

INSIDE



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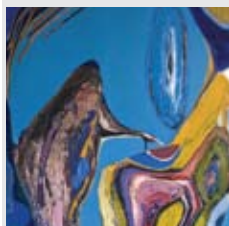
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Piccadilly is Best New Business in 2013 Best of the Heights Awards

Dan Budin

On Sept. 23, at its ninth annual Best of the Heights Awards, FutureHeights honored outstanding businesses, organizations and community members in Cleveland Heights and University Heights.

Piccadilly Artisan Yogurt edged out finalists Katz Club Diner and Pinwheel Kids to win Best New Business.

"It is a great honor for us to win," said Cosmin Bota, who, with his brother Adrian, opened the all-organic frozen yogurt shop in March in Coventry Village. "We give full credit and say a heartfelt 'thank you' to the community that has welcomed and supported us since opening day. We really enjoy being part of the creativity and vibrancy of the area."



Fred Griffith, emcee, speaks with Cosmin Bota of Piccadilly Artisan Yogurt, winner of the Best New Business Award.

The awards for Best Cleveland Heights Business and Best University Heights Business went to Ten Thousand Villages and Bialy's Bagels, respectively.

This year, FutureHeights gave special

recognition to three businesses that have consistently been among the top vote-getters in the Best of the Heights since the awards began. The Continuous Excel-

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Movin' on up: Phoenix Coffee relocates on Coventry Road

James Henke

Phoenix Coffee, which has been at the south end of Coventry Road near Winking Lizard Tavern since 2007, has a new location—and a whole new look. On Sept. 6, the coffee shop relocated across the street to 1793 Coventry at the corner of Hampshire Road. It is now housed in what was previously Delphic Books and, more recently, C. Jones Books & Tea Shop.

The night before the new shop opened, Phoenix employees gathered at the old shop, which was lit only by candles. Each employee was given a candle to hold, and they exchanged many heartfelt stories about their time at Phoenix. The group then paraded up Coventry Road, carrying their candles, to the new shop. They worked late into the night, readying the store for its Sept. 6 opening.

"The dynamics of the street have started to change," said Christopher Feran, coffee director for Phoenix. "There is a rebirth of the north end of Coventry. There are more independent stores on that end. We think we will get more foot traffic up there."

Carl Jones, who owned the book



Sarah Wilson-Jones stands in front of the counter at the new Phoenix Coffee Coventry Road location.

and tea shop, founded Phoenix Coffee back in 1990. Years earlier, in 1976, he started Arabica Coffee, which had its first store on Coventry. Jones's connection to Phoenix has diminished over the years, and the operation is now run by his former wife, Sarah Wilson-Jones.

Feran said that one of the reasons for the move is that Phoenix was able to "build the store from scratch to our specifications." The shop's prior location, at the south end of Coventry, was previously a Caribou Coffee shop, and Phoenix basically moved into the space without making many changes.

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New Cleveland Heights city manager delighted to be back home

James Henke

At just 34, Tanisha Briley has what could be called her dream job.

In June, she was hired as the new city manager of Cleveland Heights. She started work on Aug. 1.

Briley grew up in Cleveland, mostly on the East Side. She's the oldest of four children. "We moved around a lot," she said, "but I was always touched by public administration—my teachers, the people at the rec center and the public housing authorities. I was always impressed by them, and I wanted to give back to my community."

She attended Collinwood High School, where she was on the girls' track and basketball teams. She was also a member of the student council, and the senior class treasurer. "I was always very busy during my high school years. I'd leave for school at 6 a.m., and I wouldn't get back home until about 10 p.m.," she said.

When she was 16, after her sophomore year, she got her first job as an intern with the Cleveland Department of Water, which furthered her interest in public administration. After high school, Briley attended The Ohio State University, where she got a degree in business administration. She worked as a legislative aide in the Ohio Senate, assisting Mark Mallory, now the mayor of Cincinnati. She also worked in student recruitment and minority student affairs for OSU. "I worked in the Cleveland territory, helping recruit students and

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District sees consistent performance in Ohio School Report Card

Angee Shaker

Initial report card ratings from the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) show consistent performance from the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, when compared with last year's scores.

"We refuse to be content with anything less than excellence, so we recognize that we have a great deal of work to do before our schools are performing to the level our community expects," said Nylajan R. McDaniel, superintendent.

The district's schools showed tre-

mendous growth in grades 4-8, based on the value-added data. The value-added analysis is a statistical method that measures the impact schools and teachers have on students' academic progress from year to year.

"Our four grades of A for the value-added measurements (district overall value-added, gifted students value-added, disabled students value-added and lower 20 percent value-added) show that our students exceeded expected growth in one year's time," stated McDaniel. "The value-added data shows us that while we are not meeting every indicator, we are

helping our students grow and helping them meet and move beyond grade-level standards and expectations.

"Whether the state uses letter grades or labels, the truth is always in the details. In this case, the details show that while we have a great deal of work left to do, our educational strategy is laying the groundwork for continued improvement in the future," added McDaniel.

Test results from the 2012-13 school year show that CH-UH schools' overall performance is stagnant—essentially at the same overall level as last year.

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Letters Policy

The *Heights Observer* welcomes letters to the editor. They must be submitted electronically, along with the writer's name, phone number and e-mail address, to:
www.heightsobserver.org/members or
 e-mail: info@futureheights.org

HEIGHTS OBSERVER

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FutureHeights board is engaged but not unanimous



OPENING
THE OBSERVER

Clare Taft

In its more than 10-year history, FutureHeights has never endorsed an issue on any ballot. We have often discussed issues and published articles to help inform the public and stimulate civic discourse. In the August Opening the Observer column, our executive director stated that if FutureHeights decided to advocate on behalf of an issue, the opinion would be clearly marked as such.

This year, the FutureHeights Board of Directors (FH) debated whether to endorse Issue 81, the school facilities bond issue. The question the board considered was: Should FutureHeights, as an organization, endorse Issue 81?

We recognize that a comprehensive school facilities project represents a large investment in our community's infrastructure, the likes of which we have not seen in 40 years.

Last year, after the school board decided not to move forward with Plan C, our organization petitioned the school board to create a Lay Facilities Committee (LFC) to re-examine the school facilities issue, and our executive director served on the committee. One of our board members, Mark Chupp, served as a consultant to the LFC's communications subcommittee.

FH gave thoughtful consideration to whether or not we should endorse Issue 81 as an organization. We discussed and debated the issue

at three board meetings and via e-mail. We asked Citizens for Heights Schools, the community organization formed in support of the bond issue, to answer our questions.

Ultimately, FH was not unanimous in its opinions about the bond issue, and we decided not to endorse the issue as an organization. Of 16 board members, 10 voted to endorse the issue, 4 voted not to endorse and 2 abstained.

Two who voted to endorse the issue said, "We cannot undo past mistakes or fix all problems with public education but fixing our school buildings is the most pressing need now. Our mission promotes a strong community, and public school buildings that are attractive and up to standards are essential," and, "The health of our schools is integral to the vitality and economic development of our community, which falls within the mission of FH. This includes both educational and curricular excellence, as well as a change in perception of our schools. Sadly, this starts with the aesthetic of our facilities. FH often encourages the community to invest in itself."

One member who voted to oppose endorsement said, "Many CH-UH citizens have invested a lot of their time into the facilities plan. Irrespective of one's thoughts about the plan particulars, the plan is a viable, realistic and credible plan. It is indisputable that the infrastructure assets of the district need to be improved. It is also indisputable that the trajectory of the education program of the district needs a commensurate directional change. Until the district puts forth a comparable education plan, any support from FH should be withheld."

Another member, said, "Although

FH and the *Observer* are two separate entities, they are so closely linked in people's minds that taking a stand would undermine the newspaper's objectivity and neutrality. The issue is so important to the growth and sustainability of the Heights community, however, I believe that individual board members should submit opinion pieces to the newspaper—clearly under their own names."

We believe that continuing constructive discourse regarding Issue 81 until Election Day is the best way FH can maintain its mission of supporting and promoting civic engagement. We do not want to compromise our long-standing tradition of impartiality and objectivity by endorsing an issue without full agreement of all board members. We also never want to compromise the objectivity and standards of the *Heights Observer*, which provides a voice to all citizens.

We remain committed to maintaining and convening community conversation. This issue of the *Observer* contains seven pages of letters to the editor and opinion pieces on the bond issue and other matters. Several board members have written pieces from their own perspective; some are printed in this issue, others will appear online or in the November issue. Our school facilities-themed Question of the Day remains online for you to state your opinion, and, we invite you to send your letters and opinions to us at www.heightsobserver.org.

We encourage you to educate yourself about the candidates and issues, and then vote on Nov. 5.

Clare Taft is president of the FutureHeights Board of Directors.

Heights Observer 2013 local elections candidate policy

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

As a community newspaper staffed by volunteers and 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 and discuss issues 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 issues 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 running for 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 www.heightsobserver.org.
- Candidates seeking to place information in the August-November printed editions of the *Observer* may do so through advertising space purchased from the *Observer*.

The *Heights Observer* and its parent organization, FutureHeights, do not endorse candidates.

Yes or no on Issue 81?

We recently asked CH-UH residents to weigh in on the school bond issue. The following comments represent how residents would vote if the election were held today. To read all comments in their entirety, go to www.heightsobserver.org/daily-question/2013-09-10.

NO votes

I'm completely against . . . any issue that will close University Heights schools.

Phase I completely ignores the 2,600 elementary school students.

I can't believe that student performance is low because the buildings are not modernized, air conditioned, and laid out better.

I do not believe we should write a blank check without knowing who we are entrusting to spend it.

In a district where 2 of every 5 children are living below the poverty line, a career tech education might be their best hope for breaking that cycle of poverty. I will vote yes only when I believe we are investing in the right things.

Taxes are high enough.

YES votes

The Lay Facilities Committee has investigated and addressed the real needs of our current students, as well as made provisions for likely future developments.

This issue amounts to a vote of confidence in the future of the schools, and passing the bond issue will help keep young families in the Heights.

The buildings are in horrible condition and we simply must do this now or we risk spending much more later.

For new families to enter the Heights, buy homes and use them as their primary residence, they need to know that public education is a viable option.

Starting at the high school and middle schools makes sense to avoid incoming students perpetually experiencing construction through their time within the district.

I want to be proud of our community and our schools when other students and visitors come to our buildings.

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Economic concerns weigh on residents considering facilities bond issue

To the Editor:

I attended the meeting on Sept. 11 about the Cleveland Heights-University Heights school district's proposed bond issue to fund major renovation and updates of the district's school buildings. Supporters of the bond issue made a compelling case to no longer delay this long-overdue renovation of our school buildings. It seemed, at least for the majority attending the meeting, that there was no disagreement on this point.

However, during a "sidebar" conversation with another resident outside of the actual meeting, it became clear to me that, for at least some of the citizens of the district, the need to rebuild and upgrade the school facilities is not the central issue. They understand and agree that the need exists. The real issue for these citizens is and will be an economic one, pitting the cost of long-term financing of the facilities plan against the continued need to fund school district operations at the same time. In fact, it was mentioned at least once that the significant property tax increase that will be needed to pay the debt service on the long-term bonds will not eliminate the need for new revenues that inevitably will be needed over the same 30-plus-year time span to operate the schools. The real issue is the economic angst that funding both a major building renovation

plan and continued operating costs from the tried and true property tax will place upon the household budgets of many, including senior citizens and others on a fixed income.

The sidebar conversation produced at least one idea that the board of education should seriously consider. Retain financing the district's capital improvements by a long-term bond issue, the debt service on which will be paid for by a property tax levy. However, although the property tax has been the staple source for operating revenue over the years, the board does have another source of revenue that it could consider for operating costs. That source is a school district income tax. There are several good reasons to explore this option, not the least of which being that the tax could be imposed only on earned income, with the pensions and other fixed retirement income of those citizens without earned income not being subject to the tax. Additionally, the income tax is not a regressive tax, like the property tax. It would produce increased income only if, and as, wages increase over time.

I would like to hope that if the board were to commit to avoid using the property tax to raise new income for operations during the time that the long-term bonds were outstanding and commit to use instead a school district income tax for this purpose, the economic angst that many citizens are experiencing around this comprehensive capital improvement plan may at least be partially abated.

Robert Rink
Cleveland Heights

LWV endorses school facilities bond issue

To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters supports the \$134.8 million bond issue that the CH-UH Board of Education has placed on the November ballot. These funds will support the implementation of the first phase of a comprehensive K-12 plan, carefully developed with extensive citizen involvement.

The plan will overhaul the core operating systems and upgrade the learning environment of our school facilities to better meet educational needs for the next 50 years. The first phase will take Heights High down to its bones, replacing all operating systems with up-to-date and energy-efficient solutions, and will substantially renovate Monticello and Roxboro middle schools.

This plan fulfills important citizen responsibilities supported by two League positions:

- Provide sufficient funding for quality public education, and
- Use long-range planning for finances, facilities, staffing and educational methods along with citizen input.

We agree with the school board that the facilities are in serious need of repair and that equipment for science and technology is outmoded; that the improvements in core operating systems can be made only by stripping the buildings down to their bones; that operating and environmental costs can be reduced by investing in existing buildings; that there are financial benefits to acting now; and that our students and teachers

deserve learning environments that are safe, healthy, conducive to learning and comparable to their peers in the region.

The league commends the board of education for responding to voter concerns and taking more time to involve citizens and improve the facilities plan. We urge voters to support this essential improvement to educational opportunity in our community.

Cleveland Heights-University Heights Chapter, Cuyahoga Area League of Women Voters, Carol Gibson and Blanche Valancy, co-chairs

Beware if you are passing by this intersection

To the Editor:

There is a big patch of poison ivy at the intersection of Kenilworth and Mayfield roads; the exact address is 2555 Kenilworth Road.

Now, that might not sound like a big deal, and for many people it would not be. However, some people experience severe allergic reactions to poison ivy, [and] even end up in the hospital after they come into contact with it.

So, this patch should be eradicated by the city or whoever else might be responsible. That is particularly the case because this poison ivy is located adjacent to a bus stop and many people either walk or bike past that intersection every day.

Harriet Tramer
Cleveland Heights

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Public schools are for everyone

To the Editor:

I had a hard time deciding whether to move to Cleveland Heights in 1996. A combination of factors led me to make the move. The flashes of city life I saw on Coventry reminded me of my years in Chicago, and the occasional hillside brought back pleasant childhood memories. Also interesting were the city's claims to diversity and its strategies for maintaining racial integration. Because I don't have children and because I had most recently lived in a place with a viable urban school system, the public schools didn't catch my attention at first.

After living here for a while I noticed how our public schools contribute to our collective everyday life. I lived near Cov-

entry Village at first and the presence of Coventry School struck me as the key to it seeming like a complete city in its own right. The successful commercial district is in the middle of residential neighborhoods that are remarkably diverse, both architecturally and demographically, and all these neighborhoods were represented in the student body of Coventry School.

After moving to the north end of Cleveland Heights I was disappointed to learn that the school board decided to close Coventry School, but by then I had formed positive impressions of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District for other reasons. My neighbors in the north end talked about the schools in a positive way, making Cleveland Heights seem like a place they had aspired to live. I was also impressed that many of my co-workers and other city residents I knew—people with options—were confident about sending their kids to the public

schools. They were both confident in the schools and committed to them.

At the same time, I had heard people write off the schools, as if the demise of the system was inevitable, and I heard others suggest the schools didn't matter. They'd point out that only a small percentage of city households had kids in the schools, implying that once the schools were no longer viable we would be able to just go on without them. I mulled these declarations and eventually concluded that a viable community without viable public schools is impossible to achieve in an equitable manner.

A lot has changed about Cleveland Heights since I moved here. We have problems now that we only worried about having a decade ago, but we are not without strengths. I love that Cleveland Heights has always been intertwined with Cleveland itself and that it has been able to set standards for Greater Cleveland, whether by showing that urban vitality was still possible in our region or by showing that successful urban school systems were a reachable goal. I worry now that some of these assets, especially our schools, will slip through our hands if we don't attend to them carefully.

I look forward to Susie Kaeser's monthly columns in the *Observer*, where she has laid out the case for public schools as keys to the commonwealth, and I recently heard one of our city council candidates state that Cleveland Heights High School should be our most important public building. I agree. Imagine what it would say about us if the high school were returned to its original architectural grandeur and its interior upgraded to standards that could match those of the exclusive school districts. For me, it would say that the cities served by our school district are places of opportunity. It would say that we care about kids—and not just our own kids—getting a fair chance.

People are much less likely to consider our schools—and, by extension, the cities they serve—if the schools appear rundown or lacking for resources, and physical upgrades to the district's buildings will improve their viability as places where learning can take place.

I don't look forward to paying more in real estate taxes, but think our schools are a worthwhile and essential investment. Schools that appear well cared for are indicators of a community that is well cared for. I plan to support the bond issue on this November's ballot and hope that you will too.

Vince Reddy
Cleveland Heights
[Reddy, a member of the FutureHeights Board of Directors, speaks for himself in this letter; not on behalf of any organization.]

Coventry-Overlook traffic signal schedule seems a hazard

To the Editor:

In the past six months or so, it seems the traffic lights at the intersection of Coventry and Overlook roads have gone from green-yellow-red in each direction, all day and all night, to green-yellow-red in each direction during the day and flashing red on Overlook and flashing yellow (caution) on Coventry 24 hours a day.

This makes it very difficult to cross Coventry anywhere between Cedar Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard, if not really between Fairmount and Euclid Heights boulevards. At all times, except the very wee hours of the morning graveyard-shift time, it is a challenge to scoot across Coventry between cars that are coming in both directions. When going west across the intersection on Overlook, the trees on the east side of Coventry to the south of the intersection block visibility in that direction, making it hard to see if there is a car just 50 feet away.

I would love to understand why the change was made and, barring a revelation of misperception on my part, would love to see it go back to 24/7, 365-days green-yellow-red in each direction. It is a matter of time, in my opinion, before the accidents start mounting there.

Charles Winans
Cleveland Heights

How to pass the CH-UH school facilities bond issue

To the Editor:

"What will change?" This is the question the education leaders of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District have to clearly and concisely answer if the facilities bond issue has any possibility of approval by the voters. The need to rehabilitate, refurbish and restructure the district's building and infrastructure is apparent. This effort should have been initiated years ago. The leadership of the district has failed to connect the fulfillment of the facilities plan with a clearly articulated and creditable plan to improve the edu-

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cation program of the district. I believe that this failure puts the passage of the bond issue out of reach.

The challenge for the bond issue campaign is that the determining segment of the eligible voters is made up of those who are either opposed or ambivalent. The opposed are locked in place and most likely will not or cannot be moved to change. To be successful, it is necessary to move the currently ambivalent voters into the supporter category and get them to vote. The bond issue passage hinges on these potential supporters and voters.

It is imperative to make a compelling case for why passage of this bond issue is necessary. The campaign has to change the perception that this is just a tax and the only result will be an increase in my taxes. This perception has to be converted into recognition that this is an investment in the district's capital assets with positive benefits and returns for all stakeholders. I want to feel good about my vote and hold the belief that my vote will engender a good result.

Successful campaigns find support by combining visceral elements and imagery with the intrinsic needs and beliefs of the voter. The 2008 Obama Hope poster is an excellent example of how this connection is made. It is my desire to have good, safe and efficient school buildings. I also hope that each student has the opportunity to receive a good education and do well in Heights schools, and ultimately become a productive citizen.

This campaign must connect the need for decent buildings and classroom

environments with the concurrent need for innovative education programming throughout the district, and show that, when combined, improved student performance will result.

I have met with Superintendent McDaniel and the chairs of the bond issue campaign. I have yet to be moved. Reading the recommendation report from the facilities committee and the bond issue campaign literature does not offer much reassurance that the question "what will change" is being addressed, let alone answered.

The Final Report & Recommendations June 2013 from the Lay Facilities Committee (LFC) made eight recommendations. None of these directly and explicitly addresses the connection between buildings and education inside the buildings and improved district education performance. A Google search on "innovation in education" yields 649 million search results. The term "innovation" is not used one time in the LFC report, nor does it appear in the presentation the chairs of the bond issue campaign gave to the board of FutureHeights.

Unless the district connects the proposed investment in its buildings with an innovative education plan that will substantially and demonstrably change the trajectory of the district's results, this needed and necessary bond issue will not succeed and nothing will change.

Michael Knoblauch
Cleveland Heights
[Knoblauch, a member of the FutureHeights Board of Directors, speaks for himself in this letter; not on behalf of any organization.]

CH needs a better public records policy

To the Editor:

Cleveland Heights should have a public records policy of which it can be proud. There is room for improvement.

The city's public records policy is difficult for the average person to find on its website. One must locate the link to the codified ordinances and then run a search query.

The official public records policy appears in Chapter 105 of the Cleveland Heights Codified Ordinances. The policy is, surprisingly, only two paragraphs long. By contrast, the Model Public Records Policy suggested by the Ohio

Attorney General is three pages long. That policy is well written and easy for any city to adopt as its own. Links to the both policies can be found at www.whipple-law.com.

A seven-section Cleveland Heights policy, published in 2007, ironically does not appear to be available to the public—at least nowhere on the city's website. There is no known explanation why the 2007 policy is different from, and somewhat inconsistent with, the "official" policy that appears in the Codified Ordinances.

The time is ripe for Cleveland Heights to enact a first-class public records policy and to prominently display that policy on its website.

Douglas Whipple
Cleveland Heights

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Schools are working well for many children

Joan Spoerl

As parents, we each have our own reasons for choosing a school. Some of these reasons are rooted in family tradition, a desire for a religious education, or access to specialized programming. Others, however, are rooted in misconceptions.

I am writing to members of our community who tell families with young children to avoid the CH-UH schools, to those who suggest we shouldn't support our schools until "they do their job," and to those who imply that enrolling a child in our public system is a mistake.

I am not suggesting that some complaints about children's experiences in our schools aren't legitimate. Nor am I suggesting that families who always planned to send their children to private or parochial school change those plans. But please understand that there are countless conscientious families, like mine, whose children are having overwhelmingly positive experiences in their neighborhood schools, and that our support of and participation in those schools is a valuable investment in the future viability of our community.

My son is entering his fourth year at Fairfax Elementary and he has benefited from the school's hardworking, capable, committed and caring professionals. The schools succeeded for my friend's daughter and her cohort of recent Heights High graduates who are now starting their college careers at Carnegie Mellon, Princeton, Cornell, McCallister, Denison, Case Western

Reserve, to name but a few schools.

Many of us love living in this wonderfully diverse community. We may also recognize that we have not fully achieved Martin Luther King's dream of equality. Nowhere is this more apparent than in our community's relationship with its schools.

While our community is roughly 50 percent white and 43 percent black, our schools are 80 percent black. There are many reasons this is so, but I suspect that even in this "integrated" community, issues of race and class play a role. Even I, a white woman who did anti-racism work with my early childhood education colleagues in Chicago, taught anti-bias curriculum at the college level, and lived in integrated neighborhoods for more than 10 years of my adult life, experienced subconscious assumptions and fears about my child being in the minority at school.

Nonetheless, I opted for the public schools for a variety of reasons. My husband and I really wanted to send our child to our neighborhood school. I heard many positive first-hand stories about experiences in the public schools, I read *How to Walk to School: Blueprint For a Neighborhood School Renaissance*, which reminded me that I could be a positive force in my community by working in and with the public schools, and I knew enough to question my own assumptions about race and class. While all is not perfect in our schools, I feel fortunate to be a part of the team striving for progress, if not perfection.

My son is happy, a voracious

reader and learner, and largely oblivious to the issues that concern us as adults. If at some point he is unhappy in school, I'll do all I can to work with the schools to resolve the issues.

Meanwhile, I ask community members who question the value of our public schools to care about all families and children in the community, not just their own. Like we tell our children: Be careful with your words; they matter. When you publicly or privately deride the performance of the schools, their students and teachers, you disregard the experience of many of your neighbors and colleagues. You disrespect the efforts of the dedicated staff, children and families who call these schools home. Every time your comments drive an engaged, committed family away from our schools, you negatively impact the education of the children who remain.

Like many here, I wish support of our schools weren't so dependent on property taxes. Until we succeed in changing the funding formulas, however, I hope that the majority will recognize how important it is for a community to strive for high quality schools and school buildings for its youngest residents. Finally, I invite others who want to send their children to their neighborhood school to try it; you just might like it.

Joan Spoerl, a resident of Cleveland Heights, is an early childhood consultant with more than 13 years of combined experience teaching kindergarten, Head Start, preschool and college.

CITY MANAGER continued from page 1

get them financial aid," she said.

In 2003, Briley began working on her master's in public administration at Cleveland State University. "Cleveland State has a great public administration program," she said. "It's ranked second in the U.S. They brought in a lot of people in the field to teach the courses, and that's where I was really introduced to the city manager profession."

She graduated in 2005, and the following year she relocated to Davenport, Iowa, to take a job as the city's budget manager. "I had a lot of responsibility early on," she said. "Davenport had some severe budget challenges." She was later promoted to assistant city administrator.

Now Briley is delighted to be back in Greater Cleveland. "I was very happy in Davenport, but I couldn't pass up the opportunity to come back here," she said.

She's now living in Cleveland Heights for the first time. "I knew the main streets of Cleveland Heights and now I am learning the side streets and the neighborhoods."

Briley has been married for 12 years. Her husband is still in Davenport, where he is a higher education administrator. They have a dog, Madison, an eight-year-old miniature schnauzer, who's here with Briley.

"I think the diversity of Cleveland Heights is its greatest asset, from the people to the neighborhoods, the restaurants and the arts and culture," she said. "There is so much here for the residents and the visitors. I want to build on the strength of the city and define where we want to go."

She said her goal as city manager is to "maintain the service levels at the standard residents are used to, despite the budget cuts that have taken place."

"I've spent most of my days in meetings," she said. "I want to know Cleveland Heights inside and out and the only way I can do that is to get out and meet people and talk to them. I am an open-door manager."

Overall, she's optimistic about the city's future. "I'm excited to be here, and it's great to be back home. I think we are well positioned for success in the future, and we are headed in the right direction."

James Henke, a Cleveland Heights resident, was a writer and editor at Rolling Stone magazine for 15 years. He is also the author of several books, including biographies of Jim Morrison, John Lennon and Bob Marley.



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You can't dispose of public schools at a garage sale



THE COMMON GOOD

Susie Kaeser

The school building boom in Cleveland Heights took root in 1904 when the newly incorporated village of about 1,000 residents built Lee Road School on the site of the current Boulevard Elementary School.

As the orchards and farmland of this new village started to sprout streets full of apartment buildings and one- and two-family houses, the need for more schools grew. In 1914 a high school was built next to Lee Road School. By 1960, when the population of Cleveland Heights peaked at 61,813, the school district, which by then included University Heights and a strip of South Euclid, operated 10 elementary schools, four junior high schools, the current high school at Cedar and Lee roads and an administration building.

The 2010 census put the Cleveland Heights population at 46,121, a 25-percent drop over 50 years—the effect of shrinking household size, the freeway system and the exurban development it made possible, white flight and regional population loss. In response to this, the school district now operates four fewer buildings, and a new comprehensive facilities plan calls for closing three more during the next decade and reducing the size of those that remain.

The CH-UH Board of Education is to be commended for facing the reality that our school population does not merit operating all the buildings we have. Over the last three years, the board has led a look forward into uncertainty with the goal of developing a comprehensive use and rehabilitation plan for the schools that will serve us for the next 50 years. They have grappled with how to best meet our educational needs and have put forth a viable plan that needs community support.

The plan leaves unsolved an important challenge: What do we do with a treasure trove of excess publicly owned space?

I like to get rid of stuff I don't use any more. My goal is to keep it out of the landfill. The best option is to find someone who will make good use of it. Garage sales, Easter Seals, and tree lawn scavengers are valued outlets for shedding the outdated parts of my life.

When it comes to public property, though, we need to do more than shed the surplus. We need inspired solutions.

Our school buildings and the land they occupy express our interrelatedness, our commitment to the value of every citizen and our hopes for the future. Because our public

property is acquired with public funds to serve the public good, we need to approach its disposition in a way that honors its special value.

Like every other first-ring community in our region, we need to address this stubborn trend. The wisdom of the planning community is needed to help us frame the criteria for deciding what kinds of disposition make sense and for identifying the purposes that could be served if we use our imaginations. The board has the authority to decide what to do, but it should not be left to figure out the choices on its own.

We have to get comfortable with some different ways of thinking: that growth is not the only measure of health, that the right use in the future is better than the wrong use now, that the community—not the real estate market or special interests—should determine fair price and appropriate use, that a public purpose is desirable and could take new forms.

I don't know what we should do, but I do know it can't be just another real estate transaction. Our closed buildings are expensive to maintain, but that does not mean we should turn them over for any purpose for however much someone is willing to pay for them.

We need a plan. We need creative thinking, thoughtful policies, and public involvement. We need to set standards and to be patient. We must remember that what gives these properties special value is that they belong to all of us. We need more than a garage sale solution that would assign a reduced value to what were once productive and essential community resources.

The decisions we make about this precious resource should fulfill a thoughtful vision of our future. Without this kind of thoughtful approach, the decisions will be based on cutting our losses rather than enhancing our community.

Susie Kaeser is a longtime resident of Cleveland Heights, former director of Reaching Heights, and serves on the national board of Parents for Public Schools.

CHUH continued from page 1

Last year, the district met eight out of 26 indicators, while this year, with the new standards, the district met seven out of 24 achievement indicators.

Factoring in the value-added data, however, shows a fuller and more positive picture. CH-UH is the only district in Cuyahoga County, and one of only eight in the state of Ohio, that received A's in all four value-added areas. Gains were made in grades seven and eight in math, reading and all tests. Wiley Middle School is one of only three schools in Cuyahoga County, and one of 17 schools in the state, to receive A's in all four value-added areas. Each value-added subgroup showed gains on all tests. The gifted group also had a high progress score in mathematics. Students with disabilities and students in the lowest 20 percent of achievement had high progress scores in reading.

The significant changes in state report card categories and scoring make many year-to-year comparisons difficult, if not impossible, but there are several scores that do allow for direct comparison, and many show improvement.

In reading, proficiency ratings improved from the last school year among third-, seventh-, eighth-, 10th- and 11th-grade students. In math, proficiency ratings improved among eighth- and 11th-grade students. Science scores also improved among eighth- and 11th-grade students. In social studies, scores improved among 10th- and 11th-grade students. Writing scores improved among 11th-graders. Overall, the graduation rate increased for all students, including the economically disadvantaged, African Americans and students with an Indi-

vidualized Education Program (IEP).

"These results underline the fact that there remains a subset of students, approximately 30 percent of our students every year, who are performing below expectations," said McDaniel. "In order to improve overall, we need students to make greater gains within each school year. Many of our students are not functioning at grade level and although we are making gains with them, we need to do even more to improve their achievement ratings."

"Assistant Superintendent Andrea Celico and her educational services team have begun the evaluation process of our educational programs, which will aid in determining the success and future implementation of each," said McDaniel.

"We are heartened by the instances of improvement, and we can see in these results the clear positive outcome of several of our initiatives, especially the 3rd Grade Reading Guarantee," concluded McDaniel. "However, it is clear that the State of Ohio's new report card system is setting communities up for undeserved disappointment. Significant drops in ratings will be seen in all districts, even in places, like our district, where performance has been nearly identical to last year."

[Editor's note: This article is the CH-UH City School District's summary of its 2012-13 State Report Card, issued by the ODE. To view the report card in its entirety, visit <http://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/Pages/District-Report.aspx?DistrictIRN=043794>.]

Angee Shaker is director of communications for the CH-UH City School District.

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School district scheduling of an event for parents creates obstacles

To the Editor:

I have a concern about the CH-UH school district's poor communication about a major change to a traditional event for the 2013-14 school year.

I'm a Roxboro Elementary parent and have a full-time job. This year, the district scheduled Curriculum "Night" for 4:30 p.m. on a weekday (Monday, Aug. 26). The date and time were communicated to parents about two weeks prior to the event. This left insufficient time for me to arrange for time off from work to attend, and I was able to be there for only the last 20 minutes of the session. I have spoken to a few other working parents who encountered the same obstacle.

I contacted the representatives of my PTA and Family Connections [to convey] my displeasure at this inconven-

ience, and was encouraged by both to express my concerns to the district directly. I e-mailed the superintendent. Dr. McDaniels's kind and prompt response offered a pleasant apology, and explained that the district is "trying the earlier time on a pilot basis this school year." I was informed that they "will survey parents and staff," and was encouraged to provide my feedback at that time.

In my previous three years as a Roxboro parent, I have been able to attend the majority of the school's events as they either have been presented after traditional working hours or the date was [communicated] with sufficient notice to arrange time off from work. The school encourages parental involvement and I would love to be as involved as possible. However, when the district blatantly contradicts this intention by making it difficult, if not impossible, for many of the parents to attend, it leads me to question its commitment to this endeavor.

Anna Winfield
Cleveland Heights

Persuaded by touring Heights High

To the Editor:

Last Tuesday I had an eye-opening experience. On a tour, I saw sections of Heights High that, as a satisfied parent of two successful graduates, I had never seen before. Beyond the restored auditorium and the functional social room that are most often seen by the public, there is an old building with dysfunctional infrastructure that is expensive to operate and difficult to maintain. I had no idea!

As we walked, we experienced amazingly uneven climate control. The auditorium was chilly but most of the building was sweltering. The ancient air circulation system makes such a loud hum in the music room that tuning instruments is a challenge. Lighting is poor in many areas, and we learned that the electrical systems have no capacity to incorporate additional technology.

Student learning is compromised by such an environment!

I urge you to see for yourself. We are being asked to approve Bond Issue 8r in November so the district can completely renovate the high school and two middle schools. This visit convinced me the need is real and compelling, and worth the investment. Renovations will reduce maintenance and improve energy efficiency, saving money in the long run. Furthermore, the district can access supplemental state money now that will not be available in the future. Costs go down and the quality of learning improves—it's a win all around.

You can tour Heights High every Thursday at 9:30 a.m. and every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 6 p.m. Reserve your spot by calling 216-320-3052 or e-mailing J_Henderson@chuh.org.

Go. Experience it for yourself. Then decide.

Louisa Oliver
Cleveland Heights

BEST OF THE HEIGHTS continued from page 1

lence Award was presented to Jazzercise, Washington & Lee Service and Whole Foods Market.

Heights residents nominated their favorite businesses beginning in May, and then voted from among the finalists in 22 categories. The winners were announced at the awards ceremony at Dobama Theatre where Fred Griffith, former anchor of the "Morning Exchange" and longtime Heights resident, was the evening's host. Griffith brought back warm memories of his television career as he interviewed each winner on stage.

Alex Quintana, owner of Quintana's Barber and Dream Spa, was honored as Best Community Volunteer for his work, which included helping to organize the Cedar Taylor Merchants Association. He also took home the award for Best Barber.

The City of Cleveland Heights was recognized twice, winning awards for Best Park (Cain Park), and Best Place to Get Healthy (Cleveland Heights Community Center). Nighttown was honored for Best Patio and for Best Live Entertainment/Music Venue.

Ten Thousand Villages also received two awards, capping off its Best CH Business honor with the award for Best Place to Buy a Gift. "It's a big deal for us," said Lorie Novak of the nonprofit, fair-trade store. "We moved to Cleveland Heights from Euclid Avenue two years ago because of the welcoming community and the like-mindedness that would support our mission." She added that she is pleased to have support from fellow businesses and the Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District.

Kimberly Coryea, owner of Hummingbird Bake Shop, took home the Best Home-Based Business award, and said, "There is so much to like about Cleveland Heights. After living in Chicago many years, I can honestly say we get just about everything we liked about living there here in Cleveland Heights, but with the added benefits of beautiful affordable housing and a stronger sense of community."

Coryea said that she feels she has put down roots. "When I moved here, I didn't have any sort of network. I work to provide good customer service and try to put out the best product I can every time I get an order. People have responded well, and I don't take any of it for granted because I don't think this would happen just anywhere."

Clare Taft, president of the Future Heights Board of Directors, said, "The recognition and support of the local business community through the Best of the Heights Awards is one way that we can promote a strong, vibrant local economy. These entrepreneurs who invest their money and sweat equity in our community, provide needed goods and services, and inject their unique personalities into their businesses are part of why we enjoy a high quality of life in the Heights."

The following is a complete list of winners and finalists in this year's Best of the Heights Awards.

Best New Business

WINNER:
Piccadilly Artisan Yogurt
FINALISTS:
The Katz Club Diner
Pinwheel Kids

Best Minority-Owned Business

WINNER:
Anatolia Cafe
FINALISTS:
Janea H.
Pipe'n Hot Grill

Best Hairstylist

WINNER:
Ryan Simons, Abstract A Hair Salon
FINALISTS:
Melissa Fisher, Eddy's on Coventry
Shawn Paul Gustafson, Shawn Paul Salon

Best Place for Sweet Treats

WINNER:
Luna Bakery Café
FINALISTS:
Sweetie Fry
Mitchell's Fine Chocolates

Best Live Entertainment/Music Venue

WINNER:
Nighttown
FINALISTS:
The Grog Shop
Cain Park

Best Heights Park

WINNER:
Cain Park
FINALISTS:
Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Park
Forest Hills Park

Best Bar, Pub or Tavern

WINNER:
Brennan's Colony
FINALISTS:
The Tavern Company
The BottleHouse Brewery

Best Healthy Eats

WINNER:
The Stone Oven
FINALISTS:
Aladdin's Eatery
Anatolia Cafe

Best Place for Fashion

WINNER:
Revive Fair Trade

it's halloween nite
the neighbors are excited
for the annual buffet, bonfire and open bar

it's cool
tenderloin sandwiches
on croissant with music of course

then it happens --
"more wood, more wood"
too much

smoke, sparks, and flames
(not good flames)
concern, and then panic

yelling, "call 911"
use of fire extinguisher
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margaritas, southwest potstickers
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silly suggestion: a little caution next time?

true story

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craig and the staff

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continued on page 13

University Heights City Council



Meeting highlights

SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

All council members were present.

City park

The demolition of the former Fuchs Mizrahi School is three-quarters done and Mayor Susan Infeld said she expects the city to have a park on the site by spring.

Assessments

Council enacted several assessments on emergency including:

- A special assessment on all designated properties served by streetlights at the rate of 70 cents per front foot.
- A special assessment for improving University Heights streets by the spraying, planting, maintaining and removing of shade trees (with one no vote from Marc Wiseman).
- A supplementary assessment on property for the purpose of establishing a sewer fund to maintain, repair, and reconstruct the sewerage system and waterlines within the city.

[At this point the council went into executive session. The LWV observer was unable to stay for the part of the meeting held afterwards. Information on the remainder of the proceedings was learned through council minutes.]

Further assessments

Two more pieces of legislation regarding assessments were approved on emergency after council returned from executive session: an ordinance partially abating and authorizing the collection of the balance of the special assessments for 2014 on certain parcels within the city, and an ordinance levying special assessments for providing city services in the removal of nuisance conditions at various locations throughout the city.

Safety employees' contracts

On emergency, council authorized contract wage reopener agreements between the city and the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association and the International Association of Fire Fighters, local 974, setting forth the rate of compensation and benefits and conditions of employment for members of these bargaining units.

Stormwater management

Council authorized a service agreement with the regional storm water management program [of] the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District.

LWV Observer: Carol Gibson.

Look for earlier, and often expanded, postings of meeting summaries online at www.heightsobserver.org.

These meeting summaries are abstracted from LWV observers' written reports. The summaries have been edited and prepared by Anne McFarland, Charlene Morse and Maryann Barnes. To receive e-mail postings of full reports, send an e-mail to mbarnes9515@gmail.com or join through Google groups using "lwg-chuh observer reports" as a search phrase.

These reports contain member observation and selected highlights of public meetings and are not official statements of the Heights Chapter of the League of Women Voters Cuyahoga Area. This disclaimer must accompany any redistribution of these reports.

John Carroll to host fair trade expo on Oct. 12

Noha Bechara

What do stores like Revive, Ten Thousand Villages, Heinen's and Dave's Markets have in common? The answer is simple—fair trade goods. Whether it is coffee, chocolate, fruits, or clothing, all of these stores sell a variety of fair trade products.

Fair trade is an alternative way of doing business, one that promotes equal and sustainable relationships between consumers and producers. This includes paying fair wages in the local communities that produce the goods, engaging in environmentally sustainable practices, and promoting healthy working conditions. These trading partnerships are based on relationships of mutual respect. Some common fair trade products include crafts, clothing, jewelry, coffee and chocolate.

Along with these stores, John Carroll University, in University Heights, has joined the fair trade movement. Not only does John Carroll provide fair trade products, such as coffee and chocolate, throughout its campus, but it is also hosting this year's Ohio Fair Trade Expo, the largest regional fair trade event in the United States. The event is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 12, in the Dolan Center for Science and

Technology.

The fair trade movement in Northeast Ohio has been advanced by local and national retailers offering fair trade-certified products, and by the initiatives of local high schools and colleges promoting the fair trade market through education and advocacy.

"John Carroll's fair trade initiative is rooted in the hearts of passionate students striving to make fair trade a culture on their campus," commented McKenzae Bartels, a member of John Carroll's Fair Trade Committee.

The Oct. 12 event "will be the fourth Fair Trade Expo held in Cleveland and includes both international and national speakers, workshops on a variety of issues, a fair trade marketplace with over 25 vendors, a fashion show, a program for Girl Scouts with hands-on activities, and more," said Ditte Wolin, coordinator of the expo planning committee and a Cleveland Heights resident.

For more information about the Expo, or fair trade in general, go to www.ohiofairtrade.com.

Noha Bechara is an IRTF intern at John Carroll University.



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Cleveland Heights City Council

Meeting highlights

AUGUST 19, 2013

Council Member Mary A. Dunbar was absent.

Citizen comments

Heights Bicycle Coalition: Resident Lee Reese, representing the Heights Bicycle Coalition, thanked council for its support in making the city bike-friendly and requested formation of a transportation advisory committee to coordinate efforts for pedestrians, bikes, "safe walk to school," the needs of disabled citizens, etc. Mayor Edward Kelley noted that Mary Dunbar, council member, had already discussed this idea and it will be a topic at an October council work session.

Mayfield Road resurfacing

Council authorized an agreement with CT Consultants Inc., for construction administration and support services for the Mayfield Road Resurfacing Project, for a sum not to exceed \$71,700 plus expenses. Construction

administrators act as the eyes of the city on site, to ensure the quantity of materials and quality of work are correct.

Youth Advisory Commission

Council amended the ordinance establishing the Youth Advisory Commission (YAC) to add as nonvoting members any high school senior who sat on the YAC the previous year and wishes to continue to participate. Applications for the coming year will be available online in September.

Vehicle sale

Council adopted procedures for the sale of 35 police department and public works department vehicles that are unneeded, obsolete, or unfit for public use. Three will be sold to East Cleveland and 32 will be sold at auction on Sept. 21, at 2881 Noble Road.

Undercover vehicles

Council authorized an agreement with the City of Cleveland to receive funds as a subgrantee from

the Ohio Department of Criminal Justice Services for \$30,000, to reimburse purchase of undercover vehicles to be used by the Cleveland Heights Police Department as part of the Northeast Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force.

Cain Park

Bonnie Caplan, council member and vice chair of the recreation committee, praised staff for their work and the appearance of the parks this summer. She said that performers love appearing at Cain Park and love the audiences. The Cain Park history exhibit that had been in the Cain Park gallery all summer will be remounted in the city hall atrium.

LWV Observer: Blanche Valancy.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

All council members were present.

Citizen comments

Spirit Corner community garden: Resident Laura Marks thanked council for supporting the community garden at the Spirit Corner at Hampshire and Cadwell roads. She also thanked Mayor Edward Kelley and Council Member Bonnie Caplan, who are retiring from council at the end of the year, for their many years of service on council.

Cedar Lee SID assessment and plan

Council approved assessment legislation necessary to cover expenses relative to the Cedar Lee Special Improvement District (SID) public services plan. This legislation includes approving the report of the Assessment Equalization Board for the public services plan, implementing the five-year plan through assessment, levying the assessment, and authorizing the advancement of funds to the SID in anticipation of assessment income. The assessment, to be levied annually, totals \$703,440 over a five-year period and affects 71 parcels of property in proportion to their tax values as of July 17, 2013. The advancement of funds will take place annually for the five-year period.

Lighting and improvements assessments

Council approved assessment legislation to cover a portion of the expense of street lighting and



improvements. This legislation includes approval of the reports of two assessment equalization boards [that heard] objections to the assessments being levied. One board was for street lighting assessments; the other, for assessments for street and parkway improvements such as grading, draining, curbing, paving, repairing, cleaning, snow removal and the planting and maintenance of trees. The legislation directs the city to proceed with the assessments to cover a portion of street lighting expense (\$3,119,947.76) at an annual rate, for 2014 through 2016, of \$1.02 per front foot (with reduction for corner lots), and assessments to cover a portion of street and parkway improvement expenses (\$2,997,596.86) at an annual rate, for 2014 through 2016, of \$.98 per front foot (with reduction for corner lots).

Disposition of city property

Council amended the city code to specify methods, such as auction, trade-in, etc., for the disposal or sale of city-owned personal property that is no longer needed for municipal purposes. Council approval will not be required for the sale of such property valued at \$25,000 or less. The previous threshold was \$5,000.

Resurfacing

Council approved a change order to a contract with Ronyak Paving Inc. for the 2013 street resurfacing project. The change covers the resurfacing of Crest Road (\$90,000) and the Nighttown parking lot (\$84,000). Taking into account an earlier change order that reduced the contract by \$45,000, the net contract sum will change from the original \$549,760 to \$678,760.

The Mayfield Road resurfacing project begins this week. The project's cost, \$4,041,173.30, will be borne by the state and county.

LWV Observer: Katherine Solender.

Look for earlier and often expanded postings of meeting summaries online at www.heightsobserver.org.

See disclaimer on page 9.

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COURTESY OF DAVID HANSEN

Potter Village neighborhood children enjoy a visit by the Cleveland Heights Fire Department.

Potter Village holds fifth annual block party

David Hansen

The fifth annual Potter Village Block Party was held on Saturday, Aug. 24, on Castleton Road in Cleveland Heights.

Potter Village, located between Monticello Boulevard and Taylor and Yellowstone roads, comprises seven connected streets—Castleton, Woodridge, St. Albans, Boynton, Radcliffe, Haselton and Edison.

The neighborhood is named after the Potter family, who ran a large dairy farm on the property in the early 1900s. Horace and Florence Potter were jewelers. They both graduated from the Cleveland Institute of Art in 1898. They began making jewelry in their chicken coop and later established a jewelry store in downtown Cleveland.

In 1921, the Potters employed jeweler Louis Mellen in their shop, and incorporated the Potter Studio three years later in 1924. In 1928, the Potters opened a store at 10405 Carnegie Ave., which continued to

operate in that location until 2004. Mellen, who managed the store, became a partner in Potter & Mellen, which was well-known throughout Cleveland for fine jewelry, silverware, artwork, china and glassware.

The Potters sold their farm in 1923 and the property was then developed into a residential neighborhood. This year, residents celebrate the neighborhood's 90th anniversary.

Activities at the Potter Village Block Party included rock 'n' roll by the David Loy Band; a potluck dinner; a visit by a Cleveland Heights fire truck and firefighters; a water balloon toss and card games; arts and crafts; an old-fashioned cake walk; and a raffle, with prizes donated by more than a dozen local merchants.

More than 150 residents attended. According to the leaders of the Potter Village Good Neighbor Association, an organization of residents, it is the largest citizen-run block party in Cleveland Heights.

David Hansen is a resident of Potter Village.

Move to Amend initiative Issue 32 to appear on November ballot

Greg Coleridge

Cleveland Heights voters will decide on Nov. 5 whether their city will take a stand against a controversial ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that corporations are people and money is speech, thanks to a citizens' initiative supported by nearly 3,100 signatures that was allowed onto the ballot by Cleveland Heights City Council by a unanimous vote on Aug. 5.

If approved by voters, the initiative, Issue 32, will establish an annual public hearing to examine the impact of big money in politics on our democracy. Following the hearing, the clerk of council will write letters to federal and state representatives summarizing the hearing and informing them that the citizens of Cleveland Heights have voted for a Constitutional Amendment declaring that only human beings possess Constitutional rights and money is not equivalent to political speech. The full text of the citizens' initiative may be found at <https://movetoamend.org/cleveland-heights-mta-circulates-initiative-o>.

Members of the group Cleveland Heights Move to Amend collected the signatures on petitions in support of the initiative and submitted them to the city in July. As requested by the group, city council placed the initiative on the ballot rather than simply adopting it as an ordinance.

Voters in Brecksville and Newburgh Heights passed similar ballot measures last November, while voters in Defiance will consider one this November and Mentor voters may do so next year. Other Ohio cities, including Athens, Oberlin,

Fremont and Barberton, have enacted Move to Amend resolutions by city council vote rather than by ballot initiative, and Lakewood will consider adopting a similar resolution this month.

Supporters of Move to Amend contend that the 2010 Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens United v. FEC* expanded never-intended constitutional rights for corporations and resulted in record sums of spending on political advertising by corporations and wealthy individuals in 2012 through largely anonymous SuperPACs and 501 (c)4 tax-exempt organizations.

"Using the power of the Constitution, corporations override local ordinances to place cell towers, big box stores, and hydro-fracking installations pretty much where they please," said Carla Rautenberg, Cleveland Heights Move to Amend member. "We all know that the doctrine of money as protected free speech has corrupted our national politics. So this issue is vital at the local, state and federal levels of government."

Cleveland Heights Move to Amend (<https://movetoamend.org/oh-cleveland-heights>) is affiliated with the national Move to Amend campaign (<http://movetoamend.org>), formed in response to the Citizens United decision, which has sponsored hundreds of Move to Amend initiatives and resolutions around the country.

Greg Coleridge is coordinator of the Ohio Move to Amend Network, a member of the Program on Corporations, Law & Democracy and director of the Economic Justice Program of the Northeast Ohio American Friends Service Committee.

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LWV forum explores facilities bond Issue 81

Alastair Pearson

At the crowded League of Women Voters (LWV) community forum on Sept. 11, regarding the proposed \$134.8 million bond issue, heated debate focused on the expense of the plan and rising property tax rates in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.

Voters will vote yes or no on the bond issue on Nov. 5.

After the official debate in the Lee Road Library meeting room concluded, the Cleveland Heights chapter of LWV voted to support the bond issue.

Two speakers—Patrick Mullen, representing Citizens for Heights Schools, and Nancy Pepler, vice president of the CH-UH school board—spoke on behalf of the \$134.8 million bond issue, which would fund the facilities plan developed by the Lay Facilities Committee (LFC), which was chaired by Mullen.

Two other speakers—Albert Oberst, representing the Citizens Finance Oversight Committee, and Diane Hallum, chair of Citizens

Leadership—spoke against the bond issue.

Hallum said she supported Heights schools, but was opposed to the plan that would be funded by the bond issue.

Mullen, also executive director of education advocacy group Reaching Heights, said that the bond issue deserved community support. “The need is urgent, the time is now, and the plan is sound,” he said.

Mullen said that the bond issue, which would provide funding for the first of two phases of building renovations envisioned by the LFC, would reduce the number of buildings to cut down maintenance costs.

“We want to go from 11 buildings to eight,” Mullen said. “We can lose buildings piecemeal, or we can do it as part of a comprehensive plan.”

Pepler said that repairs to the high school and middle schools were overdue. “We have not had a major renovation and building program in this community for 40 years,” she said.

Pepler noted that the Cleveland Heights High School campus was of particular concern. “The core of our building was built in 1925 and has been added onto seven times,” Pepler said. “We continue to put Band-Aids on this problem.”

“I hear too often the refrain that our schools are terrible and do not deserve more investment,” Pepler said. “Might a teacher feel more inspired if his room wasn’t freezing or sweltering?”

Mullen drew an analogy between the renovation of the Lee Road Library in 2006 and the proposed renovations. “We made an investment, we put the passion into doing it right,” Mullen said. “We did it for our library, we’ll do it for our schools.”

Hallum said, “The thing I see

is this focus on bells and whistles. The focus on the high school and middle schools is also very questionable.”

Phase One of the bond issue would focus on renovations to the high school and middle schools, and would be backed by the \$134.8 million bond if the Nov. 5 ballot issue passes, as well as an \$18.75 million loan and \$3.8 million from other funding sources.

The total cost for Phase Two, which could begin five to seven years later, would be around \$80.7 million.

Oberst said he did not believe that two bond issues were financially advisable.

“\$232 million is, I think, a little bit too much,” he said.

Oberst wore an American flag tie, and said that his clothing represented his attitude towards the bond levy.

“This is Patriot’s Day,” Oberst said. “We’ll need a lot of patriots to defeat this outrageous levy.”

Hallum said she objected to the composition of the “hand-picked” LFC, which she said was composed of “friends and peers” of the school board members.

She also said that a poll conducted by the LFC had received a disproportionate number of responses from school board employees who distorted the results.

Hallum said that the Lakewood City School District had accomplished identical repairs for \$71 million less than Cleveland Heights.

Community activist Garry Kanter, who said he was her source for the information and had received the statistics from a Lakewood district employee, later acknowledged that the information was inaccurate although he had received it “in good faith.”

Ron Register, school board president and a supporter of the bond

issue, said that the factual disputes that characterized the debate were not surprising.

“Information don’t matter, right,” Register said. “It’s the position people are making.”

Alastair Pearson, a Cleveland Heights resident, is a student at Saint Ignatius, where he edits the school newspaper and literary magazine. He is a contributor to the Heights Observer.

PHOENIX continued from page 1

Phoenix spent the last several months redesigning the new space. “It’s part of a re-branding of Phoenix,” Feran said.

“We have a new logo, a different color scheme and a cleaner look,” Feran explained. “The new shop is a lot more clean, there’s less noise, and it’s more focused. It’s completely different from the old shop. It’s on the street level, so there are no stairs, and it doesn’t have the fireplace in the middle, like the old one.”

In an effort to put an emphasis on sustainability, the wall on the south side of the new shop is covered in reclaimed wood. In addition, the new shop features a counter that faces the street, where customers can sit, enjoy their coffee and watch the passers-by.

The City of Cleveland Heights helped finance the move, giving Phoenix a \$50,000 loan to help cover the construction.

“Cleveland Heights has been very good to Phoenix over the years,” Feran said, “and two of our three shops are located in the city.” The other Cleveland Heights Phoenix is at 2287 Lee Road.

The new Phoenix will continue to hold open-mic sessions with local musician Charlie Mosbrook on Monday nights. Mosbrook is also excited by the new location, saying that it is a more open space that will be better for his weekly sessions.

In addition, Phoenix is considering extending its hours at the new shop. “We may stay open until midnight or later,” Feran said. “A lot of the area college students use it as a study space, so we may keep it open even later than midnight during finals weeks and at other times.”

Phoenix’s old location is still available for rent, as is the former Burgers ‘n’ Beer restaurant, which was located above the old Phoenix and which closed earlier this summer. It’s not known what will replace either business.

James Henke, a Cleveland Heights resident, was a writer and editor at Rolling Stone magazine for 15 years. He is also the author of several books, including biographies of Jim Morrison, John Lennon and Bob Marley.

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Bob Rosenbaum

The Chili Cook-Off will feature a variety of recipes and a spirited, but friendly, competition from Cleveland Heights and University Heights businesses, including Inn on Coventry, New Heights Grill, O'Rielly's Pub, Rockefeller's, Zagara's and Barle Soup & Sandwich.

Cleveland Heights resident Bob Rosenbaum is a longtime Observer volunteer and is responsible for its advertising sales and market development.

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Hats On! celebration at Disciples Christian Church



Members of Disciples Christian Church in Cleveland Heights donned hats at the Sept. 8 outdoor service in honor of Gail Haverdill, member and church elder, as she journeys through her cancer treatments. Pastor Kristine Eggert helped increase awareness and support for those touched by cancer.

COURTESY RONALD WERMAN

How to prepare for heating season

Wesley Walker

Heating season is upon us, and it's time to get ready for the inevitable. A great place to start is with a yearly Clean and Tune by a certified heating professional. Not only should this process include a check of the proper operation of your furnace or boiler, but the technician should address the tuning part, as well.

Think of your car. Would you drive it all year without getting a tuneup? Why, then, would you consider running your heating unit all season without making sure it is operating efficiently? Both your car and furnace are combustion appliances, both burn a fossil fuel, and both can be more expensive to operate if they are out of tune.

You can go outside right now and check the operation of your car by simply turning the key. Did it start? If so, the starter, fuel injectors and spark plugs are working. When you put it into drive, did it move forward? Then the car is operating as expected. Your technician performs similar tests on your furnace, checking that it fires up and begins to produce heat when you turn up the thermostat—to determine that it's operating as expected.

Most yearly checkups will include some basic maintenance. The burners generally require yearly cleaning inside and out to remove the dust that accumulates over the summer months. The blower should be cleaned to ensure proper air flow, and the draft or exhaust should be checked under worst-case conditions to ensure the proper removal of combustion products from the home.

A furnace tuneup, however, should be more detailed than that. Just as your car may require pre- and post testing with

an E-Check to examine the exhaust for its chemical components, the heating technician should measure and test the operation of your heating system, so problems can be identified and corrected. This kind of testing is called combustion analysis. It can identify inefficient burning, the production of too much carbon monoxide and other problems.

Just as important, the technician should verify Steady State Efficiency (SSE). It is imperative that your heating unit be tuned and verified to operate at peak performance, especially if you went to the trouble and expense of installing a high-efficiency furnace. I have tested many furnaces designed to be 80 or 90 percent efficient that were actually running well below that level. This costs you money in fuel consumption, just like a car that doesn't get the mileage it used to.

Despite our best efforts, furnaces break and fail for many different reasons, and sometimes maintenance is no longer enough. If your furnace shuts down, not only will you and your family be dealing with cold temperatures, but damage to your home can occur.

When it's time for a new heating system, Home Repair Resource Center (HRRC) is your home maintenance partner. We have contractor evaluations and suggested repair specifications that can help you get more detailed bids, regardless of income and location. For low- and moderate-income residents of Cleveland Heights, HRRC offers grant and financial assistance that can make a new furnace or boiler affordable. For more information, visit www.hrrc-ch.org or call 216-381-6100, ext. 22.

Wesley Walker is the financial and senior program coordinator for HRRC.

Book signing with Heights author Thrity Umrigar

Jennifer Teeter

Award-winning novelist and journalist Thrity Umrigar is the featured author at the second annual "An Afternoon with . . ." literary event and dessert reception hosted by the Cleveland Heights Chapter Q of Philanthropic Educational Organization International on Saturday, Oct. 26 at 2 p.m. at Forest Hill Church Presbyterian, 3031 Monticello Blvd.

Thrity Umrigar is the author of *The Space Between Us*, *The Weight of Heaven*, *The World We Found* and *First Darling of the Morning*. Born in Mumbai, she immigrated to the United States at age 21. Umrigar teaches creative writing and literature at Case Western Reserve University and lives in Cleveland Heights.

Umrigar will read from her work,

speak about her life experiences as an Indian American, and sign books afterward. Her books will be available for purchase through A Cultural Exchange, a nonprofit organization that promotes multicultural educational programs.

The dessert reception features an array of teas, coffees and desserts.

Tickets to the event are \$15 and benefit P.E.O. International's scholarships, grants and awards for the educational advancement of women. For more information, go to www.peointernational.org.

To purchase tickets, contact Jan Hornack at 440-442-5631 or e-mail jkhornack@gmail.com.

Jennifer Teeter is a Cleveland Heights resident and publicity chair for Chapter Q.

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Local author to deliver keynote at next Heights Holistic Fair

Bob Rosenbaum

Warren Grossman, a well-known author and speaker who lives in Shaker Heights, will present a talk titled "Healing is Natural" at the upcoming Heights Holistic Fair.

The fair, the third in a series this year, will be held Oct. 12 and 13 at the Open Office Community Space, located in the former Coventry School building at 2843 Washington Blvd. in Cleveland Heights. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days.

Grossman, author of *To Be Healed by the Earth* and *Earth/Heart*, will discuss tools found in nature for healthier, happier living. He will also lead an interactive workshop, "Strong, Pain-Free Feet," sharing methods for relieving foot pain and building a strong foundation to support the body.

A gentle yoga class will follow the workshop, helping people at all levels

of ability—including beginners—to achieve proper alignment in their poses. The two-day fair will feature other speakers, as well.

The holistic fair, co-organized by Cleveland Heights resident Judith Eugene and Pat Uhr of Lakewood, will offer products, services and information on healthy-living options for all ages. Vendors will have products for sale and will provide sample healing treatments. Psychic mediums will be on hand to give personal readings, for a small fee.

Musicians will perform, and children's activities will include all-ages drum circles, child-oriented yoga classes, and a tambourine-making project. An all-ages play area will feature toys from Big Fun. Eugene said, "We want to reach out to the community to provide information on healthy living for all ages—kids, parents and grandparents—and have a lot of fun in the

process."

Tommy's Restaurant will donate food for sale at the fair. Proceeds from food sales are donated to the Heights Libraries. The fair is sponsored by FutureHeights, the local nonprofit that publishes the *Heights Observer*, and promotes a vibrant and sustainable future for Cleveland Heights and University Heights.

Admission is \$5 per day and includes all activities and speakers. Admission is free for children under 12.

The Heights Holistic Fair is presented jointly by Eugene's Loving Hands Yoga and Reiki, and Uhr's Harmonic Journeys. For a schedule of activities and speakers visit www.holisticfairsobio.com or call Judith Eugene at 216-408-5578.

Cleveland Heights resident Bob Rosenbaum is a longtime Observer volunteer and is responsible for its advertising sales and market development.



LWV sponsors CH-UH candidates forum on Oct. 8

Pat Moyer

The CH-UH Chapter of The League of Women Voters (LWV) Cuyahoga Area and FutureHeights will host and moderate a nonpartisan candidates night on Tuesday, Oct. 8, from 7-9 p.m. at the Cleveland Heights Community Center, One Monticello Blvd.

All candidates for Cleveland Heights and University Heights city councils and for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education whose names will appear on the Nov. 5 ballot will be invited. The candidates for Cleveland Heights City Council will begin the evening, followed by the CH-UH school board candidates. The candidates for University Heights City Council will close out the evening.

Neither the League of Women Voters nor FutureHeights supports or endorses any political party or candidate for office. This event is about informed decision-making on Election Day.

Pat Moyer is the LWV Cuyahoga Area director of public relations.

UUSC presents film and discussion on Oct. 13

Walter Nicholes

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland (UUSC) will celebrate Oct. 13 as Sexual Justice Sunday, adding a vegetarian luncheon and screening of the documentary "God Loves Uganda" to a special 11 a.m. worship service. The film was an official selection at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival. The screening and luncheon are open to the public.

Karen LoBracco, program consultant for United Universalist Association, who recently visited Uganda, will lead a discussion following the 80-minute film. Passing the hat donations to continue UUSC's sexual justice efforts will be gratefully accepted.

UUSC, at 2728 Lancashire Road in Cleveland Heights, led by Douglas Wadkins, is a religious non-creedal community that abides by a covenant of ethical life behavior, affirmation of

democracy, and celebration of individual worth. The Society welcomes all people.

"God Loves Uganda" explores the role of the American evangelical movement in Uganda. American missionaries to Uganda are credited both positively for creating schools and hospitals and negatively for promoting religious bigotry. The film follows U.S. and Ugandan evangelical leaders, politicians, and missionaries as they attempt to convert Ugandans to fundamentalist Christianity.

Through interviews and hidden-camera footage, the film gives unprecedented access and insight into forces in Uganda that drive for harsh punishment, such as death sentences for homosexuality, and forces working for sexual tolerance.

"Shocking, horrifying, touching and enlightening, this film should cause each of us to question what we thought we

knew about religion," said Rina Shere, UUSC director of religious education.

For more information, call 216-932-1898 or go to www.uucleveland.org.

Walter Nicholes, a longtime resident of Cleveland Heights now living in Shaker Heights, believes both communities are remarkable in their successful diversity.

More stories online at www.heightsobserver.org



Jeff Coryell

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- Former Sch. Board Member Eric Silverman
- Former Sch. Board Member Russell Baron
- 2011 City Council Candidate Mike Gaynier
- Cuyahoga County Democratic Party
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Lake Erie Ink dives into third year

Melissa DeWater

Lake Erie Ink, a writing space for youth, has started fall programming with the third year of the Ink Spot, an after-school program that provides homework help and creative writing opportunities to kids in grades 4–8.

Already, students have begun taking advantage of the opportunity to creatively express themselves. At a recent Ink Spot session, students were prompted to write about the stories their shoes would tell:

If My Shoes Could Talk

by Anthony, 5th grade

*If my shoes could
Talk, they would say
Just pick me up
And take me away.
My owner always takes
Me or maybe he
Just makes me
Go to places shoes should never go.*

The Ink Spot meets Monday through Thursday from 3–5:30 p.m. To enroll your child call 216-320-4757 or visit www.lakeerieink.org.

Programs for teens include Evening Ink writing workshops and Teen Open Mic. Evening Ink welcomes students in grades 6–12, with workshops that focus on poetry, creative nonfiction, short fiction, National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) and more. Evening Ink runs Tuesday evenings, 7–8:30 p.m. Teen Open Mics are held on Saturday evenings, with the next one scheduled for Oct. 19, 7–9 p.m.

Lake Erie Ink will also offer a Scenarios USA workshop this fall. Teens



Participants at the Ink Spot after-school program filming their comics.

will discuss and write about social issues, creating stories to submit to the Real Deal screenplay contest in December. For more information, visit www.scenariosusa.org.

College essay workshops are also on the fall schedule, with the first one set for Oct. 15 at 6:30 p.m. Register online at www.lakeerieink.org.

Weekend Ink creative workshops

meet one Saturday per month. The Oct. 19 workshop, “Adventures in Time—Writing Stories of the Past and Future,” will feature local writers Paula McClain and Charles Oberndorf. On Nov. 16, author Les Roberts will share his expertise as a writer of suspense and mystery.

This fall, Lake Erie Ink is busy off-site as well, working with teachers in local schools and with youths in other after-school programs.

Lake Erie Ink, a nonprofit organization, is located in the former Coventry Elementary building. The organization strives to give Greater Cleveland young people opportunities for creative expression and academic support. For more information about programs or volunteer opportunities, visit www.lakeerieink.org.

Melissa DeWater is an intern for Lake Erie Ink.

Heights Youth Theatre presents ‘Willy Wonka’

Mary Patton

Heights Youth Theatre (HYT) kicks off its 2013–14 season as Roald Dahl’s deliciously dark tale of young Charlie Bucket and the mysterious confectioner, Willy Wonka, comes to life in a new musical.

When Charlie wins a golden ticket to the weird and wonderful Wonka Chocolate Factory, it’s the chance of a lifetime to feast on the sweets he’s always dreamed of. Astonishment lies beyond the gates, as down the sugary corridors and amongst the incredible edible delights, the five lucky winners discover not everything is as sweet as it seems. A chocolate garden, an army of squirrels and the



Heights Youth Theatre cast members rehearse for upcoming performances of “Willy Wonka” at Wiley Middle School Auditorium.

peculiar Oompa-Loompas must be believed to be seen in this spectacular new musical.

Directed by Pierre-Jacques Brault, with music directed by Joanna Li, HYT’s “Willy Wonka” features a talented cast of local students in grades 1–12, and professional musicians playing the lyrical score. Lead cast members include Alex Boyd (Willy Wonka), Jared Shapiro (Charlie), Gus Mahoney (Candy Man), Corey Grubar (Phineous Trout), Thomas Weil (Mr. Bucket), Sara Fedor (Mrs. Bucket), Matthew McAllister (Grandpa Joe), Lucas Spencer (Augustus Gloop), Cassandra Knaggs (Mrs. Gloop), Kevin LaMonica (Mike Teavee), Sydney Fieseler (Mrs. Teavee), Emily Kenville (Vercu Salt), Aiden McKeon (Mr. Salt), Kayla Black (Violet Beauregarde) and Christina Ciofani (Mrs.

Beauregarde).

All performances will be in the Wiley Middle School Auditorium, 2181 Miramar Blvd. in University Heights. Show dates are Saturday, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 20 at 2 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 27 at 2 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 1 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 2 at 2 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$9 for seniors and children under six (cash or checks only). The box office opens 45 minutes prior to each show. Call Ellen at 216-780-2235 for ticket and group seating information. For more details, visit www.heightsyouththeatre.org.

Mary Patton of University Heights is a public relations consultant and member of the Heights Youth Theatre Advisory Board.

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Stroke: recognizing the symptoms and providing aftercare



SENIOR SCENE

Judith Eugene

A stroke occurs when blood flow to the brain is interrupted after a blood vessel breaks or a blood clot blocks an artery. When this happens, brain cells begin to die and brain damage occurs.

According to the National Stroke Association, when brain cells die during a stroke, abilities controlled by that area of the brain are lost. These abilities might include speech, movement and memory. How a stroke patient is affected depends on where the stroke occurs in the brain and how much the brain is damaged.

The Mayo Clinic lists several symptoms to watch for that may indicate that someone is having a stroke:

- Trouble walking, dizziness, or loss of coordination
- Confusion, or trouble speaking or understanding
- Numbness or paralysis of the face, arm or leg
- Blurred, blackened or double vision in one or both eyes
- Sudden, severe headache which may be accompanied by vomiting, dizziness or confusion

If you notice any of these symp-

toms, call 911 immediately. Quick action is critical to stroke recovery because early treatment can minimize brain damage, and brain damage caused by stroke is irreversible.

If you're not sure if someone is having a stroke, follow the act FAST guidelines. FAST is an acronym to help you remember what to look for and what to do:

FACE – Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?

ARMS – Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

SPEECH – Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence. Can they do it accurately and without slurring?

TIME – If the person shows any of these symptoms, time is critical, and you should seek medical help immediately.

If someone you love has a stroke, it is important to understand that stroke rehabilitation cannot reverse the effects of a stroke; it simply helps the individual return to independent living as much as possible. This can place a strain on the stroke victim's personal relationships. According to *Today's Caregiver* magazine, "Caring for a stroke survivor can be emotionally,

mentally and physically stressful".

Caregivers will need to be prepared to help the person get the mobility equipment they need, assist with bathing and other personal care needs, help with cooking, and perhaps help manage the person's finances.

"Caregivers can support their loved one and encourage small accomplishments, which mean a lot to someone who has to relearn a once-mastered skill," said Janie Rosman, staff writer for *Today's Caregiver*.

Fortunately there are some things that can be done to prevent the risk of stroke. The Neurological Institute at University Hospitals Richmond Medical Center identifies these factors as contributing to the risk of stroke: high blood pressure, high cholesterol, sedentary lifestyle, obesity and smoking. Controlling these factors may help reduce the risk of stroke.

The National Stroke Association can be reached at 800-787-6537, the University Hospitals Richmond Medical Center can be reached at 440-585-6137, and the website for *Today's Caregiver* is www.caregiver.com.

Judith Eugene is a native of Cleveland Heights who provides classes and activities for senior adults and those with physical and mental challenges. She can be reached at 216-408-5578 or Judith@LovingHands-Group.com.

Senior Citizen Happenings

Senior Citizen Happenings, sponsored by the City of University Heights, are open to all. Events take place on Thursdays at 2 p.m. at the University Heights Library. For information, and to suggest program topics, contact the UH Office for Senior Services at 216-397-0336 or info@universityheights.com.

Oct. 3: Robert Varley, president of the Cuyahoga County Public Library Board of Trustees, celebrates the library's 90th anniversary and the service it provides to 620,000 county residents.

Oct. 10: Kenneth Palko, Notre Dame College philosophy professor, will lead a thought-provoking analysis of contemporary issues through the lens of a classic of literature, *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Oct. 17: Connie Rebich, volunteer ambassador for Ten Thousand Villages in Cleveland Heights, discusses how that fair-trade organization gives economic power to small-scale farmers, artisans and entrepreneurs involved in producing items such as coconut oil (Sri Lanka), indigenous cosmetics (Togo West Africa) and cocoa bean saplings (Peruvian rainforest).

Oct. 24: Rachel DeGolia, executive director of the nonprofit Universal Health Care Action Network, will describe the grassroots organization's efforts to advocate for affordable, accessible, quality health care since March 2010, when President Obama signed the Affordable Care Act into law.

Oct. 31: Steven Taylor, the recently retired former director of Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, is back again this month with a presentation about the history, development and relevance of the zoo.

"We love having the Orchestra and the Art Museum in our back yard now!"

—Beth Bohn, Judson Park resident since 2006



Beth Bohn is part of a growing trend at Judson—she and her husband Earl moved to Judson Park from the west side of Cleveland.

"We love having the Cleveland Orchestra and the Art Museum in our back yard now!" says Beth. "Plus, it's great being close to the world-class healthcare of Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals."

Beth shares her life long passion for art as co-chair of the Howson Gallery, booking local artists for shows open to the public. "The gallery has built a strong reputation. Artists want to show their work here," she notes. "People look forward to the shows."

Judson Park's distinct personality, which marries the best of Cleveland Heights with University Circle, appealed to Beth. "There's a special mix of people here and it's easy to make friends" she says. "I believe a good life includes strong bonds with friends."

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To read more about Beth,
visit www.judsonsmartliving.org/Beth

CHHS to host Oct. 16 bond issue discussion and additional tours

Angee Shaker

Heights High will host a second building tour and information session to ensure that residents have multiple chances to learn about the building's condition, discuss plans and funding for the first phase of the proposed comprehensive School Facilities Plan, and ask any questions they may have.

The CH-UH Board of Education placed a bond issue, Issue 81, on the Nov. 5 ballot to fund the first phase of facility renovations.

The second tour and information session is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 16 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

The School Facilities Plan is the re-

sult of more than three years of dialogue and planning by community members, the Board of Education, district administrators and teachers. The first phase of the plan would completely renovate Cleveland Heights High School, and Monticello and Roxboro middle schools.

For anyone unable to attend the tour on Oct. 16, private tours of Heights High will be offered Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. and Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 6 p.m. To sign up for a tour, contact Joy Henderson at j_henderson@chuh.org or 216-320-3052.

Angee Shaker is director of communications for Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.

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Cleveland Heights-University Heights School Board

Meeting highlights

AUGUST 20, 2013

All board members were present.

Physical education waiver

After discussion, the board approved the physical education waiver pertaining to Heights High students participating in sports.

Facilities contract structure

Stephen Shergalis, business director, two people from Regency Construction, and two from the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission presented four different ways the school district can contract for the [proposed] facilities plan. They are:

- Multi-prime: the school district handles the design, bids, and build—bidding out contractors.
- Single-prime: a general contractor is hired who bids all the subcontractors.
- Construction manager-at-risk: the construction manager gives a guaranteed price and selects the contractors.
- Design build: the design builder develops the design and construction contracts.

After much discussion, board members requested more information on the four models. Shergalis would like to issue a request for qualifications now so that the board will be ready to make a decision on the approach to contracting when the bond issue passes.

Millikin property

Ron Register, board president, read a list of events regarding the Millikin property. The last offer from Mosdos was to buy the property for \$215,000. The appraisals requested in 2012 by the school district and Mosdos were \$770,000 and \$600,000, respectively. The board directed the administration to enter into negotiations with Mosdos for purchase of the property.

LWV Observer: Adele Cohn.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

All board members were present.

School facilities plans

Stephen Shergalis, director of business services, explained the four models for contracting to build new facilities:

- Multiple-prime: The district hires architects, conducts competitive bidding, and holds all the risks concerning going over the budget. This is a traditional system that has been used for most school building and takes more time.
- Single-prime: One general contractor is hired who then subcontracts other pieces of the project.
- Construction manager-at-risk: The construction manager sets a price and carries the risk and might be more likely to stay within budget and ensure quality work. An architect works with the construction manager to establish a guaranteed maximum price and select contractors based on cost and qualifications. The board has input on the subcontractors hired. Project startup is faster than for the multiple-prime model.
- Design build: An architect is hired who then hires design builders. This is a new process, and the district and community may have less input.



After discussion, the board favored the construction manager-at-risk option. They will hire an architect whose fee would be contingent on the bond issue passing. Kal Zucker, board member, extensively researched the four approaches and explained that other school systems do not recommend the multiple-prime model because it takes longer. The construction manager-at-risk model seems to be recommended by other systems.

Staggered school opening

During the public address portion of the meeting, the Canterbury PTA president explained that this year's staggered school opening schedule was inconvenient for working parents and should be reconsidered for next year. Later in the meeting, Andrea Celico, assistant superintendent, gave an update on school opening and said that she'd received positive responses concerning the staggered schedule.

Positive behavior

There was a second reading of the positive behavior intervention and support with limited use of restraint and seclusion policy. Jeffrey Johnston, director of student services, explained that positive behavior is a major component of the Tiger Nation process. In the elementary and middle schools, five steps are promoted to achieve positive behavior:

- Post the Tiger pledge with clear expectations in all buildings.
- Review the Tiger pledge throughout the school year.
- Recite the Tiger pledge every morning.
- Develop an incentive program called Tiger Paws to reinforce good deeds and behavior.
- Implement Tiger Nation Fridays to reinforce good behavior.

Surveys of students and teachers are being conducted to see if this system is working. Positive comments and the reduction of behavioral problems suggest that it is making a difference.

The high school policies are different in that the Tiger Nation pledge and Tiger Paws are not emphasized. Spreading school spirit and attending to climate elements are emphasized. Student IDs are worn, and student leadership is encouraged to control bullying problems. One student group made a video on school bullying. The staff receives in-service training on how to consistently enforce school policies. Consistent restraint policies used by many other districts are in place. The district hopes these will be minimally used, given the behavior policies. The staff has had conversation training to limit restraint events.

Public forums

The League of Women Voters will hold a public forum on the school facilities bond issue on Sept. 11 at the Lee Road Library and a Candidates Night at the Cleveland Heights Community Center on Oct. 8.

LWV Observer: Lillian Houser.

Look for earlier and often expanded
postings of meeting summaries online
at www.heightsobserver.org.

See disclaimer on page 9.

Beaumont seniors semifinalists in 2014 National Merit Scholarship program



Beaumont School seniors Bailey Swartz (left) and Delaney Clark, 2014 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists.

Rita Kueber

Beaumont School seniors Delaney Clark and Bailey Swartz have been named semifinalists in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship competition.

Officials of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 semifinalists in the 59th annual National Merit Scholarship program.

These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to compete for some 8,000 National Merit Scholarships worth about \$35 million that will be offered next spring.

Sustainable Heights Network hosts Oct. 2 Heights High tour

Sarah Wean

On Wednesday, Oct. 2, the Sustainable Heights Network (SHN) will host a free tour of Heights High and an after-tour community networking event at the Wine Spot on Lee Road. The purpose of the event is to provide voters the opportunity to walk through the high school and learn about the building's current condition, and to discuss proposed facilities upgrades that include reaching LEED silver, and possibly gold, standard if Issue 81 passes.

The tour begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Washington Boulevard entrance to the school and features a behind-the-scenes look at the building's infrastructure and systems.

On hand to answer questions will be Patrick Mullen, co-chair of Citizens for Heights Schools, and Steve Dzurinin, representative from Fanning

The initial screen of program entrants is the 2012 Preliminary SAT/NMSQT test. About 1.5 million juniors in more than 22,000 high schools take this test.

A semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

Rita Kueber is the public relations and marketing manager for Beaumont School in Cleveland Heights.

Howey Architecture, Engineering, and Design.

The networking event at the Wine Spot is an opportunity for participants to share information and connect with local resources, including Chuck Miller of Doty and Miller Architects; Sam Bell, Laura Marks and Allen Wilkinson, members of the Sustainability Working Group of the Lay Facilities Committee; and Mullen and Dzurinin.

The event is free and open to the public. Register online at *HtsHighTour.eventbrite.com*.

Sustainable Heights Network is a grassroots, all-volunteer networking effort in Cleveland Heights and University Heights. SHN's primary intent is to pool local information on sustainability and make it readily available to the community.

Sarah Wean is a community volunteer.

Roxboro Elementary's sister school visits from Shanghai



On Aug. 29, Roxboro Elementary and Middle schools were visited by ten students and six administrators from sister school Jin Yuan School, of Shanghai, China. Four honored guests from Cleveland State University's Confucius Institute were also present. The Chinese students presented a Wu Shu (martial arts) performance. Melissa Garcar, Roxboro's International Baccalaureate coordinator said, "It's a wonderful thing to teleconference for three years and completely awesome to meet each other again, in person!"

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Interested parties are invited to submit a proposal. The 2765 Task Force of the Session Fairmount Presbyterian Church will review all submissions. Additional information may be requested.

Depending on the proposed re-use of the building and its ultimate destination, Fairmount Presbyterian Church may make a cash contribution towards purchaser costs to complete the project.

The building may be toured by appointment. Copies of all reports commissioned by the Task Force in connection with the Building will be available for review at that time. Please contact Lee Chilcote at (216) 795-4117 to set an appointment.

A complete copy of Request for Proposal, is available at the Fairmount Presbyterian Church website via the QR code at right or the shortened URL: <http://goo.gl/awHda1>.

Proposals must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 14, 2013



Heights High tour shows facilities that bond issue would renovate

Patti Carlyle

More than 120 people attended the community open house and tour at Cleveland Heights High School on Sept. 10. Guides offered a brief history of the facilities improvement process, including the first phase of a proposed renovation plan, which is part of Bond Issue 81 that will appear on the Nov. 5 election ballot.

The tour of the school, originally built in 1925, showed participants areas needing improvements to bring the building into compliance with state requirements. It began outdoors at the clock tower, which is in need of renovations that would cost \$200,000 to complete.

Next was the Cedar Road science wing, built in 1959, which includes sci-

ence classrooms that do not meet state minimum standards. Lab tables occupy the majority of space, crowding the desk area. Per state safety standards, labs and lecture space are to be in separate areas.

A comprehensive upgrade to the electrical system has been recommended. Tour guests saw rows of exposed conduit in classroom walls and in basement tunnels designed for maintenance access, but now used for gym classes and track team practice. The tunnels and the girls' locker room had evidence of standing water.

The school swimming pool is too shallow for diving and too small for competition, forcing the diving team to practice at Cleveland State University. Plans for a new pool have drawn criticism, as a pool is outside state criteria for a multi-use space. Part

of the proposed improvement plan includes improved community access to the pool, an entrance compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), family locker rooms and better noise control.

ADA compliance is a challenge throughout the school. The building has 15 distinct floor levels joined by various ramps and stairs, and there is no single elevator reaching every floor. With 70 separate roof levels, maintaining the school's roof system is difficult and expensive.

The heating, ventilation and air conditioning system received a lot of attention, as indoor temperatures neared 90 degrees that day. The winter brings similar discomfort, with students often wearing coats and gloves to class. Steam traps for aging boilers must be changed at least every two years, costing nearly \$100,000 districtwide.

Larger, renovated classrooms in the Legacy New Tech School approach modern standards, but there are no sprinklers. The automotive technology

area has sprinklers, and emergency wash stations exist in some science labs, but there is no fire suppression system for the whole building.

A highlight was a visit to the recently restored auditorium, which also has its challenges. Noisy air conditioning units must be turned off during performances. The auditorium lacks an orchestra pit and amenities, such as green rooms and storage space.

If passed, Bond Issue 81 would fund the first phase of a community-created comprehensive facilities plan. The first phase will renovate Cleveland Heights High School and Monticello and Roxboro middle schools over a five-year period.

Tours are offered every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 6 p.m. and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., until Election Day. Contact Joy Henderson at j.henderson@chuh.org to schedule a tour.

Patti Carlyle is a member of the Future-Heights Board of Directors. She lives in University Heights.

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Laptops for learning at Heights High



Five Heights High students in the Mosaic School help one another set up their school accounts after receiving their laptop computers in mid-September. From left: Malik Williams, Sa'Vannah Woodson, Kwynn Trammell, Alexis Stewart and Ameerah Roberts. "A lot of our textbooks are online so we need the laptops for our classes," said Stewart. Another advantage? "Carrying this laptop is a lot lighter than carrying around a stack of books in my backpack," said Roberts. Students use the laptops both at home and at school.

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Fall Open House
Sunday, November 3, 2013
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Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library Board Meeting highlights

AUGUST 19, 2013

Board members Jeffrey Eummer, Rob Fischer and James Posch were absent.

New appointments

Julia V. Murphy was appointed full-time marketing assistant. She has been an administrative assistant and volunteer coordinator for the North Union Farmers Market.

Lauren Saeger was appointed full-time youth services librarian. She has a master's degree in library and information science and a master's in music. She has been with the library as a youth services associate since October 2012. She will present story times and become involved in school-age program planning.

CLEVNET expands

Nancy Levin, director, reported that six new libraries have joined CLEVNET, the system that includes Heights Libraries. The network now comprises 44 libraries in 12 counties across Northeast Ohio, serving more than a million library cardholders. A 2009 study of the efficiencies of the system showed a collective cost savings of more than \$30 million because the libraries could share cataloging services, administration, computer equipment and professional support. This savings translates into an average six-dollar return for every dollar invested by CLEVNET libraries.

CLEVNET plans to have the largest e-book collection in the United States. Levin serves on the director's panel, representing the east side of the CLEVNET area. She asks those with ideas or concerns to share them with her.

ACA and education online resources

The State Library of Ohio has created an Affordable Care Act (ACA) Web page for libraries (<http://library.ohio.gov/aca>) and will continue to develop the site as more information becomes available.

Ohio public librarians now have access to a new Web resource covering the many changes to Ohio's pre-K-12 education system. Information can be found at http://ohreadytoread.org/student_learning.html.

Friends of the Library

The next Mega Book Sale will be held the first



weekend in November. The group's annual meeting will be Oct. 20. Assisted by the shipping area staff, Friends sent out 50 boxes of donated books to Better World Books.

Public service report

Among the highlights included in the July public service report are:

- Associate L.P. Coladangelo organized the Tanabata Celebration, a month-long series of programs focusing on Japanese culture. The five programs attracted 184 people, and included a presentation on the Japanese Star Festival of Tanabata; a performance of classical and folk dances; an outdoor drum group performance at the Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Arch; a demonstration of Kendo, the art of Japanese fencing; and an introduction to the game of Go by the Cleveland Go Club. In addition, a Japanese study group met at the Coventry Village Library.
- Local author Tricia Springstubb gave a dramatic reading of her latest book, *Phoebe and Digger*, to the Story Stop Crowd on July 26.
- As of Aug. 4, the BookBike has served more than 1,100 community members in 19 different outings.
- The "Bridging Cultures" bookshelf, a collection of books and DVDs provided by the Muslim Journeys grant, arrived in July and is displayed on the fireplace mantel at the University Heights Library. The American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities supported this grant.
- A number of library staff planned the End of Summer Reading Party where 207 children, and their families, enjoyed crafts, snacks, henna tattoos, face painting, games and a Flower Clown.

LWV Observer: Anne S. McFarland.

Look for earlier and often expanded postings of meeting summaries online at www.heightsobserver.org.

See disclaimer on page 9.

Programs at Heights Libraries focus on Islamic culture

Sheryl Banks

Earlier this year, the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library the Muslim Journeys Bookshelf—a collection of books, films, and other resources designed to introduce the American public to the complex history and rich culture of Muslims in the United States and throughout the world. The materials are available at all four Heights Libraries branches.

Heights Libraries has also designed a special series of fall programs celebrating the collection, called Bridging Cultures: Muslim Journeys. Sam Lapides, Heights Libraries special projects coordinator, said, "These programs give our community the opportunity to learn about different aspects of the Muslim experience and culture, including literature, poetry, history, and art."

Oct. 14 at 6 p.m., University Heights Library

Islamic Art: Mirror of the Invisible World
This 90-minute film takes audiences across nine countries and more than 1,400 years of history, exploring the richness of Islamic art.

Oct. 21 at 6 p.m., University Heights Library

Islamic Art Spots

An introduction to Islamic art and architecture in seven illustrated video essays.

Nov. 5 at 7 p.m., Noble Neighborhood Library

Quarterly SciFi/Fantasy Book Discussion: The Arabian Nights

Readers will discuss stories of harsh kings, demons, genies, beautiful brides, thieves, and fantastic creatures in this classic collection of fables, fairy tales and exotic adventures.

Nov. 6 at 7 p.m., Cleveland Museum of Art

The Splendor of Islamic Art

This special installment of the library's Art Study Group will feature a docent-led tour of the recently renovated Islamic Gallery at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Registration is required at www.heightslibrary.org.

Nov. 8 at 3 p.m., Cleveland State University, Woodling Gym (1983 East 24th Street)

Walk Through the Islamic World

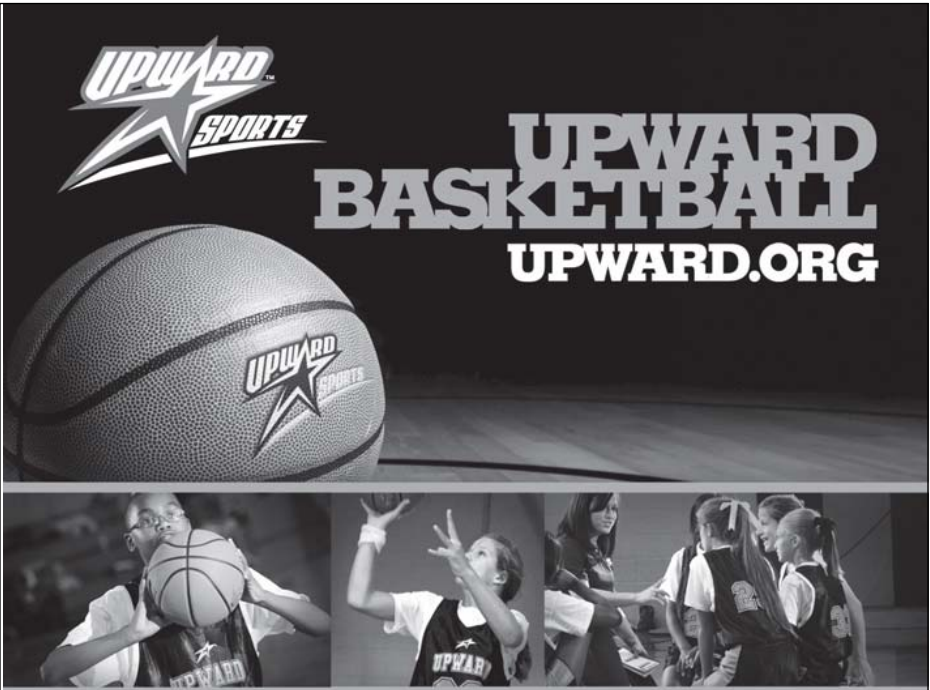
An interactive map walk, hosted by Dr. Stephen Cory of CSU, will highlight the Middle East, Mediterranean region, Africa, and Asia from an Islamic perspective. Registration required at www.heightslibrary.org.

Nov. 11 at 7 p.m., University Heights Library

Prince among Slaves: The Cultural Legacy of Enslaved Africans

This documentary film tells the story of Abdul Rahman, a West African man enslaved in Mississippi in 1788, who claimed to be an African prince.

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



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| 29 October 2013 | Cuarteto Casals with Manuel Barrueco, <i>guitar</i>
In collaboration with Cleveland Classical Guitar Society |
| 3 December 2013 | Daedalus Quartet
In collaboration with CIM Chamber Music Festival |
| 4 February 2014 | Albers Trio with Orion Weiss, <i>piano</i> |
| 17-18 March 2014 | Takács Quartet (complete Bartók quartets in 2 concerts) |
| 8 April 2014 | Pavel Haas Quartet |
| 29 April 2014 | eighth blackbird ~ at CSU's Waetjen Auditorium |
| 4 May 2014 | Young Artists Showcase ~ free
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Youth Services Associate Mary Susan Delagrang welcomes children to story time.

Library story time at new times and some with a musical twist

Julia Murphy

Despite being eight months pregnant, Mary Susan Delagrang, youth services associate, navigates the Little Door of the Lee Road Library children's story time room. She then leads the children in an enthusiastic welcome song. Clapping, squealing, laughing and even shushing are contagious here. Young bodies inch closer to her knees as she reads.

This is Story Stop, an interactive story time that encourages early literacy, now with new times to better fit the needs of the community. The Story Stop schedule is:

- Lee Road Library
Mondays: 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.,
Tuesdays: 11 a.m.
- Coventry Village and University Heights Libraries
Wednesdays: 10:30 a.m.
- Noble Neighborhood Library
Fridays: 10:30 a.m.

On Oct. 11, Lauren Saeger, youth services librarian, will begin a new pro-

gram called Kids in Harmony at the Lee Road Library, at 10:30 a.m.

The program will emphasize music-related activities and incorporate music into the stories that are read.

The goal is to help children understand the concept of a consistent rhythm and to practice pitch matching.

Rather than learning to read a musical score and then translate it into musical notes, this method uses listening and repeating, which is how children learn to speak.

"We don't learn to read and then talk, so it doesn't make sense to teach music that way either," Saeger said. Kids in Harmony will welcome preschoolers, toddlers and even babies.

Heights Libraries is increasing its focus on story time for young children. Look forward to more changes this fall and make it a part of your family's routine.

Julia Murphy is the marketing assistant at the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library.

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Library Friends announce busy autumn season

Louisa Oliver

Friends of Heights Libraries is preparing for a busy fall season, and invites you to participate.

Hear Laura Taxel, co-author of *Cleveland's West Side Market: 100 Years & Still Cooking* at the Friends annual meeting on Sunday, Oct. 20 at 2 p.m. Taxel's entertaining narrative includes stories gathered from those who worked at the market. Vintage and contemporary photographs provide a vivid and visual portrait of this Cleveland landmark. The book—a great holiday gift—will be available for sale and signing at the annual meeting.

The Friends fall Mega Book Sale kicks off on Friday, Nov. 1. On Friday and Saturday, fill a grocery bag for only \$5. A huge selection of books, in all categories, will be displayed and continually replenished. In addition, Vixseboxse Gallery is offering prints for only \$5 each, along with special finds at bargain prices. Items that remain on Sunday, Nov. 3, will be available for only \$3 a bag. Mark your calendar for this event—you won't want to miss it.

You can get a jump on your holiday

shopping, and support the Friends at the same time, by visiting Barnes & Noble at Eton on Chagrin Boulevard between Nov. 9 and 15. Mention Friends of Heights Libraries, and 10 percent of your purchase will be donated to the organization. Purchases of books, games, accessories, and in-store café items, as well as online purchases, will benefit the Friends.

Friends of Heights Libraries comprise enthusiastic supporters of the programs and staff of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library. They enable the library to offer programs for which public money may not be used, such as summer's hugely popular Book Bike. Purchased entirely with money raised by the Friends, the Book Bike distributed used books to more than 1,000 people at street festivals, nursing homes and community events. Become a member of the Friends. For more information, go to <http://friendsofheightslibrary.onefireplace.com>.

Louisa Oliver, a longtime Cleveland Heights resident, is president of Friends of Heights Libraries and former director of Heights Parent Center.

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The Church's policy and advocacy for welcoming immigrants and refugees

October 20 — Steve Dettelbach, U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Ohio:
The growing problem of human trafficking in Ohio and the nation

October 27 — A panel of experts will discuss local efforts to reduce and prevent human trafficking.

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Heights Arts presents Close Encounters, chamber music as it's meant to be heard

Rachel Bernstein

Heights Arts presents its eighth season of Close Encounters chamber music concerts performed by world-class musicians who live right here in Northeast Ohio and Cleveland Heights.

Isabel Trautwein, Cleveland Orchestra violinist and Close Encounters artistic director, collaborates with her colleagues and other professional musicians to perform programs of their choice in unique venues.

The new season continues Heights Arts' tradition of providing excellent chamber music to the public. Many music fans have enjoyed hearing most of these musicians for years at Cleveland Orchestra concerts; hearing them up close and personal, only feet away from the audience, is a completely different and intimate experience.

The series begins on Oct. 27; venues to be announced. Reserve tickets at 216-371-3457 or www.heightsarts.org.

Omni in the Clouds, Sunday, Oct. 27, 3 p.m.

The Omni String Quartet (accomplished young stars of the Cleveland Orchestra), always sells out and amazes

audiences. On the program is a pair of masterpieces tracing a thread of music history: Mendelssohn's quartet, Opus 13, written by the boy composer in 1827, was deeply influenced by Beethoven's Opus 132, completed in 1825 at the end of the composer's life.

This pairing embodies fascinating connections between the old master and the extraordinary young talent. Omni will perform in a downtown loft, an ultra-modern space with panoramic views of downtown and Lake Erie, near Public Square. (Fully elevator accessible.)

Mary Lynch: Strings Attached, Sunday, Feb. 9, 3 p.m.

Meet Mary Lynch, the young new second oboe chair in the Cleveland Orchestra. Trained at Juilliard and selected to perform at the prestigious Marlboro Music Festival, Lynch has chosen an eclectic chamber music program for oboe and strings, including a rarely heard lyrical oboe quintet by William Bolcom, one of America's contemporary master composers.

Amici Quartet: Beethoven's Fa-

mous Last Works, Sunday, April 13, 3 p.m.

Shortly before his death, Beethoven composed six string quartets, complex masterpieces that are rarely heard due to the extreme demands on the performers. In these revolutionary late quartets, a deaf and dying Beethoven sneers at traditional musical forms by breaking all their rules, paving the way for the modern era.

The Amici Quartet comprises four accomplished members of the Cleveland Orchestra who have performed together for more than 25 years. They will bring to life the monumental and serious Opus 131 String Quartet in C-sharp Minor and the nearly cheerful Opus 135 in F Major, the last quartet he composed. *Muss es sein?* Yes, you must!

Trio TaPASI: In Twos and Threes, Sunday, June 1, 3 p.m.

Franz Schubert wrote one of his greatest masterpieces for the *arpeggione*, a strange guitar-cello hybrid. Had he known how beautiful it would sound on a cello (as it is played here), he would surely have changed his mind.

Johannes Brahms expressed his feelings of love and unencumbered joy so freely in his Violin Sonata in G Major that you'll want to weep tears of joy.

Finally, there is Mendelssohn, who, in his typical rush of passion and virtuosity, composed his tempestuous Trio in C Minor.

The performers here are all best friends: Tanya Ell and Isabel Trautwein from the Cleveland Orchestra and Patti Wolf, a Juilliard- and Yale-trained concert pianist from St. Louis.

Rachel Bernstein, executive director of Heights Arts, is a cellist herself. She is excited to be involved with this unique series.

Showtime at Heights High

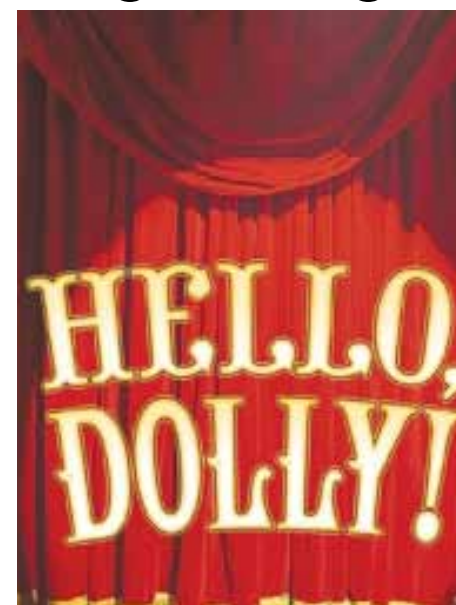
Angee Shaker

This year's Heights High musical will be "Hello, Dolly!" a "walking historical documentation of life in America," according to Craig McGaughey, vocal music director.

"This musical is art imitating life," McGaughey said. "It's set in New York City around 1900. It has a little bit of everything in it. It will be fun for the students to perform and very entertaining for the community."

Performances will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 30; Friday, Nov. 1; and Saturday, Nov. 2, all at 7:30 p.m.; and on Sunday, Nov. 3, at 4 p.m.

The cast includes students from the high school, as well as middle and elementary schools. Tickets, priced from \$6 to \$12, can be purchased from all students cast in the show and can also be ordered at the "Hello, Dolly!" voicemail number: 216-320-3105. Tickets must be picked up by 3 p.m. on Oct. 25



or they will be resold. Tickets will be available in the main office of Heights High starting on Oct. 7.


Angee Shaker is the director of communications for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.



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Art Spot exhibition features fresh energy, ideas from CIA students

Ann McGuire

Don't expect classical still-life paintings in the current exhibition at Art Spot, but do expect fresh energy and new perspectives from the five Cleveland Institute of Art (CIA) students featured.

Titled "FIVE - 2013," the show runs through Nov. 8 and features new artworks by 2013 CIA graduates Lindsay Matthews and Mathew Henry Grady, senior Connor Elder, and juniors Jack Sherry and Jack Subsinsky.

"It's a good show; it's not thematic but it's fairly cohesive and I think the jurors had a lot to do with that," said Tommy White, assistant professor and chair of CIA's painting department. "The palette and the tactile nature of the materials are cohesive."

White coordinates outside jurors for the quarterly CIA shows hosted by Art Spot so that he doesn't have to pick favorites from among his own students.

To jury this show, he recruited CIA graduates and adjunct faculty members Kim Bissett and Tim Callaghan, along with DJ. Hellerman, director of rpoint618 Gallery in Cleveland's Gordon Square Arts District.

From 230 entries, the jurors chose Elder's photographs, Subsinsky's paintings, works in fiber by Grady and Sherry, and pieces that Matthews calls "relics of performance art."

Grady's "i have everything that i could ever need" stands out. A three-dimensional work in cardboard, graphite and mixed fibers, it resembles a horse-



Shape Shifter by Jack Subsinsky is part of the "FIVE - 2013" exhibit, on view at the Art Spot at the Wine Spot through Nov. 8.

boy jumping rope with a rainbow.

Elder refers to his photographs as cinematic landscapes. White is particu-

larly impressed with the patience Elder has in getting his lighting just right.

Art Spot is the gallery space in The

Wine Spot at 2271 Lee Road. Almost two years ago, co-owners Susan and Adam Fleischer, in collaboration with White, established the space as an off-campus venue for quarterly exhibitions of student work.

"I get a kick out of working with the students. I think they bring a lot of energy to the space," said Adam Fleischer. "We put very few limitations on what they can do and it seems like they enjoy having this place to hang their work."

The Wine Spot opened in the former Seitz-Agin Hardware store—which closed in 2011 after 56 years in Cleveland Heights—and Art Spot has been part of the wine and craft beer store from the beginning.

The collaboration gives young artists expanded exposure for their work and boosts foot traffic for the owners. Students receive 100 percent of the proceeds of art sales, and their work sells regularly.

For White and his faculty colleagues, the Art Spot collaboration is a valuable teaching tool.

"What is the healthiest thing is students are rejected [by jurors]," he said. "They also learn how to professionally document their work and go through the habits of presentation in order to become exhibiting artists. The formats of the Art Spot shows are very similar to a typical gallery setting; so in that sense, students are getting prepared to learn how to exhibit their work."

Ann McGuire is director of communications for the Cleveland Institute of Art.



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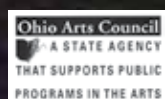
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Apollo's Fire opens 22nd season on Oct. 11 in the Heights

Margi Haigh

The internationally acclaimed Cleveland Heights-based Apollo's Fire (AF) opens its season Oct. 11 with a program of works written for the virtuoso orchestras of the 18th century.

Award-winning conductor Jeanette Sorrell leads from the harpsichord, as principal players take turns in the spotlight.

The ensemble will perform Telemann's Allegro from Concerto in D for Two Flutes, Violin and Cello; J.S. Bach's Harpsichord Prelude in G, Concerto for Oboe and Violin in C Minor, and Brandenburg Concerto No. 4; selections from Heinichen's Concerto Grosso in G Major, and Heinichen's Concerto Grosso in C; and Vivaldi's Concerto for Four Violins in B Minor.

Canadian recorder virtuoso Francis Colpron joins Apollo's Fire favorites Kathie Stewart on traverso and Debra Nagy on oboe. Four of AF's leading violinists square off for the fiery Concerto for Four Violins by Vivaldi.

Colpron's capacities for artistic and interpretative innovation have been acclaimed by the public, critics and cultural authorities alike.

In 1991, he founded the ensemble Les Boréades de Montréal, of which he serves as artistic director. This ensemble has recorded many CDs in addition to achieving great success with their concert series in Montreal and across North America and Europe.

A founding member of Apollo's Fire, Stewart teaches Baroque flute in Oberlin Conservatory's historical performance department. She is an avid proponent of Irish music and plays Irish flute in the Cleveland-based band Turn the Corner. She has also performed with the Cleveland Orchestra, Oberlin Baroque Ensemble, ARTEK, Cleveland Lyric Opera and Cleveland Opera.

Nagy frequently performs with Baroque ensembles in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Chicago, New York and Philadelphia, and is the founder of the Cleveland-based ensemble Les Délices, whose debut CD was named "One of the Top Ten Early Music Discoveries of 2009" by NPR.

Apollo's Fire performs in various venues in the region. Its Cleveland Heights concerts take place at Fairmount Presbyterian Church (2757 Fairmount Blvd.) on Friday, Oct. 11, and Saturday, Oct. 12, both at 8 p.m.

A pre-concert talk, one hour before each performance, will be given by guest artist Francis Colpron.

Concert tickets start at \$21. Student, senior, young adult, and group discounts are available in select seating sections. For tickets or information about other performances, call 216-320-0012 or visit www.apollosfire.org.

Margi Haigh is the box office and marketing associate for Apollo's Fire.



Avner Dorman is the new music director of CityMusic Cleveland.

CityMusic Cleveland begins 10th season with new director

David Barach

CityMusic Cleveland, with its newly appointed music director Avner Dorman, will present its 10th season opening, the Mozart Violin Concerto Tour, featuring one of the world's foremost violinists, Rachel Barton Pine.

After performing Bruch's Violin Concerto with CityMusic Cleveland last October, to standing ovations and stellar reviews, Pine has been invited back to perform Mozart's five violin concertos—a different one in each of five venues.

Pine has appeared as a soloist with many of the world's most prestigious orchestras, including those in Chicago, Montreal, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Vienna, New Zealand, Iceland and Budapest. She has worked with well-known conductors, including Zubin Mehta, Erich Leinsdorf and Plácido Domingo. She also plays the electric violin in her rock band, Earthen Grave.

In July 2004, CityMusic Cleveland premiered with an ambitious mission to make world-class classical music available to everyone. Ten years later, the orchestra consistently performs for standing-room-only audiences throughout the region, for a total of more than 20,000 audience members a season.

CityMusic's 10th anniversary season signals the beginning of a major new chapter in the organization's history with the appointment of music director

Avner Dorman. Known as one of the leading composers of his generation, Dorman's music has attracted the most famed ensembles in the world, including the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Israel Philharmonic, and the San Francisco Symphony.

Of the other three pieces on the program, two are concertos for small ensembles: a 21st-century Concerto Grosso by Dorman, and an 18th-century Concerto in C for Two Clarinets, Two Oboes and Strings by Vivaldi. The latter piece was considered very experimental when it was written, as it is one of the first works to feature a clarinet. The third piece on the program will be Schubert's Third Symphony, zestful and optimistic, written during the only period in the composer's life when he was in love.

The Cleveland Heights concert will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at 7:30 p.m. at Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd.

All CityMusic Cleveland performances are free, and most include refreshments afterward.

No tickets are required, and CityMusic performs across Greater Cleveland. For more information on concerts and venues, including recommended restaurants nearby, go to <http://citymusic-cleveland.org>.

David Barach is executive assistant of CityMusic Cleveland.

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Jim Wadsworth: the man behind the music at Nighttown

James Henke

Nighttown, the restaurant located at the top of Cedar Hill in the Cedar Fairmount Business District, is as well-known for the music it presents as it is for its fine food. *DownBeat* magazine, which covers jazz and blues, consistently ranks it among the top jazz clubs in the country, and in 2007 the restaurant won a Cleveland Arts Prize for its shows. The person behind the music that Nighttown presents is Jim Wadsworth, a Cleveland Heights resident who runs Jim Wadsworth Productions.

Wadsworth has been booking the shows at Nighttown since June 1999. Born in Kansas City, Mo., he was the youngest of seven children, and he started getting into music during the 1960s. "My sisters would be playing Beatles' records in their rooms, and I began taking it all in," he said. Wadsworth played harmonica, piano, guitar and percussion instruments, and he sang in his school choir. When he was 16, his parents sent him to a boarding school in Danville, Calif. While he was there, his family moved to Cleveland. After leaving the boarding school, he enrolled in Kent State University, where he got a degree in general studies, focusing on history, philosophy, sociology and political science.

After graduating from Kent, Wadsworth got a job with the Greater Cleveland Growth Association's Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE). "I was selling Blue Cross medical insurance plans, and I made sales calls all over Cleveland," he said. "I really got to know the area." A year or so later, he joined the Northeast Ohio Jazz Society, and became an active volunteer for the organization, taking tickets at concerts and picking artists up at the airport. He then started doing some public relations work for Peabody's DownUnder, the club that was located on Old River Road in the Flats. Then, in August 1990, he booked his first show for the club, an appearance by guitarist Hiram Bullock. From that point on, Wadsworth began to focus on music.

In 1991, he started booking shows at Rhythms jazz club in Playhouse Square. "There was a restaurant there called Getty's, and they added this new room so they could present music. Suddenly I had a venue of my own," he said. Rhythms was sold in 1994, and Wadsworth went back to booking shows at Peabody's. He then moved on to



Jim Wadsworth in the music room at Nighttown.

Wilbert's on Huron Street and then to the Diamondback Brewery on Prospect Avenue. Finally, in 1999, he hooked up with Nighttown, and the rest is history.

His favorite Nighttown shows include appearances by Ahmad Jamal,

McCoy Tyner, the Count Basie Orchestra, Hugh Masekela and Chucho Valdés. "There have been at least 100 shows that would be at the top of my list," he said.

Over the years, Nighttown's pro-

gramming has evolved. "We started out with more traditional jazz," Wadsworth said. "Jazz crosses over into so many different categories, and we now present five or six shows a week. So we have more slots to fill, and we present folk music, international music, cabaret and even classical music. Nighttown is a community center, and people are there for a variety of different reasons."

Future shows at Nighttown include appearances by the Hot Club of Detroit, who will be there with French singer Cyrille Aimee, on Oct. 11; Italian guitarist Beppe Gambetta, who will be performing on Oct. 16; and Tommy Tune, the Broadway singer, tap dancer and winner of nine Tony Awards, who will be at Nighttown on Dec. 4 and 5. "We try to be responsive to the community and give them what they want," Wadsworth said. "And we also like to be an avenue of musical discovery for the people."

James Henke, a Cleveland Heights resident, was a writer and editor at Rolling Stone magazine for 15 years. He is also the author of several books, including biographies of Jim Morrison, John Lennon and Bob Marley.

Cleveland Chamber Music Society launches 64th season

David Richardson

To hear renowned artists in one of Cleveland's finest musical spaces, make your way to Plymouth Church off Shaker Square during the 2013-14 season.

The Cleveland Chamber Music Society (CCMS) is offering eight concerts by some of the world's best known musicians and some exciting new performers. Programs are richly diverse, including vocal, piano, and guitar ensembles as well as traditional string quartets. The acoustics at Plymouth Church are bright, warm and among the best in Cleveland for live music.

The Cleveland Classical Guitar Society co-sponsors a dynamic collaboration in October between the Cuarteto Casals and Manuel Barrueco. The Cleveland Institute of Music collaborates with CCMS in December to present the Daedalus Quartet.

A special attraction in March is the complete Bartók quartets performed on two successive evenings by the renowned Takács Quartet from Hungary. Another not-to-be-missed event is the imaginative artistry of "eighth blackbird" in April, at CSU's Waetjen

Auditorium.

CCMS's concerts are affordable: general admission is \$30 (\$28 for seniors), and only \$5 for students. A complete subscription (\$150) includes a free guest ticket plus admission to the Young Artists Showcase in May 2014. All new subscribers enjoy a 20-percent discount.

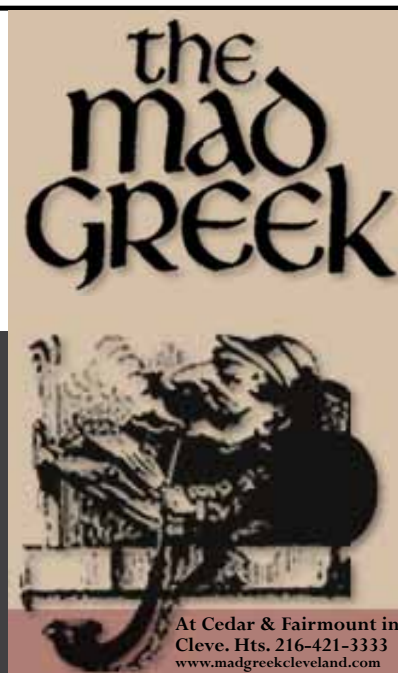
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tickets or subscriptions, visit www.clevelandchambermusic.org or call 216-291-2777. Ask about Ride Share assistance if you need transportation.

David Richardson is a trustee and communications chair of the Cleveland Chamber Music Society.

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Diamond's Flowers: a Coventry fixture since 1934

James Henke

As its second-oldest store, Diamond's Flowers is a fixture on Coventry Road. Located at 1840 Coventry, it has been in the same location since 1934—longer than any store on the street.

Joe and Mary Diamond owned Diamond's until 1969, when they sold it to Max Feris and his wife, Thelma Woods. The current owner is Roseana Bass, who lives in Richmond Heights.

While attending Regina High School in South Euclid, her guidance counselor suggested that she become a florist. "I said, 'Are you out of your mind?'" Bass recalled. After high school, Bass attended Cleveland State University, and then started working at Diamond's in 1985.

Much to her surprise, Bass enjoyed working as a florist. After a broken hip forced Feris to retire, Bass purchased the store and has operated it ever since with help from her husband, Jim.

The store's specialty is preparing wedding and funeral arrangements, among other services. "We are now in a situation where a couple of decades ago we did someone's wedding, and now we are doing their children's weddings," Bass said. "We have many regular customers who have been coming here for more than 30 years and now their children are also customers."

Bass said that weekends tend to be busy, with people going out on dates and celebrating. Valentine's Day is a busy holiday. "The line goes out the door



Roseana Bass, owner of Diamond's Flowers.

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around Valentine's Day," Bass said. She also gets a lot of business from Case

Western Reserve University students, especially for fraternity and sorority parties.

Bass buys all of her flowers in Cleveland. She makes daily trips to Allied Florist, a wholesale florist on Carnegie Avenue. "I go downtown every day and pick up flowers," she said. "Then I bring them back here to Coventry."

When Bass bought the store, it took up two storefronts on Coventry. She downsized to one storefront in 1995, but

it still retains much of its original look, including the original flower storage coolers. After many decades of operation, the business is still going strong. "I have seen lots of changes on Coventry, but I still love it here," said Bass.

James Henke, a Cleveland Heights resident, was a writer and editor at Rolling Stone magazine for 15 years. He is also the author of several books, including biographies of Jim Morrison, John Lennon and Bob Marley.

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