The City of Cleveland Heights is planning a major update to its strategic plan, a framework document for the longer-term initiatives of city government. The first such plan was drafted in 1988, with a framework document for the longer-term initiatives of city government. The first such plan was drafted in 1988, with significant citizen participation beginning in 1999, are summarized on the city’s Web site, at www.clevelandheights.com.

According to Richard Wusong, director of planning and development for Cleveland Heights, the strategic plan now under construction will be more ambitious than previous versions and more accessible and useful to residents and business owners. The goals set out in the new plan will have explicit actions associated with them. Citizens will be able to view the strategic plan online and assess progress from their own viewpoints.

Serving Cleveland Heights and University Heights • Latest news updates at www.heightsobserver.org

Published in FutureHeights

Vince Reddy

The City of Cleveland Heights is planning a major update to its strategic plan, a framework document for the longer-term initiatives of city government. The first such plan was drafted in 1988, with significant citizen participation beginning in 1999, are summarized on the city’s Web site, at www.clevelandheights.com.

According to Richard Wusong, director of planning and development for Cleveland Heights, the strategic plan now under construction will be more ambitious than previous versions and more accessible and useful to residents and business owners. The goals set out in the new plan will have explicit actions associated with them. Citizens will be able to view the strategic plan online and assess progress from their own viewpoints.
Millikin is a matter of money

I agree that Millikin should be put to use. But, I encourage the school board to think carefully about its decision, as it is a matter of money.

If Millikin is sold to Mosdos Ohr Hatorah School it will not bring in any tax dollars because the school is a non-profit organization.

Leasing Millikin to any qualified tenant seems reasonable; the building would be occupied and bring in some revenue for the schools.

I believe Millikin is a wise use of the property, if given the opportunity. It is a matter of money. If Millikin must be sold, I hope the school board sells it to the current highest bidder, or UH Board of Education should either keep the property can remain vacant until the opportunity presents itself to be sold to the highest bidder.

Heights moms started soccer league

I enjoyed Gay Eyerman’s recent story “A league of their own” chronicling the “mom soccer” league in Cleveland Heights. It only had one small but important error: Sean Sullivan didn’t start the league; it was started by the moms themselves.

I know this because I occasionally watch as they played—sometimes with my younger son as a ranger (no dads allowed) at 8 a.m. on Saturday mornings at Roxboro Middle School. They asked Sean to coach the team later. It’s a small thing, but credit where credit is due. And really, what would mom say about her son running go mom go!

Michael Schoop
Cleveland Heights

Put Millikin to good use

Tucked away in the corner of a quiet street between Severn Road and Severance Center, stands the building and land that used to house the Millikin Elementary School in Cleveland Heights. For years, the school was attended by the children of many local residents and had been an asset to the community.

Since 2006, the building, owned by the CH-UH Board of Education, has been vacant. The maintenance and upkeep of the unused property is costing the district tens of thousands of dollars a year. In early 2007, the board placed the Millikin property up for public auction. At the time, the highest bid was well below what was considered “fair market value” and the board determined that the course of action would be to wait until the property can be sold for an amount closer to that value.

While all members of the board want what is best for the district, and its students, there are several opinions on what that would be. The Millikin property can be placed up for public auction again and sold to the highest bidder, a long-term lease can be established or the property can remain vacant until the opportunity presents itself to be sold closer to the “fair market value.”

I am of the opinion that the CH-UH Board of Education should either sell to the current highest bidder, or arrange a long-term lease that would ensure the Millikin building is put to use to serve the local residents. Aside from the expense of maintaining the property, the continued disuse will cause the value to decline. The Millikin building has already been vandalized and variegated properties of this size tend to become a place for individuals to gather and engage in inappropriate behavior. There are educational institutions that are willing and eager to purchase or lease the property, if given the opportunity.

Simcha Geller
Severn Road
Cleveland Heights
How to walk to school
Joan Spoerl

When my husband and I moved to Cleveland Heights from Chicago nearly six years ago, we assumed we would send our son to the local public school. We wavered after hearing mixed messages about the schools. We agonized over the question: Should we send our son to private school? After three years of back and forth, I still wanted to send my son to the public school. My son could make friends in the neighborhood. He could walk to school. I wanted to invest my energy in the community and its schools.

Now the decision is made; my son will go to FairFax Elementary in the fall. Any doubt that lingered was replaced by inspiration after I read, *How to Walk to School: Blueprint for a Neighborhood School Renaissance*, by Jacqueline Edelberg and Susan Kurland. It describes the work of families in a Chicago elementary school to transform the neighborhood school into one of the best. Kurland was the visionary school principal. Together, Susan Kurland and Edelberg inspired the Nettlehorst community, one of the worst performing public schools, into one of the best. Kurland was the new principal and Edelberg a neighborhood mom.

Our situation is far rosier. However, the book, *How to Walk to School*, inspries with an outline for thinking big and working to better the community. It contains a call for short-term action proposals—almost everyone signed up for at least one team. The facilitator asked if there was support for a Sustainable Heights summit, on a broad support to continue to the next phase. It was clear that Sustainable Heights is a project on the move.

McDonalds in University Heights
Ralph Solonitz

I can’t wait for the new McDonalds to be built where the Waterway carwash was. Why just last Saturday I took myself into a golden arches for a cup of coffee. It was so entertaining counting the cars that lined up from the drive through window out the p.m. for several blocks. It took me back to the days when I so much enjoyed counting railroad cars at crossing gates, one hundred eighty five . . . one hundred eighty six . . . you get the picture.

I know the economy sucks, and we need cash . . . But wait, wasn’t this a failed effort at Cedar and Lee years ago? Didn’t the police post a guard in that McDonalds to keep the peace?

Listened! If you really want to raise lots of cash for a tapped-out city budget, how about a beverage store that sells drugs? Oh, wait, we already have those . . . CVS and Walgreens!

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 English. His father gave him motivational advice: “stop your doodling, you are wasting time and will amount to nothing.” Fast forward 55 years, thousands of dollars in therapy and he still can’t stop doodling.

Advertise in the Heights Observer
Call 216-513-3070
www.heightsobserver.org

June Special
$10.00 off
Any party or deli tray of $75 or more
(with coupon)

Accoustic Jam Session
Local musicians jamming together with a mix of bluegrass, swing, old time and Celtic.
All are welcome to join in!
7-9 p.m., 3rd Monday of every month. Next session is June 21

Heights Observer June 1, 2010

3

www.heightsobserver.org

SUSTAINABLE HEIGHTS continued from page 1

working to better the community. Participants compiled a list of existing networks and associations. The breadth of local groups—nonprofit organizations, colleges and universities, medical centers, philanthropic foundations, religious institutions, city governments, public and private schools—surprised even longtime community members. Exhalted by all the good news about the CH-UH community, participants entered the final phase: making decisions and determining the next steps. The facilitator asked if there was support for a Sustainable Heights summit. The response was an enthusiastic “yes!” Were participants ready to sign up for short-term action teams? Almost everyone signed up for at least one team.

A range of short-term action proposals percolated. Could we bring homes to life, or maybe even our property? What about the schools. We agonized over the question: Should we send our son to private school? After three years of back and forth, I still wanted to send my son to the public school. My son could make friends in the neighborhood. He could walk to school. I wanted to invest my energy in the community and its schools.

Now the decision is made; my son will go to FairFax Elementary in the fall. Any doubt that lingered was replaced by inspiration after I read, *How to Walk to School: Blueprint for a Neighborhood School Renaissance*, by Jacqueline Edelberg and Susan Kurland. It describes the work of families in a Chicago elementary school to transform the neighborhood school into one of the best. Kurland was the visionary school principal. Together, Susan Kurland and Edelberg inspired the Nettlehorst community, one of the worst performing public schools, into one of the best. Kurland was the new principal and Edelberg a neighborhood mom.

Our situation is far rosier. However, the book, *How to Walk to School*, inspires with an outline for thinking big and working to better the community. It contains a call for short-term action proposals—almost everyone signed up for at least one team. The facilitator asked if there was support for a Sustainable Heights summit, on a broad support to continue to the next phase. It was clear that Sustainable Heights is a project on the move.

McDonalds in University Heights
Ralph Solonitz

I can’t wait for the new McDonalds to be built where the Waterway carwash was. Why just last Saturday I took myself into a golden arches for a cup of coffee. It was so entertaining counting the cars that lined up from the drive through window out the p.m. for several blocks. It took me back to the days when I so much enjoyed counting railroad cars at crossing gates, one hundred eighty five . . . one hundred eighty six . . . you get the picture.

I know the economy sucks, and we need cash . . . But wait, wasn’t this a failed effort at Cedar and Lee years ago? Didn’t the police post a guard in that McDonalds to keep the peace?

Listened! If you really want to raise lots of cash for a tapped-out city budget, how about a beverage store that sells drugs? Oh, wait, we already have those . . . CVS and Walgreens!

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 English. His father gave him motivational advice: “stop your doodling, you are wasting time and will amount to nothing.” Fast forward 55 years, thousands of dollars in therapy and he still can’t stop doodling.

Advertise in the Heights Observer
Call 216-513-3070
www.heightsobserver.org

June Special
$10.00 off
Any party or deli tray of $75 or more
(with coupon)

Accoustic Jam Session
Local musicians jamming together with a mix of bluegrass, swing, old time and Celtic.
All are welcome to join in!
7-9 p.m., 3rd Monday of every month. Next session is June 21

Heights Observer June 1, 2010

3

www.heightsobserver.org
Engineer and activist Sharon Cole enters council race

Janine Boyd

Sharon Cole—an engineer with nearly 20 years of experience in the private, nonprofit and public sectors, and who has worked at the local, state and federal levels of government—has entered the race for Cuyahoga County Council in District 10. District 10 consists of Cleveland—Wards 10 and 11, Bratenahl, East Cleveland and Cleveland Heights.

I am anxious to devote my energy and skills toward putting Cuyahoga County on a path to economic growth and restoring the faith and confidence of residents in their elected representatives,” said Cole.

Raised in East Cleveland by her grandparents after the tragic death of her mother, Cole’s life and career have been defined by optimism, perseverance and a commitment to excellence. She earned engineering degrees from Purdue and Case Western Reserve Universities, and managed technology projects for large corporations at Andersen Consulting, formerly one of the country’s top consulting firms, and served Greater Clevelanders in a number of roles in the nonprofit and public sectors, where Cole believes she has found her true calling.

Inspired to enter the public sector by the late Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones, on whose staff she served as the economic and business development liaison, Cole is now working to earn support from many of the same constituents she served as a Congressional staffer.

“I owe it to my community to put my passion and ability to work in a greater capacity,” said Cole, who has worked for several elected officials during the last five years. “While I know firsthand that serving constituents and being a behind-the-scenes advisor and staffer is important work, I realize that to make real change, I have to take greater risks.”

Cole has always made time for community and political involvement. She worked on campaigns for several elected officials, including State Rep. Barbara Boyd, East Cleveland Council President Mary Gary Norton, East Cleveland Municipal Judge Sandra Walker, and Representative/Councilman Eugene R. Miller. She has served as a member of both the Cuyahoga County Central and Executive committees, and was a delegate to 2008 Democratic National Convention.

In addition, she is a member of public service sorority Delta Sigma Theta, where she serves on the social action and technology committees. She serves on the board of WECO, an organization working to increase financial literacy among low-income people, and is an active member of her block club.

Janine Boyd is a lifelong resident of Cleveland Heights, an advocate for children’s special needs, an avid volunteer in Cleveland Heights’ campaign.
"With the increase in vacant homes and seemingly unsupervised youth in my neighborhood we've experienced an increase in crime or at least the perception of crime and neglect. There is a greater concern with neighborhood safety," said Oxford neighborhood resident Juli Miles. "It takes more than getting together once a year to bring back a sense of security."

Last summer, Miles and her neighbors went beyond the annual block party by organizing blockly communication with the City of Cleveland Heights Police Department and with one another to share information.

The Oxford-area effort is just one example of neighbors coming together to work on an issue of common concern. A similar effort is taking place in the Severance-area neighborhood, and a citizen's forum on public safety in the Fairchilds neighborhood last year drew more than 1100 people.

That's why Kirk Noden, executive director of the Mahoning Valley Organizing Collaborative, and Trevelle Harp, executive director of Northeast Ohio Alliance for Hope, were selected to keynote executive director of Northeast Ohio Allinizing Collaborative, and T revelle Harp, That's why Kirk Noden, executive director of the Mahoning Valley Organizing Collaborative, and Trevelle Harp, executive director of Northeast Ohio Alliance for Hope, were selected to keynote this year's FutureHeights meeting. "The mortgage crisis and recession have heightened the challenges that our community faces," said Gina Cheverine, president of FutureHeights. "We hear every day from members of the community who feel it personally, and they want to get involved; they don't want to wait for someone else to do something about it. We felt it was important this year to address that desire. I think we have two perfect speakers to help people see what community activism looks like and what it can accomplish."

Noden has worked for neighborhood-based community organizations for more than 12 years, tackling such issues as abandoned buildings, school overcrowding, crime and safety, affordable housing, youth resources and quality of public parks. He founded and directed the Albany Park Neighborhood Council in Chicago, an alliance of churches, mosques, schools, and ethnic associations; and helped found Birmingham Citizens, a coalition of 33 institutions in England's second-largest city.

Since 2006, Noden worked with faith-based organizing efforts in Youngstown, Cleveland and Cincinnati, and consulted with the Raymond John Wean Foundation on the development of its Capacity Building Initiative.

Harp is a 1995 graduate of Cleveland Heights High School. He heads NOAH, an East Cleveland-based nonprofit that brings together diverse urban and suburban populations, and empowers residents to use community organizing to improve the quality of their lives.

The group has organized East Cleveland residents around the issues of abandoned and vacant housing, framing the issue for the most recent mayoral race and hosting the signing of a memorandum of understanding between East Cleveland City Council and the Cuyahoga County Land Bank.

The group's community roundtable discussions and mayoral candidates forum created new opportunities for residents to be heard.

For more information and to RSVP call 216-320-1423, e-mail info@futureheights.org or visit www.futureheights.org.

Deanna Brewer Fisher is executive director of FutureHeights.

Is your street having a block party this summer? You can have copies of the Heights Observer delivered to your home or business by subscribing to the Heights Observer. To order call 216-320-1423. Don't send to me. Send to:__________________________

FutureHeights is an organization committed to engaging citizens in order to cultivate healthy and sustainable neighborhoods, just like yours. How do we do this?

- Supporting Our Local Economy
- FutureHeights brought American Independent Business Alliance co-founder, Jeff Milchen, to the Heights in March to discuss the importance of independent businesses to the local economy. FutureHeights is now working with a steering committee of local business owners to form a Heights Independent Business Alliance.

- Creating a Vibrant and Sustainable Future for the Heights
- FutureHeights cosponsored the Sustainable Heights initiative that brought together community leaders to discuss how the Heights could become the greenest suburb of a Green City on a Blue Lake. We are now leading a Green Assets Mapping project to identify, promote and connect the green environment, economic and social aspects of our community.

- Promoting Civic Engagement
- FutureHeights will hold its annual meeting on Wednesday, June 30. keynote speakers Kirk Noden of the Mahoning Valley Organizing Collaborative and Trevelle Harp of the Northeast Ohio Alliance of Hope will present “Beyond Block Parties: Organizing for Safe, Livable Neighborhoods in the 21st Century.” Come and learn how you can GET ENGAGED!

- Building Community Partnerships
- FutureHeights is partnering with Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District to publish the high school’s Black & Gold student newspaper quarterly in the Heights Observer. This partnership will give the Black & Gold greater distribution throughout the Heights and, for the first time, an online presence. In May, FutureHeights partnered with Reaching Heights, the nonprofit that supports the public schools, to print their newsletter in the Heights Observer.

FutureHeights is an efficient, grassroots organization, housed above the Cedar Lee Theatre with only one staff person. FutureHeights relies heavily on individual contributions from people like you to stay afloat. We appreciate your need to be discovered. No donation is too small.

FutureHeights engages citizens. Engaged citizens build strong communities. Please take a minute to fill out the form below, write your check and send it to FutureHeights today.

You can also donate online at www.futureheights.org or www. behavioural.org. Or call 216-320-1423 with your credit card.

Thank you for your support!
University Heights City Council Meeting highlights

APEG 19, 2010
Philip Evert was absent.

Boarded-up home on Jackson Road
Pat Baskin and Kathy Hasee-Falbo, residents of Jackson Road, expressed concerns about a home on their street that had been boarded-up for two years. Mayor Infeld said she had received emails from other Jackson Road residents about the problem. Building Commissioner David Menn reported that many notices had been sent to the owner, but no responses had been received, and that the structure had been broken into several times. Council unanimously passed an ordinance declaring this home a public nuisance.

Earth Day Partnership with JCU
Mayor Infeld mentioned that the city was partnering with John Carroll University on Earth Day to encourage bicycle riding.

Commendation for Robert Parra II
Council commended Firefighter/Pramedic Robert Parra for writing a successful FEMA grant proposal for $275,000 to buy a new pump truck. The city will contribute $13,750 toward the purchase.

New smoke detectors
Council commended Executive Captain Steve Eardley for his role in securing new smoke detectors for the city. Mayor Infeld reminded residents that the fire department would install smoke detectors in homes for free and, if asked while on the premises, would perform a home safety check.

AAA Flexible Pipe Company awarded bid
Council awarded a bid of $23,600 for the 2010 Catch Basin, Inlet, Sewer Cleaning and Television Program to AAA Flexible Pipe Company.

2010 emergency sewer repairs
City Engineer Joe C interviewer asked council to award a bid of $127,000 to the lowest bidder, Thomas A. Hulle Company, for sewer repairs. Council asked C interviewer to get new estimates that would expand the amount of curb repairs.

Tree Side Landscaping Company
Council awarded a bid for the 2010 tree planting to Tree Side Landscaping Company. Service Superintendent Christopher Vild explained he had asked for bids that could be extended to 2011, thus saving the city money and receiving slightly larger trees. After receiving six bids he recommended this company’s bid of $42,080. The company would plant 42 species at an average cost of $1.65 per tree.

Vehicle for refuse collection
Council passed a motion to award bids for a stock scooter vehicle for refuse collection. City mechanics said the $20,000 in the budget for a new scooter was insufficient. They were confident that they could retrofit a stock scooter within the budget to meet the city’s needs. A new scooter, with no retrofitting needed, was estimated to cost $22,000 to $24,000.

Overpayments for Cleveland water
Finance Director Jennifer Esarey discovered overpayments for Cleveland water for 2009, 2008 and 2007. The answer to all of the above is over the next 5, 10 or 15 years? This plan for the future will be financed with…

Does UH need a capital budget plan?
“Do not wait until you are thirsty to dig a well,” says an old Chinese proverb. This proverb assumes thirst is a human condition, water comes from wells, and digging wells is hard work. Not work you want or can do without it. In other words, plan for the future.

What is the plan for University Heights 5, 10 or 15 years from now? We know we will have to replace garbage and fire trucks, repave streets and repair water lines. Do we have a plan? Have we decided the priorities? Do we know how this plan for the future will be financed over the next 5, 10 or 15 years?

The answer to all of the above is no. We have no plan. Some ask why we can’t just use the annual operating budget as we’ve always done. The annual operating budget handles the daily nuts and bolts of running the city—paper clips, salaries, electric bills. It does not provide the multiyear framework needed to fiscally plan for the purchase, repair or replacement of big-ticket items. A capital budget plan provides that mechanism and is essential to a city’s future. It identifies projects, prioritizes them and creates a fiscal plan to provide funding. What are capital projects? They are essential public purpose items of long useful life, infrequent and expensive purchases, replacements or repairs.

Capital budget plans reflect how a city sees itself in the coming years. These investments make our city a physically attractive place in which to live and work. Why not just save, then purchase essential public capital items, such as garbage collection trucks, fire trucks, police cars, street paving, curbs, sewer/ water lines? Did you save cash for 30 years before buying your house? No, you are paying off the mortgage while living in your house. We didn’t wait to save $682,210 before repaving University Parkway. As Councilman Sims stated, “It is not unusual or improper to borrow funds to complete a capital improvement project.”

As taxpayers, we want to know our taxes will be used to ensure a bright and independent University Heights. A published capital budget plan will document that.

In 2008, KeyBanc Capital Markets made a presentation to council on certain aspects of funding municipal capital expenses. Has public discussion or action been taken on the merits of a capital budget plan? Not to my knowledge.

Some say we do not need capital planning for our city—that regionalization, mergers and outsourcing will reduce our need to pay for these expensive items over time. But we know, even with public cost savings, our city will have to pay these expenses. So why do we decide to not to University Heights, then to another city or entity?

Let us not wait until it is too late to dig our well, or to plan for the big-ticket items required to run our city. Let us begin a capital budget planning process now.

Send your comments and suggestions for future topics to Anita Kazarian at Anita-Kazarian@gmail.com.
Return library books by July 1 and reduce your fines

Tonya Davis

The Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library prides itself on being responsible with taxpayer dollars. In light of this, the library tries to ensure that overdue materials are returned. Sometimes, a gentle reminder is needed to get these items back to the library.

In July, Heights Libraries will join many CleveVet (Northeast Ohio area) libraries in using a “materials recovery service” to facilitate the return of overdue items. Library staff hopes that this will greatly reduce the number of items that have to be replaced. For popular items, such as bestselling books and DVDs, it will also result in bold requests being filled faster. If items are lost, the library asks that the customer pay the replacement cost in a timely manner.

Get ready; changes go into effect

In July, Heights Libraries will join that overdue materials are returned. In light of this, the library tries to ensure a timely manner. The customer pay the replacement cost in such as bestselling books and DVDs, it greatly reduce the number of items that will also result in hold requests being filled greatly reduce the number of items that.

Library staff hopes that this will greatly reduce the number of items that will also result in hold requests being filled greatly reduce the number of items that.

Friends of the Library planned activi-
ties

Friends will have tables at the June and July Coventry Street Fairs, the August Cedar Forest Fair, and the August Cedar Lee Rock the Block Fair. Another “Raise Up: a Literary Fundraiser” will be held at Hightown in October. The Mega Book Sale will be held Nov. 11-14.

Website visits

In March, 37314 visitors to the website came from 93 countries and territories, mostly from the United States but also from the United Kingdom, Ireland, Iran, Italy, Hong Kong and others. These statistics are gathered by using Google Analytics.

Look for earlier and often expanded postings of meeting summaries online at www.heightslibrary.org. See disclaimer on page 4.

CH-UH Public Library Board
Meeting highlights

APRIL 19, 2010

Complaint about a book

Director Nancy Levin said that the library had received a complaint about the book Prey by Loraine McDaniel. The library will respond.

Building and Repair Fund resolution

Board President William Glinton submitted, for consideration, a resolution that the board direct the fiscal officer to transfer an average of 6 percent of the total appropriated general fund expenditures into the Building and Repair Fund in the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 for the purpose of maintaining and optimizing all facilities. The board has established four priorities for these activities: current and deferred maintenance issues, the 2007 Facilities Assessment by Studio Techne, energy conservation, and the Noble Library renovations. Board Member Kevin Crider indicated that he liked the percentage approach and suggested 6 percent for Building and Repair and an additional 1.7 percent for Technology. The resolution passed with that addition.

Community garden

The board accepted a grant from the State Library in the amount of $5,600 with a local match of $2,600. This “Growing Communities” grant will be used for community gardening at all of the library’s gardens. The only garden last year was at Lee Road. In addition to sharing the harvest at the “Take Some, Leave Some” tables, staff will take surplus to the Heights Emergency Food Center.

Fund for the Future of Heights Libraries

The board adopted the Articles of Incorporation and the Code of Regulations for the fund. This fund has been established at the Cleveland Founda-
tion with $10,000 of seed money donated by the Friends of the Library. Every opportunity will be taken to publicize the fund and to encourage community members to consider serving on the board, which will initially comprise seven members.

What’s going on at your library?

Coventry Village Library

1925 Coventry Road, 216-321-3400
Teen Knitters Guild, Tuesdays, June 1 & 29, 4 p.m.
You Gotta See This Movie Series, Thursdays, June 3-24, 2 p.m.
Stop Out of Time, Thursday, June 10, 7 p.m.
Make A Splash, Monday, June 14, 7 p.m.
Khulile Jazo, Tuesday, June 27, 7 p.m.

Lee Road Library

2345 Lee Road, 216-932-3600
Knitting Night at Lee Road, Tuesdays, June 8 & 22, 7 p.m.
Meet the Author: Jan Johnston, Wednesday, June 9, 10 a.m.
A Perfect World Music, Thursday, June 10, 7 p.m.
Library Luau, Sunday, June 13, 1 p.m.
Coupon Swap, Sunday, June 13, 2 p.m.
Scenes from Marilyn Bianchi Playwriting Festival, Thursday, June 24, 6:30 p.m.

University Heights Library

13866 Cedar Road, 216-321-4700
Story Stop, Wednesdays, June 2-30, 10:30 a.m.
The Senior Spot, Wednesdays, June 2-30, 12:30 p.m.
Kanokee Wednesdays, Wednesdays, June 9 & 23, 4 p.m.
Little Sandals, Thursday, June 24, 7 p.m.

Community gardening project

grow a little, give a lot

Tonya Davis

If you like gardening and fresh produce—then the library’s the place to be this summer. Thanks to a federal grant, the library’s Growing Communities program will create vegetable gardens at each of the branch libraries and at harvest time, will share the bounty with residents. The library needs volunteer gardeners to help. If you’re interested in helping, call the library or e-mail Heather Howiler at hhhowiler@heights-library.org.

Tonya Davis is an employee of the Heights Libraries who enjoys writing and photography in her free time.

Splash into summer reading

Tonya Davis

Come to the library and dive into this year’s summer reading program, Make a Splash—Read! The library guarantees an ocean of fun for everyone! Children will receive a prize just for signing up. Families can attend the special performances of a magical musical adventure or take a break from the sun at the Coventry Music & Movies Under the Stars series. School-age children can release their creative energy in a program called Beyond the Book.

Families with younger children can drop in for any of the weekly story-times—Reading Rumpus, Story Stop or Explorastory. Come to Purvis Park to learn about the environment through stories and ecological activities.

The summer reading program for teens kicks off with a party—a luau—on Sunday, June 13, from 1-5 p.m. in the Lee Road Library Teen Room. Teens will make waves this year by reading for prizes. Read as little as 200 pages, or as many as 2,400 pages in books, magazines or manga (Japanese comics) to win prizes. Readers who persevere more than 2,400 pages will be entered into the grand prize drawing for a gift card to Target, GameStop or the Cedar Lee Cinema.

Enjoy the work of art inspired by your summer reading and see it displayed at the library at the end of the summer. Your artwork could also win a prize! Visit the library weekly for exciting programs, great books, stickers and chances to win lots of good stuff. Be sure to celebrate your completion of the summer reading program at the closing party on July 28.

Advertise in the Heights Observer
Call 216-513-3070
www.heightsobserver.org

Visit Heights Observer online at www.heightsobserver.com.
See postings of meeting summaries online at www.heightslibrary.org. Check out the “Meetings” page or “Postings” page for earlier and often expanded postings of meeting summaries online at www.heightslibrary.org. See disclaimer on page 4.
**Innovative teacher Barnett retires after 33 years at Ruffing**

Francine Barnett, who established and ran Ruffing Montessori School’s physical and outdoor education department, will retire in June, having taught at the school for 33 years.

With a focus on teaching skills for a lifetime enjoyment of physical activities, Barnett developed a unique and encompassing program for students from 18 months of age through eighth grade.

Including—but going far beyond—the basic team sports model, Barnett’s innovative physical and outdoor education curriculum features canoeing, kayaking, archery, rock wall climbing, overnight camping, nature hiking and annual participation in the President’s Council on Physical Fitness Award program.

Barnett instituted the school’s target archery curriculum under the National Archery in the Schools Program, and Ruffing Montessori has competed in regional and national archery team qualifying to advance to nationals. Involved in the school’s annual Great Kids’ Race since its beginning 10 years ago, Barnett devised the Great Kids’ Obstacle Course to engage and challenge participants under five years of age.

A resident of Cleveland Heights since the 1970s, Barnett operated GymKids, a noncompetitive coed gymnastics program located at Church of the Redeemer, for 25 years. She worked at the Heights YMCA/YWCA for many years, and actively volunteers for the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Camp Ho Mita Koda, a summer camp for young people with diabetes. She is also a certified instructor in numerous outdoor skill areas.

Barnett’s retirement will give her, and her husband, Don, the opportunity to spend more time kayaking, hiking, camping, canoeing and traveling—all the things retired physical and outdoor education teachers do.

Carol Provan is the director of development for Ruffing Montessori School.

---

**Students honored**

Two National Merit and Achievement Scholarship Finalists were honored along with four students who received commendations.

Carlin Jackson was chosen to attend the 2010 Martin W. Essex School for the Gifted at Ohio State this summer. Mikala Thomas was chosen Promising Young Student by Power of the Pen.

**School calendars approved**

The board approved the school calendars for 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. In 2011-2012 students will report on Aug. 30 and their last day will be June 7. In 2012-2013 students will report on Aug. 28 and their last day will be June 6.

**New principals introduced**

Superintendent Douglas Heuer introduced two new principals for the 2010-2011 school year. Joseph Nohra Jr. will be the new principal of PRIDE school at the high school and Michael Woods will be the new principal at Bellevue.

Jolie Beers resigns

Jolie Beers, principal at Noble Elementary School, is leaving to head the new Cleveland State University lab school.
Heights High on Academic Challenge

Joy Henderson

On Saturday, May 22, 7 p.m., Channel 5’s “Academic Challenge” program featured a team from Cleveland Heights High School competing against Bedford and Midview of Grafton. Freshmen Trevor Coble and Kyra Schoonover, and sophomore and captain Rayven Moss represented Heights High.

The actual competition and taping for the show occurred on April 18. This was the second year that Heights High had a team in the competition. “The team worked very hard to prepare for the show,” said Jim Miller, the team’s adviser. Miller looks to working with the team and the team’s adviser. Miller looks to working with the team and helping members improve in the coming years. “Academic Challenge” features teams of three students from three area high schools who compete for points by answering questions on such topics as math, science, history and current events.

At the end of each program, the points are totaled. At season’s end, the three highest scoring teams return for the championship match. The Heights High team placed second. Midview (Grafton) took first place and Bedford came in third. Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron won the championship match this year. This is the 41st year for Channel 5’s “Academic Challenge.”

Joy Henderson is the parent/community liaison for Heights High.

Ruffing Montessori School achieves LEED certification

Carol Provan

Ruffing Montessori’s recent green facility renovation and construction project has been designated a LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certified building by the U.S. Green Building Council and the Green Building Certification Institute. LEED is the nation’s preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

Ruffing’s project did more than just replace outdated facilities. Ruffing’s objectives were to create the healthiest possible place for students and staff to learn, work and to establish an eco-friendly environment for students to comprehend and carry into the world. The certification process is rigorous, and adherence to specific criteria is carefully assessed. In the USGBC’s point system, the school earned bonus points for its innovative green curriculum, school-wide green initiatives and exemplary use of recycled materials its new construction project.

What makes a building green? In Ruffing’s case, the facility is loaded with green features, including a geo-thermal system that provides efficient heating and cooling; photovoltaic (solar) panels that produce power equivalent to the operating requirements of the geo-thermal system; a living roof for solarium and energy conservation; high efficiency lighting; energy efficient windows; sun tubes; solar shades; fabric ductwork; low volatile organic compound (VOC) paints, carpet tiles and glues; natural flooring materials; energy efficient appliances; rain barrels; waterless urinals and controlled hand towel dispensers. In its policies and practices, the school promotes recycling, composting, rainwater reuse in classroom gardens, green procurement, non-toxic cleaning products and no-waste lunches.

Ruffing’s green curriculum was recognized with a 2009 Northeast Ohio Environmental Award by the Biodiversity Alliance, for an “innovative curriculum that permeates the whole school.” Beginning with its youngest students, toddlers, and continuing through eighth grade, the program teaches ways energy can be consumed more efficiently and how human choices help or harm the planet. The school has developed a specific sequenced curriculum, created copyrighted activity-based Montessori-style materials, and uses the building’s green features as a working lab. At every age level, students are introduced to increasingly complex ideas centered on sustainability, stewardship and individual responsibility.

Ruffing’s LEED project team was led by architect Rick Parker, and included Denk Associates, e-Quest Strategies, Facilities Management Concepts, Inc., Ogre Mechanical Corporation, Panzea Construction Company and Mike Shaut, the school’s board president. A certification ceremony for the school community is planned for a later date.

Carol Provan is the director of development for Ruffing Montessori School.
In response to declines in property and income tax receipts in recent years, the new plan will address ways in which the city government can increase revenue and maintain or restore services, with further squeezing citizens, who are already paying high taxes.

To this end, the new strategic plan will include a spreadsheet that sets out the prospective benefits to city coffers of specific development possibilities around the city, with an emphasis on development sites owned or controlled by the city, such as Top of the Hill and Meadowbrook Lake. Attention will also be given to sites that are privately owned or owned by other units of government and which may be suitable for adaptive reuse or redevelopment. These sites would include the long vacant Millikin school and the Oakwood club.

Wong states that the new plan will lay out the city’s strategies for taking advantage of opportunities—its proximity to University Circle, for example—as well as detail its efforts to combat the deleterious and ongoing effects of the foreclosure crisis. The plan will call for advanced design standards governing renovation and new construction—standards which could influence and improve the quality of design not only within the city’s borders, but in neighboring communities as well.

For the first time, the strategic plan will address the topics of energy efficiency and environmental sustainability. In this regard, the plan will complement the city’s intention to remove barriers to sustainable development from its building and zoning codes.

The plan will address major transportation topics, such as traffic calming and the “complete streets” idea, which calls for streets to safely and comfortably accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders, not just motorists.

The first two editions of the plan were the work of the city’s planning commission, a seven-member body appointed by city council. This time, after planning department staff and the commission developed draft content for the new strategic plan, it will be forwarded to city council for review and eventual adoption. A draft for public review will be available in June. Wong assures that there will be ample opportunity for citizen participation.

Vince Reddy, an urban planner employed by Cleveland Public Art, is a member of the FutureHeights board of directors and had previously served as zoning administrator for the City of Cleveland Heights.

Join the Racquets tennis
Gloria Hanson and Gretchen Herbruck

The Racquets will be hosting those tennis balls again this summer. We encourage women who love tennis and camaraderie to join us from 9 to 11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Cain Park tennis courts. The group has been around since the 1970s and prides itself on its inclusiveness and diversity. We have fun while honing our serves, lobs and cross-court strokes, and we reward ourselves at the end of the season with a scrumptious lunch at a local Cleveland Heights eatery.

We invite you come and see if you would enjoy the tennis and the group.

Ward. Hearing from adults who sat in the same classrooms and walked the same halls, they found solid role models for what they can accomplish in life.

For more information about this year’s inductees and nomination forms, go to the Alumni Foundation website: www.heightsalumni.org/hof.

Anita Kazarian, a resident of University Heights, is a frequent contributor to the Heights Observer.

Evan Komito (CHHS ’65), currently resides in Cleveland Heights after a 35-year hiatus on the east coast.

Join the Racquets tennis
Gloria Hanson and Gretchen Herbruck

The Racquets will be hosting those tennis balls again this summer. We encourage women who love tennis and camaraderie to join us from 9 to 11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Cain Park tennis courts. The group has been around since the 1970s and prides itself on its inclusiveness and diversity. We have fun while honing our serves, lobs and cross-court strokes, and we reward ourselves at the end of the season with a scrumptious lunch at a local Cleveland Heights eatery.

We invite you come and see if you would enjoy the tennis and the group.

Ward. Hearing from adults who sat in the same classrooms and walked the same halls, they found solid role models for what they can accomplish in life.

For more information about this year’s inductees and nomination forms, go to the Alumni Foundation website: www.heightsalumni.org/hof.

Anita Kazarian, a resident of University Heights, is a frequent contributor to the Heights Observer.

Evan Komito (CHHS ’65), currently resides in Cleveland Heights after a 35-year hiatus on the east coast.
Swim Cadets “Save the Day” with annual show

By Julia Gay


Sophomores Anna Borkan, Julia Barcus, Lucy Tatar and Madison Apple hold more Anna Wachter. “It brings together girls that otherwise would have never met.”

The Swim Cadets began practicing in late October, starting with swimming clinics and conditioning. According to Apple, co-president with Datta, the team practiced six days a week for two hours. As March 4 approached, the Stage Crew and Swim Cadets worked together, organizing music and lights for the show. Stage Crew member sophomore Nathan Adkins felt, “All things considered, the show went surprisingly well.”

Sophomores Peter Eiger, who attended the Swim Cadets show all three nights, noted that the choreography was well done.”

By Colin Higgs

IMD travels to Cincinnati and Louisville on yearly Tour

From airplanes to tour buses, from Hollywood to Louisville, what has changed for the Cleveland Heights High Instrumental Music Department from last year’s tour to this year’s. But as both the band directors and the students will testify, the fun was still there.

Each year, students from the department’s two upper groups travel to new destinations, where they participate in a number of activities, including clinics and concerts. This year, the band took a rather small tour, still with a great time.

“For a smaller tour, it was one of the best we’ve done,” said band Director Brett Baker. After the extravagance of last year’s tour to California, the band, and its budget, decided it was time for a break. This year, it traded the west coast for stops in Cincinnati and Louisville, KY.

Baker and fellow Director Daniel Heim, who conducts the orchestra, were pleased with the outcome of the trip. “It was a great balance of work and play,” Heim said. And according to Baker, “Students really seemed to enjoy the learning part of the tour, and the fun part of it.”

The directors agreed that the tour can be an effective educational resource for students. The clinics provide a comfortable, yet focused environment for both of the groups to work on their music under the instruction of legible level music directors.

For students, the exchange concert provides an opportunity for them to evaluate themselves. Hearing the kind of music that other high school musicians play is a useful way to gauge one’s own ability, and to determine what one can improve on.

“It was really good to get a second opinion on our work,” said sophomore Linnea Fox.

Heim commented on the musical aspects of the tour, saying: “It gives everybody a sense that there’s something you can improve on, and that there’s always a way to take music to the next level.”

But tour isn’t just about education. This year’s tour also featured several other activities in the form of civic activities, including a trip to the Cincinnati Zoo, a visit to the Louisville Slugger bat museum, and most prominently, a dinner-dance on a riverboat ride down the Ohio River. The activities not only kept students occupied, but also kept them all having a good time.

“Tour is always great,” said junior Caitlyn McGaugh. “Every year the trip is a lot of fun, and this year was no exception.”

Senior Seth Dumm, known for his love of the English language, put things into perspective: “It was a totes-ma-goats. In seriousness, it was seriously awesome.”

The band directors stressed how tour is not just clinics and concerts, but also a time to be with your friends, and a time to acquaint yourself with people you don’t know so well, including the directors themselves.

“Up in front of the class, we’re all business,” said Baker. “There’s not much opportunity to really get to know anybody. On tour, you really bond with the kids, and otherwise, we wouldn’t have that opportunity.”

Both directors say the tour was a positive experience for the students.

“I’m definitely looking forward to it next year,” Heim said, “whether it’s something far away, or just right around the corner.”
IMD tour to Louisville and Cincinnati is a wonderful experience for instrumental music students

By Lena Console

Loo-uh-vuhl. Loo-es-vil. Luh-e-vuhl. Luh-vuhl. These are some of the many pronunciations Southern-ners have for the city of Louisville, KY. We Northerners from Cleveland Heights, OH learned of all these and more as the Instrumental Music Department of Cleveland Heights High School embarked on its annual spring tour. Over spring break, student musicians, directors and chaperones embarked on a three day long journey to Cincinnati and you guessed it, Louisville, KY (pronounced whichever way is to your liking).

At 4AM on the morning of Tuesday March 30, over sixty teenagers and their sleep deprived parents woke up to pack the car and head for the school to meet the others, whose lack of sleep made them look more like zombies than musicians. After about five hours in buses full of teens who attempted to get some more sleep, the buses pulled up to the University of Cincinnati. Here, the Symphonic Winds and Heights High Symphony each participated in clinics with music faculty members. The clinic worked on music standards to be performed. Each group of students worked hard on pieces by composers including Saint-Saëns, Verdi, Holst, and whoever comes up with Klezmer music. After a mere hour of extensive playing and learning for each group, our playing of each of the four pieces had already improved.

Then we jumped back on the bus to head farther south to Louisville, KY. After a long day of traveling, everybody let loose at a game house and then crashed in a hotel for the night. The amount of sleep each person got that night varied with a mean of five hours and a range from 0-8 hours. But we will cut those sleep deprived hooligans some slack; it was spring break after all, and they spent it at a school-related function.

The second day was just as full, if not more full than the first. Symphonic Winds and the Heights High Symphony each had another clinic at the University of Louisville with School of Music faculty members. While the same music was performed, the students learned new things from different perspectives, expanding upon their experiences and knowledge as musicians. To show off our hard work and improvement, an exchange concert took place at a local performing arts high school. Both Heights ensembles performed their pieces for the musicians at this high school, and in return they performed a few selections for us. This exchange provided a nice opportunity for the students from both high schools to mingle and share their passions with one another.

To wrap up the day, we had a formal dinner and dancing party on a yacht along the Ohio River. Ever Mr. Heim, the new orchestra director, busted out some moves on the dance floor. (It was pretty gutsy for his first year at Heights and his first tour with the IMD.) Mr. Baker, the band director, remained cool and collected, watching the madness from afar. (But we will get him out of his shell eventually. It is just taking a little longer.)

As we approached the end of our short but jam-packed tour, we all acted more as tourists, visiting the Louisville Slugger Museum and the Cincinnati zoo. It was a nice way to wrap up the two prior days of grueling playing and concentration.

Then we were back on the bus for good old Cleveland, OH. And of course, all the students rushed home to catch up on any homework assignments for the break.

The tour was short, sweet, and to the point. The IMD has devised a new two year cycle. Every other year, the IMD embarks for a more ambitious location (Chicago ’07, California ’09). In the years in between, the tour is a little shorter and to a closer location (Pittsburgh ’08, Cincinnati and Louisville ’10). This is not to say, however, that the short tours are less exciting or fun. This year’s trip was an excellent balance of performing, learning, and amusement with little time to spare. The IMD does not need to travel long or far to have a good time.

Opinion
What Do You Think?

What’s your take on the eight period days being instituted next year?

Cornelius Pewu, Freshman
Ricky Urminsky, Junior
Codi Steffen, Junior
Cameron Redic, Sophomore
Haethem Rasul, Counselor, Renaissance

It gives us a longer school day, which is annoying, but it gives us an opportunity to take more classes.

It’s just too long to be sitting in class.

I don’t think it’s going to be helpful, because kids are just going to mess around for additional time each day.

It is unnecessary, it is going to cause more problems by grouping worse students together in a classroom.

It will provide more time for students for intervention or study time.

The Black & Gold is a student publication of Cleveland Heights High School, 13263 Cedar Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118. Our Worldwide Web site is located at www.heightsobserver.org.

Opinions expressed are the consensus of the Black & Gold editorial board and do not represent the views of Cleveland Heights or the Heights High School. The Black & Gold is affiliated with the following press organizations: Northeastern Ohio Scholastic Press Association (NOSPA), Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA), Journalism Education Association (JEA), The Great Lakes Interscholastic Press Association (GLIPA), Newspaper and Yearbook. For advertising rates and information, please email our advisor, Margaret Hull, at m_hull@chuh.org, or reach her by phone at (216) 320-4999 ext. 81321.

The Black & Gold would especially like to thank the Cleveland Heights High School Alumni Foundation for their generous grant, in order to continue this publication.

Editor-in-Chief .................................... Seth Ungemach
Associate Editor ................................. Lena Console
Associate Editor ................................. Julia Gay
Page 1 Editor ..................................... Seth Ungemach
Page 2 Editor ..................................... Seth Ungemach
Page 3 Editor ..................................... Seth Ungemach
Page 4 Editor ..................................... Seth Ungemach
Junior Editor .................................... Jake Stern, Seth Ungemach
Advisor .............................................. Margaret Hull

www.heightsobserver.org
Vocal Music Department’s Spring Concert

Seniors and Co-Presidents Austen Perelman-Hall and Seth Ungemach strike a pose as the Cleveland Heights High School Singers perform “I Want You Back/ABC” during their Spring Concert May 21.

Freshmen Midori Marsh and Emily Brock, juniors Mista Craig, Jack Lentz and Rachael Lindsay, and seniors Taylor Reynolds, Sarah Zelman and Bethany Rudy look around during a pause in the Cleveland Heights High School A Capella Choir’s performance in the Spring Concert, May 21.

Juniors Joshua Toombs, Mista Craig, Brian Barron, Jack Lentz and Richard Daniel, and seniors Seth Ungemach and Terrence Aldridge perform with the Heights High Barbershoppers at the Spring Concert, May 21. The Barbershoppers also recently performed at the Cleveland Museum of Art during the Gartner Auditorium’s “Opening Nights Festival” April 28, according to Office Manager of the Performing Arts Michael KcKay.

Like what you see here? Want to help create it? Join the Newspaper Club, and help continue this 95 year tradition! Contact Mrs. Hull in Room 321 for more information!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armstrong Atlantic State University</td>
<td>Lydia Craddock</td>
<td>Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Hockey Junior League</td>
<td>Liam Robinson</td>
<td>William Huggins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allegheny College</td>
<td>Rachel Root</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baldwin-Wallace College</td>
<td>Dana Walker</td>
<td>Priya Datta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baron Institute of Technology</td>
<td>Anthony Dailey</td>
<td>Hampton University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling Green State University</td>
<td>Tamille Harton</td>
<td>Quianna Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown University</td>
<td>Lewis Pollis</td>
<td>Hiram College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Western Reserve University</td>
<td>Oliver Ernst</td>
<td>Damani Hamzah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland Institute of Music</td>
<td>Matt Zucker</td>
<td>Christopher Lariviere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland State University</td>
<td>Alexandrea Williams</td>
<td>Takara Simmons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffeyville Community College</td>
<td>Kiawnia Jackson</td>
<td>Indiana University of Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia College Chicago</td>
<td>Sarah Zelman</td>
<td>Deven Bray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia University</td>
<td>Alexandra Miller</td>
<td>Austen Perelman-Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus College of Art &amp; Design</td>
<td>Alesha Williams</td>
<td>Kent State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denison University</td>
<td>Benjamin Flox</td>
<td>Taylor Reynolds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Michigan University</td>
<td>Nathan Gavin</td>
<td>Ciara Roberson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Northern University</td>
<td>Dominique McKee</td>
<td>Clarissa Sims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Technical College</td>
<td>Paris Snipes</td>
<td>Tionisha Vaughn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Park University</td>
<td>Sarah Konishi</td>
<td>La Roche College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rochester Institute of Technology</td>
<td>Jaiye Sampson</td>
<td>Kelli Barnes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seton Hill University</td>
<td>Preston Lewis</td>
<td>Lehigh University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee State University</td>
<td>Ashley Morris</td>
<td>Daniella Baxter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Akron</td>
<td>Courtney Avant</td>
<td>Lincoln University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Cincinnati</td>
<td>Di'mari Fluellen</td>
<td>LaChe’ Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Courtney Lovelace</td>
<td>Massachusetts College of Art &amp; Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Dayton</td>
<td>Christopher Zirm</td>
<td>Eric Brock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Oregon</td>
<td>Eve Tranchito</td>
<td>McGill University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Rochester</td>
<td>Natajah Roberts</td>
<td>Esther Kelsch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Toledo</td>
<td>Maqsoodah Bryant</td>
<td>Notre Dame College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilberforce University</td>
<td>Mark Crawford</td>
<td>Alicia Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wittenberg University</td>
<td>Victoria Lee</td>
<td>Oberlin College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xavier University</td>
<td>Bethany Rudy</td>
<td>Emily King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana University of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Deven Bray</td>
<td>Ohio State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State University</td>
<td>Hannah Apple</td>
<td>Amin Assar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Park University</td>
<td>Sarah Konishi</td>
<td>Seth Dunn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rochester Institute of Technology</td>
<td>Jaiye Sampson</td>
<td>Reginald Evans II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seton Hill University</td>
<td>Preston Lewis</td>
<td>Carl Fries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee State University</td>
<td>Ashley Morris</td>
<td>Ashley Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Akron</td>
<td>Courtney Avant</td>
<td>Erin Morris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Cincinnati</td>
<td>Di'mari Fluellen</td>
<td>Adeola (Toni) Solaru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Oregon</td>
<td>Eve Tranchito</td>
<td>Davaugh Wagner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Toledo</td>
<td>Maqsoodah Bryant</td>
<td>Kelly Ward</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is a partial listing of schools as of June 1, 2010. A complete list will be available online at www.heightsobserver.org.
Parenting Q & A

Ellen Barrett

Ellen Barrett, a parent educator at Heights Parent Center for the last 12 years, fields questions about the daily ups and downs of parenting. The same issues impact many parents. If you have questions you would like Ellen to answer in this column, e-mail her at ebarrett@heightsparentcenter.org.

Q. My husband and I have very different parenting styles. He is much more of a disciplinarian. He expects there to be order, process and consequences. I feel our children (6 and 3 years old) are still babies and we should be nurturing them, not punishing them. He likes more structure and order. I like to see what unfolds and go with it. How can we find balance and determine what is really best for the children in spite of our own ideas?

A. What you are experiencing is a very common parenting dilemma. I often hear that spouses can “agree to disagree” on many topics but then along come children.

Children have a significant affect on our daily lives and how we perceive how we see the world, how we navigate our own ideas? Both of you should feel ownership of parenting. Start by prioritizing. Decide what is negotiable or non-negotiable for each of you. For example: Will you use time-outs? If so, for how long and for what behaviors?

Read a few parenting books that strike a balance, such as Positive Discipline for Preschoolers by Jane Nelson or Discipline: The Bratpack Way, Advice from America’s Favorite Pediatrician by T. Berry Brazelton and Joshua D. Sparrow. Books have a way of stating what you or your husband might be thinking but can’t quite express, and they can provide a way for each of you to organize your thoughts.

Then talk together. What can you agree on? Have this negotiation go on behind the scenes so you can present a united and consistent front to your children. It is important so your children learn to predict outcomes and consequences and learn good patterns of behavior.

You and your spouse can combine ideas and approaches to parenting and achieve a great balance that both of you are invested in.

Heights Youth Club: CH-UH alumna back to encourage youth

Eboni Daniels

When I was a teenager, my most anticipated moment was entering Heights High. I was active in the school’s a capella choir, volleyball team and National Honors Society.

In 2004 I graduated from Heights and left home to attend Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. After graduating in 2007, I returned home to begin graduate studies in social work at Cleveland State University. For my internship, I chose the Heights Youth Club.

As I began my internship, I knew that the kids would be curious about a new staff member. I eased my way into their environment by first observing and then introducing myself. Each day I came a step closer to being accepted.

I focused on learning the children’s names, ages and interests to gain their trust. To accomplish the goals of my learning contract, I engaged the children through the Youth for Unity program, which teaches children about diversity through a variety of learning experiences.

Every Monday evening, I met with club members to discuss the topic of the day. Participants acquired a new vocabulary: discrimination, nationality, gender, ageism, sexism and others. We discussed the meaning of these words and their impact on various groups of people. Gradually, the children gained an understanding of issues of inequality that many people face. This knowledge resulted in better social interactions and strengthened relationships among HYC members, which in turn led to a series of activities to benefit the victims of the Haitian earthquake.

Club members learned about Haiti and the devastation caused by Mother Nature. They organized bake sales, an art sale and sponsored a three-day clothing drive to collect garments for the victims. Excited by their progress, they became involved in other club programs. The children came to understand that working towards a goal greater than themselves has its own rewards.

At HYC, I had the opportunity to apply what I learned in the classroom to solving problems at the club. I experienced both the positive and the challenging aspects of being part of a nonprofit organization. Working with my supervisor, the staff and the board of advisors provided me with a good balance of authority, professionalism and friendship.

We didn’t have a youth club when I was a Heights student. For children today who feel lost, need academic support, or just love being with their friends, the club is exactly where they need to be. It helped me finish my career as a student, and I know it will help others.

Eboni Daniels received her Master’s degree in social work from Cleveland State University on May 15, 2010.
After months of hard work, Heights Youth Club martial arts students produced impressive results at the Millennium Invitational Martial Arts Tournament, which took place May 2 at Orange High School.

The tournament attracts competitors of all ages, from several states and various countries. Events included demonstrations in self-defense, sparring and both musical and nonmusical forms.

Competitors included Bryce Swoope, a sixth grader at Monticello Middle School; Alexus Carson and Antoinette Bennett, both third graders at Canterbury Elementary School; Simone Beard, a second grader at Fairfax Elementary School; and Nia Primm, a second grader at Canterbury Elementary School.

The kids began to sharpen their skills six months earlier, when they decided to compete in the tournament. As their instructor, it was my responsibility to prepare them for the event. They knew they would be in competition against the very best in their age groups and that there were going to be winners and losers.

With one exception, the kids placed in the top eight in each of the events they entered. Highlights included a fifth place finish in Synchronized Kata Forms for Alexus and Antoinette, a fourth place finish for Antoinette for her self-defense routine, a second place finish for Nia and her partner in Synchronized Kata, and a first place finish for Bryce and his partner Terry Wheeler in Synchronized Kata.

The HYC kids showed discipline and determination in pursuit of these results. They earned the respect of the other competitors and learned a lesson about the value and reward of hard work.

This was a wonderful adventure and I could not have been more proud of my students.

David Jones holds a 4th degree black belt in Tai Shin Doh and is an instructor at the Heights Youth Club, the Cleveland Heights Recreation Center and Gesu School.
Coventry to hold free events Thursday nights this summer

Steve Presser

The Coventry Village summer series kicks off with the Coventry Street Arts Fair on Thursday, June 17 and continues throughout the summer with the free Music & Movies Under the Stars series on Thursdays.

A full slate of free summer activities begins June 17 with the 7th annual Coventry Street Arts Fair (on Coventry between Euclid Heights Boulevard and Mayfield Road). Recognizing that Coventry is a multicultural neighborhood with an artistic flair, the Coventry Village Special Improvement District sponsors the fair to showcase local artistic talent, encourage the support of local businesses, and invite people of all ages to appreciate performances, music, hands-on activities and affordable art and jewelry.

This year, the fair will feature main stage entertainment by DubFlex and Cats on Holiday, spinning by DJ ESO, interactive activities and performances by Passport Project and Progressive Arts Alliance. The fun will continue on, kid-friendly projects by the Cleveland Museum of Art. The event will enable neighbors to mingle with visitors from throughout the city and celebrate Coventry’s multicultural neighborhood with an artistic flair.

The movie that gets the most votes will launch an expanded free Music & Movies Under the Stars series that will offer local preshow entertainment, paired with a family-friendly movie, every Thursday night throughout the summer.

Every week, June 17 through Aug. 12, the Coventry Village Special Improvement District sponsors the free Music & Movies Under the Stars series at various venues throughout the Coventry Village Special Improvement District. The event will enable neighbors to mingle with visitors from throughout the city and celebrate Coventry’s multicultural neighborhood with an artistic flair.

The movie that gets the most votes will launch an expanded free Music & Movies Under the Stars series that will offer local preshow entertainment, paired with a family-friendly movie, every Thursday night throughout the summer.

Every week, June 17 through Aug. 12, the Coventry Village Special Improvement District sponsors the free Music & Movies Under the Stars series at various venues throughout the Coventry Village Special Improvement District.

This year, the fair will feature main stage entertainment by DubFlex and Cats on Holiday, spinning by DJ ESO, interactive activities and performances by Passport Project and Progressive Arts Alliance. The fun will continue on, kid-friendly projects by the Cleveland Museum of Art. The event will enable neighbors to mingle with visitors from throughout the city and celebrate Coventry’s multicultural neighborhood with an artistic flair.

This year, the fair will be followed by a free outdoor screening of “The Wizard of Oz” at 9 p.m. The movie will launch an expanded free Music & Movies Under the Stars series that will offer local preshow entertainment, paired with a family-friendly movie, every Thursday night throughout the summer.

Every week, June 17 through Aug. 12, the Coventry Village Special Improvement District sponsors the free Music & Movies Under the Stars series at various venues throughout the Coventry Village Special Improvement District.

This year, the fair will feature main stage entertainment by DubFlex and Cats on Holiday, spinning by DJ ESO, interactive activities and performances by Passport Project and Progressive Arts Alliance. The fun will continue on, kid-friendly projects by the Cleveland Museum of Art. The event will enable neighbors to mingle with visitors from throughout the city and celebrate Coventry’s multicultural neighborhood with an artistic flair.

This year, the fair will feature main stage entertainment by DubFlex and Cats on Holiday, spinning by DJ ESO, interactive activities and performances by Passport Project and Progressive Arts Alliance. The fun will continue on, kid-friendly projects by the Cleveland Museum of Art. The event will enable neighbors to mingle with visitors from throughout the city and celebrate Coventry’s multicultural neighborhood with an artistic flair.

This year, the fair will feature main stage entertainment by DubFlex and Cats on Holiday, spinning by DJ ESO, interactive activities and performances by Passport Project and Progressive Arts Alliance. The fun will continue on, kid-friendly projects by the Cleveland Museum of Art. The event will enable neighbors to mingle with visitors from throughout the city and celebrate Coventry’s multicultural neighborhood with an artistic flair.

This year, the fair will feature main stage entertainment by DubFlex and Cats on Holiday, spinning by DJ ESO, interactive activities and performances by Passport Project and Progressive Arts Alliance. The fun will continue on, kid-friendly projects by the Cleveland Museum of Art. The event will enable neighbors to mingle with visitors from throughout the city and celebrate Coventry’s multicultural neighborhood with an artistic flair.

This year, the fair will feature main stage entertainment by DubFlex and Cats on Holiday, spinning by DJ ESO, interactive activities and performances by Passport Project and Progressive Arts Alliance. The fun will continue on, kid-friendly projects by the Cleveland Museum of Art. The event will enable neighbors to mingle with visitors from throughout the city and celebrate Coventry’s multicultural neighborhood with an artistic flair.

This year, the fair will feature main stage entertainment by DubFlex and Cats on Holiday, spinning by DJ ESO, interactive activities and performances by Passport Project and Progressive Arts Alliance. The fun will continue on, kid-friendly projects by the Cleveland Museum of Art. The event will enable neighbors to mingle with visitors from throughout the city and celebrate Coventry’s multicultural neighborhood with an artistic flair.
Restoring the cutting edge
Lita Gonzalez

Walking through the door at CUT Hair Studio, I immediately knew something was different. It was more than just the three extra client chairs that had materialized since my last visit. There was an excitement, an energy that seemed to ripple throughout the popular Lee Road hair salon.

“What’s going on?” I asked as I settled into the chair. Laura Griffith, owner and creator of CUT Hair Studio, explained that she was ready to make some changes in her business and career.

“I knew that I wanted to take CUT to the next level, but not by myself. I also knew that if I was going to bring in a partner, it had to be the right person at the right time. Then Ken literally walked back into my life.”

Ken Novak has known Griffith for 19 years. “Early in our careers we were Aveda junkies,” laughed Novak, “but our careers took us in different directions and we lost touch.” Novak, former creative director for a local Aveda spa, was traveling to photo shoots and fashion week in New York City and Miami, while Griffith was starting her family and building her business. Novak moved to the east side of Cleveland to be closer to his clients. “As chance would have it, I was walking my dog on Lee Road and happened to pass CUT and saw Laura. I had no idea that she had opened her own salon!”

Griffith admits that reconnecting with Novak came at the right time. “We started talking about our careers and realized that we were both ready for a change,” she said.

“We realized that to merge as equal partners meant opening up a new business together. We picked the name RESTORE because it means to create balance and give something a renewed strength and vigor. That’s what this partnership will mean for the studio.”

Both Novak and Griffith promise that the new studio will still have its relaxed, small-town atmosphere, but with a touch of edginess. “We’re excited about growing the team and refocusing on education, so we can always keep ourselves on the cutting edge. Both want to offer a superior experience to everyone who walks through their door and still continue their commitment to the community that helped make CUT one of the leading salons in the area.

“Ken brings a fresh new energy, excitement and his experience in the fashion side of the business,” Griffith stressed.

Before the grand reopening, Novak and Griffith want to make sure that certain changes are in place—a new and wholesome product line, new business cards and an updated website.

“Our new business card says it all—Balance, Renew, and Inspire. That’s what RESTORE means to us,” said Griffith.

Lita Gonzalez is a community volunteer.

Hot coffee with a side of green
How Phoenix Coffee on Lee Road paved the way for a sustainable and affordable remodel
Lizzy Caston

Remodeling comes with horror stories: maxed credit cards, schedules months behind, fights with contractors. Now, imagine additional complications: remodel a bustling cafe using sustainable building practices while serving hundreds of people each day—and saving money at the same time. That’s the challenge locally-owned Phoenix Coffee, 2287 Lee Road, gave itself this winter. The results are a case study in sustainable remodeling success.

Construction historically has been one of the largest polluting industries because of everything from toxic building materials to demolition waste. The U.S. government estimates that 26 percent of nonindustrial waste in our landfills is due to construction and demolition; over 160 million tons per year. Yet “green” building innovations are often more expensive due to the types of materials and processing involved, which presents a dilemma for many small business owners who want to do the right thing, but may not be able to afford it.

Phoenix Coffee came up with creative solutions to standard construction practices and supported other local green businesses in its remodeling efforts. Phoenix used low-VOC (volatile organic compounds) paint and environmentally friendly carpet. Materials were reused and repurposed whenever possible (old science lab cases from John Carroll University, for example, were provided by John Deluca from Old School Salvage). The countertops are made from repurposed wood finished by Aaron Gogolin from A Piece of Cleveland. Store owner Sarah Wilson-Jones’ “hire” her mother, Polly Wilson, as the general contractor. Mom stayed on site, sometimes 16 hours a day, to keep costs and schedules in line. “We actually saved money doing sustainable construction,” Wilson-Jones says, “because we were thrifty by buying cheaper used and repurposed materials over new.

Do the best you can, when you can, with what you’ve got. Greening is a gradual process.”

A fixture in Cleveland since 1995, now with five cafes, a commercial roastery, and wholesale and catering services, Phoenix Coffee has always supported sustainable remodeling practices. For example, all the spent coffee grounds go to locally-based Samsi Environmental; the largest indoor earthworm vermi-composting facility in the world, where they are turned into rich, organic soil. This summer, Phoenix switches to compostable to-go cups, thus eliminating the food-container equivalent of the gas guzzler (styrofoam). Most of its furniture is from local second-hand stores, which not only improves sustainability but also contributes to the cafe’s funky-chic style.

Laura Horrocks-Germany is a regular customer, so much so that she’s one of the few honored with the official title of “Phoenix Fellow.” She sat through the remodel and gave plenty of feedback throughout the process. “Phoenix asked customers for their opinions. It’s indicative of Phoenix really listening to their customers’ needs,” she says. “The new space has a nice flow to it.”

For regulars like Horrocks-Germany, Lee Road Phoenix Coffee isn’t just about coffee, it’s about pulling community together to create a new, and better, sustainable business model to serve Heights residents now and into the future.

Lizzy Caston is a proud Cleveland Heights native who recently returned to live in the Heights after 20 years in Seattle, Portland, OR, and New Orleans. A professional writer and communicator, she owns Lizzy Caston Communications, www.lizzycaston.com, and currently works as Phoenix Coffee’s marketing maven.

SOURCEs used in the remodel:
A Piece of Cleveland (salvage materials) 216-254-9295
Webber Flooring 216-662-5370
Civitas Millwork 216-469-4806
Old School Salvage (old science lab cabinets) 216-509-5303
Custom Stainless 216-538-9293
Buckeye Plumbing 216-961-1777
Fruit of the Earth 216-538-9293
Phoenix Coffee 2287 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights 216-923-8227 www.phoenixcoffeecom
Stitching together

By Eleanor Mallet

When a group of women get together, pull out their knitting needles and begin working, it’s likely that something more than what is on the needles will take shape.

If they are sitting in anything resembling a circle, a certain kind of intimacy and conversation will emerge. As that rhythmic wrapping of yarn gets underway, arms reaching up in the air every so often to unwind more, no subject, at least in my experience, is off limits: parents, children, work, men, news—and more. So it was at the knitting circle at Noble Road Library on a recent Thursday evening.

“I just make squares,” said Frances Dostal, 86, of East Cleveland, knitting a lovely burgundy one with a bit of a pattern in it. “Thirty-six, seven-by-nine-inch pieces and then T rudy makes them into a crocheted bag of many colors that can also be used as a knapsack. Another has made two small crocheted owls for her daughter. T rudy Fischer, 86, is across the table, showing off her knitting.

Ms. Fischer, who is knitting an elegant top with a delicate edge, is one of the mainstays. She is work- ing on a sock and she shows me the one she has completed. I admire the perfect heel. I have made three or four pairs and have yet to achieve a heel that looks that good.

The women meet at 6:45 p.m., on the first and third Thursdays of the month, in the Children’s Room, amid the energy and liveliness of the little ones. But the talk is coming mostly from the knitters. Alicia Evans has come for the first time and her daughters, five and three, are playing across the room. A woman at the end of the table is helping Alicia learn to knit. “You’re going OK,” she said as she inspects her stitches. The teacher, Norma Boucher, turns out to be T rudy’s daughter.

“People come for the companionship . . . and for helping others,” said Marcy Schmidt, who is knitting a delicate yarn. Frances Dostal added, “People have a need for something warm and beautiful to make. People want to give something to someone who needs it. It’s likely that something more than the handmade things are given to someone who is in hospice or through a local church.

T rudy Fischer, 86, is across the table, and as I watch and listen, I sense that she is one of the mainstays. She is work- ing on a sock and she shows me the one she has completed. I admire the perfect heel. I have made three or four pairs and have yet to achieve a heel that looks that good.

The women meet at 6:45 p.m., on the first and third Thursdays of the month, in the Children’s Room, amid the energy and liveliness of the little ones. But the talk is coming mostly from the knitters. Alicia Evans has come for the first time and her daughters, five and three, are playing across the room. A woman at the end of the table is helping Alicia learn to knit. “You’re going OK,” she said as she inspects her stitches. The teacher, Norma Boucher, turns out to be T rudy’s daughter.

There’s a knitting group meeting at Noble Neighborhood Library, 2800 Noble Road, in the Children’s Room, on the first and third Thursdays of each month. The circle has a core of regulars who knit and talk about their work, their plans for the future, and the latest news. "It’s a great way to socialize," said one of the regulars, "and there’s always something new to learn."
Millikin neighbors petition for school reuse

Esther Feldman

At the May 4 meeting of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education, citizens submitted a petition with 420 signatures, urging the board to act quickly on revitalizing the Millikin Elementary School campus. Millikin, on Crest Road in the Severance neighborhood of Cleveland Heights, has been unused since its closing in 2006. Neighbors have cited acts of vandalism around the empty school and the school’s increasingly unkempt condition as contributors to neighborhood decline.

Jason Stein, area resident and recent candidate for Cleveland Heights City Council, spoke on behalf of the petitioners. He commended the board for its outreach to the nonprofit community, which led to an agreement between the schools and The Music Settlement for the reuse of the also shuttered Coventry Elementary School. Stein urged that the same “positive energy and thoughtfulness” be applied to Millikin.

The Millikin petition was crafted by a group of citizens acting on their own. “We had to do something,” said Liza Wolf. “It has been four years and nothing is happening.” She urged the board to bring an educational institution into Millikin to help revitalize the area.

In 2007, the board of education placed Millikin up for public auction. The highest bid was from Mosdos Ohr Hatorah, a well-regarded private school with two campuses already operating nearby. The board chose to reject all bids and instead wait a little longer for an offer that would reflect the campus’s true market value.

“W e had to do something,” said Liza Wolf. “It has been four years and nothing is happening.” She urged the board to bring an educational institution into Millikin to help revitalize the area.

Douglas Heuer, district superintendent, has stated that Millikin’s reuse is a priority for the school district. A long-term facilities plan was to be on the board’s agenda for its June 1 meeting.

Esther Feldman is a long-time Cleveland Heights resident and activist.

DO YOU HEAT YOUR HOME WITH HOT WATER OR STEAM?

Think You Can’t Have Air Conditioning? THINK AGAIN.

www.appleheating.com
 Toll Free 866-364-4811
 HEATING COOLING INDOOR AIR
 24 HOUR AWARD WINNING EMERGENCY SERVICE OHIO LICENSE 10357

Ductless Air Conditioning
 Quiet, Efficient, Comfortable

Geraci’s Restaurant

2266 Warrensville Center Road
University Heights, Ohio 44118
216 371-5643
216 382-5333
www.geracisrestaurant.net

Geraci’s Restaurant.

As seen on Diners, Drive-ins and Dives.

Be the change
the difference
a Leader.

For 25 years, the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Case Western Reserve University has been offering graduate education designed to produce leaders and managers of nonprofit organizations.

Mandel Center alumni are leading organizations such as The Music Settlement, The Free Medical Clinic of Greater Cleveland, Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio, the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, and the Rainey Institute.

Begin now.

Attend a Mandel Center Graduate Programs Open House this summer and learn about how you can begin in August. Significant scholarships are still available.

Thursday, June 3, 2010 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 24, 2010 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, July 15, 2010 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Call 18004356669 or visit www.case.edu/mandelcenter/grad for details

The Heights Observer will host a radio-oriented citizen-journalism workshop on Tuesday, June 22, at 7:9 p.m. in the Klein TV studio on the first floor of the O’Malley Center at John Carroll University. Citizen volunteers interested in learning how to record sound for print, Web and radio news stories are encouraged to attend.

Since 2008, FutureHeights’ Heights Observer citizen-journalism project has partnered with the university’s student-run radio station, WJCU 88.7 FM, to bring hyper-local Heights-centered news to the airways. Each day Heights Now, a two-minute local news segment, broadcasts on a rotating schedule. The segments are also available on the station’s website, www.wjcu.org.

Mark Krieger, an adjunct assistant professor in the university’s communications department and director of the station, will lead the session. It will focus on getting good quality recordings with the internal microphones or feeds from a PA system, the basics of audio-file manipulation and basic digital audio-recording do’s and don’ts, basic interviewing techniques, and creative problem-solving when recording.

Several Zoom recorders will be available for participants to practice interviewing and recording. Krieger will offer individual advice and demonstrate Audacity, a free, downloadable shareware audio editing program.

For more information and to RSVP, call 216-320-1423, e-mail info@futureheights.org or visit www.futureheights.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWS

COME BE A LEADER.

For 25 years, the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Case Western Reserve University has been offering graduate education designed to produce leaders and managers of nonprofit organizations.

Mandel Center alumni are leading organizations such as The Music Settlement, The Free Medical Clinic of Greater Cleveland, Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio, the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, and the Rainey Institute.

Begin now.

Attend a Mandel Center Graduate Programs Open House this summer and learn about how you can begin in August. Significant scholarships are still available.

Thursday, June 3, 2010 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, June 24, 2010 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, July 15, 2010 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Call 18004356669 or visit www.case.edu/mandelcenter/grad for details
Adopt-a-House in your neighborhood

Fran Mentch

We’re all concerned about keeping the empty houses in our neighborhood safe and preserving our property values. Twelve streets in our city are now better off because residents volunteered to “Adopt-a-House” near them. Volunteering to adopt a house means that you make a commitment to walk around the outside of an empty house in your neighborhood once a day to visually inspect it.

That way, if anything is broken or vandalized it can be reported to the police quickly, while there is a chance to obtain fingerprints and minimize damage. If you see that something has happened, call the police. If you believe the situation is an emergency, call 911. Otherwise, the number for nonemergency police calls in Cleveland Heights is 216-321-8100. Then be sure to make a second contact by calling or e-mailing (preferably) the city’s housing department.

In Cleveland Heights, contact Rick Wagner, manager of housing programs, at 216-291-4962 or rwagner@clvhts.com. In University Heights, contact David Menn, building commissioner, at 216-932-7800 ext. 226 or dmen@universityheights.com.

You should also contact the cities’ housing departments if the lawns of empty houses are not being mowed. Severance Neighborhood Organization is sponsoring the Adopt-a-House program and plans to compile a list of “lessons learned” from participants and to host a thank-you party for volunteers. If you are interested in adopting a house in your neighborhood, contact Fran Mentch at 216-381-5356 or fran@heightssno.org with your name and the name of the street where the empty house is located. Also contact Fran if you have a child’s drawing of a house that you are willing to let the Adopt-a-House project use as a logo.

Fran Mentch is the President of Severance Neighborhood Organization www.heightssno.org.

Nighttown to host Brett for Foodbank benefit

Karen Pozna

Cleveland Heights is home to an extraordinarily high number of critically acclaimed, award-winning, published writers. But only one resident—Regina Brett—just had a book on the New York Times Best Seller List for three weeks. Brett will be at Nighttown on Monday, June 14 to talk and sign her new book, God Never Blinks: 50 Life Lessons for Life’s Little Detours.

The event begins at 7 p.m. and is sponsored by Nighttown and Appletree Books, with the support of Eric Kennedy and the law firm of Weisman, Kennedy & Berris.

The Cleveland FoodBank will receive a portion of proceeds. Tickets are $30 per person and include a copy of Brett’s book.

God Never Blinks is an inspirational collection of essays and stories about the lessons life taught Brett along the detours of her life. A metro columnist for the last 10 years at The Plain Dealer, Brett was twice named a Pulitzer Prize finalist for commentary, in 2008 and 2009.

Appletree Books will have additional books available for purchase. A capacity crowd is expected, so reservations are strongly suggested. Call 216-795-0550. For more information, go to www.reginabrett.com

Karen Pozna is communications manager for the Cleveland FoodBank. She is also a big fan of Nighttown. And Regina Brett.

Lake View Cemetery

Mayfield and Kenilworth Roads

Join Us This Month For Our . . .

GEOLOGY WALKING TOUR - SOUTH
Saturday, June 5, 2010, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

ARCHITECTURAL WALKING TOUR
Sunday, June 6, 2010, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

FLAG DAY CEREMONY
Monday, June 14, 2010, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

FATHER’S DAY WALKING TOUR
Sunday, June 20, 2010, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

$6.00 per-person for each tour, Pre-paid registration required.

For more information call 216-421-2665, or go to www.lakeviewcemetery.com

Karen Pozna is communications manager for the Cleveland FoodBank. She is also a big fan of Nighttown. And Regina Brett.
Spend wisely and save

Gail Jackson

Give your budget a check-up, and reap unexpected savings. Every opportunity to save money on goods and services will improve your financial fitness. Here are several places to start.

Groceries
Participate in food co-op programs. Some of these programs not only offer discounts on quality food, but provide menus as well. Great Food for All is a faith-based, nondenominational company that provides top-quality food to any interested person, on a monthly basis, through local churches and other nonprofits. There are no membership fees, paperwork, hassles or purchase limits. You can buy a box of good food that will feed a family of four for a week for $30. For more information, go to www.greatfoodforall.com.

Insurance
Compare prices for auto, home, health, business and life insurance. Consolidating at one insurance company could lower your costs. It might mean taking your business elsewhere. Before you do, however, be sure you’re getting all the discounts you deserve at your current company.

Consider increasing your deductible on your home and car insurances to reduce your premium. Contact the insurer for your homeowner’s policy to see if the company offers any discounts.

Discount Prescription Drug Program
As a resident of Ohio, you and your family have access to a free prescription drug card program. You can save up to 75 percent on prescription drugs at participating pharmacies including Kmart, Giant Eagle, Rite Aid, Marc’s, Walgreen’s and CVS, as well as thousands of independent pharmacies. Each family must have a household member enrolled. Download the card at www.ohiodrugcard.com. These cards are pre-activated and can be used immediately.

Telephone
A cell phone may be all you need. If you need a landline, check Internet and cable providers. Many offer affordable pricing, especially for long-distance service.

Electricity
Save on your electric bill by replacing incandescent light bulbs with fluorescent ones, which last about 10 times longer and use about 75 percent less energy. Save electricity, and money, by unplugging appliances when they are not in use, or by using electrical outlet power strips and simply flipping the switch to off. According to the Department of Energy, 75 percent of the electricity used by home electronics occurs when they are turned off.

Make your furnace run efficiently and prolong its life by regularly changing the filter. A dirty filter makes the furnace motor work harder and uses more power.

Refrigerators and freezers use more electricity than all other appliances combined, so keep them running efficiently by setting the refrigerator settings at about 3°F and the freezer at about 0°F. Try the dollar bill test to detect leaks in your refrigerator and freezer: close a bill in the door and, if it pulls out easily, it’s time to replace the seal.

Credit Card Interest Expense
Monthly interest can be a huge expense if you have a large credit card debt. Making the minimum payment means that the monthly interest is eating up your principal. Reduce your minimum payment by up to 75 percent more money for other expenses. Credit card companies will often reduce your interest rate to keep your business. If you don’t, consider a balance transfer to another card with a better rate. Be sure to read the fine print; balance transfers sometimes offer rates that go up after a period of time.

If you live in Cleveland Heights and need help with your budget, contact the Home Repair Resource Center at 216-381-6100. Our financial counselors provide confidential assistance on financial matters. For more information on HRRC’s programs and services, go to www.hrvc.org.

Gail Jackson is a housing counselor at the Home Repair Resource Center in Cleveland Heights.
Community events

Thursday, June 3
“Taste of the Heights” to benefit Heights Youth Center
6–9 p.m., Heights Youth Club, 2065 Lee Road
(tickets required)

Thursday, June 3
University Heights Summer Concert Series
University Heights Symphonic Band
7:30–9 p.m., Heights Rockefeller Building, corner of Lee and Mayfield

Saturday, June 5
Cedar Lee Rock the Block Summer Music Series
6–8 p.m., Summit Jazz Duo performs at various locations on Lee Road

Wednesday, June 9
Home Repair Resource Center Annual Meeting
“Sustainability from the Ground Up: Grassroots Efforts That Can Make a Difference,” Rev. John Lentz
7 p.m., Cleveland Heights Community Center, 100 Monticello Blvd.

Thursday, June 10
Cleveland Heights Democrats’ Endorsements Meeting

Thursday, June 10
University Heights Summer Concert Series
Local State of Franklin
7:30–9 p.m., Heights Rockefeller Building, corner of Lee and Mayfield

Saturday, June 12
Tiger Touchdown Club Flea Market to benefit Heights football
9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Cleveland Heights High School, 13263 Lee Rd.

Thursday, June 17
Coventry-Villafranca Street Arts Fair
6–9 p.m., Coventry Road between Mayfield Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard

Thursday, June 17
Music & Movies Under the Stars
6 p.m. music by Dubflex & Cats on Holiday; 9 p.m. “The Wizard of Oz”
Coventry F.E.A.C.E. Park at Coventry Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard

Thursday, June 17
University Heights Summer Concert Series
Blue Lunch
7:30–9 p.m., Heights Rockefeller Building, corner of Lee and Mayfield

Wednesday, June 30
FutureHeights Annual Meeting “Beyond Block Parties: Organizing for Safe, Livable Neighborhoods in the 21st Century”
7–9 p.m., Heights Rockefeller Building, corner of Lee and Mayfield

Thursday, July 1
Music & Movies Under the Stars
7:30 p.m. music by Blue Lunch
9 p.m. “Best in Show” (dress up your dog for the Best in Show Dog Costume Contest)
Coventry F.E.A.C.E. Park at Coventry Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard

Thursday, July 1
University Heights Summer Concert Series
University Heights Symphonic Band
7:30–9 p.m., Heights Rockefeller Building, corner of Lee and Mayfield

Saturday, July 3
Cedar Lee Rock the Block Summer Music Series
6–8 p.m., Swing with Norm Tischler and Annette Keys at various locations on Lee Road

Thursday, July 8
Music & Movies Under the Stars
7:30 p.m. music by Buster Night with Eve n’ Stephen and Harry Bacharch
9 p.m. “Grease”
Coventry F.E.A.C.E. Park at Coventry Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard

Thursday, July 8
University Heights Summer Concert Series
Clear Fork Bluegrass Quartet
Family Fun Night with Heights Parent Center
7–9 p.m., Heights Rockefeller Building, corner of Lee and Mayfield

Thursday, June 2
Heights Observer citizen-journalism workshop with WJCU
7–9 p.m., The Klein TV Studio, first floor of the O’Malley Center, John Carroll University

Thursday, June 24
Music & Movies Under the Stars
7:30 p.m. music by School of Rock (student bands) 9 p.m. “School of Rock”
Coventry F.E.A.C.E. Park at Coventry Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard

Thursday, June 24
University Heights Summer Concert Series
Billy Long Orchestra
7:30–9 p.m., Heights Rockefeller Building, corner of Lee and Mayfield

Saturday, June 26
Dugway Brook Watershed Festival
11 a.m. – 3 p.m., Forest Hill Park Boat House

Sunday, June 27
Cedar Lee Rock the Block Summer Music Series
6–8 p.m., The Lost Classics; Randy Martin performs at various locations on Lee Road

Wednesday, June 30
FutureHeights Annual Meeting
“Beyond Block Parties: Organizing for Safe, Livable Neighborhoods in the 21st Century”
7–9 p.m., Heights Rockefeller Building, corner of Lee and Mayfield
Parade the Circle

FREE
Saturday, June 12
In University Circle
Circle Village 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
Parade at noon

Bleich & Kessler Construction
Your Full-Service Remodeling Company
Renovating Homes Since 1990
• Specializing in replacement windows, kitchens and baths.
• Financing available.
• Take advantage of the energy tax credits.

Pella Windows and Doors
• Beautifully crafted in aluminum-clad wood, fiberglass or vinyl.
• Superior energy efficiency that can help reduce your energy bills.
• Backed by some of the best warranties in the business.

Dedicated. Trained. Certified.

Call us today for your FREE in-home estimate! 216-320-1727

1774 Lee Road  •  Cleveland Heights, OH 44118