

INSIDE



9
Acclaimed chef Jonathon Sawyer calls CH home



15
Heights High's Chance Zurub wins gold in international competition



28
Gigi's restaurant has opened on Fairmount



Free parking at CH meters Dec. 27, 28 and 29

FutureHeights
2163 Lee Road #103
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

Deliver to addressee or current resident

School board's first action in facilities project will close Wiley after this year

Deanna Bremer Fisher

The Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education (BOE) isn't wasting any time following passage of Issue 81, the bond issue that updates and overhauls facilities throughout the school district.

On Nov. 19—exactly two weeks after the issue passed with 59 percent of the vote—the school board took its first step in implementing the facilities overhaul. It voted to close Wiley Middle School at the end of this school year, so the Wiley building and adjacent property can be prepared for use by Cleveland Heights High School staff and students while renovations are taking place at Heights High. Modular classrooms will be added to the temporary campus.

"We are starting on a path that will revitalize and modernize our schools, and transform our community," said



A rendering of what Cleveland Heights High School might look like after renovations, including removal of the science wing, which currently blocks the original 1920s facade from view.

Ron Register, board president, in a release provided by Angee Shaker, the district's communications director. "With this great opportunity also come

changes, some of which can be difficult. The closure of Wiley, while clearly the right choice for this district, will still

continued on page 7

Coventry Village plans Dec. 14 holiday festival

Angela Hetrick

The Coventry Village neighborhood will host a free, family-friendly holiday festival from 11 a.m. to midnight on Saturday, Dec. 14.

Events include free movies, music performances, children's activities, an appearance from Mr. Jingeling and, of course, shopping in one-of-a-kind stores that carry unique gifts and offer an intimate shopping experience.

"We haven't had an official Coventry Village Winter Holiday Festival before," said Steve Presser, owner of Big Fun.

"It's exciting for the Coventry Village merchants to throw a winter holiday festival for our customers and our neighbors," Presser said. "We're excited because of the variety and diversity of the events planned. The festival will entertain people of all ages and walks of life, as Coventry Village has successfully done for all these years."

Free festival activities include



Coventry Claus will pose for pictures.

pictures with Coventry Claus and his Merry Elves at The Houde School

continued on page 6

Ari Klein retires as Cleveland Heights scoutmaster

Jan Resseger

It is difficult to measure the impact of Boy Scout Troop 22 on the Cleveland Heights community during the 25 years Ari Klein has served as scoutmaster. Klein is retiring from Troop 22, though he will continue to impact the community as a nationally board-certified math teacher at Cleveland Heights High School and as president of the Cleveland Heights Teachers Union, AFT. His tenure as scoutmaster was celebrated on Nov. 2 by the families of the hundreds of boy scouts whose lives he has helped shape.

The number of boys who have earned the rank of Eagle Scout—51 since Klein became scoutmaster in 1988—attests to the leadership style Klein established, with the boys themselves leading the organization through a system of patrol and assistant patrol leaders under the guidance of a senior patrol leader.

"He constantly pushed them to become leaders, to be self-reliant, to develop a sense of integrity," said one mother. "When I look at how my own two sons have fared, I know that Ari is behind a lot of their success as men."

Zachary Zippert, who earned Eagle Scout rank in 2011, described Klein's impact: "Without Ari, I would never have learned how to plan and carry out tasks efficiently. I learned how to be a proper leader. I also learned how to succeed even when faced with adversity. Ari made the troop a safe place for all the scouts to

continued on page 5

2013 election brings new faces to CH Council, familiar ones to UH

Deanna Bremer Fisher

Cleveland Heights City Council will have two new members in 2014. Newcomer Jeff Coryell, who previously ran for council in 2011, garnered the most votes (6,595). Melissa Yasinow, who ran for the first time, received the second most votes (6,126). Incumbents Cheryl Stephens and Jason Stein were re-elected with 5,761 and 5,753 votes, respectively.

All will be sworn in at the first council meeting of the new year, at 7:30 p.m., Jan. 6, in council chambers.

Janine Boyd, who ran unopposed,



Newly elected CH City Council members Jeff Coryell and Melissa Yasinow; re-elected members Jason Stein, Cheryl Stephens and Janine Boyd.

was elected to an unexpired two-year term to Cleveland Heights City Council. She also will be sworn in on Jan. 6.

"I'm honored to have received an extraordinary level of support in the election," said Jeff Coryell. "I look

forward to working hard to help renew our city's legacy of diversity, innovation, leadership and progressive values."

"I am truly honored and humbled to have been elected, and am grateful to

continued on page 5

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

The *Heights Observer* is a citizen-based news source published monthly by FutureHeights, a nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization dedicated to civic engagement and quality of life.
2163 Lee Road, #103,
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
216-320-1423
Copyright 2012 FutureHeights, All rights reserved.
Reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

PUBLISHER

Deanna Bremer Fisher
dbfisher@futureheights.org

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Kim Sergio Inglis
city.editor@heightsobserver.org

ADVERTISING

Bob Rosenbaum
216-401-9342
brosenbaum@heightsobserver.org

EDITORIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Deanna Bremer Fisher, Carrie Buchanan, David Budin, Jeff Coryell, Greg Donley, Eleanor Mallet, Jewel Moulthrop, Vince Reddy, Bob Rosenbaum, Kim Sergio Inglis, Clare Taft

EDITORS

Jamison Babb, Maryann Barnes, Deanna Bremer Fisher, Ben Bubnick, Daniel Budin, David Budin, Jeff Coryell, Greg Donley, Eleanor Mallet, Jewel Moulthrop, Vince Reddy, Bob Rosenbaum, Jessica Schreiber, Kim Sergio Inglis, Dermot Somerville, Clare Taft

WEBMASTER

Dan Ott

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

Temma Collins and Ruth D'Emilia

DISTRIBUTION

Hannah Baldwin

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

Seed funding for the *Heights Observer* generously provided by the Cyrus Eaton Foundation, the Dominion Foundation, and the Katherine and Lee Chilcote Foundation. Powered by the 9th Estate.

Give a gift to your community this holiday season: shop local



OPENING THE OBSERVER

Deanna Bremer Fisher

I often hear how much people enjoy reading the *Heights Observer* and how much they feel it is needed because of the recent contraction in local news coverage by other media. I explain that the *Observer* is something different—we have no writing staff, and we don't cover news the way traditional media does; we rely on contributions from Heights residents. We print the articles our residents write and submit—about what they believe is newsworthy.

Another thing that makes the *Observer* unique is the unwavering support of our local business community. Each month, we decide how many pages we are able to print based on the amount of advertising support we have. When we began publishing the *Observer* in April 2008, we printed 16 pages. We are now able to print 28 pages, and occasionally more, almost every month.

The majority of our community's businesses are independent and locally owned. They know they are reaching you with their advertising, but they also recognize that supporting the *Observer* is good for the community.

The holiday season will make or break the year for many of our local merchants. According to the

National Retail Federation, Americans will spend \$801 per shopper between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31. With Black Friday, Super Saturday, and Cyber Monday, our independent businesses face lots of competition from national chains, big box stores and online retailers who benefit from international branding power, major economies of scale and an antiquated tax law that enables online retailers to sell items without charging sales tax (consumers are supposed to report those purchases on their tax returns, but seldom do).

Several studies show that if more of the dollars Americans spend on holiday shopping were spent at locally owned, independent businesses, they would generate far more economic benefit in local communities than money spent at chains or businesses outside of the community. In one such study, the strategic planning firm Civic Economics (www.civiceconomics.com) calculated that for every \$100 spent at a local business in Chicago's Andersonville neighborhood, \$68 re-circulated in the local economy—as compared with just \$43 for \$100 spent at a chain store in the same neighborhood.

This holiday season, we ask you to join FutureHeights in shopping local first. Take a look at our advertisers and see what they have to offer. Many local retailers will take the time to assist you in selecting just the right item, and several offer gift wrapping and delivery

service.

Last month's *Observer* printed a holiday gift guide that showcased a variety of items offered by our local merchants at a variety of prices. You can view the gift guide online at www.heightsobserver.org.

Another opportunity to see what's available locally is to participate in the ninth annual FutureHeights Online Auction. FutureHeights is the nonprofit that publishes the *Heights Observer*, and the auction is the organization's largest fundraiser to support its community-building programs and operations. Now through Dec. 8, visit www.BiddingForGood.com/FutureHeights to see unique items donated by our local business community. There's some really cool stuff to bid on, such as two six-month grocery packages from Zagara's and a loaf of bread a month from The Stone Oven, to name just a few.

Still don't know what to get? Consider a gift card to your favorite local restaurant or retail store.

If you appreciate the *Observer*, then please join FutureHeights in giving our local merchants preference whenever you make a purchase. Doing so is one of the biggest gifts that you can give to your community—and yourself—this holiday season.

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

Lift the overnight parking ban

To the Editor:

It is time to change Cleveland Heights's overnight parking ban.

I moved to Cleveland Heights in 2012 and was surprised to find this ban in place, which limits the ability of out-of-town family and friends to conveniently visit.

My fiancée also lives in Cleveland Heights, and every time I visit her for a night I need to call the police for parking permission. These phone calls are inefficient. The officer in charge handwrites the note and cars are frequently ticketed even after calling for

clearance.

This parking policy is specifically adverse to young professionals, many of whom are drawn to Cleveland Heights for [its] accessibility to Cleveland Clinic and University Circle. Young professionals are less likely to have a house with multiple parking places and more likely to rent an apartment with a single space. This parking policy is an obstacle to recruitment of this population to Cleveland Heights.

I am sure the cost of having an officer patrolling cars at night could be better spent addressing other safety concerns. While my personal opinion is to lift the parking ban completely, I understand the viewpoint of those who are concerned with maintaining

continued on page 3

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH YOUTH MINISTRY ANNUAL FRASER FIR CHRISTMAS TREE FUND RAISER

OPEN DAILY 10AM—8PM
3630 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. * SHAKER HTS., OH
216-932-7480



NOW Thru DECEMBER 23rd



FRESH FRASER FIR PREMIUM HIGH DENSITY TREES

9ft-10ft—\$60.00

7ft-8ft—\$55.00

6ft—\$50.00

5ft—\$45.00

FRASER FIR WREATH— \$20
(30" outside diameter)



\$10.00 Delivery Fee for Shaker
Cleve./Univ. Hts. * South Euclid
\$15.00 for all other areas



The Heights' #1 choice
for interior and exterior
painting

**Neubert
PAINTING**

Serving Northeast
Ohio Homeowners
since 1975

Quality Painting.
THAT'S ALL WE DO!

Call us at
216-529-0360
for a Free Consultation!
neubertpainting.com

ATMA CENTER
YOGA FOR EVERY BODY

30 DAYS UNLIMITED
YOGA & SPECIAL
BEGINNERS' PROGRAM -
\$59
(NEW LOCAL STUDENTS ONLY)

Experience the Atma Center difference!
2319 Lee Road 216-371-9760 atmacenter.com

an uncluttered appearance of the street. Other municipalities issue parking passes to residents, and this would help regulate the [number] of cars that could be parked on the street. Additionally, technological infrastructure needs to be upgraded to utilize online reservation services, which [would] minimize the hassle and cost associated with the current program.

Michael Lucke
Cleveland Heights

Rohal brothers served UH for a combined 69 years

To the Editor:

It has been a long run, and a good run. On October 24, 2013, Patrolman Dennis W. Rohal retired from the University Heights Police Department with 28 years of dedicated, professional service.

This closed the book on nearly 44 years of continuous service by the Rohal brothers, starting in 1970. James B. Rohal, former deputy chief, retired in 2011 after 41 years with the department.

It was an honor and privilege to serve the fine citizens of this city. University Heights was like our second home. We have seen the city stand strong with exceptional employees, civic-minded politicians, and involved, caring residents and business people. We have laughed and cried with the city and would not change any of our experiences. We will miss the daily interactions with everyone. We both served to the best of our abilities, and hold the city and its people close to our hearts.

The Rohals are thankful to have served in a profession we enjoyed immensely. University Heights is an excellent city in which to work, live and raise families, and prosper in business. We wish the city continued success and bid farewell to those we served.

Dennis W. Rohal, Parma

James B. Rohal, Broadview Heights

Walmart’s throw-away attitude

To the Editor:

It is nice of you all to put a positive spin on the news feed about the new Walmart, but to me it is simply chilling.

I think it is almost obscene for Walmart to put out this claim about how energy efficient [its] new store is when actually in reality it is just another drain on what has become our throw-away attitude about our society and our earth.

Now we have a large ugly vacant shell of a building sitting in the midst of an ever-degrading asphalt sea, while yet another beautiful green space bites the dust. The former Oakwood Country Club, if left green, would have had far more environmentally positive impact than the new green Walmart. Walmart has far too many despicable policies for me to darken [its] doors. I guess the new store is wonderful for a few, but for the neighborhood and the planet it is yet another sad turn.

I commend Cleveland Heights for maintaining [its] portion of the country club green and I hope that the Millikin School complex in the old Severance estate will become a green space as well. We do not need *more* places to shop. Let us refurbish and maintain those parts of the world that we have already designated as asphalt rather than tear into more of our remaining brown and green space.

Robin VanLear
Cleveland Heights

CH-UH community elects a new school board member

To the Editor:

Congratulations to Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education members Ron Register, current board president, who has served on the board since January 2002; and Kal Zucker, who has served on the board since January 2006; on their re-election to serve on the board.

Eric Silverman was elected to serve a new four-year term starting January 2014. He previously served as a board member from January 1994 to December 2011.

Karen Jones’ term ends on Dec. 31. Jones decided not to run again. Register, Zucker and Silverman will serve with board members Eric Coble and Nancy Pepler.

Angee Shaker
Director of Communications for Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District

Pilates, yoga and hip-hop inspired dance moves to great music PLUS core and strength training!

GET FIT 360
M/W/Th. 9:30 a.m.
South Euclid Methodist Church

M/T/W/Th. 6:30 p.m.
SAT. 8:45 a.m.
SUN. 9:30 a.m.
Cleveland Hts. Community Center

Contact Mary Beth for more information: (440)655-5394
marybethmccnn@gmail.com

jazzercise®

www.facebook.com/JazzerciseClevelandHeightsSouthEuclid



BECOME A HUMOR DONOR TODAY!



Share the laughs with FUNNY TIMES.

Buy One, Get One FREE Gift Subscription!

☐ *Yes, I need a laugh!*
1 YEAR (12 ISSUES) ... \$26

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

☐ *ALSO, send a FREE, 1-year gift subscription to:*

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

All foreign subscriptions add \$20 per year

Send check or money order to:
FUNNY TIMES SUBSCRIPTIONS
P.O. Box 18530 Dept. HOT • Cleveland Hts., OH 44118

Or pay with: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card # _____

NAME _____

EXP. DATE _____ TOTAL AMOUNT _____

DAYTIME PHONE # OR E-MAIL (_____)
(In case we need to contact you regarding your order)

Guaranteed to make you laugh or your money back!

CALL 216.371.8600 ext. CLE or visit FUNNYTIMES.COM



Cleveland Heights voters proclaim corporations are not people, money is not speech

To the Editor:

Cleveland Heights voters decisively passed a local ordinance on Nov. 5, instructing the city to inform federal and state elected officials that Cleveland Heights voters want a U.S. constitutional amendment ending constitutional rights for corporations and overturning the legal doctrine of money being considered equivalent to speech.

The measure, Issue 32, passed with more than 77 percent of the vote. More than 3,000 citizens signed petitions circulated by Cleveland Heights Move to Amend volunteers to place the grassroots initiative on the ballot.

The voters of this city have said they're tired of not being heard, of politicians spending their time chasing big corporate donors and working for them instead of us. That it's time to go beyond apathy and cynicism and do something to fight back. Cleveland Heights joins the hundreds of other cities across the country that are part of the movement to say that only humans are people and have constitutional rights.

Similar ballot measures passed in Brecksville and Newburgh Heights last year, and in Defiance on Nov. 5. City councils in Athens, Oberlin, Barberton and Fremont have passed similar resolutions. Petition drives are underway in several other Ohio municipalities. More than 500 communities nationwide have enacted either council resolutions or ballot initiatives with equivalent language, as part of a campaign organized by the national Move to Amend coalition, which was launched following the

U.S. Supreme Court *Citizens United v. FEC* decision of 2010.

Issue 32, titled Political Influence by Corporate Entities, also calls for an annual city-sponsored public hearing each January, to examine the impact of political influence by corporate entities and big money in elections. Cleveland Heights Move to Amend will immediately contact city officials to begin planning for that event, which will be open to the entire community.

Sally Hanley
Cleveland Heights
[Hanley is the spokesperson for Cleveland Heights Move to Amend]

Heights Arts announces a double adoption

To the Editor:

Heights Arts and the City of Cleveland Heights have new additions to our families. This summer, Heights Arts participated in the Play Me, I'm Yours street piano project, thanks to the generous donation of an upright piano by Cleveland Heights residents Faith and Brendan Gill. The piano was placed in the mini-park beside our gallery on Lee Road for passers-by to play. As the seasons changed, we knew that the piano would need a new home before the weather took its toll, and as its original purpose was to spark imagination and creativity outdoors, it was not a viable option for our indoor performance needs.

Finding a new home for the piano, dubbed Close Encounters, was not an easy task. We agonized over the possibility of its surrender to the junk yard. When we were about to give up, Tanisha Briley, newly appointed city manager, asked how the city and Heights Arts could work together on a project. Our piano leaped to mind and, thankfully, Briley and Susanna Nierman O'Neil, vice city manager, had the answer—the city would adopt our piano and place it in the Community Center where it will continue to be available to the public, and where it can brighten peoples' days with its vibrant colors and beautiful tones.

I shared this happy news with Jeff Coryell, newly elected city council member, and at the same time lamented the absence of a piano in our gallery. He connected me with Laura Marks, who knew of a family that was looking for a new home for a baby grand piano, and

we are so pleased that Heights Arts is its new home. Stop by our Holiday Store and admire its beauty and look forward to concerts presented right here in the gallery. While you're at it, enjoy the works of more than 70 regional artists—the best gifts one can give.

Rachel Bernstein
Executive Director of Heights Arts

The future of Cleveland Heights?

To the Editor:

There is something wrong in Cleveland Heights and it needs to change. I have some ideas.

When I began my group, Citizens Leadership, five months ago, the biggest complaint was the unresponsiveness of city hall and reduction in services. I thought attending council meetings would enlighten me on city hall machinations. I also wanted to learn about the decision-making process on issues that affect my existence as a resident of Cleveland Heights. My hopes were to share what I learned with my fellow residents and to offer some suggestions should I or my cohorts have any. The idyll was an informed citizenry working arm-and-arm with city hall. Silly girl!

My attempts at understanding all that I could were met with suspicion, defensiveness, or silence. That attitude, sadly, rubbed off on a few within the ranks of those who work tirelessly within the walls of city hall. Gladly, there has been some softening and responsiveness to my queries since my initial foray into enlightenment. Nevertheless, when attempts at understanding how council and the city works are rebuffed, one does have to ask "why?" Only then did I [begin to] pay more attention to city finances and how our tax money is divvied out. I also became more erudite about the law. No surprise that the defensiveness turned to anger.

My view has been that we are part of one large community: the City of Cleveland Heights. However, what I have learned is that we are not.

We are factions; factions that hold a rampant "us-against-them" view. That view pits the power elite against the citizenry, city hall against the residents, key businesses against the smaller ones, neighborhoods against neighborhoods, and groups of school supporters with differing views against each other. All see the outcomes of the decision-making process at city hall and elections as a winner-take-

continued on page 5



**WOOD
TRADER
FRAMING**

13429 Cedar Road
Cleveland Heights
216-397-7671
Mon-Fri 10-6 Sat 10-5

woodtraderframing.com

**You handle the art;
we'll make the perfect gift**





Cleveland Institute of Art

Student Holiday Sale

**Cleveland Institute of Art
Dec 6-8**


Fri Dec 6, 6:30-9pm
Sat Dec 7, 9am-8pm
Sun Dec 8, 12:30-6pm



Cleveland Institute of Art
11141 East Boulevard
Cleveland OH 44106

For more information, visit
cia.edu/holidaysale

Free parking in the lot
for Holiday Sale visits



Neff Landscaping • Snow plowing



35
Years

**Dependable Service
in the Heights Area**

Small Jeeps used in
narrow driveways
Block discounts available

(440) 449-3050

Early Bird Coupons at:
nefflandscaping.com

all scenario, which doesn't bode well for building a strong community.

Again, silly me! I thought winners are winners, then we work together under the new order. Not here in Cleveland Heights. My hopes for change with each new council only found the winners hunkering down behind closed doors. I have hope [for] our newly elected council, but dread the inevitable: a stranglehold on decision making by the power elite and closed doors to everyone else.

I have gleaned some support among the status quo. However, that support is on the "down-low," since it appears the power elite has a stranglehold on the freedom of speech of its membership. Frustratingly, that mild support does not lead to a change for the better.

I am still naive in believing that we can work together and share information and ideas. Everyone needs to recognize that the city cannot address all the ills it faces with only its resources. All of us need to pitch in—but out in the open!

For that to happen, we need to take down the walls, share information and, most importantly, knowledge. My attendance at the city's Nov. 12 capital budget planning meeting reinforced my belief the city needs the assistance of its residents. It is struggling financially and it needs new ideas and new solutions—not the recycling of old ones that have not altered the eventual outcome.

Have an idea or suggestion and live in Cleveland Heights? I invite you to discuss your ideas on Thursday, Dec. 5, at the Coventry Village Library meeting room, from 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Diane Hallum, Cleveland Heights
[Hallum is the director of Citizens Leadership]

ARI KLEIN continued from page 1

be able to feel accepted and included in the group."

Troop 22 grew in the late 1990s to 70 boys. One father recalled, "Our son interviewed three scout troops before joining Troop 22, and we know it will continue to be one of the best decisions of his life."

During Klein's tenure, Troop 22 scouts enjoyed more than 340 camping trips, including weekend trips, weeklong summer camps, and High Adventures for the older boys.

Troop 22 is known for camping once a month, 12 months a year, including tent camping in winter. Trips have taken the boys all over Ohio, Pennsylvania, Ontario, Michigan, West Virginia and upstate New York.

Over the years, older boys have backpacked, kayaked, or canoed on High Adventure trips to Shenandoah National Park, the White Mountains, the High Sierras, the Florida Sea Base, Vermont, Canada's Algonquin Provincial Park, the Great Smoky Mountains, Isle Royale National Park, Canada's Bruce Peninsula, West Virginia's Dolly Sods Wilderness, Ontario's North Bay and the Colorado Rockies. (Imagine the dozens of fathers who fulfilled their camping dreams as they helped supervise these trips.)

Troop 22, which has kept its boys acclimated to outdoor camping all winter, is well known among Greater Cleveland Boy Scouts for winning the annual Klondike Competition year after year in January—after all, Troop 22 can handle any weather.

Eagle Scout and other Troop 22 service projects have improved and supported community institutions, including Beaumont School, the CH-UH Public Library, Dobama Theatre, Homewood Residence, Heights Parent Center, Ruffing Montessori School, Shaker Lakes, the Heights Rockefeller Building, the East 55 Street Pier, Church of the Savior, Lake View Cemetery, Cleveland Heights High School, Coventry playground, Doan Brook Trail, InterAct Cleveland, Shaker Heights Library, McGregor Home and the Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Troop 22 scouts have rehabbed and painted private homes; recycled; helped annually at the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast; and supported the Interfaith Hospitality Network at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the troop's sponsoring organization and site of its regular Monday night meetings.

Klein modeled justice advocacy for the scouts by making Troop 22 a model of inclusivity and welcome for all boys.



After 25 years as scoutmaster, Ari Klein is retiring.

COURTESY JAN RESSEGER

He has led an effort among Greater Cleveland scout leaders and sponsoring organizations to protest the homophobic stance of the Boy Scouts of America.

Jan Resseger was a Troop 22 parent for six years beginning in the mid-1990s. Her son Matthew and husband, Bill, camped with Troop 22 month after month and year after year. Matthew earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 2000.

GET YOUR HOME READY FOR The Holidays!

Call for a transformative "One Hour Home Interior Makeover" Only \$65 (regularly \$75)! Offer expires December 31

Also, ask about our class: "Interior Decorating Made Easy!"

www.JudithEugeneDesigns.com
Building Designer & Interior Decorator
216.408.5578

ELECTION continued from page 1



COURTESY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Newly re-elected UH Mayor Susan Infeld and UH City Council members Susan Pardee, Philip Ertel and Mark Wiseman, and newly elected Councilwoman Nancy English.

Cleveland Heights residents," said Melissa Yasinow. "I look forward to serving them."

Yasinow said that while she will spend her first several weeks in council getting to know her fellow members and learning the ropes, she does have one initiative that she would like to bring to council's attention right away.

"Cleveland Heights needs an expanded human rights ordinance to protect members of the LGBT community from discrimination in employment across the city," she said. "While Cleveland Heights enacted a Domestic Partner Registry in 2003 and has an ordinance that prohibits discrimination on the basis of LGBT status in city hiring, it needs to be expanded citywide."

"With the Gay Games coming to Cleveland in 2014," she continued, "I want to be sure that the City of Cleveland Heights is a welcoming community."

Coryell said that he also supports "an inclusive human rights ordinance that prohibits discrimination by private employers and in places of public accommodation against members of the LGBT community."

One of the first orders of business for the new council will be to select a mayor.

According to the city charter, Cleveland Heights City Council is to select a mayor from among its members every two years.

Edward Kelley, who has served as the city's mayor since 1997, did not run for re-election to council and will retire from office when his term expires at the end of 2013. The five members elected to council this fall, as well as returning members Dennis Wilcox and Mary Dunbar, are potential mayoral candidates.

In University Heights, voters re-elected Mayor Susan Infeld, who ran unopposed. Current council members Susan Pardee, Mike Wiseman and Phil Ertel were re-elected with 1,542, 1,316 and 1,297 votes respectively. Nancy English, former clerk of council for the city, ran unopposed for a two-year term and was elected to city council.

The mayor and council members will be sworn in at the first 2014 University Heights City Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 6. A reception for their families and friends will proceed the meeting at 7 p.m.

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

DOG TOPIA
2624 Noble Road, Cleveland Hts., 216-291-0605
www.dogtopia.net

Doggy Daycare & Overnight Boarding

Burning River
BRASS

December 10, 2013
7:30 pm

in concert at First Baptist Church
3630 Fairmount Blvd. in Shaker Heights
Adjacent Lighted, Ample Parking Available

Adults \$12 Seniors (65+) \$10
Students (18-) \$10 Child (8-) \$8

*A touch of Tradition, a dash of Jazz
and healthy measure of Festive Cheer!*

Bringing you European Artisan-style bread for 20 years

Tatyana Rehn and John Emerman thank our Heights neighbors and look forward to a third decade of serving Clevelanders.

THE STONE OVEN
BAKERY • CAFE

2267 Lee Rd • Cleveland, OH • 216-932-3003

COVENTRY continued from page 1

of Acting; an “Elf” movie marathon with holiday shorts at the Centrum Theater; live music performances from School of Rock and Classical Revolution Cleveland at the Grog Shop; and an Ugly Holiday Sweater Bar Crawl during evening hours.

Mr. Jingeling, an old Cleveland holiday favorite, will make an appearance from 4–7 p.m. at the former Phoenix Coffee location at the southwest end of the district.

Other featured events include craft areas for kids, a winter story time, a teen open-mic, community caroling, and two special performances of the Dylan Thomas classic, *A Child’s Christmas in Wales*.

Story tellers and poets will roam the streets all day long, adding to the

holiday atmosphere.

Individual merchants throughout the district are also planning their own activities.

Visitors will find special shopping deals and discounts through limited edition Coventry Village Holiday Festival discount cards that will be distributed throughout the day—making it easier than ever to buy the kind of unique gifts that are a hallmark of Coventry Village shopping.

A complete schedule of events and specifics about merchant discounts is available at www.coventryvillage.org.

Angela Hetrick is executive director of the Coventry Village Special Improvement District.

Public school supporters are more than fair-weather friends



THE COMMON GOOD

Susie Kaeser

The Saturday before the election was cold and rainy. Volunteers from my neighborhood dutifully filed into my kitchen to pick up their walk lists for the final lit drop, which would encourage voters to fund the renovation of three Cleveland Heights-University Heights public schools.

Our team included a retired graphic designer and medical engineer, a substitute teacher, a Montessori parent, the kids across the street and their mom, an innovations coach, and me.

Jokes about the Browns, the exercise opportunities associated with dropping literature and the need to fix the aging buildings for future generations were part of the friendly conversation that took place as I handed out street assignments.

Despite the weather, we were ready to act on our commitment to our community and its children.

We were responsible for three of the 43 routes to be covered that weekend. We were among 100 volunteers who fanned out across the community to reach more than 12,000 addresses, braving the elements for a cause we believed in.

A lot of people in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights community took part in this campaign. A determined leadership team led by co-chairs Dave Tabor, Alvin Saafir and Patrick Mullen met weekly to strategize, raise money, and hone the message.

High school students endured the weather to learn the tried-and-true techniques of community outreach.

People of all generations showed up at meetings, toured the high school, studied the need, asked hard questions, searched their consciences, made phone calls, wrote letters, donated money, posted 1,200 signs, gave their time and knees to get out the word, lost sleep, greeted voters, voted and, in the end, celebrated.

Along the way they made new friends, gained respect for new leaders, and knew they had helped shape the future.

Community involvement isn’t complicated, but it is the essence of

democracy, the source of progress, and it floats my boat! On the road to shaping your community, you connect with people who share your goals and concerns.

Invest enough time and effort in the collective search for solutions to community needs and you end up with deep roots and ownership of the place you live. Involvement creates community, the essence of good living.

Our community has willing foot soldiers and dedicated leaders.

Tabor became involved at the start of the process to plan for facilities and stuck with it for three years. When it was time to mount a campaign, he stepped forward to lead, gave up a lot of fun outings with his family, and took the weight of the outcome personally.

He attended weekly campaign meetings; attended dozens of school and community events so he could talk to anyone who would talk to him about the plan; addressed religious congregations, political groups, seniors and PTAs; answered more than 2,500 e-mails; and walked the streets, rain or shine. When he stopped in to pick up his walk list he said, “This is so much fun.”

Tabor, like so many activists, was willing to sacrifice his personal time to benefit the common good. I admire his understanding of activism:

- You have to support things you believe in.
- Nothing gets done from the sidelines.
- You have to be willing to get your hands dirty (e.g., dropping lit in the rain).
- You will get tired and frustrated.
- You will be happy and elated.
- You will make a difference in your community.
- You will make friends for life!

I am forever grateful to live in a community with engaged citizens like Tabor and the people who showed up at my house in the rain to trudge through the community in hopes of convincing their neighbors to vote yes.

I thank them for working for this important cause—and for so many others. It is the reason I live here. It is something to celebrate.

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.

Advertise in the Observer

FLOWERVILLE
(216) 932-7550

Custom floral design for over 60 years!

24 hr. secure online ordering
www.flowerville.net

Hours M-F 9am-5:30pm • SAT 9am-1pm
2268 Warrensville Center Road
(between Fairmount Blvd and Cedar Rd)

University Heights (216) 932-7550
e-mail: flowerville216@aol.com • www.flowerville.net

Michael Day

Uston

WE HAVE A PROBLEM...

Homeowners in the Heights have been calling us since 1999 for:

- Roof Tune Ups – \$260
- Heating Cable installation
- Ice backup relief
- Emergency repair
- Gutter installation

Snow Plowing

USTON ROOF RESTORATION INC.
216-371-5944
USTONROOFRESTORATION@YAHOO.COM

Don’t get mad; Get help.

- PC and Mac repair
- Technology classes for children and adults
- Websites & Search Engine Optimization

PC Handyman
Cleveland



Mention this ad
for \$10 off
your next service

216-721-3455
info@pchandyman-cleveland.com
12429 Cedar Rd., Suite 25
(At Cedar-Fairmount)

Anatolia Cafe

LET US TRANSPORT YOU TO ANOTHER LAND

The colors, tastes & textures of the Eastern Mediterranean

Daily Specials & Happy Hour
Cozy Bar / Outdoor Dining /
Fireplace
Free Valet Parking on Weekends
Lunch & Dinner
Wed. Ladies Night
Turkish beer, wine & liquor

2270 Lee Road
Cleveland Heights
(216) 321-4400

simply shop our
wonderland of amazing gifts

guaranteed to make someone’s day

Simply Charming
Baubles, Bijoux & Bibelots

hours
For our extended
Holiday store hours,
please visit us on
Facebook

2254 Lee Road
Cleveland Hts
(216) 321-1296
SimplyCharmingTheBoutique.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.

Dec. 5: Victor Mezacapa of University School and Lisa Peng of Laurel School—champion debaters who have earned honors in tournaments at The City Club of Cleveland—will debate the resolution: In the United States criminal justice system, truth-seeking ought to take precedence over attorney/client privilege.

Dec. 12: A. Gregory Moore, chair of the history and political science department at Notre Dame College, and director of its Center for Intelligence Studies, is also one of 30 member-experts of a multinational commission. He'll discuss the commission's work, making a case for the role of human understanding in international peace-keeping missions, and redefining the role of NATO.

Dec. 19: Mary Beth Gotti, manager of the General Electric Company's Lighting Institute at Nela Park in East Cleveland, will celebrate the 100th anniversary of GE's headquarters there with a presentation on its history, featuring Norman Rockwell images of its products through the years.

Dec. 26: No meeting today. Best wishes for the holidays!

BOND ISSUE continued from page 1

be challenging for some. We will stand alongside those students, staff members, parents and residents, celebrating the history of Wiley Middle School and helping prepare those families impacted by this transition."

Current Wiley Middle School students will attend either Monticello or Roxboro middle schools beginning in August 2014. By Jan. 31, 2014, the board of education will announce the new attendance zones that will determine which of the two middle schools students will attend, according to Shaker.

The BOE announced that, in drawing the new attendance zones, every effort will be made to respect neighborhood integrity, minimize travel distances and transportation costs, and ensure continuing demographic balance and equity, Shaker said.



Ron Register, BOE president



Eric Silverman, elected to BOE



Kal Zucker, re-elected to BOE

University Heights City Council

Meeting highlights

OCTOBER 21, 2013

All council members were present.

Leaf pickup

Leaf pickup began Oct. 15 and will continue until Dec. 15.

Emergency notification

Residents will need to sign up again for the emergency notification phone system. Although the new system is from the same provider, phone numbers cannot be transferred over.

New park

The park committee is continuing to meet to discuss options for the new park at the former site of the Fuchs Mizrahi School.

Washington/Baintree Tree Pruning

Council approved an agreement with Valo Tree Service of Chardon for the 2013-14 Washington/Baintree Tree Pruning and Removal project, with a bid of \$13,497. Five bids were received to provide necessary care to 338 designated trees in the northeast quadrant of the city.

Funding for street paving

Council authorized the mayor to seek funding from the Ohio Public Works Commission State Public Works Program to pave Washington Boulevard and Silsby Road along the block in front of city hall and extending from Miramar Boulevard to Belvoir Boulevard. Washington Boulevard was last paved in 1994. The projected cost is \$600,000.

Nuisance abatement penalties

Council approved changing the penalty from 5 percent of the contractor's fee for nuisance abatements to a flat fee of \$100 for the first offense in a calendar year and \$200 for [each subsequent] offense. Council Members Wiseman and Sims voted no, [stating] that a penalty of \$100 for the first offense was excessive and didn't allow for mistakes and misunderstandings.

Major trash removal

Council unanimously approved changing the penalty from 5 percent of the contractor's fee for major trash removal (beyond what a scooter can carry) to a flat fee of \$300 for the first offense in a calendar year and \$500 for [each subsequent] offense. There are times when people who move away leave an excessive amount of trash behind, including large pieces of furniture in the driveway or yard. The fee is intended to encourage residents to rent a dumpster or hire a hauling service.

Sales of shopping centers

Law Director Anthony J. Coyne noted that Inland [Retail Properties of America] sold the University Square shopping center and bought the Cedar Center shopping center.

LWV Observer: Wendy Deuring.

NOVEMBER 4, 2013

All council members were present.

Dennis Rohal

James Rohal, brother of Patrolman Dennis Rohal, read the letter he submitted to [local press] about his brother's service to the City of University Heights. The mayor presented Dennis Rohal, who recently retired, with a city proclamation and a county prosecutor's certificate. The police chief gave Rohal a frame containing various medals, patches and badges.

Loss of two firefighters

One of the University Heights firefighters discussed two sad events. A fellow firefighter in Cleveland, William Walter, was killed and another, Shaun Porbert from Shaker Heights, lost his battle with muscular dystrophy.

Health services

Council approved a contract with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health for \$53,073 for health services that University Heights does not have.

Accounting principles

Council approved a two-year contract with James G. Zupka to perform the 2013 and 2014 gener-



ally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) conversion of the city's financial statements from cash basis to accrual basis.

New garage roof

Council approved a contract with Southwest Companies for \$8,745 to build a new roof on one of the city's garages. The city received three estimates and has used this company in the past.

Volunteer work

The police chief acknowledged the volunteer work of the police auxiliary on Halloween and [during] the recent snowstorm.

Yard waste

The rules and regulations for yard waste are [posted] on the website for residents [to reference]. Sometimes yard waste is not put on the curb correctly and the city cannot pick it up.

LWV Observer: Michele Weiss.

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 "lww-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.

WHAT IF...YOU COULD LIVE WHERE:

- You don't have to climb steps.
- You don't have to cut the grass, shovel snow, wash windows, haul the garbage to the curb.
- You don't have to drive when it's raining or snowing or it's icy outside...*instead...*
- You can walk to restaurants, the grocery store, the hairdresser, the bank, the bakery, the drycleaners.
- You can feel secure with a Front Desk manned 24/7.
- A Front Desk that *also* collects your mail, packages & newspapers, takes messages, provides wake-up phone calls and has your coffee ready first thing in the morning!
- You could have a lovely apartment at an affordable monthly rent that *includes* electricity, water, heat, trash removal, Wi-Fi, linen and towel change - even light housekeeping!



AND STILL HAVE THE INDEPENDENCE YOU LOVE WHILE ENJOYING A SIMPLER LIFE IN A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT IN THE HEIGHTS WITHIN MINUTES OF UNIVERSITY CIRCLE'S CULTURAL AND MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS!

**Independent Living at The Alcazar for those 55+
We're so nice to come home to!**

Sound interesting?

Please call for information and your absolutely no obligation personal tour!

(216) 321-5400 • www.thealcazar.com

Located in Cleveland Heights' Cedar Fairmount neighborhood at 2450 Derbyshire Road, 44106

The Alcazar

continued on page 17

CH City Council amends nuisance ordinance

Deanna Bremer Fisher

At its Nov. 18 meeting, Cleveland Heights City Council unanimously approved an amendment to city ordinances to enable the city to revoke an occupancy permit for up to 12 months if the city determines a tenant of a rental property is a "nuisance."

Council Member Jason Stein, who introduced the amendment, said, "For too long, some absentee landlords have failed to ensure that the tenants they rent to are good neighbors."

Stein, who said that the problem had become more commonplace since the beginning of the housing crisis, said that the city will use the new legislation "to encourage landlords to think, not only about their own wallets, but also consider the needs and rights of the neighboring community."

Stein said the legislation will help landlords who maintain their properties and are concerned with the quality

of the neighborhood, and will give the city a tool to go after property owners who don't.

"It is simple," said Stein. "Rent to good neighbors or lose your privilege to rent in Cleveland Heights."

Stein said the amendment was based on similar legislation recently passed by the city council of York, Pa.

"At a minimum, the landlord should run a credit and criminal background check, contact the previous landlords from at least the previous two addresses to discuss the potential tenant, give the tenant a copy of Cleveland Heights's New Neighbor Guide, and discuss their expectations of a good tenant and neighbor prior to signing a rental agreement," said Stein.

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

Safe school-travel study underway

To encourage children to walk or bike to school, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has awarded consulting services to the City of Cleveland Heights. ODOT will help the city develop a School Travel Plan, focusing on five schools: Oxford Elementary, Canterbury Elementary, Roxboro Elementary, Monticello Middle School

and the Hebrew Academy. A public meeting, tentatively scheduled for Jan. 15, will be held to review the draft plan. Once the plan is complete, the city and school district will be able to apply for infrastructure and education grants. For more information, contact Jennifer Kuzma at 216-291-2854 or jkuzma@clvhts.com.

she left for freshman year
fearful and insecure.

sure, that really lasted a long time!

winter break
she came home with roger,
confident and handsome.
but, now we are the ones suspect.
trust, but verify.
what are his intentions?
his motives? we can only guess.
they're off to another party
full of themselves like lebron in june

but we're the ones that really need a drink –
a margarita, or three.
lobster tacos and grits.

hang in there,
winter break will be over soon.

love,
craig and staff

lopez southwest kitchen – tequila saloon
2196 lee road
beautiful downtown cleveland heights
216.932.9000
www.lopezonlee.com

Cleveland Heights City Council Meeting highlights



OCTOBER 21, 2013

All council members were present.

Bicycle Friendly Community award

Resident Joy Henderson, vice president of the Heights Bicycle Coalition (HBC), presented to the city the League of American Bicyclists' Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community Award. The award recognizes the progress the city and HBC have made together toward making Cleveland Heights more bike and pedestrian friendly. She gave special thanks to Richard Wong, planning director; Mary Dunbar, council member; public school physical education teachers; and city staff. Henderson also spoke in praise of the ordinance establishing a Transportation Advisory Committee to be introduced this evening.

Transportation Advisory Committee

Council approved an ordinance establishing a Transportation Advisory Committee and prescribing the composition and duties of the committee. Members will be recruited soon from various constituencies of Cleveland Heights residents and businesses, as well as city staff and the Regional Transit Authority. The committee will meet once a quarter and submit an annual report to council.

Contractual authority change

Council amended city code language regarding contracts to authorize the city manager to enter into agreements involving expenditures of \$50,000 or less without the need for council approval.

Vehicle and equipment purchases

Council authorized the purchase of equipment for the Department of Public Works, including a front loader refuse truck with an auto lube system for \$265,771.60, plus \$4,554 for the lube system, and a paint line striping trailer for \$9,189.

Council also approved the purchase of a 2014 International tow truck for the police department at a price not to exceed \$93,500 from Rush Truck Centers.

Sewer overflow project

Council authorized application to the Ohio Public Works Commission for funds for the Fairmount Boulevard Sanitary Sewer Overflow Relief Sewer Project. This project will correct five places where the sanitary sewers overflow into the storm sewers and thence into Lake Erie.

Vacant business structures

Council amended the city code to renumber and amend sections regarding standards for business occupancies and to enact a new section entitled "Maintenance of Vacant Business Structures." This is a complex ordinance designed to impose additional standards for vacant business structures, to reduce the burden and blight that can occur.

Council also amended an additional section of the same code to prohibit the boarding up of a structure for more than 14 days without approval of the building commissioner.

Nuisance properties

Council declared two vacant properties to be nuisances and authorized abatement. These properties are:

- 3300 East Overlook Road, owned by Phoenix Properties. Estimated cost for asbestos survey, razing and cleanup is \$20,500.

- 891 Lecona Drive, owned by Frederick and Donna Rakes. Estimated cost for asbestos survey, razing and cleanup is \$15,500.

LWV Observer: Blanche Valancy.

NOVEMBER 4, 2013

All council members were present.

Citizen comments

Storm cleanup: Resident Joanne Grolle complained about the city's failure to clean up tree lawn trees following the last storm, and urged the city to do more preventive tree trimming. She felt different parts of the city received different treatment and proposed that council be elected by district and not at large.

Injured deer: Resident Beverly Forcier followed up on a letter sent to the city manager with concerns about the way the city handled an injured deer.

BMV audit

Council authorized a contract with Dalene M. Pride to audit Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicle records for 2013 and 2014, to identify mistakes in the taxing district assigned to vehicles owned by city residents. In the past, the audit has uncovered several mistakes, the correction of which enhanced registration revenue to Cleveland Heights.

Sale of public land

Council authorized the sale of a small sliver of public land to the adjacent neighbor at 2040 Hanover Road. The sale was [in the amount of] \$1, with closing costs paid by the buyer.

Council also approved the sale of city-owned property at 1572 Rydalmount Road for \$120,000, and a \$5,000 no-interest loan for down payment assistance to the buyer. The house was rehabilitated with Neighborhood Stabilization Funds.

Cedar Lee Theatre loan

The Cedar Lee Theatre Co. Inc. received a loan of \$25,000 to restore its marquee. The five-year loan, at 2 percent interest, is from the Economic Development Loan Fund Program.

HOME funds

Council authorized receipt of \$393,765 in federal Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds to support housing rehab and buyer-assistance activities in Cleveland Heights. The city will also receive \$6,008 to administer the funds. The city applied for the funds as part of a consortium of communities under the auspices of Cuyahoga County.

Code changes align with state law

In order to conform to state law, council amended sections of the city code regarding traffic and general offenses.

LWV Observer: Susie Kaeser.

Please note: YouTube videos of Cleveland Heights City Council meetings may be accessed at youtube.com/clevelandheightsoh.

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

See disclaimer on page 7.

A CLEVELAND HEIGHTS HOLIDAY TRADITION

Elegantly Packaged Chocolates and Truffles
Edible Centerpieces and Hostess Gifts
Stocking Stuffers and Molded Chocolates

Mitchell's
FINE CHOCOLATES
since 1939

2285 Lee Road • 216.932.3200
www.mitchellschocolates.com
www.facebook.com/MitchellsChocolates



Chef Jonathon Sawyer puts down roots in Cleveland Heights

James Henke

At 33 years old, Cleveland Heights resident Jonathon Sawyer, the chef and owner of the Greenhouse Tavern and other Cleveland-area restaurants, has been involved in the food industry for almost two decades.

Sawyer, who was born in Chicago and moved to Strongsville when he was in first grade, got his first restaurant job when he was 13. “I wanted to get a job, and my older brother was working at a restaurant in Strongsville called Mad Cactus, so I applied and started out as a dishwasher,” he said. “But within six months I was cooking.”

Sawyer graduated from Strongsville High School and decided to attend the University of Dayton to study industrial engineering, despite his love of cooking. “During my sophomore year, we had to go out and work a trial job,” he said. “So I started working at this engineering firm in Dayton, and I just couldn’t do it.” He left Dayton and began studying at the Pennsylvania Institute of Culinary Arts in Pittsburgh. After graduating, he got a job at the Biltmore Hotel in Miami. In 2002 he moved again, this time to New York City, where he began working at Kitchen 22 with Chef Charlie Palmer.

When Sawyer and his wife, Amelia, were about to have their first child, they decided to come back to Cleveland. Palmer had introduced him to Michael Symon, and Sawyer became the chef de cuisine at Symon’s restaurant, Lolita, in Tremont. A Greek investor then convinced Symon and Sawyer to open a modern Greek restaurant in New York City, so Sawyer moved back to New York, where he became executive chef at Parea. The restaurant received a two-star review in *The New York Times* and five stars from *Time Out New York*. In 2007, when he and his wife had their second child, they came back to Cleveland.

The first restaurant Sawyer opened here was Bar Cento, on West 25th Street in Ohio City, in partnership with Sam McNulty. The following year, in 2008, he opened the Greenhouse Tavern on East Fourth Street, downtown. The restaurant’s menu is patterned after a French bistro, and virtually all of the food comes from within 50 miles of Cleveland. Also significant is that virtually everything in the restaurant is made from recycled materials, and



Jonathon Sawyer at the Greenhouse Tavern

it was the first restaurant certified green in Ohio. Sawyer was named Best New Chef by *Food & Wine* magazine in 2010, and Greenhouse was named the Best New Restaurant by *Bon Appetit* magazine in 2009.

Sawyer has since opened two Noodlecat restaurants, one on Euclid Avenue just down the street from Public Square and one at the West Side Market. He is also planning a new Northern Italian restaurant called Trentina. He would not disclose the location, but said he is hoping to have it open by next year.

Despite all of his restaurant work, Sawyer loves his family life. He lives on Kenilworth Road near Euclid Heights Boulevard, not far from Michael Symon and another Cleveland Heights chef, Doug Katz. He moved here from Shaker Heights a little over a year ago, and said he loves what Cleveland Heights has to offer. “It’s the only pedestrian neighborhood that the East Side has,” said Sawyer. “You don’t need to use a car. We can bike up to Lee Road or down to Little Italy, and we can walk to Coventry or Cedar Fairmount.” In fact, Sawyer no longer has a car. He

Catcher, Sawyer’s son, is now eight, and Lousiana, his daughter, is six. “We love to do activities based on food and the arts,” he said. “We go to the art museum, MOCA, Severance Hall. We just love doing those kinds of things.” Sawyer has two dogs—Potato, 10, and Vito, 11—and he also keeps chickens. In addition to opening his new restaurant, Sawyer plans to release a new book next year. It’s called *Noodle Kids*, and it’s about families cooking together.

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.



EDWARDS PAINTING & HOME SERVICES

SPECIALIZING IN OLDER HOMES

Interior & Exterior • Quality / Reliability
Heights based
(216) 780-2455
roberte1964@att.net



LET IT SNOW!

Be prepared this Winter with a -
Heating Tune-Up/Safety Inspection
only \$104

Mention this discount when scheduling. Tune-up allows for 45 minutes of labor per system, parts additional. Discount valid during normal workday hours only (M-F; 8-3:30). Payment must be given to technician at time of service or discount pricing is forfeited. Must be scheduled prior to 12-31-13

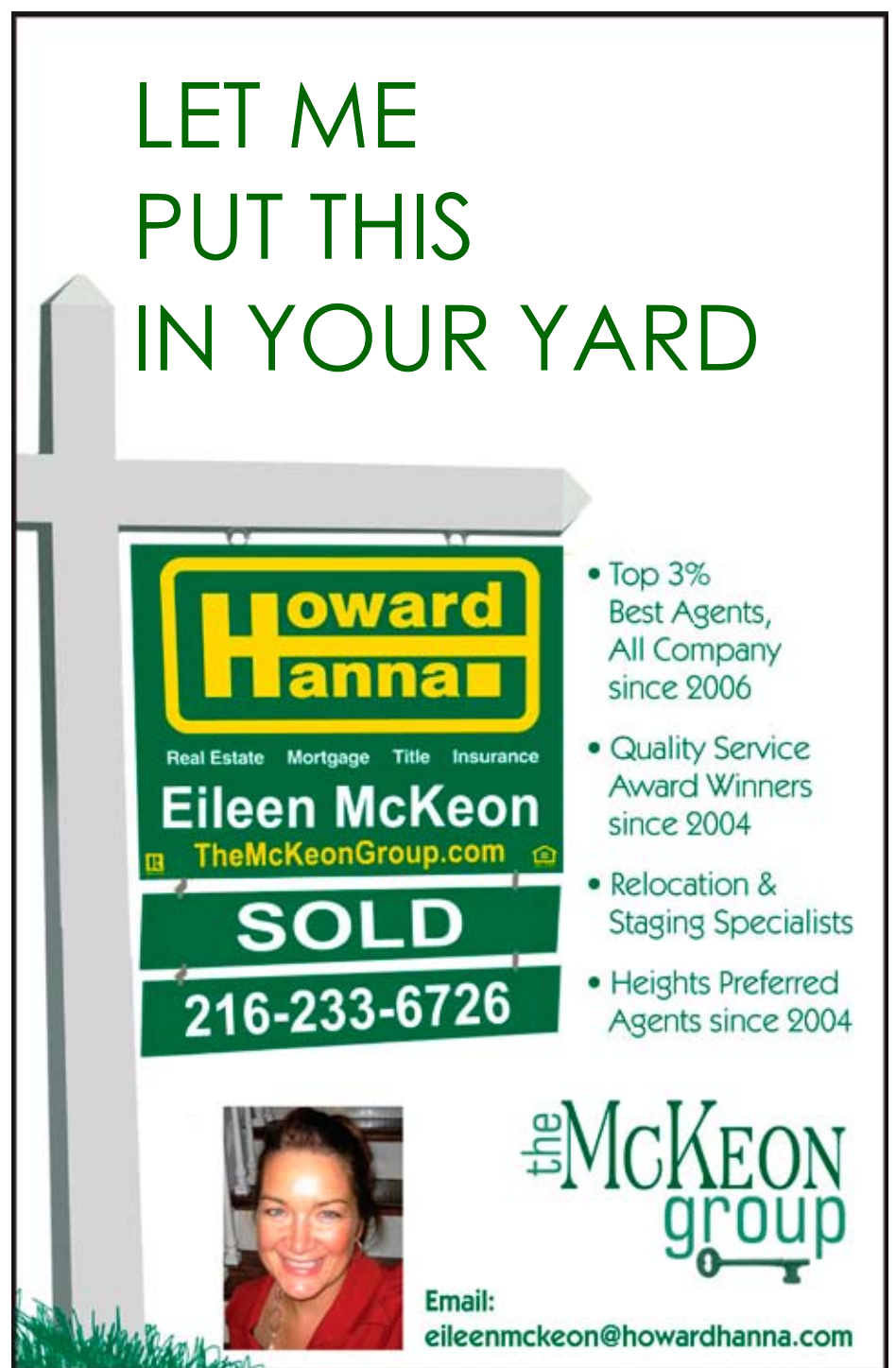
216-932-9755

Owned and operated by 4th generation Hann brothers.

VERNE & ELLSWORTH HANN INC.

Bonded • Insured OH LIC #24462

Heating / Cooling / Plumbing / Specializing in Steam & Hot Water Systems Hannheatingcooling.com



LET ME PUT THIS IN YOUR YARD

Howard Hanna
Real Estate Mortgage Title Insurance
Eileen McKeon
TheMcKeonGroup.com

SOLD

216-233-6726

- Top 3% Best Agents, All Company since 2006
- Quality Service Award Winners since 2004
- Relocation & Staging Specialists
- Heights Preferred Agents since 2004

the McKEON group

Email: eileenmckeon@howardhanna.com

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture awards grants to Heights organizations

Deanna Bremer Fisher

On Nov. 18, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) announced that it will invest \$1,891,902 in grants to 139 arts and culture organizations in Cuyahoga County next year. The grant awards include \$110,623 to eight Heights-based organizations.

"Cuyahoga County residents demonstrated extraordinary support for our county's arts and cultural heritage in 2006 when they approved a dedicated source of public funds for creative activities in our community," said Sari Feldman, president of the CAC Board of Trustees. "Cuyahoga Arts & Culture takes our responsibility to invest those dollars in exceptional arts and cultural organizations very seriously. Our goal is to support the regional economy through strategic investment in a vibrant arts community."

CAC made the grants through its 2014 Project Support (PSI and PSII) and its 2014 Project Support for Units of Government programs. These project-specific awards go to organizations that conduct specific arts or cultural programs to benefit the community.



Heights Music Hop is one of several local projects that will be funded in 2014 through a Cuyahoga Arts & Culture project support grant.

Larger organizations received PSI grants. Among them were three Heights-based organizations: Chamber Fest Cleveland, which received \$20,154 for its Summer Chamber Music Festival; CityMusic Cleveland, which received \$48,000 for its project called "Fleeing"

and Ensemble Theatre, which received \$20,517 to present "A Harlem Renaissance in Cleveland."

Five Heights organizations received PSII grants of up to \$5,000. They are the Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District, which received \$4,072 for its Discover Cedar Fairmount Festival; FutureHeights, which received \$4,515 for the 2014 Heights Music Hop; Lake Erie Ink, which received \$4,400 for its Creativity Express program; Reaching Heights, which received \$4,550 for the Heights Summer Music Camp; and Western Reserve Chorale, which received \$4,415 for

the presentation of Mozart's *Requiem*.

The City of Cleveland Heights received \$16,968 for the 2014 Cain Park Arts Festival.

The CAC was approved by Cuyahoga County voters in 2006 and, since 2007, it has invested more than \$97 million dollars in 237 local organizations presenting arts and cultural activities in Cuyahoga County. For more information, visit www.cacgrants.org.

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

Heights group provides hope to women trapped in global sex trade

Carol Pearson

Although Sr. Anthonia Ugheighele has worked with Nigerian women caught in the horror of human trafficking and prostitution in Italy for 13 years, their suffering still brings her to tears.

In November, she took the podium to accept an award from International Partners in Mission (IPM). She began by describing her first encounter with the international criminal enterprise that promises jobs to impoverished girls and women in Nigeria, sends them on a harrowing passage across North Africa and the Mediterranean Sea, and then traps them in Europe's sex trade.

"To see women like me," she began, then paused. "I saw human beings treated like objects," she continued. Women were stacked like blocks of wood and hidden under cargo in the back of trucks. Sometimes women were even sent across the Mediterranean in a sea vessel without an experienced sailor; instead one woman is given instructions on navigating to Europe.

Their plight moved her congregation in Benin City, Nigeria, to send Ugheighele and two colleagues to Castel Volturno, Italy, a hub of the sex trade located north of Naples, where the women meet customers. The sisters offer food, shelter and rehabilitation in a program known as Speranza II/Project of Hope.

Since 2003, IPM has partnered with Speranza II/Project Hope. IPM, a non-profit agency headquartered in Cleveland Heights, provides seed funding, training and technical support to small,

community-based projects in more than 20 countries around the world. IPM has helped Sr. Anthonia and her colleagues in their work providing vocational training, computer skills, Italian language, instruction, and sewing lessons so the women can generate income.

About 100 women have been through the program. Many obtain legitimate work in Italy or other countries, earn resident status and send for family members. Others return to Nigeria and reconcile with their families with help from religious organizations there.

In the past, Nigerians had migrated to Italy to work in agriculture. By the 1990s, prostitution rings run by Nigerian and Italian crime organizations sprang up.

Most traffickers in Castel Volturno are Nigerian women—madams. To recruit, they travel to Nigeria, where girls are less valued than boys and often seen as burdens to their families. The madams entice them with tales of schooling and good jobs. Sometimes, families urge the women to leave so that they can begin sending money home.

Not a single woman participating in Speranza II/Project Hope has returned to the streets, Ugheighele told IPM staff, donors and partners at the award luncheon. "We are grateful to all of you who have helped IPM to be able to give life and hope to these women again. This is a thing of joy to us."

For more information about IPM's work with children, women and youth, visit www.ipmconnect.org.

Carol Pearson is a freelance writer and IPM volunteer.

Perry Auto Center

Car Sales
Buy Here Pay Here
0% interest
Warranties available
Body and mechanical repairs financed
Interested in seeing the car?
We will bring it to you.

(440)259-3125

WHY REPLACE?

When we can Restore Your Windows at a fraction of the cost!

ITS THE GREEN ALTERNATIVE!

Our expert technicians can restore your window to "like-new" condition at a typical price of \$100.

call for a free estimate
(216) 321-7729

MJM Window Restoration

new Heights Grill

NEW HEIGHTS GRILL
LOCATED AT
2206 LEE RD
IN CLEVELAND HEIGHTS
KITCHEN OPEN EVERYDAY
FOR LUNCH AND DINNER
BRING IN THIS AD FOR 10% OFF
FOOD AND SOFT DRINKS
ONE PER TABLE, VALID UNTIL 5/31/2014

DISCOVERY STARTS HERE

The Cleveland Museum of Natural History

A WINTER EVENT OF PREHISTORIC PROPORTIONS

ICE AGE

WEEKENDS THROUGH JANUARY 5

As the temperature drops, the cool fun begins! Ice sculpting demonstrations, live animal shows, winter activities, crafts and a special kids-only holiday shop.

Free with Museum admission. Visit cmnh.org for more details.

Cleveland Museum of Natural History

1 Wade Oval Dr. • University Circle • Cleveland, Ohio 44106

CMNH.ORG

facebook twitter youtube

arts & culture

Hall of Famer Barry Henkin returns to Heights at district resource fair

Lisa Hunt

Barry Henkin, a Heights High hall-of-famer, brought his enormous spirit and encouraging outlook back to his alma mater on Nov. 16 as a special guest at the second annual Resource Fair for Students with Disabilities and Learning Challenges.

The event was co-sponsored by Reaching Heights, as part of its Exceptional Children's Advocacy Group (ECAG) initiative, and by the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District. Families were invited to attend educational presentations and meet community partners to learn more about programming and support services.

Henkin made good use of his time at the event. He sold copies of his new autobiography and spoke to parents and students who stopped at his table at the fair.

"Barry understands the value of meaningful work. [He] stressed the need to help guide students with disabilities toward employment, and helped show parents the importance of future planning," said Krista Hawthorne, assistant director of Reaching Heights. "He was positive and reassuring to everyone he spoke to."

A 2013 inductee into the Cleveland Heights High School Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame, Henkin's list of

notable accomplishments seems to answer the question posed in the title of his autobiography, *Why Am I So Special?* which is available at *Amazon.com*.

At 52, Henkin has been on staff at Menorah Park Center for Senior Living for 32 years as a transporter. He has been recognized as employee of the year and received numerous awards for his kindness, service and perfect attendance record.

Working on the side as a motivational speaker, Henkin is also a two-time Special Olympic medalist in bowling, earning a bronze medal in 1997 and a gold medal in 2001—the same year he was named Most Popular Athlete. According to longtime friend Steve Presser, "One thing that makes Barry so special is that he is an inspiration—and in a world that sees so many negatives, Barry finds all the positive things in life."

Henkin was born long before significant advancements in the laws and rights of individuals living with disabilities. The first declaration of equality—the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)—didn't become law until 1990, a decade after Henkin graduated from high school.

As with many civil rights issues, the culture and public perceptions can lag painfully behind the law. But when the issue of making friends or dealing with bullies was raised, Henkin offered this



Barry Henkin, with the author of this article, at the recent Resource Fair for Students with Disabilities and Learning Challenges.

advice: "If someone has a problem with you, it is because they have a problem, not you."

Henkin lives as a testament to the beauty of the human spirit and the worthy goal of giving and doing your best. He is an example of the good that comes from seeing the person, not the disability; and from connecting in our sameness rather than dividing over differences.

Reaching Heights is a community nonprofit organization that supports excellence in public education with programs that provide tutoring, teacher grants, music enrichment and community engagement.

It launched ECAG to help families navigate and access the educational resources available to the more than 1,000 children with disabilities and learning differences in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District. The resource fair is the result of ongoing collaboration between ECAG and the school district.

Lisa M. Hunt, program manager at Reaching Heights and chair of ECAG, earned a masters degree in nonprofit administration and leadership from CSU in 2012. She is the mother of two sons, the youngest of whom was born with ACC, a rare brain abnormality.

"There was no question—Judson was it!"

—Don and Dottie Kuhn, Judson Park residents since 2012



University Circle played a pivotal role in Don and Dottie Kuhn's lives together.

The couple, now residents of Judson Park, met in 1974 while attending an Audubon Society meeting at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

"The rest is history—we've been together ever since," says Dottie.

With no children, they felt it essential to have a plan in place as they grew older. "We wanted to make decisions under our own power," says Don.

Deciding where they'd spend their later years was easy.

"There was no question—Judson was it," says Don. "We continue to enjoy the things we've always loved to do," adds Dottie. "We're practically in the same Cleveland Heights neighborhood where we lived before."

"The transition was seamless," continues Don. "Judson was home from day one!"

This is Smart Living™ defined at Judson Park.
Interested in learning more? Call (216) 791-2004 to arrange for a tour today.



To read more about the Kuhns, visit
www.judsonsmartliving.org/Kuhns

Eat for art at 14th annual Tommy's New Year's Day pancake breakfast

Rachel Bernstein

Tommy's restaurant, at 1824 Coventry Road, has hosted a New Year's Day benefit pancake breakfast for Heights Arts since 2001, when owner Tom Fello first offered to help raise funds for the Coventry Arch located at the intersection of Coventry Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard.

This year's breakfast will take place Wednesday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. (Dine in, or order to go:

216-321-7757.)

Fello makes pancakes with all the fixings, and volunteers serve, bus tables and wash dishes. Some volunteers have helped out for all 14 years. The event is sponsored by Tommy's, Macs Backs and Big Fun.

This is Heights Arts biggest fundraiser of the year. All proceeds from the all-you-can-eat breakfast, plus all tips and raffle ticket sales—featuring items from Big Fun, Simply Charming, and other local independent businesses—will benefit the nonprofit art organization.

Heights Arts has had a long, creative relationship with Coventry Village, a quarter-mile stretch of independent businesses that features benches, street signs and fences by local artists—including Raymond Bugelski and Brinsley Tyrrell—which enliven the Coventry streetscape.

While waiting for a table, one can browse next door at Mac's Backs, 1820 Coventry Road. Half of all Mac's Backs purchases will also be donated to Heights Arts. Ron the Flower Clown returns again this year, to amaze children of all ages with his unique balloon creations.

All in all, a perfect first day of 2014: good food, good books, and



Tommy's annual pancake breakfast benefits Heights Arts.

balloon art among friends. It's all for a great cause—sustaining Heights Arts, a nonprofit organization that imagines and inspires creativity in the community.

For more information, call 216-

371-3457 or e-mail heightsarts@heightsarts.org (put "Tommy's" in the subject line).

Rachel Bernstein is the executive director of Heights Arts.

Racial disparities in suburban housing market still exist according to HCC study

Sue Nigro

Martha Goble, interim director of the Heights Community Congress (HCC), said the organization released a new study, Racial Disparities in the Cleveland Suburban Home Sales Market, 2008–2013, at the Ohio Fair Lending Conference at Trinity Commons on Nov. 1.

Ralph Day, who prepared the study and presented its findings at the conference, said that the study draws on data compiled from real estate audits conducted by HCC from 2008 to 2013, and compares the results to those of the St. Ann Audit conducted in 1972 in the eastern suburbs of Cleveland. The St. Ann Audit established that "steering" and other forms of differential treatment guided black home seekers into integrated neighborhoods, and white home seekers away from those neighborhoods.

Both Goble and Day agree that, despite progress over the past 40 years in the Cleveland suburban housing market,

the HCC audits reveal that discrimination against black homebuyers still persists. In addition to the comprehensive study, HCC offers several recommendations to assist communities, real estate agents and prospective homebuyers. The recommendations offer specific positive actions that can accomplish the goal of the Federal Fair Housing Act in Cleveland. Equal treatment requires planning and preparation so that a level of service, and the amount of information given, is delivered uniformly to all.

Goble said that HCC will continue to actively monitor home sales in the local communities as mandated by the Fair Housing Act, and she suggested that regularly scheduled diversity programming offered by HCC can assist both real estate agents and homebuyers.

For more information, contact HCC at 216-321-6775.

Sue Nigro is a member of the Heights Community Congress Board of Directors.

*open 6 days a week
mon-sat
during the month
of december*

Give the gift of *relaxation* this season!

MONDAYS 10am - 6pm	TUESDAYS 8am - 8pm	WEDNESDAYS 8am - 8pm	THURSDAYS 8am - 8pm	FRIDAYS 8am - 6pm	SATURDAYS 8am - 4pm
-----------------------	-----------------------	-------------------------	------------------------	----------------------	------------------------

shop online, drop by, or telephone! <https://dream.boomtime.com/lgift>
2200 S Taylor Rd * Cleveland Hts, OH 44118 * 216.321.7889 * www.QBDS.net

DISCOUNTS ON YOGA & REIKI PACKAGES

Small, Personalized Yoga Classes
Reiki for People and Pets
Workplace Wellness Programs

LovingHandsYoga.com
216.408.5578
Located in Coventry Village
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

GERACI'S RESTAURANT

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

**As seen on
Diners,
Drive-ins
and Dives**

BREMEC
on the Heights
Garden Center

Holiday Shopping Made Easy
SHOP LOCAL • SHOP WITH US

Now In Stock
Gorgeous Live Cut Fraser Firs
Fresh Wreaths & Roping
Arrangements • Swags • Ornaments

Yes! We Deliver Holiday Trees

**Pssst...We Are Now Open
Year Round**
Bremec on the Heights Location Only

Bremec on the Heights • In the 'Heart of the Heights'
13410 Cedar Road • 44118 • 216.932.0039
Visit our website for hours: www.bremec.com



School in Liberia is open and growing

John Luttermoser

A project that originated in Cleveland Heights is bringing education and hope to a remote part of West Africa. The Dougbe River Presbyterian School is the first school in Grand Gedeh County, Liberia, the birthplace of Isaac Monah, an elder at Noble Road Presbyterian Church.

The school opened in November 2012 and now has 130 students: 69 girls and 61 boys, from kindergarten through seventh grade. Most walk about a mile and a half from one of two villages that donated 150 acres of land for the campus midway between the villages.

Monah realized the need for a school in 2007, when he visited his home village in Twarbo Region for the first time since he fled from a civil war 17 years earlier. His refugee journey took him to Ghana, where he finished high school, at the age of 27, before coming to the United States and landing a job at the Cleveland Clinic.

Last May, six months after the Dougbe school opened, Monah finally had the opportunity to see his dream in operation.

"I felt like it was something the whole community was celebrating," he said. "Not only that the school was open, but that it brought the whole community together."

What has happened in Twarbo is the result of partnerships with organizations ranging from elementary schools and small congregations to the United Nations Mission in Liberia and Welthungerhilfe, a German hunger-aid agency that spent \$180 million in 39 countries last year.

In Cleveland Heights, contributions came from Noble and Roxboro elementary schools, as well as Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Church of the Saviour, Fairmount Presbyterian Church, Forest Hill Church, Grace Lutheran Church, Hope Lutheran Church and Noble Road Presbyterian Church.

The Dougbe School is growing rapidly, as eager parents send their children to live with relatives in Sayuo and Buway, the two villages in Twarbo Region that are close to the campus.

The children eat breakfast and lunch at school. Some live in Sayuo



Students at a grade promotion ceremony last June. Students borrowed the caps and gowns from a school in Zwedru, the capital of Grand Gedeh County.

or Buway during the week and walk several miles home for the weekend. Eventually, the plan for the school calls for the construction of dormitories to enable children from a wider area to attend.

The staff of seven teachers, all Liberians, is led by the principal, Bob Nueita, who moved across the country from the town of Gbarnga to take the job. This fall, Twarbo Region residents, eager to make the teachers feel welcome, built simple houses for them on campus.

The school is helping to lead a wave of development that is improving the standard of living in Grand Gedeh's Konobo district, which includes Twarbo Region.

Solar generators at the school are producing the first electricity in Twarbo. Welthungerhilfe installed hand-pump wells, including one behind a

Dougbe River classroom building, around the district. Welthungerhilfe

is also building concrete-and-metal bridges throughout Konobo to replace the wooden planks that repeatedly rotted.

Tiyatien Health, known in the United States as Last Mile Health, is training Konobo villagers to provide health care in the region, including at the school. In October, cell phone service returned to the area after the tower in Zieh Town, the city that is Konobo's hub, had been inoperative for several years.

The school recently held a fundraising event at Rockefeller's restaurant. For more information or to donate to the school, contact Noble Road Presbyterian Church at 216-382-0660, or use a PayPal link on the school's website, www.drpsl.com.

John Luttermoser is the secretary of the general board for the Dougbe River Presbyterian School.



CLEVELAND MONTESSORI



Join Us At Our Open House

January 11, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Pre-K - 8th Grade AML Montessori Program

12009 Mayfield Road 216.421.0700 www.clevelandmontessori.org

Advent & Christmas at the Church of the Covenant

An Open and Affirming Community
In the Heart of University Circle



Giving Tree Carol Sing

December 15 • 11AM

Carol Sing & Pastries

Christmas Pageant

December 22 • 10AM

A Living Nativity by the Children of the Covenant

Festive Reception

Advent Workshop

December 1 • 11AM

Workshop & 10,000 Villages

Holiday CircleFest Carol Sing

December 8 • 4PM

Join the Covenant Choir & the CWRU Orchestra & Concert Choir
Christmas Cookie Reception
Cache Resale Shop 11-3PM

Christmas Eve

December 24

7:30PM

McGaffin Carillon

8:00PM

Organ, Harp, Choir & Congregational Carols

8:30PM

Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols

CovenantWeb.org • 216.421.0482

Worship 10AM • Sunday School & Child Care
11205 Euclid Avenue

Parking at the Church & Ford Road Garage



RIPLEY ENTERPRISES TREE SERVICE

Careful, reliable and respectful of your yard

Call for a free quote
Mention this ad for 20% off

440-463-7379

www.ripleytreeservice.com
www.facebook.com/ripleyenterprises

2248 Lee Road Cleveland Heights 44118 216-371-2778

Women Men Kids Home Gifts Coffee

www.ReviveStore.com

Shop NEOhio's 1st Fair Trade Eco-Boutique

INDEPENDENT & LOCAL REVIVE BRAND EXCLUSIVES HAND CRAFTED & ORGANIC

Thank you for voting us: "Best Fashion!"

See us in Cleveland Mag's November issue!

\$5 OFF! REVIVE SAVINGS
Any purchase of \$25 or more.
One coupon per person. Expires 12/31/13

Local Heights holiday events for senior adults and their families



SENIOR SCENE

Judith Eugene

Many local businesses and religious organizations are offering enjoyable social and cultural activities for Heights seniors and their families.

Events are free, unless otherwise noted. Please call ahead to confirm times, make reservations or learn about handicapped accessibility, if needed.

Happy holidays to all of our readers, and best wishes for a wonderful New Year!

On Dec. 3 the Cleveland Heights Senior Activity Center (SAC) will host a breakfast and a concert featuring a trio from the Cleveland Institute of Music. Breakfast begins at 10 a.m. and the concert begins at 11 a.m. (One Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Heights, 216-691-7377)

Another event on Dec. 3 (2-3:30 p.m.), at the Homewood Residence at Rockefeller Gardens, is "Treasure the Memories." Guests will create a treasure chest with remembrances of departed loved ones to keep them close at heart during the holidays. (3151 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights, 855-308-0877)

An Advent Festival will be held at Church of the Saviour on Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., featuring free

trade merchandise. (2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, 216-321-8880)

A community shopping event to benefit the Shaker Lakes Nature Center will be held at Ten Thousand Villages on Dec. 12, from 6-8 p.m. Fifteen percent of the net sales will be donated to the Nature Center. The store features handmade and fair trade gifts from around the world. (12425 Cedar Road, Cleveland Heights, 216-575-1058)

At 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 14, Fairmount Presbyterian Church will host a performance by the Choir of Clare College from Cambridge, England. The choir will sing Advent songs as part of its U.S. tour. Admission is \$1. (2757 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, 216-321-5800)

Cleveland Heights poet laureate Kathleen Cerveney will read the Dylan Thomas classic *A Child's Christmas in Wales* in the Meeting Room at the Coventry Village Library on Dec. 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (1925 Coventry Road, Cleveland Heights, 216-321-3400)

On Dec. 14 and 18, at 6:30 p.m., the movie theater at Severance Center will telecast live performances by the Metropolitan Opera of Verdi's *Falstaff* on the big screen. Admission is \$22 for seniors, \$18 for children, and \$24 for all others. (3492 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights, 216-291-3942)

The 114th annual Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count will be held at the Shaker Lakes Nature Center Dec. 14 through Jan. 5. This is the longest-running citizen science survey in the world. It provides critical data on bird population trends. Bird walks will be held on Dec. 21 and 28, from 8-9 a.m., to locate and identify local resident winter birds. (2600 South Park Blvd., Shaker Heights, 216-321-5935)

A Holiday Centerpiece Workshop will be held at the Cleveland Heights SAC on Dec. 17 at 11 a.m. Fresh greens will be provided, plus decorations suitable for any holiday. A materials fee of \$7 and advance registration are required.

The local chapter of AARP will be holding its annual holiday party at the Cleveland Heights SAC on Dec. 19 at 12:30 p.m. A hot lunch and entertainment will be provided. Admission is \$13 and non-members are welcome.

Also on Dec. 19, the Heights Youth Theatre will perform the Ohio premiere of "A Little Princess" at the

Wiley Middle School auditorium, at 2 p.m. The musical is based on Francis Burnett's children's novel, as well as on the 1936 Shirley Temple film. Admission is \$9 for seniors and children under 6, and \$10 for all others. (2181 Miramar Blvd., University Heights, 216-923-1583)

The Noble Road Presbyterian Church invites the community to its yearly Advent Festival on Dec. 22. It starts at 11:30 a.m. with a silent auction, followed by an Advent Community Meal. The festival will include other activities, as well. (2780 Noble Road, Cleveland Heights, 216-382-0660)

On Dec. 25, the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage will offer its annual Chinese Food and a Movie Day, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event includes two films and a kosher Chinese buffet. Movies are free with museum admission (\$10 for seniors, \$5 for children 5-11, free for children under 5, and \$12 for all others). Registration for the buffet, which is \$12 for everyone, is required by Dec. 20. (2929 Richmond Road, Beachwood, 216-593-0575)

The Cleveland Heights SAC is holding a New Year's Day party on Jan. 1, starting at noon. A hot lunch and entertainment will be provided. Admission is \$12 and advance registration is required.

On Jan. 15, the Mandel Jewish Community Center (JCC) will host an intergenerational winter sing-along with children from the center's preschool. The JCC also provides free live musical entertainment at the Warrensville Community Apartments in Cleveland Heights on Sundays from 1-2:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 12:30-1:30 p.m. A hot lunch is available for \$1. Pre-registration is required for lunch. (1500 Warrensville Center Road, Cleveland Heights, 216-831-0700, ext. 1210)

From December through February many local churches will be offering free meals to those in need. For dates and locations please call SAC at 216-691-7377 or go to www.lovinghands-group.com.

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

Come Join Us
— THIS —
CHRISTMAS
Christmas Eve 5PM: Family 11PM: Candlelight
FOREST HILL CHURCH
... come and see
3031 Monticello Blvd at Lee
216.321.2660
www.fhcpresb.org

SLEEPING

just got a whole lot cooler.

Introducing ICE—
the latest generation of gel mattress.



CLEVELAND HTS
(216) 320-9761
1812 COVENTRY RD,
across from the parking garage
SleepSourceUSA.com



Festival of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 15, 10:30 a.m.



A festive service of carols, readings and special music featuring seven choirs, organ, handbells and timpani.

Service begins with grand processional "On This Day, Earth Shall Ring" and concludes with 70 voices, organ, brass and timpani presenting "Arise, Your Light Has Come"

Come at 10:15 to enjoy the organ and brass prelude.

Church of the Saviour
2537 Lee Road Cleveland Heights
(216) 321.8880 www.chsaviour.org



Reilly Painting & Contracting THE HOME MECHANICS

What's "Driving You Crazy" About Your Home?

- That broken door knob, clogged drain, or loose stair rail?
- Outdated, ugly kitchen, bath, or family room?
- We can help you sell, market or rent your home.
- Need help with your iPhone, Laptop, Netflix or Skype?



FREE CONSULTATION | 216-371-8160 | rpc@reilypainting.com



HYT celebrates 60th season with 'Peter Pan'

Mary Patton

In celebration of its 60th season, and in time for the holiday season, Heights Youth Theatre (HYT) invites the Heights community to meet "Peter Pan" again, for the first time. The attic of an old Victorian house is transformed into Neverland by a little boy, his imagination, and the timeless story of the boy who never grew up.

Come fly with Peter, Wendy, Michael, Tinker Bell and John as they go on adventures with Lost Boys, Indians and pirates in ways you may have never seen before.

HYT describes the production as a "Peter Pan" for a new generation, featuring familiar songs, such as "Tender Shepherd," "I've Gotta Crow," "I Won't Grow Up," "I'm Flying" and "Never Never Land."

Directed by Nathan Motta, with music directed by Joanna Li, "Peter Pan" features a cast of local students in first through 12th grades, along with professional musicians playing the whimsical score.

Cast members include: Katie

Wilkinson (Peter Pan), Eliza Sindelar (Wendy), Jared Shapiro (John), Colin Frothingham (Michael), Gus Mahoney (Captain Hook), Becca Chaney (Tiger Lilly), Sydney Stoltman (Slightly), Grace Wilkinson (Tootles), Halle Dray (Curly), Kevin LaMonica (Nibs), Brian Tuohey (1st Twin), Spencer Skok (2nd Twin), Sara Fedor (Smee), Grey Flint-Vrettos (Starkey), Emily Jenks (Cecco), Carolina Manfredi (Noodler) and Corey Grubar (Mullins).

All performances take place at Wiley Middle School Auditorium, 2181 Miramar Blvd., University Heights. Show dates are Fridays, Dec. 6 and 20, at 7 p.m.; Saturdays, Dec. 7, 14 and 21, at 2 p.m.; and Sundays, Dec. 8 and 15, at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 general admission, and \$9 for seniors and children under 6. The box office opens 45 minutes prior to each show. Call 216-780-2235 for ticket and group seating information. For more details, visit www.heightsyouththeatre.org.

Mary Patton of University Heights is a PR consultant and Heights Youth Theatre Advisory Board member.



Lead cast members rehearse for Heights Youth Theatre's upcoming production of "Peter Pan," opening Dec. 6 at Wiley Middle School Auditorium.

Heights High senior captures karate gold in Italy



Chance Zurub celebrates after winning one of three gold medals at the World Kickboxing Council's World Championships in Taranto, Italy.

Joy Henderson

Heights High senior Chance Zurub won three gold medals at the World Kickboxing Council's World Championships in Taranto, Italy, held Oct. 14-19.

Zurub won individual events for sparring and continuous sparring, and the three-person team sparring compe-

tition.

"It was great to win the individual events for sure," said Zurub. "But there is no greater feeling than hearing your national anthem after a team win, in front of a huge crowd."

To qualify for the world championships, he placed first at the national meet last summer in Detroit.

This was his third time participating at the world competition, but the first time he won three gold medals. He competes in the 16 and 17 year-old group for contestants weighing under 132 pounds.

Zurub plans to attend college next fall and is applying to several schools in Ohio.

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

Join us

Christmas Eve

4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Candlelight Service & Live Nativity

11:00 p.m.
Candlelight Service, Chancel Choir,
Bell Choir and String Quartet

Dr. Charles D. Yoost
Senior Pastor
"Rejoice!"

Church of the Saviour
2537 Lee Road
Cleveland Heights
(216) 321-8880
www.chsaviour.org

VOTED CLEVELAND'S BEST TOY STORE
WE BUY OLD TOYS FOR CASH

Traditional Toys for Traditional Holidays! Funky Toys for Funky Holidays!

Collectibles • Cards • Nintendo • Cleveland Gear • Pop Culture • Ghoulardi T-Shirts • Baby Stuff • Classic Candy • Great Books (most at least 1/2 off) • Stocking Stuffers • Buttons and Magnets • Unique Toys • Great Gag Gifts

1814 Coventry Road • Cleve. Hts
216-371-4FUN • www.bigfunbigfun.com
Thanks for supporting local businesses!

Lake Erie Ink students explore two sides of a story

Melissa DeWater

This fall at Lake Erie Ink: a writing space for youth (LEI), students in the Ink Spot after-school program explored different perspectives and the two sides of a story through the creation of two-voiced poems.

Ink Spot participants worked individually or with a partner to create poetry that illustrates contrasting perspectives on a particular subject.

Most participants chose to work with a partner in creating their two-voiced poems. The process brought students together to discuss their different perspectives on a topic, and to consider their own ideas in relation to those of another person.

Creative writing activities at the Ink Spot prompt young writers to think of new ideas and explore them through writing.

The two-voiced poems gave students the opportunity to explore multiple perspectives and the implications of these perspectives as they composed their pieces. As a result, students explored two sides of themselves, and



society, in ways that they might not have considered previously.

The Ink Spot encourages students to write creatively, and to explore through writing their relationships with family and friends, as well as their connections to society, core values, culture and religion.

These real-life relationships are explored or exemplified through the students' creative expression.

To enroll your child in Ink Spot programs, or for information about volunteering, call 216-320-4757, or visit www.lakeerieink.org.

Dewey's Pizza, 2194 Lee Road, will hold a fundraiser to support LEI on Monday, Dec. 16. Dewey's will donate a percentage of both dine-in and takeout orders to LEI.

Melissa DeWater is an intern at Lake Erie Ink.

Rich and Poor

By Mills and Nijah, 4th Grade

Dresses

What a long day

Tatters

Interviews

Dressing and teacups

Fancy dinner's ready

I'm full already

Working in the fields

Hunting with dog

Johnny cake ready

Starving to the bone

What a day

I love my life

Brand new cigar

Feathered hat

I am rich

Most people call me

A witch.

I wish I was dead

Smelly old pipe

Cap made of straw

I am poor with barely any floor

But I'm smart in my own way.

Happy Boy/Sad Girl

By Manny and Meyani

I am a happy boy.

I am a sad girl.

I am a boy with emotions.

I am happy because

I have straight A's.

I am a girl with emotions. I am sad because I have D's and F's.

I get to go outside

All the time

Because of my A's.

I can't go out unless I Get my grades up.

I can't watch TV or play video games because it rots my brain.

I can't watch TV or play video games because it rots my brain.

I must always practice My math when I get home

I must always practice my math when I get home

I met someone in class, And I helped them get A's.

Today I met someone In class, and he helped Me get an A.

The next day we Had a test, we Got it back!

The next day we had a test, we Got it back!

Then we both Got straight A's.

Then we both got straight A's.

EXPERT TAILORING

Alterations – Major and Minor

Restyling of your favorite old clothes
Elbow patches and new collars
Hems, waists and sleeves adjusted; jackets tapered

3109 Mayfield Road, Suite 204
Cleveland Heights (In the Rockefeller Building)

(216) 273-7140 • qes@qthetailor.com

THE TAILOR

BESPOKE CLOTHIERS

Holiday

COVENTRY VILLAGE HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 14 • 2013

FREE 11AM • MIDNIGHT

HOLIDAY FUN FOR EVERYONE!

SPECIAL EVENTS

DISCOUNTS & FREE ACTIVITIES

“ELF” MOVIE MARATHON
PHOTOS WITH COVENTRY CLAUD & MR. JINGELING
MUSIC FROM CLASSICAL REVOLUTION CLEVELAND & SCHOOL OF ROCK
UGLY HOLIDAY SWEATER BAR CRAWL
KIDS CRAFTS & WINTER STORYTIME
SPECIAL PERFORMANCES OF “A CHILD’S CHRISTMAS IN WALES”
COMMUNITY CAROLING
HOLIDAY STORYTELLERS & POETS

FOR MORE INFO: WWW.COVENTRYVILLAGE.ORG

3rd Annual

Hessler

For The Holidays

216-395-7719

hesslerontheheights@yahoo.com

Gifts By Your Favorite Local Artists

Hessler on the Heights

2174 Lee Rd. Cleveland Heights OH, 44118

A Holocaust survivor shares her story

Joy Henderson

Recently, four Heights High students from Mark Sack's Lessons of the Holocaust class delivered thank-you notes to Holocaust survivor Gita Frankel, in appreciation for her school presentation on Oct. 24.

Frankel spoke to the class about her life story and her experiences during the Holocaust.

Frankel and her family were held in the Lodz ghetto in German-occupied Poland.

"The students were particularly touched when she told us about seeing her father shot by the Nazis, and about holding her brother in her arms as he

died of malnutrition," said Sack.

Frankel also told the students about her experiences on a forced march, as the Germans fled from the Russians at the end of the war.

"While admitting that these presentations are physically and emotionally draining, and are followed by nightmares, Mrs. Frankel insists on taking advantage of each day that she is physically strong to share her story with young people," said Sack. "She told the students that we have to be vigilant against discrimination and oppression of any kind."

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



Students Hannah Gillespie, Vanessa Zelle, Imani Smith, Javan Woods and teacher Mark Sack (from left) with Gita Frankel.

COURTESY CH-UH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

School bike clubs



LIFE CYCLE

Heights Bicycle Coalition

The Heights Bicycle Coalition (HBC) sponsored after-school bike clubs this fall for third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students at Canterbury and Fairfax elementary schools. Club activities included weekly rides of three to five miles on side streets, with a snack at the half-way stop.

HBC volunteers Sarah O'Keeffe, Jeff Sugerman—with bike dog Chipper—Mitch Pilon and PTA members help school PE teachers Julie Lustic and Alice Stratton run the clubs.

The goal of the clubs is to teach children bike safety and the rules of

the road. The clubs also encourage students to get out and enjoy the fresh air.

An exciting highlight of the school cycling program was the Oct. 2 bike rodeo at Canterbury. The bicycle division of the Cleveland Heights Police Department demonstrated bike riding skills, including balance and proper braking to the 33 students in attendance.

"We hope to continue to grow the after-school program for next year," said Sarah O'Keeffe, lead HBC volunteer. The clubs served more than 40 students in the last two years.

Interested in having an after-school bike club in your school? Contact Sarah O'Keeffe at saraheokeeffe@gmail.com.

The Heights Bicycle Coalition was formed in the spring of 2010 and works to encourage citizens to ride their bicycle for fun, fitness and transportation.



Cleveland Heights Bike Officer Andy Watkins leads a bike skills workshop at the Canterbury Bike Rodeo. Students also practiced bicycling skills in the school parking lot.

continued from page 1

as evidenced by recent operating levies, which earned 57 percent approval in 2011 and 55.2 percent in 2007.

"There is a clear understanding among people that this is something we need to do, even though it is expensive," said Patrick Mullen, co-chair of Citizens for Heights Schools, the group created to promote the bond issue. "Other districts are improving their facilities. Our facilities need repair. In many ways, it would cost us more to do nothing."

"On behalf of the students, teachers, faculty, staff and this board, we are extremely grateful for our community's support of public education and our students," said Ron Register, in a press release.

Register, who has served on the school board since 2002, was one of two incumbents who were re-elected to serve another four-year term. Kal Zucker, who has served since 2006, was also re-elected.

Eric Silverman, who had previously served on the school board in the 1990s and on the CH-UH Public Library Board, and is president of the Cleveland Heights High School Alumni

Foundation, edged out first-time candidate Allen Wilkinson for the third seat. Silverman served on the Lay Facilities Committee (LFC), which developed the comprehensive school facilities plan that the bond will fund, and Wilkinson served on the Sustainability Working Group, one of four LFC subcommittees.

The school district has already begun the process of selecting architectural and construction management firms for the project. The CH-UH Board of Education created an Evaluation Committee to interview and evaluate the top candidates from the district's Request for Qualifications process this month.

"As we move forward to fully implement the plan that we put forward to the voters, we will put a community-led Bond Accountability Committee in place to ensure accountability, transparency and financial oversight," said Register.

Deanna Bremer Fisher is executive director of FutureHeights and publisher of the Heights Observer. She served on the CH-UH City School District's Lay Facilities Committee.



Mon. - Thurs. :11 a.m. - 3 p.m., 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Fri.: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., 5 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Sat.: 12 p.m. - 3 p.m., 5 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Sun.: 3 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Tel: 216-320-2302 Fax: 216-320-2306

1763 Coventry Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118
www.pacificeastcoventry.com

Award Winning Sushi & Fabulous Malaysian Cuisine

The Cleveland Museum of Natural History

DISCOVERY STARTS HERE



Share the gift of discovery.
Give a **gift membership** today.



Shop online at CMNH.ORG
or call
(216) 231-4600,
ext. 3284

HEIGHTS FRAME & ART

Custom Picture Framing

2252 Warrensville Center Road
University Heights, Ohio 44118
216-371-3711

heightsframe@sbcglobal.net



MONTESSORI HIGH SCHOOL
AT UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

RSVP for an Open House today!

11025 Magnolia Drive, Cleveland, OH 44106
t: 216.421.3033 f: 216.421.3033
www.montessorihighschool.org

THE KATZ CLUB DINER

tuesday–thursday & sunday 7am–9pm
friday & saturday 7am–midnight

*free breakfast pastry
with coffee purchase*

WE
BUY
LOCAL!

1975 LEE ROAD CLEVELAND HEIGHTS



CAVOTTA'S GARDEN CENTER & URBAN FARM

Celebrate The Holidays!



Fabulous Chocolate Gifts,
Christmas Trees, Roping,
Wreaths & Poinsettias
Local Honey, Brown Eggs
Cool Vintage Items & Other
Interesting Things!

**Your East Side Location for
Chicken Supplies**

Coops, Feed, Waterers, Feeding & Bedding



An
Independent
Family Owned
Business For
Over 90 Years

19603 Nottingham Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio 44110
216-692-0300

Email Angela@cavottas.com
Like Us On Facebook

Cleveland Heights-University Heights School Board

Meeting highlights

OCTOBER 15, 2013

All board members were present.

Options program

Brian Williams, coordinator of alternative programming, gave a presentation about the Options program at Taylor Academy—an alternative to expulsion. The two-year program serves students who make poor education choices or lack motivation. Both morning and afternoon sessions provide small classes, blended instruction, choices, and are self-paced. During the 2011–12 school year, 130 students in grades 10 through 12 participated in the program and 26 graduated. There was a 95 percent reduction in discipline problems. During the 2012–13 school year, 69 percent of students facing expulsion participated, and 49 students graduated. The students must have completed ninth grade in the Heights system, and then be referred to this program. The program offers a nurturing and safe experience. The vision statement is to create an environment that allows students to explore the true power that lies within them. The students' goals are respect, self-respect, confidence, vision, preparation and determination.

Summer school opportunities

Summer school principals for elementary and middle schools presented a report on summer school opportunities. Camp Jumpstart was for kindergarten-age students who teachers recommended to participate in a language program where letter identification, sound and phonics were included. A physical education program connected to reading was also included during a morning program. The program was funded by Title I monies and cost about \$56,118.98. The principal recommended that first- and second-graders be added, and that the kindergarten program be continued.

The summer bridge program for fifth-graders transitioning to sixth grade included reading, math, writing, team building and humanities. Fridays were fun days. The program had 175 students: 46 sixth-graders, 58 seventh-graders, and 61 eighth-graders. The cost was \$79,345.72, averaging \$453.40 per student. There were single-gender classes and hands-on science classes. The pre-algebra class provided help to advance to Algebra I. The humanities class used the Voyager Series. Reading fluency went up and attendance was 96 percent. The percentage of mandated summer school students was reduced from 39 percent to 16 percent. The principal recommended the continuation of this program.

Bond issue management

Stephen Shergalis, director of business services, explained that if the bond issue passes, there must be a single point person from the administration (the owner's representative) who, for the 12-year project period, would be the liaison with the contractor, control project schedules, and assist in managing the bond issue, which would be more than \$100 million.

Fraud

The state audit for 2012 uncovered fraud by a



former employee who had stolen a check and was immediately caught and fired.

Future levy

Due to a reduction of state revenue for the schools, a levy of 4.5 mills was mentioned for the future.

LWV Observer: Lillian Houser.

NOVEMBER 4, 2013

All board members were present.

National Merit students

Superintendent Nylajeon McDaniel recognized two National Merit Commended students, Sara Shore and Benjamin Sperl. These students scored in the top 5 percent on the test. The superintendent also recognized two National Merit Semifinalists, Marissa Lariviere and Kevin Lisemore. These students scored in the top 1 percent on the test.

Field trip

The board approved a field trip for Cleveland Heights High School Symphonic Winds, Symphony and Jazz Ensembles to Columbus, Cincinnati and Ashland, Feb. 27 to March 1.

Equivalent education

The second reading of board policy on equivalent education outside the schools was presented.

Evaluation of teachers on limited contracts

The board heard the first reading of the repeal of board policy on evaluation of teachers on limited contracts.

MSAN student conference

Students from MSAN (Minority Student Achievement Network) reported on the conference they attended and the action plan they developed.

Race to the Top

Joseph Micheller, director of curriculum and instruction, reported on the fourth year of Race to the Top.

Option program

Representatives from Making a Difference Consultants reported on their involvement in the Options program.

Donations

The board accepted donations to five different schools totaling close to \$4,000.

LWV Observer: Adele Cohn.

Look for earlier and often expanded
postings of meeting summaries online
at www.heightsobserver.org.
See disclaimer on page 7.

fabric
sewing patterns
ribbon
and inspiration!

MURRAY HILL
BOLT & SPOOL

The fabric and sewing boutique
in Historic Little Italy, Cleveland

Holiday Hours
Open Tuesday through Saturday 11-6 pm

2026 Murray Hill Road : Cleveland, Ohio
216.229.2220
boltandspool.com

**The
Tavern
Company**

Mon. Burger Fries & Beer Night \$9
Tues. Flatbread Pizza Beer /Wine
Tues. Trivia starting at 10 pm
Wed & Thurs: "5 for \$30"
2 Dine for the \$ of 1! Includes 2 small salads +
2 select dinners + a pitcher of Moosehead beer
OR a bottle of House wine = ONLY \$30
M-F Happy Hour 5–7 pm
Sunday Brunch 10:30 am–3 pm
Sunday Karaoke 10 pm
Kitchen Open 5–10 pm Mon.–Thurs.
5–11pm Fri. and Sat.
2260 Lee Road 216.321.6001

Ruffing Montessori receives sustainability award

Debra Mitchell

The City of Cleveland Heights recently recognized Ruffing Montessori School with a Community Improvement Award for sustainability.

Mayor Edward Kelley congratulated Ruffing for taking an environmentally respectful approach to exterior improvements at its Fairmount Boulevard campus this fall.

Head of School Gordon Maas said, "We're thrilled to be recognized for our efforts. As a green school, it is common practice for us to consider the most sustainable approach to anything we undertake, from harvesting rainwater to teaching students about the impact of stormwater on our community."

Ruffing's recently completed Stormwater Learning Lab showcases a number of sustainable stormwater management practices, including a permeable pavement driveway, bioretention cells for collecting stormwater, a cistern and a hand pump used for watering gardens. The project was encouraged and supported by the Ohio EPA.

Ruffing also made other improvements. Columns mark a new pedestrian gateway that aligns with the school crosswalk at Fairmount

Boulevard, and a new stamped concrete walkway extends from the public sidewalk to the school's main entrance.

Decorative trench drains demonstrate the flow of rainwater through a clear downspout to bioretention cells, while a new bike path wraps around the school's historic stone wall and leads to a bike parking pad. Plans are in place for custom bike racks created by a local artist, and Ruffing has commissioned a tile artist to create colorful signage for its north-facing wall and the school's vehicular entrance.

Ruffing Montessori School is the second-oldest Montessori school in the United States, and one of the largest in the Cleveland area. Founded in 1959, Ruffing's mission is to educate young people to their fullest potential, instilling a sense of personal independence and social responsibility. The school has been LEED-certified since 2010.

To learn more about Ruffing Montessori School and its environmentally sustainable practices, call 216-321-7571.

Debra Mitchell, director of finance and operations at Ruffing Montessori School, lives in Cleveland Heights with her husband, David, and two children. She is active in her neighborhood and church.



Ruffing students pull rainwater from an underground cistern for use in classroom gardens.

COURTESY DEBRA MITCHELL

Wiley and Canterbury schools receive grant to fund IB activities



COURTESY CHUH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Wiley Middle School students constructed six rain barrels to catch rain water that they will then purify, bottle and ship to children in three African villages in the spring.

Camilla Welsch

Wiley Middle and Canterbury Elementary schools received a \$2,000 Global Competency Grant from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation (www.mhj.org) on Oct. 11, to fund International Baccalaureate (IB) activities.

At Wiley, the grant monies will go towards funding the schoolwide "WATER Initiative"—an inquiry-based project—where students collect rain water in barrels (donated by the Avon Lake Water Department) and use purchased chemical lab kits to learn about the process of water purification.

For the global collaboration part of the initiative, Wiley students send self-made and labeled plastic bottles and PUR packets (sponsored by Proctor & Gamble) to distill water, as well as other parcels of necessities, to Wiley's sister school in Liberia.

At Canterbury, the monies will go towards funding two concerts within the Canterbury Concert Series, which annually celebrates diverse, global artists in our community.

Desiree Caliguire-Maier, IB coordinator for Wiley and Canterbury, presented at the statewide Ohio Global Institute this summer.

Those who presented qualified for the Global Competency grant monies.

"This grant gives schools and their communities an opportunity to focus on excellence in teaching and/or deep learning for students with the theme of educating for global competencies," said Caliguire-Maier.

Camilla Welsch is the communications and community engagement department assistant for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.

QUINTANA & SON, INC.

Residential & Commercial - Small Jobs Welcome!
Hardwood Floors Newly Installed Sanded and Refinished
Rough & Finished Carpentry, Kitchens, Bathrooms, Additions.
Call today!
(216) 319-5787
E-Mail: quintanasoninc@hotmail.com

QuintanaConstruction.net

"We do the Work"



Cedar LEE
Business District

**Eat, Drink, Shop and be Merry...
with your local merchants!**



Don't miss the 30th Anniversary showing of

A CHRISTMAS STORY

at the Cedar Lee Theatre

Thursday, Dec. 12th, at 7 p.m. - tickets only \$5 per person

Guests can enter the drawing for a pair of tickets to a Cleveland Play House performance of this popular holiday classic.

kellernational AUTO HOME LIFE COMMERCIAL INSURANCE



For All Your Business and Personal Insurance Needs

Specializing In:

- Auto insurance
- Home insurance
- Life insurance
- Business insurance
- Health insurance

Call us for a no-obligation review

Rockefeller Center, Suite 203 ■ 3109 Mayfield Road ■ Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
216-965-0646 www.KellerNational.com

Local History Collection sheds light on library's past

Julia Murphy

For many, December is a month of reflection: the cold weather can make us nostalgic, and the end of the year prompts us to look back at the year that has just passed, and perhaps look at old photo albums, too. For Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library, December means carefully sifting through old library photos and documents to piece together its Local History Collection. This collection consists of documents and photographs that go back nearly 100 years and cover library events, buildings and people.

Heights Libraries plans to establish a permanent location for the collection in 2014. For now, the physical ephemera of the collection are not available for public research, but hundreds of photos can be accessed online through

the Cleveland Memory Project at www.clevelandmemory.org. Heights Libraries has partnered with this project, created by the Libraries at Cleveland State University, to contribute to the online database of historical photos, e-books, and even video and sound recordings. The library's portion of the collection includes photos of Halloween parties in 1974, card catalogs, Memorial Day parades, a "Critter Show" in 1978, the 1920s book mobile, first computers and library building demolitions.

Bill Rubin, adult services librarian, is now leading the project to digitize the Local History Collection, to make it accessible online. "What's great about putting this information online is that crowdsourcing techniques can be used to hone information about these old photographs," said Rubin. "If people can identify a favorite librarian, their Great



Circulation desk at the Main Library, circa 1968, where Regiscope machines are used to check out materials.

Aunt Irma or themselves as small children, I would love to hear from them." Rubin can be contacted at wrubin@heightslibrary.org.

The photos provide a vivid account of how the library has changed: the branches no longer have shelves of phonebooks from around the country, Santa Claus doesn't visit the library in December and card catalogs are now extinct. But these photos also show what hasn't changed: the Coventry Village Library has remained true to its 1926 form, the commitment to diversity on the board and staff goes back further than

many may think and storytime has always featured a crowd of children gathered at the knees of an animated librarian.

Follow Heights Libraries on Twitter @HeightsLibrary to see a new photo from the Local History Collection every week, and keep your eyes peeled for #ThrowbackThursday. To learn about the archiving process, visit www.heightslibrary.org for volunteer opportunities with the Cleveland Memory Project.

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

No problem! I will take care of it...



SCOTT HAIGH

www.ScottHaigh.com
Scott@ScottHaigh.com
Direct: 216-272-6889



SOLD! 23117 Lawrence Rd, Warrensville Hts.



Real Estate Services

restaurant+lounge | 216.321.0477
3099 mayfield road | cleveland heights, ohio
rockefellers-restaurant.com
tuesday through saturday 4 pm-1 am

What's going on at your library?

December at the library means arts and crafts, reflecting on the past year, and spending time together. For a full listing of programs, visit www.heightslibrary.org.

Coventry Village Library

1925 Coventry Road, 216-321-3400
Saturday, Dec. 14, 11:30 a.m.

Reading: Dylan Thomas' A Child's Christmas in Wales. Rediscover the magic of Thomas' classic with Kathleen Cerveney, Cleveland Heights poet laureate.

Lee Road Library

2345 Lee Road, 216-932-3600
Friday, Dec. 20, 6:30 p.m.

Family Fun Film: Elf. It's Friday night, turn off the lights, come to the library for a fun movie. Registration opens Dec. 6 at www.heightslibrary.org.

Noble Neighborhood Library

2800 Noble Road, 216-291-5665
Monday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m.

The End of the Year as We Know It. 2013 was an epic year. Celebrate at our end-of-the-year bash, which will include games, trivia, and a look ahead at 2014. Youths can register beginning Dec. 2 at www.heightslibrary.org.

University Heights Library

13866 Cedar Road, 216-321-4700
Fridays, Dec. 6, 13, 20 and 27, 1:30 p.m.

Art in the Afternoon. Make an artful mess at the UH Library—a time for arts and crafts for children who are not in school on Friday afternoons at 1:30. Homeschoolers are welcome. No registration required.



**Ruffing
Montessori School**

Engage. Emerge. Learn for life.

For more information or to schedule a tour and classroom observation, please contact our Admissions Office at 216-321-7571.

3380 Fairmount Boulevard : Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
ruffingmontessori.net

Winter Open House

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

5:30-7:30 pm

Heights Libraries earns top rating from *Library Journal*

Sheryl Banks

For the fifth consecutive year, the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library system has received a five-star rating in *Library Journal's* 2013 Index of Public Library Service. The five-star rating is the highest possible rating, given to the top U.S. libraries each year.

Library Journal, a publication with a national circulation of 100,000, reports library-related news with an emphasis on public libraries. It began publishing its index in 2008, and Heights Libraries has earned a five-star rating each year since 2009.

The index categorizes libraries by yearly expenditure and rates them on four criteria: circulation, visits, program attendance and Internet terminal use (public computers).

Heights Libraries circulation was 31.5 per capita in its service area, meaning that 31.5 items circulated for every resident in Cleveland Heights and University Heights. Visits per capita averaged 18.8, program attendance averaged 0.6 per capita and public computer use was 5.2 per capita.

"This shows what we've known all along: people in our community are using the library regularly," said Nancy Levin, Heights Libraries director. "For many customers we've become that

'third place,' the place besides work and home where they like to be. We are always busy, and I don't see that trend reversing anytime soon."

Levin continued, "Our community depends on us more than ever for everything from free entertainment with books and DVDs and fun programs, to more crucial things like access to the Internet, employment and business resources, free computer classes, and facilities for important community events like the political debates sponsored by the area League of Women Voters."

Library systems that receive three or more stars in the index are designated as "star" libraries. Other Cuyahoga County libraries to receive this designation include Cleveland Public (four stars), Cuyahoga County (five stars) and Lakewood (four stars).

Thirty-two Ohio libraries were named "star" libraries, second only to New York's 37. "One reason for this superb showing in our state is the continued support for libraries from the state of Ohio," said Levin.

The entire report on star libraries can be found at Library Journal's website, lj.libraryjournal.com.

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

Noble Great Books discussion is 68 years in the making

Julia Murphy

On Oct. 8, 1948, a group met at the East Cleveland Public Library to discuss the Declaration of Independence as a literary work. That was the beginning of what is now a 68-year-old tradition called the Noble Great Books Discussion, which moved to the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library's Noble Neighborhood branch in 1971.

Participants have read Plato, Shakespeare, Milton and Fitzgerald—authors with indisputable longevity. They have also read contemporary plays, landmark Supreme Court decisions, and 20th-century authors, such as Eudora Welty and Naguib Mahfouz.

Renee Paolino, current group leader, describes Great Books as "books that live on because what they tell us is ever relevant to life's questions, problems and experiences."

A recent discussion of William Thackeray's *Vanity Fair* was reminiscent of English classes at a small liberal arts college. Twelve people sat around a table, making comments that were sometimes quiet and thoughtful, at other times heated, controversial or

just flat-out funny. It was inherently satisfying to ask questions and probe for understanding, or even just quietly observe this collaborative process.

Participants decided that *Vanity Fair*, subtitled "A Novel without a Hero," was meant to show that no one is totally good and no one is totally evil—a concept as real and relevant today as it was during the Regency-era setting of the book.

Apart from being about books with staying power, the Noble Great Books Discussion is a practice of longevity itself. Beyond its 68 years in existence, it is part of a larger tradition of discussing great literature, which came about after World War I with Mortimer Adler, who launched 15 adult education Great Book discussion groups in New York City. In 1930, Great Books seminars were introduced at the University of Chicago, and the idea spread from there.

Noble Great Books Discussions take place monthly at the Noble Neighborhood Library, 2800 Noble Road. For information, visit www.heightslibrary.org.

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

Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library Board Meeting highlights



OCTOBER 21, 2013

Board Member Ron Holland, secretary, was absent.

Hazel Drake retires after 18 years of service

The board accepted the retirement of Hazel J. Drake, collection services assistant, who retired on Sept. 30, after 18 years of service. Special note was made of her caring and effervescent nature, an asset in providing excellent customer service.

UH Library renovation community comment

Community input meetings for the University Heights Library renovation are scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 16 at 7 p.m. at the University Heights Library; Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. at Gearity Elementary School; Wednesday, Jan. 29 at 2 p.m. at Whole Foods at Cedar Center; Tuesday, Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Dolan Auditorium at John Carroll University; and Thursday, Feb. 13 at 2 p.m. at the Senior Happenings program at the University Heights Library.

Public Service Report highlights for September

- Library @ Home service will provide books to customers via postal delivery and will include return postage.
- Aurora Martinez, University Heights librarian, gave staff training sessions on assisting customers with information regarding the Affordable Care Act.
- The first Cedar-Coventry Author Series talk [presented collaboratively by Apple-tree books, Coventry Village Library and Mac's Backs-Books on Coventry] featured Kathleen Cervený, the current Cleveland

Heights poet laureate.

- Constance Dickerson, Noble Neighborhood librarian, met with the resettlement coordinator from US Together to begin a tutoring program for the Nepalese refugees in the neighborhood. The group will use the Teen Room computers on Wednesday and Friday mornings and will focus on basic Internet and employment skills.
- Logan Broadbent, member of the U.S. National Boomerang Team, presented a program about the history of the boomerang and worldwide competitions. He also performed gravity-defying boomerang acrobatics.
- The training department began a new Computer Basics series that replaces the former Connect Ohio series. The newer series has been rewritten to be more hands-on and Web-based.
- Zahir Sutarwala, adult services associate, presented a talk about his book *Space Journeys: Taste and Trade in the Islamic World*. Guests enjoyed Middle Eastern pastries from Aladdin's and Moroccan mint tea.
- The Library Afterschool Fun program expanded from two to four days a week. The 14 programs attracted 285 kids. The two additional days feature Wii gaming, LEGOs and other free-form activities. A by-product [of the program] has been better noise control and behavior in the children's area.

LWV Observer: Anne S. McFarland.

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

See disclaimer on page 7.

Thank you for your business. JAC wishes you and your family happy holidays and a healthy, prosperous new year.

J.A.C. Business Communications, Inc.

Mail Service • Database Management • Office Administration

Our responsive customer service and competitive pricing will keep you on time and on budget.

Contact Anne at 216-861-5588 Fax: 216-861-0505

www.jacbusiness.com

Brennan's Colony

2299 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights

Happy Holidays
Party Room Available
Voted 'Best of Heights'

brennanscolony.com
216.371.1010

Happy holidays from all your friends
who help produce the Heights Observer

www.heightsobserver.org Call 216-320-1423 to find out how you can advertise your business for \$25/month

Always Buying Paying Cash

- MICHAEL'S ANTIQUES**
- Gold
 - Jewelry
 - Glassware
 - Paintings
 - Pottery
 - Military Items
 - Sterling Silver
 - Bronze Figures
 - Clocks
 - Swords
 - Lamps
 - Violins
 - Porcelain
 - Ivory Carvings
 - Oriental Rugs
 - Marble Figures

7 Days 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.

440-461-4611

FREE House Calls for SENIORS
Buying anything unusual

A1 CONSTRUCTION Mostly AMISH

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1. ROOFING
Asphalt - Flat | 5. CARPENTRY
Windows-Porch |
| 2. RE-SIDING
Vinyl-Cedar-Alum | 6. RM ADDITIONS
FR-Bath-SUM-BR |
| 3. DRIVEWAY
Concrete-Asphalt | 7. GARAGES
fr \$9875 |
| 4. MASONRY
Steps-TK Pointing | 8. WATERPROFING
pay less |

• ALL RENOVATIONS - VIOLATIONS

216-324-5382

BANKRUPTCY

STOP HARASSING CALLS
GET A FRESH START
CHAPTER 7
\$1,100 INCLUDES ALL FEES
PERSONAL INJURY
THOMAS J. ZAFFIRO
ATTORNEY AT LAW

216-382-0444
DEBT RELIEF CO.

CEDAR CENTER HARDWARE

OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK
1970 WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD
216-291-1111



MONDAY-FRIDAY
9:00 AM TO 8:00 PM
SATURDAY
9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM
SUNDAY
10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

Good Neighbor, Good Advice

Simon's AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES, INC.

Complete Auto Repair
& Maintenance
Import & Domestic
In Business Since 1972
www.simonautoservice.com
SIMON DAHER, Manager



Stay tuned for our new shop
opening in mid-October!

(216) 371-2354 1830 Lee Road, CH

FREE INSURANCE QUOTE

AUTO OR CAR INSURANCE
SR22 INSURANCE *FR BOND
\$35/Mo LIABILITY**\$70/Mo Full Coverage

PROPERTY INSURANCE Home * Condo
Fire, Dwelling, Rental

COMMERCIAL INSURANCE
Auto * General Liability
Business Owners

(216) 691-9227

Washington & Co Insurance Agency Inc.
2565 Noble Road, Cleveland, OH 44121
www.ohioinsurancequote.net

CUBE CLEVELAND

Stop working from a coffee shop

Workspace
Lounge
Private offices
Meeting rooms
24/7 access

cube

www.cubecleveland.com
216.245.9629

AMISH CREWS FOR LESS

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| • ROOFING | • NEW GARAGE |
| • SIDING | • WATERPROFING |
| • CONCRETE | • KITCHEN-BATH |
| • MASONRY | • RM Addition |
| • CARPENTRY | BR -- Bath |
| | Attic-Basement |

• ALL CITY VIOLATIONS
• New GARAGE from - \$9875
216 -323- 0916

NUISANCE ANIMAL TRAPPING

SKUNKS
RACOONS
OPOSSUMS
GROUNDHOGS

SNAPPING TURTLES
SQUIRRELS
And Many Others
We Also Pick Up
Dead Animals



CALL STUART
216-789-0036

INSURED
LICENSE # 3-18-16-N-T

MayCourt Apartments

"Classic 1920's Feel"

Large 1+2 Bedroom Apts.
Heat, Water, Dishwasher,
Balcony, and Parking Included
Central Laundry Room
Good Credit—Good Terms
\$650 - \$725

Contact On-Site Bldg. Manager
Meagen Sparks (216) 258-5906

2872-2878 Mayfield Road #30

Tim Weeks or WEEKS AUTOMOTIVE

1503 Warrensville Center Road

(216) 691-3950

OIL, LUBE &
FILTER SPECIAL
only \$25.95

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

Excludes hybrid cars. With coupon. Exp. 1/31/14



2nd floor of the Lee Road Library

GREAT USED BOOKS EVERY DAY

FILL-A-BAG \$4.00 SALES THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE LIBRARY

friends@heightslibrary.org
(216) 932 3600 X234

Eve's Painting & Home Repair

- Interior and exterior painting
- Wallpaper removal
- Housing code violations
- Tuck pointing
- Handyman services

We are bonded, insured, and maintain an "A" rating on Angie's List.

216-387-0525

llebles1@hotmail.com

FAIRMOUNT SCHOOL OF MUSIC

EDUCATING THE HEIGHTS SINCE 1988

3473 Fairmount Blvd.
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
216.321.5868
fairmountmusicschool@gmail.com
www.fairmountmusic.com

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

The Waterstone
Professional Building
14077 Cedar Road, South Euclid

Professional & Medical
Incubator Space with Fax/Wi-Fi
Security

Call 216-381-6570
www.waterstonecompany.com

RIPLEY ENTERPRISES TREE SERVICE

COMPREHENSIVE TREE MANAGEMENT

Tree Removal • Yard Expansion
Fertilization • Cable Support
Pruning • Stump Grinding

(440) 463-7379 for free estimate

Mention "Observer" and get 20% off
Certified Arborist Fully insured



ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
LIGHT • SAFETY • COMFORT • EFFICIENCY
Family Owned Since 1985

(216) 932-2598

www.skettleelectric.com



"Best Contractor"



Green Tara
YOGA & HEALING ARTS

Iyengar Yoga
Stability • Vitality • Clarity

2450 Fairmount, Cleveland Heights
(216) 382-0592 www.greentarayoga.com

Heights Hardware SINCE 1911

ACE Hardware Benjamin Moore Paints

Monday-Saturday 9-6 - Sunday 11-4
1792 Coventry Road
216-321-4701

www.heightshardware.com

MAC'S BACKS

BOOKS ON COVENTRY

1820 Coventry Rd. 216-321-2665
Open 24 hours at www.macsbacks.com

Three Floors of
New & Used Books & Magazines

Used Book Exchange
Bring us your used books!

Buy Local First!

Call 216-320-1423

to find out how you can

advertise your business for as

low as \$25/month.

Edwards Painting & Home Services

Interior / Exterior
Painting Repairs
Window Repair
Deck Preserving & Restoration
Power Washing
Housing Violations

216-780-2455

roberte1964@att.net

Member of the community
for more than 40 years

NEAT & TRIM PAINTING

- ♦ Interior and Exterior Painting
- ♦ Wallpaper Removal
- ♦ Plaster Repair
- ♦ Violations Corrected
- ♦ Basement Restoration

20+ Years Experience ♦ References and Insurance

JOHN ALLISON

216-324-2199

neatandtrimpainting@yahoo.com

Ardmore Tree Service

Complete Tree Service
Year-round

We Sell and Plant
Trees & Shrubs

(216) 486-5551

• Pruning • Tree and Stump Removal • Feeding
• Firewood • Brush Chipping • Snowplowing

Member National Arborist Association

Free Estimates

Fully Insured

Creative neighbors: Susan Skove

Peggy Spaeth

A popular stereotype paints artists as disorganized, unconventional, arrogant, opinionated, sporadic, impractical about day-to-day life, and sometimes fueling their creativity with drugs or alcohol. Hovering over their chaotic lives is their Art—brilliant writings or paintings or films that transcend their tawdry lives. So goes the movie version of the Artist.

Brilliant Hemingways and Van Goghs thankfully exist, but more artists are sober, organized, hardworking, practical, well-trained and inspired people who get up every morning and work at their art. Crack open a front door on a conventional tree-lined, residential street and you may find someone like artist Susan Skove.

Well-known as a painter of inspired silk scarves sold nationally in museum shops and galleries, Skove's creative yet functional approach to life has incubated coffee shops and a Montessori school, as well.

"When I paint," Skove said, "I'm interested in being in the moment. There is a sense of a small intimate world and also all possibilities available. So, whether I am following my own flight of fancy or working with a museum's request, I have this interest as my entry into the work."

Skove is a home-grown artist who attended the arts-rich Heights schools before training at the Cooper School of Art, where she specialized in oil painting and life drawing. After graduation, she



Susan Skove

remained at Cooper, teaching drawing and design for the fine artist.

Subsequently she redirected her creative energy toward studying ceramics at Cleveland State University before throwing herself into the coffee shop business. Skove was a managing director of the groundbreaking Arabica coffee shops in the 1980s, where she developed a previously unknown talent as an entrepreneur.

When her daughter was born, Skove's interest turned to providing a cre-

ative education. With her penchant for throwing herself wholeheartedly into a project and her demonstrated business sense, Skove and a partner founded Forest Hills Montessori School.

After Skove's son was born, a friend invited the Skove family to Vermont for a late summer vacation. This friend, who had first known Skove as an artist, handed her a glass of wine and a paint brush, taught her the technique of painting on silk, and launched Skove

into the medium that has fascinated her for the past 22 years.

Today, Skove gets up every morning and goes to work in her brightly lit home studio, only a half-mile from where she grew up. Her approach to everything in her environment is creative and well-crafted. Every cup of coffee is made with skill. Every inch of her home reflects her passion for color and pattern. Like Monet, she created a garden that inspires her work.

Skove has shared her creative life with husband Tom, a lawyer with a past as keyboardist with Mr. Stress' Blues Band. Their daughter, Lily, choreographer and filmmaker, lives in L.A. and son, Sam, a recent college graduate, is a budding, adventurous journalist.

Skove is holding her annual holiday sale in her home studio, 2224 North Saint James Parkway, Dec. 5 (2-6 p.m.), Dec. 6 (4-8 p.m.) and Dec. 7 (2-6 p.m.), and by appointment. For information, contact Skove at 216-932-1662 or susan-skove@gmail.com.

Year-round, Skove's scarves, wall paintings and lavender sachets can be found locally at Heights Arts, 2173 Lee Road; Dancing Sheep, 12712 Larchmere Blvd.; and the Cleveland Museum of Art gift store. Her creations can also be found in the museum shops of New York's Museum of Art and Design, the Grand Rapids Museum, The Toledo Museum of Art, the Renwick Gallery, and Albright-Knox Art Gallery, among others.

Read more about Skove at www.skovesilk.com.

Peggy Spaeth is the former director of Heights Arts.



The Music Settlement
UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

**Music Lessons
for ALL AGES
& ABILITIES**

Register Now

The Most Beautiful Place to Learn Music in Cleveland

HOLIDAY CIRCLEFEST

Sunday, Dec. 8, 1:00-5:00

3 stages / live music / \$100 pianos / music sale

The Music Settlement, 11125 Magnolia Dr., Cleveland 44106

**Summer Camp Registration
coming in mid-January**

NEW: AFTERNOON PRESCHOOL
FREE for lower-income families
M-F, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Please call (216) 421-5806 xt. 163 for info

Programs are generously funded by:




Course registration at www.TheMusicSettlement.org
or call (216) 421-5806 xt. 100

Clare College choir will perform at Fairmount Presbyterian Church

Margi Griebbling-Haigh

The Choir of Clare College of Cambridge University, England, is coming to Cleveland Heights on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m., to perform a holiday concert at Fairmount Presbyterian Church. Admission is free.

This small choir of 29 students enjoys a reputation as one of the top mixed-voice collegiate choirs in the world. Selected by competitive auditions, these talented young singers perform with the clear sonority and delicate expressiveness that has made British chapel choirs famous throughout the world.

Dedicated and enthusiastic, the singers learn vast amounts of music each term, leading choral evensong services three times a week in the college chapel. They quickly become confident



The Choir of Clare College, Cambridge, will be performing at Fairmount Presbyterian Church on Dec. 14.

tommy's is a local independently owned Cleveland Historical landmark and award winning family Restaurant celebrating our 40th year anniversary. We cater to all dietary walks of life. Stop in and see why we have become so many family's favorite place to dine.

Come on over, we're open!

Sun-Thurs: 9am-9pm

Fri: 9am-10pm, Sat: 7:30am-10pm



1824 Coventry Road
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118
P: 216.321.7757
tommyscoventry.com

sight-readers, as rehearsals are brief and intense, and there is little time for mistakes.

Individual singers have multiple chances to sing solos throughout the year, in chapel, on tour, and on recordings. The group also has two gifted organ scholars, who take turns singing when not accompanying the choir.

Clare College, founded in 1326, is the second oldest, and now one of the most musically renowned, of the

31 colleges that make up Cambridge University. Given the long history of the university, the choir's founding in 1971 seems relatively recent.

John Rutter, the choir's second director, held the post briefly before demand for his compositions became too great. Still actively involved, Rutter often uses his discerning ear in the producer's booth during recording sessions, and continues to compose, especially for the choir. This U.S. tour will include the world premiere of *Christ is the Morning Star*.

Timothy Brown, whose 30-year tenure raised the choir to international standing, succeeded Rutter. Since 2010, Graham Ross, Clare College fellow, principal conductor of the Dmitri Ensemble, and former member of the choir, has directed the group. This tour marks the choir's first visit to the United States under Ross's direction.

Before coming to Cleveland Heights, the choir will perform in Princeton, N.J.; Boston; Concord, N.H.; St. Johnsbury, Vt.; and Cincinnati. The tour coincides with the release of a new CD, "Veni Emmanuel," on the Harmo-

nia Mundi label, the first in an ongoing series of music for the church year. The "Veni Emmanuel" concert program and CD feature music for Advent, that special period of expectation and mystery leading up to Christmas.

Touring is nothing new for the choir, which keeps an active recording and broadcasting schedule, and has performed on almost every continent.

Its debut recording, with Graham Ross, of choral works by Imogen Holst was hailed as "thrilling" and "immaculate," and earned Le Choix de France Musique and Diapason d'Or. It was short-listed for a 2013 Gramophone Award.

Currently choir-in-residence for the Aurora Orchestra, with a repertoire including Bach's *St. John Passion* and *B Minor Mass*, and Benjamin Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*, the singers recently toured and recorded an all-Handel program with the European Union Baroque Orchestra.

Margi Griebbling-Haigh, a resident of Cleveland Heights, is a freelance composer, oboist and artist.

PHOENIX COFFEE

LOCAL COFFEE TASTES BETTER

ROASTED IN THE 216

PHOENIXCOFFEE.COM

LOCALLY ROASTED IN CLEVELAND OHIO

EAST 9TH
1700 EAST 9TH ST
CLEVELAND, OH 44114
216.771.5282

COVENTRY
1854-A COVENTRY ROAD
CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OH 44118
216.932.5282

LEE
2287 LEE ROAD
CLEVELAND HTS, OH 44118
216.932.8227

'Tis the season to appreciate local independent shops

Best Happy Hour in the Heights

Mon thru Sat/ 4-9 p.m.

\$6 wines & martinis
\$5 cocktails
\$6 appetizers
\$2.50 domestic beers
\$3.50 imports

the mad GREEK

At Cedar & Fairmount in Cleve. Hts. 216-421-3333
www.madgreekcleveland.com

SHORE CARPET II

216-531-9105

CARPET SPECIALS

2 ROOM \$599 (UP TO 333 SQ.FT.)
1 ROOM \$299 (UP TO 180 SQ.FT.)
INCLUDES INSTALLATION
W/ PREMIUM PAD

IN STORE PAYMENT PLAN
(NO CREDIT NEEDED)
SEE STORE FOR DETAILS

BRING THIS AD AND RECIEVE A DISCOUNT!
DISCOUNT NOT VALID ON SPECIALS!

WWW.SHORECARPET2.COM

854 EAST 185TH STREET • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44119

Four artists link art with life in show

Mary Krogness

Artists Kathleen McKenna (figurative works and still life), Joel Hauserman (photographs), Amy Fishbach (hand-made books) and Candice Dangerfield (photography and mixed media) will exhibit their work in a new show at the South Wing Gallery at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2747 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, on view from Dec. 6 to March 1.

Join the artists at the opening reception on Friday, Dec. 6, 5-7 p.m. The artists receive all proceeds from the sale of their work.

Kathleen McKenna captures everything from the architecture of delicate hydrangeas and the luminescence of incandescent lightbulbs to the rollicking bold colors and fluttering streamers of the fanciful Parade the Circle.

As a child, McKenna drew in bed under the light of a reading lamp. As she became more courageous, her palette became more colorful, and replaced the quiet tones that had dominated her earlier work. Through many years of painting portraits, still life and figurative work, she continues to watch her work evolve. McKenna recalled one day, many years ago, her grandmother chided her to stop staring. "But staring is the cornerstone of my work!" said McKenna.

Starting with a Brownie camera, self-taught photographer Joel Hauserman learned to shoot stunning black-and-white photographs. His urban landscapes reflect his attention to the beauty found in the stillness and straight lines of a building. This artist responds to the way a building looks in different light.

"Light is everything," he said. Hauserman, who teaches at Notre Dame College, was commissioned to photograph a series of four large photos of the historic Society Bank building. His photographs reflect a wide range of scenes.

Amy Fishbach, a spirited woman who makes one-of-a-kind miniature books full of wonder and wit, is both an artist and award-winning art teacher. She basks in the pleasure of her art and doesn't worry about the slim revenue she makes from hours—even days—of work.

Her signature piece is a tiny walnut artist's book with the look of an antique prayer book. Fishbach drills, sands,



"Inside Out I and II," oil diptych by Kathleen McKenna.

stitches and varnishes. Her arms and hands ache. "I don't sit around eating bonbons!" she said.

Since early childhood, Candice Dangerfield, who also teaches art, has been immersed in the arts, in particular photography, painting, drawing and mixed media. "We are inspired by and inseparable from nature," she said. Her work can capture a transient moment such as billowy clouds and vibrant skies that suddenly become dark and ominous. She uses diverse media to create the effects she seeks. Through art, she seeks and finds the spiritual, which she called "the core of my art and my life."

St. Paul's parishioner Gretchen Larson noted, "This gallery gives not only seasoned artists a place to exhibit their art, but [provides] an ideal venue for new and promising artists."

Visit the gallery weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; weekends 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, visit www.stpauls-church.org.

Mary Krogness is a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

(216) 392-1335 class1pavers@sbcglobal.net

Look for the A+ logo

Class 1 Pavers & Remodelers



Ask for Gary or Mike
(216) 392-1335

- Residential Driveways
- Asphalt & Concrete
- Masonry
- 30% off Kitchens & Baths

- Roofing
- Sealcoating
- Siding
- Windows



Financing Available
36 Months – No Interest

1481 Warrensville Ctr. Road
www.class1pavers.com

St. Alban's Episcopal Community

www.saintalbanchurch.org

Worship

Wednesday, December 4, 11 and 18

- 6pm - Agape Community Meal (students welcome!)
- 7pm - Neo Monastic Evening Prayer

Sunday

- 10am - Community Eucharist December 1, 8, 15 and 29
- Sunday, December 22, 10 a.m. - Lessons and Carols
- Tuesday, December 24, 10 p.m. - Carols;
- 11 pm - Christmas Eucharist
- Wednesday, December 25, 10 a.m. - Christmas Service

Compline & Evensong

- 5 p.m. December 1 at St. Paul's
- 5 p.m. December 8, 15, 22 and 29 at St. Alban's

2555 Euclid Hts. Boulevard, Cleveland Heights (at the corner of Edgehill)

Christmas Events

First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland, 3630 Fairmount Blvd.

SHAKER HEIGHTS OH 44118, 216-932-7480

December 7 at 8 pm

Apollo's Fire Sacrum Mysterium

December 10 at 7:30 pm

Burning River Brass

December 14 at 8 pm

Apollo's Fire, Christmas Vespers

December 15 at 4 pm

Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 22 at 11:15 am

Christmas Music from Handel's Messiah

December 24 at 7 pm

Christmas Navitivy Pageant with live animals

December 24

10:30 pm Christmas Music in the Sanctuary

11:00 pm Candlelight Service

www.firstbaptistcleveland.org

Sunday Services: 9:00 am and 11:15 am



CityMusic Cleveland brings Viennese New Year’s tradition to the Heights

David Barach

Each New Year’s morning since 1939, the Vienna Philharmonic has performed a world-famous concert, broadcast internationally from the ornately gilded Großer Saal of the Musikverein.

Each program is different, but the music typically includes waltzes, polkas, and operettas from the Strauss family—Johann Strauss I, Johann Strauss II, Josef Strauss and Eduard Strauss—with additional music from other composers. It always concludes with Strauss II’s famous “Blue Danube Waltz,” followed by Strauss I’s rollicking “Radetzky March” finale, during which audience members clap the music forward with the bass drum.

Watching this televised concert has become a family tradition across Europe, and more recently worldwide, but only a privileged few are able to hear it live.



Trumpeter Jack Sutte

On Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m., CityMusic Cleveland Chamber Orchestra will bring this vibrant living tradition to



Soprano Stacey Mastrian

Cleveland Heights, in a concert to be held at Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd. The performance

is free, and no tickets are required.

At intermission, the audience will be able to mingle at a reception hosted by the musicians, which will include free refreshments provided by community members.

Stefan Willich, a German national and world-renowned conductor, will direct the program. Willich, who has a background in medicine, is founder and conductor of the World Doctor’s Orchestra.

Soloists are Jack Sutte, second trumpet with the Cleveland Orchestra, and Stacey Mastrian, soprano.

CityMusic Cleveland will also perform the concert at other venues in Greater Cleveland, Dec. 5–7. For more information on the program and performance schedule, visit www.citymusiccleveland.org.

David Barach is executive manager of CityMusic Cleveland Chamber Orchestra.

Shopping local keeps more of your money circulating in the community.



Coit's Growing
in your neighborhood

Open Saturdays Year Round – 8:00AM to 1:00PM
Wednesdays April thru November
10:00AM to 1:00PM

Healthy Produce. Healthy People. Healthy Connections.

Call 216-249-5455 or go to www.coitmarket.org
15000 Woodworth Rd near East 152nd and Noble
Learn what's available. Join our e-mail list by e-mailing
coitmarket-subscribe@yahoo.com or join "The Coit Road Farmers Market" on Facebook.





Tommy Tune to perform in benefit at Nighttown



Tommy Tune’s Dec. 4 performance at Nighttown will benefit Cedar Fairmount SID.

Kaye Lowe

Nighttown will host a benefit for the Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District’s streetscape plan, featuring Tommy Tune, on Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Actor, dancer, singer, theater director, producer and choreographer Thomas James “Tommy” Tune has won nine Tony Awards and the National Medal of Arts. He will perform a “tapiography show,” covering his half century on stage

and on screen.

Tickets, which include a 6 p.m. cocktail party and premium seating for the 7 p.m. performance, are \$100 (\$40 is tax deductible).

For more information and tickets, contact the Cedar Fairmount SID at 216-791-3172.

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

Advent Festival
Saturday, December 7
9 am – 1 pm



☆ Free admission – Food – Live music – Silent auction – Activities for children – Bring mittens and scarves to decorate the mitten tree – All proceeds benefit local & global missions.

☆ Holiday shopping featuring **10,000 Villages** and other fair-trade vendors



CHURCH of the SAVIOUR

Church of the Saviour
2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights
(216) 321-8880 www.chsaviour.org

Join us for Christmas Worship!



Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve
2:00 p.m. Christmas Story for the Very Young with Communion
3:30 p.m. Organ Noëls and Carol Sing-a-long
4:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant, Communion (interpreted for Deaf)
7:45 p.m. Music: From Advent to Christmas
9:00 p.m. A Choral Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas
10:30 p.m. Festival Eucharist of Christmas

Wednesday, December 25: Christmas Day
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with organ and vocal solos

Sunday, December 29: The First Sunday after Christmas Day
7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10 a.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols with Communion

Wednesday, January 1: The Feast of the Holy Name
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist



St. Paul's Episcopal Church welcomes you!

2747 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106 (216) 932-5815 • www.stpauls-church.org
The Rev. Alan M. Gates, Rector Karel Paukert, Organist/Choirmaster



Get ready for school
and make your smile sparkle
on picture day

Walters Family Dentistry Inc.

Call today for your back-to-school examination with free fluoride

General and cosmetic dentistry
Specializing in ages 2-100
Fillings
Teeth whitening



Dr. Malcolm Walters, Jr.
D.D.S. General Dentistry

(216) 382-1102 • 114100 Cedar Rd. #260
University Heights, OH 44118



Cedar Fairmount shops offer holiday activities

Kaye Lowe

Cedar Fairmount merchants are planning various events and activities to inspire residents to get into the holiday spirit, and to benefit the community.

Abstract Hair Salon will collect nonperishable food for the Cleveland Food Bank during the months of November and December. Patrons who donate nonperishable food items will be eligible for extra customer rewards. The food will be delivered in January to help restock the food bank after the busy holiday season.

On Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m., nine-time Tony award-winner Tommy Tune will perform at Nighttown to ben-

efit Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District's streetscape project.

Tickets, which include a 6 p.m. cocktail party and premium seating, are \$100 (\$40 tax deductible). Call the Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District (SID) at 216-791-3172 for tickets.

On Saturday, Dec. 18, from 2-4 p.m., Appletree Books will host children's writer Kelly Tooman, author of *The Birthday Triplets*, and illustrator Lynn (Schlegal) Tooman-Cser.

Also on Dec. 18, Santa Claus will appear at Dave's Market, and carolers will be singing throughout the district.

Appletree Books will also be selling newly found Pearce Bates prints. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the



COURTESY CEDAR FAIRMOUNT SID

The Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District decorates for the holidays to welcome shoppers.

Bremec on the Heights now open year-round, plans Dec. 11 fundraiser



COURTESY BREMEC ON THE HEIGHTS

Jessica Mitchell, marketing director at Bremec Garden Centers; Mike Gaynier of the HRRC board of directors; and Arthur Richwine, general manager of Bremec on the Heights.

Jessica Mitchell

Bremec on the Heights, a Cleveland Heights fixture since opening in 2009, will now stay open year-round. To celebrate the change, Bremec will hold a one-day fundraiser for the Cleveland Heights-based Home Repair Resource Center (HRRC) on Dec. 11.

Previously, Bremec closed at the end of its annual Christmas tree sale. The decision to stay open year-round recognizes the evolving needs of urban/suburban homeowners for everything from landscaping materials to garden décor to organic gardening resources.

The HRRC fundraiser will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A portion of every purchase

made with a voucher that day, including all holiday merchandise, will be donated to HRRC in support of its mission to empower homeowners to maintain their homes for sustainable and diverse communities. Vouchers are available in advance from HRRC or at Bremec On the Heights on Dec. 11, where HRRC trustees and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and help customers.

Bremec on the Heights appreciates the tremendous support it has received from the Heights community, and looks forward to many more years of helping customers keep their homes and gardens looking fantastic.

Jessica Mitchell is marketing director at Bremec Garden Centers.



Driving in a winter wonderland.

Betsy Warner, Agent
2491 Lee Blvd
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
Bus: 216-932-6900
betsy@betsywarner.com

Wishing you a safe and joyous holiday.
Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®



0901012.1 State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL

prints will benefit the Cedar Fairmount streetscape plan. The prints include whimsical children's, forest and animal themes.

On Thursday, Dec. 19, 4-7 p.m., Ten Thousand Villages and Liquid Planet will donate 10 percent of their sales to the Cedar Fairmount SID's streetscape project.

Luna Bakery Café will offer gingerbread house decorating classes in December. Enjoy complimentary hot chocolate and cookies while creating

your own masterpiece. Class price of \$65 includes one house with a maximum of two children or adults per house. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Class dates and times are Sundays, Dec. 8 and 15, from 3-4 p.m., or Tuesdays, Dec. 10 and 17, from 5-6 p.m. Call 216-321-8585 to reserve a space.

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

GREATER CLEVELAND
**COMMUNITY
SHARES**
**Your Gift
Your Choice**



**Support The Causes
You Value Most**

216-361-9920

www.communityshares.org

New wine café opens on Fairmount

James Henke

For many years, Gia Ilijasic and her fiancé, Jim Patsch, had dreamed of opening a restaurant. Finally, on Nov. 5, that dream came true. The couple opened Gigi's on Fairmount, located in the Fairmount Taylor Business District in Cleveland Heights, in a space formerly occupied by a flower shop and a furniture store.

Gigi's—the name is taken from the nickname that Ilijasic's family gave her—is a beautiful “wine café” that has a full bar menu and also serves soups, salads, panini sandwiches and “small bites,” including olives, cheese and charcuterie. Bruschetta boards are the house specialty. Patrons can pick four items from a list that includes smoked salmon, prosciutto, house-made chicken-liver pâté and house-made trout pâté.

“We wanted to create a place that has healthy, affordable, good food that mixes with wine,” Ilijasic said.

Jesse Mendoza, who was formerly at Luxe Kitchen and Lounge in Gordon Square, is Gigi's chef. All of the restaurant's bread and pastries are from The Stone Oven, and most of the food is local and organic.

Both Ilijasic and Patsch said one of their primary goals is to serve the neighborhood. “We want to fulfill the wants and wishes of the community,” Ilijasic said. If someone comes in and wants a specific wine or liquor that



Jim Patsch and Gia Ilijasic at their new restaurant, Gigi's on Fairmount.

Gigi's doesn't carry, they will order it so it will be there the next time that customer stops by. “Everyone's a VIP,” Ilijasic said.

Though the restaurant seats only about 45 people, it has a charming look. Large mirrors adorn both side walls, and there's a photo at one end of the room

that shows Patsch's parents on their wedding day. On another wall is a photo of Ilijasic's mother at age 14. The ceiling is covered with gorgeous chandeliers.

In addition to the food and wine, Gigi's is offering live music on Saturday nights and will hold wine tastings on the first Monday of every month. When the

Gigi's on Fairmount 216-291-7237

3477 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights
Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Fri. and Sat. 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Closed on Sunday
www.gigisonfairmount.com

weather warms up, Ilijasic and Patsch plan to install patio tables in front of the restaurant.

Ilijasic said she has been interested in the restaurant business since she was studying fashion design at Arizona State University in Phoenix. While in college, she worked at a restaurant called Roxand. Later, she moved to New York City where she worked at Table d'Hôte.

Patsch attended Ohio University, where he was a theater major. After graduation, he spent about 20 years in the financial world. “I always had a passion for the restaurant business,” he said. “I've worked at several restaurants over the years.”

The couple, who live on Torrington Road in Shaker Heights, met nine years ago and hope to marry in the not-too-distant future.

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.

HEIGHTS' GOT Talent

Presented by:



Do you think you've got what it takes to represent the Heights? Can you sing, dance, juggle or just do something awesome? Motorcars in Cleveland Heights is looking for the most talented people in the Heights and we want to feature your talents. Visit our facebook page and submit your audition tape today. Even if it's something you've never done in public before, if you think you've got what it takes we want to see it.

FACEBOOK.COM/MOTORCARS