423  
Copyright 2008 FutureHeights, All rights reserved.  
Any reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

PUBLISHER  
Deanna Bremer Fisher

ADVERTISING  
216.320.1423  
advertising@heightsobserver.org

ADVISORY BOARD  
Carrie Buchanan, Richard Henderson, Eleanor Mallet,  
Bob Rosenbaum

EDITORIAL BOARD  
Daniel Adiletta, Maryann Barnes, Jeff Bendix, Meryl Borato, Deanna Bremer Fisher, Laura Crawford, Greg Donley, Jane Flaherty, Tonya Gibson, Gillian Irwin, Mark Majewski, Fran Mentch, Holly Pangrace, Courtenay Roberts, Bob Rosenbaum, Jessica Schreiber, Afi Scruggs, Sarah Wean

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Charles Burkett, Jr., Ed Coyle, Tonya Gibson, Annemarie Grassi, Lita Gonzalez, Joy Henderson, Christina Kleonotic, Kathryn Lowe, Kathy Mahoney, Sarah Wean

WEBMASTER  
Dan Ott

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION  
Temma Collins and Ruth D'Emilia

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS  
Mazie Adams, Susie Antonelli, Stephanie Applegate, Janice Brooks, Adele Cohn, Michael G. Connors, Rachel DeGolia, Greg Donley, Joyce Fennell, Deanna Bremer Fisher, Jennifer Frigolette, Carol Gibson, Tonya Gibson, Karlene Grifka, Kay Heylman, Jennifer Holland, Kaye Lowe, Mark Majewski, Patrick Mullen, Mary Patton, Gaebrielle Poole, Simone Quartell, Dawn Rucker, Lauren Sable, Eric Schreiber, Jessica Schreiber, Katherine Solender, Ralph Solonitz, Mark Souther, Rebecca Stager, Bert Stratton, Blanche Valancy, David Wasserstrom, Ron Werman, Martha Wheeler

The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Heights Observer, its publisher and staff, or of FutureHeights, its staff and board of trustees.

Seed funding for the Heights Observer generously provided by the Cyrus Eaton Foundation, the Dominion Foundation, and the Katherine and Lee Chilcote Foundation.

## University Circle should embrace Cleveland Heights

Moving to Cleveland in early 1965, after release from the Navy, a real estate agent put my wife and me up in a motel out near Chagrin and Richmond and showed us houses from Solon to Mayfield Heights to Westlake. Unhappy with the houses and with the distance from University Hospitals where I was starting a psychiatric residency, I looked more closely at a map around University Circle. I found Cleveland Heights to be a good jog or bicycle ride away. My wife scanned the newspapers and found a house which we pressed the realtor to show.

It was a perfect house for us, and we bought it. It was beautiful. We considered University Circle to be a suburb of Cleveland Heights —no other community is as close. We could even lunch, dine and have visiting relatives stay in motels in East Cleveland.

Then the real estate industry did its thing on East Cleveland and began to do it more and more to Cleveland Heights, and we realized that is what was tried to

do to us when we first came. Another fact became undeniable: When the real estate industry finishes running through a community, it is like an atom bomb hit it.

Well, citizens of Cleveland Heights circled the wagons, rolled up their sleeves, started a housing service, sued the realtor savages, and promoted positive integration and oneness, and became the leading edge of different peopled communities "making it." Today, go to St. Ann's 11:30 Mass: Everybody is there. It is like being in full touch with all humanity and at one with the universe as you get your bucket of love for the week. And the greatest collection of science, art, research, education and culture in the world, known as University Circle is just down Cedar Hill.

For University Circle to bypass Cleveland Heights is geographically unsound, economically wasteful, sociologically discriminatory, "community" fraud, and must be further characterized as determined by a hidden agenda. It makes no sense.

Samuel A. Nigro, M.D.  
Guilford Road, Cleveland Heights

## Headline irks reader

I'm writing to express my displeasure at the choice of a word in the headline about the Open Doors Academy trip to Harlan, KY. First, let me say that Kentucky is my home state, having grown up in Lexington. I am very proud of my state and my heritage. This is one of those times that a word may be used by the people themselves, but it should be avoided by "outsiders." I am speaking of the word "poor." I read the headline and reacted negatively toward the article. Would the headline have read "the poor in the Heights Area"? I think not. There are those living in the Heights area who fall under urban poverty and have a different culture. Why didn't it just say "the people" of Harlan, KY?

I also read about some of the issues that the students were learning. I was wondering about the similarities between here and Harlan that they observed. I also was looking to see if they had learned anything about the region (the coal mining, the forest) and its history (Cumberland Gap and being at the first doorway to the West), its culture (folk crafts, music, literature), the Pine Mountain Settlement School —just to name a few possibilities. Did they learn about any notable people who came from the area? Because of my love of University of KY basketball, I know of Wah Wah Jones, who was one of UK's outstanding players and went on to the NBA, and Cawood Ledford, who was an outstanding basketball and football announcer. Rebecca Caudill was an outstanding author of children's books. And, Nick Lachey, singer and TV personality, was born in Harlan, KY.

For over 40 years, I have been a community activist in Cleveland Heights and have learned that we need to be sensitive to others' feelings.

Donalene Poduska  
Roanoke Road, Cleveland Heights

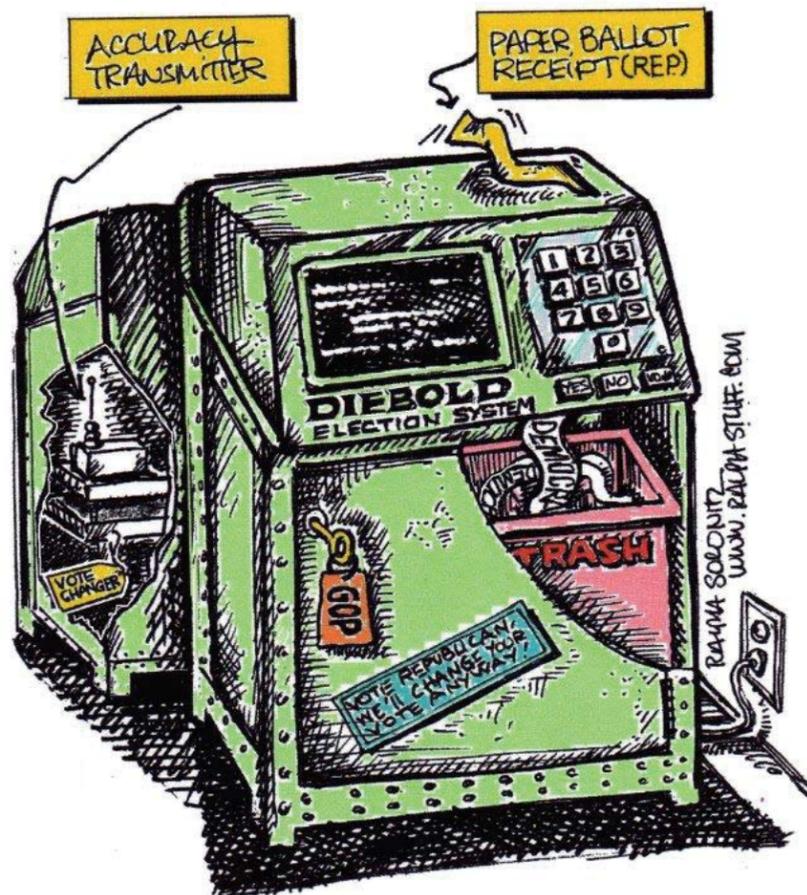
## Barack Obama instills hope

The first time I had a TV in my classroom was when JFK was inaugurated president. His handsome image and stirring words are forever seared into the consciousness of the people who bore witness.

We have the chance to do it again. The world is watching and cheering for a young charismatic leader. He is intelligent, calm, passionate. We, the people, will have to keep him going in the right direction, keep his feet to the fire, and keep him working for justice and equality for all. But the people had to do that in the 60's, and we ended a war, enacted legislation to help those in poverty, and passed civil rights laws.

Vote for Barack Obama who instills hope in so many. Then we, the people, rejuvenated, will direct our government on its proper path in this world.

Claudia Vondriska  
DeSota Avenue, Cleveland Heights



He who counts the votes, Wins!

Cleveland Heights resident Ralph Solonitz (artist/writer) was born in 1947 in Munich, Germany, the son of Holocaust survivors. He began doodling very early on...first in German and a few years later in his new language English. His father gave him motivational advice..."stop your doodling, you are wasting time and will amount to nutting." Fast forward 55 years, thousands of dollars in therapy and he still can't stop doodling.

## Future Heights

Save the Date!  
4th Annual  
Online Benefit Auction  
October 10 - November 9

Support FutureHeights  
by bidding early and often!

[www.futureheights.cmarket.com](http://www.futureheights.cmarket.com)

Bid on a wide variety of goods,  
services & one-of-a-kind treasures  
from the Heights.

Call 320-1423.

## The Chilcote Law Firm

Solutions for Real Estate  
and Corporate Transactions

Lee A. Chilcote  
Attorney at Law

The Cedar-Grandview Building  
12434 Cedar Road, Suite No. 3  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44106

Main Phone: 216 795 4117  
Direct Dial: 216 795 9859  
Cell: 216 496 6646  
Fax: 216 795 4245  
Email: [lee.chilcote@chilcotelaw.com](mailto:lee.chilcote@chilcotelaw.com)

## HOLLIS AUTOMOTIVE

2857 Noble Road  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44121  
(216) 472-6443

Complete Mechanical Repairs

Present this advertisement for a  
\$19.95 oil change and lubrication.

OR

Present this ad for 10% off repairs over \$100  
+ a FREE oil change.

Please call for an appointment.

Expires November 4

Send us your letters  
to the editor:  
[info@futureheights.org](mailto:info@futureheights.org)

# Making a case for McCain

Michael G. Connors

With the financial crisis and the decline of Cleveland's economy, we need a president with a record of accomplishing real reform, who understands our problems and knows what needs to be reformed. John McCain is that man.

**Foreclosures/financial crisis.** With 800 homes in foreclosure, it is critical to Cleveland Heights that we get this right. Obama has it wrong. He has blamed the crisis on Republicans and deregulation. First, the 1999 deregulation he criticizes occurred under President Clinton and was supported by Senator Biden. Further, it is hard to understand how eliminating a regulation protecting commercial banks can be blamed for the failures of investment banks. Second, he ignores McCain's and Republicans' attempts to regulate Fannie and Freddie. Though these two are exempt from state and local taxes, SEC disclosure regulations, and regulations on debt levels, the Democrats blocked attempts to regulate them. Even President Clinton criticized congressional Democrats for "resisting any efforts by Republicans in the Congress or by me when I was president to put some standards and tighten up a little on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac."

The fundamental problem here is

our government's well-intentioned, but ill-advised attempt to increase home ownership. No one has ever said free markets are perfect. Run by humans making bets based on forecasts of the future, they are prone to mistakes. The beauty of markets is that, like the dot-com bubble, they are self-correcting, which likely would have been the case here. \$500 billion of losses has a way of changing behavior. Unfortunately, the federal government in the form of Fannie and Freddie threw gas on the fire. These two giants purchase, guarantee, and re-sell half of the mortgages in the country, more than \$5 trillion worth. Since 1992, in the face of political pressure to encourage homeownership, especially among low- and moderate-income buyers, they steadily relaxed downpayment and credit requirements. By 2004, they were buying 44% of the toxic sub-prime loans. Worse, they set the standards the rest of the industry follows. By relaxing lending standards, they enabled no-doc, no/low down payment loans that grew into this crisis.

The real solution requires getting the government out of the mortgage business. Let markets determine who can afford a home based on sound economics, not political pressure. McCain understands this and tried to regulate

Fannie and Freddie. Obama? Despite his brief tenure, he somehow managed to garner more political contributions from Fannie than all but one other senator, and he asked a scandal-plagued former Fannie CEO to lead his team vetting potential VPs. Does that sound like "change we can believe in"?

**Reform.** Both McCain and Governor Palin have records of standing up to entrenched special interests even within their own party. Obama and Biden simply don't. McCain has long been a maverick at odds with his party on issues from campaign finance to immigration to the Bush tax cuts. Confronted with corruption in Alaska, Palin unseated an incumbent Republican governor and brought ethics charges against the head of her state party.

**Experience/Partisanship.** Obama would have the thinnest presidential resume in the last century. On the job 25 months when he decided he was ready to be president, he simply has no record of accomplishment or of working across the aisle. Meanwhile, McCain has a long record of service—22 years in the Navy, 26 in Congress. We know him, and we can measure him by a long record of bi-partisan leadership and accomplishment, including the McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform bill.

**Secret ballots.** The right to a secret ballot is as fundamental and sacred as our right to free speech and freedom of religion. Obama wants to deny that right to workers in union elections. He wants their votes to be public and, undoubtedly, subject to union arm-twisting.

This is also terrible economics. Unions have killed Cleveland. No one wants to do business with them. While non-union auto jobs grow in this country, United Auto Workers jobs, so vital to our local economy, die on the vine. Old-fashioned work rules and job banks that pay UAW members to do nothing prevent Detroit from restructuring itself. While this country still produces as much steel as it did a quarter century ago, United Steelworkers jobs, and our economy, are down as production shifts from unionized, integrated mills to less unionized, mini-mills. (In fairness, manufacturing efficiency has played a big role, too.) Embracing outdated union practices is not "change we can believe in."

For these reasons and more I will vote for John McCain, for change we can believe in.

*Michael G. Connors is the Republican Ward Leader in Cleveland Heights where he was born and raised.*

## Make sure your vote is counted this election

Jessica Schreiber

Your opinion doesn't count unless you vote.

**There are three ways to vote:**

1. Vote early (in-person) at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections from Sept. 30 through Nov. 3.
2. Vote early by Mail.\*
3. Vote on Election Day (in person) Nov. 4 Polls are open from 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

For more information on voting, contact: Cuyahoga County Board of Elections 2925 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44116 216-443-3200 M-F 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Extended hours may be available closer to the election.

Check [www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us) or call for up-to-date information.

\*If you request an absentee ballot, you cannot change your mind and vote in person on Election Day. Vote by mail ballots must be received by Saturday, Nov. 1.

*Jessica Schreiber is a community volunteer.*

**Advertise in the Heights Observer**  
**Call 320-1423**



CH-UH continued from page 1

absences this school year so Renaissance can regain its Excellent rating.

"Scoring well on multiple choice tests isn't the only indicator of student achievement," Cicero said. "Many students improved their individual scores, but our school district as a whole couldn't improve their scores."

Cicero admitted that students from advantaged socioeconomic backgrounds have an advantage, but "all students deserve a strong education."

To begin the improvement plan, Superintendent Deborah Delisle will present the board with a comprehensive plan for student achievement at a work session later in the fall, so student achievement can grow.

One of the district's biggest improvements was Heights High's meeting three more indicators on the report

card: tenth and eleventh grade social studies and eleventh grade math. The class of 2008 had a 96% graduation rate and was offered over \$9 million in scholarships.

Cicero said that the district "doesn't want to be Effective, we want to be Excellent. And the time to work toward becoming excellent is now."

*Simone Quartell is a senior at Cleveland Heights High School. She has been a member of The Black and Gold student newspaper since her freshman year, where she is an editor and has covered school district issues in depth. She plans to study journalism in college.*

**See what your neighbors are saying**  
[www.heightsobserver.org/deck/](http://www.heightsobserver.org/deck/)

AVENUE/BOULEVARD continued from page 1

"Although Option C would address pedestrian safety, it would make the north and south sides seem even farther apart than they do today," says resident Hugh Fisher. "I live on a boulevard. It's beautiful, but I don't know my across the street neighbors. I can't even see them."

Both options B and C expand the sidewalks on the north and south sides of Cedar Road, which are currently 9'6" wide. But Option B provides the largest increase in sidewalk space to the north side, which needs it the most. Under Option B, the northern sidewalk increases to 13' 6" and the southern sidewalk increases to 11' 6". Option C increases the sidewalks to 12' on each side. Wider sidewalks would provide more opportunity for social interaction, outdoor dining and public activities, such as the Discover Cedar Fairmount Festival which is held each August.

Both options B and C provide for a median at the top of Cedar Hill which would act as a gateway to the district. And, both allow for the planting of more trees. While Option C's median would provide a stopping point for pedestrians as they cross the street, Option B would provide "bump-outs" at intersections to shorten the crossing distance significantly. The dedicated on street parking of Option B would provide cyclists additional room to navigate the district safely.

The city of Cleveland Heights is still seeking feedback on the three options. A video of the Sept. 18 meeting will air on Channel 20 from Oct. 6 through 19 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. daily. View maps of all three options at [www.heightsobserver.org](http://www.heightsobserver.org) and post your comments on the Observer's online forum.

The next public meeting will take place in early 2009.

*Deanna Bremer Fisher is executive director of FutureHeights, a Cedar-Fairmount resident and a member of the Cedar-Fairmount Traffic Study Committee.*

# In support of Senator Obama

Eric Schreiber

Every presidential election seems “the most important ever.” This happens because the stakes keep getting higher. In this election, I support Senator Barack Obama because I believe he will lead our country toward sustainability in a world where everything is going wrong at the same time.

Our most pressing needs are national security, economic security, energy independence, and environmental sustainability. These are really different facets of the same problem.

We currently borrow \$2 billion per day (largely from China) to buy 70% of

our oil from countries that support terrorism in order to burn it in ways that threaten our survival.

Both candidates recognize the need for energy independence but,

- only Obama has set a goal to achieve it in 10 years;
- only Obama has a campaign essentially devoid of oil lobbyists; and
- only Obama has been specific about investing in renewable electric energy, plug-in, Hybrid and electric cars.

Energy independence will create new jobs for Ohio. About 40 tons of steel is required to manufacture one medium-size wind turbine. A 3-megawatt turbine produces as much energy

in one year as 12,000 barrels of imported oil, without the soot and CO<sub>2</sub>. It would take about 130,000 wind turbines to produce the energy of 20% of our imported oil. We need to get going, right here in Ohio!

Senator Obama cosponsored the Lugar-Obama bill to secure loose nuclear weapons. This is one of many examples of Obama working across the aisle for our safety and security.

Obama sponsored the “Stop Fraud Act” in February 2006 and again in April 2007 to stem the tide of predatory lending practices. Obama has been alert to the need for sensible economic regulation for years. His opponent has

spent 26 years extolling deregulation and fighting against oversight of the corporate world.

Voters have a clear choice in this year’s election:

- Change direction under the leadership of Barack Obama, or
  - More of the same failed policies under John McCain.
- The stakes could not be higher.

*Eric Schreiber, MD is a staff Radiologist in the Breast Imaging Section at the Cleveland Clinic. He has intense interest in energy policy, how it relates to global warming, and gives lectures in the community on those subjects.*

## Proud to vote in first presidential election

Gabrielle Poole

As a senior at Cleveland Heights High School, it is a very important year for me. Fall of senior year is the time when you begin applying for colleges and scholarships; taking the SATs and ACTs, and making sure your grades are up to par, not to mention involvement in school activities. This is the time when I begin making all of the important decisions that will affect my life. However, there is one more thing that will make my senior year all that more important: being able to vote for the first time in the 2008 Presidential Election.

Being able to vote means so much to me. Knowing that my vote can make a difference makes me feel important. In previous years, the elections never really mattered to me. I would know who was running, and I would have brief discussions about them at school, and sometimes at home; but, that was pretty much it. My mindset shifted once the first of the year rolled around and reality set in: I would be eighteen years old in November and be able to vote.

Earlier in the year, I would often watch television with my mother and she would switch to CNN. I would be upset because I found it so boring. But, as time progressed, my excitement for the election began to grow. It grew so much that I would find myself going up to my bedroom and turning to CNN, to catch up on any election updates.

My excitement for the election didn’t stay in the privacy of my bed-

room: it soon spread to school and work. I actually helped encourage my “of-age” friends to register. I remember being at work one day and making small talk with a fellow employee. The topic of the election soon came up; I asked him if he was old enough to vote. When he answered “yes” but told me he did not intend to register, I asked why. He replied, “There’s no point in registering because he’s going to win anyway.” I was shocked at his statement and explained to him that we now have the power for our voices to be heard, and that we can not let that privilege be taken away. That Saturday, he went online and registered.

There have been many occasions in my life when it has felt like no one was listening to me, that what I had to say was not important, or that my voice was silent. This election allows me to use my voice in the most powerful way possible, and I know it will be heard. Thank God my birthday is six days before the election!

*Gabrielle Poole is enrolled in Honors and AP classes at Heights High in addition to being president of the school’s Gospel Choir, secretary of Student Council and a member of both the Heights Singers and Heights Acappella Choir. Involved in a number of other school activities, she also is involved in her church and works at Zagara’s. Recently crowned Heights High’s 2008 Homecoming Queen, she plans to attend Howard University next fall.*

RATINGS continued from page 1

factor in annual average appreciation.

School quality: a long-established statistic of dubious value has been the state’s annual school district ratings, which have failed to perform the most basic input/output analysis. Unsurprisingly, outer-suburban schools with affluent and homogenous student populations look best. In the past couple of years the state has finally included a “value-added” measure that tracks student performance over time, the state’s first and only scientifically valid measure of the impact of a school on its students. Our index must use that value-added rating (which reveals Heights schools as top performers).

The rest of the index would tally up answers to questions like: Of the retail businesses, how many are locally owned? What is the variety and quality of dining? How long is the car commute downtown and can it be accomplished without a car in similar time? Can you walk to rail transit and step off at the airport? How racially and economi-

cally diverse is the community? How do people rate the physical quality of the environment? How long does it take to walk to key commercial amenities? To parks and recreational facilities? Are there sidewalks everywhere? Can you get on your bicycle and be in a major cultural center in 20 minutes? Or turn the other direction and be in beautiful countryside in 20 minutes? How many world-class museums, orchestras, and educational institutions are within six miles? How many active local arts organizations are there?

You get the drift. People choose where to live based on what they value, but they can’t make an informed choice if the information available doesn’t embody what matters to them. Does the index described above blatantly stack the deck in favor of a place like Cleveland Heights? You bet it does. Because if these are the things you really care about, there are very few places anywhere that do it all better.

*Greg Donley is a longtime resident of Cleveland Heights.*

Give the gift that keeps Cleveland Heights strong.



Local independent businesses give back to the community.

Give and spend FutureHeights Gift Certificates at 90+ merchants.

Purchase at Zagara’s Marketplace, Macs Backs Books, the FutureHeights office, and [www.futureheights.org](http://www.futureheights.org)

**Roslyn E. Jones**  
Banking Office Manager  
216.371.2000 Office  
216.371.9043 Fax  
[roslyn.jones@huntington.com](mailto:roslyn.jones@huntington.com)



The Huntington National Bank  
1865 Coventry Road  
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118  
[www.huntington.com](http://www.huntington.com)

Northcoast Geothermal\*, Inc.

Design and Construction Services

The energy-efficient way to heat and cool your home or business. We specialize in retrofitting Heights homes!

Call 216-906-1300 or email [J.Shorey@NorthcoastGeothermal.com](mailto:J.Shorey@NorthcoastGeothermal.com) for more information.

\* Noun 1.  
geothermal energy

energy derived from the heat in the interior of the earth

# Cleveland Heights City Council

## Highlights of August 2008 meetings



REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 4, 2008

Mayor Edward J. Kelley, Nancy J. Dietrich, Dennis R. Wilcox excused.

### Boarded up houses

A resident, referring to the Shaker Heights policy of tearing down problem houses, asked why Cleveland Heights chose to restore some when there is a glut on the market. Several councilmembers responded throughout the course of the meeting. Generally, the city tries to avoid boarding up houses, but in some cases the owner or agent cannot be found and the city must board up the house to keep out vandals. Councilman Tumeo commented that the United States Constitution protects property, even if the owner is irresponsible, complicating the question of demolition. Councilman Montlack noted that the county has set aside funds for home demolition, especially for member cities of the First Suburbs Consortium.

### Road repairs

In response to a resident's question

regarding road repair, councilmembers noted that some main roads are resurfaced in collaboration with the county engineer. Also, the city spends at least \$1 million per year on roads, but \$20 million would be required to make a major dent in the problem.

### Council attendance

Several councilmembers explained council limitations due to absences. Four councilmembers constitute a quorum, but passing emergency legislation requires five, so anything passed by four members at this meeting must wait ninety days to take effect. Councilmember Ken Montlack noted that this was the first time in his years on council he has seen this many councilmembers absent. The average council attendance has been 92.9%.

### CH community achievements

Councilwoman Caplan announced that last month the city recycled 18.35 tons of "blue bag" containers and 39 tons of paper. She also noted that many of the best restaurants noted in a recent

edition of *Northern Ohio Live* are in Cleveland Heights.

LWV observers: Blanche Valancy and Kay Heylman

REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 18, 2008

All council members present.

### Vice city manager appointment

The city manager announced the appointment of Susanna Niermann O'Neil as vice city manager. Ms. O'Neil will continue to serve as director of community services.

### Fire damage repair at city garage

Council approved expenditures for lighting repairs, other essential electrical repairs, and interior painting needed at the city's service garage as a result of the fire there on June 9, 2008.

### Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant

Council authorized the city manager to contract with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for a grant under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant Program to purchase an electric lift for a bucket truck for the forestry department. The program, which targets using technology to help reduce transportation-related pollutants, designates \$19.8 million of ODOT's federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds to reduce diesel emissions. The electric lift will enable the truck's engine to be shut off when the bucket is in use. The grant will cover 80% of the purchase price, up to \$56,500.

### Recycling income for the city

Councilwoman Caplan noted that in July alone the city earned \$15,427.55 from mixed-paper recycling.

### HUD One-Dollar Home Program

As part of HUD's One-Dollar Home Program, council authorized the sale of two city-owned properties (at 3795 Berkeley Road and 3273 East Overlook Road) to Community Housing Solutions, an Ohio nonprofit corporation, for rehabilitation and resale to an owner-occupant. The One-Dollar Home Program allows cities to purchase, for one dollar, vacant HUD-owned houses that have been on the market for more

than six months.

### Outdoor seating for Aeoshi Cafe

Council authorized the Aeoshi Cafe, 2175 Lee Road, to use of a portion of the public area in the Cedar-Lee mini park for outdoor seating.

### Property demolition

Council declared properties at 947 Vineshire Road, 924 Greyton Road, 924 Woodview Road, and 1067 Nelaview Road to be nuisances and authorized demolition. The city had determined that renovation of these properties, also part of the HUD One-Dollar Home Program, would be too costly.

### Assessment Equalization Board

Council appointed an Assessment Equalization Board for public services plans for the Cedar Fairmount and Cedar Lee Special Improvement Districts. The board of three members, Carol Edwards, Katherine Heylman, and Jim Cull, would be holding a hearing August 28 to hear objections to the method of calculation for assessments.

### Violation Repair Program for seniors

Council authorized the reprogramming and reallocation of Community Development Block Grant funds, shifting \$10,000 from the Short-term Deferred Loan Program to the Violation Repair Program for seniors.

### Tax issue

Mayor Kelley stated that there would be no Cleveland Heights tax issue on the ballot in November.

LWV Observers: Katherine Solender and Carol Gibson

See disclaimer to the left.

# University Heights

## City Council



### Highlights of August 6, 2008 meeting

All council members present.

### Moral claims

Four residents filed claims for damages resulting from a water main break on Silsby Road. The main broke with such pressure that basements of nearby homes were flooded. The Cleveland Water Department repaired the water main, but not residential damage. The city of University Heights typically does not pay moral claims for damage due to broken water pipes or mains, nor does the Cleveland Water Department. Visibly upset residents described thousands of dollars required to replace washers, dryers, and carpeting, and to have the basements cleaned. Councilmembers voted unanimously to provide the maximum allowed \$300 remuneration to each of the residents petitioning.

### Recognition of retiring director

Council passed a resolution honoring Stephen D. Wood, upon his retirement as director of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library, for his years of service.

### Personnel contracts

Council authorized personnel contracts with the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 974; the National Production Workers, Local 707; and the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (dispatchers). Council also established rates of compensation and benefits for appointed officials, the

law director, the city prosecutor and assistant law director, and all general employees of the city.

### Waterline replacement

Council awarded a bid to Noce Enterprises, Inc. for \$1,248,322 for the Silsby, Bushnell, and Charney roads waterline replacement. Cleveland Water will repay the actual expense of the improvements.

### Purvis Park

Council authorized a contract and expenditure for Purvis Park field lighting to G & B Electric for \$14,995 for lights on the east side of the sidewalk by the tennis courts.

LWV observer: Susan D. Pardee

*This report contains member observation and selected highlights of a meeting of the University Heights City Council and is not an official statement by the League of Women Voters. This disclaimer must accompany any redistribution of this report.*

*To subscribe to an email listserv posting full reports, send a message to [lwv\\_chubreports-subscribe@chub.net](mailto:lwv_chubreports-subscribe@chub.net) with the word subscribe in the subject line.*

**Advertise in the  
Heights Observer  
Call 320-1423**



**FutureHeights**

Buy It In  
Cleveland  
Heights

2163 Lee Road #103, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118  
216-320-1423 • [www.futureheights.org](http://www.futureheights.org)

## CITY OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

### OCTOBER 2008 MEETINGS

Meetings are held at City Hall, 40 Severance Circle, unless otherwise noted.

Mon	6	5:45 pm	Council Committee of the Whole	Executive Conference Room
Mon	6	7:30 pm	City Council Meeting	Council Chambers
Tue	7	4:00 pm	Architectural Board of Review	Council Chambers
Tue	7	5:30 pm	Landmark Commission	Superior Schoolhouse <sup>1</sup>
Tue	7	7:00 pm	Planning Commission	Council Chambers
Tue	7	7:30 pm	Cable Television Commission	Executive Conference Room
Tue	14	5:45 pm	Council Committee of the Whole/ Community Rel. & Rec./Finance	Executive Conference Room
Tue	14	7:40 pm	Recreation Advisory Board	Community Center <sup>2</sup>
Wed	15	8:00 am	Financial Institutions Advisory Committee	Executive Conference Room
Wed	15	7:30 pm	Board of Zoning Appeals	Council Chambers
Fri	17	9:00 am	Commission on Aging	Senior Activity Center <sup>3</sup>
Mon	20	5:45 pm	Council Committee of the Whole	Executive Conference Room
Mon	20	7:30 pm	City Council Meeting	Council Chambers
Tue	21	4:00 pm	Architectural Board of Review	Council Chambers
Tue	21	7:00 pm	Citizens Advisory Committee	Executive Conference Room
Sat	25	9am-12 pm	<b>Community Shredding Day</b>	<b>City Hall Parking Lot</b>
Mon	27	5:45 pm	Council Committee of the Whole/ Planning & Development	Executive Conference Room

<sup>1</sup> The Superior Schoolhouse is located at Superior Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard.

<sup>2</sup> The Community Center is located at Monticello Boulevard at Mayfield Road.

<sup>3</sup> The Senior Activity Center is located inside the Community Center, Monticello & Mayfield.

Visit [www.clevelandheights.com](http://www.clevelandheights.com) for any changes or additions. For more information on the above meetings, call 291-4444.

# For CH-UH, wireless learning takes a leap at Monticello

Patrick Mullen

*Interview with Joe Micheller, director of educational services, CH-UH City School District*

On October 1, 8th graders at Monticello Middle School became the first students in the district to receive an Apple laptop computer as part of an initiative that will provide a laptop to every student in grades 6-12 by 2012. CH-UH Director of Educational Services Dr. Joseph Micheller is the district's point person in this One-to-One (meaning one student, one computer) Initiative. He spoke recently with Reaching Heights Executive Director Patrick Mullen. Here's an excerpt:

## Reaching Heights: What is the One-to-One Initiative?

**Joe Micheller:** The Teaching and Learning with Technology initiative is designed to prepare students for their future, a world of digital technology, global information, and instant communication. The initiative is designed to more fully engage students by providing resources that are

meaningful and useful to them, specifically Apple MacBook laptop computers. Increasing access to technology is essential for that future and laptops, within a wireless learning environment, help students to learn in deep and meaningful ways that prepare them for productive participation in a global economy.

We're currently in year two of the implementation process. In year one, we focused on planning and professional development for middle school teaching staff. Monticello teachers received their laptops in November 2007. Roxboro and Wiley teachers received their laptops last spring. We've had a significant amount of professional development since these roll outs. On Oct. 1, eighth graders at Monticello received laptops equipped with educational software, links to items in their curricula, and access to the district's internal intranet.

## RH: How does this initiative improve instruction and prepare our students for the world they'll graduate into?

**JM:** To become gainfully employed in today's world and realize success in a

global economy requires our students to learn skills that were not as critical a generation ago. They'll need to know how to work in teams and interact with multiple cultures, and how to use problem-solving analytic skills. We're not claiming that these skills will automatically be taught because we have new technology. The technology helps us do a much better job fostering these skills than we could in a cloistered classroom with a traditional textbook.

## RH: How can parents help the initiative?

**JM:** Our parents will play a key role in the success of our technology initiative. On a practical level, simple responsibilities such as making sure the batteries are charged at night are important. More broadly, we hope our parents and guardians see this as a chance to learn with their kids.

## RH: Will students be able to take the laptops home?

**JM:** Students will have access to the laptop both at school and at home for the entire school year, provided that their parent or guardian attends one of the presentations the district is holding on Internet safety, proper care of



Dr. Joseph Micheller, Director of Educational Services, CH-UH City School District.

the laptop, and use of the carrying bag we're providing. Students whose parents or guardians do not attend one of these sessions can use the laptop at school, but may not take it home. Some parents may also decide that they do not want their child to bring a laptop home. Students in this circumstance will be able to use a laptop during school hours, but must return it at the end of each day.

*Read the full interview with Dr. Micheller and learn more about the One-to-One Initiative at [reachingheights.org](http://reachingheights.org).*

*Patrick Mullen is executive director of Reaching Heights.*

## Follow the leader



Mac Hertz, is a student at St. Ann school.

Stephanie Applegate

What'd you do this summer? Take in the Tribe? Hit the beach?

Or did you spend a week discussing current events with Washington D.C.'s top policy makers? If you're Mac Hertz, an eleven year-old from St. Ann School, you did.

Mac was one of a select group of fifth and sixth graders from across the nation invited to take part in the Junior National Young Leaders Conference (JrNYLC) for a week this past June. The JrNYLC is a program that simulates real-world problems for tomorrow's young leaders to creatively solve. In one week, Mac:

- explored and applied leadership traits (character, communication, goal setting, problem solving, respect, and teamwork);
- learned to use his "voice" to stand up and make a difference;
- created a social organization to make an impact on his community; and
- debated and negotiated First Amendment rights.

Consideration for JrNYLC is based on a student's grades, leadership abilities, and the recommendation of a

teacher. Even though Mac was in fifth grade at the time, it was his kindergarten teacher from Saint Ann School, Barb Nicoletti, who submitted his name for consideration. "Ms. Nic probably just picked me because my sister, Sadie, was in her class last year. Sadie's smallish, and I have to help her a lot. So Ms. Nic saw me taking care of my sister."

Mac's modesty aside, it's most likely his "team-first" philosophy that honed his leadership skills. Whether it's basketball, football, baseball, or track, he reveals a calm leadership for his teammates to follow. "I try to take care of my teammates...I try to cheer them up. We can all get better if we practice harder." Mac's mom, Amy, agrees. "Mac's always shown a great deal of leadership and maturity, and his dad and I knew this would be an amazing opportunity for him." Mac thanks his mom and dad, David, for guiding him this far in his journey. "My mom runs [Swoosh Sports and Recreation], and she's shown me that if you strive to do something, you can get it done. And my dad is always there for my sister, my brother, Ryan, and me." His teachers at Saint Ann get credit, too. Without them, he affirms, he wouldn't have learned "how to get things done and to try my best."

Mac's favorite part of the D.C. journey was his visit to the Lincoln Memorial. "Abraham Lincoln wasn't afraid to fight for other people and how they were mistreated. He helped them, no matter what it took," Mac proudly but quietly asserts.

*Stephanie Applegate is a life-long resident of Cleveland Heights and the mother of two boys. She also currently serves on the board of Heights Community Congress.*

## Beaumont and JCU collaboration takes flight

Janice Brooks

Spacesuit. Check. Flight path. Check. Airplane. Check. Pre-flight conference with historical aviators. Check. That's what Cleveland Municipal School students experienced this May during their visit to the International Women's Air & Space Museum thanks to the efforts of new exhibits designed by students from Beaumont School and John Carroll University. The International Women's Air & Space Museum ([www.iwasm.org](http://www.iwasm.org)) is located at Cleveland's Burke Lakefront Airport. Beaumont alumna, Toni Previte Mullee, '79, is the executive director.

John Carroll and Beaumont received a 3-year, \$500,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to develop the W.I.S.E. Project (Working in Informal Science Education); the students are beginning the second year of the grant. Thirty Beaumont students and 15 John Carroll students are working cooperatively with their teachers and monitors from the National Science Foundation to create educational tools for the International Women's Air & Space Museum. Last year the students met with consultants who mentored them about the science of aviation and flight, and the role of museums in informal science education. The students completed three exhibits that were on display in the museum in May; a permanent display, "living biographies", and interactive activities for 300 kindergarten through 3rd grade children about Women on the Frontiers of Flight.

The W.I.S.E. Project's goal is to encourage young people to pursue STEM-based (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) careers through early, positive exposure to informal science

education. Through the program interest in STEM-based careers is generated for three different age groups, university, high school and primary school students. "It is exciting to watch the girls' concepts and ideas become reality," remarks Gretchen Santo, Beaumont School's science department chair and W.I.S.E. project facilitator. Margaret Supp Connell, principal of Beaumont School says preparing students for life after high school is an integral part of the educational process. "W.I.S.E. encourages innovative thought and discussion to reach a goal. Developing the art of collaboration is a real world skill that is essential in the 21st century marketplace."

W.I.S.E. is a collaboration that ignites the spirit of adventure and warms the heart. The Beaumont and JCU students were able to encourage their young crew of Cleveland Municipal School students to reach for the stars, and be whatever they want to be, even pilots! For details, go to [www.wiseproject.info](http://www.wiseproject.info). And, visit the International Women's Air and Space Museum and take off!

*Janice Brooks is the public relations and communications manager for Beaumont School.*



Zero gravity, sleeping on a wall, and freeze dried food. Students experience first-hand what it is like to be in a space station.

# CH-UH Board of Education

## Highlights of August meetings



REGULAR MEETING – August 5, 2008  
All board members present.

### Grant applications

The board approved going forward with grant applications to Reaching Heights Public School Foundation, the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, and the Ohio Department of Education.

### First day of school

Superintendent Delisle announced that August 26 was the first day of school and the board office would be open extra hours for registration from August 11 to 26. She was working with the city about paying crossing guards and expected to have an agreement before school starts. [Crossing guards had been cut from the city's budget due to tax revenue losses]

### Retiring library director honored

The board approved a resolution honoring Stephen Wood upon his retirement as director of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library.

LWV observer: Adele Cohn

WORK SESSION – August 19, 2008  
All board members present

### Communications presentation

Michael Dougherty, coordinator of communications, presented the work of the communications department. He said the department's goals were to put forth a clear and consistent message, engage key stakeholders, and build community support.

Key message points include:

- The P.A.S.S.A.G.E. (Preparing All Students for Success in A Global Economy) vision

- Academic improvement
  - Sound fiscal management
  - The continued need to cope with the state funding system
  - Attracting and retaining the best staff
  - Accountability for students and staff
  - Stories of student achievement
- The communications department uses publications, the internet, Channel 22, community partnerships, and media relations to promote these messages.

### Publications

Publications include a district calendar, elementary school handbooks, the Heights High Profile Sheet, CH-UH Update newsletter to district residents, and Kindergarten Promo Book. Both the district calendar and CH-UH Update have earned awards from the NSPRA (National School Public Relations Association). The Heights High Profile Sheet is included in packets to prospective families and in transcripts to colleges and transfers to make known the rigors and successes of the Heights schools.

### Broadcast media

Channel 22, which has also been recognized by the NSPRA, covers board meetings, Heights High Music Concerts, the State of the Schools address, and Senior Awards Night.

### Internet

The website was revamped entirely in 2006 and had over 1 million visitors in June with over 39,000 hits per day. More content could include streaming audio and video content. A focus group of parents provides input regularly.

### Media relations

The department manages all inquiries from news media, coordinates stories, and assists reporters and producers with education trend stories. The department has developed talking points for key messages, monitored and provided reports for the board of education and administration, prepared people for interviews, and crafted correspondence for administrators.

### Partnerships

Community organizations such as PATH, Reaching Heights, PTA, the Alumni Foundation, Kindernet, Future-Heights (with *Heights Observer's* schools section), realtors, and city offices are helping the district tell its story. The early registration campaign executed with the help of Kindernet and other partnerships yielded 50 more kindergarten students this year.

### Communications budget reduction

The communications department has made all these improvements while also reducing its budget over the past few years.

### Board discussion

The board made favorable comments regarding the quality and quantity of publications and the presentation.

Responding to a question regarding communicating test results, the superintendent noted that scores had become more complex, creating a challenge in presenting the information. However, after sending test score comparisons to parents of charter school students, the district was now getting students back from private schools.

In response to questions from the board Mr. Dougherty provided additional information:

- Video streaming on the web would require more servers to link from the current website.
- Video production provides lots of possibilities for student involvement. Students can run machines and help with editing. Tapping into student resources at the high school could help reduce costs.
- Channel 22 may be lost with recent state legislation. Website development of podcasting and other video streaming could compensate for that loss.
- The communications budget kept the bottom line the same this year as last, despite the additional cost of new servers, through cost reduction in other areas.
- All emails are saved and stored to comply with the document retention policy. The district is streamlining the tracking of software and hardware requests and procurements to make purchases more efficient.
- A regular *Heights Observer* column written by Lita Gonzalez reports the success and post-graduation activities of Heights grads.

LWV observer: Rachel DeGolia  
See disclaimer on page 5.

Help deliver the  
Heights Observer to  
your neighborhood.  
216-320-1423

# Progress slow on teacher contract talks

Simone Quartell

Teachers in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District began the 2008-2009 school year without a new contract. And though contract negotiations began in March, and a federal mediator has since been brought in, an agreement between the Cleveland Heights Teachers Union and the CH-UH Board of Education seems remote any time soon.

The union and the board met with the mediator for less than three hours on Aug. 15, and then again on Sept. 10. But a variety of big issues remain unsettled – including teacher pay.

The board had proposed a 2.5% salary increase for each of the next three years; the teachers sought 3% for each of the next two years and 2.5% in the third year.

According to Teacher's Union President Tom Schmida, 98% of the teachers rejected the board's first proposal, but no changes were offered after the Sept. 10 meeting.

Health insurance remains another

major issue. The board is asking the union to double the contribution that teachers make toward health coverage – from \$20 a month for individuals and \$50 for families, to \$40 and \$100 a month respectively.

Schmida said the teachers are willing to pay 50% more, \$30/\$75, but that the board is asking too much. Further, he says, the teachers made other concessions on health-care at the Sept. 10 meeting; specifically, the union agreed to the board's request that it eliminate an HMO option and Kaiser Permanente option – both of which are more costly than the traditional health-care plan managed through Medical Mutual of Ohio. Further, the union dropped improved vision-care proposals, he said.

Beyond that, however, Schmida said the meeting brought “no significant progress” on pay, healthcare and other issues involving substitutes, professional development and intervention specialists. No further meetings had been scheduled.

Schmida stated the school district “has the resources to offer a fair con-

tract” and “should be reasonable.”

Board of Education President Mike Cicero argued that the union is asking for things the district “doesn't have the money to offer.” According to Cicero, if the union accepts the board's proposal the district would be “more in line with other districts in Northeast Ohio.”

All of the other unions that represent district employees have agreed to what the board has offered them, Cicero noted. However, any salary increase that the CH Teacher's Union wins will also be applied to the other unions.

A week after the September negotiating session, Cicero made a statement at the regular school board meeting on

Sept. 17, saying the board's representatives are doing their best and remain interested in continuing negotiations.

Schmida countered that the union is “still interested in settling and very frustrated with the board's reluctance.”

Further meetings will be called at the mediator's discretion.

*Simone Quartell is a senior at Cleveland Heights High School. She has been a member of The Black and Gold student newspaper since her freshman year, where she is managing editor and has covered school district issues in depth. She plans to study journalism in college.*

**The Funny Times**  
CARTOONS | FUNNY STORIES | POLITICS | WEIRD NEWS

*“Absolutely essential”*  
– WASHINGTON POST

1-YEAR / \$25 (12 issues) **216.371.8600** ext.HO  
WWW.FUNNYTIMES.COM

# Another New Historic District for CH

Mark Souther

Cleveland Heights' wealth of historic houses provides one of the most compelling reasons so many residents choose to call it home. Many of these homes date to the early part of the last century and represent an unusually complete architectural expression of that era. A combination of devoted citizens, stringent city inspections, enduring craftsmanship, and a long sluggish economy have made Cleveland Heights' built environment remarkably resilient by national standards. Yet the architectural legacy we have inherited is not sacrosanct. The recent wave of foreclosures and the ongoing public debate over the planned demolition of two World War I-era houses to enable a reworking of the traffic flow in and out of Zagara's Marketplace illustrate that our city's architectural fabric is a fragile resource that underpins our quality of life.

In recent years, several Heights citizens have worked to raise local awareness about the importance of historic architecture. As a result, Ambler Heights, Euclid Golf, Fairmount Boulevard, John D. Rockefeller's Forest Hill, and the Herrick Mews carriage house district have been added to the National Register of Historic Places (with a sixth district, Inglewood, under review), lending national recognition to Cleveland Heights' place in American architectural and suburban history. Over the last few months my wife Stacey and I have begun work to nominate another National Register district—Grant W. Deming's Forest Hill Allotment. The district would include the 1916 Arts and Crafts front-porch colonial we purchased on Lincoln Boulevard almost three years ago. Our effort sprang from an interest in history and architecture as well as a desire to raise public awareness of the value of conserving one of the things that makes Cleveland Heights stable, sustainable, and desirable. As we walked the streets of Forest Hill photographing houses, we also learned that it's a great way to meet our neighbors and make new friends. And, we found that many others share our commitment to a thriving Cleveland Heights.

Deming's Forest Hill, not to be confused with Rockefeller's later Forest Hill historic district to the north, is an early planned garden suburb development that includes much of the area bounded by Coventry, Cedar, and Lee roads and Euclid Heights Boulevard. Forest Hill was conceived in 1909 by Grant W. Deming, brother and sometimes business partner of Euclid Golf developer Barton Deming and a prolific designer of residential neighborhoods on Cleveland's East Side. Deming, who built an imposing home for himself on Redwood Road (behind Zagara's), laid out Forest Hill in four stages in 1910-11. The great majority of the more than 660 houses in Forest Hill date from the 1910s and 1920s. Unlike the uniformly gracious high-style homes of Euclid Golf (another quintessential garden suburb), Forest Hill is a more architec-



A 1911 Arts and Crafts-influenced house represents the diverse character of homes in Grant W. Deming's Forest Hill Allotment.

turally and socially diverse development that combines a section of mostly large, high-style, architect-designed homes on curvilinear streets in the western part of the allotment and a section of mostly builder-designed homes of more varying sizes on straight streets to the east. More than 30 two-family houses, situated along Cottage Grove Avenue, Parkway Drive, and Superior Road, add to the neighborhood's diverse character. Forest Hill today represents a highly intact collection of homes in pure Tudor Revival, Arts and Crafts, Colonial Revival, and Italian Renaissance styles, as well as eclectic designs that combine two or more architectural influences. The result is an architectural exuberance that is matched by few other places in the Heights.

The National Register of Historic Places recognizes historically or architecturally significant areas or those that represent important trends in urban planning. Designation as a historic district has no drawbacks but several advantages. It does not preclude one's choice to remodel or expand a house, nor does it prohibit one's choice of paint

colors or use of building materials. On the other hand, it offers several advantages: local and national recognition of the district's historic character, a basis for community pride and sense of place, heightened awareness of the importance of the district to the city's future, eligibility for federal programs that finance restoration efforts, and even the possibility of improved property values.

Thus far we have researched Forest Hill Allotment's early history, inventoried its structures, and worked closely with Kara Hamley O'Donnell, historic preservation planner for the city of Cleveland Heights. After a preliminary review, the Ohio Historic Preservation

Office agrees that Deming's Forest Hill may merit recognition as a historic district. The next step is to raise the neighborhood's awareness of this opportunity and identify individuals who may wish to become involved. The public is invited to an informational meeting at Cleveland Heights City Hall, 40 Severance Circle, on Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. We would also welcome any information and old photographs or plans that might enrich our effort.

*Mark Souther is an associate professor of history at Cleveland State University. He lives on Lincoln Boulevard in the Forest Hill Allotment.*

## Nela Florist Inc.

Phone (216) 451-8333 1-800-837-8333  
Fax (216) 451-8336  
www.nelaflorist.net

2132 Noble Road (Opposite Nela Park)  
East Cleveland, Ohio 44112



Stan Soble



## CIM's SUZUKI CELEBRATION

Saturday, October 25, 2008 at 3:30 p.m.



Enjoy a Family Concert in honor of Sam and Sarah Sato, founders of the Cleveland Institute of Music's Sato Center for Suzuki Studies.

A major force in the Suzuki movement, CIM has over 145 students participating, starting as early as age three. Bring the family to this special event featuring CIM's talented young performers and faculty. Special guest soloists will be former CIM President David Cerone and Cleveland Orchestra Concertmaster, William Preucil.

Tickets: \$9 adults, \$6 for children 12 and under; \$30 for a family of four or more (*immediate family members only*) or \$50 for Patrons.

Call 216.791.5000 or purchase on-line at [cim.edu](http://cim.edu).

**cim**

CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC  
BY ANY MEASURE, EXCEPTIONAL

CUT  
hairstudio  
216.932.1220  
2254 Lee Road  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

## Women fashion a win for Obama

Jessica Schreiber

In the heat of the presidential campaign, Obama jewelry has emerged as the height of fashion. Bottle cap dangle Obama earrings and rhinestone-studded Obama brooches are the creation of two local artists -- Phyllis Brody and Bonnie Dolin. They are members of WomenConnect for Obama, a network of over 500 women in Northeast Ohio.

According to long-time Cleveland Heights resident Phyllis Brody, WomenConnect for Obama arises out of a tradition of Heights social activism beginning in the 1960's when a group of citizens successfully stopped the Clark Freeway from cutting a swath through the Heights, thus saving the Shaker Lakes. In the ensuing years, fair housing, peace and green movements found great support in the Heights. The same energy and fight for social justice has brought many of the old timers together with newer, young residents in the campaign to elect Barack Obama president of the United States.

On Sept. 17, WomenConnect for Obama sponsored a program in Cleveland Heights called "YES WE CAN Convince the Undecided." The purpose was to empower people to respond to myths, to get the facts and become effective persuaders on behalf of Barack Obama. Email notices went out, but no one knew how many would come.

Preparations were underway when the power suddenly shut off. The group was told to evacuate the public building where they had chosen to meet just as more and more women were arriving. Cars clogged the parking lot. Someone finally made an emergency call to a neighboring church. A cheer went up from the crowd at 7:10 p.m. as a new location was announced.



Cleveland Heights residents Joan Dowling, Joanne Lewis and Phyllis Brody model Obama jewelry.

A procession of cars rolled into the lot of Grace Lutheran Church on Cedar Road. The group overflowed the assigned space in Fellowship Hall, so the custodian unlocked the storage room and people grabbed chairs. The crowd, which had the feel of a Katrina relocation scene, moved into the Community Hall.

By 7:30 p.m. more than 150 people (including men and babies) were seated. The program began with a dramatization of a conversation between two women -- one supporting Obama, the other opposed. The Obama supporter modeled a non-confrontational approach by asking "Which issues are important to you?" and "How did you come to your position?" along with thoughtful, fact-based responses.

In the next part of the program, attendees worked in groups and came up with comments and selected responses. The room reverberated with energy, goodwill and a shared determination to find ways to win Ohio for Barack Obama.

A second YES WE CAN meeting is scheduled for Oct. 22 at 7:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 13001 Cedar Rd., Cleveland Heights. For more information contact WomenConnect-forObama@gmail.com.

*Jessica Schreiber is a community volunteer.*

## Home Repair Resource Center holds fall classes

Rebecca Stager

In this current economic climate, it is more important than ever to spend your home repair dollars wisely. One way to save money can be to do the work yourself. Home Repair Resource Center offers free classes that give you an opportunity to practice using the tools and techniques you'll need for the job.

Our fall classes will all be held at HRRC's Teaching Center, 2520 Noble Road (two blocks north of Monticello, at the corner of Oxford). Reservations are requested; call 216-381-9560 to save your spot for these workshops:

**Plaster Repair:** How to repair common plaster problems, from small cracks to large areas damaged by water. Monday, Oct. 13, 7-9 p.m., HRRC

**Interior Painting:** How to select paint, prepare the wall, and end up with a better paint job. Monday, Oct. 20, 7-9 p.m., HRRC

**Ceramic Tile:** How to lay out and space tiles, cut pieces for edges or around fixtures, and maintain and repair a tiled surface. Monday, Oct. 27, 7-9 p.m., HRRC

**Exhaust Fans:** How to cut the opening, route the exhaust vent, and wire the circuit for a bathroom exhaust fan. We'll also talk about kitchen installations. Monday, Nov. 3, 7-9 p.m., HRRC

**Ceiling Fans:** How to mount a ceiling fan and wire it into an existing circuit. We'll also talk about running wires for a wall switch and/or new circuit, if needed. Monday, Nov. 10, 7-9 p.m., HRRC

**Recessed Lighting:** How to install a recessed light fixture and wire it into an existing circuit.



**HOME REPAIR RESOURCE CENTER**

Monday, Nov. 17, 7-9 p.m., HRRC

**Track Lighting:** How to add track lighting to your home and wire it into your electrical system.

Monday, Dec. 1, 7-9 p.m., HRRC

**Preventing Plumbing Disasters:** How to replace sink traps, snake clogged sink and bathtub drains, replace valves and remount a toilet, without having to call a plumber. Monday, Dec. 8, 7-9 p.m., HRRC

HRRC also offers a series of financial fitness classes each month to help you manage your money in a smarter way. You'll learn about the power of a personal budget, how to improve your credit and what to expect when purchasing a home. The best part about these classes is that they don't cost a dime! Reservations are requested, and space is limited. Call 216-381-6100 to reserve your spot! All October classes are held at the South Euclid-Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 1534 Green Road, South Euclid (next to the post office).

**Power of a Personal Budget** Thursday, Oct. 2, 7-9 p.m. SE-H United Methodist Church

**Improving Your Credit** Thursday, Oct. 9, 7-9 p.m. SE-H United Methodist Church

**Refinancing & Reverse Mortgages** Thursday, Oct. 16, 7-9 p.m. SE-H United Methodist Church

**Financing Your Home Purchase** Thursday, Oct. 23, 7-9 p.m. SE-H United Methodist Church

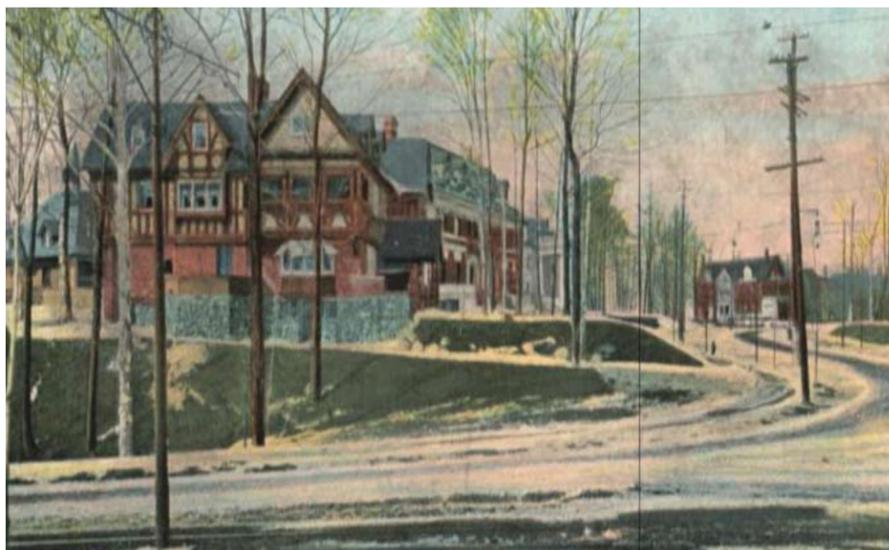
**Improving Your Credit** Thursday, Nov. 6, 6-8 p.m. HRRC

**Power of a Personal Budget** Thursday, Nov. 13, 6-8 p.m. HRRC

**Mortgage & Refinance** Thursday, Nov. 29, 6-8 p.m. HRRC

*Becky Stager has been the repair education programs coordinator for Home Repair Resource Center since 1989.*

## A Return to Overlook Road: Cleveland Heights' Real Millionaires' Row



Overlook Road as it appeared in the early 20th century.

Mazie Adams

On Thursday evening Oct. 16, join the Cleveland Heights Historical Society and the Landmark Commission of Cleveland Heights for a "Return to Overlook Road: Cleveland Heights' Real Millionaires' Row."

Travel back almost 100 years for a virtual walk down a Cleveland Heights

street that was widely known for its architectural splendor, humungous, hubris-infused habitats, a well known (and still thriving) college, a U.S. Senator's residence, and our city's most sensational murder (home of the victim and, many believe, his assailant), and wall-to-wall wealth. Chris Roy, president of the Cleveland Heights Historical Society, will be your host, narrator and



A newspaper clipping tells the sensational story of William Lowe Rice's murder.

virtual tour guide.

The event begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Cleveland Heights Historical Center, the Superior Schoolhouse (corner of Euclid Heights Boulevard & Superior Rd). Reservations are required. Call 216-291-4878. Admission is free but seating for the presentation is limited to 50 people. Parking is available at the Cumberland Pool Parking lot. Handicapped and special needs parking is provided at the Schoolhouse.

*Mazie Adams is a Cleveland Heights Historical Society trustee.*

**Advertise in the Heights Observer**  
216-320-1423

**SHOP IN YOUR PAJAMAS!**

Skip the tux.  
Find a variety of local items at FutureHeights' online benefit auction.  
Oct. 10- Nov. 9  
www.futureheights.cmarket.com

## CL Barber Salon opens at Cedar and Fairmount



Claire Laffey poses with her new sign at the newly opened CL Barber Salon on Cedar Road.

Kaye Lowe

Claire Laffey has fulfilled her long time goal of owning her own business. Since graduating from cosmetology school at Brush High School and then barber school, Claire has envisioned owning her own establishment.

Claire opened CL Barber Salon at 12395 Cedar Road in Cleveland Heights in August. It is located between Night-town and Zoss Bakery. With her family's help, she remodeled and updated the space of the former Brigitte's Hair Salon with clean lines, birch cabinetry, and white walls contrasting with a shot of Montego Blue paint. Add to this black and white tile floors, four streamlined black leather barber chairs and black sinks. The atmosphere is one of calm and tranquility.

As you enter CL Barber Salon you are instantly aware of the contemporary, up to date setting, barber style shop. The salon's decor differentiates it from most beauty salons by the placement of the sinks for washing hair, in front of each barber chair instead of in a separate area.

Claire is a licensed cosmetologist and barber. She has 15 years of experience.

Claire Laffey's philosophy is to work with and beautify the entire family. Customer service is paramount to her and her staff. They offer men's, women's and children's haircuts. A man's haircut is finished with a warm lather straight edge neck shave. The staff does single process color, highlights, permanents, scissor cuts, razor cuts, and blow drying. Manicures and pedicures are available. Chair massages are given by a licensed massage therapist.

Hours are Monday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For appointments phone 216-231-6688.

Kaye Lowe is executive director of the Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District.

# Pete's Tavern hits high notes as favorite neighborhood destination



Pete Harris, a third-generation Cleveland Heights resident, behind the bar at Pete's Tavern.

David Wasserstrom

Good bars are like old jeans – well-worn but supremely comfortable. They're not sited in lifestyle centers or defined by the 100-plus martini variations they don't actually make. Their dart boards and pool tables, chicken wings, and Pabst Blue Ribbon don't aspire to lure the well-heeled.

Lovably idiosyncratic Cleveland Heights has always nurtured distinctive, if not outright quirky, bars and restaurants. And, as urban sprawl procreates national chains amongst outer-ring suburbs, these inner-ring gems assume an even richer, more personal character, and have become more relevant than ever. Like the jeans we revere, they're not new, but they're ours; they fit quite nicely. In many ways, they help to define us.

Pete Harris certainly knows this. A third-generation Cleveland Heights resident, his namesake establishment on Warrensville Center Road has been many things to many people since it opened in 1997. But nearly all who know Pete's Tavern well would agree that "refuge," in any way you care to define it, remains its most valued function. Patrons include a stable cast of die-hard regulars, as well as post-midnight pool sharks, dart people (for lack of a technical term), locals, and those who simply

gravitate toward the genuine.

"For me, it was about developing a comfortable, low-key place that respects the neighborhood and its residents," says Pete.

The ambiance reflects this philosophy. Pete's main room features a full-length bar and band area, while a similarly sized adjacent room houses pool tables, dart boards, and additional booths. Photos of local musicians adorn the wood-paneled walls, none more prominent than a World War II-era photograph of Pete's late father, Alfred. The bar sports vintage memorabilia and assorted kitschy bar-type stuff.

Grub-wise, you've got your requisite wings, burgers, and chicken sandwiches, along with fries, onion rings, Jalapeno poppers and, for the rabbit-minded among us, artfully prepared salads. Quality permeates every detail, from fish-fry Fridays to occasional specials. Certain locals espouse a near-religious devotion to the half-pound Black Angus burger. Even simple fare, like a buttery grilled cheese sandwich, is prepared with a technical precision that, for this author, evokes comparisons to gastronomy's famed Antoine Careme, or perhaps even George Escoffier on a really *bon jour*.

Pete's also reigns as one of the Heights' most preeminent live music

**Pete's Tavern**

1318 Warrensville Center Road, Cleveland Hts.  
(216) 291-0400  
Petes-tavern.com

M-F: 4 p.m. – 2:30 a.m.; Sat-Sun: Noon-2:30 a.m.  
Happy hour until 7:00 p.m.

venues. Local bands appear weekends, and musicians admit that the unusually relaxed vibe allows latitude to stretch out. The results can be unpredictable – often brilliant, or not. But the spontaneity only adds to the resonant charm. "Friday and Saturday nights are my favorite times here," says Pete. "The place gets packed, the band starts digging in, and before long, you see a lot of happy people. I live for that."

Considering the sum of its parts, Pete's offers bar enthusiasts an alluring proposition: tasty vittles and reasonably priced drinks, pool and darts, great live music, an eternally colorful clientele. And, if you're extra nice, rock star cookies for dessert. No need to worry either if you drip ketchup on those jeans. It'll wash out for the next wear.

David Wasserstrom is president of Vantage Communications, a full-service public relations firm. He is a 12-year resident of University Heights.

## Affordable health coverage to the rescue.

Don't put you or your family at risk by trying to get by without health care coverage.

We offer health coverage for:

- Individuals without Group Coverage
- Self-Employed and Small Businesses
- Dependents and Students
- Early Retirees and Seniors
- COBRA/Alternative

Rates as low as...  
**\$59\***



Call me today for a free quote!

**PAUL WEINSTEIN**

**216-643-0173 or 888-290-2930**

Apply Online Fast! [www.paulweinstein-insurance.com](http://www.paulweinstein-insurance.com)



Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is the trade name of Community Insurance Company, Independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. ANTHEM is a registered trademark. The Blue Cross and Blue Shield names and symbols are registered marks of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Rates are illustrative and subject to change. Your rate will be based on your age, gender, area, tier level and the deductible level you choose.

# Local spa raises over \$12,000 for breast cancer research

Joyce Fennell

After months of preparation, training and fundraising, a team from Sanctuary by joyce embarked on what would be an incredible journey. The issue of breast cancer was taken to the streets of Cleveland one step at a time. Customers and employees of local business owner Joyce Fennell, walked 60 miles in 3-days for one cause, The CURE of breast cancer, and, they did not walk alone.

These women were part of a group of 1,200, mostly women, who began this 60 mile adventure into the neighborhoods of Shaker Hts, Cleveland Hts, Mayfield Hts, Richmond Hts, Lyndhurst, Beachwood and Euclid, ending three days later at the Cleveland Convention Center for closing ceremonies. As a community we walked, surrounded by likeminded people, doing something extreme in our lives for this cause. We walked together, camped together, and shared meals together. Along the way we would find love, sweat, and tears. We shared our personal stories and laughed, cried and supported one another on our personal and collective journeys. What we found along the way was inspiring to each of us in so many ways, as we inspired those who looked on, offering a message of commitment and hope.

Maybe you saw it too – the large groups of folks, dressed mostly in pink, walking the sidewalks, or the crossing guards and sweep van drivers, keeping us safe and providing rides for those in need. Maybe you were one of the folks who showed up in the most random places along the route, inspiring us to keep going. We so enjoyed the dancing lady (a 28 year survivor), the grandfather whose wife and granddaughter were walking, the guy with the WOO HOO sign, the scheduled cheering stations, the water misters, those refreshing popsicles, and those folks who brought kids out. What great parenting: thank you.



Left to right: Jacquelyn Barnum, Lynn Matejick, Joyce Fennell, Julie Burke and Colleen Goss pose before beginning their 3-day walk for breast cancer research.

The Susan G Komen Foundation is to be praised for such a top notch, well planned event, carried off beautifully by staff and volunteers. Breast cancer has affected so many of our sisters, mothers, daughters, aunts, friends and yes, now dads and sons. For our children's children, we want breast cancer to be a distant memory, not the epidemic it seems to be now. This will take money. We reached out to this community for support, and you were amazing.

My fellow merchants on Lee Road opened their doors and pocketbooks to help. A very big thank you to the Cedar Lee Pub and Grill for hosting our fundraiser, and to Salon DM, Dewey's Pizza, Central Health, the Atma Center and Stone Oven, who provided gift certificates for the raffle. And, of course, to all of our clients, friends and family, who supported us with patience, encouragement and guidance during these months of training, as well as financial contributions and raffle ticket sales!

*Joyce Fennell is the owner of Sanctuary by joyce and is inspired by the courage and strength of those who have battled and won the fight against breast cancer. She was honored to walk for those women, and for those who could not walk themselves.*

# Do you buy NEO?

Lauren Sable

What if your spending habits could channel money directly back into your community, help our local economy and positively contribute to our community's overall quality of life? When you buy local, that's exactly what happens. Buying local has a big impact on our local economy. When you purchase from a locally owned and operated store, \$68 out of every \$100 stays in our community, versus \$43 when you buy from a chain store. Thanks to the Council of Smaller Enterprises' (COSE) I Buy Northeast Ohio (I Buy NEO) Program, making a difference in the local economy by buying local is simple.

I Buy NEO is a new initiative that encourages people to buy locally to keep dollars in the region's economy. An online marketplace at IBuyNeo.com provides Northeast Ohio residents with the ability to readily locate thousands of locally-owned businesses that satisfy their shopping and service needs. This resource empowers residents to make conscious purchasing decisions with the knowledge that minor changes in their spending habits can make a major impact.

The I Buy NEO Community Card is another aspect of the program. I Buy NEO is made possible by a collaboration of citizens, businesses, nonprofits, schools, chambers of commerce and community development corporations focused on positive and lasting change in Northeast Ohio. The Community Card offers unique incentives for shop-

pers to support Northeast Ohio businesses.

Every time you use your I Buy NEO Community Card at a participating merchant, a pre-designated portion of each transaction is donated to a local community-based nonprofit or school of your choice, and a similar amount is returned to you as a rebate on a quarterly basis. Program participants can view monthly e-statements detailing the total earned cash rebates and the total donations you generated for your selected nonprofit beneficiary.

FutureHeights is one of I Buy NEO's newest community partners. FutureHeights promotes a vibrant and sustainable future for Cleveland Heights through innovative ideas and civic engagement. I Buy NEO compliments FutureHeights successful gift certificate program.

Many local merchants have already signed on to support the I Buy NEO program by accepting the I Buy NEO Community Card and by offering unique rebate offers to shoppers. By participating in the program, merchants raise brand awareness and customer loyalty, generate new customers and optimize sales and profits.

For a list of businesses participating in the I Buy NEO program, to purchase a card, or to locate each merchant's special rebate offer, log on to [www.ibuyneo.com](http://www.ibuyneo.com).

*Lauren Sable is the manager of public relations for the Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE).*

 <p>PACIFIC East</p>	<p>1763 Coventry Road Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118 <a href="http://www.pacificeastcoventry.com">www.pacificeastcoventry.com</a></p>
	<p>Mon. - Thurs. :11 a.m. - 3 p.m., 5 p.m. - 10 p.m. Fri.: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., 5 p.m. - 11 p.m. Sat.: 12 p.m. - 3 p.m., 5 p.m. - 11 p.m. Sun.: 3 p.m. - 10 p.m.</p>
<p>Japanese and Malaysian Restaurant</p>	<p>Tel: 216-320-2302 Fax: 216-320-2306</p>

# Several CH business districts go live with WiFi

Mary Patton

Heights area residents, visitors and business people can now benefit from a free wireless network covering five square miles of University Circle and parts of Cleveland Heights, thanks to OneCommunity and Case Western Reserve University.

The project, called Linked Communities, uses more than 100 access points to extend free WiFi access from the Case campus network into its neighboring communities, including the main business districts of Coventry, Cedar Fairmount, Little Italy and parts of Mayfield Road.

The source of the high-speed access is OneCommunity's existing fiber-optic cable network, which connects more than 800 sites at public and nonprofit institutions throughout the region.

OneCommunity President & CEO Scot Rourke, a Cleveland Heights resident, said, "OneCommunity's Linked

Communities and the accompanying free WiFi access enable current Internet users to have greater online access. The network will also have a significant impact in bridging the digital divide and delivering access to these communities.

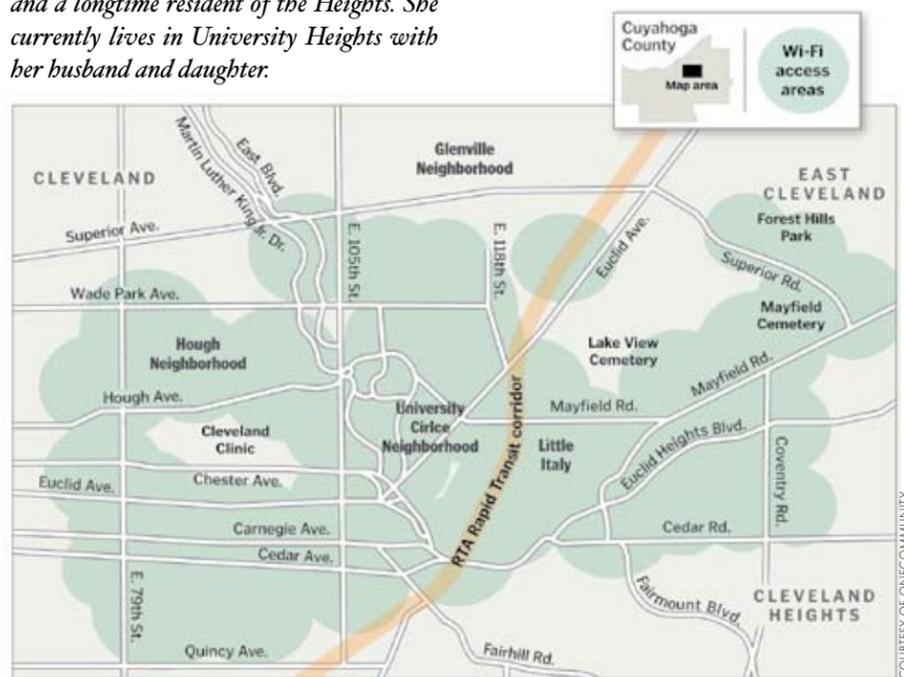
"Life in the 21st century is moving online, and public wireless access allows more people to take advantage of the wealth of resources available on the Internet, especially those who might not otherwise be able to afford it," added Mark Ansboury, senior VP & chief technology officer at OneCommunity. "This network is poised to serve as a valuable community asset, with the potential to attract more businesses, facilitate public safety applications, enhance public education, and enable remote health care."

OneCommunity is a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering economic development and improving quality of life by leveraging information technologies.

To learn more about free wire-

less, visit [www.onecommunity.org](http://www.onecommunity.org) or [www.linkedcommunities.org](http://www.linkedcommunities.org).

*Mary Patton is a public relations consultant and a longtime resident of the Heights. She currently lives in University Heights with her husband and daughter.*



## Heights Community Congress hosts events

Dawn Rucker

Heights Community Congress is moving into the fall season with lots of exciting events. We hope to see you at the following activities:

### Diversity Forum

HCC kicks off its 2008-2009 Perception vs. Reality Dialogue Series with a program entitled "Race, Class and Gender and the 2008 Presidential Campaign." The forum takes place on Tuesday, Oct. 21, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Lee Road Library, 2345 Lee Road. The forum examines how our underlying beliefs, judgments and biases have been brought to the surface during this long and momentous campaign. This is not a debate about the respective candidates; it's a look at societal values. Panelists include Rabbi Susan Stone of Temple Beth Shalom, Kameron W. Chones, Professor Larry Schwab of John Carroll University, and Ebony Grantonz.

Two more forums will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 3, and Feb. 4, 2009 at the Cleveland Heights Community Center.

### Annual International Festival

Food, facts and fun are the operative words to remember on Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008. That's when HCC hosts its ninth annual International Festival from 12-4 p.m. at the Lee Road Library. This year's theme, "Celebrating a Green World," is an expansion of sorts for HCC. Historically, the festival has been one of the ways in which HCC furthers its mission of promoting diversity and building community. This year, the festival will expand those goals by looking at green living and sustainability. Visitors to the festival can expect to be entertained by performances such as the Workmen's Circle Klezmer Orchestra and Murphy's Irish Step Dancers. They can fill their appetites with treats from Phoenix Coffee, Aoeshi Cafe, Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream and Donato's Pizza. They can feed their minds at several workshops on diversity and sustainability issues. There will be Segway rides, popcorn, lemonade, door prizes, raffles and more. This year's participants include City-Wheels, the Global Passport Project, L'Arche Inc. of Cleveland, Children's International Summer Villages, Cleveland Solar and Wind, and more.

For more information, visit at [www.heightscongress.org](http://www.heightscongress.org), or contact Dawn Rucker at 216-321-6775.

*Dawn Rucker is a Cleveland Heights resident and is the diversity program coordinator for Heights Community Congress.*



Join us for an afternoon of multicultural entertainment at the ninth annual International Festival.

# Heights residents volunteer to improve literacy in Greater Cleveland

Jennifer Frigolette

You may be aware that only 65 percent of seventh graders in the Cleveland Heights/University Heights City School District scored at or above the proficient level in reading on the Ohio Achievement Test during the 2006-2007 school year.

However, did you know that 49 percent of adults in Cuyahoga County read below a functional level? This means that an estimated 486,847 individuals are at Level 1 or Level 2 literacy, which is below the Level 3 minimum necessary to function in today's society and are likely to be excluded from all but minimum wage work.

Low literacy skills affect people of all ages in our community, from children who are not prepared for kindergarten to adults reluctant to vote because they cannot read the ballot. Fortunately, there is something you can do to help improve literacy in the Heights!

Cleveland Reads provides free tutor training and refers volunteers to dozens

of sites in Greater Cleveland.

In schools and community centers, at tutoring programs and English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) classes, Heights residents are working hard to improve literacy in Greater Cleveland. Cleveland Reads volunteer Brian Andrasak tutored at CH-UH Adult Basic and Literacy Education (ABLE) and said of his experience, "It's very apparent that the instructors truly care about what they are doing and about making a difference in the students' lives. I enjoyed the time spent working with the GED students and learned a great deal about other cultures with the ESOL class while conversing with the students every week. As with most volunteers, I feel that I probably took away as much from the experience as I passed on to others."

Cleveland Heights resident Mike McGraw shared recently, "I have been tutoring an adult for nearly three years, and it has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life, period. It has been extremely rewarding to see

the enjoyment and stimulation he gets from being able to read a history or science article from his textbooks, or simply by reading the sports page of the newspaper. His courage puts the challenges of my daily life into perspective. I encourage anyone with any free time to consider literacy tutoring as a way to give back to their community."

The mission of Cleveland Reads is to build a community of literacy as the central resource and advocate for learners, tutors, and literacy providers. Volunteers attend a three-hour orientation which equips them with tools and strategies necessary to tutor youth or adults, after which they are referred to one or more programs in the area. With the beginning of the school year, many literacy programs in the area will be seeking new volunteers, and we need your help!

Please contact Cleveland Reads at 216-436-2222 for more information about becoming a volunteer literacy tutor, or visit [www.ClevelandReads.org](http://www.ClevelandReads.org).

*Jennifer Frigolette is the volunteer coordinator at Cleveland Reads.*

## Meet the Neighbors at Disciples Christian Church

Ronald Werman

Disciples Christian Church Pastor Kristine Eggert deemed the first Meet the Neighbors free community dinner a huge success. Over 110 meals were served and there was much interaction among all who attended. Held in August, the event brought together church members and neighbors from the community to share a meal. Lasagna, salad, rolls, as well as a dessert and beverage, made up the first meal. The church's next Meet the Neighbors free community dinner is planned for Thursday, Oct. 30 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. For more information, contact Disciples Christian Church, 3663 Mayfield Road, 216-382-5344.

*Ron Werman is a Cleveland Heights resident and member, elder, choir member and communications chairperson of Disciples Christian Church.*



Disciples Christian Church, 3663 Mayfield Road.

## Rockefeller Gardens' Homewood Residence hosts open house

Karlene Grifka

Join us for an Open House on Oct. 23, 2008 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Please come see what sets Homewood Residence Rockefeller Gardens apart from the competition. You will have the opportunity to meet the staff, visit with our residents, ask questions, and tour our beautiful community.

Complimentary refreshments will be served at 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Karlene or Angela at 216-321-6331.

## Free Thanksgiving "Community Making Meal"

Jennifer Holland

Grace Church, 13001 Cedar Road, Cleveland Heights, will host a free sit-down Thanksgiving meal at 1 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008. 175 meals will be served. Reservations are required and due by Thursday, Nov. 13th. Please call 216.321.2790.

David Ernat, pastor of Grace, said "The people of Grace are piloting a way to build community with our many neighbors in the Heights. One night a month we have hosted a meal that has been enjoyed by many people. People

hungry for food and community come to eat, converse and share in the clean up. It's been fun! Because so many neighbors may be short of funds in November or are yearning for community, this Thanksgiving we will host a wonderful meal and see how it goes."

Volunteers to help prepare, serve and clean-up are also welcomed. To join with others in making this community meal happen, you are invited to call Grace at 216.321.2790.

*Jennifer Holland is the office manager at Grace Lutheran Church.*

# Cleveland Heights couple stages Jungle Jam Benefit for bone marrow disease research

Mary Patton

Annalyse Kitzberger loves zebras. She loves them so much that the eight-year-old dreams of someday having one of her own.

Her parents, Jeff and Sherri Kitzberger of Cleveland Heights, have their own dream: that a cure for bone marrow disease will soon be found so that Annalyse and others afflicted with the rare illness can be healthy.

To help make their dream come true, the Kitzbergers have devised a special musical and entertainment benefit. "Jungle Jam" is to be held Friday, Oct. 17 from 6:30 p.m. to midnight at the House of Blues in downtown Cleveland. It will raise funds to help find a cure for bone marrow disease.

Proceeds from Jungle Jam will help fund the research of Dr. Jaroslaw Maciejewski of the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Maciejewski is one of the world's foremost specialists in bone marrow disease and the principal investigator of the Bone Marrow Failure Disease Consortium. Bone marrow failure diseases include Aplastic Anemia, Paroxysmal

Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH) and Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS). These are non-contagious but rare and potentially fatal illnesses in which blood production in the marrow is disrupted. Complications can arise, including the inability of blood to clot and susceptibility to infections. Right now, the only cure is a bone marrow transplant. (Annalyse does not have a perfect donor match.)

Dr. Maciejewski has proposed research to investigate the viral causes of Aplastic Anemia, a type of bone marrow disease in which stem cells in the bone marrow are destroyed and fail to reproduce. Using viral chip technology, researchers will seek to identify the virus responsible for Aplastic Anemia and ultimately develop diagnostic, therapeutic and preventive measures.

Aplastic Anemia is an "orphan bone marrow disease," so named because it is rare. (Approximately four new cases of Aplastic Anemia per one million people in the United States arise each year.) Funding is scarce and research is limited. That does not make its threat any less serious.

Annalyse was diagnosed with Aplas-

tic Anemia and PNH just as she was about to enter kindergarten three years ago. She stayed home during her first year of school and underwent chemotherapy as her body struggled to resist infections.

Today, Annalyse seems to be a typical third grader. She runs through her backyard at the end of a school day, her long blond hair dancing in the wind. She is a Brownie at Gesu School in University Heights, takes horseback riding lessons and, in addition to a zebra, hopes to one day own a pug, a Dalmatian or a German shepherd. For now, Annalyse's Aplastic Anemia is in remission, but her PNH remains a threat. Her body must work harder than most to produce enough red blood cells. She has blood drawn on a regular basis to check for low counts. Each time, her parents anxiously wait for positive numbers.

The Kitzbergers hope that Jungle Jam will increase awareness of bone marrow disease and raise much-needed funds for research and a cure. In addition to performances by local bands, Jungle Jam will feature a silent auction and special guest appearances. Tickets



Annalyse Kitzberger, 8, of Cleveland Heights was diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia three years ago and is now in remission.

start at \$125 and are available in advance and at the door. Sponsorships for the event are still available.

For more information, contact Pauline Ramig at 216-297-9062 or visit [www.makeithappen4bmd.org](http://www.makeithappen4bmd.org).

Mary Patton is a public relations consultant and a longtime resident of the Heights. She currently lives in University Heights with her husband and daughter.

## Polish delegation visits Cleveland Heights

Mark Majewski

"You are glowing with pride," said Leszek Gorgol. "It is nice to hear you tell us about Cleveland Heights."

Mr. Gorgol spoke, through a U.S. State Department interpreter, as one of ten visitors from Poland who recently visited Cleveland Heights. The Poles are leaders in local and regional governments and nonprofit organizations.

A meeting of the delegation and several local leaders was arranged by Deanna Bremer Fisher, executive director of FutureHeights, after a contact from the Cleveland Council on World Affairs. The Council is assisting the U. S. State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program to provide opportunities for the Polish delegation to meet with local government officials and community activists throughout the U.S. The visitors hope to learn about civic engagement, nonprofit organizations, fundraising, and economic development.

Bremer Fisher welcomed the delegation in the Levey Room of the Main Library. She explained the unique mission and programs of FutureHeights, including publication of this newspaper, the *Heights Observer*. She also discussed the organization's programs promoting local business, historic preservation, civic engagement, and other features of local quality of life.

Four Cleveland Heights representatives, including Bremer Fisher, were on hand to talk about Heights-style civic engagement. Susanna Niermann O'Neil, Cleveland Heights' vice city manager, presented perspectives from local government and from her long personal involvement with the community. Lita



FutureHeights Executive Director Deanna Bremer Fisher explains how her organization works with city government, local businesses and volunteers to develop community and promote civic engagement.

Gonzalez, director of PATH (Parent Ambassadors to Heights Project), spoke about involvement with the schools and shared her family's experiences living in the Heights. Mark Majewski, board president of FutureHeights and a consulting community planner, also spoke about personal and public involvement in the community.

During a lengthy question and answer session, the visitors sought information on the relationships between government and nonprofits, the challenges facing local businesses, and "ways to get young people involved." One visitor asked about issues of access to public spaces and to the arts for persons with disabilities. Yet another asked for solutions to the age-old problem of young people leaving the village for the big city—and not returning. A question about parental involvement and influence in the public schools elicited extensive response

from the hosts.

One of the interpreters, an immigrant from Czechoslovakia, suggested that "the infrastructure which supports volunteerism and civic involvement" is not yet as strong in Poland and some other parts of Europe as in the United States. It was apparent that building that "infrastructure," and civic engagement and community growth, are the goals for which the visitors sought ideas, encouragement, and inspiration.

This brief encounter of visiting leaders and a handful of local leaders may contribute to successful pursuit of those goals in Poland. The local participants came away from the discussion with increased appreciation for the opportunities already available in our community.

Mark Majewski is a 20-year resident of Cleveland Heights and a community planning consultant.

### CLASSIFIEDS

Catch us on the radio!

#### Heights Now

90-second broadcasts featuring stories from the current issue of the *Heights Observer*

WJCU - 88.7 FM  
[www.heightsobserver.org](http://www.heightsobserver.org)

#### \* DARE TO COMPARE \*

AUTO INSURANCE  
HOME/RENTERS  
BUSINESS OWNERS  
LIFE INSURANCE

\$35 LIABILITY  
\$70 FULL COVERAGE

"We can beat your rates"

Washington & Co Insurance Agency Inc.  
(216) 691-9227

#### Grand Opening!

Tim Weeks  
OF  
**WEEKS AUTOMOTIVE**  
1503 Warrensville Center Road  
(216) 691-3950

OIL, LUBE &  
FILTER SPECIAL  
only \$23.95

• Up to 5 qts. oil • Oil Filter  
• Top off fluids • Chassis Lube  
• FREE 12 pt. Safety Inspection

Excludes hybrid cars. With coupon. Exp. 11/4/08

#### Heights Observer Classifieds

Get your message in front of  
10,000 Heights readers

\$35 single insertion  
As low as \$22 for multiple insertions

Call 216-320-1423 for info  
Or email [info@futureheights.org](mailto:info@futureheights.org)

# CH-UH Public Library Board

**Highlights of August 18 meeting**  
All board members present

**Automatic doors for walkway**  
The board approved expenditures to install automatic openers on the doors of the Heights Arts area and the walkway.

**“Olympic record” of new hires**  
Thirteen positions were filled in July, including the appointment of Alice Eiden as adult services support services supervisor, prompting the remark that the job title might need to be shortened.

**New library director**  
Library Board President Gerald Blake announced that Nancy Levin had accepted the director's position, effective Oct. 1, 2008. The acting director until then would be Deputy Director Catherine Hakala-Ausperk. Ms. Levin was formerly young adult coordinator of this library and left last year to take the deputy director's job at the Rocky River Public Library.

**Director Wood's achievements**  
The board read into the record the resolution on Director Wood's retirement that was first read at the farewell party the previous day. Each board member read a portion of the resolution, recognizing Director Wood's achievements, which included levy campaigns, building projects, participation as the first member of CLEVNET, innovative projects such as the roving reference desk, and promotion of customer service.

**Grants and gifts to the library**  
The library has received a \$1,000 gift for the children's room at the Noble Library,

a grant of \$1,500 for the Deaf Services Program at the Coventry Library, and a tribute fund in the memory of Gertrude Kleiner, a former Friends secretary. The fund will include a staff award and a story cottage for the children's department, complete with picket fence!

**Art acquisition**  
The library has acquired a second David E. Davis sculpture.

**Canines to aid reading awareness**  
The library has adopted board member Ortner's suggestion of awareness (reading) dogs. The “tail wagers” will appear in November, and Director Wood will come out of retirement to observe them.

**Videoconferencing**  
The library has acquired videoconferencing equipment as part of the Northeast Ohio Regional Library System Project, which includes five or six libraries.

**Technical upgrade**  
The library has replaced the three T-1 internet lines with fiber. The library will ask OPLIN (Ohio Public Library Information Network) for more.

**Director farewell**  
Director Wood ended his report saying that after over 200 board meetings, it had been an honor and a privilege to have been a staff member of the library for 11 years and then director for 20.

**Web services**  
Amy Harmon, web library manager, noted that the new website was launched July 1. There have been 54 chat reference transactions and the staff has been participating in the library's blog. The library's MySpace page hasn't been updated since

January. Staff response has been to rejuvenate the page rather than killing it. Branch managers will be trained on site management. Currently Harmon shares her time between web services and adult services, but it appears that web services could take all of her time.

**Clarification of purchases**  
At the July 21 meeting, the board approved the purchase of PC hardware and software including 55 Dell computers. The purchase of Macintosh computers



was discussed but not authorized.  
*LWV observer: Anne S. McFarland*

## Featured Heights Libraries Programs

*Don't miss out on these exciting programs:*

**Coventry Village Library**  
1925 Coventry Road, 216.321.3400

*Step Out of Time*  
Thursday, October 9, 7 p.m.

*Guitar Hero Open Play*  
Saturday, October 11, 12 p.m.

*Super, Secret, Surprise Program*  
Monday, October 13, 7 p.m.

*Deaf Gatherings*  
Mondays, October 20 & 27, 6:30 p.m.

**Noble Neighborhood Library**  
2800 Noble Road 216.291.5665

*Mystery Evening*  
Thursday, October 9, 7 p.m.

*Twilight Tales*  
Mondays, October 13 & 27, 7 p.m.

*Library Players*  
Monday, October 13, 6:30 p.m.

*Wii Bowling Open Play*  
Saturday, October 18, 12 p.m.

**Lee Road Library**  
2345 Lee Road 216.932.3600

*Joe the Coupon Guy*  
Thursday, October 9, 7 p.m.

*Book Time Together*  
Tuesday, October 7, 7:30 p.m.

*Fractured Fairytale Party*  
Wednesday, October 15, 7 p.m.

*Operation Anime*  
Monday, October 20, 6:30 p.m.

*Poetry Slam Writing Workshops*  
Friday, October 24, 7 p.m.

*International Festival*  
Saturday, October 25, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

**University Heights Library**  
13866 Cedar Road 216.321.4700

*Youth Productions Inc.*  
Tuesdays, October 7 & 21, 7 p.m.

*Babysitting Clinic*  
Wednesday - Friday, October 15 - 17, 4 p.m.

*Rock Band Open Play*  
Saturday, October 25, 12 p.m.

*Rock, Paper, Scissors*  
Sunday, October 26, 2:30 p.m.

You design your lifestyle.  
Judson makes it happen.



The Judson experience is all about Smart Living – living the way you choose. Whether you live at Judson or in your home, you have plenty of options to take charge of your life's direction. Discover limitless opportunities. Call (216) 791-2436 or visit [www.judsonsmartliving.org](http://www.judsonsmartliving.org).



Judson at University Circle | Smart Living at Home | South Franklin Circle



## Heights Chamber Orchestra season

Martha Wheeler

The Heights Chamber Orchestra, founded in 1983 by Robert Bergantino, then director of music at Cleveland Heights High School, has just celebrated its 25th anniversary, and is pleased to announce its five-concert 2008-2009 season. Many works are new to HCO and perhaps to their audience also. Anthony Addison, principal conductor, will lead four of these concerts; the fifth will be led by guest conductor, Christopher Lees, associate conductor of the Akron Symphony Orchestra. A highlight of this season is a chamber music program. Each of the other programs features a soloist.

Comprised of 45 professional and amateur musicians who live primarily in the Heights area, the HCO gives free concerts in local churches and continues to rehearse at Heights High through the generosity of the CH-UH Board of Education.

The concert season will begin on Sunday, Nov. 2 at 7:30 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church on Warrensville Center Road. This opening concert will feature the HCO concertmaster of 25 years, Gino Raffaelli, playing the Mozart violin concerto #4 in D major. Mr. Raffaelli is a Cleveland Heights resident and former Cleveland Orchestra violinist. The program also includes Beethoven's Fidelio overture, Reinecke's Variations on "Ein' Feste Burg," and the "Ironic" Symphony by Reznicek. Emil Reznicek was a late romantic composer of Austria. The "Ironic" Symphony was composed in 1904 specifically for chamber orchestra and owes something to both Richard Strauss and Mahler being witty, romantic, nostalgic, and tuneful. With the exception of the Mozart, the music selections are all first-time presentations for the HCO.

The second concert, on Sunday,

Nov. 23 is in a special format unique to this season. The concert will feature chamber music played by individual sections of the orchestra; strings, winds and brass. The specific works will be announced later. This interesting concert will be offered at Judson Manor on East 107th Street, Cleveland at 4 p.m.

The third concert will be at the Church of the Saviour on Lee Road on Sunday, Feb. 15 at 7:30 p.m. featuring HCO's first hornist, Martin Layman, playing the Mozart Horn Concerto #2 in E Flat. The rest of the program will be an overture by Arriaga entitled "Los Esclavos Felice," Haydn's Symphony #103 in E Flat major (the "Drumroll") and the Bartok "Romanian Dances." This concert is one in a series of concerts at the Church entitled "Arts in the Cathedral."

The fourth concert will be Sunday, March 29 at the First Baptist Church on Fairmount Boulevard, featuring pianist Daniel Barber, a member of the Cleveland State University piano faculty, playing Brahms Piano Concerto #2 in B Flat major. HCO will also perform "Der Freischutz" overture by Weber and Chabrier's "Suite Pastorale" on the same program.

The season will conclude with guest conductor, Christopher Lees, on May 3 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Ann's Church on Coventry Road, featuring soprano Lindsay Kesselman, singing Barber's Knoxville Summer of 1915. Copland's "An Outdoor Overture" and Beethoven's Symphony #8 in F major will round out the program.

The concerts are free, though HCO encourages donations.

Further information about HCO, the conductors and soloists, can be found at <http://heightschamberorchestra.org>.

*Martha Wheeler serves on the board of Heights Chamber Orchestra.*

## Youth theater much more fun than TV

Susie Antonelli

At Heights Youth Theatre we've got cable, though not TV. That's why you won't see *The Wire*, just Peter Pan connected to it. Because while we've also got *The Sopranos* singing, *American Gladiators* moving heavy scenery, and a veritable *Lipstick Jungle* in our make-up room, our shows aren't taped for the tube. They're staged up-close and in-person, each one that can't quell-that-smile kind of entertainment all ages love. Sure beats a day at *The Office*.

In a feat TV can't hope to top, HYT's shows are performed by real live kids whose boisterous voices create sound better than Bose.® In our first production this season, guest director Nathaniel Motta brings the Russian town of Anatevka to life in *Fiddler on the Roof*. A musical tale of tradition versus progress, faith versus practicality, *Fiddler* is set in 1905 and follows Tevye, a poor Jewish milkman, and his family as they struggle to survive in tense, pre-revolutionary times. You'll enjoy terrific acting, magnificent sets, and superbly sung Broadway classics such as *Matchmaker*, *If I Were a Rich Man*, and *Wonders of Wonders*, all unsullied by cell phones.

One of the most famous songs from *Fiddler on the Roof* is *Tradition*, a subject dear to our HYT heart. The goal of HYT has remained unchanged since the footlights rose on our very first production at Cain Park in 1945: to provide a safe, creative, and nurturing experience for all children ages 6-18. We moved to Wiley Middle School in 1954 and, after flourishing under the excellent direction of first Jerry Leonard, then Sue Fromson, then Laura Gee, and now a talented group of guest directors, we're proud to say HYT is one of the oldest, most respected children's theatres in the country. Our graduates, armed with confidence and panache, have succeeded not only on Broadway but in myriad



Heights residents Sidney and Senna Perelman take a break from rehearsals at Wiley Middle School.

other careers, from law to education to journalism.

Two of our current cast members, Sidney and Senna Perelman, are part of a similarly longstanding Heights tradition. The girls have not only lived in Cleveland Heights all their lives but their father graduated from Heights High as did their grandmother, placing the Perelman family's steadfast tenure on par with HYT's. Sidney, a Roxboro 8th grader, plays Chava in our show. A whiz on the viola, Sidney is a member of the Contemporary Youth Orchestra and has attended Interlochen in Michigan. Second grade Senna is following suit, singing and dancing in *Fiddler* while still playing baseball and taking painting classes at Heights Arts and the Cleveland Institute of Art. Given the tremendous creative opportunities available in our area, Anatevka's town matchmaker, Yenta, couldn't have chosen a better spot for the Perelman sisters.

Shows at HYT are flat-out fun. So if you're itching for a change of scenery, don't reach for the remote. Trade TiVo for Tevye and head to Heights Youth Theatre. Maestro Motta's about to strike up the band with an uplifting showcase of song and dance you won't want to miss. We promise you'll go home humming and happy.

### Join us for upcoming performances:

Friday, Oct. 24 & Nov. 7, 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, Oct. 25, Nov. 1 & 8, 2:00 p.m.  
Sunday, Oct. 26 & Nov. 2, 2:00 p.m.

Wiley Middle School Auditorium,  
2181 Miramar Road, University Heights

Tickets \$8 for seniors and kids under six,  
\$9 for General Admission.

For more information: [www.heightsyouththeatre.org](http://www.heightsyouththeatre.org)

*Susie Antonelli grew up in Cleveland and Shaker Heights. She is a freelance writer, a Heights Youth Theater board member, and the associate editor at Ladies Who Launch.*

## Local "Buckeyes" bang drums for Michigan

Bert Stratton

Doug Jacobs of Orange and Jack Stratton of Cleveland Heights play drums in the University of Michigan's Groove ensemble, a collegiate take-off on the Broadway show "Stomp," which comes to Beachwood Oct. 19. Groove members play garbage cans, ladders and toothbrushes, and even evoke melody from empty propane tanks.

Jacobs, an engineering student and Beachwood High '05 graduate, also plays cymbals with the Michigan Marching Band and the college's hockey pep band. Stratton, a music student and University School '06 graduate, plays drum for the women's basketball pep band and has won composition awards from the music school for his tunes "Clogged Sinus" and "Facebook Boogie."

The Groove ensemble performs at Beachwood Middle School auditorium, 2860 Richmond Rd., 2 p.m. Sun., Oct. 19.

Admission is \$5 at the door. For more information, call 216-292-4860. The performance is sponsored by the University of Michigan Club of Cleveland.

*Bert Stratton is a Cleveland Heights resident and leader of the klezmer band Yiddishe Cup. And, yes, Jack is his son.*



Doug Jacobs wears his marching band uniform.

## FutureHeights

Members' Tour  
of the  
East Derbyshire Condo Project

Saturday, Oct. 25 10:00 a.m.

RSVP 216.320.1423 or  
[info@futureheights.org](mailto:info@futureheights.org)

Not yet a member? Join now.  
Visit [www.futureheights.org](http://www.futureheights.org)  
or call 216.320.1423.

## Alternative Solution Car Care

Your Toyota & Honda Service Connection

Thomas P. Weeks • Dan Delciappo

3203 Mayfield Rd. Cleveland Heights

(Between Lee & S. Taylor Roads)

371-0801 • 932-4402

## Summer Special

Oil, Lube & Filter  
Special only

\$20.95

- up to 5 qts. oil
- Oil filter
- Chassis Lube
- Top off fluids
- Free 12 pt. Safety Inspection

Excludes hybrid cars. With coupon. Offer expires September 9



**ATMA CENTER**  
Yoga for Every Body

Voted #1 "Best Place to Treat Your Body" in Cleveland Heights

All Levels  
Specialty Classes  
Great Student & Senior Rates

Yogic Studies  
Teacher Training

Our Students Say:  
"No hype, no lycra."  
"Life-transforming!"

Now in our 12th year!

2319 Lee Rd. 216-371-9760  
[www.atmacenter.com](http://www.atmacenter.com) [info@atmacenter.com](mailto:info@atmacenter.com)



# MOTORCARS

HONDA / TOYOTA / SCION

Customers for **Life.**

## Serving the Heights since 1986.

If you haven't experienced the unbelievable customer service of Motorcars Honda and Toyota in Cleveland Heights, simply ask your friends or neighbors about our reputation. With **over 20,000 satisfied customers**, it's not hard to find someone in the Heights community who is a Motorcars "Customer for Life".

Here are some of the ways we make buying and servicing your Honda or Toyota at Motorcars an easy decision -

**SERVICE UNTIL 3AM**  
**FREE CAR WASHES\***  
**DOWNTOWN SERVICE CENTERS**

**ONLINE SERVICE APPOINTMENTS**  
**FREE 10 YEAR/100,000 MILE\***  
**POWERTRAIN WARRANTY**

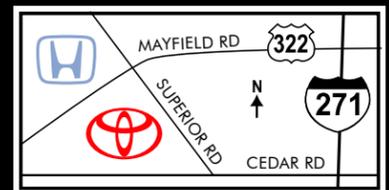
\*Call for more details on our rewards program and how we create "Customers for Life"

**216-932-2400**

[www.motorcarscleveland.com](http://www.motorcarscleveland.com)

2950, 2953 & 2888 Mayfield Rd  
Cleveland Heights, 44118

*(Located at the corner of Superior and Mayfield Rds.)*



## Congratulations to the 2008 Best of Cleveland Heights Awards Winners!

### Best New Business

Anatolia Café  
Simply Charming

### Business You Can't Do Without

Seitz-Agin Hardware  
Zagara's Marketplace

### Best Hangout

Brennan's Colony  
Phoenix Coffee  
Stone Oven

### Best Outdoor Dining

Nighttown  
Lopez on Lee

### Hippest Scene

Coventry Village SID  
Nighttown  
The Grog Shop

### Best Salon, Barber or Spa

Quintana's Barber & Dream Spa  
Salon DM  
Fast Eddy's Chop Shop  
Cut Hair Studio

### Best Gallery or Antique Store

Heights Arts Gallery  
June Greenwald Antiques  
BOOM Modern

### Best Auto Service

Bryan's Marathon  
The Lusty Wrench  
Simon's Auto Service

### Friendliest Staff

Seitz-Agin Hardware  
All Cleveland Heights Businesses

### Best Curb Appeal

Anatolia Café  
Heights Garden Center  
Coventry Village SID

### Most Unique Business

Revive  
Big Fun  
Abrash Gallerie

### Best Home & Garden Business

Heights Garden Center  
Seitz-Agin Hardware

### Best Beer or Wine Selection

Zagara's Marketplace  
La Cave du Vin  
The Grapevine

### Best Casual Meal

Tommy's  
Brennan's Colony  
Dewey's Pizza

### Best Fine Dining

Nighttown  
Marotta's  
Anatolia Café

### Best Place to Buy a Gift

Revive  
Simply Charming

### Best Place to Go With Kids: Restaurants

Dewey's Pizza  
Tommy's

### Best Place to Go With Kids: Destinations

CH-UH Public Library  
Heights Parent Center  
Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Playground

### Merchant with the Most Community Spirit

Tom Fello, Tommy's  
Steve Presser, Big Fun  
John Zagara, Zagara's Marketplace

### Best Green Business

Revive  
Heights Garden Center  
Phoenix Coffee

### Favorite University Heights Business

Whole Foods  
Bialy's Bagels  
Geraci's Restaurant

### Favorite Cleveland Heights Business

Quintana's Barber & Dream Spa  
Seitz-Agin Hardware  
Revive

# Future Heights

