Heights Observer September 1, 2017

Heights home and garden tour celebrates 40 years

Susan Roberts

“After 40 years... There’s Still No Place Like Home” is the theme of this year’s 40th anniversary Heights Heritage Home & Garden Tour, to be held on Sunday, Sept. 24, noon to 6 p.m.

The night before the tour, Heights Community Congress’ (HCC) traditional preview party is planned for Saturday evening, Sept. 23, at the iconic Alcazar.

It has been 40 years since HCC began showcasing Cleveland Heights homes to the community. Organizers believe there is no place like (one’s own) home, but also know that Heights residents love viewing neighbor’s homes and taking in the wide variety of architecture and wealth of creative styles that are unique to this community.

This year, tourgoers will visit:

• A Tudor home filled with collected art and antiques, recently featured in the Plain Dealer.
• A Craftsman-style home, with original dark woodwork, a dreamy contemporary kitchen, and a slightly exotic atmosphere.
• A renovated, now contemporary, bungalow; refurbished to be wheelchair accessible, with other disabilities in mind.
• A traditional home with gorgeous antiques and artifacts, adjourned by a stunning garden.

continued on page 8

Heights Music Hop
adds venues, releases preliminary schedule

Deanna Bremer Fisher

Heights Music Hop, a free festival of live music, will take place in three Cleveland Heights business districts. Performances are staggered and feature a wide variety of musical genres. Visitors are encouraged to “hop” around to various locations to sample performances, and enjoy food, drinks and special offers from local merchants. The Hop begins on Thursday, Sept. 7, in Coventry Village, continues Friday, Sept. 8, in Cedar Fairmount, and culminates Saturday, Sept. 9, in Cedar Lee.

In addition to the many venues already announced, festival organizers have added an additional location in each business district: Vintage Apparel: Made in America, the pop-up shop located in the former American Apparel store in Coventry Village, 1782 Coventry Road; Nighttown in Cedar Fairmount, 12383 Cedar Road, and Farrell’s Pub in Cedar Lee, 2167 Lee Road.

Heights Music Hop is presented by FutureHeights and is supported in part by the residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.

Additional sponsors and partners include: Dominion Energy; Whole Foods Market; Heights Observer; Zagaga’s Marketplace; the Cedar Fairmount, Cedar Lee, and Coventry Village special improvement districts; Dewey’s Pizza; Keller National, the city of Cleveland Heights; The Bottle House Brewery; CLE Urban Winery; Digizoom Media; Cellar Door Cleveland; Grog Shop; Map Creative; Rad Graphics; Family Connections; Larchmere PorchFest; Brite Winter Festival.

continued on page 2

CH City Council votes to form CDC working group

Deanna Bremer Fisher

At its July 31 meeting, Cleveland Heights City Council declared its intent to partner with FutureHeights as the city’s community development corporation (CDC) and authorized the city manager to form a working group to flesh out the details. The resolution passed 4-1, with Council Member Kabihl Seren casting the dissenting vote. Council Members Michael Ungar and Jason Stein were absent.

The legislation will take effect Sept. 4, when council returns from its summer recess. City Manager Tanisha Briten will create a nine-member working group that will have three city staff representatives, three FutureHeights representatives, and three members of the community at large. The group will discuss goals and priorities, governance, funding sources and other topics to help guide the CDC and determine the roles of the CDC and city staff. FutureHeights, a nonprofit community development group that has served the city for 25 years, became a member of the Ohio CDC Association in April 2017—a formal recognition that its activities are those of a CDC. In August 2016, at the mayor’s request, FutureHeights submitted a business plan to the city, outlining a potential partnership in which it would be the city’s CDC.

Both the city’s master plan, adopted in March, and the council-appointed Economic Development Advisory Committee recommended that the city work with a CDC and mentioned FutureHeights as the logical choice. At city council’s July 24 Council Committee of the Whole meeting,
Heights Observer

**LETTERS/OPINION**

**Letters Policy**

The Heights Observer welcomes letters from readers. They must be submitted electronically, along with the writer’s name, phone number and e-mail address, to: editor@heightsobserver.org or by mail to: Heights Observer, 3412 Lee Road, Suite 102, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118. 216-401-9342

**Editor-in-Chief**

Bob Rosenbaum

Jessica Schantz

**News Editor**

Jessica Schantz

**Advisory Committee**

Deanne Bremer Fisher, Bob Rosenbaum, Richard Stewart, Michael Carter, Christopher Belarity, Kim Sergio Inglis, Ray Flanagan, Dayna Reilly, Laura Cleland

**Executive Director**

Deanne Bremer Fisher

dbfisher@futureheights.org

**Board of Directors**

Kim Sergio Inglis, Kevin Chick, Richard Stewart, Paul Heflin, Beth W. Sullivan, Michelle P. Tanis, Lewis DeLaurentis, Dr. John Kline

**Advisory Committee**

Deanne Bremer Fisher, Bob Rosenbaum, Richard Stewart, Michael Carter, Christopher Belarity, Kim Sergio Inglis, Kevin Chick, Michelle P. Tanis, Lewis DeLaurentis, and Deanna Bremer Fisher

**3412 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118**

**Copyright**

2017 Heights Observer. All rights reserved. Reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

**PUBLISHER**

Deanne Bremer Fisher
dbfisher@futureheights.org

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

Bob Rosenbaum

Jessica Schantz

**NEWS EDITOR**

Jessica Schantz

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Deanne Bremer Fisher, Bob Rosenbaum, Richard Stewart, Michael Carter, Christopher Belarity, Kim Sergio Inglis, Kevin Chick, Beth W. Sullivan

**EDITOR**

Travis Roll

**DESIGN/PRODUCTION**

Teresa Collins, Diane Roberts

**DISTRIBUTION**

Steve Roze

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

It is the policy of the Heights Observer generally to be provided by the Cyrus Eaton Foundation, the Donor Foundation, and the Katherine and Bill Chilcote Foundation. Powered by the 9th Estate.

---

Heights Observer local campaign policy

With the November election approaching, the Heights Observer is publishing its policy for contributions by candidates for local office.

As a community newspaper committed to equal access for everyone, the Observer is unique among publications in providing opportunity for any member of the Cleveland Heights and University Heights communities to raise discourse on a point of local interest.

At election time, however, this commitment creates a challenge in managing the finite space that is available for community members who are running for public office.

The policy approved by the FutureHeights Board of Directors, is designed to address that challenge. It states the following:

The August-November issue of the printed publication will not carry any editorial contributions from known candidates for office.

During this pre-election period, Observer contributors who are not for running office will produce any coverage of election issues.

During this pre-election period, all candidate contributions of news or opinion will continue to be accepted for publication online at heightsobs.org.

Letters Policy

**About the Observer**

The Heights Observer is not an ordinary newspaper; it is a nonprofit publication for residents of Cleveland Heights and University Heights.

The Observer has no writing staff; it is written by you—the readers.

Individuals throughout the community decide what stories they want to write, and we publish them for publication.

Anyone in University Heights or Cleveland Heights is welcome to contribute regularly, occasionally or even just once.

Is there something you think should be covered in the Heights Observer? If so, please write it on your own, or with friends, neighbors or colleagues. Our volunteer editors will make sure it’s ready to publish and contact you with any questions.

If you’re writing a news article, it should be clear and factual. If you want to express an opinion, submit it as a letter to the editor or an opinion piece. Either way, make sure it’s about something specific to our two cities.

To make a submission of any kind, go to www.heightsobserver.org and click on “Submit an Observer” at the left.

For information about writing style, article length, etc., click on “Become an Observer” at the left. For questions that aren’t answered there, call the FutureHeights offices at 216-320-1433 or e-mail info@futureheights.org.

**Letters Policy**

Articles to be considered for the October issue must be submitted by Sept. 11. We publish some articles on election day, so any schedule changes by visiting www.heightsobserver.org and the Heights Music Hop’s Facebook and Twitter accounts.

**Silent Disco**

Heights Music Hop, in partnership with The Bottle House and Grog Shop, will host a silent disco on Saturday, Sept. 9, in the open space at Lee Road and Meadowbrook Boulevard. For $5, participants ages 21 and older will receive a wireless headset and choose their personal dance music from DJ Knyce, DJ White Rims and DJ Spunkir. Beer served by The Bottle House and wine poured by CLE Urban Winery will be available for purchase. Silent disco tickets are available for pre-sale at www.heightsobserver.com/silent disco, or at the silent disco entrance on Sept. 9.

**Chance Raffle at the Hop**

Would you like to win a pair of tickets to see “Hamilton” at Playhouse Square? What about a chance to win six months of groceries from Zagara’s Marketplace ($1,500 value)? Or gift certificates to two of the Hop’s best restaurants? Or great Cavs and Indians tickets? You’ll find these amazing prizes and many more at the FutureHeights Chance Raffle. Tickets are $5 each for six for $30 and will be available at various locations throughout the Heights Music Hop, at the FutureHeights Celebrating Great Living in Cleveland Heights benefit on Sept. 19, and online at www.futureheights.org, beginning Sept. 1. Winners will be drawn on Sept. 18. Help keep the Heights Music Hop free by donating to the FutureHeights Chance Raffle.

**Donna Bremer Fisher** is executive direc tor of FutureHeights and publisher of the Heights Observer.

---

**JUNE-MUSIC HOP continued from page 1**

WJCU Radio, WRUW Radio, Vern & Ellsworth Hassan, Mitchell’s Fine Chocolates, Cleveland Cinemas, Green Tara Yoga, and The Sweet Fix Bakery.

---

**Letters Policy**

The Heights Observer is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization dedicated to civic engagement and quality of life for the 24843 Washington Blvd. #102

Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 216-401-9342

Copyright 2017 Heights Observer. All rights reserved. Reproduction is forbidden without written permission.
Voters should Practice electoral awareness

To the Editor:

Cities, towns, and all other forms of community organizations depend upon their elected officials to guide their futures through good and bad times.

Residents expect competent leadership, practical solutions to ordinary issues, and the development and promotion of cultural and philosophical attitudes that define the quality of life which they seek for themselves and their families.

Over the many years that Cleveland Heights transitioned from a bucolic suburb just up the hill from Cleveland to “an inner-ring suburb,” with all the connotations that phrase infers, our city has had to deal with a variety of significant social and economic issues.

It has done so successfully primarily because its voters have chosen sensitive, thinking, and intelligent members of the community to lead and guide the destiny of their city.

This November, we voters of Cleveland Heights again will be afforded the opportunity to have a voice in the future of our town as we are asked to elect members of city council and judge of our municipal court.

Incumbents and newcomers to the political scene will be seeking our votes. They will present us with varying degrees of the qualities of leadership needed to help govern, and they will express their desire and determination to add their energies to the forward progress Cleveland Heights is making.

Yes, it’s only September, and the election is two months away, but electoral awareness and motivation need stirring early.

The beginning of a new school year, the opening of our grand new high school, intervening holidays, and the beauty of the coming fall season will bring voting issues to the back shelves of our daily lives. But it’s time to begin thinking about the elections scheduled for Nov. 7.

Candidates will be knocking at our doors, campaign literature will be dropped, signs of varying colors bearing their names will begin to proliferate lawns and shop windows, and candidate forums will be scheduled. Be informed.

Russell Z. Baron
Cleveland Heights

Thanks to all who volunteered to maintain Coventry playground

To the Editor:

Saturday, July 29—one of the four days of activity showcasing the Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Campus—was well attended by volunteers who were there to clean up and make repairs to the playground.

The busy volunteers were from all walks of Cleveland Heights and University Heights, and included kids, parents, grandparents, neighbors, and just plain concerned folks.

Starting at 9 a.m.—over coffee provided by Coventry’s Phoenix Coffee, and glazed cinnamon buns from Zoss the Swiss Baker—the “assignments” were given by Erick Kauffman and the weeding, mulching and equipment repair began.

(“Spreading at least 2 inches of mulch helps discourage additional weed growth and helps keep the soil moist and cool during the dry hot summer months.”)

As part of the potluck lunch—in addition to the food donated by Tommy’s Restaurant—delicious salads and cookies were put on the lunch table for all to enjoy.

There were 20 or more large kraft paper garden waste bags by 3 p.m., the end of the work day. That is a lot of work.

So, thank you to all who volunteered their time to keep the Coventry P.E.A.C.E. playground and gardens a little neater for all to enjoy.

Dur-
An appreciation of Cumberland Pool

Cary Seidman

My earliest memories of Cumberland Pool go back to the middle 1950s. In those days water was fed into the pool with considerable force through two above-ground sculpted lions' mouths on the pool’s east side. People of a certain age will remember ropes (as in “get off the rope”) at the north and south ends. But before the ropes there were chain-link fences in the pool separating the deeper from shallower water. During the middle and late 1960s I worked as a lifeguard and swimming instructor there.

We had rules covering just about everything, mostly dealing with what you could not do or must not bring (food, toys, suntan lotion, training equipment, reading material, and much more) into the pool area. Who remembers having to present your feet for inspection prior to emerging from the locker room?

The authoritarian atmosphere was restrictive and sometimes unpleasant, although with more than 1,000 swimmers in the pool on a hot afternoon, there was, perhaps, the need for more control than exists now.

Although I miss watching skilled divers practicing on the long pool area. Who remembers having his staff run a tight ship. The place is clean and safe. I see lifeguards giving swimming lessons with skill and enthusiasm. The pool serves everyone from adult lap swimmers to youngsters who just want to cool off and have fun.

Most remarkable, however, are the cleanliness, clarity and temperature of the pool water. The city employees responsible for filtration obviously take pride in the water quality which can’t be easy to maintain in such an old facility.

In coming years, I hope to see a continued resurgence of the competitive swimming program at Cumberland and, starting this year, at the new Heights High pool. In my three years at Heights, our swim team was among the best in Ohio. Achieving that status again would be a lofty goal, but the infrastructure is in place for a new era in swimming in Cleveland Heights.

Cumberland Pool, better than ever, should have a role to play. There are not many civic institutions about which one can say they improve with age, but the pool is one of them.

Cary Seidman is a recently retired Ruffing Montessori School teacher and a lifelong Cleveland Heights resident. A Heights High graduate and member of the 1965 state championship swim team, Seidman worked at Cumberland Pool 1965-1969.
A matter of judgment

HEIGHTS OF DEMOCRACY

Carla Runteberg and Deborah Van Kleef

Most Cleveland Heights residents will never find themselves in municipal court, but its activities affect the safety and quality of life of all of us. We rely on it when a neighbor fails to bring her/his house up to code, when a speeding driver endangers pedestrians and other motorists, when a woman is threatened or beaten by her domestic partner.

On Nov. 7, Cleveland Heights voters will choose a replacement for Cleveland Heights Municipal Court Judge A. Deane Buchanan, who is retiring due to age limits. Wing to succeed Buchanan are attorneys James Costello, Naydeen Hayden and DeAngelo Little.

In Ohio, judicial elections take place every six years. There is no cap on how many terms a judge may serve, but there is an upper age limit of 70. The CH court has had three judges over the past 42 years, with Sara Hunter serving from 1975 to 1993, Lynn Toler from 1993 to 2001, and Deane Buchanan from 2001 to the present. (Toler resigned early in her second term to start a career as a television judge. She has appeared on “Divorce Court” since 2006.)

Established in 1958, the court deals with misdemeanors and civil matters that occur in Cleveland Heights. (University Heights cases are handled by the Shaker Heights Municipal Court.) The court’s annual report is submitted to CH City Council and to Cuyahoga County, which provides partial funding for the salaries of the judge and other court officials. The court’s budget is determined by CH City Council.

The judge oversees some two dozen employees, including a magistrate, bailiffs, court clerk, deputy clerks and probation officers. The magistrate is, in effect, an associate judge, who hears a large proportion of cases, making it possible for the court to function with one elected judge. Magistrate Georgeann Schmidt has served since 1988, providing continuity from one judge to the next. She made history in 2015 when she performed the city’s first same-sex wedding.

Once someone pleads or is found guilty, a probation officer investigates the case, writes a report and recommends a sentence to the judge. While fines provide revenue for the city, the judge's chief goal should be to minimize the chance of a person committing future, and more severe, crimes. If alcohol or drugs are involved, sentences may include mandated treatment.

A judge must combine firmness, empathy for those affected by the crime, and understanding of the life and circumstances of the person who committed it. Many of these are among the poorest residents of Cleveland Heights and neighboring communities. A steep fine may exacerbate a homeowner's difficulty in repairing her/his house. Lengthy jail time or a suspended license can result in the loss of a job. Treatment, restitution and probation, depending on an individual’s history, may be equally or more effective.

As voters, how can we evaluate candidates for the singular position of municipal judge? As with other campaigns, we can consult their websites, along with the League of Women Voters’ election guide, published in the October issue of the Heights Observer and online at Vote411.org. In addition, Judge4yourself.com rates judicial candidates. We can also attend candidates’ forums and perhaps speak directly with the candidates themselves.

But once a judge is elected and sworn in, what then? To evaluate how city council members or school board members perform, citizens can attend their meetings (all are open to the public), watch them on YouTube or cable, or learn about them in the media. We can communicate directly with these representatives; engaged citizens do have opportunities to gauge their performance.

A judge, on the other hand, has considerable power and little accountability. News coverage of suburban municipal courts has all but disappeared over the past several decades. The CH court’s annual report is not even posted on its website.

If the judge we elect this year runs again in 2023, as history shows will likely be the case, we will have little more than that incumbent’s word about how she or he has managed the court, treated the staff and made potentially life-altering decisions on the bench. In a democracy, that is not enough.

We hope other voters will join us in asking judicial candidates what they will do, if elected, to improve transparency. Posting the annual report on the court’s website would be one small first step.

(More information on Cleveland Heights Municipal Court is available at www.clevelandheights-court.com.)

Carla Rutenberg is an activist and a lifelong Cleveland Heights resident. Deborah Van Kleef is a musician and writer, who has lived in Cleveland Heights for most of her life. Contact them at heightsdemocracy@gmail.com.

OPINION

Supporting Success

We proudly serve the board and administration of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District

We are honored to be involved with a community that has the commitment and vision to provide modern facilities that meet the needs of today's students and educators.

aboutPMC.com
Summer is usually the time my wife and I do some work on our house. This summer we had to find someone to repair our brick stoop, a job, we could not begin to tackle on our own.

When our mason quoted the job he had a helper, but when he arrived, he was working alone. He told us that he had trouble finding and keeping employees. Some prospective workers wanted set hours. In masonry you have to work when the weather conditions are good. Some of our mason’s other hires had walked off the job after a few days (or in one case at lunchtime) because the work was too hard. He ended up working alone, way behind, and frustrated by the lack of interest in learning an important trade. There are countless reports of similar shortages of skilled workers among many technical trades and professions.

There is skilled work that our community needs that cannot be outsourced to another country. No one can fix a toilet or wire an electric box remotely. Are young people just not interested in these skilled trades or is there a larger problem?

I believe that one of the societal impediments to promoting skilled work might be the expectation that all students in K–12 schools are going to go to a four-year college. Today, in Ohio, the graduation requirements for high school are much more demanding than when I started teaching. For example, when I first began teaching at Heights in 1990, Algebra II was taken by only a small group of students, whereas now it is the third of four required math classes students need for graduation. The practical math classes that students could take then would not give them math credit by today's standards.

Students enrolled in Career Technical Education (CTE) classes are able to learn practical skills while satisfying the rigorous demands required by our state. Our district has expanded an already wide set of offerings for juniors and seniors who want to learn a skill in school that can provide income as soon as they graduate. For some students their CTE endeavors will enable them to earn money while going to college. Others will make a career based on what they learned and the certificates they earned. Still others will go to a trade school or be accepted into an apprenticeship program because they already have been exposed to a trade. I have known Heights students who have been successful with each of these options.

Our school district has been in a consortium with the Warrensville Heights and Shaker Heights districts, where students have access to: audio engineering, digital video production, graphic imaging technology, business management, engineering technology, clinical health careers, exercise science and sports medicine, pharmacy technology, computer networking, criminal justice, marketing, and automotive technology.

Our consortium has grown this year to include the districts of Bedford and Maple Heights, which adds even more programs for our students: media arts, administrative office technology, home improvement and maintenance, teacher academy, financial management, digital design, and firefighting/EMT academy.

Our students have access to the world of work and to professionals who are experts in their fields. More students need to be encouraged to pursue these classes in high school in order to expand their options.

Unfortunately, there are many students who cannot make room for CTE programs in their schedules. The state of Ohio requires students to take so many classes that it is difficult to fit it all in. Certainly, some students will benefit from the rigor of a basic academic schedule, but I believe more students would be better served if they had flexibility to schedule CTE classes in a field of interest.

I would love to see more students taking career technical courses, and the certificates they earned. Still others will make a career based on what they learned.

Some of our mason’s other hires had walked off the job after a few days (or in one case at lunchtime) because the work was too hard. He ended up working alone, way behind, and frustrated by the lack of interest in learning an important trade. There are countless reports of similar shortages of skilled workers among many technical trades and professions.

There is skilled work that our community needs that cannot be outsourced to another country. No one can fix a toilet or wire an electric box remotely. Are young people just not interested in these skilled trades or is there a larger problem?

I believe that one of the societal impediments to promoting skilled work might be the expectation that all students in K–12 schools are going to go to a four-year college. Today, in Ohio, the graduation requirements for high school are much more demanding than when I started teaching. For example, when I first began teaching at Heights in 1990, Algebra II was taken by only a small group of students, whereas now it is the third of four required math classes students need for graduation. The practical math classes that students could take then would not give them math credit by today's standards.

Students enrolled in Career Technical Education (CTE) classes are able to learn practical skills while satisfying the rigorous demands required by our state. Our district has expanded an already wide set of offerings for juniors and seniors who want to learn a skill in school that can provide income as soon as they graduate. For some students their CTE endeavors will enable them to earn money while going to college. Others will make a career based on what they learned and the certificates they earned. Still others will go to a trade school or be accepted into an apprenticeship program because they already have been exposed to a trade. I have known Heights students who have been successful with each of these options.

Our school district has been in a consortium with the Warrensville Heights and Shaker Heights districts, where students have access to: audio engineering, digital video production, graphic imaging technology, business management, engineering technology, clinical health careers, exercise science and sports medicine, pharmacy technology, computer networking, criminal justice, marketing, and automotive technology.

Our consortium has grown this year to include the districts of Bedford and Maple Heights, which adds even more programs for our students: media arts, administrative office technology, home improvement and maintenance, teacher academy, financial management, digital design, and firefighting/EMT academy.

Our students have access to the world of work and to professionals who are experts in their fields. More students need to be encouraged to pursue these classes in high school in order to expand their options.

Unfortunately, there are many students who cannot make room for CTE programs in their schedules. The state of Ohio requires students to take so many classes that it is difficult to fit it all in. Certainly, some students will benefit from the rigor of a basic academic schedule, but I believe more students would be better served if they had flexibility to schedule CTE classes in a field of interest. I would love to see more students taking career technical courses, and the certificates they earned. Still others will make a career based on what they learned.
Leader sets high bar for board of education

Susie Kaiser

I met Ron Register in 1994, the year he and his family moved to Cleveland Heights from Memphis. We were both involved parents at Boulevard Elementary School. I remember making platter of Paris zoo animals with his delightful young daughters and feeling happy to meet the parents who went with them.

Register and I clicked. Perhaps it was our shared background as urban anthropologists, or our appreciation of the advantages of integrated education, or gratitude for our district’s rich range of resources to help meet the needs of diverse students. We both believed that parents and communities have a lot to contribute to making schools great places for kids.

Our most successful early project was helping generate funds to redevelop the dilapidated playground at Boulevard Elementary School, a project led by Marva Register, Crandall Miller and Jeri Ann Watriss. Register used his connections to two Boulevard alumni to garner nearly $200,000 in private funds to make the Boulevard dream a reality and then navigated the school district bureaucracy to put the funds to work.

In 2001 Register decided to take his commitment a step further and ran for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District’s Board of Education. He won and subsequently was re-elected three more times! He served as president five times and vice president six times. At the end of December he will have completed 16 years of attending bi-weekly board meetings, studying education issues and budgets and state laws, meeting the community at events and over coffee and on the phone, attentively listening to aggrieved or enthusiastic citizens, and patiently building relationships with superintendents and fellow board members.

Board member Register demonstrated the essentials of good leadership: showing up everywhere, not professing to have all the answers, becoming informed, listening, building consensus, exhibiting care and patience, knowing the limits of one’s role and committing to the long haul.

Register always prioritized our children and made budget decisions to guard access to extracurricular activities and other ways to engage students. He focused on making sure career and technical education became a high-quality offering. He was instrumental in getting the community to fund facilities through a permanent improvement levy, and there were all those other levies where he hit the bricks to convince the community to invest. Kal Zucker, who served with Register for 12 years, observed, “Ron has the rare ability to focus on serving the needs of our students while deftly learning, digesting and integrating the needs of the community.”

In recent years Register mobilized the board to challenge Ohio’s education laws, which prioritize testing, judgment and privatization over investment and problem solving. The common good is under attack, and Register used his influence to challenge state legislators to do right by the public schools.

He pushed the board of education to publicly oppose state policy, mobilized other elected school leaders to do the same and worked through the Ohio School Boards Association to protect public education.

I feel privileged to have worked with this leader who listened and often concluded that “We can figure it out.” I hope future leaders will continue his approach, which entails listening, learning and leading.

Thank you, Ron, for your consistent and authentic investment in our children, community and school district!

In our democracy, education is a public good because all of us benefit from an educated citizenry. We have an amazing system of public schools that are free and open to all, funded by taxpayers and governed by citizens who are elected locally as guardians of the common good.

This fall voters in the CH-UH school district will elect three of our fellow citizens to fill vacancies on the five-member board of education. This is an important moment for the community to have a say in guiding its schools and demonstrating its ownership of an institution that is designed to serve all of us—regardless of whether we have children who attend public school.

Now it is our job as community members to examine our expectations and aspirations for our public schools and our young people, and select three newcomers to the board—the newcomers who we think will be best able to guide our district toward its goals. All five candidates have children in our public schools, and three are graduates. All are truly invested.

We can honor Register’s 16-year investment by electing, supporting, pushing and communicating with a new generation of leaders who, with our help, can keep our district focused on meeting the needs of our students and demanding public policies that foster the common good through strong public schools.

Susie Kaiser is a longtime resident of Cleveland Heights and former director of Reading Heights. She serves on the national board of Parents for Public Schools.
The homecoming parade will begin promptly at 5 p.m. on Friday evening, and will end at 6 p.m. The football game begins an hour later, at 7 p.m., which leaves time to grab a bite or enjoy a number of activities before kickoff.

The new parade route will provide onlookers with a chance to dine at a nearby restaurant, cheer, or simply watch in a way that will feel different from year’s past.

All CH-UH district schools are invited to show their Tiger Pride by participating in the parade, especially the high school student groups.

On Saturday, Oct. 7, tours of the renovated high school will be available between 10 a.m. and noon. On Sunday, Oct. 8, the Happy 5K and 10K takes place, hosted by city merchants and the city of Cleveland Heights.

The run is a celebration of “all the good things happening in the city,” and it also serves as a fundraiser for the Cleveland Heights Youth Scholarship Fund. The Happy run will end with a post-race block party and a “happy” costume contest.

Lisa Hunt is former assistant director of Reaching Heights. She is a resident of Cleveland Heights and a 1988 Heights High graduate. As mother of two sons who attended or are attending Heights High, she is proud to serve the CH-UH schools as its parent engagement specialist.

Julianna Johnston-Senturia, executive director.

The Heights Schools Foundation led the initial planning, and worked collaboratively with a team comprising parents, alumni, the city of Cleveland Heights, the Cleveland Heights Police Department, CH-UH school district staff, and nonprofit partners FutureHeights and the Cedar Lee Special Improvement District. The goal is to mount a bigger, broader celebration.

The team devised a new parade route, coordinated with Lee Road merchants, and arranged to open the high school for Saturday tours. The weekend’s activities will wrap up with the city’s Happy 5K and 10K fundraiser on Sunday.

Heights alumni from all classes will be invited to “Fall back into the Heights,” with a special Heights Foundation-sponsored parade watch party happening on the green space located between Tulamore Road and Meadowbrook Boulevard.

“We are inviting everyone to help us celebrate our schools, students, alumni and community,” said Julianna Johnston-Senturia (‘88), Heights Schools Foundation executive director. The homecoming parade will begin promptly at 5 p.m. on Friday evening, and will end at 6 p.m. The football game begins an hour later, at 7 p.m., which leaves time to grab a bite or enjoy a number of activities before kickoff.

The new parade route will provide onlookers with a chance to dine at a nearby restaurant, cheer, or simply watch in a way that will feel different from year’s past.

All CH-UH district schools are invited to show their Tiger Pride by participating in the parade, especially the high school student groups.

On Saturday, Oct. 7, tours of the renovated high school will be available between 10 a.m. and noon. On Sunday, Oct. 8, the Happy 5K and 10K takes place, hosted by city merchants and the city of Cleveland Heights.

The run is a celebration of “all the good things happening in the city,” and it also serves as a fundraiser for the Cleveland Heights Youth Scholarship Fund. The Happy run will end with a post-race block party and a “happy” costume contest.

Lisa Hunt is former assistant director of Reaching Heights. She is a resident of Cleveland Heights and a 1988 Heights High graduate. As mother of two sons who attended or are attending Heights High, she is proud to serve the CH-UH schools as its parent engagement specialist.
CH to hold community meeting on Top of the Hill development site

Kim Sergio Inglis

The city of Cleveland Heights has announced the date of a public meeting to update the community on the Top of the Hill development project. The meeting, planned for Sept. 19, 7 p.m., will take place at the Cleveland Heights Community Center.

According to a statement on the city’s website, the purpose of the meeting is to answer questions and receive input from residents on the project.

The city executed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with developer Flaherty & Collins Properties on July 18, and next steps are the negotiation of a formal development agreement, which will establish the specific elements of the project as well as the process the development will follow as it moves toward final approval.

According to the city, the Top of the Hill development is expected to be a mixed-use project incorporating residential, retail, and office components, a hotel and a parking garage.

Kim Sergio Inglis is editor-in-chief of the Heights Observer. She lives in the Shaker Farm Historic District in Cleveland Heights.

Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Campus to share its vision with the community

Deanna Bremer Fisher

Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Campus, the newly formed group that comprises several nonprofits housed at the Coventry School building, is planning two events in September to share its vision for the site with the public. “The organizations have come together to create a plan for the future that taps into the energy of creative place-making for cultural and economic development,” said Brady Dindia, president of the Artful Cleveland Board of Directors. “We envision a community gathering space and center for arts, education and enrichment.”

The first event is an interactive exhibit in the gallery at the Lee Road Library, 2340 Lee Road, Sept. 18–24. “When we were faced with the prospect of losing our home, we turned this potential setback into an opportunity to benefit all of Cleveland Heights,” said Dindia, who added that the exhibit will showcase the organizations that operate out of the former school building (Artful Cleveland, Ensemble Theatre, Lake Erie Ink, Family Connections, FutureHeights, Reaching Heights, Urban Oak School and Village Childcare) and the ecosystem that has evolved within it.

The second event is a community meeting at which Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Campus will share its vision for the future of the site with the public. The event will take place on Sept. 27, 6:30 p.m., in the common room at Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Campus, 2843 Washington Blvd. Representatives from the organizations will share the proposal they will make to Cleveland Heights City Council on Sept. 11, and explain how the process may move forward. All are welcome to attend, and representatives will answer questions from the public following the presentation. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP at http://bit.ly/CPCpubpres.

The CH-UH City School District announced earlier this year that it would pursue the sale of the Coventry School site, once home to Coventry Elementary School, which it closed in 2007. The city of Cleveland Heights is seeking a developer for the site and plans to execute a non-binding letter of intent with the school district to purchase the property once a developer is selected.

Deanna Bremer Fisher is executive director of FutureHeights and publisher of the Heights Observer.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS: Tuesday, November 7

RE-ELECT

Melissa Yasinow

RETAIN

Mike Ungar

Paid for by Yasinow For Council, Treasurer Jennifer Jaketic, 2964 Washington Blvd., Cleveland Hts., Ohio 44118
Cleveland Heights City Council Meeting highlights

JULY 17, 2017
All council members were present: Mayor Cheryl L. Stephens, Vice Mayor Jason Stein, Mary Dunbar, Kahil Sewn, Carol Roe, Michael N. Ungar and Melissa Yasnow.

2018 tax budget presentation
Projected revenue for the General Fund for 2018 is $44.1 million. In descending order of amount, revenue sources are: income taxes; property taxes; charges for services, fines and forfeitures, fees, licenses, and permits; state levied and shared taxes; and miscellaneous other sources.

The city uses conservative budget practices, matching recurring revenue with recurring expenses. Most general revenue sources are flat or declining. Property tax revenue, based on assessed valuation, should stabilize as the economic and housing forecast improves, the mayor said.

The 2018 budget increases from 2017’s budget of $43.9 million. The city’s tax rate will be 1.5 mills, down from 1.902 mills in 2017 due to the retirement of 1.5 mills for construction of the Community Center.

Public comments
Covington P.E.A.C.E. Playground. Three children presented and entered into the record petitions totaling 529 signatures, asking to keep the Covington P.E.A.C.E. Playground and Park as is. Sophia Ahmadadeen, Chloe Gustin and Jon Gustin each expressed in turn how sad they had been to hear that the property might be sold to a developer.

Covington P.E.A.C.E. Playground
The playground on Yorkshire Road, adjacent to the city’s only recreation center, is under consideration for sale.

City Council unanimously approved the adoption of the 2018 Tax Budget.
The buildings of St. Ann Parish, which were landmarked by the city of Cleveland Heights in 1975, became Communion of Saints Parish in 2010. This group of buildings, each one a different architectural style, includes the school, hall, rectory and church. Both the history of the parish and the styles of architecture contribute to the significance of these properties.

In 1915, the Diocese of Cleveland established a church in Cleveland Heights for about 40 families, and appointed Father John Powers to serve the community.

After finding a suitable location at the top of the streetcar line, Powers had a wooden church constructed at the corner of Cedar and Coventry roads. It was his goal to establish an elementary school, high school and college on the campus. Powers began his mission of constructing the elementary school immediately.

The oldest buildings on the campus, the rectory and recreation hall, were built in 1915 in a Georgian Revival style. The architects for the hall were Koehl & Van Rensselaer; the architect for the rectory is unknown.

The school, designed by George Hunt Ingraham, was constructed in 1925 in the Beaux-Arts style. About this time, Powers began convincing the diocese that a new church building was needed. The church, while designed in 1925 by the firm of Walker & Weeks, with Horn & Rhinehart, did not begin construction until 1945, and was completed in 1952. The exterior is an ornate Neoclassical style, while the interior of the sanctuary is an interesting composition of many salvaged materials, including marble paneling from the Manhattan Ritz-Carlton, marble columns, choir loft railing, chandeliers, and a clock from Cleveland’s First National Bank; bronze doors and altar steps from Central National Bank; and interior woodwork from one of the Daniel Hanna mansions.

Powers had a vision for the church sanctuary that he executed, despite input from the architects who may have had some alternate ideas about the design and incorporation of salvaged materials. Although his complete parish plan of incorporating a high school and college on the campus did not come to fruition, Father Powers achieved a great deal, faithfully serving the community for more than 50 years before retiring in 1966.

Today, Communion of Saints Parish services the members of four parishes that had been located in Cleveland Heights and East Cleveland. Pastor Father John McNulty oversees the operations at the remaining two churches, St. Ann in Cleveland Heights and St. Philomena in East Cleveland. McNulty lives in the rectory at St. Ann and is well versed in the parish’s history. He has assembled a buildings and grounds committee to assist with maintenance and improvements, and committee members are educated on the landmark status of the buildings and proceed with historic design when making building decisions. McNulty believes that, although the process for design review can be slow when trying to start a project, the status does a lot of good for many buildings throughout the city. Communion of Saints is proud of its architecture and historic significance.

The author, Margaret Laan, is a member of the Cleveland Heights Landmark Commission, which preserves and protects buildings, works of art and other objects of historical or architectural value to the community. The commission’s seven members are appointed to three-year terms by city council.
Heights LWV working to slay the gerrymander

Sue Dyke

Imagine if the Indians won the World Series and, as part of their prize, they got to make all of the league rules for the next 10 years. They could have all home games, pick the umpires, and make future rules impossible to undo. Such a prize could eventually destroy the sport. This is the outcome of political gerrymandering.

Gerrymandered districts are drawn to favor one political party with the party in charge are either packed into as few districts as possible or spread out to dilute their voting power. In this way, politicians can pick their voters and create “safe seats” for themselves.

The practice began in 1812 when Massachusetts Governor Elbridge Gerry approved a congressional map that heavily favored his political party. Today, software that can predict voting patterns down to the household has made gerrymandering extremely powerful. Many political analysts believe that “safe seat” districts contribute to the polarization and the dysfunctional gridlock in Washington today.

Cleveland Heights resident Sue Dyke and LWV volunteers are working to educate voters about gerrymandering.

The proposed constitutional amendment would require bipartisan approval of U.S. Congressional district maps and the fulfillment of other requirements to assure fair districts. Details of the proposal can be found at www.fairdistrictsio.org.

After reading an article about the Fair Districts - Fair Elections initiative, Cleveland Heights resident Cristine Rom signed up to volunteer. “Collecting signatures has been an amazing experience bringing me into contact with so many people in the Heights community!” she said. “Whenever I explain that the proposal includes a bipartisan redistricting commission, people’s eyes light up—everyone wants our political parties to work together.”

John Donaghue, another Cleveland Heights resident, collects signatures “because the issue is bipartisan and getting it on the ballot is a solid, real thing that can be made to happen...just about everybody is sick of gerrymandering, and they’re willing to sign. And the truth is, it feels good to do it—it’s like helping to fix the real thing that can be made to happen.”

East Side volunteers will collect signatures at Heights Libraries and local events including farmer’s markets, the Cleveland Flea (Sept. 9), the Cleveland Air Show, Ingenuity Fest (Sept. 12-14), Nightmarket (Sept. 20).

Sue Dyke has been a CH resident for 14 years. She is an empty nester, sports enthusiast and “professional” volunteer.
**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Members of CH youth track club compete in AAU Junior Olympics**

Dee Srellek

Fifteen members of Cleveland Heights Tigers Youth Track Club participated in the 2017 AAU (Amateur Athletics Union) Track and Field Junior Olympics, held July 29 through Aug. 5 in Detroit.

After qualifying at the district and regional finals in June and July, these top-finishing athletes moved on to the Junior Olympics to compete at the national level.

The Tigers took the field for shot put, hurdles, 400M, 800M, 1500M and 4x relays at Eastern Michigan University. Representing Cleveland Heights were Jordan Morman, Rondale Reid, Nakyla Ford, Allana Fair, Simon Williams, Joe Kellers, Jheree Peterson, Xavier Jackson, Nick Vitantonio, David Tyus, Sir Thomas Hill-By, Asia’lee Fair, Ana Williams, Amaya Mattox and Kennedy Ferguson-Castro. While they took home no medals, they did set four personal records.

The co-ed team’s members range from 5-years-old to high-school age. Those who qualified for this year’s Junior Olympics were boys and girls ages 9-14.

Coached by Alana Williams, Rondale Reid and Derrick Fair, the Cleveland Heights Tigers Youth Track Club begins training in March and competes in ATC (Allstar Training Club) and AAU track meets throughout the spring and summer.

The track club is a division of the Tigers Youth Sports Clubs organization, a 501(c)3 community organization, headed by Coach Michael Payne.

Dee Srellek is a Forest Hill resident and the parent of a track athlete. She volunteers for the team, handling registration and administrative duties.

---

**Original clockworks on view at Heights High**

The original 1926 mechanism from the Heights High school clock tower is now encased and on display outside the main auditorium. It stands nearly 7 feet tall and weighs several hundred pounds. The Heights Schools Foundation (formerly CHHS Alumni Foundation) raised $100,000 from more than 350 donors to contribute to the restoration of the clock tower. Edward F. Crawford ’57 and family donated a signature gift to help fund the restoration. The clock tower was completely rebuilt, taken down piece by piece, laser scanned and milled to exact specifications. The new frame is made from composite material, painstakingly copied from the original pieces, and will last well into the future. The new clock mechanism is digital.

---

**Japanese & Malaysian Cuisine**

216-320-2302
1673 Coventry Road, CH
www.pacificeastcoventry.com

**Casual Asian Fusion**

216-320-9008
13911 Cedar Road, S. Euclid
www.pacificgrillcedar.com

---

**Revolve Fashion**

5690 Mayfield Rd, Lyndhurst, OH
(440) 646-8750

Facebook: @RevolveFashionsale
Instagram: @RevolveFashion
FutureHeights celebrates Cleveland Heights on Sept. 15

Deanna Bremer Fisher

FutureHeights will host its first-ever “Celebrating Great Living in Cleveland Heights” fundraising event on Friday, Sept. 15, from 6-8:30 p.m. The event will highlight some of the things that make Cleveland Heights a great place to live: beautiful homes, wonderful amenities, fascinating history, and creative, talented residents.

Guests will be treated to a selection of delicious treats from some of Cleveland Heights’ most talented local chefs and restauranteurs, including Bodega, Fix Bistro, Lopez on Lee, Luna Bakery and Café, Marotta’s, Taste and The Fairmount.

CLE Urban Winery will offer a tasting of its locally handcrafted wines, and legendary Nighttown will provide a special signature cocktail to make the evening memorable. There will be music from Roots of American Music, plein air painting by local artist, Jeremy Tugeau, a performance by Cleveland Heights Poet Laureate Christine Howey, and other wonderful surprises.

Cleveland Heights supports the work of FutureHeights as it builds capacity as the city’s partner and Community Development Corporation. Tickets are $150 ($75 tax-deductible) and are available by calling FutureHeights 216-320-1423 or online at www.futureheights.org.

Deanna Bremer Fisher is executive director of FutureHeights and publisher of the Heights Observer.

Boulevard Elementary School adds crossing guard

Krista Hawthorne

The Facebook post “Demand Safety For Our Children Now” asked readers to sign a petition in support of additional traffic safety measures around Boulevard Elementary School.

Vanessa Fitzgerald, a volunteer with the Boulevard PTA, submitted the post to raise awareness and ask for a third crossing guard, a digital speed display, and increased police presence during morning school drop-off and afternoon school pick-up times. With 76 supporters, the petition, along with the PTAs other efforts, has resulted in positive change.

The school district has added a third crossing guard to the Boulevard site, at the corner of Lee and Somerton roads. This is in addition two crossing guards that the city of Cleveland Heights already provides.

Boulevard Elementary School is surrounded by two heavily traveled streets, Lee Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard, and currently has a crossing guard posted on both streets.

Boulevard Principal Michael Jenkins first heard about parents’ concerns regarding traffic last spring. He said, “We are concerned about the safe travel of our students to and from our school building, and I appreciate the work of our PTA to prevent an accident.”

This intersection does not have a traffic light and has a stop sign only on Somerton Road. In 2015, a crosswalk was painted, and new signs and curb ramps were installed after then fifth-grader Michael Sieben requested these improvements from Superintendent Talisa Dixon at a school visit.

“We all need to work together, the students, parents, school staff and the police department, to do everything we can to create safe routes for our children as they go to and from school,” said Fitzgerald.

Krista Hawthorne is executive director of Reaching Heights.

Together We WILL Reach New Heights!

Michael Dylan Brennan

Candidate for Mayor of University Heights

- REDEVELOP OUR BUSINESS DISTRICTS
- RESTORE OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT
- REDUCE LOCAL TAXES
- COLLABORATE WITH CITY LEADERS & RESIDENTS

Patio Now Open!

Patio Company
2299 Lee Rd.
Cleveland Heights
(formerly Brennan’s Colony)
Bill Beard will join six other individuals when he is inducted into the Greater Cleveland Sports Hall of Fame on Sept. 14, as a member of its Class of 2017.

Beard was destined to be a coach. Born and raised in Cleveland Heights, he began playing baseball on neighborhood diamonds and hockey at the Cleveland Heights Recreation Pavilion during his youth. He attended Cleveland Heights High School, from which he graduated in 1980. While a student-athlete there, he starred on the both the sandlot and ice rink.

During his junior and senior years, Beard was a two-time All-Scholastic in hockey and a two-time All-LEI selection in baseball. The Tigers advanced to the OHSAA Final Four in hockey his senior year. After graduation, Beard attended Northeastern University and then Princeton University, where he played hockey and was recruited to play hockey and baseball at Princeton University. He graduated from Princeton in 1985 with a Bachelor of Arts in sociology.

After graduation, Beard went on to become one of the most successful hockey coaches in Cleveland high school history. He began his coaching career in 1989 when he was hired as head coach of the varsity hockey team at University School in 1989, transforming the program into a state power. After 16 seasons, Beard amassed an overall record of 344-181-48, with his teams winning 20 or more games in 12 of those seasons.


For his contribution to the Greater Cleveland hockey community, Beard was inducted into the Cleveland Heights Hockey Hall of Fame in 2007. He and his wife, Courtney, currently reside in Perrysburg. He has two step-children, Bobby (13) and Veronica (10).

Christopher Kendel is assistant commissioner for the city of Cleveland Heights Parks and Recreation Department.

Anne Jordan of Enterprise Community Partners presented a report outlining the “current capacity and need for housing and community development activities in the city, as well as possible alignment with activities that a community development corporation (CDC) or similar entity could undertake.” City Manager Tanisha Briley had contracted with Enterprise to undertake the study in January through the city’s affiliation with the National Resource Network.

On July 24, CH City Council agreed to draft legislation enabling City Manager Tanisha Briley to create a letter of intent (LOI) to form a partnership with FutureHeights. Council members also suggested that the city manager form a working group to consider the many questions they had about the details of the partnership.

Council Member Kahill Seren voted no on the July 31 resolution, noting because he opposed working with FutureHeights as the city’s CDC, but because he thought the legislation was unnecessary. “I believe that the city manager is fully empowered to form a working group all by herself, and provide recommendations to council from that working group without our authorization,” said Seren.


Donna Bremer Fisher is executive director of FutureHeights and publisher of the Heights Observer.

Volunteer Match

Heights Observer’s Volunteer Match column lists opportunities for residents to lend their time and talent to worthy organizations and causes around the Heights.

Submit your organization’s volunteer needs by calling the FutureHeights office at 216-320-1423 or e-mailing shau@futureheights.org.

Items submitted on or before the Heights Observer print issue’s monthly story deadline will be considered for the next column. (To see past columns, visit www.heightsobserver.org, and search “volunteer match”.)

Heights Music Hop: Volunteers are needed for the fifth annual Heights Music Hop, which is presented by FutureHeights and takes place Thursday, Sept. 7, Friday, Sept. 8, and Saturday, Sept. 9. Volunteers will help staff music venues, canvas the district with maps, answer attendee questions and assist with musician check-in. Not only is this a fun opportunity, but volunteers will receive a Heights Music Hop shirt, snacks, and a free raffle ticket ($10 value) in the FutureHeights Chance Raffle, which features fabulous prizes from area businesses. Volunteer at www.heightsmusichop.com/volunteer.

CARE: A new program offered through collaboration with the Cleveland Heights Senior Activity Center, CARE is seeking volunteers of all ages and ability to assist with a multitude of volunteer projects in the community. CARE coordinates and completes service projects and tasks in and around the homes of local older adults enrolled in the program. Without the time and dedication of volunteers, CARE would not be able to assist these homeowners to stay safe and independent in their homes as they age. CARE offers a variety of opportunities for volunteers, with projects ranging from technology assistance to helping out in the yard. With flexible scheduling, CARE is able to tailor its volunteer opportunities to fit busy lives! Interested in learning more? E-mail care4eight@gmail.com or call 216-970-0599.

Heights Observer: FutureHeights publishes the Heights Observer and delivers it throughout Cleveland Heights and University Heights on or around the first of every month. Volunteers are needed to assist with deliveries to local businesses and institutions. Most routes take about an hour to complete. For more information, contact FutureHeights at 216-320-1423 or info@futureheights.org.

• A Colonial style brick home featuring subtle, expertly done faux painting techniques throughout, along with various collections, and Lego creations.

• A renovated historic Rockefeller home with a beautiful park-like backyard and patio.

• A Forest Hill ranch home, recently remodeled, with contemporary features.

• Two distinctive gardens—one that is quite small and utilizes recycled stone, and another that is more formal, featuring a pergola, patio and eating area.

In collaboration with the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education, HCC will offer toursopportunities the opportunity to view three special sections of the newly refurbished and renovated Cleveland Heights High School, 2-4 p.m. Also between 2 and 4 p.m., St. Paul’s Episcopal Church will provide refreshments and a place to rest in the midst of the tour’s full schedule.

At the Sept. 23 preview party, guests will follow the yellow brick road to enter a giant green Land of Oz. The evening will begin with a visit to selected homes on Lolly the Trolley. After returning to the Alcazar, guests will enjoy beverages, dinner and entertainment. Three of the renovated apartments in the Alcazar will be open for viewing during the evening.

Several levels of sponsorship are offered to preview party attendees. For additional information on the preview party, or to order Sunday tour tickets, visit www.heightscongress.org, e-mail info@heightscongress.org, or call HCC’s office at 216-311-6775.

Heights Community Congress is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is an advocate of social justice, a monitor of fair housing practices and a facilitator for building strong diverse communities.

Susan Roberts is the Home Search Committee chair for the 2017 Heights Heritage Home & Garden Tour.
Robin Kolen

Autumn is coming, and that means shorter days, leaves changing colors, and the Jewish High Holy Days. For those who may be unaffiliated with a synagogue, or looking to change affiliation, the congregation at Beth El - The Heights Synagogue welcomes you to pray and learn with them.

Beth El is a traditional, egalitarian synagogue, and an independent minyan (quorum required for Jewish communal worship) in Cleveland Heights. It seeks to build a vibrant Jewish community by welcoming all in participatory worship and learning.

The synagogue’s September calendar includes the following: Kabbalah Shabbat, Friday, Sept. 8, at 6:30 p.m. A vegetarian-friendly dinner will follow the service. Barry Starr will teach “Not Perfect but Awakened: The Liturgy of Rosh HaShanah.”

On Saturday, Sept. 9, enjoy lunch and learn about “Not Perfect but Forgiven: The Liturgy of Yom Kippur” with Barry Starr after morning services.

Rosh HaShanah services will be held on Sept. 21 at 7:15 p.m., Sept. 22 and 23 at 8:30 a.m., Yom Kippur on Sept. 29 (Kol Nidre) at 6:45 p.m., and Sept. 30 at 8:30 p.m.

For more information about services and other events, visit Beth El's website at www.bethelehights.org, e-mail info@bethelheights.org, or call 216-320-9667. The synagogue is located at 3246 Desota Ave., in Cleveland Heights. Parking is available on the street or in the nearby Boulevard Elementary School parking lot.

Robin Kolen is a longtime resident of Cleveland Heights and a member of Beth El/The Heights Synagogue.

Annual Shaker Lakes event is for runners and hikers of all ages

Kimberly Dyer

Each fall, the annual Shaker Lakes Hike, Run & Explore event at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes brings together participants of all ages and abilities. Runners, hikers and nature enthusiasts all can take part in the 5K, 10K, guided nature hikes and adventure activities. The Sept. 17 event benefits the Nature Center’s environmental educational programs, and promotes health and wellness while celebrating the Shaker parklands.

The races will start at 9 a.m., and awards are presented to top finishers in age groups ranging from under 10 to 70 and older. As in prior years, race organizers expect hundreds of participants, and invite friends and families to cheer and encourage them along the tree-lined course, and gather at the finish line with congratulations.

Non-runners can sign up for one of the many guided hikes that will explore local habitats. Guides from the Nature Center and the Cleveland Hiking Club will provide information on the history of the surrounding area as well as insight into the plants, birds and animals that live here. New this year is a five-mile hike around four Shaker Lakes that will explore the history of the Shakers and the Shaker parklands. All hikes depart the Nature Center at 8:45 a.m.

After the races and hikes, participants are invited to enjoy crafts, archery and tree climbing until 2 p.m. The event also features food, beverages and a beer garden all day. The cost to register for a race is $20 before Sept. 4; $25 after Sept. 4; and $30 on the day of the race. Guided nature hikes are $20 per person; $10 for those 12 and younger, and $5 for the day of the race.

For more information, and to register, visit www.shakerlakes.org. Kimberly Dyer is a 24-year Heights resident, a wife and mother of three, and an enthusiastic volunteer and Nature Center board member.
‘Mulch Madness’ funds scouts’ summer activities

When the members of Boy Scout Troop 22, based at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Cleveland Heights, took on a mulch-delivery fundraiser in spring 2017, they hoped to sell around a thousand bags of mulch in the first year.

The scouts proved to be great salesmen and exceeded expectations, selling a whopping 4,200 bags of 3-cubic-foot hardwood mulch.

The only downside? Needing to work out the logistics of delivery. Factor in some 25 scouts and adults, ranging in weight from 75 pounds to 200 pounds, hauling more than 4,000 60-plus pound bags, and you have “Mulch Madness.”

Troop 22 scouts rose to the occasion, with some smaller scouts carrying bags weighing more than they do, and some of the boy leaders carrying two bags. The physical labor of the volunteers was coordinated with loaned vehicles, trailers, and storage from Jet Dock, a local company, to make for a formidable effort.

The troop worked hard the weekend of May 12 and 13 to deliver the majority of orders, and made many additional sales at the point of delivery. “The scouts really did an incredible job for the first year of an undertaking like this,” said Assistant Scout Master Tim Nevin, who planned the logistics for the event. The mulch sale raised funds to pay for summer camping expenses. For a week in June, 26 of the troop’s scouts attended Camp Seph Mack in western Pennsylvania, completing merit badges such as Motorboating, Archery, Rifle Shooting, Aviation, and Forestry.

In summer 2018, the troop plans to send 24 scouts and leaders to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, and the mulch sale will play a major role in funding that high-adventure experience.

The 2017 mulch sale was a huge success as a fundraiser, and challenged the scouts physically and mentally. Look for the next Mulch Madness in your neighborhood in early 2018.

Rob Fischer is Troop 22’s scoutmaster, and the parent of three of its members. A professor at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University, he has been a resident of Cleveland Heights since 2001.

---

Join us and see South Africa like an insider and honored guest.
Tour guides & hosts, Jan & Gus Kious
www.KellerNational.com

For all your personal and business insurance needs
An independent agent
Dedicated to your unique needs
3109 Mayfield Road, Suite 203
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
216-965-0646

You too can be proud of your garden

Despite your best efforts, are you disappointed with the appearance of your yard?
Are you tired of calling an 800 number and not receiving the personal service you deserve?
Are you frustrated with high pressure sales calls for services you don’t want or need?

We customize fall maintenance services to meet your needs:
• Lawn renovations
• Fall leaf clean up
• Bed maintenance
• Pruning and trimming
• Weekly lawn maintenance

Lawn Lad
(216) 371-1935

South African Journeys

Join us and see South Africa like an insider and honored guest.
Tour guides & hosts, Jan & Gus Kious
www.KellerNational.com

Newly renovated home for sale in Cleveland Heights

www.lawnlad.com | (216) 371-1935
District shifts facilities focus to middle school renovations

Scott Wortman

Now that the transformation of Heights High is complete, the CH-UH City School District has turned its facilities focus to Monticello and Roxboro middle schools. The buildings, which house grades six through eight, will undergo renovations beginning in March 2018, to be completed in June 2019.

The renovations will ensure that the buildings operate more efficiently, with updates to the HVAC, electrical systems and technology. Each classroom will receive new air conditioning, flooring, ceilings and paint, in order to enhance the learning environment for students.

Monticello and Roxboro middle schools have been combined into one "Heights Middle School" on the Wiley campus in University Heights for the next two years. The two schools will remain separate for state reporting purposes, but will share a number of classes and activities, including lunch, as one school.

“We were excited to open the new Heights High, but we were also looking forward to welcoming our middle school students to Wiley,” said CH-UH Superintendent Talisa Dixon. “This is an opportunity to have both Monticello and Roxboro on one IB-authorized campus where our teachers can collaborate to provide an enriching educational environment for our students.”

District staff has been working with architects from Moody Nolan and construction managers from Turner Construction for more than a year, planning the middle school renovations and gathering input from teachers, staff, students and community members.

The Board of Education voted unanimously this past July to approve design documents from Moody Nolan and Turner Construction. This decision came after the board had an extensive discussion about the direction of the middle school renovations during its June 27 work session.

Board members considered the scope of the project (in light of the reduced budget for the middle school portion of Phase I of the Master Facilities Plan). Due to many late changes and unforeseen conditions at the Wiley site and the Heights High renovation, the hard-cost budget for the two middle schools decreased from a projected $40 million in 2014 to $30 million currently. With the reduced scope in mind, the board considered alternative paths for the middle school renovations, but ultimately decided to stay the course and remain on schedule to reopen in 2019.

"I know there has been much discussion about the upcoming renovations to our middle schools," said Dixon. “We looked at all of our options and determined that the best path forward is to continue with the modest renovations planned for Monticello and Roxboro. The work may not be to the extent of what was envisioned several years ago, but I believe the renovations will make a difference in improving the educational space we provide for our students.”

Scott Wortman is the supervisor of communications for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.

Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education Meeting highlights

JULY 11, 2017

President Ron Register, Vice President Kal Zuckier, Jim Posch, Eric Silverman and Beverly Wright were present, as were Superintendent Talisa Dixon and Treasurer Scott Gainer. The public meeting began at 7 p.m., after a prior executive session, and ended at 8:45 p.m.

New administrators

Superintendent Dixon introduced four new administrators. Joseph D’Amato was hired as athletic director. Karen Liddell Anderson was hired as director of student services, replacing Jeff Johnson, who will now be principal at Monticello Middle School. Lindsay Smith, staff assistant for finance, and Dee Stewart, high school physical/educational teacher and faculty manager for athletics, were also hired.

New district software

Dixon explained BoardDocs, the newly implemented software that the district will now use to enable district governance to be streamlined. The board agenda format is now based on this program.

Middle school configurations

The superintendent discussed her letter to the community that described the grades five and six and grades seven and eight option that was being considered for the middle schools. She said that this configuration was not feasible for the district right now, and that the board will “stay the course” with two buildings for grades six through eight, but that the plan can be further considered in the future.

Change orders

The board approved 11 change orders for the facilities renovation, ranging from $17,760 to $190,384. A total of $230,000 was for unforeseen conditions, including roof leaks, damaged brick columns, trash drains and door replacements. A total of $413,000 was needed for design clarifications, including locker modifications, because they were placed too closely together, stairway infill, and canopy entrances. PMC Regency staff presented slides on progress and the change orders.

Opening of the new high school

On Aug. 1, the district will receive keys to the renovated high school; a ribbon-cutting and tours of the school are being planned. The design team will remain available after occupancy. The work is warranted for one year from Aug. 1, unless problems arise after inspection that will change the warranty date.

LWV Observer: Lillian Houser.

JULY 25, 2017

President Ron Register, Vice President Kal Zuckier, Jim Posch, Eric Silverman and Beverly Wright were present, as were Superintendent Talisa Dixon and Treasurer Scott Gainer. The meeting began at 6 p.m. and ended at 8:45 p.m.

Board training in BoardDocs

BoardDocs implementation specialist Diana Freeman provided training to the board members in the new BoardDocs software. BoardDocs is the cloud-based system the district will use to improve the way it creates and manages board packets, accesses information, and conducts meetings. The public will be able to access parts of the packets on the Web. More information is available at http://boarddocs.com/.

No need to wait a month for more community news. Get the Heights Observer E-News in your inbox every Tuesday.

Sign up for free at bit.ly/HO-enews

(No spam; you can unsubscribe with a single click at any time)
Heights High welcomes students for first day of school

Scott Wortman

After two years of extensive renovations, class is finally back in session at Cleveland Heights High School at the corner of Cedar and Lee roads.

On Aug. 21, parents, students and staff held a flag-raising ceremony at 7:30 a.m. in the front courtyard, to start the first day of the new school year. Senior Kyle Mattox and freshman Maple Buescher unfurled and cranked the flag up the pole while the Barber-shoppers sang the national anthem.

“This is a space that our students deserve. It is a space that our staff and teachers deserve, and it is definitively a space that our community deserves,” said Brian Williams, high school principal, at the ceremony.

“We thank our community for restoring this gift to us. This marks a new era in Tiger Nation.”

“It is a great time to be in CH-UH and an exceptional time to be a part of this school district,” added Superintendent Talisa Dixon. “I am honored to be the superintendent in a community that has shown how much they value our district and our students with this new building.”

Students streamed steadily into the halls at 8 a.m., with many clutching in their hands a map and class schedule as they searched for their locker and first-period class. Shortly thereafter, all was settled and the school day began as planned.

Convocation Day. Senior student leaders Peyton Marshall and David Matia cut the ribbon while their classmates, teachers, administrators, school board members and city officials from Cleveland Heights and University Heights looked on.

“We have now, possibly for the first time in 100 years, the best building for a public or a private high school in this region,” said Eric Silverman, board of education member and Heights High alumnus, at the ceremony. “While I am not blind to the challenges you face every day, I ask that you, our staff, do everything possible to give us the reputation and student success that is good or better than this building.”

Heights High will host a grand-opening community open house event on Sunday, Sept. 10, 1-4 p.m. A dedication program will begin at 2:30 p.m. in the main auditorium.

Scott Wortman is the supervisor of communications for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.
Scott Wortman

The Green Apple Project—a district-wide initiative to save energy and, in turn, money—recently completed a successful first year in the CH-UH City School District, saving energy through behavioral changes. These energy savings equated to a significant amount of financial savings.

Across all buildings, the district cut its energy use by 4 percent from April 2016 through June 2017. That represents a savings of nearly $85,000 in operating costs.

Much of the project’s success can be attributed to the collective effort of district staff. In enacting the project, the district partnered with an energy coach from Brewer Garrett, who implemented behavior changes for staff at each building, to save on energy consumption.

“I am encouraged by the staff who have embraced our energy conservation measures,” said Ditre Wolin, CH-UH district energy coach. “Awareness is the key, and changing habits can take time. But awareness of one thing can lead to another. Several staff members have told me that they are spending less on their electric bills at home by implementing suggestions they heard at work.”

The district’s seven elementary school buildings had a combined 10-percent reduction in electric use from September 2016 through the end of the school year in May 2017.

The district is hoping to increase awareness of the Green Apple program this school year, and further reduce its energy use with a goal of a 20-percent reduction district-wide.

The district is also increasing its recycling programs to cut down on solid waste that is thrown out. Several schools increased their recycling with awareness programs last year, especially at Fairfax, Boulevard and Roxboro elementary schools, and at Heights High.

This year, Roxboro Elementary School started recycling milk cartons, juice containers and other items in the lunchroom. The plan is to expand that initiative to several other schools this fall.

Scott Wortman is the supervisor of communications for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.

Green Apple Project saves energy and money in first year

Scott Wortman

The Green Apple Project—a district-wide initiative to save energy and, in turn, money—recently completed a successful first year in the CH-UH City School District, saving energy through behavioral changes. These energy savings equated to a significant amount of financial savings.

Across all buildings, the district cut its energy use by 4 percent from April 2016 through June 2017. That represents a savings of nearly $85,000 in operating costs.

Much of the project’s success can be attributed to the collective effort of district staff. In enacting the project, the district partnered with an energy coach from Brewer Garrett, who implemented behavior changes for staff at each building, to save on energy consumption.

“I am encouraged by the staff who have embraced our energy conservation measures,” said Ditre Wolin, CH-UH district energy coach. “Awareness is the key, and changing habits can take time. But awareness of one thing can lead to another. Several staff members have told me that they are spending less on their electric bills at home by implementing suggestions they heard at work.”

The district’s seven elementary school buildings had a combined 10-percent reduction in electric use from September 2016 through the end of the school year in May 2017.

The district is hoping to increase awareness of the Green Apple program this school year, and further reduce its energy use with a goal of a 20-percent reduction district-wide.

The district is also increasing its recycling programs to cut down on solid waste that is thrown out. Several schools increased their recycling with awareness programs last year, especially at Fairfax, Boulevard and Roxboro elementary schools, and at Heights High.

This year, Roxboro Elementary School started recycling milk cartons, juice containers and other items in the lunchroom. The plan is to expand that initiative to several other schools this fall.

Scott Wortman is the supervisor of communications for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.

Green Apple Project saves energy and money in first year

Scott Wortman

The Green Apple Project—a district-wide initiative to save energy and, in turn, money—recently completed a successful first year in the CH-UH City School District, saving energy through behavioral changes. These energy savings equated to a significant amount of financial savings.

Across all buildings, the district cut its energy use by 4 percent from April 2016 through June 2017. That represents a savings of nearly $85,000 in operating costs.

Much of the project’s success can be attributed to the collective effort of district staff. In enacting the project, the district partnered with an energy coach from Brewer Garrett, who implemented behavior changes for staff at each building, to save on energy consumption.

“I am encouraged by the staff who have embraced our energy conservation measures,” said Ditre Wolin, CH-UH district energy coach. “Awareness is the key, and changing habits can take time. But awareness of one thing can lead to another. Several staff members have told me that they are spending less on their electric bills at home by implementing suggestions they heard at work.”

The district’s seven elementary school buildings had a combined 10-percent reduction in electric use from September 2016 through the end of the school year in May 2017.

The district is hoping to increase awareness of the Green Apple program this school year, and further reduce its energy use with a goal of a 20-percent reduction district-wide.

The district is also increasing its recycling programs to cut down on solid waste that is thrown out. Several schools increased their recycling with awareness programs last year, especially at Fairfax, Boulevard and Roxboro elementary schools, and at Heights High.

This year, Roxboro Elementary School started recycling milk cartons, juice containers and other items in the lunchroom. The plan is to expand that initiative to several other schools this fall.

Scott Wortman is the supervisor of communications for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.

Green Apple Project saves energy and money in first year

Scott Wortman

The Green Apple Project—a district-wide initiative to save energy and, in turn, money—recently completed a successful first year in the CH-UH City School District, saving energy through behavioral changes. These energy savings equated to a significant amount of financial savings.

Across all buildings, the district cut its energy use by 4 percent from April 2016 through June 2017. That represents a savings of nearly $85,000 in operating costs.

Much of the project’s success can be attributed to the collective effort of district staff. In enacting the project, the district partnered with an energy coach from Brewer Garrett, who implemented behavior changes for staff at each building, to save on energy consumption.

“I am encouraged by the staff who have embraced our energy conservation measures,” said Ditre Wolin, CH-UH district energy coach. “Awareness is the key, and changing habits can take time. But awareness of one thing can lead to another. Several staff members have told me that they are spending less on their electric bills at home by implementing suggestions they heard at work.”

The district’s seven elementary school buildings had a combined 10-percent reduction in electric use from September 2016 through the end of the school year in May 2017.

The district is hoping to increase awareness of the Green Apple program this school year, and further reduce its energy use with a goal of a 20-percent reduction district-wide.

The district is also increasing its recycling programs to cut down on solid waste that is thrown out. Several schools increased their recycling with awareness programs last year, especially at Fairfax, Boulevard and Roxboro elementary schools, and at Heights High.

This year, Roxboro Elementary School started recycling milk cartons, juice containers and other items in the lunchroom. The plan is to expand that initiative to several other schools this fall.

Scott Wortman is the supervisor of communications for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.
Teen Tech interns learn while helping others

The program’s goal is to provide on-the-job training to high school students in the areas of digital literacy and technology training, and also to give them the opportunity to develop their emotional intelligence in a professional working environment.

In addition to learning a variety of software, Garrett and Lewis shadowed library staff to learn how best to help library customers in the computer lab and multimedia lab at the Lee Road branch, then practiced their customer service skills by helping customers under the guidance of library staff.

“I was inspired to apply for the internship for a lot of reasons,” said Lewis. “I’m in a lot of leadership roles at school. I want to be a creator, not a follower, so I need to figure out what technologies I don’t know, and get better at them. But I also applied because the library has been like a home to me for so long, and I really want to give back to my community by sharing what I learn here with others and helping them.”

Garrett echoed Lewis’ reasons and added that the skills he’s learning will help him in college and beyond. He wants to be a music producer someday, so the library’s media lab was of particular interest to him, and he plans on coming back and taking advantage of it. “When I observe the librarians helping someone in the lab,” said Garrett, “I’m right there, too, listening and learning. This has been a great experience for me.”

Howiler said one thing that surprised her about these 21st-century teens, who have smart phones and aren’t fazed by computers, was their fascination with late 20th-century technology.

“Oh my goodness, I love to fax,” said Lewis, laughing. Garrett agreed, and added that he also enjoys learning how to scan by helping people scan historical documents during the library’s Scan Your Family History class.

“I love helping people,” said Garrett. “That’s just who I am.”

Sheryl Banks is the marketing and community relations manager for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library System.

CIM@SEVERANCE HALL

Wednesday, October 4 at 8pm

CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC ORCHESTRA
Brett Mitchell, guest conductor

SCHOENBERG Five Pieces for Orchestra (rev. 1949)
BATES The B Sides for Orchestra and Electronica (2009)
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 5

Beethoven, Schoenberg and Mason Bates are all radical innovators in classical music. Explore their connections and contrasts in an evening that culminates with the four notes that signify “fate knocking at the door.”

Reserve your FREE tickets today at cim.edu/events.
KIDS’ FINES FORGIVEN DURING LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH

Sheryl Banks

For the second consecutive year, the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library System is teaming up with eight other library systems to help ensure that every child under 18 years old in Cuyahoga County has a library card—and can use it.

The initiative, A Card for Every Kid Library Challenge, will take place during November Library Card Sign-Up Month (Sept. 1–30, 2017). The challenge is a cooperative effort to raise awareness of the importance of library card ownership, and to understand the factors that keep some children and teens from owning a library card.

This September, every library in Cuyahoga County will actively work to encourage all students to sign up for free library cards, so they can gain access to the abundance of books and learning resources available in the county’s libraries.

Children younger than 18 who already own library cards, but owe fines, will be invited to take advantage of one-time fine forgiveness anytime during National Library Card Sign-Up Month.

“There’s a reason Library Card Sign-Up Month happens in September,” said Heights Libraries Director Nancy Levin. “A library card is the key to encourage all students to sign up for free library cards, so they can gain access to the abundance of books and learning resources available in the county’s libraries.

Children younger than 18 who already own library cards, but owe fines, will be invited to take advantage of one-time fine forgiveness anytime during National Library Card Sign-Up Month.

For more information about the A Card for Every Kid Library Challenge, stop in at any Heights Libraries branch, or visit www.heightslibrary.org/signup_month.

Sheryl Banks is the marketing and community relations manager for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library System.

Cleveland Heights-University Heights Library Board Meeting highlights

JULY 17, 2017

Present were President Ron Holland, Vice President Aly Piotrowski, Secretary Chris Menore, Susan Beaty, Max Gerbosi, Suzann Moskowitz and James Rosso.

Staff changes

Colin Marshall is moving from a part-time youth services associate position at University Heights Library to a full-time youth services associate position at Heights-University Heights Library. He has been involved with Homework Helpers, video game tournaments, and book discussions. He majored in history and sociology at University of Akron.

Aarun Bari will move from a part-time youth services position at Coventry Village Library to a full-time youth services associate position at Heights-University Heights Library. He has been involved with the Stop Shop program and other creative programs for the “tweens” age group. She majored in English at Northwestern University, has a Master of Arts in English from the University of Rochester, and a Master of Education (secondary and special education) from Roberts Wesleyan College.

Sarah Rosenberger will become a full-time youth services librarian at Lee Road Library. She has almost 10 years’ experience in teen services at the Akron Public Library. She has also provided reference service to both teens and adults and has implemented system-wide programs. She majored in psychology at Baldwin Wallace College, graduating summa cum laude, and has a Master of Library and Information Science (MSIS) from Kent State University.

Stephen Sanders will be a full-time adult services librarian at Noble Neighborhood Library. He was a library/media specialist with the Warrensville Heights City Schools District and served as a technology support person for the teaching staff there. He has a Bachelor of Arts from Western Reserve University and both a Master of Education and a MSIS from Kent State University.

Summer reading program

Flower Clown kicked off the program by performing magic and creating balloon animals for 157 attendees. The preschool, school-age, and teen programs have a total of 982 children participating. There have been more signs up for the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. Each child who finishes the preschool or school-age programs receives a prize book.

Friends activities

The July First Friday book sale raised $430. The August First Friday book sale will feature books for teachers. The group has received three applications for the scholarships it provides for MUS degrees.

FFHL’s inaugural Honor Roll

The Fund for the Future of Heights Libraries (FFHL) seeks nominees for its inaugural Honor Roll, which will celebrate those who have made a sustained, outstanding contribution to the Cleveland Heights and University Heights communities by promoting literacy or by educating through literacy. Honorees will be feted at an event in November, and their names will be inscribed on a plaque placed in the Lee Road Library.

Public Library Fund secure

The Ohio library Council (OCLC) announced that when Googles signed the 2018-19 budget bill, the Public Library Fund (PLF) remained at 1.68 percent of the state’s general revenue fund. On July 26, the PLC will host a webinar detailing changes in the budget and other policy changes in the budget bill that will affect libraries. General information about the budget bill will be included.

June public service report highlights

• The bookmobile’s participation in the annual Touch A Truck Program at Purvis Park was coordinated by Youth Services Associate Hannah Van Jura. The event drew 213 people, with some becoming bookmobile regulars.
• In June, 334 adults and 83 children signed up for new library cards.
• The Scan Your Family History program will be scheduled twice a month on Fridays during the summer. Youth Services Associate Elaine Agsten continued the quarterly Family Promise outreach to families in transition.
• For the summer reading program’s celebration event at Coventry Village Library, Cleveland Museum of Natural History staff brought an opossum, a skunk, an eagle, a great horned owl, and a rat snake. These rescued Ohio natives were enjoyed by 75 enthusiastic people. Elvis Agsten planned and supervised the event, called Wild Ohio.
• To better serve working parents, Saturday Storytime was launched in June. At present, there are an average of 12 participants each Saturday.

What’s going on at your library?

Noble Neighborhood Library

2800 Noble Road, 216-291-5965

Thursday, Sept. 14, 7-8:30 p.m. “John Lewis: Get in The Way.” This documentary film follows the journey of John Lewis—civil rights hero, congressman, and human rights champion. A discussion will follow the screening.

Coventry Village Library

1925 Coventry Road, 216-334-3407

Thursday, Sept. 28, 7-8:30 p.m. Beatlemania: The Cleveland Concerts. Relive the excitement of The Beatles’ early concerts at Cleveland Public Auditorium and Municipal Stadium. Dave Schwensen, author of The Beatles in Cleveland: Memories, Facts & Photos, about the notorious 1964 and 1966 concerts, goes behind the scenes with The Fab Four through insider stories, rare concert footage, and never-before-published photos and memorabilia. A book signing will follow the program.

Lee Road Library

1245 Lee Rd, 216-932-3600

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 6:30-8 p.m. HER Idea in Motion. Girls ages 12-16 learn the creative game-making project for the library to project compilation, to create their own Web-based games. Using Scratch, students will design and create a game they can share with their friends.

WWW.HIGHTSOBSERVER.ORG

www.heightsobserver.org

Heights Observer September 1, 2017

Heights Observer September 1, 2017
Senior Citizen Happenings

Senior Citizen Happenings, sponsored by the City of University Heights, are open to all senior citizens. Events take place on Thursdays at 2 p.m. in Council Chambers at University Heights City Hall. To receive the monthly schedule by e-mail, call 216-932-7800, ext. 203, or send an e-mail to info@universityheights.com.

Sept. 7: Gregory Malkin, director of the Young Entrepreneur Institute at University School, will discuss basic business principles and procedures, such as using money wisely, problem solving and consumer needs. He will present a vision of Cleveland's diverse arts and culture treasury as a leading contributor to our community's vitality.

Sept. 21: Bruce Akers, who served as mayor of Pepper Pike for 20 years (1990–2010), was selected by Crain's Cleveland Business (May 8–14), as one of "8 over 80" for his record of hard work, notable accomplishments, practical intelligence, genuine compassion, and dedication to better the community. He'll discuss his work.

Sept. 28: Blake Johnston, director of marketing and development for Habitat for Humanity, discusses the work of this nonprofit, and celebrates 30 years of building homes and empowering families through providing safe and affordable housing, enabling the homeowner to pursue other dreams for his or her family.

Heating / Cooling / Plumbing / Specializing in Steam & Hot Water Boiler Systems

Chris & Bill Hann
5 generations of family experience

Save $100 on an Aprilaire Humidifier with the purchase of a new high efficient furnace. Expires 9/17/17

The ONLY Hann Family owned heating, cooling and plumbing business in Cleveland.
New Cleveland Heights restaurants open

Two restaurants, Seafood Shake and Sylk’s Soul Fix Cuisine, are among the new businesses that have opened in Cleveland Heights this summer. Seafood Shake opened on July 21, at 1852 Coventry Road, serving seasoned, boiled seafood. At 2142 Lee Road, Fix Bistro’s owner Eric Rogers continues his expansion of the “Fix” brand with the opening of Sylk’s Soul Fix Cuisine (pictured above).

Loft Gallery hosts new exhibit

Described as “an exhibition of work in at least four modes,” Connections” opened on Aug. 26 and will run through Sept. 23 at the Loft Gallery inside Eastwood Furniture, at the corner of South Taylor Road and Fairmount Boulevard in Cleveland Heights. The show will present spindles, chains, word play and an occasional light chime, all by Jay Hoffman, who said of this work, “The term ‘artist’ doesn’t fit me very well. I see myself more as an embodiments, attempting to give physical form to ideas.” The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Then and now: 2037 Lee Road

Korbi Roberts

The building at 2037 Lee Road, near the intersection of Yorkshire Road, was built in 1928 as the Heights branch of the U.S. Post Office. It is now the location of Heights Mini Storage, Inc.

The post office moved to another location on Lee Road in the 1960s and then later moved to Severance Circle, where it remains today. The building was purchased by two men who ran State Drug and Sundries there until 1984.

It was then purchased by Tim and Joan Evans, who intended to renovate and resell or rent it. Due to zoning restrictions, however, they ended up remodeling it into a mini storage facility and retaining ownership.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.

The business has been going strong for 32 years. “We have many tenants who have been with us for many years but are always happy to accommodate new tenants,” said Joan Evans.

Heights Mini Storage has storage units ranging from 2 ft. x 3 ft. to 8 ft. x 20 ft. The units are either 7 ft. or 9 ft. in height. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 4–6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. Contact Heights Mini Storage at 216-321-5325 or joanie216@gmail.com.

Korbi Roberts is a trustee of the Cleveland Heights Historical society, and grew up here enjoying the great people, events, culture and architecture of the Heights.
Send-off concert for singer Wright is Sept. 8

Peg Weissbrod

On Friday, Sept. 8, local musical ensembles Elégie and The Wright Family Singers will join Chandra Turner and Jessica Yafanaro in a farewell concert for Caleb A. Wright, a well-known local singer who is moving to Los Angeles to further his career. The 7:30 p.m. concert at Mt. Zion Congregational Church (10723 Magnolia Blvd. in University Circle) will be accompanied by Cleveland musicians Anne Wilson, Cerena Mangum, Rodney Hubbard and Lacretia Bolden II.

Caleb Wright has been active in the musical community in Cleveland since 2007, beginning as a soloist at Forest Hill Presbyterian Church in Cleveland Heights. He attended Cleveland Heights High School, where he served as president of The Heights Singers and The A Cappella Choir under director Craig McEachern. He was also a founding member of The Heights High Barbershoppers.

Upon graduation, Wright moved to New York City to study at The American Musical and Dramatic Academy, performing there and in Washington, D.C., Virginia and Los Angeles. A classically trained bass-baritone, Wright has also studied with Carolyn Smith and Richard Anderson, both alumni of Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

Wright returned to Cleveland in 2013 and has been a member and featured soloist of the Forest Hill Church Chancel Choir, Imani Temple Choir, Antioch Baptist Church Choir, PK Jones Ensemble, First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland Chancel Choir, Cleveland Men of Song, Cleveland Orchestra Chorus, Cleveland Orchestra Chamber Chorus, Voices of Koinonia Choir and Praise Team, Mt. Zion of Oakwood Village Choir, The Cleveland Chamber Society, and The Singers Club of Cleveland.

He has also participated in such Cleveland opera and musical theater companies as Karamu House, Mercury Theatre, and The Cleveland Inspiration Project.

Wright’s passion has been singing with Elégie and the internationally acclaimed Wright Family Singers. Elégie is the male quartet that Wright formed with fellow musicians Brian Barron, Mist’a Craig and Michael Hives. Spanning all musical genres, Elégie has been a noted force in the Cleveland music scene since its inception in 2013.

The Wright Family Singers ensemble includes Wright’s grandmother, Mother Willie-Mae Wright; his mother and Cleveland Heights school board member Beverly Wright-Baker; her four siblings, Sandra, Willie Jr., Toya and Molly; and the newest generation of Wright Family Singers—Caleb and his cousins Lauren Wright, Blake Reynolds, Kyra Wright and Jordan Wright.

All are invited to join this musical celebration of Caleb Wright as he heads to Los Angeles with prayer, love, excellent music and well wishes toward a bright future.

You can stay in touch with Wright by following his career at www.facebook.com/calebawrightmusic, www.soundcloud.com/calebalexanderwright, and www.youtube.com/user/notbitchcaleb/videos.

Peg Weissbrod is a freelance writer and outreach director for Forest Hill Presbyterian Church in Cleveland Heights.


---

Connections

by Jay Hoffman

August 26 through September 23

Open House Saturday, August 26th 5-8 pm

---

Elégie members Caleb Wright, Brian Barron, Mist’a Craig and Michael Hives.

COURTESY PEG WEISSBROD

Elégie members Caleb Wright, Brian Barron, Mist’a Craig and Michael Hives.

COURTESY PEG WEISSBROD

---

State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL

Privileged

to help.

We’re honored to serve this community for 25 years.
My staff and I look forward to many more with you.
Thank you for your continued support and business.
Get to a better State.® Get State Farm.

CALL ME TODAY.

Betsy Warner, Agent
2401 Lee Blvd
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
Bus: 216-923-6900
betsywarner.com

---

EASTWOOD FURNITURE

3451 Fairmount Blvd.
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
Tuesday-Saturday 10-5
www.eastwoodfurniture.com

Old world craftsmanship . . .
today’s furniture styles.
Solid Hardwood
Made in Ohio
Designed by You

IN THE loft of
EASTWOOD FURNITURE

by Jay Hoffman

August 26 through September 23

Open House Saturday, August 26th 5-8 pm

---

Height Observer September 1, 2017 26 www.heightsobserver.org
The Nicholson B. White Gallery at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 2747 Fairmount Blvd., announces its fall show, *Lens, Needle, Brush, Flame*. At the opening artists’ reception on Friday, Sept. 8, 5–7 p.m., the participating artists—Judy Rawson (photography), Sandy Shelenberger (textiles), Maureen Lanza (paintings), and Dwight Weatherhead (glass)—will greet guests and speak briefly about their creative process. The show runs through Nov. 26.

All four artists reside in Northeast Ohio. Judy Rawson has been a longtime resident of Shaker Heights. When she is behind her camera lens, Rawson gravitates to simple things, looking for beauty of pattern and line, moody lighting, and interesting or ironic juxtapositions. Her works here include urban architecture, historical sites, and a selection of stunning landscapes. Rawson turned to photography to help her see the world in fresh and distinctive ways. Featured here is a variety of her original images, some which have not been exhibited before.

Sandy Shelenberger, from Conneaut, has an extensive background in textiles, surface design, and quilt making. She is interested in the interplay of pattern and texture, as can be seen in her handmade pieces. Recently she has been exploring encaustic artwork. She teaches art and surface design techniques around the eastern parts of Cleveland, and works to empower others through art and the creative process.

Painter Maureen Lanza, of University Heights, started in watercolors, mainly painting house portraits. A lover of flowers, Lanza changed her focus and switched to oils and acrylics to add a new dimension to her work. She uses bold, brilliant colors in her modern paintings of flowers, abstracts and still lifes. Her colorful paintings convey a positive and exuberant mood for viewers.

Dwight Weatherhead, of Cleveland Heights, has set the goal for himself of trying out a variety of media. This show features pieces from his glassblowing period. Glassblowing has provided an exciting and creative challenge for him. It is physically demanding and the molten material requires a special artistic balancing act. He strives to create pleasing shapes, without overworking the glass beyond that point. His pieces are beautifully formed and his application of color joins together with shape. Weatherhead’s glass works are both functional and decorative.

Everyone is welcome at the opening reception. The gallery is open weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on weekends, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Artists receive all proceeds from the sale of their work.

Robin Outcalt is a member of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church.

**Heights Music Hop 2017**

*a free live music festival Sept. 7, 8 & 9*

**Venues:**

- Sept. 7 @ Coventry Village
  - B Side
  - Greg Shop
  - La Cave du Vin
  - Main’s Books
  - Vintage Apparel: Made in Cleveland
- Sept. 8 @ Cedar Fairmount
  - Appletree Books
  - Cleveland Heights Church
  - The Fairmount
  - Luna Bakery Café
  - Nighttown
  - Pavilion Home & Floral
- Sept. 9 @ Cedar Lee
  - Australis Café
  - CLE Urban Winery
  - Dewey’s Pizza
  - The Fix Bistro
  - Heights Arts
  - Heights Music Shop
  - Heights Youth Club
  - Lopez on Lee
  - Lee Road Library
  - Marotta’s

**Sponsors & Partners:**

- The BottleHouse Brewery
- CLE Urban Winery
- Digitzoom Media
- Greg Shop
- Keller National
- Cedar Lee SID
- Cedar Fairmount SID
- Dewey’s Pizza
- City of Cleveland Hts.
- Map Creative
- Rad Graphics
- Zugar’s Marketplace
- Coventry Village SID
- Cellular Door Cleveland
- Family Connections
- Lauckmore Polish Fest
- Brie Winter Festival
- WOUB Radio
- WBUR Radio

**Future Heights**

thanks these organizations for making the 5th annual Heights Music Hop possible!

**Heights Music Hop**

*www.heightsmusichop.com*
Dobama Theatre opens its 58th season with the Cleveland premiere of “brownsville song (b-side for tray)” by Kimberly Lee. Written in poetic language, “brownsville song” is the story of Tray, a high school senior and amateur boxer. The play moves gracefully back and forth in time to reveal what happened before and after the tragic incident that changes Tray’s family forever.

The inspiration for the play came to Lee in 2012 when she read a news report about a young black man who was the victim of random gang violence in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, N.Y. The story, which contained very few details, lodged in the playwright’s head.

“I kept thinking about this boy’s family and loved ones,” she said, “and about the tremendous loss of life in some of our communities, and how easy it is in this sound-byte world for these losses to disappear from our conscious- ness . . . if you look a certain way and live in a certain zip code, your life is worth less, you matter less, and this wall of silence descends around the loss.”

“This is not your typical sad, tragic fairy tale about wishes, family, and the journey to find “home.” It means a great deal to me as a Korean-American actress to be playing a Korean American woman written by a Korean American playwright,” said Chang. “It is not often you find an opportunity like this. I hope audiences will see that my character, Merrell, is like anyone else: human and not perfect.”

The cast also includes Kalim Hill, Lisa Louise Langford, Jabri Little, and Logan Williams.

“brownsville song” runs Sept. 1–24, Thursdays through Sundays at Dobama Theatre, 2540 Lee Road in Cleveland Heights. Tickets are $25–$32, with senior, student and military discounts available. Tickets for the preview performances on Aug. 30 and Aug. 31, at 7:30 p.m., are $15. The pay-as-you-can performance is Sept. 3 at 7:30 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets, call the box office at 216-932-3396. Tickets are also available online at www.dobama.org.

Jonathan Wilhelm is the managing director of Dobama Theatre.

Pamela Fine

Heights Youth Theatre’s (HYT) 2017-18 season will open in October with “Into the Woods,” an enchanting fairytale about wishes, family, and the impact of the choices we make. Kelly Monaghan directs the season-opening production, with music direction by Stacy Bolton.

Woven throughout the season’s productions is this year’s theme, The Journey Home. All of the plays HYT will present deal with excursions of self-discovery, where characters set out to find themselves, or lose themselves, sometimes within the same journey. Ultimately, they gain insights that are more fulfilling than the happy-pietest fairy tale.

This season marks HYT’s return “home” to its stage at the Wiley middle school building, after two years away, and is a celebration of 60 years of creating quality live theater that entertains its audiences, and educates, encourages and inspires its young artists.

The season continues in January with Princess Winifred’s journey to the palace in “Once Upon a Mattress”—a musical version of “The Princess and the Pea”—directed by Eugene Sumlin, with music direction by Stacy Bolton.

The capstone of the season will be the “Wizard of Oz,” with performances in March, with Treva Offutt, director, and Stacy Bolton, music director. Audiences are invited to “follow the yellow brick road” with Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tinman, Lion, and Toto, too, as they journey to find “home.”

For information on auditions, tickets, sponsorships and donations, call 216-932-1583, e-mail heightsyouththeatre@gmail.com, or visit www.heightsyouththeatre.org.

Pamela Fine is executive director of Heights Youth Theatre.
Old friends, every 10 years

David Budin

There’s something strange about being in a room with 200 people and knowing exactly how old every one of them is. That’s how it is at a class reunion. Some of the people look 10 years younger than that age; some look 10 years older than you’d expect; most look approximately how you think they should at this age. And you? You look exactly the way you did in high school. Exactly. No-middle school.

Being at a class reunion is not like going back in time; it’s like stepping into the future. Because you haven’t changed at all, when you see everyone else, it’s sort of like you’re thinking, “Oh—that’s how they’re going to look when they grow up.”

I attended two of the three parts of my 50-year Heights High class reunion in August. The first part took place on a Friday evening at Nighttown. There were 200 of us in Nighttown’s music room. You can’t actually fit 200 people in that room, even with most of the tables and chairs removed, but there were. And, in a way, it was perfect, because that’s the way Heights High was in the late 50s. It was the pinnacle of the Baby Boom era and the school had twice as many kids (in three grades) than it does now (in four grades).

So being squeezed into that room, where the goal was to move around and talk to as many old friends as possible, was a lot like 3,000 kids trying to get to their next class, all at the same time, while carrying on conversations, sometimes with kids heading in the opposite direction. I think we all felt right at home in this situation at Nighttown.

I stopped to talk to, or was stopped by, many people I knew only slightly back then, that was by far the largest group of people I knew in high school—people I knew only slightly. In a school of 3,000 kids, I had very few good friends. And I was two different people. I was the Heights Choir guy, who spent all of my high school time and energy working for and with the Choir. And I was the drugs guy, who spent most of my time outside of school with a bunch of people who hated school as much as I did, and we held up taking a variety of drugs and playing music together.

I had a few close friends from each of those groups. A few of the Choir friends, and a few others who had been good friends of mine at Roosevelt Junior High, attended the reunion. It was great to talk to them. Most of the drug friends are dead or in prison or playing music together.

And speaking of the people I knew only slightly back then, that was by far the largest group of people I knew in high school—people I knew only slightly. In a school of 3,000 kids, I had very few good friends. And I was two different people. I was the Heights Choir guy, who spent all of my high school time and energy working for and with the Choir. And I was the drugs guy, who spent most of my time outside of school with a bunch of people who hated school as much as I did, and we held up taking a variety of drugs and playing music together.

I had a few close friends from each of those groups. A few of the Choir friends, and a few others who had been good friends of mine at Roosevelt Junior High, attended the reunion. It was great to talk to them. Most of the drug friends are dead or in prison or wandering the streets of various cities. Though a couple have, like me, survived and are doing fine, though, unlike me, they would never consider attending a class reunion—and they shouldn’t.

I guess that’s why I attended only the Friday night part of the reunion and not the Saturday night gala—maybe it was the former Choir-me who went on Friday and the former drug-me who did something else on Saturday night.

In between those two events, on Saturday morning, many of us had the opportunity to get a tour of the renovated Heights High School, which is spectacular and an entirely new building inside. Watch for news of any public tours of the space and go see it.

At one point in the tour, our guide was explaining the new procedure for entering the building, part of which entails waiting to, as he said, “get buzzed,” to open the door. I turned to a former classmate and said, “I used to get buzzed before I got to school.”

There’s something strange about being in a room with 200 people and knowing exactly how old every one of them is. There’s something strangely comforting about it, too.

David Budin is a freelance writer for national and local publications, the former editor of Cleveland Magazine and Northern Ohio Live, an author, and a professional musician and comedian. His writing focuses on the arts and, especially, pop-music history.
**Sound and Vision sets tone for season of multidisciplinary shows**

An exhibition of non-traditional musical instruments presents a new view at Heights Arts this fall. *Sound and Vision,* which opens with a public reception on Friday, Sept. 1, and will be on view through Sunday, Oct. 15, brings together a variety of instruments built or owned by local, regional, and national instrument builders and tinkerers. Ranging from a custom-painted cello to hand-built modular synthesizers and unusual items, such as the Marxolin Aqua Lin, the instruments on display in *Sound and Vision* challenge the notion of what musical instruments are in the first place. Exhibition contributors include Brad Bolton, Anne Cole, Bob Drake, Mike Hovancsek, Walt Mahovlich, David Russell Stempski, and Karl Vorndran.

“For hundreds of years, musical instruments have been designed to please both the eye and the ear,” noted composer and sound artist Christopher Auerbach-Brown, who curated the exhibition. “Instruments such as violins and celli, woodwind and brass instruments, and keyboard instruments like the piano and pipe organ have been created for both immaculate sound production and overall visual appeal.”

“The 20th century saw an expansion of the definition of the term ‘musical instrument’ to include more radical and experimental designs incorporating new, unusual and even dangerous components. Inventions such as the telharmonium, fire organ, and synthesizer; innovations in audio recording technology; and the embracing of the concept that music can be created with any object at hand—all of these have greatly expanded concepts of what defines music, how music is performed, and how it is preserved for posterity. Hopefully this exhibition will undermine visitors’ assumptions and encourage them to explore music that exists outside of their comfort zone.”

Two public programs accompany the exhibition. The community is invited to hear *Sound and Vision* exhibition contributors talk about their musical instruments (and perhaps demonstrate their unique qualities) at Ekphastacy: Artists Talk + Poets Respond on Thursday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m., in the gallery. Cleveland Heights Poet Laureate Christine Howey has invited area poets to respond in verse to their choice of instruments on view. On Saturday, Oct. 14, 7 p.m., the popular Cleveland acoustic instrumental ensemble Trepanning Trio will perform a free gallery concert.

Ornamental Containment, a series of new monotypes by artist-member Deborah Pinter, will be showcased in the spotlight gallery beginning Friday, Sept. 15. Employing the compositional restraints of a circular format on square paper, Pinter continues her exploration of directly creating prints from natural elements such as leaves, branches and stones, which are added in layers to create a positive/negative rhythm. All are invited to meet Pinter and learn more about her work at the opening reception on Sept. 15, 6–9 p.m.

For more information, as well as a complete listing of the nonprofit arts organization’s events and gallery shop programs, visit heightsarts.org or call 216-371-3457.

**“Judson is the perfect place for us!”**

— Jim and Nina Gibans, Judson Park residents since 2016

Stalwarts of the Cleveland arts-and-culture scene, Nina and Jim Gibans had accumulated a lifetime’s worth of memories in their Shaker Heights home. But when health demands challenged their independent lifestyle, the couple agreed it was time to move to Ambler Court - a beautifully renovated assisted living neighborhood that offers signature programing and care in an ideal environment for those in need of increased assistance.

“It felt like home from the start,” says Nina of the couple’s suite, filled with a curated collection of the books, music and art they love. And they take comfort in the easy access to the onsite health and wellness programs they both need. “We love it here,” says Nina.

Learn about Assisted Living at Judson Park. Call (216) 446-1845 to arrange for a tour today.

Visit www.judsonsmartliving.org and click Judson Park.

Mary Ryan

---

Brad Bolton performs the godbass, on view in Sound and Vision.

A painted cello body from one of instrument-maker Anne Cole’s custom creations.

**MAC’S BACKS BOOKSTORE**

Ornamental Containment, a series by Deborah Pinter, will be showcased in the spotlight gallery beginning Friday, Sept. 15.
Free Piano Lessons!
Keys To Growth (KTG) is offering 25 students free, small group piano lessons for 30 weeks beginning September 21st. Ages 3—103
KTG is a 501(c)3 non-profit whose founders believe economic constraints should not hinder individuals from pursuing the many benefits of musical instrument training!

Historic Fairmount Home For Sale
2765 Fairmount Boulevard
For sale “As is”
Open House: 8/20 (1-3 PM)
8/24 (5:30-7:30 PM)
9/3 (1-3 PM)
Bids due: September 8

Free Estimates Since 1978
Daugherty Construction, Inc.
Commercial / Residential Roofing
Siding - Windows
www.daughertyconst.com
22460 Lakeland Boulevard
Euclid, Ohio 44132
(216) 731-9444
(216) 731-9444 Fax
Daugherty@Daughertyconst.com

Computer Troubleshooting
• Tuck Pointing
• Concrete Repair
We specialize in city and sales violations!

STUDIO NOW-TO
All inclusive, start to finish, handcraft workshops & classes
SEW KNIT PAINT DRAW PRINT EMBROIDERY LEATHER CRAFT
Relax Unplug Create
247 Lee Inc, Chagrin Heights
www.chagrinheights.com

STUDY MAINS
We specialize in

FREE PIANO LESSONS!
Keys To Growth (KTG) is offering 25 students free, small group piano lessons for 30 weeks beginning September 21st. Ages 3—103
KTG is a 501(c)3 non-profit whose founders believe economic constraints should not hinder individuals from pursuing the many benefits of musical instrument training!

Eve’s Painting & Home Repair
• Interior and exterior painting
• Wallpaper removal
• Housing code violations
• Tuck pointing
• Handyman services
We are bonded, insured, and maintain an “A” rating on Angie’s List.

PC HANDYMAN
PC and Mac Repair
End your computer troubles for good
Our “Managed Services” contract offers:
• Microsoft Office 365
• Anti-virus protection
• Online support and maintenance
Just $29.99/mo
216-236-0743 www.pchandy.net
Based in the Heights

Heights Hardware
SINCE 1911

GMG Window Restoration
Keep your historic windows and save thousands!
Sticky windows
Weather stripping
Broken ropes
Cracked glass
We’ll make them work like new!
(216) 321-7729
mjmwindowsrestoration.com
30 years in the Heights

SideWALK Leveling
• Tuck Pointing
• Concrete Repair
We specialize in city and sales violations!

Heights Observer September 1, 2017
www.heightsobserver.org
31
www.heightsobserver.org
Dear Fellow Cleveland Heights Residents,

I would be honored to serve our community as Judge of Cleveland Heights Municipal Court. I have the experience, skill, and passion to be your judge. Having served as a judicial staff attorney in the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas and currently as a litigation attorney at Synenberg, Coletta & Moran, LLC my diverse legal career and temperament make me the right choice for this office.

If elected I will:
• Introduce a specialized Housing Court Docket.
• Establish a Drug Court program for non-violent offenders.
• Modernize the Court by expanding the use of technology and introducing electronic filing to increase transparency and efficiency.

I pledge to treat everyone with respect and to administer justice fairly and effectively.

I hope you will support me on November 7th and vote NADEEN HAYDEN for Judge of The Cleveland Heights Municipal Court!

Sincerely,

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.NADEENHAYDEN.COM

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Nadeen Hayden, Russell Randazzo, Treasurer