

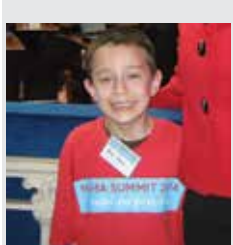
## INSIDE



**5**  
UH's Francine Goldberg wins primary



**14**  
Heights High celebrates senior prom



**15**  
Fairfax student Kenji Sakaie visits Ohio Statehouse



**25**  
Heights High alum opens Noble Road deli

## Coventry Village becomes unglued

Deanna Bremer Fisher

Coventry Village Special Improvement District (CVSID) is fed up with the unsightly gum and stickers that cover the sidewalks, benches, signs, trash cans and other surfaces in the district.

"It's become an epidemic," said Steve Presser, owner of Big Fun and active CVSID member.

In May, CVSID purchased a Dr. Gum machine, which uses steam heat and an environmentally friendly solution to remove gum, stickers, graffiti and other stubborn substances from public spaces, without damaging painted surfaces.

Tommy Fello, owner of Tommy's restaurant, oversees the CVSID maintenance crew. He said CVSID had purchased the machine for \$5,700, but would also need to purchase a portable generator, an industrial cart and a step ladder to enable CVSID's crews to reach all areas of the district.

The Downtown Cleveland Alliance (DCA) has been using the machine



DEANNA BREMER FISHER

Karl Benz of Downtown Cleveland Alliance checks the machine as CVSID's Jason Wanska operates the cleaning wand and Walberto Lemus, Tommy Fello and Steve Presser look on.

for two years to keep its streets clean. Karl Benz, training manager for DCA's 25-person cleaning crew, came to Coventry on May 14 to show CVSID representatives how to use it.

"We've been using it more for stickers," said Benz, "rather than gum, but it

is effective for both and also removes some graffiti."

Benz cleaned a small patch of sidewalk in front of Tommy's restaurant, and then turned his attention to the trash can, which had several stickers on it. Jason

*continued on page 7*

## Make Your Mark engages residents in creative way to strengthen local economy

Mary Ryan

Heights Arts, the organization behind local art initiatives such as the Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Arch, murals in the Cedar Lee and Cedar Fairmount business districts, and the Heights Youth Club mosaic, has launched Make Your Mark for the Arts, a new public art program designed to tap into the creative spirit of the community and encourage increased support of local businesses.

Rachel Bernstein, executive director, explained, "It's a way to bring our entire community together with a fun, artistic activity [to] help build relationships with residents and businesses. I am especially thankful to the Cleveland Foundation and Cyrus Eaton Foundation, Shawn Paul Salon, and Elizabeth Gevelber of Simply Charming for their early investment in this idea, and to Heights Arts board members for pounding the pavement. The response from



COURTESY MARY RYAN

Cleveland Heights High School senior intern Davon Brantley refines details on his personal stamp.

businesses has been beyond my expectations so far, and I'm really looking forward to seeing this program spread as we celebrate our creativity together."

Beginning at the end of May and running through September, Heights residents can participate by creating a personal symbol on a rubber stamping

*continued on page 4*

## Residents express concerns at Wiley swing space meeting

Dondreya Allen

A community meeting about transforming Wiley Middle School to swing space during high school and middle school construction was held on May 20 at the school. District staff and consultants discussed building design, safety and security, traffic flow and modular classrooms. Community members were able to ask questions and offer input.

In November 2013, Heights residents passed a \$134.8 million bond issue to fund renovations of Cleveland Heights-University Heights schools, including the high school and Monticello and Roxboro middle schools.

At the end of the 2013-14 school year, Wiley will be shut down so that construction can begin to expand the building to house Heights High students.

"The master facilities plan will completely renovate and revitalize our district," said Nylajeane McDaniel, superintendent.

"The population of students [using Wiley] will quadruple, going from approximately 400 to approximately 1,600 students," said Andrea Celico, assistant superintendent.

Krista Hawthorne, executive director of Reaching Heights, who attended the meeting, said, "There are clearly concerns about traffic flow with the increased number of students who will be in the building. It was difficult to understand the jargon about traffic lights, so I am interested in seeing how it will flow."

*continued on page 8*

## CH council member Boyd wins primary for Ohio House seat

Dondreya Allen

Janine R. Boyd, Cleveland Heights City Council member, won the May 9 Democratic primary election for state representative for Ohio's 9th District. Boyd garnered slightly more than 65 percent of the vote to defeat fellow Democrat Sean P. Malone, a Shaker Heights attorney, by a vote of 8,460 to 4,431. Boyd will now face Republican Charles Hopson in the Nov. 6 general election.

Boyd's mother, Barbara Boyd, is currently the state representative

for District 9, which includes Cleveland Heights, University Heights and Shaker Heights. Barbara



COURTESY JANINE BOYD

Janine Boyd

Boyd did not seek re-election due to term limits. Her term is up at the end of this year.

In a press release, Janine Boyd stated, "I am honored that the Democratic

voters for Ohio House District 9 have chosen to put their faith in me and give me the opportunity to fight for them in Columbus. As their State Representative, I will hit the ground running and use my experience to ensure the 2015 biennium budget is reflective of our community's best interests.

"It is a privilege to be granted the opportunity to continue my mother, State Representative Barbara Boyd's legacy," Boyd added, "while also following my own path to make a positive impact on the lives of our citizens."

*continued on page 3*



## 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](http://www.heightsobserver.org/members) or e-mail: [info@futureheights.org](mailto: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.

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# Send us stories, not press releases



OPENING  
THE OBSERVER

Deanna Bremer Fisher

The *Heights Observer*, a citizen-based publication produced monthly by FutureHeights, welcomes all community news, announcements and information. The *Observer* was founded by FutureHeights six years ago, for the express purpose of publishing the hyperlocal Cleveland Heights and University Heights news that traditional media outlets tend to overlook.

With no full-time staff, the *Observer* invites and relies on community members—residents, or members or employees of Heights organizations or companies—to write and submit articles about the personalities, events and news that is happening in the Heights.

Many organizations are accustomed to sending press releases about newsworthy events or causes to media outlets, with the expectation that a reporter will then follow up, call the organization, attend the event, and take the next steps to turn the basic information into a news story.

The *Observer*, however, can't follow up on press releases. We lack the staff to convert a release to a news story. All of our writers are volunteers, as are our editors. We have a part-time editor-in-chief, who coordinates all the articles we receive for both print

and online publication, and a part-time publisher who oversees it all.

We need the information in a different format, one that is just as easy to create as a press release: we need news stories. You can create a news story from a press release by doing the following:

- **Suggest a headline:** A headline usually contains a verb, grabs a reader's attention and briefly summarizes the content.
- **Write an introduction:** The first paragraph of the story should provide the basic facts about the news event. It should answer the questions who, what, when, where and why.
- **Write the body:** Provide relevant, Heights-specific details about the news event.
- **Include a quote or two:** The sentence, "This Heights event is the greatest ever!" is an opinion, not a fact. While it cannot be stated as unattributed opinion in an article, participants in a news story can express their viewpoints in the form of a quote. An organization's director or company president can say, "It's the greatest Heights event ever!" if that is what she believes. The author of the news story, however, should not quote himself, or otherwise refer to himself in the article. If you must quote yourself, work with a friend or colleague to submit the article.
- **Include boilerplate information:** Once you've stated the news, include some general background information about the organization, business or person you are writing about.
- **Include contact information:**

Provide an opportunity for readers to learn more by including a website, phone number or other contact information.

- **Include a biographical statement:** Each story in the *Heights Observer* includes a brief (1-2 sentence) biographical statement at the end of the article. Make sure you disclose any connection the author has to the organization, individual or event he or she is writing about.
- **Include a photograph:** You can attach a photograph to your article when you submit it. While a photo is not required, it can help bring attention to your story.
- **Keep it brief:** A story that is direct and to-the-point is more likely to attract readers, and more likely to appear in a monthly print edition of the *Observer*, where space is limited. Try to keep your article at less than 500 words (and shorter is often better).

To submit a story, go to [www.heightsobserver.org](http://www.heightsobserver.org) and click on Member Center at the left. If you haven't submitted previously, click on Become an Observer, also part of the left-side menu, and read the information there, including the Style Guide, where you will find guidelines regarding article length and options for type of article (news, opinion or letter to the editor). If you have questions, call the FutureHeights office at 216-320-1423 or e-mail [info@futureheights.org](mailto:info@futureheights.org).

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



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## Residents react to council vote on Cedar-Coventry project

To the Editor:

At its May 5 meeting, Cleveland Heights City Council voted 5-2 to confirm the variances granted by the CH Board of Zoning Appeals to Kertesz Enterprises, a developer from Orange Village, for a four-unit complex at the vacant lot at Cedar and Coventry roads. Council members Jeff Coryell and Melissa Yasinow voted against the measure.

Neighborhood residents and others have expressed concern over the proposed development since it was announced in March. They point out that the size and mass of the building is out of scale with the

property and detracts from the unique and historic character of the area. They are also concerned that allowing the extreme variances to the zoning code sets a precedent and encourages development of high-density housing in a traditional single-family neighborhood.

Residents have also voiced their outrage that the CH Planning Department did not engage or inform the community of the city's intent to develop multi-unit housing at this signature Cleveland Heights location.

One neighbor expressed his opposition to CH City Council's decision by displaying a sign on his house which read, "We oppose City Hall threatening our historic neighborhood character."

Kathleen Fant  
Cleveland Heights

## Proposed Cedar-Coventry development would fill a need

To the Editor:

Kathleen Tark's informed comments [In a May letter to the editor] on the development of the Cedar-Coventry intersection's southwest property give everyone a desirable goal in the area's development. At the same time, Tark gives us no tangible and imminent means to [reach] that goal. Additionally, [her letter] ignores the existing situation with respect to the immediate area along Cedar Road where properties are being used as transient, multifamily, rentals.

The proposed development is designed to accommodate multiple families on a compact property where there is, obviously, a need that the adjacent properties are filling. And I believe that most people would find the proposed development far more esthetically pleasing than what we've got there now, by far. So overall I suggest that the new development would have a positive effect on the appearance of that area and add to the potential value of adjacent properties. It can be built now rather than wait for a low-density development that doesn't seem to have a chance of coming into being soon.

William Jones  
Cedar Coventry area property/home owner



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# Hope for the beleaguered north

Vince Reddy

More than 150 people attended a meeting on April 29 regarding problems in the neighborhoods of Cleveland Heights's north side. The meeting took place at the Martin G. Lentz Police Academy on Noble Road. Mayor Dennis Wilcox opened the meeting by expressing the city's sincere desire to hear from neighborhood residents. Five of his six city council colleagues also attended, as did several city officials. Tanisha Briley, city manager, took comments from the audience and ran the meeting.

As a neighborhood homeowner since 1999, and someone who has witnessed with alarm what seems to be the north side's accelerating decline in recent years, I found myself agreeing with most—not all—of the commentary. The topics of my neighbors' complaints—crime, vacant homes, a perceived lack of interest on the part of city government, empty storefronts, problems with certain businesses, greatly diminished property values, misbehaving youths, and on and on—are all concerns I have lost sleep over.

Many commenters made a point of commending some city services, such as the police department's, but the feeling that this part of town has been written off by the city, justified or not, is not something I alone have experienced.

I left the meeting somewhat hopeful, partly because I got the impression that city government may be willing to be an active partner in working to turn things around up north. It's not that the city has done nothing for the north side. By taking some businesses to court and addressing some of the neighborhoods' blighted properties, for example, the City of Cleveland Heights has indeed been working on some of our problems.

What is needed, however, is the city's participation in making the neighborhoods great again. No one is asking the city to come in and solve every problem. It is essential that the city be involved, though, and not only in addressing problems, but also in helping to build upon the neighbor-

hoods' assets.

What would I like to see from our city government? I think the first step was taken at the April meeting. Though no one came out and said it, I think the meeting indicated city government's open acknowledgment that there are problems in the north. I was grateful that no one tried to put a positive spin on a grim situation.

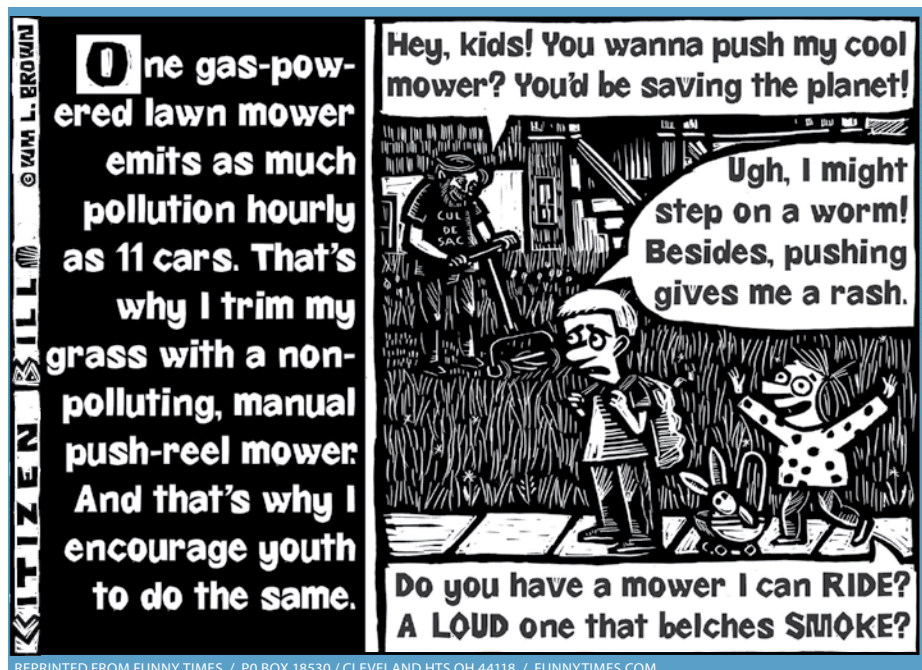
I know that we will never go back to the days when the city's Heights Housing Service did a remarkable job of contributing to the stability of city neighborhoods. The city doesn't have the financial wherewithal it once did, but it can still participate in rebuilding the north side and not simply address problems by removing them here and there.

I despair every time I see another home being demolished in my neighborhood. From my front door, I can see three empty lots that had houses on them not too long ago, and from my backyard, I can see two. I am not someone who is opposed to demolition at all costs, and would bulldoze certain properties myself if I could, but a neighborhood full of vacant lots is only marginally better off than one full of vacant houses.

The neighborhoods have assets I hope can be built upon. A still-sturdy housing stock would be impossible to replace with comparable quality. Public transportation—the 41 is the city's only 24-hour bus service—is relatively good, and the numerous apartment buildings are assets as long as they are well-managed. There are also many good businesses in our threadbare commercial districts. I hope the city will work with its nonprofit community and emerging neighborhood groups to revitalize its northern extremes.

There is a lot of work ahead if Cleveland Heights is going to prosper as a diverse community and once again set a standard for Greater Cleveland in this regard. A new phase of this work may have gotten started.

*Vince Reddy was the Cleveland Heights zoning administrator from 1996 to 2005. He is a former board member of Future-Heights and is an 18-year resident of the city.*



BOYD continued from page 1

Cleveland Heights City Council members appointed Boyd to council in 2012, to fill the seat vacated by the late Phyllis Evans, who resigned for "personal reasons" on June 4, 2012. Boyd was sworn in on Oct. 3 of that year, and then, in November 2013, was elected to a two-year term, for which she ran unopposed.

"In terms of campaigning for the November election," said Boyd via e-mail, "I plan on doing more of the same. Knocking on doors with any of the available and amazing volunteers I've had the honor of campaigning with so far, hosting events with the help of gracious supporters, my family and wonderful friends, and taking the time to answer any questions that District 9 residents may have regarding my position on various issues, as well as what my priorities are and why."

"I am grateful for every opportu-

nity to serve, and I am grateful that my parents taught me that, in fact, service makes life full," added Boyd.

Boyd, 43, grew up in Cleveland Heights and attended Beaumont School. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hillsdale College and a Master of Arts degree from Michigan State University.

Boyd lists as her top priorities "protecting early voting rights, quality early care and education, workforce development for the under-employed and unemployed, protecting women's health care choices and supporting health and human services."

For more information visit [www.janineboyd2014.com](http://www.janineboyd2014.com).

*Dondreya Allen is a senior at Cleveland Heights High School and a Heights Observer intern.*

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MARK FOR THE ARTS continued from page 1

block, then using the stamped image (their mark) throughout the Heights at member businesses and organizations. The result will be a collective creative endeavor for local economic development, and a visual archive of the participating individuals.

"Heights Arts has been instrumental in solidifying Cleveland Heights's reputation as Home to the Arts," said Mayor Dennis R. Wilcox. "Now, Make Your Mark is the latest embodiment of this, using art and creativity to celebrate all of us as individuals who make up this incredible community—including our thriving local businesses."

Residents create their personal stamp in one of two ways: through a Create Your Mark workshop at select Heights businesses, or using a do-it-yourself kit. Evening workshop

locations include The Wine Spot, the BottleHouse Brewery, Katz Club Diner and B Side Lounge, with many businesses offering evening specials. Daytime workshops will be held weekends at Heights Arts gallery and Dewey's Pizza.

The artist-led workshops are free for Heights Arts members and \$15 for others. Registration and a workshop schedule is available online at [www.heightsarts.org](http://www.heightsarts.org) or in person at Heights Arts, 2175 Lee Road.

For residents unable to attend a workshop, Make Your Mark kits are available for purchase at Bliss Health and Healing Center, City Buddha, Fairmount Cleaners, the Grog Shop, Mister Brisket, Katz Club Diner, The Wine Spot and Wood Trader. The kits are free for Heights Arts members if picked up at the Heights Arts gallery and \$15 for others at all locations.

Once residents have created their mark, they can visit member businesses to stamp their mark and collect the businesses' stamps in a passport-style booklet. The booklet outlines participating businesses by themed "tracks," such as "food and drink" and "arts and culture." Once a track is filled with five stamps, passport booklets can be presented at Heights Arts, and participants will receive coupons to businesses listed on that track.

Almost 50 founding Make Your Mark business participants have signed up so far, including Big Fun, Bremec Garden Center, Dewey's Pizza, Luna Bakery Café, Cedar Lee Theatre, Heights Libraries, the BottleHouse, Fairmount Cleaners, Fire Food and Drink, the Grog Shop, Jakprints, Katz

Club Diner, Mac's Backs, Moto Photo on Cedar, PC Handyman, Simply Charming, Quintana's Barber and Dream Spa, Mister Brisket, the Music Settlement, the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, Shawn Paul Salon, Sing and Swing, the Stone Oven, and The Wine Spot.

"I am thrilled to be a part of the Make Your Mark for the Arts public art program," said Douglas Katz, owner of Katz Club Diner. "Make Your Mark for the Arts is an incredibly creative opportunity for all of us in the Heights

communities to express our individuality and celebrate living and working in this diverse community. I hope all residents will be a part of this community archive and legacy project and join me in creating their stamps and leaving them in our local businesses this summer."

For more information contact Heights Arts at 216-371-3457 or visit [www.heightsarts.org/makeyourmark](http://www.heightsarts.org/makeyourmark).

Mary Ryan is a member of the Heights Arts staff, and has been a Heights resident for 25 years.

## Career teachers strengthen education capacity



THE COMMON GOOD

Susie Kaeser

It's June. Another school year comes to an end. Joy, regrets, successes, new friends, new skills, a broader world view, frustrations, fears, failures—it's a complicated mix of emotions.

When I was young, this festive moment—the end of the daily grind, early to rise and early to bed, controlling my temper, paying attention, books, pencils, chalk—was accompanied by this joyous chant, "School's out, school's out, teacher let her bloomers out."

For teachers it is a well-earned respite from the ever-increasing pressures to produce results, and the growing distrust and disrespect for their crucial role in shaping our future. This year, 19 seasoned Cleveland Heights-University Heights teachers, who have dedicated their careers to the education of our children, will walk out of their classrooms for the last time. A community asset of immeasurable value—developed over time—will be lost forever.

While it is easy to blame teachers for problems in our schools, it doesn't hold up when you think about these familiar stalwarts of innovation and excellence in our buildings: Betsy Neylon, Belinda Farrow, Gary Swidar, Kathy Gill, Glenn Brackens, Sue Hood, Kathy Pahys, Diane Ferri, Lorraine Turner, Linda Smith Peterson, Peter Tuttle and many more! Many taught my children, used Reaching Heights grants to improve learning and pushed children to learn in new ways.

Over their careers, they developed and honed the complex skills needed to manage large groups of young people, inspire a diverse set of learners, differentiate their teaching to connect to the specific individuals who populated their classrooms and respond to the hearts and minds that were put in their care by parents who want the best for their children. They created safe and respectful mini-communities within the walls of our schools.

Teachers are the core resource of our education system, and there is no shortcut to re-creating within new teachers the accumulated experiences and wisdom that reside within our

seasoned professionals. Good teachers are always becoming better teachers. They are always learning and improving and finding what works. Every year they invest in teaching represents growth in the capacity of the education system to deliver. It takes a career to build an accomplished educator.

As a community and a society, we are fortunate that there are creative, patient, gifted people who make teaching their profession and their life's work. Together they are a force for good. It is time to recognize teachers for their remarkable work and support them in becoming their best.

It is hard for me to understand the thinking that has infected education policy and made blaming teachers a substitute for improving education. Legislators continue to propose irrational and unacceptable teacher-evaluation schemes designed to catch teachers being bad, rather than using our greatest education resource to make schools great.

My worry is that the policy environment will discourage goodhearted people from making teaching their life's work. How can they put up with the abuse from ideologues who distrust anything that is public?

Trust, respect, high expectations, strong support, adequate resources for doing the job, fair pay and having a voice are what make teaching an attractive career. These ideas are missing from public policy.

Thirty years from now I wonder how many veteran teachers will be retiring from a satisfying career because we knew how to support them in bringing out the best in our children. This is a dangerous time for public education and democracy.

As teachers release our children to the freedom of summer, we can compensate in small ways for the failures of our elected officials by reaching out to our educators. Express your gratitude and respect. Write that note. Make that call. Say goodbye. Let them know their work is crucial to a positive future. We need them to stay at this work, continue to build their skills and keep replenishing the wellspring of learning that career educators bring to the classroom and retiring teachers take with them.

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.

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# University Heights City Council

## Meeting highlights



April 23, 2014

All council members were present.

### Public comments

Rick Creger of Saybrook Road expressed concern about the plan to move Heights High students to Wiley during the renovations to the high school building. He felt the proposal was not fair to the students, retailers and residents of the neighborhood. There would be 1,200 full-time students, 300-400 transient students, plus teachers. He felt the proposal to use Purvis Pool for the students would create undue wear and tear on the facilities, which the taxpayers paid for. He asked council to not approve the construction and installation of trailers requested by the school board. Mayor Susan Infeld noted that although the board had presented its proposals to council, there have been no formal plans nor requests brought before council.

### Delinquent debt collection

An ordinance proposing that the city use the Ohio Attorney General's office to provide delinquent debt collection service was presented on first reading. Currently, the city is using First Federal Credit Union, which keeps 65 percent of what it collects. The attorney general's office will most likely use an external collection firm, which will use the attorney general's letterhead. This is a new option in Ohio, but it has been used successfully in other states. The city would receive 90 percent of the funds collected, and the contract can be ended with a 45-day notice if the city is not satisfied.

Councilwoman Susan Pardee was concerned that coercive measures might be used, but it was noted that the attorney general's office includes the Office of Consumer Protection Services, which should help to maintain a balance.

### Yard waste

Council approved an agreement with Cleveland Heights for disposal of yard waste. The city's contract with J. Jack Mulch ended Jan. 1, and the company's facility in Cleveland has been closed. University Heights will pay Cleveland Heights \$7,000, which is \$500 less than it was paying to J. Jack, and with only the cost to transport the waste to Cleveland Heights. [Cleveland Heights will transport the waste by truck to Newbury.] The cost is a lump sum for the year, based on average quantities for the past five years.

### Deer management

Councilwoman Pardee announced that she had attended a workshop on a regional program of deer management. There was no specific plan in place, but the communities in the region are working together to better understand the issues and to develop a regional approach.

LWV Observer: Wendy Deuring.

May 5, 2014

All council members were present.

### Public comments

Barry Zucker of Allison Road asked the city to postpone repaving Allison Road for one year. He has serious medical conditions, including extreme chemical sensitivities. The chemical fumes from hot asphalt would be extremely difficult for him. He requested a one-year delay to allow him time to find

either a solution or a temporary place to live. He presented statements from two doctors, and a petition signed by representatives of almost every home on the street. A number of fellow residents were present and spoke in support of his request. Zucker noted that patching small areas of the street would not present a problem, just the hot-cooked asphalt.

Councilwoman Nancy English assured Zucker that he had been heard. She favored delaying the repaving of Allison Road, and other council members concurred.

### Delinquent debt

Council approved having the Ohio Attorney General's office handle delinquent debt collection. Councilwoman Susan Pardee asked Larry Heiser, finance director, to make a full review of the collection process in six months.

### Street resurfacing contract

Council authorized an agreement with The Shelly Company for the 2014 street resurfacing program. Seven contractors submitted bids for this joint proposal with Shaker Heights. The Shelly Company was the low bidder at \$518,186.25. Most of the streets to be repaved have not been paved since 1994 or 1995. The Shelly Company has previously done work in the city under the names of companies acquired by Shelly. Allison Road was excluded, and Joe Ciuni, city engineer, will select another street at a cost not to exceed the cost allocated for Allison Road. Allison Road will be patched using funds from the street-patching fund.

### Repaving project

City Engineer Ciuni reported that the Belvoir Boulevard repaving project has begun, working between Cedar and Mayfield roads first. [Crews] will move to the section by John Carroll University (JCU) on June 19, closing that block for one month. The remainder of the project will allow through-traffic, reduced to one lane in each direction. Only the JCU portion will require complete closure of the block. The entire project should be completed by Oct. 31.

LWV Observer: Wendy Deuring.

Look for earlier, and often expanded, postings of meeting summaries online at [www.heightsobserver.org](http://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](mailto:mbarnes9515@gmail.com) or join through Google groups using "lwv-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.

# Goldberg wins primary in campaign for judgeship

Dondreya Allen

Francine Goldberg, former University Heights councilwoman and vice mayor, won the May 6 Democratic primary for Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Judge. Goldberg won 72 percent of the vote, defeating John McIntyre, a lawyer and Lakewood resident, 59,536 to 22,867.



Francine Goldberg

She will next face incumbent Republican Judge Janet Rath Colaluca in the November general election.

"I am absolutely delighted and overwhelmed by this show of support," Goldberg said via e-mail. "I am gratified that the voters entrusted me with the responsibility of representing the Democratic Party for this important judicial position."

Goldberg was a University Heights councilwoman for 12 years, serving as vice mayor for four of those years, until term limits brought an end to her service to the city in December 2013.

Goldberg earned her undergraduate degree at The Ohio State University and her J.D. at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. She served as a Cuyahoga County prosecutor for 22 years before resigning in February to run for election as a judge.

"We worked hard to win the primary election and we will work even harder to win the general election in November," said Goldberg.

"Our campaign message has always been that being a Domestic Relations Judge will be more than a job for me—it will be a mission," Goldberg explained. "I believe that I can make a significant contribution to the families of our County."

For more information on Francine Goldberg, visit [www.goldbergforjudge.com](http://www.goldbergforjudge.com).

For more information on Janet Rath Colaluca, visit [www.colalucaforjudge.com](http://www.colalucaforjudge.com)

Dondreya Allen is a senior at Cleveland Heights High School and a Heights Observer intern.

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## Heights chicken keepers to host June 21 tour



Kara Cicerchi holds one of her family's chickens.

Deanna Bremer Fisher

Chicken keepers in Cleveland Heights will hold their second annual coop tour from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 21.

Since 2012, when backyard chicken keeping was made legal in the City of Cleveland Heights, more than 35 families

have applied for chicken-keeping permits.

The tour will showcase the wide variety of chickens and coops in the Heights. Look for more information on [www.heights-chickeneers.com](http://www.heights-chickeneers.com).

*Deanna Bremer Fisher is executive director of FutureHeights, publisher of the Heights Observer, and keeps chickens in her backyard.*

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## Real estate agency dubs Cleveland Heights a foodie paradise

Dondreya Allen

Real estate agency Movoto has ranked Cleveland Heights the third most exciting place in Ohio, following Lakewood and Oxford, calling it a "foodie paradise."

Movoto, an online real estate brokerage based in San Mateo, Calif., operates in 36 states and in Washington, D.C.

The agency ranked each of 173 cities in the state of Ohio with a population of more than 10,000. It scored each city based on seven criteria: nightlife per capita (bars, clubs, comedy), live music venues per capita, active life options per capita (parks, outdoor activities), fast food restaurants per capita (the fewer the better), percentage of restaurants that are not fast food (the higher the better), percentage of residents ages 18 to 34 (the higher the better), and population density (the higher the better).

After ranking each city from 1 to 173 for each category, Movoto added the rankings together into one "Big



The Katz Club Diner, owned and operated by Cleveland Heights resident and chef Douglas Katz, is one of the many locally owned, independent eateries that contribute to the city's foodie status.

Deal Score." The cities with the lowest scores were ranked the highest. Cleveland Heights scored a total of 39.14.

Cleveland Heights's eclectic, non-fast food eatery choices pushed it to the third spot, with a helping hand from its rankings for young population, population density, and music venues. The only thing keeping Cleveland Heights from ranking higher, according to Movoto, is its active life ranking, which was a low 139.

To view the full report, visit [www.movoto.com/blog/top-ten/most-exciting-places-in-ohio](http://www.movoto.com/blog/top-ten/most-exciting-places-in-ohio).

*Dondreya Allen is a senior at Cleveland Heights High School and a Heights Observer intern.*



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## Sunday at Cain Park

We Are Cleveland Heights, an organization that comprises both residents and business owners, is hosting a Sunday in the Park event at Cain Park on June 1, 2-4 p.m.

We Are Cleveland Heights encourages park visitors to bring their families, fly kites, play instruments, bring a picnic, read a book, meet neighbors, and enjoy time in the park with others.

For more information on this



event, and about We Are Cleveland Heights, visit [www.facebook.com/weareclehts](http://www.facebook.com/weareclehts).

## Cleveland Heights City Council

### Meeting highlights

APRIL 23, 2014

All council members were present.

#### New law director

Council approved hiring Anthony Farris to be the new law director. Farris was formerly law director for the City of Youngstown, where he made contributions in city response to housing foreclosure. He is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University Law School. During his report at the end of the meeting, Mayor Dennis Wilcox expressed appreciation for Jim Julian's contributions as interim law director.

#### Consulting firm to review city operations

Council approved a \$102,000 contract with Cincinnati-based The Novak Consulting Group to review delivery of city services to ascertain if the city is using its resources effectively.

#### Taxation of live entertainment venues

Council revised language of 1947 legislation governing the taxation of live entertainment venues. Additionally, the amendments clarify the tax rate for different venues depending on audience size.

#### Bidding and purchasing changes

Council changed sections of the city code governing competitive bidding by outlining three conditions where competitive bidding is not required: when contracts for goods or services are less than \$50,000; if the service can be obtained through a state, federal or municipality purchasing program; or if it is less than what is available through several cooperative purchasing programs. Council also authorized the city's enrollment in two cooperative purchasing programs: Cuyahoga County Cooperative Purchasing and Sourcing Alliance Network Purchasing.

#### New trees

The forestry department will start planting a recent shipment of trees.

#### Curfew Penalty Review Board

Council revised the timeline for holding meetings of the Curfew Penalty Review Board. The 21-day timeline was changed to "reasonable time" and with a minimum of three days notice. The old timeline was not workable.

#### Lead remediation

In order to give the city time to help more families through the highly successful Lead Hazard Remediation Agreement with Cuyahoga County, council added 30 days to the program agreement, which was set to expire July 31.

#### Six new firefighters sworn in

Mayor Wilcox said he was pleased to be part of the swearing-in ceremony for six new firefighters held prior to the council meeting. The positions are funded through a two-year safety grant.

#### Eric Coble

Mayor Wilcox congratulated Cleveland Heights author Eric Coble [on] his play being performed on Broadway.

LWV Observer: Susie Kaeser.

MAY 5, 2014

All council members were present.

#### Public comments

Home Repair Resource Center (HRRRC): Kathryn

Lad, executive director of HRRRC, commended the city for its work on housing and thanked the city for its nearly 43 years of partnership with HRRRC. During that time, HRRRC has helped homeowners make more than \$14 million in improvements. Three Cleveland Heights residents described how HRRRC's services helped them become better stewards of their property.

Cedar Coventry development: Several residents spoke about the proposed four-unit development by Kertesz Enterprises at 12800 Cedar Road (corner of Cedar and Coventry roads), which is city-owned property. The proposal requires two zoning variances, which would permit reduced development space and higher density.

Six residents from the neighborhood adjacent to the project spoke against the plan and the variances, which they described as extreme. They noted traffic issues and claimed that the plan design was inappropriate for the scale of the site and not in keeping with the neighborhood.

Speaking in support of the variances, Randy Kertesz, the project developer, explained that safety issues had been checked by the police, and that he had already changed the design and placement of the units in response to design suggestions by the city.

Jordan Burns, the developer's attorney, said the variances were needed to make the project feasible. He argued that this is not the place to vote on the design. There are other opportunities for input.

#### Community Development Block Grant

Council approved amending the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to increase the request by \$100,000. This increase represents a small improvement after three years of cuts in federal funds.

#### Zoning variances

Council granted zoning variances to several residents, and two variances to Kertesz Enterprises for its new development project at 12800 Cedar Road. The first variance would reduce from three acres to 0.3347 acres the land required for a four-unit planned residential development. The second variance changes the maximum density for the property from 6.7 units per acre to 11.95 units per acre. These two variances were approved, with Council Members Melissa Yasinow and Jeff Coryell voting no. Yasinow explained that she felt council members should take the two weeks that are available to them to consider other solutions.

#### Noble neighborhood community meeting

Mayor Dennis Wilcox thanked Noble Neighborhood residents who participated in a community meeting with council held at the police academy. More than 35 people shared their concerns and ideas for the short- and long-term improvement of the neighborhood.

LWV Observer: Susie Kaeser.

Look for earlier and often expanded postings of meeting summaries online at [www.heightsobserver.org](http://www.heightsobserver.org).

See disclaimer on page 5.

## Heights historical photo of the month



This is what the southwest corner of Cedar and Taylor roads looked like during the 1930s. The building is the same but the tenants, of course, have changed since then. In the photo, Miller's Pharmacy and soda fountain is on the corner, next to the Boulevard Fruit and Vegetable Market. Before the advent of the supermarket, residents did their produce shopping in small neighborhood shops such as this one.

This photo was selected by the Cleveland Heights Historical Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the diverse character and traditions of Cleveland Heights. For more information, and to view additional historical images, visit [www.chhistory.org](http://www.chhistory.org) or [www.facebook.com/clevelandheightshistorical](http://www.facebook.com/clevelandheightshistorical).

COVENTRY continued from page 1

Wanska and Walberto Lemus, members of the CVSID cleaning crew, then took charge of the machine to clean stickers off one of the district's unique benches. The final demonstration project the crew completed was removing several stickers from a pedestrian-crossing sign.

Fello said CVSID would consider sharing the machine with other business districts in the Heights once its crew was comfortable operating it. "We would provide it as a package," he said, "We'd provide the machine, labor and cleaning solution for one price, once we

know what our operating costs are."

Fello said CVSID also plans to purchase a hydraulic broom for its plow, which would enable it to brush snow from neighborhood sidewalks, and that it would probably ask nearby property owners to chip in to help cover the costs.

"We are a walkable neighborhood," he said. "We want to keep our district accessible in all kinds of weather, and make it a pleasant place to shop."

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



# 4

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# Vote for Best of the Heights

Deanna Bremer Fisher

Residents can vote for their favorite Heights businesses in the 10th annual FutureHeights Best of the Heights awards program. The 2014 survey opens May 31 and runs through Aug. 31.

Since 2005, FutureHeights—a nonprofit dedicated to promoting civic engagement through information, education and advocacy—has conducted this public opinion survey to recognize the unique attributes of locally owned Heights businesses, and their contributions to the local economy.

Ballots for Best of the Heights

awards will be available in the June, July and August issues of the *Heights Observer*, at the many Heights independent businesses and at [www.futureheights.org](http://www.futureheights.org).

FutureHeights will announce the winners at a celebration on Tuesday, Sept. 23, at the newly renovated Tucker Hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2747 Fairmount Blvd.

One lucky survey respondent will win a FutureHeights gift package, in a random drawing that will be held during the award event. Survey participants need not be present to win.

For more information call Future-



Heights at 216-320-1423 or visit [www.futureheights.org](http://www.futureheights.org).

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

## CAC supported 14 Heights arts organizations in 2013

Dondreya Allen

In its Report to the Community, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) announced that 196 arts organization received grants in 2013, including 14 based in Cleveland Heights or University Heights.

CAC is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio that administers public funds from cigarette taxes and grants them to eligible organizations in Cuyahoga County.

The 14 Heights organizations that have received grants are: Apollo's Fire, Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland (Heights Youth Center), Cedar Fairmount Business District, Choral Arts Society of Cleveland, City of Cleveland Heights for the Cain Park Arts Festival, Coventry Village Special Improvement District, Dobama Theatre, Ensemble Theatre of Cleveland, Heights Arts, Heights Youth Theatre, Lake Erie Ink, Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, Open Doors Academy, and Roots of American Music.

CAC has donated more than \$112 million to 237 local arts and cultural organizations in Cuyahoga County since its inception in 2007. Its vision is to build stronger and more resilient arts and culture organizations, create vibrant and energetic neighborhoods infused with culture, and establish Cuyahoga County as a hub of creative activity and a destination for artists.

For more information on CAC and to view the report, visit [www.cacgrants.org/index.php](http://www.cacgrants.org/index.php).

*Dondreya Allen is a senior at Cleveland Heights High School and a Heights Observer intern.*

WILEY continued from page 1

Wiley renovations will be completed for the 2015-16 school year, and the school building and property will house the high school students until the end of the 2016-17 school year. After the high school work is completed, renovations to Monticello and Roxboro middle schools will begin and those students will be housed in the swing space for two years.

Details of how the campus will be expanded and programs that will and will not be offered were presented at the meeting. The swing space site will have seven buildings, which will include a temporary, free-standing music building, administration building, and an auxiliary gym. It will also include additional parking for staff and a one-way drive that will go around the perimeter of the campus.

Football will be played at the renovated high school football field, but other competition sports, such as basketball, will be cut due to lack of space and traffic concerns. The district is talking with Lutheran East about using its gym, and with the Warrensville City School District about using its pool for swim programs. Some Career Tech programs, such as auto tech, cosmetology, nursing, and pharmacy tech, will be moved to the Delisle Center on Taylor Road.

"The modular classrooms will be an upgrade in physical classroom space



Residents listen to consultants and district staff talk about the proposed changes to Wiley.

because they'll have modern climate control and state-of-the-art science labs," said Hawthorne. "These buildings seem like a positive solution—economically and geographically—for the high school and middle schools."

"I think that Wiley's community neighbors will have the opportunity to see the amazing students that attend Heights," she added.

ThenDesign Architecture, a design firm based in Willoughby, will undertake the swing space construction work.

"Our goals are to provide an equivalent educational experience, enhance safety and security, manage environmental conditions, and continue to be good neighbors to the surrounding community," said

Jeff Henderson, ThenDesign architect.

University Heights Mayor Susan Infeld said she had no comments at the meeting, as the school district has not yet made a formal presentation to UH City Council regarding its plans for the Wiley site.

For more information about the Wiley swing space, visit <http://tinyurl.com/ockkz7t>.

*Dondreya Allen is a senior at Cleveland Heights High School and a Heights Observer intern.*

## FutureHeights and Reaching Heights move to the Coventry Village neighborhood

Deanna Bremer Fisher

Two Heights nonprofits—FutureHeights, the community-building organization that publishes the *Heights Observer*, and Reaching Heights, the organization that supports public education in the Heights—are the newest tenants at the Coventry Building, 2843 Washington Blvd., the former Coventry Elementary School. The two organizations have both moved in to Suite 105, formerly occupied by the Open Office.

"Our strategic partnership with Reaching Heights enables us to share resources, reduce expenses and use more of the dollars invested in us to fulfill our mission of creating a more vibrant community," said Clare Taft, president of the FutureHeights Board of Directors. "We have more space at the Coventry location than we did before, and are looking forward to working with Reaching Heights on some joint programming."

John Hubbard, president of the Reaching Heights Board of Directors said, "Working out of a former school

building with a number of like-minded neighbors is an ideal complement to the mission of Reaching Heights, reminding us that we focus on making public education a pillar within our community. We anticipate an exciting cross-pollination of ideas and opportunities with FutureHeights in particular, due to the many parallels in our goals."

The groups plan to make some renovations to the space over the next several months and will hold an open house later in the year. They join existing Coventry Building tenants Lake Erie Ink, Family Connections, Ensemble Theatre, Cleveland Heights High School Alumni Foundation, Urban Oak School and Coventry Children's Center.

Both organizations will retain their current phone numbers and e-mail addresses. To reach FutureHeights, call 216-320-1423 or e-mail [info@futureheights.org](mailto:info@futureheights.org). To reach Reaching Heights, call 216-932-5110 or e-mail [krista@reachingheights.org](mailto:krista@reachingheights.org).

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

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Bob Votruba on his bike in front of the Kindness Bus.

## Kindness Bus visits the Heights

Dondreya Allen

One Million Acts of Kindness, an organization whose goal it is to spread kindness and love in the world to end violence, visited the Heights in May, and on May 15, the Kindness Bus was parked in Coventry Village.

Founder Bob Votruba tours the country in his bus along with his dog companion, Bogart.

"Three days after the Virginia Tech shooting, I drove down there and stayed for four days," said Votruba, "I saw so much pain and suffering caused by one person. I wanted to overcome the pain and hurt by spreading kindness."

"I sold everything I had and, along with Bogart, started traveling on The Kindness Bus," he said. "I believe in four values: kindness, compassion, respect and gratitude."

"The Kindness Bus has been running for seven years since the Virginia Tech shooting. I have been to many places, from Florida to California. I'm going to do a bike tour in London for 63 days, and after I come back I'll be going to Long

Island."

The positive quotes written on the exterior of the bus were contributed by people who have come in contact with it.

"The Blue Bird [bus] was contributed by the Blue Bird Corporation after I donated the original bus to Virginia Tech," said Votruba. "It took me three months to copy the writing from the original bus on to the new one."

"I have ridden over 19,000 miles on my bike tours. You really find out a lot about yourself by spreading kindness. It is up to us to spread love."

Every year there are several events held in support of the kindness campaign: One Million Acts of Kindness Week, which takes place during the second week of February; Spring into Kindness Day, held on the first day of spring; and One Million Acts of Kindness Day, held April 27.

For more information about Votruba and One Million Acts of Kindness, visit [www.onemillionactsofkindness.com](http://www.onemillionactsofkindness.com).

*Dondreya Allen is a senior at Cleveland Heights High School and a Heights Observer intern.*

## Heights foodies to speak at welcome event on June 26

Deanna Bremer Fisher

Three Heights civic organizations will host Welcome Home: Heights Foodies, a reception to welcome new and potential residents of Cleveland Heights and University Heights, from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, June 26, at The Wine Spot, 2271 Lee Road.

The free event will feature a panel discussion by Heights foodies and entrepreneurs about why they like living and working in the Heights. Panelists are Chef Jonathan Sawyer, owner of The Greenhouse Tavern and Noodlecat; Tommy Fello, owner of Tommy's restaurant; Keith Logan, owner of Sweetie Fry; and Adam Fleischer, owner of The Wine Spot.

"This is an opportunity for newcomers to meet some of our outstanding chefs and entrepreneurs and find out what attracts them to the Heights," said Clare Taft, board president of FutureHeights, one of the presenting organizations. "They can also learn about the two cities' civic and cultural assets, meet neighbors and feel at home."

Participants can enjoy an optional wine tasting for \$10 per person, and complimentary nibbles. Wine, beer and spirits can also be purchased by the glass. Door prizes will be given out to new residents.

Civic leaders, including city



and school officials, will be on hand to welcome residents and provide information. Heights schools, businesses, cultural institutions and other organizations will also have materials available.

The event is presented by the Friends of the Heights Libraries, FutureHeights and Reaching Heights. It is sponsored in part by Keller National Insurance.

To RSVP, call the Friends office at 216-932-3600, ext. 234, or send an e-mail to [friends@heightslibrary.org](mailto:friends@heightslibrary.org).

The groups plan another welcoming event in October. Welcome Home: Heights Authors will take place on Sunday, Oct. 5 at the Lee Road Library.

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

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## Music is in the mix at annual strawberry festival



On Friday, June 6, Noble Road Presbyterian Church will host its annual Strawberry Festival—a spring tradition for the church and the Heights community. From 6–8 p.m., enjoy music, games and—of course—strawberries, shortcake and ice cream. The event will take place at the church, at 2780 Noble Road, rain or shine.

## Coventry Village goes skateboarding June 21

Angela Hetrick

Every year on June 21, skateboarders around the globe gather to celebrate the spirit of skateboarding on Go Skateboarding Day.

This year, Coventry Village encourages the community to come out for a day of fun, to experience what skateboarding is all about.

With the help of Public Square Group, a Cleveland nonprofit “dedicated to skateboarding, art and civics,” Parking Lot 15 (located between Heights Cleaners and Marc’s on Coventry Road), will be transformed into a one-day pop-up skate park on June 21, 3–7 p.m. The pop-up skate park, equipped with ramps and obstacles is free and open to skaters of all ages.

After the pop-up park closes, roll on over to the B Side Liquor Lounge & Arcade for an all-ages party that will include classic skateboarding videos, arcade and pinball games, and special discounts on food and drinks.

The daylong celebration of skateboarding concludes with a free outdoor showing of the popular skateboarding documentary, “The Bones Brigade, An Autobiography,” in Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Park (at Euclid Heights Boulevard and Coventry Road) at 9 p.m.

The film, featuring Tony Hawk, Stacy Peralta and The Bones Brigade team, is a personal story of how talent, skill, passion and the belief that anything is possible transformed skateboarding from a pastime to a billion-dollar action sport industry.

Vince Frantz, executive director of Public Square Group, said, “Go Skateboarding Day is now an internationally recognized holiday and this will be the first time someone in Cleveland has organized something for this day—we’re excited to be a part of it! There are so many skaters from Cleveland Heights, and it will be great to finally do an event in this part of the city.”

Now in its 11th year, Go Skateboarding Day continues to grow, but the mission remains the same: Have fun, go skateboarding. This year, help celebrate it in Coventry Village.

Angela Hetrick is executive director of Coventry Village Special Improvements District.



## Kick off the summer on June 11 at HYC’s Taste of the Heights

Louise Khayat

It’s time for Taste of the Heights, the annual Heights Youth Club (HYC) fundraising event that brings together great tastes from many local Heights restaurants. The event takes place at the club, 2065 Lee Road, on Wednesday, June 11, 6–9 p.m.

Sample specialties from Anatolia Café, Barle Soup and Sandwich, the BottleHouse Brewery, Brennan’s Colony, Café Tandoor, Dewey’s Pizza, Joey’s Bistro, Katz Club Diner, Lopez, the Mad Greek, Mister Brisket, New Heights Grill, Nighttown, O’Rielly’s Pub, Pacific East, Pizzazz, the Rib Cage, the Stone Oven, Sweetie Fry, the Tavern Company, Taste, Tommy’s and Zagara’s Marketplace.

The event is an opportunity to visit HYC and see how the club is making an impact on Heights kids through after-school and summer programming. There will be live music from Otis and the Shoreway Saints, and a chance to win prizes, such as a cruise, Indians tickets and gift certificates from local restaurants.

Tickets are \$50 in advance or \$60 at the door. Taste of the Heights is sponsored by the Cedar Lee Special Improvement District, Fairmount Presbyterian Church, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, Frantz Ward LLP, Liquid Crystal Images and KPMG.

HYC is a nonprofit organization serving Heights youth. To purchase event tickets or learn more about the club, visit [www.heightsyouthclub.org](http://www.heightsyouthclub.org).

Louise Khayat is the administrator for the Heights Youth Club Board of Directors.

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June 4, 11, 18 and 25

#### Sunday

10 a.m. – Community Eucharist  
June 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

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



# Free summer fun in Coventry Village

Angela Hetrick

Coventry Village is offering a summer full of free, family-friendly, can't-miss events.

Starting June 10, Coventry Village will celebrate warm summer nights with free live music, outdoor movies, meet-and-greets with local authors, and more. Stop by Parking Lot 15, between Heights Cleaners and Marc's, to join the fun.

## Live Music on Tuesdays (6-9 p.m.)

- June 10: Revolution Brass Band (New Orleans-style brass band)
- June 17: These Knees (rock)
- June 24: Old Boy (rock)
- July 1: Cellar Door Records Songwriters Round (rock/folk songwriters)
- July 15: Carrie Ryan (rock/folk)
- July 22: School of Rock (covers performed by students)
- July 29: Vernon Jones Blues Cartel
- Aug. 5: Heights Jazz Group

## Mac's Backs book signings by local authors (6:30-8:30 p.m.)

- June 10: Charles Ramsey
- June 17: Shelley Costa and Les Roberts
- June 24: Joe Baur and Douglas Tratner
- July 8: Gail Bellamy
- July 15: Bryan Fritz and Vince McKee

On Thursdays, grab a bite to eat in Coventry Village, then head over to P.E.A.C.E. Park at the former Coventry School and enjoy free films under the stars. Bring a blanket and bring your family and friends.

## Thursday Night Outdoor Movies (beginning about 9 p.m.)

- June 12: "Frozen" (rated PG, G)
- June 19: "The Goonies" (PG)
- June 26: "Ghostbusters" (PG)
- July 3: "Top Gun" (PG)
- July 10: "The Muppet Movie" (G)
- July 17: "Better Off Dead" (PG)
- July 24: Three Stooges films, followed by the annual Coventry Pie Fight—bring your own pie.
- July 31: "Karate Kid" (PG)
- Aug. 7: "Rocky Horror Picture Show," featuring Simply his Ser-



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vants, the live cast from the Cedar Lee Theatre (R)

## Sundays in the Park

Wind down the weekend every Sunday at P.E.A.C.E. Park, and prepare for the week ahead with free yoga classes from SpyngaFlows at 6 p.m. (all levels are welcome), and a community drum circle at 7 p.m. Bring your own drum or percussion instrument.

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

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—Beth Bohn, Judson Park resident since 2006

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

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

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# Why walk the Heights if you can run?

Mary Dunbar

A strength of the Heights is its walkability. Ubiquitous sidewalks lead to coffee shops, bakeries, restaurants, libraries, schools and religious institutions—all sorts of attractions.

The Heights is also a great place for runners, who can enter numerous races without ever leaving the community.

Races often support worthy causes. Already this year, the Break Out of the Bubble 5K at Forest Hill Park on April 19 benefited the CWRU Student-Run Free Clinic; the Earth Day 5K at Forest Hill Park on April 23 raised money for youth recreation scholarships; and the 4- or 2-mile

RoxEl Run on May 31 helped Roxboro Elementary School raise funds for playground equipment and enhancements.

Also in May, University Heights held its annual Memorial Day Run, a 1.5- or 4-mile route, starting at John Carroll University to benefit a school in the city.

Races usually provide T-shirts to entrants, awards for top finishers in various age groups, water stops and timers at every mile, and police control on roadways.

For race registration information, use Google or another search engine to find events online. Here are some upcoming Heights races:

A Most Excellent Race, Sunday, June 22, to support recreation programs for children with disabilities at the Achievement Centers' Camp Cheerful: 5K or 10K runs and a 5K walk start at 9 a.m. at Beaumont School, 3301 North Park Blvd. Pre-registration is \$25; race-day registration is \$30.

Thunder Run, Saturday, July 19, to benefit Lake Erie Ink: This 5K run/walk in Forest Hill Park (2370 Lee Blvd.) starts at 9 a.m. Registration is \$20 for individuals or \$15 for school team members.

B'nai B'rith Health Run, Sunday, July 20: The 1-mile walk begins at 8:30 a.m. and the 5K run begins at 9 a.m., starting at Rascal House Pizza, 2255 Warrensville Center Road.

Run Through History, Sunday,

Aug. 18, at Lakeview Cemetery: A 1-mile walk at 8:30 a.m. and a 5K run at 9 a.m. both start from the cemetery's Mayfield Gate (at the corner of Kenilworth and Mayfield roads). Pre-registration is \$15 for the walk and \$20 for the 5K; race-day registration is \$20 and \$25.

Miles for Smiles, Monday, Sept. 1: Both the 1-mile walk and 5K run begin at 9 a.m. at Nighttown, 12383 Cedar Road, and benefit Operation Smile and Cleveland Heights Youth Scholarship Fund. Operation Smile provides free surgeries to repair cleft lip, cleft palate and other facial deformities for children around the globe. The Cleveland Heights Youth Scholarship Fund helps kids pay for youth recreation programs. Pre-registration costs \$16; race-day registration is \$20.

Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, 5K and hikes, Sunday, Sept. 21: Hikes begin at 9 a.m. from the Nature Center at 2600 South Park Blvd. and include a 12-mile hike to Lake Erie, a 4-mile hike along Doan Brook Gorge, and a 1-mile pet-friendly family hike. The cost of the hikes is \$15 for adults; \$10 for children under 12, scouts and school club members; and \$40 for families. The 5K Race begins at 9:15 a.m. Pre-registration is \$20; race-day registration is \$25.

Mary Dunbar is a member of Cleveland Heights City Council and a runner.

## Free Wheelin' Wednesday Bike Rides



LIFE CYCLE

Heights Bicycle Coalition

This popular series of Wednesday-evening bike rides returns this year and is a great way to spend summer evenings. The rides are easy, casual, meandering routes through the Heights, and showcase the community.

Free Wheelin' Wednesday rides are free and start at 6:30 p.m. at the Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Arch (corner of Coventry Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard). Each ride features a different theme. After the rides, the group often visits a bar on Coventry.

This year's lineup includes:

- June 4: Meandering Ride. No destination, just a mind-clearing tour of Heights neighborhoods. Leader: Mary Dunbar.
- June 18: Forest Hill History. Ride through Forest Hill Park and neighborhood, the former summer home of John D. Rockefeller. Leaders: Joy Henderson and Michael Rotman.
- July 2: Kid-Themed Ride. Ride to some of the Heights's best destinations for kids. Leader: Sarah O'Keeffe and family
- July 16: Pub-Crawl Ride. Ride to a few of the Heights pubs; for adults 21 and older. Leader: Tom Ligman.
- July 30: Park Synagogue and Environs. Learn about this historic synagogue. Leaders: Bert and Alice Stratton.
- Aug. 13: Family-Paced Shaker Lakes Ride. After more than 100 years as parkland, the Shaker Lakes remain a draw for families. Leader: Greg Jolivet.
- Aug. 27: Rain date, for any rides are canceled due to weather

Rides are sponsored by the Heights Bicycle Coalition. For more information, contact [info@bikesintheheights.org](mailto:info@bikesintheheights.org)

*The Heights Bicycle Coalition, formed in 2010, works to make the Heights more bicycle friendly. The group encourages residents to ride bicycles for fun, and as a sustainable, healthy form of transportation.*

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# Meet Vivian, the garden coach

Stacey Rippner

Vivian Vail's gorgeous garden is at the corner of Somerton and Radnor roads in Cleveland Heights. It's a rambling home to luscious peonies, poppies, gladiolas, zinnias, sunflowers, sage, dahlias and many varieties of sedum. Her garden features huge rocks, sculptures and interesting objects, such as a carved wooden Don Quixote head. Perhaps you've seen her out working in her full-length signature sundresses. Watching her jump on a shovel (with dress billowing) to get down deep into the dirt is a dramatic treat.

Vail opened her gardening business (called Vivian the Garden Coach) last spring, after helping a friend start a garden and loving the experience [disclosure: I am that friend]. One of her first clients had lots of beautiful plants that she hadn't tended to in several seasons, and was overwhelmed about what needed to be done. Vail helped her prune, divide and relocate plants so that their beauty was revealed. Another person just needed a rhododendron pruned to make her garden come alive and look less ragged. According to Vail, "Sometimes you need to edit what's detracting from natural beauty."

Vail was not a gardener until 12 years ago. She arrived home one day and found her whole front lawn covered in black plastic, thanks to her husband. "He was so frustrated with our weed-infested lawn he decided to kill it," she recalled.

The first thing she did was shape her beds and buy rich, fertile soil. Then she spent time deciding where shrubs would go. "I was so tentative at first, so afraid of making mistakes. I remember I fell in love with a rose bush but by the time I finally planted it, it had died," Vail recalled. Her neighbors helped her by sharing perennials.

Vail feels energized when she gardens. "Gardening is contagious and community-building. There are so many incredible gardens in Cleveland Heights. I remember a realtor once telling my mom that Cleveland Heights is known for its front-yard gardens. Other communities keep their gardens in back."

"New gardeners need to know you



Vivian Vail in her Heights garden.

have to kill a lot of plants before you build the confidence to garden your own way," she said.

Vail describes herself as a gardener who does not discriminate and believes all flowers just need the right neighbors to set off their beauty. Her garden is an informal cottage-style garden, but she enjoys all types. "Some people like lots of color with things tumbling over, anything goes. A more austere look can be just as beautiful," she said.

When Vail works with a new client, she determines whether beds are shaped well and if they are they taking advantage of the sun. Her eye goes toward plants that are happy and healthy. She features what is already working, and helps clients find their own personal aesthetic. Vail encourages people to plant what brings them pleasure, with consideration to how much time they want to spend on garden maintenance.

Some of the services Vail provides include creating beds, getting rid of garden clutter, helping figure out how to attract birds and butterflies, moving plants, choosing plants and flowers, telling clients what is working in the garden and general upkeep.

You can reach Vivian the Garden Coach online at [www.vivianthegardencoach.weebly.com](http://www.vivianthegardencoach.weebly.com) or by phone at 216-224-8789.

*Stacey Rippner is the director of Kitchen Table Tutoring and founder of BAM, a free book-a-month club for kids. She graduated from Heights High in the era when Mickey Mouse adorned the clock tower.*

# HRRC annual meeting is June 3

Kathryn Lad

The annual meeting of the Cleveland Heights-based, nonprofit Home Repair Resource Center (HRRC), will take place on Tuesday, June 3, 7 p.m., at the Cleveland Heights Community Center, 1 Monticello Blvd. The public is invited to attend this free event.

After a brief review of the past year and election of new HRRC board members, staff and clients will share stories of HRRC and the community it serves.

Since its inception in 1971, HRRC has offered an ever-expanding mix of programs to help people at all stages of home ownership. HRRC programs include classes for prospective home buyers; hands-on workshops that teach basic home repairs; classes and consultations that help seniors maintain,



and remain in, their homes; lectures on product choices, contracting repairs, and making homes more sustainable; and assistance for those facing foreclosure. All of HRRC's programs and services impact both individuals and neighborhoods, and strengthen the housing stock of the entire community.

For more information about the annual meeting, or HRRC's programs, call 216-381-6100 or visit [www.hrhc-ch.org](http://www.hrhc-ch.org).

*Kathryn Lad is executive director of HRRC.*

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# Reaching Heights Summer Music Camp celebrates 10th year

Krista Hawthorne

A week of immersion in music exploration can turn beginning instrumentalists into confident performers and inspired learners. That's what happens each year at the Reaching Heights Summer Music Camp, which will take place for the tenth consecutive year at Wiley Middle School, June 16-21.

The public is invited to the camp's free finale concert on Saturday, June 21 at 10:30 a.m., at Wiley Middle School, 2181 Miramar Blvd.

"Campers learn the life changing lesson that sustained effort allows them to do things they never imagined! After seven hours of music making, most campers go home and practice



Campers, counselors and music teachers rehearse for the camp's 2013 Finale concert.

more. It lights a fire," said Susie Kaeser, camp director.

Reaching Heights, a community support organization for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights school district, sponsors the camp and gathers a diverse musical team to create the week-long musical experience. Daniel Heim, Heights High orchestra director, serves as conductor and music director. District music teachers Tamar Gray, Betsy Neylon and Bob Adamson are part of the leadership team. The rest of the professional staff includes alumni of the Heights schools music program and local music professionals, including Cleveland Orchestra member Richard Waugh.

Up to 90 elementary and middle school instrumentalists participate, and 20 Heights High School student musicians serve as coaches. Donations from individuals make it possible to offer scholarship assistance so that

any motivated young musician who lives in the school district is able to participate.

"This is a wonderful community project. We've developed a cadre of local musicians who are both experts on their instruments, and engaging teachers. The campers are thrilled to know their teachers attended the same schools they did. The result is a creative, supportive, demanding, fast-moving and fun experience," said Kaeser, who, along with Tamar Gray and Betsy Neylon, founded the camp in 2004.

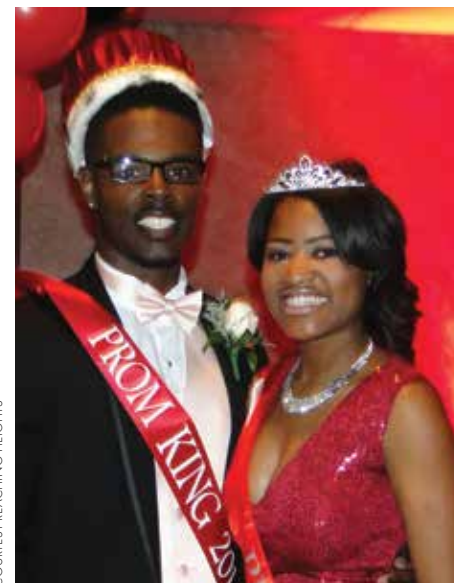
The camp day includes two full orchestra and sectional rehearsals, master classes, music theory, chamber groups and daily mini recitals. Each camper can elect to explore other musical options such as jazz, guitar, African drumming and vocal. Outdoor time, lunch, and arts and crafts complete the day.

"We are grateful to the families and donors who support musical learning. A first-time grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture affirms the value of our efforts and will help us reach out to include the whole community in our finale concert. We intend to make this a reunion event for previous campers. The kids deserve a great audience and concertgoers are guaranteed a great performance," said Kaeser.

Music education is a priority for Reaching Heights, the 25-year-old non-profit formed to mobilize community resources to foster highly valued public schools that provide all CH-UH district students a successful education.

For more information call 216-932-5110 or e-mail [krista@reachingheights.org](mailto:krista@reachingheights.org).

*Krista Hawthorne is executive director of Reaching Heights.*



Prom King Robert Williams and Queen Arianna Lewis.

## Heights High students celebrate 007-themed senior prom

Dondreya Allen

Cleveland Heights High School held its senior prom on May 3, at the Manor Centre Complex in Euclid, from 6:30 p.m. to midnight.

The James Bond-themed gala was complemented by red, white and black decorations. Professional photographers documented the event, and students could take advantage of a free photo booth.

Students enjoyed appetizers while the DJ played music to welcome the incoming guests. Around 8 p.m., a buffet-style dinner, which included mixed vegetables, mashed potatoes, pasta alfredo, chicken breast, and beef stew, was served.

After dinner, the night picked up as guests finished eating, and the DJ turned the volume up to play some of today's popular songs. The dance floor was packed with attendees as they danced and sang along to the music.

Robert Williams and Arianna Lewis were crowned prom king and queen as the clock struck ten. They slow danced as onlookers watched.

Line dances, including the Wobble and the Cupid Shuffle, and another round of dancing topped off the night. Seniors received a gift bag containing souvenirs and candy, then made their way to the official after-prom event at the Corner Alley in downtown Cleveland, or to their own private after-prom events.

*Dondreya Allen is a senior at Cleveland Heights High School and a Heights Observer intern.*

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# Fairfax third-grader and mom lobby legislators in Columbus

Marnie Urso

In his third-grade class at Fairfax Elementary School, student Kenji Sakaie had been learning about community and government. When invited to embrace his role in the democratic process with his mother, Joan Spoerl, at the Mama Summit in Columbus, he jumped at the chance. Organized by Moms Clean Air Force with various partners, the Mama Summit brought together 50 Ohioans to advocate for a safer and healthier future for the state's children.

Sakaie made posters to give to his state representative, state senator, and the governor, and was even able to send posters for U.S. Senators Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman, to be delivered in person by a Moms Clean Air Force representative based in Washington, D.C.

Moms Clean Air Force ([www.momscleanairforce.org](http://www.momscleanairforce.org)) is a community of moms and dads united against air pollution—including the current climate-change crisis—to protect children's health.

Spoerl was one of the speakers at a press conference where Sakaie was



Kenji Sakaie, a student at Fairfax Elementary School, on the Ohio Senate floor with Sen. Nina Turner.

able to meet the keynote speaker, Rep. Tracy Heard. Sakaie and his mom met with staff in state Sen. Shirley Smith's office and met Sen. Nina Turner on the Ohio Senate floor. He helped deliver 600 signatures to Gov. Kasich and was part of the group recognized on the floor of the Ohio House of Representatives where he also saw The Ohio State University marching band play "Hang on Sloopy!"

While Sakaie can't vote, he wants

legislators to know that he and other children are depending on their public servants to develop policies that promote and protect their health and well-being. He and his mom asked the lawmakers to promote and protect public health through laws that will reduce Ohioans' exposure to toxic chemicals

in the air, water and everyday household products, such as air fresheners, cleaning and laundry products, lotions, shampoos and lawn chemicals.

They pointed out that pediatric health experts have determined that even low exposures to environmental chemicals can harm children's health and are significant factors in the epidemic rises of chronic diseases among American children—asthma rates in children have tripled in the last 30 years (208,000 Ohio children have asthma), some birth defects have tripled, and cancer rates, ADHD, autism and food allergies are on the rise.

Last fall, Spoerl joined Moms Clean Air Force and the Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families Coalition ([www.saferchemicals.org](http://www.saferchemicals.org)) in Washington, D.C. for a Stroller Brigade advocating for a Stronger Safe Chemicals Act. Perhaps you'll join Sakaie and his mom for Mama Summit 2015.

Marnie Urso is the Ohio field manager for Moms Clean Air Force.

## Lake Erie Ink splashes into its fourth summer

Christin Van Atta

Starting its fourth summer of creative programming, Lake Erie Ink is excited to be flourishing in the Heights. Co-founders Cynthia Larsen and Amy Rosenbluth started Lake Erie Ink three years ago to create a safe space to remind young writers of the power of expression, and enable them to collaborate with youths throughout Greater Cleveland.

Ink Spot, Lake Erie Ink's popular after-school program, encourages students in grades four and up to participate in a variety of creative projects, including poetry composition, fiction writing, comic strip creation, playwriting and song writing.

Since its start in 2011, Lake Erie Ink has expanded its reach in the community to offer an exciting lineup of summer programs. New this summer, a teen digital media camp with Dee Jay Doc offers kids the chance to record a personal narrative using audio and visual technology, and create their own music video. Supported by a Nord Family Foundation grant, teens can participate at no cost, but space is limited.

Lake Erie Ink is also bringing back favorite summer sessions such as Word-

Play: Puppetry and PlayWriting, Comics and Graphic Storytelling, Community Connections and Writing Outside the Box.

Ongoing relationships with John Carroll University, Cleveland Institute of Art and Hiram College are helping Lake Erie Ink to grow and fulfill its goal of creating a writing space for youth.

Anyone interested in volunteering with Lake Erie Ink, or in registering for a summer program can call 216-320-4757. For more information visit [www.lakeerieink.org](http://www.lakeerieink.org).

"Spring," a poem by Anthony, a fifth-grade writer at Lake Erie Ink, ushers in the warm weather season:

*It's not too cold,  
it's not too hot  
the season is changing,  
it's changing a lot.*

*The grass is growing,  
the flowers bloom,  
the snow is heading  
to its doom.*

Christin Van Atta is a Cleveland writer working as a graduate assistant at Kent State University, teaching composition.

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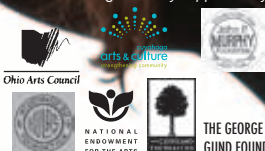
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Beaumont students who took the Latin exam included, from left, front row: Grace Mascha, Mia Saracusa, Maria Costanzo; second row: Mary Fanning, Rachel Graf, Emily Brady; third row: Christina Kerner, Christina Ciofani, Nia Everett; fourth row: Ana Maria Vargas, Mary Elizabeth DeWitt.

## Beaumont students medal in National Latin Exam

Anne Jarrad

Beaumont School garnered a total of 35 awards in this year's National Latin Exam, including six gold and 17 silver medals.

The National Latin Exam, sponsored by the American Classical League and the National Junior Classical League, is a 40-question, multiple-choice test with a time limit of 45 minutes, offered to students on seven levels. Questions on the exam include grammar, comprehension, mythology, derivatives, literature, Roman life, history, geography, oral Latin, and Latin in use in the modern world.

"Beaumont has been really successful on the National Latin Exam," explained Claudia Heilman, Latin teacher. "We have so many gold and silver medal winners, and in my 25 years as a teacher, I

have also seen two young women get perfect scores on the test."

Approximately 154,000 students from 49 states and 17 countries sat for the exam on March 6, and results were announced on May 7. Of the 35 Beaumont students who took the exam, 64 percent earned either a gold or silver medal.

Beaumont School, an all-girls Catholic secondary school in the Ursuline tradition, is located in Cleveland Heights. Beaumont was founded in 1850, and is the oldest school in the Cleveland Diocese and the oldest secondary school in Greater Cleveland.

*Anne Jarrad works with Beaumont School to support its Advancing Excellence Capital Campaign. She lives with her husband and two children in Cleveland Heights.*

## Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education Meeting highlights

APRIL 29, 2014  
All board members were present.



### Summer school tuition

The board approved summer school tuition rates for the 2013-14 school year.

### Radio One promotion

The board approved participation in the Radio One promotion, "Bring Sevyn Streeter to Your Prom" contest.

### Facilities project

Updates included:

- Notice that the project is on schedule
- Various group meetings
- Relocation of the high school staff to Wiley, with meetings conducted for various departments, such as music
- Relocation of Wiley students and staff to Monticello and Roxboro middle schools
- Relocation of the career programs; most to be held at Wiley, but some at the Delisle Options Center
- Budget reports, which show lower-than-expected expenditures this month
- Meetings with the design team to emphasize use of environmentally friendly

products

- The stadium renovation, which will start soon because the bidding process has been successfully completed
- Consideration of moving the trades program classes to Millikin or another location
- A traffic study of Wiley that may include options for one-way traffic and a bus loop
- A parking study of Roxboro that may include options for a parking area to temporarily replace the tennis courts and establishing a temporary pick-up and drop-off point

LWV Observer: Lillian Houser.

Note: The BOE held a meeting on May 5, but no LWV Observer was able to attend the meeting.

Look for earlier and often expanded postings of meeting summaries online at [www.heightsobserver.org](http://www.heightsobserver.org). See disclaimer on page 6.





2014 Hall of Fame inductees (from left) Linda Cohn Wood '62, Julie Roth '91, Laurence Miller '51, Perry Peskin '46, Colleen Fahey Rush '82, Tony Phelan '82, Stephen Weiss '62, Robert Baker '61, Gerald Gurney '69. Not pictured: Elaine Splaver Abramson '60.



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# Heights High Hall of Fame inducts ten

Angee Shaker

On May 8, the Cleveland Heights High School Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame (HOF) held its 34th induction ceremony. The HOF honors the accomplishments of Heights alumni while giving current students solid examples of what they can accomplish in life, and the opportunity to hear from adults who once sat in the same seats and walked the same halls as they do.

A student committee, the Imagemakers, selects inductees from nominations made by the general public. Students do not know the names of the nominees, only their accomplishments.

"It's not until you hear the inductees speak and listen to their stories that you understand just why the students select them for the Hall of Fame," stated Eric Silverman, executive director of the Cleveland Heights High School Alumni Foundation and a 1987 Heights High graduate. "The wide breadth of careers and experiences we see with this year's inductees is representative of the pluralism that is Heights High. With over 85 years of graduates, our Hall of Fame is just a sample of the amazing achievements our alumni have accomplished."

The evening program began with performances by the Heights Barber-shoppers, followed by remarks from

the inductees. The next morning, the new Hall of Famers visited Heights High, touring the building and speaking to classes.

The alumni foundation accepts nominations for its Hall of Fame year round, and application forms can be found at [www.heightsalumni.org](http://www.heightsalumni.org). Also posted on the foundation's website is a complete listing of HOF inductees, as well as biographies for inductees from the last 20 years.

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



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## Senior Citizen Happenings

Senior Citizen Happenings, sponsored by the City of University Heights, are open to all senior citizens. Events take place on Thursdays at 2 p.m. 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](mailto:info@universityheights.com).

**June 5:** Mickie McGraw, pioneer art therapist, contracted polio in 1953, at the age of 11. She studied art and then counseling, and helped establish the country's first art therapy studio. She will discuss her decades of transformative and healing work with disabled patients.

**June 12:** Jeffrey Streaan, director of architecture and design at Cleveland Museum of Art, worked through every phase of the museum's recently completed, eight-year, \$320 million expansion and restoration. He'll talk about working with architect Rafael

Viñoly, to transform a mazelike warren of galleries into an expansive new space.

**June 19:** Carolyn Pelley, assistant music director at Gesu Parish, highlights the life and accomplishments of Cole Porter, and performs a concert featuring such hits as "Night and Day," "You're the Top" and "I've Got you Under my Skin."

**June 26:** Mary Louise Hahn and Mikelann Rensel, consultants, discuss the achievements and work of The Cleveland Foundation, as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. With an endowment that exceeds \$2 billion, the foundation works to improve lives throughout Greater Cleveland, as a catalyst for fair housing and integration, AIDS care and research, local community group empowerment, public school reformation, and landmark capital projects, such as University Circle's development.



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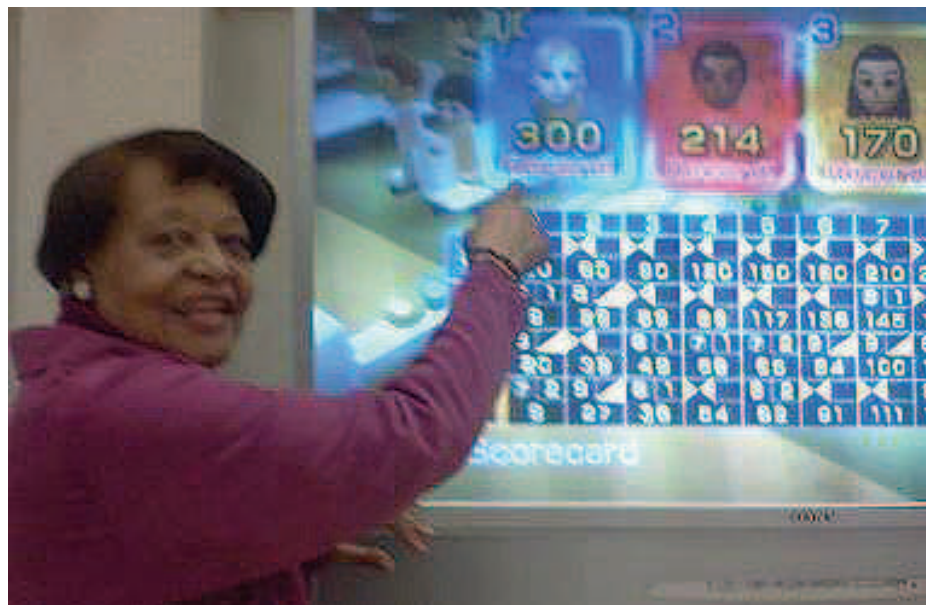


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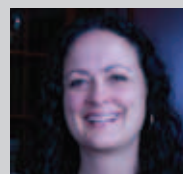
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## Heights Senior bowls two perfect games



Ella Hopkins, 86, enjoys Wii bowling at the Cleveland Heights Senior Activity Center. She usually bowls over 200, but her goal was to bowl 300—a perfect game. On March 26, the day before her birthday, she bowled two perfect games, back-to-back. Way to go Ella!

## An architectural tour of the Heights



SENIOR SCENE

Judith Eugene

Cleveland and its eastern suburbs are home to many beautiful buildings, and some interesting architectural developments occurred here between the mid-1800s and the 1920s. Many local seniors recall their parents talking about life in the Heights during that time of transition, and some are fortunate enough to have witnessed firsthand the later years of this period of development.

The Superior Schoolhouse, located at the corner of Superior Road and Euclid Heights Boulevard in Cleveland Heights, is believed to date to 1859. It was used as a schoolhouse for approximately 65 years. When the farmland around it began to be developed for residential use, new larger schools were built. It was last used as a schoolhouse in 1924, and is now home to the Cleveland Heights Historical Society. It is open by appointment (216-291-4885), and admission is free.

Lake View Cemetery, located partly in Cleveland Heights, is home to the Garfield Monument and tomb. Completed in 1890, it was constructed of Berea sandstone. The tower is 50 feet in diameter and 180 feet high. The base is decorated with bas relief panels depicting President Garfield's life. The monument is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and admission is free.

Wade Chapel, also located in Lake View Cemetery, is modeled after traditional Greek temples. It was completed in 1901 and is dedicated to the memory of Clevelander Jeptha Wade, the founder of the Western Union Tele-

graph Company. The entrance features two-ton bronze doors, and the interior is decorated with mosaics and stained glass panels by Louis Comfort Tiffany. The chapel is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and admission is free.

Nela Park, located on Noble Road in East Cleveland, near the Cleveland Heights border, was the first planned industrial research park in the nation. Built between 1911 and 1921 by the National Electric Lamp Association, Nela Park comprises 20 buildings on approximately 90 acres. It was very advanced in its design of commercial mechanical systems and use of assembly line-type construction. Today, Nela Park is the headquarters of GE Lighting, and is known for its creative holiday light displays.

Cleveland Heights was originally farmland in East Cleveland and South Euclid townships. In 1895, developers Patrick Calhoun and John Brown created the Euclid Heights subdivision as a planned "garden suburb," and other developments soon followed. In 1921, Cleveland Heights was the first city in Ohio to establish a city zoning ordinance.

University Heights was originally incorporated as Idlewood Village in 1908, and was part of Warrensville Township. The name was changed in 1925 when John Carroll University moved from downtown Cleveland to the Heights.

All historical information is courtesy of the Cleveland Heights Historical Society and "The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History," a resource of Case Western Reserve University and the Western Reserve Historical Society.

Judith Eugene, a native of Cleveland Heights, provides classes and activities for senior adults and those with physical and mental challenges. Contact her at 216-408-5578 or visit [www.lovinghandsgroup.com](http://www.lovinghandsgroup.com).

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# Library summer programs celebrate the Gay Games

Sheryl Banks

This summer, the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library will offer entertaining and thought-provoking LGBTQ-themed (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning) programs for adults. The library's Looking Through the LGBT Lens programs are planned to coincide with, and complement, the 2014 International Gay Games, coming to Cleveland in August.

"The Gay Games is a huge event for all of Northeast Ohio, and we're proud to be supporting it with our programs this summer," said Nancy Levin, Heights Libraries director. "Public libraries are all about inclusiveness and respect for individual viewpoints and

differences, and these programs and displays fall right in with our mission and values."

The programs begin in June and end in August, and feature book discussions, original art displays, films, local history talks, and performances by local LGBT artists:

June 11, 7 p.m. at Lee Road Library – Book Talk: *Blue Boy* by Rakesh Satyal.

July 9, 7 p.m. at Lee Road Library – Book Talk: *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker.

Aug. 4, 7 p.m. at Coventry Village Library – LGBT Local Author Panel: A diverse panel of local writer-performers, including Judah Leblang (*Finding My Place*), Christine Howey ("Exact Change"), and slam poetry

champion Eris Dyson, will offer their insights and perspectives on the LGBTQ experience.

Aug. 6, 7 p.m. at Lee Road Library – Personal Narratives of the Local LGBT Movement: A look at the past, present, and future of the LGBTQ movement in Cleveland. John Grabowski of the Western Reserve Historical Society will offer an overview of the society's LGBT archives, followed by a panel discussion with local activists and community members. Presented in partnership with the LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland.

Aug. 7, 7 p.m. at Dobama Theatre – LGBT Artists' Showcase: Judah Leblang, Christine Howey and Eris Dyson will follow up their Aug. 4 authors' panel with a performance of theater, poetry and art.

Aug. 13, 7 p.m. at Lee Road Library – Book Talk: *Breaking the Surface* by Greg Louganis.

Aug. 15, 6:30 p.m. at Lee Road Library – Lee Road Movie Night: "Pariah." In this film, Alike, a 17-year-old African-American woman who has a flair for poetry, and is a good student at her local high school, is quietly embracing her identity as a lesbian.

Some programs require registration. Visit [www.heightslibrary.org](http://www.heightslibrary.org) to register and for more information.

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

## Kids get their hands dirty at the library



Dana Wible, youth services associate, and Gabe McKay get the garden ready for planting.

Sheryl Banks

On May 9, Noble Neighborhood Library staff and some young patrons celebrated the opening of gardening season by planting vegetables in the library's new garden.

Throughout the summer, library staff will encourage kids in kindergarten through fifth grade to learn about gardening, and help take care of the Noble Neighborhood Library garden, by participating in the Green

Thumbs Gardening Club. The club will meet monthly on Thursdays at 2 p.m., on June 19, July 17 and Aug. 14. The Noble Neighborhood Library is at 2800 Noble Road.

"The kids get to take an active role in the planting and upkeep of the garden, and they learn new things every time they participate," said Dana Wible, youth services associate. "It's fun to see the wonder on their faces when they realize they are able to grow food with their own hands and hard work—but I think the part they like best is playing in the dirt!"

The Lee Road Library, 2345 Lee Road, will also have a children's garden and sponsor summer gardening-related activities for kids ages 9–12. Lee Road Library's Green Thumb Club will meet on Tuesdays at 4 p.m., on June 24, July 8 and 22, and Aug. 5 and 19.

For more information on these and other library programs, visit [www.heightslibrary.org](http://www.heightslibrary.org).

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

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# Cleveland Heights author serves up mix of recipes and relationships

George Witherspoon



Vetella A. Camper

*Maroon & Company*, the debut novel of Cleveland Heights resident Vetella A. Camper, is a heartfelt narrative about courage, tenacity and genuine friendship. Published in December 2012, the book tells the story of three women through their own distinctive voices.

Camper said she created the book's three main characters from the inside looking out. "That's the only way I could separate their personalities and idiosyncrasies," she said. "Chandler, Lorelei and Stevie Mitchell were created as complex women whose tumultuous life experiences and tragedies were delicately weaved throughout the novel with their affection for one another and successes."

Camper said she began writing seriously when she was about 10. She said that writing, as well as reading, helped

her escape some of the unpleasant events of her childhood.

"I fell in love with a boy once—at least I thought I was in love—and he had broken my heart and I wanted to let him know how I felt, so I wrote him a letter expressing my most inner feelings, and I was very proud of how I told him I felt. That's when I realized that I had a talent for writing."

Camper has a fondness for Shakespeare. "The first time I read Shakespeare it intrigued me how a string of words—unfamiliar words—were written with perplexity, but once deciphered, had simple meanings. I didn't want to write like Shakespeare, but I wanted to create visual word art within the reader's mind."

She also admires the work of Mark Twain. "He had a way with storytelling that in modern day literature mimics Shakespeare," she said. "His wit and satire is like no one else I've ever read."

In regard to her own novel, Camper said, "I want the reader to make their own assessments as to what the message is. There are several, and if the reader realizes only one, then my work has significance. The importance and meaning of loyalty, friendship and commitment is throughout *Maroon & Company*. The reader will determine what is important to them."

While her first book took her five years to write and nine more to have published, Camper is working on a sequel, which she promises won't take as long. "It is written," she said, "but I am now proofing and fine tuning it. I'm not yet sure of the title."

The new novel will explore the three main character's stories before adulthood and before they became friends. Camper said that readers will be able to decipher how each woman's childhood influenced her adult personality and lifestyle, and she promises that it will answer many questions that were left unanswered in the first book.

*Maroon & Company* is available online and at local bookstores, such as Mac's Backs on Coventry.

*George Witherspoon is a Cleveland Heights resident, training consultant and member of the City of Cleveland Heights's Citizens Advisory Committee.*



Oldboy plays PorchFest.

## Larchmere PorchFest kicks off free music festival season

Patti Carlyle

The sixth annual Larchmere PorchFest, featuring 30 bands on 30 porches, is set for Saturday, June 21, 1-8 p.m. The event takes place in Cleveland's Larchmere neighborhood, and is free, family-friendly and open to all.

Heights-based band and Porchfest veterans Oldboy will open the event at 1 p.m. This is Oldboy's fourth year as part of the PorchFest lineup, and Michael Kinsella—Oldboy's bassist, Heights resident, and local music advocate—is excited about the event's growth.

"Cleveland is the perfect place to grow an independent, original music scene," said Kinsella, who works with Cleveland Rocks, the Heights Music Hop and PorchFest toward the shared goal of breaking down the "silos" in the local music scene, to create a collaborative and inclusive environment for musicians.

The Heights community continues to support that kind of collaboration. FutureHeights, founding organizer of the Heights Music Hop, is sponsoring a porch as part of this year's PorchFest, and Heights businesses are getting involved as well, challenging both shopping district borders and city boundaries.

The Wine Spot in Cleveland Heights also plans to sponsor a porch, and thus extend its support of local

music beyond the popular series of free concerts it launched earlier this year at its Lee Road shop. Dubbed The Music Spot, the series offers free music on the last Friday of each month, 7-9 p.m.

Looking ahead to fall, The Wine Spot will again host a stage as part of the Heights Music Hop, planned for Oct. 11.

Perennial PorchFest favorites include Filmstrip, Jah Messengers, and Fever, Fever. New bands in the lineup include Cellocentric, Nate Jones Band and These Knees.

Blues lovers can check out Woodson's Blues Party, at 12113 Mt. Overlook Ave., with the Cleveland Blues Society, featuring Blues Chronicles, Dan "Mudfoot" Hubbs and the Blues Messengers, and The Vernon Jones Blues Cartel. PorchFest veteran Steev English will also be performing Mississippi Delta Blues, just down the block.

Finale performances will be presented by reggae/world music artists Gato's Gullah Gumbo at 6 p.m., and blues rock band Scarlet & the Harlots at 7 p.m. Multiple afterparties run 8-10 p.m. at Jezebels Bayou, Felice Urban Café and Academy Tavern.

Modeled after Ithaca, N.Y.'s popular PorchFest, the idea took shape in 2009 after Larchmere neighbors, who were talking about what was great about their neighborhood, decided to express that positive energy via a community event. Five months later, Larchmere Porchfest was born, and last September Porchfest gained official nonprofit status.

For more information, and the complete 2014 band lineup, visit [www.larchmereporchfest.org](http://www.larchmereporchfest.org).

*Patti Carlyle is a member of the Future-Heights Board of Directors and PR czar for the 2014 Heights Music Hop.*

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# GroundWorks DanceTheater performs to live music in June

Pam Barr

Collaboration between dancers and musicians is a special experience for the artists and the audience. That's why David Shimotakahara is excited about the upcoming June performances of his company, GroundWorks DanceTheater, at Cain Park and at the Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM).

"We will perform with live music at both venues, which is a rare treat," Shimotakahara said. "Dancers respond to working with musicians in a different way than dancing to a recording. The performance is much more alive—it lives and breathes as both the dancers and the audience respond to musicians. It's really a wonderful exchange of energy."

GroundWorks is slated for its 12th-annual performance series at Cain Park June 12–14 at 7 p.m. and at CIM's Kulas Hall on June 28 at 8 p.m., with collaborating partner ChamberFest Cleveland.

At Cain Park, GroundWorks will

premiere a new work by Shimotakahara set to "Rhythm Song" by Paul Smadbeck. Luke Rinderknecht will be the solo musician on marimba. The percussionist, a Shaker Heights High School graduate who went on to study at the prestigious Juilliard School, recently moved back to Cleveland with his wife, Annika Sheaff, a GroundWorks dancer.

"Luke is such a highly accomplished musician and it's wonderful to have connected with him through Annika," Shimotakahara said. "I had the sound of the marimba in my ear when I was selecting music for this new work, and 'Rhythm Song' captured my imagination."

Rinderknecht is no newcomer to "Rhythm Song" or to working with dance. He said it was the first piece he learned in high school and that he used it for his successful Juilliard audition. After graduating from the school, he worked for five years as manager of its chamber music program, and has worked with various dance groups including Dance Heginbotham, with the band



Dancers Felice Bagley and Damien Highfield of GroundWorks DanceTheater in "Hindsight" by Lynn Taylor Corbett.

Alarm Will Sound at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and with Elliot Feld for a dance set with the Juilliard Dance Ensemble. Rinderknecht has appeared on stages around the world.

Other dances on the Cain Park program, which will be performed to recorded music, include "All I Do" by David Parker, set to music from "Singin' in the Rain"; and Lynne Taylor-Corbett's "Hindsight," set to music by Chrissie Hynde and the Pretenders.

The CIM performance with ChamberFest is set to composer Tan Dun's "Ghost Opera," which was commissioned for the Kronos Quartet and premiered at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in 1995. In this groundbreaking presentation, Shimotakahara and his dancers choreograph the work for the first time. Preceding the dance premiere, ChamberFest will perform "Three Short Works for Three Percussionists" and "Trio for Piano and Strings in E minor No. 2, Op. 67" by Shostakovich.

Shimotakahara said that performing to live music often seems a luxury because of the expense involved, but he was awarded the Creative Workforce Fellowship by Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, which enables him to explore more live music in performance. "I wanted to use the grant to advance my work in a direct way," he said, "and being able to collaborate with musicians this year is making use of the funds in one of the best ways possible."

*Pam Barr is a 30-year Cleveland Heights resident and a principal of Barr Communications, a boutique marketing and public relations consulting firm based in Cleveland Heights. GroundWorks is a client.*

## World-class music festival returns

Gayle Gathercole

ChamberFest Cleveland (CFC), the acclaimed and successful chamber music festival that was born in Cleveland Heights and remains headquartered here, is ready to launch its third season, titled "Three!"

"Cleveland concert-

goers have shown incredible support for the idea of a true festival that offers two concentrated weeks filled with glorious chamber music," said Diana Cohen, CFC's co-founder and co-artistic director.

Having played to sold-out houses for its first two years, CFC is tuning up for a 10-day, 10-concert season, running June 19–29 and featuring world-class musicians, a world-premiere performance, and unusual programming. CFC's concerts are presented in a variety of special venues, including the Museum of Contemporary Art, Dunham Tavern's renovated barn, Mixon and Kulas halls at the Cleveland Institute of Music, Fairmount Presbyterian Church and Harkness Chapel on the campus of Case Western Reserve University. One of this year's concerts takes place in Cleveland Heights, at The Wine Spot, on June 25.

Franklin Cohen, CFC's co-founder and co-artistic director, is the Cleveland Orchestra's principal clarinetist and a Cleveland Heights resident. His daughter Diana is a Cleveland Heights native and concertmaster of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. Together, they have assembled a lineup of instrumentalists that this year includes the acclaimed pianist and Heights-area native Orion Weiss; violinist/violist Yura Lee, winner of the 2013 Munich Competition; Noah Bendix-Balgley, newly named concertmaster of the Berlin Philharmonic; and highly regarded Chinese pipa player Gao Hong.

"Three!" presents music from four



Chamberfest's David McCarroll on violin, Julie Albers on cello, Orion Weiss on piano and Franklin Cohen on clarinet.

centuries, inventively arranged in programs inspired by the magic and mystery of the number three. Programs such as Harmony in Numbers, Snap! Crackle! Pluck! and Three Bouncing Czechs explore the humor, whimsy and mathematics in music. A new afternoon family concert, Triple Scoop, is intended to delight young attendees and their adults with musical fun, followed by an ice cream social.

"We look for pieces that are vibrant, exciting and engaging, and illuminate an overall theme," Diana Cohen said. "ChamberFest is building a wonderful audience of people who are connected both to the music and to the musicians; a real personal and family feeling that joyfully goes both ways."

A particular treat for concertgoers will be a world premiere: the first-ever choreographed version of renowned Chinese composer Tan Dun's "Ghost Opera" for string quartet and Chinese pipa (a stringed instrument). ChamberFest is collaborating with GroundWorks DanceTheater and its artistic director, David Shimotakahara, to perform this original interpretation of Dun's famous piece, a transcendent exploration of human spirituality.

Audiences can attend informative pre-concert talks and entertaining after-concert events. To see the schedule and order tickets, go to [www.chamberfest-cleveland.com](http://www.chamberfest-cleveland.com), or call 216-785-9977.

*Gayle Gathercole is a public relations volunteer for ChamberFest Cleveland.*

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## Western Reserve Chorale presents 'Night and Day'

Gina Ventre

The Western Reserve Chorale will present "Night and Day: Reflections on the Spirits of Darkness and Light," exploring this theme in sacred and secular music across centuries and genres, in five languages. The concert, under the direction of David Gilson, takes place Sunday, June 1, at 3:30 p.m., at Cedar Hill Baptist Church (12601 Cedar Road, Cleveland Heights).

Sponsored in part by a grant from the Maison Française de Cleveland, the concert's selections include Camille Saint Saëns' Deux Choeurs, selections from Gabriel Fauré's Requiem, Robert Applebaum's arrangement of the traditional Hebrew folk song "Ani ma'amin," "Choose Something Like a Star" from Randall Thompson's Frostiana, "Sure on this Shining Night" from Samuel Barber's Four Songs, and Johannes Brahms' rarely performed lament "Nänie." The concert will also feature well-known favorites by Cole Porter and the King's Singers.

In its 22nd season, Western Reserve Chorale is a nonprofit group of amateur and professional singers, many of whom are Heights residents, dedicated to bringing high-quality performances of choral music to Greater Cleveland. A freewill offering will be accepted and a reception will follow the concert. For more information, visit [www.western-reservechorale.org](http://www.western-reservechorale.org).

*University Heights resident Gina Ventre is a member of Western Reserve Chorale.*

## Pop music legend to play Cleveland Heights



### SONGS AND STORIES

David Budin

When I was in 10th grade at Heights High in 1964, I took a trip to New York City. While I was there, I went to the famous Café au Go Go to hear this band I'd heard about, the Blues Project. I thought it was going to be an acoustic group because the one member I'd heard before—Danny Kalb—had appeared a year or so earlier on a compilation album, also called "The Blues Project," which featured several young, white acoustic blues artists.

When the band appeared on stage, I was shocked—and disappointed—to see that it was a rock band. But when they started playing, right from the very first note, I was completely mesmerized and enthralled.

That didn't go away—not through the band's show that night, nor through the many other Blues Project shows I attended, at Cleveland's legendary folk and blues club La Cave and in New York.

I joined a band in high school that tried to play Blues Project songs. We got a chance to play at La Cave, but opening for another band, not the Blues Project.

We were not bad for high school kids. I know that because after our third or fourth song, I heard a guy sitting near the stage say, "They're not bad for high school kids." As good—or, maybe, as not bad—as we were, we never did get to open for the Blues Project.

I tried to learn as much as I could about each member of the band, which was not easy back then, before the Internet, and I studied each guy in the band every time I saw them play. One of them, rhythm guitarist and vocalist Steve Katz, seemed like a really nice guy—and funny—but there was no way for me to really know that—until now.

I just got off the phone with him, and guess what! He's a really nice guy—and funny!

Katz is coming to Cleveland Heights to give a concert on Saturday, June 21, starting at 7 p.m., at the Unity Center of the Heights (2653 S. Taylor Road, at Fairmount Boulevard).

His show is a combination of spoken word and music. He tells fascinating, and funny, stories of his amazing career: taking guitar lessons as a teenager from the legendary Rev. Gary Davis; forming the Elektra Records group the Even Dozen Jug Band, which also included future stars John Sebastian and Maria Muldaur; joining the Blues Project, whose last gig was at the most significant rock festival in history, Monterey Pop; launching the multimillion-selling pop group Blood,



Steve Katz

Sweat and Tears; starting the band American Flyer, which was produced by the Beatles' producer George Martin; producing two of Lou Reed's most successful albums; becoming an executive at two record companies; and more. And he sings corresponding songs.

There's an opening act for this concert, too. It's a 1960s-style folk group called Long Road. I'm in that group. So I'm finally opening for Steve Katz. It only took 50 years!

*David Budin is a freelance writer for national and local publications, the former editor of Cleveland Magazine and Northern Ohio Live, an author, and a professional musician and comedian.*

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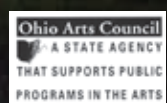
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# Second annual Heights Music Hop returns this fall

James Henke

The Heights Music Hop will be returning to Lee Road on Oct. 11. The music festival made its debut last year and drew more than 1,000 people to the Cedar-Lee neighborhood. Retailers said it had a tremendous impact on their businesses. “Lee Road was like a downtown street, like East Fourth,” said Kelli Kral, the proprietor of the New Heights Grill. “There was all this pedestrian traffic, and it was really wonderful. Everyone had a great time.”

“It was great for business,” added Adam Fleischer, owner of The Wine Spot. “As merchants, we get approached



about things all the time. But with the Music Hop, we were able to get quite a few merchants on board, and everything came together. For four or five hours that night, we were packed, and a lot of the people had never been in this neighborhood before.”

The idea for the Music Hop originated with Jeff Coryell. Back in 2011, when he was waging what turned out to be an unsuccessful campaign for Cleveland Heights City Council, Coryell started talking about promoting the city as a home for the arts, and as an entertainment district. Coryell, who was finally elected to city council last year, spent the early 1990s in Austin, Texas, and was inspired by that city's South by Southwest music festival.

In 2012, Coryell joined the board of FutureHeights, the organization that also publishes the *Heights Observer*, and convinced the board to put together a music festival. FutureHeights teamed up with Cleveland Beer Week and Cellar Door Cleveland, a local record company, and the festival became a reality.

Last year, more than 25 artists performed in the various stores, restaurants and bars along Lee Road, including such well-known Cleveland acts as Bethesda, Seafair, Oldboy, Meridian, These Knees, Xe La and Tom Evanchuck.

This year's lineup is still being determined and will probably be announced in August.

“Planning for this year's event has already begun, and we're excited to announce that we have received a matching grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture,” said Greg Bonanno, the chairman of the FutureHeights Music Hop Committee. “Once again, the Music Hop will be part of Cleveland Beer Week's kick-off events. Attendees can purchase a tasting passport from Cleveland Beer Week to sample craft beers from yet-to-be-named establishments. This year's event will be longer, offering a diverse program of music, including family-friendly options. In addition to the main event on Oct. 11, we will host smaller Heights Music Hop events in other neighborhoods—stay tuned for more details.”

Sarah Wilson-Jones, owner of Phoenix Coffee, was also extremely enthusiastic about the event. “The Music Hop was the best community event that we have ever had on Lee Road,” she said. “It was a resounding success, and we were so glad to have participated in it. Here's hoping that it gets to be even bigger and better this year! The best thing was that it got community members out and partying together.”

Bonanno agreed. “It was incredible to listen to all of the bands,” he said. “It was also great to watch members of the community interact with each other and to see the enthusiasm in people young and old.”

For more information, check out the Music Hop's website, [www.heightsmusichop.com](http://www.heightsmusichop.com).

*James Henke, a Cleveland Heights resident, was a writer and editor at Rolling Stone magazine for 15 years, and is the author of several books. He is a member of the FutureHeights board of directors and its Music Hop Committee.*

## Klezmer meets funk at Cain Park

Bert Stratton

Josh Dolgin, aka Socalled, is a movie-maker, puppeteer, magician, rapper, hip-hop artist and klezmer musician. He's bringing his sextet to Cain Park on Sunday, June 29 for the annual free Yiddish concert, sponsored by Workmen's Circle.

Dolgin, who is from Montreal, was discovered by David Krakauer, a world-class classical and klezmer clarinetist and former member of the Klezmatics. Dolgin plays keyboards, accordion and synthesizer, and sings in English and Yiddish.

He has toured extensively with Krakauer as part of Klezmer Madness, as well as with Abraham Inc., a klezmer-meets-funk group that features Fred Wesley, former trombone player for James Brown. Dolgin also was in Shtreiml, a Montreal band that played at Cain Park in 2004.

Michael Winograd plays clarinet in Dolgin's combo. Winograd has

appeared at Cain Park with Folksbiene, a Yiddish theater troupe from New York City.

Winograd teaches klezmer clarinet at klezmer conferences throughout the world and is highly regarded for his virtuosity and authenticity, as well as for his ability to go outside the boundaries of traditional klezmer.

The other players in Dolgin's band at Cain Park are Allen Watsky, guitar and fiddle, from New York; Patrice Agbokou, bass, and Katie Moore, vocals, both from Montreal; and Jack Stratton, drums, from Los Angeles.

Tickets are not needed for the show. Just show up at the Evans Amphitheater in Cain Park, at 7 p.m. on June 29.

The Workmen's Circle Klezmer Orchestra will perform a pre-concert show at 6:30 p.m.

*Bert Stratton is a Cleveland Heights resident and the leader of the klezmer band Yiddishe Cup. He writes the Klezmer Guy blog at [www.klezmerguy.com](http://www.klezmerguy.com).*

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# Jettie Lee Jr. is serving up food on Noble Road



Jettie Lee Jr. in his new deli on Noble Road.

Eleanor Mallet

Lee's Deli and Catering is a new food addition to the businesses on Noble Road.

The walls are freshly painted. The floor looks new. There's a window where you can place your order, and chairs where you can wait. Located at 2847 Noble Road, it's Jettie Lee Jr.'s place.

Lee calls it "home cooking fast food," which may seem a contradiction. Everything is made-to-order, so it's not that fast. "If you want it right away you have to call ahead," Lee said with a smile. The menu is extensive and includes potato skins, fried okra, bourbon-grilled salmon, fish sandwich, to name just a few items. All the fish and chicken are fresh-cut and made with Lee's own recipes.

Lee has his specials. The Susie Q is a chicken leg and thigh for 99 cents. It is named for his grandmother, and made using her recipe. Another is the Half 'n' Half Philly, which features steak and chicken, onion, mushroom, bell pepper, cheddar and mozzarella, fries and a salad with ranch dressing.

A customer, Joseph Jackson, comes in. "I want to order some things, but what about this honey apple barbeque sauce," he wants to know. Tunisha Dix, Lee's partner who worked on the renovations with him and is helping out now with the cooking, brings out a jar of the sauce.

Jackson tells Lee that he tasted that sauce at his brother's funeral in December and he wants more. "I was looking for you to open. You know my wife," Jackson said. "You went to high school together." Right away, Lee recognizes her name from Cleveland Heights High School. Lee graduated in 1987. They reminisce as Dix cooks Jackson's four orders of chicken.

That's how Lee has built his business: Circles of friends he knew from Heights High keep expanding to include more and more people. He has been catering for the past eight years and so he has built many close ties—a Jettie Lee community.

So far, Lee said, he knows about 50 percent of the people coming in; the

other 50 percent are from the neighborhood.

"I get my haircut next door every 10 days," Jackson tells him. "So you will be seeing me."

Lee grew up in Cleveland Heights, attending Coventry and Roxboro schools. After high school he served four years in the U.S. Navy.

Soft classic rock plays in the waiting area. Lee is also a DJ and works at three places on the East Side. "Music is my first love, cooking is a close second," he said. "When I was 4 years old, I would go to sleep at night listening to Wilson Pickett's "25 Miles."

"Tunisha and I put it together—the fryers, the grill, even the freezer—and she designed the sign out front," Lee said. Dix is working on a degree in early childhood education at Cleveland State University. They are raising six children together.

By the time we are done talking, my Susie Q chicken is ready to go. It's hot, crunchy and delicious.

Lee's Deli and Catering (216-832-7901) has been open since March, and celebrated its grand opening on May 12. The deli is open Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

*Eleanor Mallet wrote a column for the Plain Dealer and is an author of two books.*

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# Heights financial advisor celebrates 20 years



David Lavelle, Cleveland Heights financial advisor.

Julie Conrad

David Lavelle, a financial advisor in Cleveland Heights, began his investing career at an early age, when he wanted a five-speed bicycle and his father told him to “get a job!” Lavelle saved \$10 a week delivering the *Plain Dealer* to 50 households in the Heights, and not only was able to buy his bicycle but had money leftover to invest for college. He learned at an early age the value of owning shares in a good company over a meaningful period of time.

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in psychology from DePauw University, Lavelle, a Heights native,

established the Cleveland Heights office of Edward Jones in 1994. His first office was in the basement of the Heights Medical Building where he spent 15 years building his business, and meeting clients throughout the community. “I met one of my first clients on their morning walk back on Shaker Road in 1994,” said Lavelle.

Giving personal attention to his clients and building deep, long-standing relationships is what Lavelle finds most rewarding about his job. In 1996, Lavelle met a longtime Cleveland Heights resident who had three young girls and was busy saving for their college education. Today, the girls, who have babysat Lavelle’s children, are in college, venturing into their first jobs and turning to Lavelle for investment advice.

“This is what I love about my job,” said Lavelle, “when a client comes to me and says, ‘I want you to tell my kids what you told me 20 years ago on the importance of saving and investing.’”

Lavelle, who lives in Cleveland Heights with his wife, Ann, and three children, is an active member of the community. He has served on the board of trustees for the Shaker Lakes Nature Center since 2007, and on the Estate Planning Advisory Council at Case Western Reserve University since 2006. He also has served as vice president of the Cedar Fairmount Business Association and as capital campaign leader for the Gilmour Academy Class of 1989.

“This is what is great about living in the Heights,” said Brendan Ring, owner of Nighttown. “The opportunity to not only live in the Heights and raise your family here, but build a business from the ground up right in the heart of this community. I’ve known David for many years. He’s been integral to the preservation and growth of our Cedar Fairmount Business District and has been a great supporter of our nonprofit organizations over the past 20 years.”

A registered CFP® (certified financial planner), Lavelle has more than 300 families and business owners as clients. His office is located in the historic Heights Center Building in the Cedar Fairmount Business District.

*Julie Conrad is a marketing and PR consultant helping David Lavelle, Edward Jones financial advisor, celebrate 20 years in the Heights.*



The interior of Four and Twenty Mercantile.

## Four and Twenty Mercantile to host seasonal dinner series

James Henke

Four and Twenty Mercantile, the retail store at 12433 Cedar Road in the Cedar Fairmount Business District, is launching a series of seasonal dinners, featuring food prepared by prominent local chefs.

The first, called a “mid-summer celebration” will feature Scandinavian cuisine on June 26. The chef will be Doug Katz, owner of Fire on Shaker Square, Katz Club Diner on Lee Road and Provenance at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

Four and Twenty was located on Larchmere Boulevard and moved to Cleveland Heights last November. The store sells high-quality vintage furniture, industrial goods, interior specialty items, fine art and beautifully crafted items for travel. In April, it hosted a wine-and-cheese event, which Kim Scholten, one of the owners, said drew dozens of people. Four and Twenty is also planning a Father’s Day event in June.

Scholten said the dinners fit the theme of the store, noting, “Our goal is to create an environment that celebrates quality and hospitality. We wanted to create a space where people could gather for meetings and dinners, have parties, host exhibitions and work on projects both big and small.” Scholten said that she and the other owners, Sean Fagan and Richard Zingale, want to “connect with the community more and provide a location where people can come and cross-pollinate with like-minded individuals.”

The June 26 dinner will offer two appetizers: potato dill tarts, with trout

fish roe and crème fraîche, and fennel gougere, with liver mousse and dried cherry syrup.

The first course will feature beets, strawberries and radishes with lemon honey yogurt, shaved fennel and pink-peppercorn lemon-mustard dressing. The second course is slow-roasted salmon with cold asparagus coulis, pickled cucumbers and horseradish sour cream. The third course will be pork and rabbit sausage with herb dumplings, sautéed mushrooms, glazed carrots and mustard sauce.

Blueberry tarts with cardamom streusel and whipped lemon goat cheese will be the dessert offering, and each course will be paired with wine. In addition, beer and a Scandinavian-style cocktail will be served before the dinner.

Four and Twenty is partnering with Kari Moore of FarmShare Ohio. Moore, who lives in Cleveland Heights, sells locally produced artisan cheeses, farm-fresh foods and seasonal specialties. She works with many local chefs and restaurants, and her focus is on using local ingredients. She worked with Four and Twenty on its wine-and-cheese tasting, and she is also working with Katz on the Scandinavian dinner.

The dinner will start around 7 p.m. Tickets are \$135 per person and can be purchased by calling the store at 216-802-9100.

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

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# Heights resident opens butcher shop and brewery downtown

James Henke

A unique restaurant, called the Butcher and the Brewer, will be opening on East Fourth Street in downtown Cleveland later this month or in early July.

The new business will include a butcher shop selling fresh cuts of meat, charcuterie, smoked meats, terrines and sausages, as well as cheeses, eggs, dairy products, jams and other locally produced artisan products. Customers will be able to order sandwiches and other items at the shop.

The restaurant will offer a variety of beers brewed on-site, a menu of fish, meat and vegetable entrées, and small plates and bar snacks.

The menu was inspired by rustic farmhouse fare and will embrace ethnic food traditions that are fundamental to the spirit and flavor of Northeast Ohio.

“We’re not serving traditional diners,” said Jason Workman, who lives in Cleveland Heights and is one of the owners. “It’s a menu that is meant for sharing. Each person can order one or two plates, and we’ll bring them out as they are ready. The idea is for people to



Jason Workman in the brewery at his new restaurant, Butcher and the Brewer.

taste a bunch of things while they are there.”

With his partners Chris Lieb and Jeff Leonard, Workman opened the Tremont Tap House on Scranton Road in 2007. That restaurant was the city’s first gastropub. They came up with the idea for the new restaurant after reminiscing about the butcher shop that were common decades ago.

“There were four butcher shops in the neighborhood where I grew up,” said Workman, who spent his youth around

East 71st Street and Superior Avenue. “You could go in and talk to the butcher. And there was always a big difference between the meat you could get at the butcher shop and what you’d get elsewhere.”

In addition, said Workman, he always wanted to get into brewing beer. In fact, he and his partners opened a small brewery at their Tremont restaurant.

Workman, 40, has been working in restaurants since he was 15. His first job was at Morton’s the Steakhouse down-

town. Later, after serving in the Navy, he was a bartender at the Hyde Park Grill, which was on Coventry Road, and he lived in an apartment above Heights Hardware. He currently lives on Scarborough Road, across from Fairfax Elementary School.

“I really love Cleveland Heights—the proximity to downtown, the houses and the architecture, the culture and the diversity of the people,” Workman said. He and his wife, a teacher at Lomond Elementary School in Shaker Heights, have a 5-year-old daughter.

Workman is excited about the new restaurant, which will be in the space formerly occupied by Dredgers Union clothing store. “It pays homage to a past era, a time when craft and commerce were in the hands of skilled tradesmen with an attention to detail and a lifelong dedication and passion to their profession,” he said.

*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.*

## UH photographer teams up with Greater Cleveland Food Bank

Adinah Denton

Aharon Denton Photography of University Heights is partnering with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank to offer a photographic incentive in return for a donation to the food bank.

Each \$50 donation can provide up to 200 meals. If you donate \$50 to the food bank by June 15, Aharon Denton Photography will in turn provide a professional photography session and a 16-by-20-inch wall portrait.

“We are very excited to be partnering with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank and providing families with this great incentive to have their family portrait created,” said Aharon Denton. “I am looking forward to meeting many new people through this drive to help stomp out hunger.”

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank ([www.greaterclevelandfoodbank.org](http://www.greaterclevelandfoodbank.org)) works to alleviate hunger by providing more than 700 member agencies and hunger relief programs with food, select

non-food products, training and planning strategies.

Its programs directly serve the hungry. In the last fiscal year, the Food Bank provided nearly 40 million meals to those struggling with hunger in Greater Cleveland.

Almost one-third of those who receive meals are children under the age of 18, and 15 percent are senior citizens over the age of 65.

Aharon Denton Photography is a full-service boutique portrait studio specializing in portraits of children, families, high school seniors, and select weddings and events.

The special Food Bank benefit offer ends on June 15, and Denton expects his photography calendar to fill quickly. To schedule a portrait session, or for more information, contact Aharon Denton Photography at 216-453-0867 or [info@aharondentonphotography.com](mailto:info@aharondentonphotography.com), or visit [www.aharondentonphotography.com](http://www.aharondentonphotography.com).

*Adinah Denton assists husband Aharon with newborn baby and birth photography.*



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Join **Make Your Mark for the Arts**, the new community-wide project that brings together the arts and local businesses through a "stamp your passport" activity June 1–September 30.

Visit [heightsarts.org/MakeYourMark](http://heightsarts.org/MakeYourMark) to find out how to create your stamp and where to leave your mark through the Heights business communities. Sign up online for a stamp-making workshop led by a professional artist for \$15 (free for Heights Arts members).

**Heights Arts** Saturday, May 31, 10:00–11:30am

**The Wine Spot** Monday, June 2, 6:30–8:00pm

**Heights Arts** Saturday, June 7, 10:00–11:30am

**The Bottle House** Tuesday, June 10, 7:00–8:30pm

**Grog Shop / B Side** Tuesday June 17, 2014 7:00–8:30pm

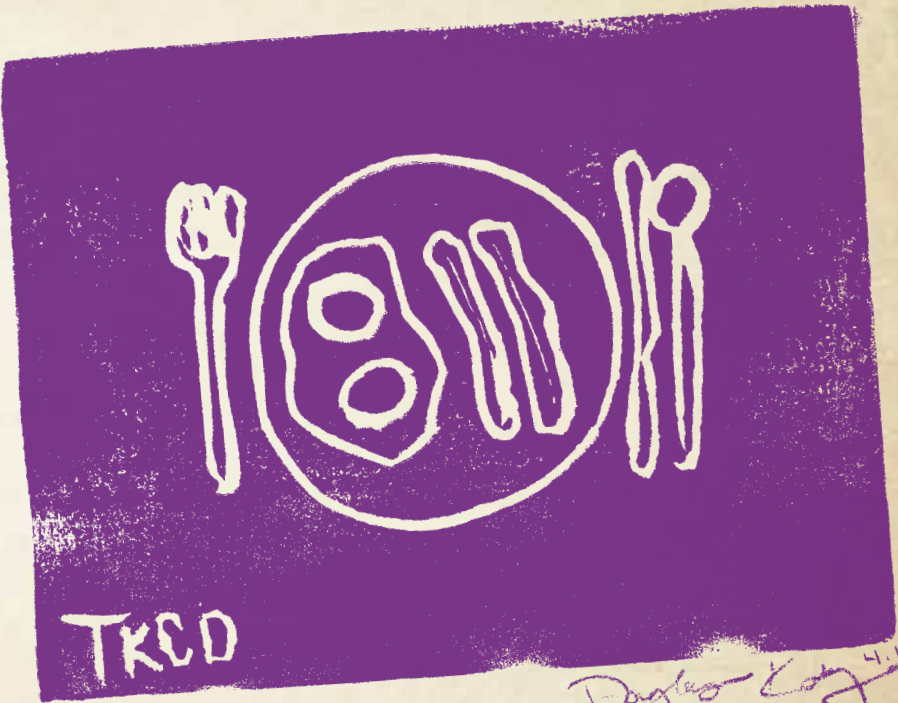
**Heights Arts** Saturday, June 21, 10:00–11:30am

**Katz Club Diner** Monday, June 23, 7:00–8:30pm

**Heights Arts** Sunday, June 29, 3:00–4:30pm

Unable to attend a workshop? DIY kits are available for purchase after May 29 at Bliss Health and Healing Center, City Buddha, Fairmount Cleaners Inc., Grog Shop, Mister Brisket, the Katz Club Diner, The Wine Spot, and Wood Trader.

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