Volume 7 Number 12 December 1, 2014

# HEIGHTS OBSERVER

READ LOCAL SHOP LOCAL

Published by **Future**Heights

Written by volunteers for Cleveland Heights and University Heights • Read more at www.heightsobserver.org

#### **INSIDE**



Heights High students introduce themselves to UH voters



Rev. Joseph Cherry joins UUSC in Coventry Village



20 Howson Gallery exhibits Martha Young's fabric dolls



24-25
Three Heights
business
districts host
holiday events
Dec. 13

Deliver to addressee or current resident

Thrive wants to make people happy

s, OH 44118

FutureHeights 2843 Washington Blvd. #105 Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

James Henke

Pepper Pike.

## Shop Small and meet Coventry's independent business owners

Angela Hetrick

The independent business owners of Coventry Village say that shopping small is how they built a neighborhood. In a single quarter-mile stretch, Coventry Village hosts more than 40 independently owned businesses.

This holiday season, Coventry Village Special Improvement District (CVSID) invites everyone to meet the independent business owners of Coventry through a special spotlight feature on its website and Facebook page.

The Coventry business owners gathered recently for a group photo, in which they appear in the following order:

Top row (from left): Iline MacLellan (Grums), Christina Attenson (Attenson Antiques), Larry Collins (City Buddha), Leanne van Beers (Spynga-Flows), Steve Presser (Big Fun), Tommy Fello (Tommy's), Tom Gathy (Heights Hardware), Andy Gathy (Heights



Coventry Village business owners gathered for a group photo in November.

Hardware), Bob Yanega (Gateway Heights Church), Doug Hayslip (Sunshine Headquarters Too), Vince Manzano (Heart & Sole).

Front row (from left):Kathy Blackman (Grog Shop/B Side Liquor Lounge & Arcade), Suzanne DeGaetano (Mac's Backs Books), Debbie Duirk (Inn on

Coventry), Rob Love (Record Revolution), Laurie Klopper (Blush Boutique), Jessica Morris (Houde School of Acting), Cosmin Bota (Piccadilly Artisan Yogurt), Adrian Bota (Piccadilly Artisan Yogurt), Bill Gresham (La Cave Du Vin), Eddy Maddox (Eddy's on Coven-

continued on page 7

## CH council member Janine Boyd wins bid to replace her mother as Ohio state representative

Deanna Bremer Fisher

On Nov. 4, Cleveland Heights City Council member Janine R. Boyd overwhelming won her bid to



become the next Janine Boyd

state representative for Ohio House District 9. Boyd defeated Republican Charles T. Hopson, garnering 84.7 percent of the 33,388 votes cast. She replaces her mother, Rep. Barbara Boyd, who did not seek re-election due to term limits.

Ohio House District 9 comprises Cleveland Heights, University Heights, Shaker Heights, and two wards on Cleveland's East Side.

"It is, undoubtedly, one of the greatest and most humbling experiences, to have the support of my family, volunteers, friends, mentors and neighbors," said Boyd. "It's also an honor to look at the path my mother forged, including

psychologist." "Psychology as a whole

looked at what's wrong," Margolis said.

"Then Martin Seligman, a psycholo-

gist at the University of Pennsylvania,

flipped that. He thought it made more

sense to see what's working well and

Ben-Shahur, also focused on happi-

ness. While a professor at Harvard,

Ben-Shahur taught classes about posi-

tive psychology and the psychology

of leadership. Those two classes are

among the most popular courses ever at

the university. He went on to form the

Another noted psychologist, Tal

build from there."

over 25 years of public service, building relationships on both sides of the aisle and crafting effective policy, and have the opportunity to continue that work, as well as my own, as an advocate for our district and the most vulnerable of our citizens. I'm sincerely grateful."

Boyd was appointed to CH City Council on Oct. 3, 2012, to fill the seat vacated by the late Phyllis Evans, who resigned in June 2012. When Barbara Boyd resigned from CH City Council in 1993 to become a state representative, it was Evans who was appointed by council to fill Barbara Boyd's council seat.

In 2013, Janine Boyd subsequently ran unopposed for the unexpired two-year term on city council, and was sworn in on Jan. 6, 2014. Boyd's council term expires on Dec. 31, 2015. Cleveland Heights City Council is required by charter to appoint someone to fill her vacated seat. Council has not yet announced how it will select a replacement.

continued on page 4



Jen Margolis and Scott Simon, the founders of Thrive, at the organization's Lunch Beat event at the House of Blues in October.

Wholebeing Institute. Wholebeing is a synthesis of two words: whole person and well-being. The institute believes

continued on page 8

## CH offers freeparking weekends in December



Deanna Bremer Fisher

Starting Nov. 29, parking at meters in all Cleveland Heights parking lots, garages and on the street will be free on the weekends—Friday, Saturday and Sunday—from Thanksgiving weekend to the last weekend in December.

"Business owners and residents have been very supportive of this idea. It reinforces the city's commitment to our commercial districts and also has been an incentive to bringing more people to our excellent restaurants and one-of-a-kind stores throughout the city," said Mayor Dennis Wilcox.

The city announced on Oct. 21 that it would offer free parking at meters on Nov. 29, for Small Business Saturday. The city later expanded the free-parking days to the entire post-Thanksgiving weekend, and all weekends in the month of December.

Signs will be posted on the city's parking garages and throughout the city to remind visitors and residents they may park at no charge on those weekends.

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

## Thrive came about after Simon spent time with what's called a "positive

Thrive, a relatively new Cleveland orga-

nization, has one goal: to make people

happier. Called a happiness incubator,

Thrive was formed in January of 2012

by Jen Margolis, a Cleveland Heights

resident, and Scott Simon, who lives in

habits and spaces that increase happiness,

both at work and at home," said Margolis,

who is 37 and lives on Wilton Road.

"We wanted to design experiences,

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

## **HEIGHTS OBSERVER**

published monthly by FutureHeights, a nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization dedicated to civic engagement and quality of life.

2843 Washington Blvd. #105, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

Copyright 2012 FutureHeights, All rights reserved. Reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

PUBLISHER Deanna Bremer Fisher

dbfisher@futureheights.org

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** Kim Sergio Inglis

city.editor@heightsobserver.org E-NEWS EDITOR

Andrea Turner act\_one@sbcglobal.net

ADVERTISING Bob Rosenbaum 216-401-9342

brosenbaum@heightsobserver.org

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Deanna Bremer Fisher, David Budin, Greg Donley, James Henke, Eleanor Mallet, Jewel Moulthrop, Vince Reddy, Bob Rosenbaum, Kim Sergio Inglis, Dermot Somerville, Clare Taft

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

WEBMASTER Dan Ott

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

Temma Collins, Ruth D'Emilia, Diane Roberto DISTRIBUTION

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

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

## What about all that negative coverage



**OPENING** THE OBSERVER

Bob Rosenbaum

Like so many others, those of us who spend the most time working on the Heights Observer are weary of the superficial and negative coverage our community seems to get from Sun News, Cleveland.com and the Plain Dealer.

We're tired of their police blotter obsession and the habit of putting every news item into the context of decline.

In October, a few local businesses declared they were done doing business with the Plain Dealer and Northeast Ohio Media Group (which controls Sun News and Cleveland.com). But there's a sense of hopelessness in the gesture. "I don't subscribe to it at home, I don't read it online and I don't advertise in it," one business owner told me. "What more can I do if their business model depends on running

People have also asked what the Heights Observer and FutureHeights are going to do about it. That, as usual, depends on you.

The Heights Observer is much smaller than the PD/NEOMG. We operate differently with a different mission and we serve only two municipalities. Yet we are undeniably in the same industry, competing for revenue from some of the same sources. Anything we might say or do would likely be viewed in that competitive context and dismissed.

For local businesses we provide an affordable advertising alternative, and we've been rewarded for the effort with more than 100 local advertisers in this issue alone. We're also part of a fledgling network of similar projects, so we can offer hyperlocal advertising opportunities in a few other communities too. But we can't provide blanket access to readers across Northeast Ohio that many businesses need.

If we can't reason with them, and we can't replace them, what can we do?

We can take control of our own narrative. We can provide a record of the community we know this to be. We can talk about the things that make us hopeful and move us forward—proudly sharing the good stuff and tackling the difficult stuff in a way that isn't demoralizing and destructive.

That's where you come in. If you believe the PD/NEOMG is getting our story wrong, you have the power to set it right by contributing to the *Heights Observer*. The hundreds of people who do are the magic ingredient that makes us different.

The PD/NEOMG pays a couple mercenaries to speed through town each week, grabbing crime reports and interpreting events they haven't taken time to understand.

You, on the other hand, are wholly invested, taking the trouble to submit articles simply because you care.

The Observer is an empty vessel, and each month this community decides to fill it with stories about people and organizations doing things that make Cleveland Heights and University Heights better.

Our biggest critics complain the Observer is too positive and not adversarial enough. It may be true, but if so, it's not by design or policy. It's because that's the product this community has chosen to create-the portrait of what this community really is.

That alone is a pretty remarkable story. If the Observer didn't tell it, who would?

Cleveland Heights resident Bob Rosenbaum, a former member of the FutureHeights Board of Directors, is co-chairman of the Heights Observer Advisory Committee, and is responsible for its advertising sales and market development. Contact him at brosenbaum@ heightsobserver.org.

## About the Observer

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

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

Individuals throughout the community decide what stories they want to write, then submit them for publication. Anyone in University Heights or Cleveland Heights is welcome to contribute regularly, occasionally or even just once.

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

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

- To make a submission of any kind, go to www.heightsobserver.org and click on "Member Center" at the left.
- For information about writing style, article length, etc., click on "Become an Observer" at the left. For questions that aren't answered there, call the FutureHeights office at 216-320-1423 or e-mail info@futureheights.org.

Articles to be considered for the January issue must be submitted by Dec. 12. But don't wait that long; we publish articles online as they come in—and still consider them for the next print issue. We also publish an enewsletter each Tuesday.

## Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Park thanks you

To the Editor:

A special thanks to the energetic volunteers who joined together to weed the gardens and repair the equipment at Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Park before winter sets in. The Saturday work day on Oct. 18 was cold and rainy, but the dedicated group of adults and kids did a wonderful job of completing the work.

These hard-working volunteers included members of Cub Scout Pack 11, with scout leader Ken Sakaie with Church of the Saviour, and a large group of eighthgraders from Roxboro Middle School. Also a big thanks to those individuals who spend time during the summer and fall to work in the P.E.A.C.E. gardens when they have time. This community effort is what Cleveland Heights is all about.

Zoss the Swiss Baker and Phoenix Coffee provided breakfast on Oct. 18 to get the volunteers started. Lunch was pizza from Guys Pizza, and apples and snacks. Thank you all for your commitment to this ongoing project. Watch for the announcement of the spring clean-up date in 2015. We'll see you then.

Joanne Campbell Cleveland Heights





9ft-\$75 8ft-\$65 6ft-\$50



CHURCH EMAIL

OPEN DAILY FROM 9AM-8:30PM STARTING NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 24 3630 FAIRMOUNT BLVD. | SHAKER HTS | 44118

Fraser Fir availability

and shipping cost

DELIVERY AVAILABLE FOR SHAKER \* S.EUCLID \* CLEVE /UNIV HTS

Please have your members bring this slip to receive \$5 per tree for your church
<b>≫</b>
CHURCH NAME
CHURCH ADDRESS



## Fairmount Taylor district parking causing dangerous situation

To the Editor:

The shops in the Fairmount/Taylor area are a welcome treat. Cleveland Heights is fortunate to have these establishments within our city.

Unfortunately, parking is troublesome at the corner of Queenston Road and Fairmount Boulevard, which is the most impacted area. I witnessed a motor vehicle driver come a hairline from causing severe injury to a child, who was attempting to cross the street to attend his music lesson. Likewise, I saw a bicyclist come close to suffering severe bodily harm.

I shared my concerns with Cleveland Heights Councilman Jeff Coryell and [CH Police] Sgt. Ben Osowski. They agreed that safety is [of] the upmost importance.

Unfortunately, since changes were made—adding a handicapped space, a delivery zone, and establishing a lower speed limit—I have witnessed many cars parked in the delivery zone. This means the delivery trucks have nowhere to park and are forced to block Queenston Road. What's more troubling is that cars that have no disability placard are parked in the handicapped space. I don't understand the mindset of an able person taking the space of a person with disabling ambulation issues.

I've heard many Queenston Road residents say that when they exit Queenston onto Fairmount, they feel like they are putting their lives at risk because of the illegally parked cars. I've heard residents say how nerve-wracking it is when trying to enter Queenston from Fairmount, because of the people illegally turning around in residents' driveways and the cars parked in the delivery zone.

I am a registered nurse. I've taken care of patients in the intensive care unit who sustained severe injuries from motor vehicle accidents. Images of those patients are vivid and unforgettable. I hope that no one living on Queenston Road or in this community suffers such a fate.

The police told me to let them know whenever I see cars parked illegally. I have seen so many illegally parked cars that I need speed dialing for 321-1234. Certainly the priority of our police force is to keep us safe from crime and I don't believe it's fair to use their time and skills ticketing people.

I believe that most of the infractions are from people who live outside our community. I hope the clients of the bakery and restaurant give this food for thought: Obey the signs. Walk an additional 100 feet. Kindly respect the Queenston/Fairmount families and treat our neighborhood as if it's your own.

Laurel Hopwood Cleveland Heights [Hopwood is a 32-year resident of Queenston Road

## Excerpts from Observer blogs

Read the whole story at blogs.heightsobserver.org

#### Structural Racisim: A Bleak Educational **Future for Poor Chil**dren in America's **Metropolitan Areas**

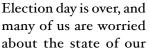


In one of the essays in Twenty-First Century Color Lines (2009), Andrew Grant-Thomas and john a. powell, of the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at the Ohio State University, confront the idea that our greatest social challenges are the result of the attitudes and behaviors of individuals. Grant-Thomas and powell write instead about structural racism—the way the primary institutions of our society privilege some groups of people and constrain opportunity for others. . . .

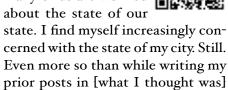
We should wonder . . . how history, from the point of view of racial justice, will judge today's school "reform."...

<del>-J</del>an Resseger

#### The money was there all along



a 5 part series. . . .



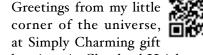
. . . If you haven't been following the UH/Wiley swing space story, pour a glass of something, and take a scroll through the first 5 posts above. You, too, will likely be motivated to attend the next UH Planning Commission meeting on 11/18. I'm going to jump in right... about...here! . . .

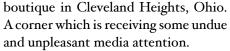
—Patti Carlyle





#### I'm in a bit of a snit at the moment





Now we all know that everyone has an opinion, and everyone is entitled to that opinion.

But in my mind, a reporter ought to be reporting facts, getting information and comparisons from other areas, and not adding a spin on situations for the sake of dramatization and 'clicks' on their articles which in turn makes their companies revenue.

Now I am certainly not a political person, nor an activist. But for the past several months, the media reports on the Cedar-Lee District in Cleveland Heights have been negative, dramatic and apt to promote fear, and I am fed up. Our district sounds like an unsafe, soon to be blighted neighborhood.

Yes, there have been two very sad incidents in recent months, but what gets overlooked is that they were perpetrated by current or past employees of those establishments, not random acts of murder and arson. And what about the amazing outpouring of support, both financial and emotional, for the employees and family rendered stunned and grief sticken? Not so much reporting on that either. . . .

GET YOUR HOME READY FOR The Holidays! Call for a transformative "One Hour Home Interior Makeover" Only \$65 (regularly \$75)! Offer expires December 31 Also, ask about our class: "Interior Decorating Made Easy"! www.JudithEugeneDesigns.com Building Designer & Interior Decorator



216.408.5578

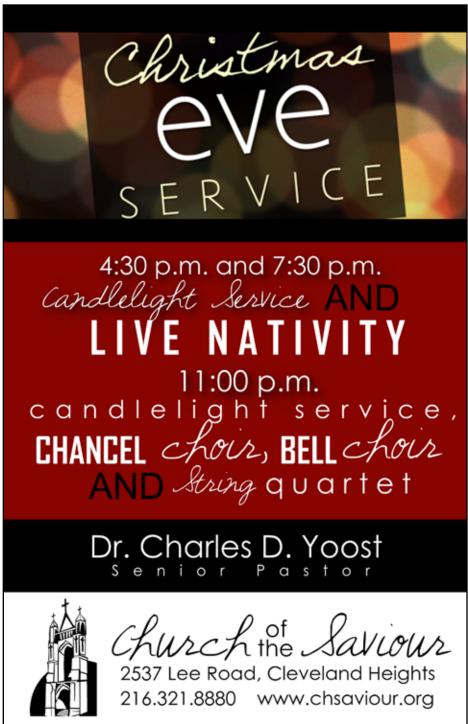
#### Careful, reliable and respectful of your yard

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

440-463-7379

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

—Elisabeth Gevelber





# kellenational

Auto • Home • Life • Commercial Insurance

For all your personal and business insurance needs

## An independent agent Representing multiple A rated carrier.

Representing multiple A rated carriers Dedicated to your unique needs

Rockefeller Center Suite 203 3109 Mayfield Road Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

216-965-0646



www.KellerNational.com

## **SUITES AVAILABLE**



Shaker Heights
Cleveland Heights
Lakewood
Cleveland



- Large 1, 2 and 3 Bedrooms
- Walking distance to CWRU, Shaker Square and RTA
- Refinished Kitchens
- Retinished Kitchel
   Hardwood Floors
- нагаwосParkina
- Parking
  Laundry Facilities
- Dishwasher and Disposal

"All together



sunny, spacious,
superbly
maintained
and well
located
apartments!"

CALL NOW (216) 421-8400

12000 Fairhill Road Cleveland, OH 44120 office@montlackrealty.com

www.montlackrealty.com



## Shop local to invest in our community

Anne Caputo

Recently, I attended a meeting hosted by the Heights-Hillcrest Regional Chamber of Commerce, facilitated by Peter Benkendorf, Dick Clough and Jack Ricchuito of The Cleveland Collaboratory, regarding the importance of championing local business and buying local. It was with a great deal of enthusiasm that business, private sector and community leaders came together to brainstorm implementing a local/regional campaign. Do you bank locally? Do you eat at a locally owned restaurant? Do you think local before Big Box? The way you spend your dollars affects the economy locally and regionally, which is directly related to job retention and creation, along with building a healthy, vibrant community.

It is calculated that if every person in Cuyahoga County would shift \$100 of his or her spending to a locally owned business, it would add \$126 million to the local economy. It is interesting to note that the economic impact of \$100 spent locally is approximately 80 percent greater than if the \$100 is spent at a chain.

According to a study conducted in Maine [Going Local: Quantifying the Economic Impacts of Buying from Locally Owned Businesses in Portland, Maine, by Garrett Martin and Amar Patel, Maine Center for Economic Policy, December 2011], on a dollar-for-dollar basis, the local economic impact of independently owned businesses is significantly greater than that of national chains. Analyzing data collected from 28 locally owned retail businesses in Portland, Maine,

along with corporate filings for a representative national chain, the researchers found that every \$100 spent at locally owned businesses contributes an additional \$58 to the local economy. By comparison, \$100 spent at a chain store in Portland yields just \$33 in local economic impact.

The study concluded that, if residents of the region were to shift 10 percent of their spending from chains to locally owned businesses, it would generate \$127 million in additional local economic activity and 874 new jobs.

There have been numerous other studies done that reflect the same basic conclusion.

The holiday season is traditionally a time when businesses spend down their budgets and, personally, we all know the importance of sales the Friday after Thanksgiving and the amount of time and money spent looking for the perfect gift. I would like to challenge you to shop at the locally owned hardware store and grocery store; eat at the locally owned restaurant/diner; give gift cards from a locally owned eatery, spa, grocery store; consider a membership to a Cleveland museum or the Cleveland Zoo, tickets to the Cleveland Orchestra or a Cleveland performance venue; purchase a host(ess) gift from a local winery, brewery, candy shop or bakery. There are many local Cleveland artists where a one-of-a-kind gift can be found.

I think you know what I am writing about. Let's begin now to invest in our community and region!

Anne Caputo, a Cleveland Heights resident, is owner of J.A.C. Business Communications Inc.

BOYD continued from page  $\,1\,$ 

Boyd, 44, grew up in Cleveland Heights and attended Beaumont School. After graduating, she obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree from Hillsdale College and her Master of Arts degree from Michigan State Univer-



sity. She is the director of government affairs and public policy for Guidestone Ohio, a nonprofit that provides therapeutic services to children and families.

Boyd said, "I will work hard and do my best. My priorities, are ours, across the district: quality early care and education; affordable higher education; workforce development opportunities for the under- and unemployed; raising the minimum wage; voter protection; environment protection; women making their own healthcare choices; restoring the Local Government Fund; and marriage equality. My first step, however, will be meeting my new colleagues on the other side of the aisle, and learning about what's important to them too. That's how relationships begin."

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



## **Apple Construction**

Residential Contractor Serving Greater Cleveland since 1980 Kitchens, bathrooms, additions and more

216-321-6639

www.apple-construction.com • email: appleconstructioncle@gmail.com

## Shop local this holiday season, and every day

Steve Presser

I was driving from downtown the other day and noticed a billboard for a new company called Presto Fresh. It is a full-service grocery delivery company working with Zagara's Marketplace—for more than 75 years a locally owned and operated neighborhood grocery store. The owner, John Zagara, is a businessman whom I respect and appreciate for what he gives back to the community. John has always tried to stay one step ahead of the ever more difficult game of being successful in business.

What struck me is that this new business of home delivery of groceries is not just for shut-ins, but also for people who don't have the time to shop. We're all busy. Somehow we have lost our time-management skills. Some don't take time to even sit down and have dinner with their family. To me, this started the degradation of the family unit. No more time to talk about school, art, politics or sports because we are too busy.

The bigger picture is that we can now do everything from our computers or smart phones and never have to leave the "comforts" of our homes. Socialization and even talking to someone has been replaced by texting. One can easily get swallowed up by it.

This piece is not about grocery stores per se, it is about operating an independent business in an increasingly difficult market. I have talked to many retail store owners in Cleveland Heights and in other cities around the country. Most, if not all, are crying the blues. All are seasoned souls who have been in business for more than 20 years. We have watched hard costs such as rent, insurance, and the cost of goods soar, while revenues have decreased. You don't have to have a Ph.D. in economics to see that this is dangerous territory.

Further, we have had to weather a "down economy" for five-plus years. Compound these negative factors with competition from Big Box stores and we have a recipe for failure. In the words of the late night Ronco commercial-"But wait, there's more." The "more" is the Internet, which has become the elephant in the room that many of us have feared or ignored up until now. The Internet for commerce has become incredibly easy for the public to access. Companies offering low prices and free shipping (on returns, too) have bombarded the marketplace. Cavernous warehouses that pay employees low wages and offer no benefits are putting the big kibosh on mom-and-pop stores.

We can't compete on pricing because of the behemoth buying power of these mega businesses. Those of us in retail have all heard that we need to fight back with customer service and knowledge. Yet, our pricing model has been destroyed by the "dark side" and the "Grouponization" expectation of the buying public.

The simple fact is, fewer people are leaving the comforts of their homes and just aren't going out shopping anymore. The experience of picking up an item to look at, try on, and feel has increasingly become not-the-norm for the next generation. The next generation is spending bucks at bars and restaurants. It would be very scary if we could eat

and drink online and not at our local pub. The loyalty to the neighborhood store has fallen to the wayside. This is what troubles me the most.

Brick and-mortar stores are essential to commercial districts. We are the fabric of our neighborhoods. We employ local people. We use local printers and professional services such as accountants, insurance brokers and lawyers. When a brick and mortar store closes, it affects everyone. Mom-and-pops are the ones that give items or gift certificates to countless charities and local organizations. We pay taxes and we improve the quality of life in our community.

Recently, there has been grumbling among store owners over the proliferation of pop-up stores and venues. I personally like the creativity and vibe of these. Many of the vendors are local artisans whom I support. Sadly, national chains of Halloween pop-up stores killed independently owned costume shops here in town. However, along with traditional holiday gift shows, they adversely affect stores that remain open all year. The competition for the almighty dollar has never been tougher.

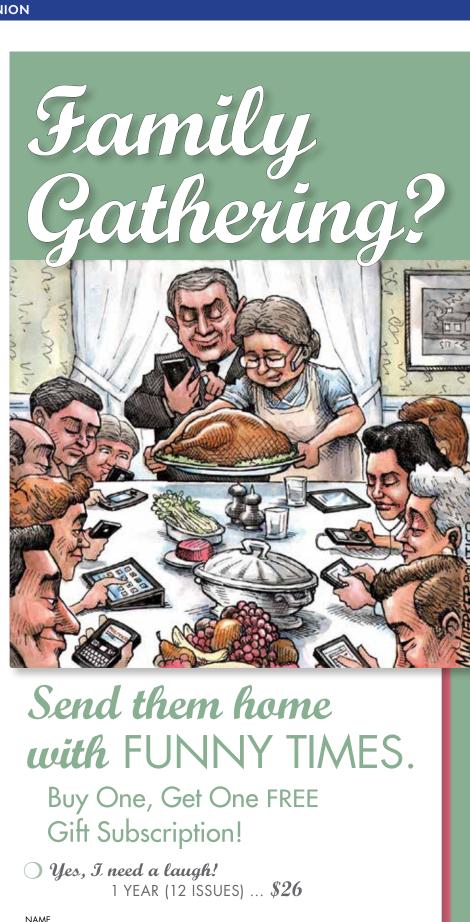
Cleveland Heights businesses have felt the pain over postings by "trolls" on several media sites. The bad-mouthing only fuels the fire. Perceived or real, the buying public outside of our wonderful community of Cleveland Heights is just not visiting us like they used to. Ask any business owner about the lack of traffic in our districts and they will tell you that numbers are down.

So, what can we do? I do know that it would help if you talked to your kids, your relatives, and your neighbors about the importance of SHOPPING LOCAL. Every little bit helps. It is about educating the public. The next time you go on Amazon to buy a book, give Mac's Backs a call or any other local independent bookstore. Try on clothes or jewelry at City Buddha or Blush instead of buying out of a catalog. The list goes on and on.

Retail stores should be busy, not just on Record Store Day and Small Business Saturday. Many of us have had to change our original business models to include a website, e-commerce and social media. We all need to be more flexible. I wish that our businesses could be sustainable with traditional in-store customers. Shop Local. Happy Healthy Holidays.

Steve Presser is the owner of Big Fun, and a resident of Cleveland Heights.





7.7.4.1.	
ADDRESS	
ADDRESS .	_
CITY STATE ZIP	
ALSO, send a FREE, 1-year gift subscription to:	
NAME	
ADDRESS	
CITY STATE ZIP	
All foreign subscriptions <u>add \$20 per year</u>	
Send check or money order to:	
FUNNY TIMES SUBSCRIPTIONS	
P.O. Box 18530 Dept. HOT • Cleveland Hts., OH 44118	
Or pay with: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ American Express	
Card #	
NAME	
EXP. DATE TOTAL AMOUNT	
ENI. DATE TOTAL PARIOUNT	_

Guaranteed to make you laugh or your money back!

(In case we need to contact you regarding your order)

DAYTIME PHONE # OR E-MAIL (



CALL 216.371.8600 ext. CLE or visit FUNNYTIMES.COM







## Question authority



THE COMMON GOOD

Susie Kaeser

Teachers choose their profession to change lives. They pour their minds, hearts and bodies—yes, it is physically demanding work—into the profound responsibility we have given them. Depending on where they teach, they pursue this work with access to different amounts of support, materials and affirmation. We expect them to sustain commitment and do their best every day.

This is a profession that takes time to master. Most teachers are always in the process of becoming better. Even the best can have bad days or a bad year. A few have given their best and are worn out. All are undermined by a policy environment focused on blaming them. To do their best, they need to hold on to the idealism that made them enter this life-changing profession. Whatever their particular situation, they go to the classroom to make the world better by helping our children to grow. We should be grateful to them for embracing this valuable work.

Principals and administrators are also deeply committed to education. Their job is to create a culture of high expectations and success for all students. They must communicate these goals to their staffs, parents and the public, and they must provide the resources, curriculum, direction and professional support that will create classrooms where children flourish. They are the backstop for real accountability. They need to inspire the best in teachers.

Children are the work, and children come with unique personalities, skills, families, experiences, grit, aspirations, assets, security and limits. Some are easy to like, some a challenge. Some engage easily, while others need substantial encouragement to grab the moment. Schools are not always able to provide the optimal conditions for the diversity of learners, but almost every child is affected deeply by one or more teachers along the way.

During my eight years of tutoring kindergarteners, I have seen how difficult it is to engage every child. At times I lose patience, yet their teachers embrace the challenge of pulling them all forward regardless of their place on the starting line. They soldier onward with skill, energy and determination.

What troubles me is that our educators' belief in education and their

sense of responsibility for student success is used against them! If they acknowledge that children face difficulties they are criticized for making excuses, having low expectations or not valuing every child. For years this worked to silence educators who know that a focus on test scores is not the same as a focus on learning. Their job is to build on each child's strengths, not sharpen testing skills. The form success takes is unique to each child. Testing-based accountability undermines authentic learning and is hard on children.

By bullying educators into silence, policymakers have made it possible to undermine public confidence in public education, siphon public funds away from public schools and ignore the myriad challenges, including poverty, that face our children. Current policy promises success for all without investing in the tools needed for success. It ignores economic inequality and allows it to worsen. It requires that all children succeed by placing full responsibility for creating equality on the shoulders of teachers—a goal teachers embrace but cannot deliver by themselves!

We all have different roles in the fight to make sure public schools serve all children well and to maintain respect for public education in this era of privatization, blame and shame. Educators have to focus on delivering education in the best ways they know. They have to believe in their own power, and education leaders have to demand that everyone does their best, but we need to let our educators tell the truth about the challenges they face and how to address them.

We all need to questions laws that expect more than is feasible and that blame teachers for not fulfilling impossible requirements. The public needs to challenge laws that declare failure if children who start from behind don't arrive at the finish line at an arbitrary moment chosen by politicians.

We need to invest in the people who make up our school community, and we need to emphasize practices that keep teachers motivated and open to professional growth, retain our best practitioners, attract the next generation of committed educators, foster engaging teaching practices and focus on assets, not weaknesses.

If we want all children to succeed, we need to demand policies that create a just society and an even playing field of opportunity.

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.



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

Sun.: 3 p.m. - 10 p.m.

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

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

Award Winning Sushi & Fabulous Malaysian Cuisine

# Cleveland Heights City Council LEAGUE OF

Meeting highlights

OCTOBER 20, 2014

Council Member Melissa Yasinow was absent.

#### Preventive road maintenance

Council authorized an agreement with Cuyahoga County for preventive maintenance of county roads in Cleveland Heights. The roads include Euclid Heights Boulevard and Taylor, Cedar and Noble roads. The county department of public works will bid the contract, which will serve several communities, and will bill Cleveland Heights for the labor costs.

#### Mayfield Road traffic signal upgrade

Council approved hiring the firm of Glaus, Pyle, Schomer, Burns and DeHaven Inc. to develop the engineering plans for Mayfield Road traffic signal upgrades. Federal safety funds will cover 90 percent of the cost of the plan, which cannot exceed \$275,850.

#### **CDBG** application

Council heard a first reading of legislation authorizing submission of the city's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. For 41 years, the city has participated in this grant program, which provides important resources for the city. The application includes a five-year plan for meeting the housing needs of low- and moderate-income residents.

#### **Anti-discrimination legislation amendments**

There was a second reading of legislation amending the city's Fair Practices laws to authorize the Fair Practices Board to hear complaints of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in employment and education. The legislation also creates a Complaint Officer position to conduct preliminary investigations of complaints. Current city anti-discrimination law covers housing, but not education and employment, and does not address sexual orientation or gender identity discrimination. Council will act after the third reading.

Council also heard a second reading of, but took no action on, a resolution calling for the Ohio General Assembly to enact legislation, currently pending, to protect Ohioans from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Ohio is one of 29 states that do not provide protection to these classes.

#### Ebola response meeting

The city participated in a countywide meeting convened by Cleveland Mayor Jackson to discuss a coordinated response to the Ebola virus, should any cases be identified, with the health department, CDC and hospitals. The focus is on creating a standardized procedure for safety forces and hospitals, and education and information activities. There are currently no cases in Cuyahoga County.

LWV Observer: Susie Kaeser.

NOVEMBER 3, 2014

Council Member Jason Stein was absent.

#### LGBTQ anti-discrimination legislation

On a third reading, council unanimously approved legislation expanding the jurisdiction of the Fair Practices Board to hear complaints concerning discrimination in housing, employment, education and public accommodations based on sexual orientation and gender identity, making them protected classes. The

legislation also creates a complaint officer to conduct preliminary investigations and increase the efficiency of the Fair Practices Board. State and federal laws do not include these protected classes. Before casting their votes, each council member expressed support for the process that led to the legislation and the quality and significance of the result.

Additionally, council approved a resolution, also after a third reading, calling for the Ohio General Assembly to approve pending legislation to protect Ohioans from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

#### **CDBG** program

Council approved submission of an application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This is the 41st year the city has participated in this grant program. The city is expected to receive about \$1,482,995. The application includes a five-year plan for meeting the housing needs of low- and moderate-income residents. Three nonprofits will receive CDBG funds for the first time: Lake Erie Ink, Future-Heights, and Gesher.

#### **Nuisance properties**

Council declared four properties to be nuisances and authorized abatement: two parcels at 3344 Beechwood Ave., and one each at 3413 Desota Ave. and 3740 Lowell Road. In each case the owners had failed to maintain the properties after multiple citations for violations. The properties were seriously deteriorated and a blight to the community.

#### Free parking weekends over the holidays

Mayor Dennis Wilcox urged residents to take advantage of free parking to be available on weekends from Thanksgiving to New Year's, and to "shop local."

LWV Observer: Susie Kaeser.

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

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

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

COVENTRY continued from page 1

try/Eddy's Barbershop), Sarah Belzile (Phoenix Coffee), Chelsea McLean (Avalon Exchange).

Each day throughout the holiday season, CVSID will spotlight one of its business owners. Starting Nov. 24, the owners will tell their personal stories, offer holiday shopping tips, and share the names of other local spots that they support. They'll explain why they believe that shopping, dining and enjoying local helps build a better community.

Suzanne DeGaetano of Mac's Backs, the first Coventry Village business owner to be profiled in the series, described what makes her business unique: "In addition to selling books, we have a book exchange program. Therefore, the books in the store reflect the taste and reading habits of the community." She added, "Our conversations with customers about books are the lifeblood of our store."

Mac's Backs features three floors of new and used books, magazine and stationery products, and aims "to provide good books in a friendly atmosphere."

DeGaetano also highlighted upcoming in-store events, including a Dec. 6, 6 p.m., appearance by author Joyce Brabner and illustrator Mark Zingarelli, who will discuss their new graphic novel, Second Avenue Caper: When Goodfellas, Divas and Dealers Plotted Against the Plague, and a craft area for kids that Mac's Backs will host as part of the Coventry Village Holiday Festival on Saturday, Dec. 13, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Asked why she chose to locate her business in Coventry, DeGaetano cited its



Suzanne DeGaetano of Mac's Backs.

"active street life and cultural diversity."

This is not the first time that Coventry merchants have posed for a group photo showcasing the business district. In 1969 or 1971, *Plain Dealer* photojournalist Richard Kendzierski snapped a photo looking north as merchants posed on the concrete traffic island that graced the intersection of Euclid Heights Boulevard and Coventry Road. Most of the business owners and shops are gone now, but some, such as Heights Hardware, endure, as does the tradition of small, independent businesses that gives Coventry Village its unique character.

Meet the personalities on the Coventry Village website at www.coventryvillage.org or facebook.com/friendsofcoventryvillage.

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



Mail Service • Database Management • Office Administration

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

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

www.jacbusiness.com





Kim Sergio Inglis

## Former UH vice mayor Goldberg holds lead over incumbent judge with election results not yet official

Kim Sergio Inglis

Francine Goldberg, former University Heights city councilwoman and vice mayor, holds a slim lead over incumbent judge Janet Rath Colaluca in the race for Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court Judge.

At press time, unofficial election results provided by the County BOE showed that Goldberg, a Democrat, had received 116,409 votes (50.26 percent), compared with 115,212 votes (49.74 percent) for Republican candidate Colaluca.

Absentee ballots can be received up to 10 days after Election Day (if postmarked no later than the day before the election), and so have yet to be counted, and official election results, including provisional ballots, have not yet been certified by the BOE.

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.

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

Voters in University Heights approved a \$1.8 million bond issue to fund a new city park on the former site of the Fuchs Mizrachi School. By a vote of 1,688 (52.4 percent) to 1,531 (47.6 percent), residents narrowly passed the bond issue to fund the "constructing and equipping of a public park area and related improve-

The park bond issue is for a period of 15 years, and Mayor Infeld said it will cost homeowners \$25 per \$100,000 valuation—the same amount that UH residents have been paying to fund the construction of the Purvis Park pool 20 years ago. That bond issue will be paid off in December.

Commenting on the bond issue's passage, Infeld said, "I am very pleased that the community supported the establishment of a park at the former school site on Fenwick Road. A park will introduce a new community asset in University Heights and I look forward to seeing many happy people using the park in the future.

"Our next step will be to issue a Request for Proposals, for detailed drawings of the park, for inclusion in a bid package for contractors bidding on the park construction project. At the same time we will convene the citizens' park committee for further definition of park features and selection of playground

equipment, etc."

UH voters narrowly approve park bond issue

Discussions about a park on the Fuchs Mizrachi site have unfolded since 2012, when the City of University Heights purchased the property for \$600,000. At a March 2012 town meeting, the majority of residents in attendance indicated, by a show of hands, their support for purchasing the former school property to create a park. The next month, UH City Council voted 6-1 to purchase the former school, with then-Vice Mayor Frankie Goldberg abstaining, citing a conflict of interest. Subsequently, a UH citizen's committee formed to determine the use of the property. The city paid approximately \$230,000 for school building demolition and asbestos abatement.

In the month's leading up to Election Day, the opinions of city residents and council members, as expressed at various city meetings, were divided on the park, with some saying that the park plan was being rushed, and others of the opinion that, after two and a half years, it was time for council to submit the issue to voters.

At its July 14 meeting, UH City Council passed a resolution, by a vote of 5-1, to put the bond issue before voters on Nov. 4.

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

## **University Heights** City Council W Meeting highlights

Vice Mayor Susan D. Pardee was absent.

Mike Bohan, a member of the city finance advisory committee, expressed concerns about the resolution on this evening's agenda for council's approval of written contracts. Although it represents the majority view of the members of both the joint finance committee and the finance advisory committee, he wished to make three comments:

- He recommended obtaining input from the law director and mayor as to whether clarifying the ordinance to stipulate written contracts is sufficient to resolve their perceived need to bring so many expenditures for approval before council:
- The only substantive change to the law is the clarification that it applies only to written contracts; all of the other details in the resolution should already be covered by the current \$5,000 written contract provision;
- He also recommended that the entire approval methodology be reconfigured as council's highly detailed budget approval process already authorizes the mayor to enter into the necessary contracts to make the expenditures pursuant to the approved budget.

#### Zoning changes

After lengthy debate and a divided vote, council approved zoning changes for six parcels along Cedar and South Green roads from two-family residential (U-2) to local retail district (U-7). A seventh parcel changed from parking/shopping district (U3, U8) to U-7. Larry Weiser, owner of these properties, hopes to put a Waterway Gas & Wash there. Weiser stated that he was open to a variety of business opportunities for

A traffic study had been completed and an additional traffic signal would be needed at Fenway Road, which would have to be synchronized with the signal at South Green Road. Councilman Philip Ertel noted that Waterway was listed specifically but Law Director Anthony Coyne explained that, although it is standard to include a business in the request for clarity, a U-7 zoning allows a wide array of businesses.

With tie votes that were broken by a vote by the mayor, council voted down Councilman Mark Wiseman's request to send the issue back to the planning commission for further traffic study, and approved the planning commission proposal as presented. Voting against Wiseman's request and for the proposal were councilwomen Nancy English, Adele Zucker and Pamela Cameron, as well as the mayor.

#### **Approval of written contracts**

Council unanimously approved authorization to pay administrative and other expenses and to necessitate council approval for other written contracts, expenses or services. Minor changes had been made to the resolution since the first

reading to improve clarity and remove its "on emergency" status, but there were no material

LWV Observer: Wendy Deuring.

NOVEMBER 3, 2014 All council members were present.

#### Mayor's vote questioned

At the last meeting, Mayor Susan Infeld voted to break a tie in an approval vote to rezone residential parcels on Cedar Road to commercial for the CESO/Waterway Way & Wash Company. After a council member questioned the mayor's vote following the meeting, Anthony Coyne, law director, researched the code and discovered that, even though the previous mayor broke ties on at least three separate occasions, this was a violation of city code (220.12). Coyne took responsibility and suggested a new vote. Councilman Mark Wiseman asked whether the approval had already failed if the mayor was unable to vote. The mayor claimed that, when she was a council member, Mayor Rothschild voted in a tie and cited another section of code (220.18) as a catchall for a situation with no protocol. However, Wiseman, Vice Mayor Susan Pardee, and Councilwoman Pamela Cameron all stated that code 220.12 is clear in stating that the mayor cannot vote and, therefore, the item failed

After a lively discussion, the mayor invited Larry Weiser, the owner of the parcels in question, to speak after he requested [the opportunity to make a statement. Weiser was extremely upset and maintained that he had been assured by the mayor at the last meeting that he would have seven votes so that this matter could be approved or not. Pardee was absent at the meeting, leading to a tie vote, which is why the mayor voted to break the tie. Coyne said that a tie vote is rare and suggested that litigation might even arise because of Weiser's situation. After a heated discussion, Councilman Phil Ertel suggested moving on to the next agenda item because code 220.12 was clear. The prior approval was considered failed and Weiser will have to reapply to the planning commission if he wants to pursue this venture.

#### **Vendor contracts**

The mayor said that all vendors were signing contracts for the possibility that some might go over \$5,000. Councilman Wiseman and Councilwoman Cameron both asked why is this still on the agenda when the finance committee had approved this already. The mayor responded saying she wants transparency.

LWV Observer: Michele Weiss.

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

See disclaimer on page 7.

THRIVE continued from page

that to lead a full and fulfilling life, to enjoy a deep and lasting sense of wellbeing, it is necessary to embrace the whole self.

Thrive's first event was called WTF, or What Tha Food. "It was a farm-totable experience that had people taste the difference between local food and processed, nationally distributed food," Margolis said. The people who took part in the program were placed on different teams and took buses to meet and talk to local farmers and taste local food. Then a chef prepared dishes from the food the participants had selected. "We had three goals," Margolis said. "We wanted to create new connections between people. We wanted them to have a highly sensory experience, and we wanted them to experience the beauty of our region."

Since then, Thrive has expanded its programming. It now includes Thrive at Work, which takes happiness programs into different businesses and corporate headquarters. A recent Gallup Poll survey found that 70 percent of U.S. workers did not enjoy their work. "We wanted to create a program that connects people with work that matters to them," Margolis said. Microsoft, Progressive Insurance, Smucker's and the Weatherhead School of Management are all taking part in this program.

In October, the organization started the Thrive Box. Each box contains various items that are intended to induce a sense of happiness and well-being. The boxes cost \$39 and are available on Thrive's website, www. thrive-box.com.

"Our idea was to change gifting," Margolis said. "Instead of going out and buying the usual kind of gift for someone, now you can get this box-a happiness experience in a box, packed with six happiness practices that together create

an experience, because it's experiences that make us happy, not stuff."

Thrive has also partnered with the Phoenix Coffee store on Lee Road to create what they are calling a "curiosity wall." People can write something on the wall that they are curious about. Then other patrons can vote by putting stickers next to the comment that interests them the most. Once an item gets five stickers, it's activated. The Thrive team chooses three activated cards and curates images and text-based responses that are displayed next to chalk boards where the community can respond as well.

Thrive also has a program called Lunch Beat. In October, it was held at the House of Blues in downtown Cleveland, and guests could dance to the music provided by a deejay, eat healthy food and then head back to work. The organization is also planning a Pop-Up Wedding, which will be an actual wedding for a couple who were planning on eloping.

Thrive is the only organization of its kind in the United States, and it has also succeeded in making Margolis and Simon very happy. "All of us are thrilled with the success of the organization," Margolis said. "It's been an incredibly organic evolution. It amazes me to think that this was all just an idea a couple years ago, and now we are starting to make a real impact not only in the community but in workplaces and through this beautiful gift box. I honestly can't believe this is my job! I'm happiest when I feel I'm making a positive contribution in the lives of others, and so yes, Thrive makes me very happy!"

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

## Heights High students greet UH voters

Deanna Bremer Fisher

Several Heights High students greeted voters in University Heights on Election Day, offering free hot chocolate and information—not about any issue on the ballot, but about themselves.

"We are explaining the current state of the [University Heights] Planning Commission and the issue of moving Heights High to Wiley," explained Elijah Snow-Rackley, a junior at Heights High. He and several of his fellow students, representing the Student Union, a new student-initiated Heights High group, had stationed themselves inside the University Heights Library.

The CH-UH City School District had been seeking approval from the University Heights Planning Commission since February 2014, to move forward with its plan to use Wiley as transitional space for the high school. [On Nov. 18, the commission voted to approve the plan.]

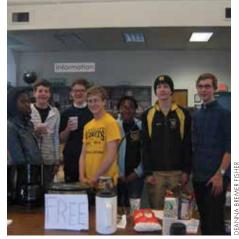
"We are handing out personalized cards to get people to understand that we are real kids. It's not all about statistics. It's not just about the safety of the businesses or community security risks. We are going to school to learn, and we would really like to have a chance," said Snow-Rackley.

The students said they were frustrated with what they viewed as the planning commission's stalling on the issue. "It's really disappointing. There should not be that much question behind how much security we need and this and that," said Andrew Schellenberg, also a junior. "Heights does get a bad rap, but it's not a bad school."

"A lot of it has to do with misinformation and a little bit of fear of what high school students are," added Snow-Rackley. He said he had made a decision to participate in the Election Day meet and greet after speaking at a Planning Commission meeting.

"I was really appalled at what I saw," he said. "There was an initiative to move the high school to Slavic Village in Cleveland and busing all the kids there. That's more money than it is worth. We have property here. We share a school district. It shouldn't be an issue to use Wiley as a transitional school."

The students handed out a letter to voters, asking them to contact Deanna Bremer Fisher is executive direcand city council members and "...let Heights Observer.



Members of the Heights High Student Union, (from left) Imani Frazier, Henry Gray, Garrett Vandall, Elijah Snow-Rackley, Hailley Turner, Andrew Schellenberg and Calvin Gray, introduced themselves and offered free hot cocoa and coffee to UH voters at the University Heights Library.

them know that you welcome me and my fellow classmates as Heights High students at Wiley School."

The student union was founded this year by Snow-Rackley and Heights High student Emma Schubert, who was running another hot cocoa station at the John Carroll University polling location. The group seeks to address issues of concern to students and the community. "We want to take action on issues that we feel are affecting us and affecting people in the community and, more importantly, [that] we think are wrong and should change," explained Snow-Rackley.

Heights senior Imani Frazier said that the group has about 21 members. "We are working hand-in-hand with student council to get ourselves known and to allow everybody to know what we are about," she said.

Another issue the group seeks to address is that of Heights High spirit wear being produced by sweatshop labor. "We would really appreciate if all of our athletic gear that we are selling and [that] has our logo on it wasn't made by someone my own age for no money," said Snow-Rackley.

When this issue came up, the group felt that it was one they needed to tackle right away. "This issue affects nearly all of us for next year," said Snow-Rackley.

Carol Boykins, a University Heights voter who stopped to drink some cocoa and listen to the students, said, "I support what the students are doing and I am going to call Mayor Infeld. I will definitely follow up."

University Heights Mayor Susan Infeld tor of FutureHeights and publisher of the





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

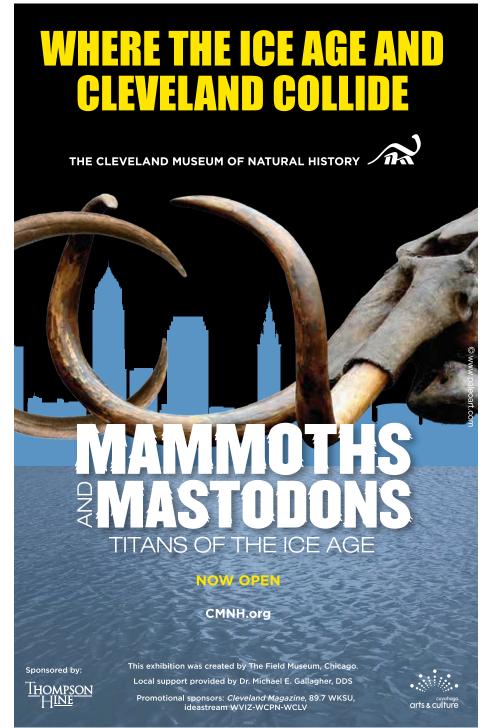
#### It can also provide for today.

I'll show you how a life insurance policy with living benefits can help your family with both long-term and short-term needs.

We put the life back in life insurance.™ CALL ME TODAY.



State Farm Life Insurance Company (Not licensed in MA, NY or WI)
State Farm Life and Accident Assurance Company (Licensed in NY and WI); Bloomington, IL





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

8pm - Sunday, December 7, 14, 21 and 28

## Unitarian Universalist Society elects new minister

Walter Nicholes

The Rev. Joseph M. Cherry sometimes uses his high school marching band experience as a metaphor for his new role as minister of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland (UUSC). "We UUs don't march lockstep to outside imposed authority—musical, religious or otherwise," said Cherry. "We're noted for personal autonomy and, within traditional association principles, we compose our own congregational objectives. The band metaphor portrays UUSC as a principled, socially active and diverse religious organization whose members play different roles with different abilities in collaboration with a trusted elected leader."

Cherry was chosen to lead the UUSC congregation on May 4 and commenced his ministerial duties on Aug. 1. He succeeds the Rev. Dr. Douglas Wadkins, who completed a two-year interim ministry.

In 1977, Cherry's parents encouraged him to watch the mini-series "Roots" with them. The series was based on Alex Haley's novel about Kunta

Kinte, an 18th-century African captured as an adolescent and sold into slavery in the United States. He found the story very troubling, because he saw there was much wrong in our system, and it helped lead him to study American history in college.

Cherry lives in Cleveland Heights in a home he and his partner, Rev. Denis Paul, developmental minister at the East Shore Unitarian Universalist Church in Kirtland, are remodeling. "We joke that we're a mixed marriage because we went to rival UU seminaries. Denis attended Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, and I went to Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago. What we got was an amazing amalgam of the two pedagogies—two ways to teach, two ways to learn.

"Meadville tends to focus on ministry and academics. Starr King tends toward a more holistic approach to ministry, so what we have in our five years of being together is the best of both."

Asked to define his ministerial mission, Cherry put it this way: "I'm a minister in a worldwide and lifesaving faith.



Rev. Joseph Cherry

Part of our mission is to say persons can be unsure. You can say you don't believe in this or that God and that's OK. It's to say that, at this moment, you are OK as you are and don't need saving or redemption. At the same time, we are all capable of growth."

Does this give UUs license to lead selfish, irresponsible lives? "Not at all," said Cherry. "The Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland declares three basic aspirations: We strive to be a sanctuary for all who enter, to reflect the diversity of our community, and to work toward a more just and sustainable society. When we live these three challenges simultaneously, we believe we're living decent, redemptive lives."

Often the priority mandate for a new minister is to increase membership. Asked if he had a plan for this, Cherry responded, "Well, yes and no. We don't have to be a power. We can't change people. We can only live our individual lives and live our congregational life collectively with integrity. We don't recruit members or proselytize in the traditional sense. We have to let our lives speak that for us.

"Our faith exists as a tension between two concepts—on the one side, our aspirations and, on the other, who we really are. There are many persons, regardless of age or color, sexual orientation or gender identity, who are in the same place, living these same tensions, who want to find a church where the preacher or dogma doesn't tell them who they are or what to believe. They seek a place absent of fear-imposed authority.

"As more people who feel as we do see us—agnostics, atheists, Buddhists, Christians, humanists and others worshipping together—they will find us, and we will continue to grow."

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Cleveland is located at 2728 Lancashire Road, Cleveland Heights. Visit its website at www.uucleveland.org.

Walter Nicholes, retired, is a 50-plus-year resident of Cleveland Heights now living in an apartment in Shaker. He thinks the Heights communities are remarkable in their successful diversity.

30 DAYS UNLIMITED

**YOGA & SPECIAL** 

BEGINNERS' PROGRAM

\$59

(NEW LOCAL STUDENTS ONLY)

ATMA CENTER

YOGA FOR EVERY BODY



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

—Beth Bohn, Judson Park resident since 2006

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

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

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."

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











Visit www.judsonsmartliving.org and click Judson Park

## Crain's Cleveland names CH-UH district's Gainer a 2014 CFO of the Year award winner

Angee Shaker

Scott Gainer, chief financial officer and treasurer of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, has been named a Crain's Cleveland Business 2014 CFO of the Year. Gainer received the award in the government category at Crain's award ceremony at the Cleveland Convention Center on Oct. 23.

Crain's Cleveland CFO of the Year awards are dedicated to recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of CFOs in Northeast Ohio. The award is the only one of its kind in the region.

"Every day we witness Scott's experience, vision and leadership," said Talisa Dixon, CH-UH superintendent. "The continued validation of Scott's effort and hard work by outside organizations is immensely rewarding to see. I am incredibly

proud to have him as a member of our team. He is a true asset to this community."

As reported on CrainsCleveland.com, Kal Zucker, who is nearing the end of his third term on the school district's board, said he's worked closely with Gainer "in some capacity for at least 15 years." During that time, what has stood out most to Zucker is Gainer's calming influence.

"As you might imagine, we have some challenges," Zucker said. "Since we've worked together, we've faced a lawsuit, a levy cycle, budget cuts, and he has a way of talking you through those things, taking the facts and presenting them in a very clear way."

In his more than 19 years with the district, Gainer's sound fiscal stewardship has endeared him to the CH-UH community. His work has brought him numerous distinctions. The Ohio Associ-



Gainer received a Crain's Cleveland 2014 CFO of the Year award, in the government category, at an Oct. 23 ceremony.

ation of School Business Officials named Officers Association—the highest form him its 2010 CFO and Treasurer of the Year for the State of Ohio. For each of the last 12 years, Gainer and his staff have been awarded the Certificate of Angee Shaker is director of communications Reporting by the Government Finance City School District.

of recognition in the field of government accounting and financial reporting.

Achievement for Excellence in Financial for Cleveland Heights-University Heights



Meet the Independent Business owners that make Coventry Village a great place to shop, dine, live, work & play

@ www.coventryvillage.org / II Friends Of Coventry Village.



SHOPPING LOCAL: creates jobs, builds neighborhoods, keeps your money in the community, fosters entrepreneurship, provides personal service and unique products.

## Geraci's Restaurant

As seen on` Diners. Drive-ins and Dives

2266 Warrensville Center Road University Heights, Ohio 44118 216 371-5643

216 382-5333 Award winning pizza

www.geracisrestaurant.net

## **HEIGHTS FRAME & ART**

#### Custom Picture Framing

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









## Will your money retire before you do?

Lee Bachman, Agent Bus: 216-321-1422

The sooner you start investing, the more likely you are to reach your long-term goals. Ask me about State Farm Mutual Funds®.



Farm VP Management Corp (1-800-447-4930) for a prospectus or summary prospectus containing this and other information. Read it carefully. Securities are not FDIC insured, are not bank guaranteed and are subject to investment risk, including possible loss of principal. AP2013/03/0938 State Farm VP Management Corp. One State Farm Plaza, Bloomington, Illinois 61710-0001. Neither State Farm nor its agents provide investment, tax, or legal advice. 1101413.4

## Heights historical photo of the month



It's getting cold out there! In the past, Heights residents could ice skate on the parking lot of Cumberland Pool, which the city flooded for that purpose. In this image from around 1945, a man swings a child by the hands as a crowd of skaters looks on. Ice or no ice—don't try this at home!

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

## Music Settlement early education receives five-star award

**Bob Rosenbaum** 

The Music Settlement of University Circle, which offers programs that attract many Heights families, announced in a news release that its preschool, day school and kindergarten have been awarded a five-star rating from the state of Ohio "for meeting the quality standard established by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and the Ohio Department of Education." The "5-Star" rating is the highest possible.

The Music Settlement is the first program in Cleveland to receive a five-star award from the state's "Step Up To Quality" rating and improvement system, and is one of five programs in Cuyahoga County to reach this level.

"We have always known that our music-infused, process-based school programs are unique to Cleveland," said Charles Lawrence, The Music Settlement's president and CEO. "It's wonderful to receive this highest-

The Music Settlement's early childhood school program also exceeded the national quality standards established by Universal Pre-Kindergarten of Cuyahoga County.

"We are thrilled with the efforts of our faculty and staff to meet the rigor of requests during the two-day review process, while continuing to teach and provide outstanding-quality education for our young students and families," said Karen Heitlinger, chair of the Center for Early Childhood. "It's truly our honor to provide the best early childhood educational programs for our youngest Greater Clevelanders."

Parents who are interested in the program can attend a free Early Childhood Open House event on Jan. 11, from 1–2:30 p.m., at 11125 Magnolia Dr., Cleveland.

Cleveland Heights resident Bob Rosenbaum is co-chairman of the Heights Observer Advisory Committee, and is responsible for its advertising sales and market development.





(FED)AR FATRMOUNT

**LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED** 

Thank You For Gedar Fairmount!

## AWARD WINNING WINGS! 17 SIGNATURE SAUCES • 5 SEASONINGS

FULL MENU

**SANDWICHES • SALADS • BURGERS • WRAPS** 

lave Big on Wing Tuesdays!

Boneless Wing Thursdays!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PINT SPECIALS & LIVE TRIVIA

Free NTN Trivia · Free WiFi **Open Daily at IIAM Always Open Late Night Call Ahead for Carry Out!** 



## Local holiday events for senior adults and their families



SENIOR SCENE

Judith Eugene

Many local businesses and religious organizations are offering fun social and cultural activities for Heights seniors and their families during the holiday season. Events are free, unless otherwise noted. Please call ahead to confirm times, make reservations or inquire about handicapped accessibility, if needed.

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

Dobama Theatre will present "A Civil War Christmas: An American Musical Celebration" Dec. 5 through Jan. 4. This musical, written by Pulitzer Prize-winner Paula Vogel, combines historic characters, story lines, spirituals and carols. Admission for the preview show on Dec. 4 is \$10. The Dec. 7 show offers "pay what you can" admission. The senior admission price for all other shows ranges from \$23-\$26. (2340 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, 216-932-3396)

The Church of the Saviour's annual Advent Festival will be held on Dec. 6, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The festival features a silent auction, fair-trade items for sale, live music, donuts and cookies. Proceeds benefit local and global nonprofit and fair-trade organizations. (2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, 216-321-8880)

On Dec. 13, 1-4 p.m., Homewood Residence at Rockefeller Gardens will host Cookies with Santa for a Cause. Cookies and cocoa will be served, and each guest is asked to donate a new warm accessory item for the homeless, such as a hat, gloves, mittens, scarf or socks. (3151 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights, 855-308-0877)

An all-ages origami craft workshop will be held at the Coventry Village Library on Dec. 13, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Participants will learn about this Japanese art of paper folding, and make their own winter decorations. (1925 Coventry Road, Cleveland Heights, 216-321-3400)

From 7-9 p.m. on Dec. 14, 16 and 17, Nighttown will host the ninth annual Musical Theater Project performance of "A Christmas Cabaret in Cleveland." This sing-along show features live performances of classic Christmas songs from the 1910s through the 1960s. Call 216-245-8687 for tickets, which range from \$20-\$30. (12387 Cedar Road, Cleveland Heights)

The 115th annual Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count will be held at the Shaker Lakes Nature Center on either Dec. 20 or 27 at 8 a.m. (at press time, the date had not yet been determined). This is the longest-running citizen science survey in the world, and it provides critical data on bird population trends by locating and identifying resident winter birds. (2600 South Park Blvd., Shaker Heights, 216-321-5935)

The Stone Gardens Assisted Living Residence will hold its annual Rock for All Ages Chanukah concert with Noah Budin on Dec. 18 at 7:30 p.m. (27090 Cedar Road, Beachwood, 216-292-0070)

On Dec. 25, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage will host its annual Chinese Food and a Movie Day, featuring movies and a kosher Chinese buffet. Admission for both lunch and the movies is \$25 for ages 12 and up, \$12 for ages 5-11, and free for children younger than 5. Registration is required by Dec. 18. Note: the museum will also offer moviesonly admission; call the museum for more information. (2929 Richmond Road, Beachwood, 216-593-0575)

The Cleveland Heights Senior Activity Center will hold its annual New Year's party on Dec. 31, starting at noon. A hot lunch and musical entertainment will be provided. Admission is \$12, and advance registration is required. (I Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Heights, 216-691-7377)

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

#### Senior Citizen Happenings

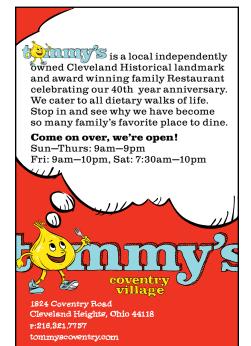
Senior Citizen Happenings, sponsored by the City of University Heights, are open to all senior citizens. Events take place on Thursdays at 2 p.m. at the University Heights Library. For information, and to suggest program topics, contact the UH Office for Senior Services at 216-397-0336 or info@universityheights.com. To receive the monthly schedule by e-mail, call 216-932-7800, ext. 205, or send an e-mail to info@universityheights.com.

Dec. 4: Mitchell Balk, president of Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation, describes its philanthropic work to help improve the health and well-being of Cleveland's Jewish and other communities. Its initiatives include Child Sight, which offers free vision screening and glasses for middle school students in Cleveland's public schools, and Senior Transportation Connection, which facilitates travel to local destinations for senior citizens.

Dec. II: Jed Silberg, associate director of outreach for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, will talk about the museum's origin and history, and its work to broaden public understanding of the history of the Holocaust, and strengthen the world's resolve for peace.

Dec. 18: Damir Janigro, professor and director of cerebrovascular research at the Cleveland Clinic, studies how music affects the brain therapeutically. Son of the famed Italian cellist Antonio Janigro, he'll discuss how growing up in a family of musicians has informed and inspired his work to shed new light on how hospitals can use music to promote health and well-being.

Dec. 25 and Jan. 1: No talks scheduled for these holidays. Best wishes for the new year!







2:00 p.m. Christmas Story for the Very Young with Communion 3:30 p.m. Organ Noëls and Carol Sing-a-long

4:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant, Communion (interpreted for Deaf)

> 8:00 p.m. Music: From Advent to Christmas

9:00 p.m. A Choral Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas **Festival Eucharist of Christmas** 10:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 25: Christmas Day

Holy Eucharist with organ and vocal solos 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 28: The First Sunday after Christmas Day 7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10 a.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols with Communion

Thursday, January 1: The Feast of the Holy Name

10:30 a.m. **Holy Eucharist** 

## St. Paul's Episcopal Church welcomes you!

ount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106 (216) 932-5815 • www.stpauls-church.org Karel Paukert, Organist/Choirmaster The Rev. Dr. Harold T. Lewis, Interim Rector





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



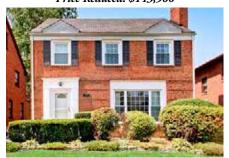
**Real Estate Services** 

**SCOTT HAIGH** 

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



For Sale - 2452 Saybrook Rd., University Hts. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath brick home Price Reduced: \$143,900





- Credit Cards
- Case Cash
- Open 7 Days
- Carry Out/Eat In
- Delivery (limited radius)

## Traditional and Gourmet Pizza

Calzones, soups, pasta, subs, salads, wings, pizza by the slice, authentic Italian gelato and more

Mention this ad for \$2 off a large pizza or \$1 off a large sub (Not valid with any other offer)

2188 Murray Hill Road (at Cornell) • (216) 229-9050

www.LaPizzeriaLittleItaly.com

Mon-Thurs: 10:30am-10pm • Fri-Sat: 10:30am-Midnight • Sun: Noon-10pm



# CH-UH Board of Education LEAGUE OF

Meeting highlights

OCTOBER 28, 2014
[Joint meeting with CH City Council]
All board and council members were present.

#### **School facilities renovation**

The board has approved the schematic design phase and the accompanying budget for the high school renovation project. Budget reconcilitation for the total project will be presented and approved in the next phase of the project, the development phase.

The lower level of the high school will house the pool, two gyms, locker rooms, public changing rooms, and the career tech area. The entry is from Washington Boulevard. The building will be closer to the street than it is currently, decreasing parking. Many parking options are being considered, including use of the city lot across Cedar Road. Traffic patterns are also still under consideration. City streetscape improvement plans will mesh with the project.

The second level will encompass a restored courtyard, clock tower, and original entry. The science wing will be torn down to expose the courtyard and entry to Cedar Road. New wings on either side of the courtyard will reflect the original architecture. This level will also include the administrative office complex, library, auditorium, mini-auditorium, cafeteria, visual and performing arts, and special education. The building will be entirely handicapped-accessible and meet all ADA requirements.

The third level will have two classroom wings, a central locker and gathering area, teachers' spaces, and two large project rooms. The smaller upper level will be the vocal music space.

Fewer entrances and good interior views will enhance safety and security. Although fewer than in the current building, classrooms will be larger and better configured. Circulation will be simpler, to make it easier to move from class to class.

All competitive athletics will continue, although some will be relocated during renovation.

From now through January, the design development phase will make the spaces work for their function. There will be a meeting for residents living near the high school, and the project will be presented to the Cleveland Heights Planning Commission in December.

Wiley has been designated as the swing space where Heights High students will go during the renovation of the high school, and later where middle school students will go during the renovation of Roxboro and Monticello middle schools. To accommodate the increased number of students, a second gym will be added, as well as a vocal music area, and modular pre-fabricated classrooms with connecting corridors. Approval from University Heights City Council has not yet been finalized.

#### Possible tax initiatives

Due to the \$2.5 million cut in state revenue to the city and the elimination of the inheritance tax, the city's 2015 budget process will include council discussion for additional revenue needs. Voters could be asked for a property or income tax increase next November. The school district may also need an operating levy next year. Ron Register, board president, suggested that the city and the school district have an ongoing discussion on this.

WOMEN VOTERS®

#### **Turkey Ridge**

The proposed Turkey Ridge project on Edgehill Road will not proceed because developers found their costs to be higher than expected.

#### Streetscapes

A \$1.5 million grant from the Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency (NOACA) will enable the city to start work in the spring on a new Lee Road streetscape, from Superior Road to the Lee Road Library, which will include new lighting, enhanced crosswalks, and other pedestrian improvements. A streetscape project at Cedar Fairmount will feature a bike trail connecting to University Circle.

#### **Safe Routes to School**

Mary Dunbar, council member, reported that the city had received a small grant from a federal program that encourages safe walking and biking to school. The money will enable the city to map out routes and make infrastructure improvements, such as bike racks and crosswalks, in the neighborhoods around Roxboro, Oxford and Canterbury schools, Hebrew Academy, and Monticello Middle School. More money can be applied for to expand to other schools.

LWV Observer: Nancy Dietrich.

NOVEMBER 3, 2014 All board members were present.

#### Students of Promise

The board approved the interagency agreement between the district and Cuyahoga County pertaining to the Students of Promise Closing the Achievement Gap initiative. The program will provide mentors, coaches, tutoring and summer programs.

#### Lease agreements

The board approved a lease renewal agreement with Urban Oak School and authorized a nonbinding proposal for lease of certain portions of Coventry School building to Connections and Wingspan Care Group for use as student and family counseling space.

#### Noble playground

The board approved a contract for Noble Elementary School playground improvements.

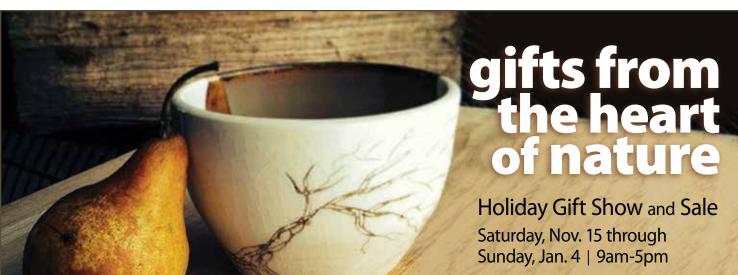
#### Facilities HVAC and parking

Steven Zannoni, architect, presented three types of HVAC systems and the costs of each, and several parking options. There were many questions from board members. No decision was made.

LWV Observer: Adele Cohn.

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

See disclaimer on page 7.



Tuesday Night Trunk Shows

November 18, 25 December 2, 9, 16 | 5pm-8pm

#### **Ladies Night**

December 3 | 5pm-9pm

Massages, wine and shopping!

#### Holiday Drop & Shop

December 14 – 1pm-4pm

Drop your little ones off to enjoy activities and treats while you shop! Children must be potty trained.

The HOLDEN Arboretum® 9550 Sperry Road | Kirtland, OH 44094

visit holdenarb.org for complete information

## Heights High National Merit commended students announced

Joy Henderson

Cleveland Heights High School seniors Shani Gelles, Ben Gillooly, Ann Zicari and David Pecoraro were named National Merit Commended Students. Approximately 34,000 commended students were recognized nationwide for their exceptional academic promise. Commended students are those who placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who took the 2013 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/ NMSQT) but will not continue in the 2015 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards.

Gelles has appreciated the diversity and academic offerings at Heights High. She is currently taking AP biology, economics, statistics and literature as well as American Sign Language IV, government and political philosophy. She is on the volleyball and track teams, and last year was the MVP of the league track meet, where she won the one- and



The Heights High National Merit Commended Scholars (from left) Shani Gelles, Ben Gillooly, Ann Zicari and David Pecoraro.

two-mile races and placed third in the pole vault. She is also the president of the Jewish Student Union and a leader in the Model U.N. club. She plans to attend college and will apply to several schools, including Brandeis University in Massachusetts, Barnard College in New York and the University of Pennsylvania.

Gillooly has focused on music and French studies. He plays trumpet in the Marching Band and is a corporal for the trumpet section. He also plays trumpet in the Symphonic Winds, Jazz Ensemble and a chamber music group. He plays the French horn in the Concert Band and played in the pit orchestra for the school musical, "Guys and Dolls." Gillooly is a member of Tri-M, the music students' honor society. His favorite classes include political philosophy and AP French. Next year he plans to study linguistics and has applied to three schools in Boston: Northeastern University, Boston College and Boston

Pecoraro enjoys math and his favorite classes at Heights have been

AP calculus and honors physics. This year he is taking calculus, chemistry and statistics at Cleveland State University as part of the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options program. He is the drum major in the Marching Band, plays the tuba in Symphonic Winds and was in the Jazz Ensemble. Pecoraro is also on the golf team, which finished the season with a 13-3 record. Later this year he expects to finish his Eagle Scout requirements. He plans to study medicine or biomedical engineering next year and his top choices for college are Johns Hopkins University, Case Western Reserve University or Washington University in St. Louis.

Zicari is an accomplished musician and sees the Instrumental Music Department as her "home" at school. She plays in the Marching Band and is the sergeant of the trumpet section. She is a member of the Heights Symphony, a jazz ensemble, a classical chamber group, the pit orchestra for "Guys and Dolls," and is also a member of Tri-M. Her favorite classes include AP French, political philosophy and AP U.S. history. Next year she plans to study trumpet performance. Her top college choice is the Oberlin Conservatory of Music because it is both a conservatory and a liberal arts college.

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

## State designates Canterbury a High Progress School

Angee Shaker

Based on its 2013-14 Ohio School Report Card score in math and reading, Canterbury Elementary School has been awarded the High Progress School of Honor designation by the Ohio Department of Education.

"Canterbury is a special community where teachers and staff have high expectations for our students," said Erica Wigton, Canterbury principal. "And students give tremendous effort to meet those expectations. This award validates Canterbury's hard work and effort. And, of course, this award goes beyond the building; the whole Canterbury community should celebrate this success. We are so fortunate to have dedicated parents who go above and beyond through volunteering, fundraising and creating meaningful events."

The Schools of Honor Program recognizes schools with a high percally disadvantaged background that City School District.

demonstrate sustained progress by all students in reading and math over a five-year time period. Last year, only 38 schools in Ohio earned this prestigious distinction.

"By showing consistent progress in raising math and reading skills for all student groups, you have proved that administrators, teachers and families, who have high expectations and provide continual support, can enable students from all backgrounds to achieve academically. Together, you are opening up a world of opportunities for your students and building a wonderful legacy for your community," stated Richard A. Ross, state superintendent of public instruction. "It takes bold leadership and great personal and professional commitment to accomplish this. I thank you for the role you are playing."

Angee Shaker is director of communications centage of students from an economi- for Cleveland Heights-University Heights



## **Happy Hour!**

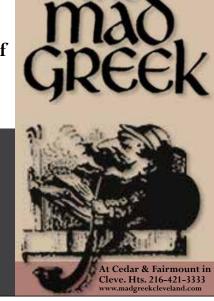
Mon thru Sat 12-7 p.m.

**Welcoming Executive Chef Edward West** 

## New Menu

Bring in this ad and get 15% off your food bill.

Expires 12/31/2014. Alcohol excluded. Not valid with happy hour discounts or other offers/discounts.



## Urban Oak School aims to teach the whole child

Adele DiMarco-Kious

Choosing a school is every parent's challenge. Whether public or private, parents want the environment that suits their child, conforms to their educational vision, and helps their child flourish.

One of the attractions of Cleveland Heights has been access to a variety of quality school choices. Now, there's another option attracting families to the community, and connecting them to a fast-growing educational movement, one that has been around for almost a century.

Urban Oak School is Greater Cleveland's first and only early childhood and elementary school based on the Waldorf philosophy of education, a

humanistic approach to teaching based on the educational philosophy of Austrian philosopher Rudolph Steiner.

Waldorf pedagogy distinguishes three broad stages in child development. The early years education focuses on providing practical, hands-on activities and environments that encourage creative play. In the elementary grades, the emphasis is on developing children's artistic expression and social capacities, developing both creativity and analysis.

Urban Oak, located in the former Coventry school building, offers programs from early childhood through grade three, with plans to grow every year to be able to offer eight grades.

Already in its second year, Urban Oak has doubled its registration. Families of new and prospective students are moving to Cleveland Heights specifically to be close to the school.

In June 2013, Jessie Dacher and Michael Hadley moved from Oakland, Calif., where their daughter attended a Waldorf program in Berkeley.

Dacher said, "We were so deeply appreciative of the warm and loving experience our daughter had [at Berkeley Rose School] . . . that we felt compelled to look for a similar situation as our family settled into Cleveland. We were thrilled to find that Urban Oak was poised to open in Cleveland Heights and hoped to find housing close by," which they did.

Urban Oak teachers present the curriculum to their students through direct interaction. (Textbooks are used in the later grades.) Students engage with the curriculum in ways that speak to the many different ways a child can learn—through seeing, hearing, experiencing through movement, and creating.

Urban Oak provides space for children to explore and create in a nurturing environment. In addition to outdoor play on the meadow and on the P.E.A.C.E. Park playground, children engage regularly in handwork, singing,

movement, storytelling, performance, watercolor, and bread baking, all woven into the daily curriculum.

According to Mary Bouch-Koslow, the early childhood teacher, "Bread baking in the early childhood [program] appeals to the senses, bringing warmth, nourishment, and community. We bake our bread together; we share our bread together."

The Urban Oak School community is an engaging and stimulating environment that encourages children and their families to grow together. As a small school, families participate in building community through special seasonal celebrations, potlucks and community meetings.

To visit the classrooms and meet the teachers, plan to attend one of the upcoming open house events on Sunday afternoons, Dec. 16 and Jan. 11, 2:30-4 p.m. For more information, call 216-397-3870 or send an e-mail to contact@ urbanoakschool.org.

Adele DiMarco-Kious moved to Cleveland Heights in 1995 and helped start the Urban Oak School. Noelle Celeste, Amy Marquit Renwald and Kristin Schmidt contributed to this article.



(216) 321-8880 www.chsaviour.org

## CELEBRATE. HONOR. REMEMBER.

This time of year, we often take time to celebrate life and make memories with loved ones. It's also a time to honor and remember those who have died. Grief is a natural and necessary process, but it can be one of the most difficult experiences we face in life. Hospice of the Western Reserve can help. Our Elisabeth Severance Prentiss Bereavement Center is here for anyone who has experienced a loss through death—even if you haven't directly received our hospice services. Attend a group, explore online grief discussions, download resources, reach out to us and choose the hospice of choice.

Learn more at hospicewr.org/grief-loss.



800.707.8922 | hospicewr.org

## Chemistry students compete in cook-off

Joy Henderson

Zach Tracy's chemistry class is cookin'!

He teaches chemistry concepts through the lens of cooking. "It's kitchen chemistry," said Tracy. On Oct. 10, he hosted the first annual Chicken Breast Top Chef Challenge in his fifthand sixth-period chemistry classes.

Part of the assignment was to test the effectiveness of brining chicken, the practice of soaking meat in salt water. The students researched how to prepare brining solutions at known concentrations and how brining times affect water retention in the chicken.

Each team used its own combinations of brining time, rubs and sauces. Some teams mixed spices in the brining solutions while others used rubs after the brining.

Part of the scoring was based on the team's knowledge of the chemistry behind the brining process. "The salt solution expands the muscle fibers, allowing the water to enter the cells and making the meat juicy," said winning liaison for Heights High.



Winners Kortney Lynum and Dresean Borders in their kitchen chemistry class at Heights High.

team member Dresean Borders.

The winners, based on chicken tenderness and flavor, and student knowledge of brining chemistry, were Shontare Manning, Kimberly Thomas and Daria Germany in fifth period, and Dresean Borders and Kortney Lynum in sixth period.

The judges included school administrators and teachers.

Joy Henderson is the parent/community

#### Sat. Dec. 20 is Hts. Emergency Food Center Day; free class with a \$5 donation

We don't have an edgy name, a fancy studio, or an expensive membership. But we do have a program that continues to work year after year. Isn't that all you need?"

M/W/Th. 9:30 a.m. **South Euclid Methodist Church** 

M/T/W/Th. 6:30 p.m. A . 8:45 a.m. SUN. 9:30 a.m.

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



www.facebook.com/JazzerciseClevelandHeightsSouthEuclid



Beaumont students Julie Schiffer, Christina Kerner, Catherine Aumiller and Ana Maria Vargas (from left).

## Four Beaumont students recognized by National Merit Scholarship program

Anna Beyerle

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) recognized four Beaumont School seniors for their academic success on Sept. 22. Ana Maria Vargas was named a National Merit semifinalist, and Catherine Aumiller, Christina Kerner and Julie Schiffer were all named commended students.

Ana Maria Vargas and Catherine Aumiller are residents of Shaker Heights; Christina Kerner lives in neighboring University Heights; and Julie Schiffer is a resident of Aurora.

Officials of the NMSC announced the names of approximately 16,000 semifinalists—less than I percent of U.S. high school seniors—and 34,000 commended students in the 60th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Semifinalists have an opportunity to continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships worth \$35 million that will be offered next

Although commended students do not qualify for scholarship awards, these academically promising students placed among the top 5 percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2015 competition by taking the 2013 Preliminary SAT.

Beaumont is a Catholic school in the Ursuline tradition that educates women for life, leadership and service. Located in Cleveland Heights, Beaumont was founded in 1850, and is the oldest school in the Cleveland Diocese and the oldest secondary school in Cleveland.

Anna Beyerle is the public relations and marketing manager at Beaumont School in Cleveland Heights.

## Heights students and staff tour urban farm

Cynthia Barnes

Some Heights students extended their school day on Oct. 28 with a field trip to an urban farm in Cleveland. Rid-All Green Partnership, nestled in the Kinsman neighborhood, is on the site of what was once a dumping ground, but now is full of life.

Joe Mendes, Gearity Professional Development School teacher, and Steve Warner, Heights High teacher and Environmental Club advisor, organized the trip, and were joined by elementary and high school students, district staff, principals, teachers, parents and members of the Sustainability Working Group, who are working in partnership with the district to include sustainable measures in the renovation of the high school.

Hunter Scott, a Heights High junior, helped the Rid-All staff conduct the tour. She worked at the site during the summer and gained valuable knowledge about the importance of respecting the environment, and green living. "This experience has made me interested in wanting to go into some form of environmental science when I graduate," said Scott.

Trip attendees had an opportunity to see tilapia fish, tomato plants and other vegetation.



Visitors learn about the history of Rid-All.

Rid-All Green Partnership, which combines urban agriculture with youth education, is four years old. Its name derives from ridding or freeing oneself of worries, and filling oneself with positivity—and good food fits that model. The farm provides healthy, local food to area institutions and residents, and trains others in agriculture. Rid-All welcomes volunteers. For more information, visit the Rid-All website, www. greenghetto.org.

Cynthia Barnes is the public relations liaison in the communications and community enagement department at Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.

(216) 392-1335

**WINTER SPECIALS** 

class1pavers@sbcglobal.net

## Class 1 Pavers & Remodelers



(216) 392-1335

Residential Driveways

Asphalt/Concrete/Masonry
 Sealcoating

· Siding & Windows



· Sit-In Tubs/Handicap Showers our specialty Ask for Gary or Mike

• Kitchens & Baths

**Need money?** Great Financing 1481 Warrensville Ctr. Road www.class1pavers.com







13410 Cedar Rd. • 216.932.0039 • www.bremec.com

## 'Guys and Dolls' brought together more than 550 students from 10 schools

Joy Henderson

More than 550 students in two casts from all 10 schools in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District took part in the 2014 all-district musical, "Guys and Dolls." The students entertained near-capacity audiences in the Heights High auditorium in four performances, Nov. 6-9.

The show's director, Craig Mc-Gaughey, was thrilled with the students' performances. "I am so proud that all four performances were of such high caliber," he said. "It is one thing to have a great show one night, but to maintain that excellence for all four nights—that is really exciting!"

McGaughey wanted to especially thank the "army of parents" who step up every year to serve as ushers, sell concessions, repair costumes and more, as well as "the students and adults in our stage crew, lighting and sound support and our amazingly talented pit orchestra—they all contributed to this show in many important ways."

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



Heights High senior Daniel Carder (center) played the role of Sky Masterson on Nov. 7 and 9. Ian Teunissen performed the role on Nov. 6 and 8.

## Four artists featured in winter exhibition at St. Paul's

Mary Cushing

Beginning Dec. 12, four artists will display their perspectives through various media in the winter exhibition at the Nicholson B. White Gallery



2747 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights. The show runs through March 1.

Join the artists—Sarah Clague (ceramics, raku), Tricia Kaman (oil painting), Jean Koznarek (painting, mixed media) and James McNamara (woodblock prints)—at the opening reception Friday, Dec. 12, 5-7 p.m. This is an opportunity to not only view the art, but also discover the viewpoints of the artists, as each of them speaks to the assembled guests about their aristic goals and creative processes. Visitors can also chat with the artists individually during the opening reception.

The Nicholson B. White Gallery hosts three shows each year, bringing together local artists in a spacious exhibition space. The gallery is light and airy; large windows in one wing overlook a beautiful, central courtyard and garden featuring

at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, of a mother pelican and her young overlooking a pool. Another wing of the gallery offers views of the terraces of St. Paul's herb garden and the church's large front lawn, which provides a park-like setting for the corner of Coventry Road and Fairmount Boulevard. The church's landmark tower is viewable through clerestory windows in the central rotunda of the gallery, which also features a soaring two-story window facing west.

> The windows and the architecture of the gallery define a space that provides a beautiful, peaceful setting for the art on view.

> St. Paul's considers the gallery a gift to the community, for public use. The Nicholson B. White Gallery provides members of the parish and the wider community a venue where they can gather and celebrate visual creativity. The gallery is open on weekdays, 9 a.m.



Courtyard windows frame the Nicholson B. White Gallery at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

p.m. The artists receive all proceeds from the sale of their work.

Mary Cushing is a Cleveland Heights resident and member of St. Paul's Episcopal



## Hot Djang! The kings of gypsy jazz

James Henke

Hot Djang! made its first appearance at Nighttown in early November. The Cleveland band, which includes two musicians who live in Cleveland Heights, describes its music as "gypsy jazz," a style developed by guitarist Django Reinhardt in Paris during the 1930s. The show, which was truly entertaining, also included some jazz and swing standards from the American songbook.

Brad Smedley, one of the group's guitarists, came up with the idea for the band after attending a workshop about Reinhardt's music at Smith College in Massachusetts a few years ago. "I was never more blown away in my life," Smedley said. "All of the top gypsy-jazz guitarists were there, and I thought I could either work hard and try to learn to play like this, or I could just quit."

Beachwood resident Smedley, who's 58, has been playing music for most of his life. He began taking piano lessons when he was five years old, and when he was in junior high, he started playing saxophone. Then, after discovering Bob Dylan, he decided to take up the guitar and he focused on playing folk, bluegrass and country music. He attended the 1981 Kent State Folk Festival and heard the Balfa Brothers, a Cajun band. "I started looking into Cajun music, and I found some recordings at the Heights Library," he said. "Then I



The Hot Djang! lineup includes (from left) Reed Simon, Brad Smedley, Bryan Thomas and Kevin Richards.

bought an accordion and learned how to play the music." He formed a Cajun band called Stand by You in 1983. Before breaking up in the late '80s, Stand by You played around the country, including shows in New York, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania and Michigan.

Smedley's next band was the Zydeco Dependents. "Zydeco is sort of a louder version of Cajun music," Smedley said. "It incorporates the blues and rhythm & blues into the Cajun style." The Zydeco Dependents lasted about four years, and then

Smedley formed a Cajun trio called Acadian Driftwood, which played the Barking Spider and other Clevelandarea venues.

After attending the Django Reinhardt workshop, he decided to form Hot Djang! The group's initial lineup included Smedley on guitar, Kevin Richards on lead guitar, Reed Simon on violin and Bryan Thomas on acoustic bass. Both Simon and Richards live in Cleveland Heights, and Richards is the founder and director of the Cleveland Heights-based organization Roots of American

Music, which takes local musicians into schools in Northeast Ohio to teach students about music and other subjects, using the music.

The band came up with its name during one of its first rehearsals. "Reed was playing a violin solo, and one of the people in the room said, 'Hot dang! You are amazing!'," Smedley said. "Then I said, 'Wait, it's not hot dang, it's hot Djang!,' after Django Reinhardt." The group recently added a clarinetist, Eric Seddon, to its lineup. At the Nighttown show, Sheela Das, who also works with Roots of American Music, joined the group on vocals, and Ray DeForest, who's also a Cleveland Heights resident, played bass.

In addition to covering gypsy-jazz classics, Hot Djang! also plays a few original songs, including "Temptation Is Calling" and "Roamin' the Blues," both of which were written by Richards, and "King's Highway," by Seddon. The band hopes to release its first CD sometime next year.

Hot Djang! plays at Rockefeller's on Mayfield Road in Cleveland Heights the third Friday of every month. In addition, they have a show booked at the Secret Cellar in Kent on Dec. 5, and they also have some appearances at the Barking Spider planned for early next year.

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.



## City Music Cleveland offers works from old and new worlds

Peter Bennett

City Music Cleveland's holiday concerts of music from the Old and New worlds will feature singers from La Sagrada Familia Church and other Latino musicians in collaboration with Cleveland State University vocal students to bring Ariel Ramirez's Misa Criolla to Cleveland audiences for the first time. Based on Argentinean folk melodies and rhythms, and featuring an array of instruments rarely heard in the concert hall—including panpipes, many types of drum and percussion, and the charango, a small highpitched guitar—the Misa Criolla has been popular worldwide since it was composed in 1963.

Although Ramirez's musical influences were Argentinean, the genesis of the work itself was an encounter he had traveling in Europe in the 1950s. While staying in a convent in Germany where he was teaching music, Ramirez remarked to the nuns on the beauty of the countryside and of a nearby mansion set in the woods. The nuns told him, however, that the house had been part of a concentration camp during the war, and that during this period they had tried to alleviate the suffering of the thousand Jewish prisoners it held by pushing food packages through a gap in the fence. Every day the packages were removed until, after eight months, the day

came when the package was still there the following day, and the next. At this point the nuns knew that the prisoners were being moved and that, as Ramirez himself reported, "The dreaded journey had begun once more."

It was then that Ramirez vowed to compose a mass "that would involve people outside of one's own beliefs, race, color, or origin" as a tribute to the compassion of the nuns. After many years, Ramirez fulfilled this promise: back in Argentina, he chose as his text the words of the Roman Catholic Mass newly translated into Spanish as a result of the Second Vatican Council (1962–65), and for the music he adapted the musical forms and rhythms of his native country. The Misa Criolla immediately became popular around the world, and has remained a modern "classic" to this day.

City Music will delve back some two centuries for the first half of its concert, to explore music from the Old World. Composed in 1774, when he was just 18, Mozart's inimitable Bassoon Concerto is another piece that has always proved popular with audiences. Laura Koepke will serve as bassoon soloist. And the concert will begin with something of a rarity, Antonio Sarrier's Overture in D. Although

almost forgotten today, Sarrier was a timpani and trumpet player at the Spanish court from 1725, but he must also have been an important composer. Unfortunately, though, all his music is lost, apart from this Overture, which was probably written to accompany the water parties of King Fernando and Queen Barbara at Aranjuez. The music for Overture in D was taken across the Atlantic to the New World and only survives in an 18th-century manuscript preserved in a convent in Morelia, Mexico. The Spanish settlers clearly imported European classical music to the New World, and it is fitting that such a piece, spanning both continents, should raise the curtain on what will be a celebration of Latino culture in the Cleveland area.

The concerts, which take place Dec. 3-7, include one performance in Cleveland Heights, on Thursday, Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m., at Communion of Saints Parish, 2175 Coventry Road. For details on other performances and more information, visit www. citymusiccleveland.org.

Peter Bennett, the conductor of City Music Cleveland's December concerts, is an associate professor of musicology in the Case Western Reserve University Department of Music.



# HAPPY HOUR 4-7, TUE-FRI \$5 MENU ITEMS \$5 DRINK SPECIALS LIVE MUSIC FRI+SAT 3099 Mayfield Road | Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118 | 216 321.0477 Tuesday-Thurdsay 4-10 | Friday + Saturday 4-11 rockefellerscleveland.com | facebook.com/rockefellerscleveland



# Howson Gallery exhibits work by Cleveland Heights fiber artist



Fabric dolls by Martha S. Young.

Rob Lucarelli

"Wall Dolls," an exhibit of fabric dolls created by Martha S. Young, will be on view at the Howson Gallery at Judson Park through Jan. 4.

A Cleveland Heights-based fiber artist, Young has a B.A. in art and completed graduate work in art education at San Jose State University. Her work is in the collection of University Hospitals as well as in private collections, and recent exhibitions include "The Artist as Quiltmaker XVI," Firelands Association for the Visual Arts, Ober-

lin; "Form not Function: Quilt Art at the Carnegie," Carnegie Center for Art & History, New Albany, Indiana; and "Superlatives II: Ohio Quilts 2013," Zanesville Museum of Art.

The Howson Gallery is located at Judson Park retirement community, 1801 Chestnut Hills Drive, Cleveland Heights. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily, and admission is free. For more information, visit www.judsonsmartliving.org.

Rob Lucarelli is director of communications for Judson Services Inc.



## Heights Libraries tax levy passes Dec. 4 author event explores

Kim Sergio Inglis

Heights voters passed a library tax levy on Nov. 4, with 68 percent (11,293) voting in favor, and 32 percent (5,302) opposed, according to unofficial results reported by the Cuyahoga County Board of Elec-

The levy is for an additional 2.2 mills (22 cents for each \$100 of property valuation), and will cost homeowners \$77 per year for each \$100,000 of home valuation. The library's last levy passed in 2008

In a press release, Nancy Levin, Heights Libraries director, stated, "We are so very grateful to our citizens for voting to support us. Passage of this levy ensures the long-term financial security of our neighborhood branches, and ensures that Heights Libraries can continue its level of superior service to all of our citizens."

The library levy is expected to generate \$2.3 million a year, and the library plans to use the additional funds to restore services that were cut in 2009, when the Ohio Public Library fund was cut, including offering Sunday hours at all branches. Currently, only the University Heights and Lee Road libraries are open on Sundays, 1–5 p.m.; Coventry Village and Noble Neighborhood libraries are both closed on Sunday.

Coventry Village Library patrons saw its hours cut further in November 2013, when the library board voted to close that library on Fridays, for a trial period of one year, in order to add Sunday hours at its University Heights branch, without increasing the budget.

Shervl Banks, marketing and community relations manager for Heights Libraries, said, "With the passage of the levy, our priority will be to restore Sunday hours at the Noble and Coventry branches, and possibly restore Friday hours at Coventry as well."

Levin said, "We will be saving our funds so that this levy will last for many, many years," and provided a list of four priorities for Heights Libraries:

- Open Noble and Coventry branches on Sundays, hopefully by March.
- Continue to remain fiscally responsible.
- Renovate and expand the University Heights branch to include a back door, a first floor restroom and more parking.
- Continue to improve the Coventry branch—outdoor lighting and moving computers are on the schedule while [the library] creates an early literacy playroom in the children's area.

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

## human bonds with animals

Sheryl Banks

The three authors who will be featured at Coventry Village Library's Communicating with Animals event on Thursday Dec. 4, 7 p.m., each have distinct writing styles, but their works all have one thing in common: they focus on relationships between animals and humans.

Jennifer Priester, author of several books, is also the owner of the publishing company A&M Moonlight Creations, and is an artist and book layout

All of Priester's books feature animals. In her Mortal Realm Witch series, the animals—known as familiars—talk, and are the teachers and best friends of witches and warlocks.

The animals in some of Priester's stories are based on real-life animals she has known, and animals have always been a big part of her life. Because of this, she is a dedicated supporter of animal rescue, and recently contributed two stories to the Read for Animals Anthology #2, which donates all profits to animal shelters, sanctuaries and hospices.

As far back as she can remember, veterinarian Carol Osborne has always been an animal lover. The fact that she was allergic to them did not stop her from making her way in the equestrian world as a professional rider in top-rated shows. Nor did it preclude her from becoming a veterinarian, and owner of the Chagrin Falls Veterinary Clinic.

Osborne, author of Naturally Healthy Cats and Naturally Healthy Dogs, has always placed a great importance on helping her clients better communicate with their pets, becoming more attuned to the animal's needs. She has worked to take what scientists have learned about the aging process in humans and apply this knowledge to pets. She regularly prescribes anti-oxidants for animals.

Harriet Tramer, author of Racing to Heaven, has always loved horses, and riding has long been a part of her life. It is only natural that she would want to put into words what she considers the almost mystical bond that can evolve between horses and humans, particularly between horses and young girls.

Her book tells the story of a troubled teenaged girl whose life is transformed by her experiences with mystical horses. In a twist, this novel veers away from the usual coming-of-age story; the girl ends up paying dearly for her adventures with equines of all colors, shapes and sizes.

Communicating with Animals takes place at the Coventry Village Library, 1925 Coventry Road. The event is free of charge and no registration is required. Call 216-321-3400 for more information.

Sheryl Banks is the marketing and community relations manager for the CH-UH Public Library. Harriet Tramer, a longtime Cleveland Heights resident, contributed to this article.

## **Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library Board** Meeting highlights



OCTOBER 20, 2014 Board Member Abby Botnick was absent.

#### **Public comments**

Meeting room concerns: University Heights resident Sheila Hubman wanted to know whether the improvements to the University Heights Library would cause loss of meeting room space. Director Nancy Levin assured her that they would not. She also asked about the \$30 per hour charge for meeting room use. Hubman belongs to a group of residents that is not a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization, but is focused on public affairs. She questions having to pay the room fee for their meetings. Both Levin and Board President James Posch responded. Often, without a room charge, no one shows up creating a situation where another group could have used the room. Also, although Hubman's group has left the room as it was when the group arrived, some groups do not, so there is need for

#### **Coventry Village Library** lighting plan

Director Levin explained changes in the Coventry Village Library lighting resulting from a plan devised in cooperation with the city. The goal is to improve the outdoor lighting for security and for the presence of the building in the community. Outdoor lighting will include LED pole-mounted lights that will prevent light spillover and spread. Attention will be given to renovation of the historical sconces on the building.

#### Friends of the Heights Library events

The group will hold a theater outing Dec. 6 with Dobama's presentation of "A Civil War Christmas," followed by a reception in the Lee Road Library's art gallery.

Election of officers took place at the group's annual meeting. Louisa Oliver will continue as president; Linda Lopez is vice president; Nancy Corey and Jan Jones will be co-secretaries; Margaret Poutasse will be treasurer; and Susan Ford will train to become treasurer

New board members are Ketti Finneran, Susan Ford, Vivian Pospisil and Barbara Walker.

#### Foundation for the Heights Library

The Foundation for the Heights Library currently has assets of \$23,918, which earns 10 percent with the Cleveland Foundation. Board President Jim Posch asked Financial Officer Jana Nassif the rhetorical question as to what percent interest the library is paid on the millions that, by state law, it has to invest in specific funds.

#### September public service report highlights:

- Coventry Village Library utilized the new mobile lab, with trainer Jackie Mayse beginning a six-part computer basics class with full enrollment.
- The September Cedar-Coventry author series featured Steven Swiniarski, whose pen name is S. Andrew Swann. He writes science fiction, fantasy and mystery, all of which feature time portals, dwarves and dragons. Several of his novels are set in Cleveland.
- For Noble Neighborhood Library's harvest celebration, Dana Hermelin made several quarts of salsa with tomatoes from Noble's garden, which attendees could sample and take home.
- As part of the communitywide On the Same Page program, Noble Neighborhood Library featured an interactive conversation board for comments about the Chief Wahoo

- character-beloved mascot or racist stereotype?
- At the University Heights Library, the first of the three-part Itty-Bitty Ballet Series, led by Youth Services Associate Shenee King, hosted 53 participants, with many of the smaller ones wearing tutus and spangles.
- Around 240 people attended the Sesame Street Block Party at the Lee Road Library, where Cookie Monster won the election for mayor over Oscar the Grouch by a large margin. Local businesses, firefighters, office holders and volunteers were involved with the

LWV Observer: Anne S. McFarland.

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

#### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

Feelin' frazzled? Stressed out? Achy? Irritable? Tense?



Relax, Renew, Rejuvenate Body and Mind with Sally's Healing Hands.

Sally Kish, B.A., L.M.T. (216) 932-6279 Licensed Massotherapist Certified BWC Therapist



## **Bob Dawson** grandpas-here.com

216-470-1000 | bob@grandpas-here.com

Dog Walking Vet visits and other K9 related tasks

• House Checks Take in the mail and make

sure everything is A-OK while you're away • Shopping Services

Saving you time in your busy schedule



Miscellaneous Errands

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

#### **Always Buying Paying Cash MICHAEL'S ANTIQUES**

Clocks

Lamps

**Violins** 

**Porcelain** 

**Ivory Carvings** 

**Oriental Rugs** 

**Swords** 

- Gold
- Jewelry Glassware
- **Paintings**
- **Pottery**
- **Military Items**

- **Sterling Silver Bronze Figures** 
  - Marble Figures 7 Days 8 a.m.- 10 p.m.

440-461-4611

**FREE House Calls for SENIORS Buying anything unusual** 

## **Olson Guitar & Piano Studio**

**Cleveland Heights, Near Cain Park** 

Lessons in all styles of music Specialist in teaching young children Cleveland's finest guitar teacher Also banjo, ukulele & bass guitar lessons 35 years experience

Master's Degree in Music from **Cleveland Institute of Music** 

guitargadfly@vahoo.com

216-371-1919

#### **SEWING CLASSES**

2 FREE classes with enrollment

#### **SEW WHAT?**

- . skirts and shirts and PJ's and more
- ... ages 8 thru teens
- ... individual attention ... experienced instructor
- **NEW CLASSES** now forming

Barbara Seidel 216.371.3333 baseidel@gmail.com

## CEDAR CENTER HARDWARE

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



**MONDAY-**FRIDAY 9:00 AM TO 8:00 PM **SATURDAY** 

10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM Good Neighbor, Good Advice



RAYMOND J. WOHL, CPA 2121 South Green Rd . South Euclid, Ohio 44121 PH: 216.382 .9647

**Services Offered: Tax Preparation & Planning** Investments **IRA Accounts Mutual Funds College 529 Plans** 

**Insurance:** Fixed & \*Variable Annuities Life Insurance

<sup>®</sup> Raymond J. Wohl, Registered Representative <sup>®</sup>Securities offered through HD. Vest Investment Services<sup>SM</sup> Member SIPC Investment & Insurance Products: Not FDIC Insured. No Bank Guarantee. May Lose Value

Massage Therapist, SALLY KISH, invites the community to her HOLIDAY BAZAAR

HEALTH ENHANCEMENT TREATMENTS: Jade table, jade lights, health mat, reflexology and light treatments. Half price: \$10 for 15 minutes

UNIQUE GIFTS: Ceramics, Glassware, Art, Books, Misc.

DISCOUNTED MASSAGES: Certificates & Package Specials

**FESTIVITIES at 3158 Sycamore Road** (216) 932-6279

Dec. 4 & 5, 6-9 p.m. Dec. 6, 3-7 p.m. Dec. 13 & 14, 6-9 p.m. Dec. 15, 3-7 p.m.

CASH ONLY for merchandise and services Attendance is FREE



PARTS & PLUS

Stop in to check out our brand new repair facility!

(216) 371-2354 1830 Lee Road, CH



**Training dogs with** teamwork and trust Positive, force-free training that works!

216-536-5706 unleashedpotentialohio@gmail.com

## **Heights Hardware SINCE 1911**



Benjamin Moore

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

www.heightshardware.com

#### Tim Weeks

WEEKS AUTOMOTIVE 1503 Warrensville Center Road

(216) 691-3950

OIL, LUBE & FILTER SPECIAL only \$25.95

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

Excludes hybrid cars. With coupon. Exp. 1/31/15

Masonry \* Doors Kitchens/Baths Windows \* Carpentry Ceramic Tile \* Drywall Flooring \* Painting



30 Years Exp./References No Job Too Big or Small



2nd floor of the Lee Road Library

GREAT USED BOOKS EVERY DAY

FILL-A-BAG \$4.00 SALES THE FIRST FRIDAY OF FACH MONTH ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE LIBRARY

ends@heightslibrary.org (216) 932 3600 X234

#### **Eve's Painting &** Home Repair

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

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

216-387-0525

llebles1@hotmail.com



**EDUCATING THE HEIGHTS SINCE 1988** 

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

INSURED www.fairmountmusic.com

## **NUISANCE ANIMAL TRAPPING**

**SKUNKS RACOONS OPOSSUMS GROUNDHOGS** 

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



**CALL STUART** 216-789-0036

LICENSE # 3-18-16-N-T

Tree Removal • Yard Expansion Fertilization • Cable Support Pruning • Stump Grinding (440) 463-7379 for free estimate

Mention "Observer" and get 20% off



ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LIGHT \* SAFETY \* COMFORT \* EFFICIENCY

Family Owned Since 1985

(216) 932-2598 www.skettleelectric.com

BEST OF THE HEIGHTS

"Best Contractor"



Stability \* Vitality \* Clarity 2450 Fairmount, Cleveland Heights

(216) 382-0592 www.greentarayoga.com/

## FREE INSURANCE QUOTE

**AUTO OR CAR INSURANCE SR22 INSURANCE \*FR BOND** 

\$35/Mo LIABILITY\*\*\$70/Mo Full Coverage

PROPERTY INSURANCE COMMERCIAL INSURANCE Home \* Condo Fire, Dwelling, Rental

Auto \* General Liability **Business Owners** 

(216) 691-9227

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



www.michellestherapy.com

Effective, affordable Massage Therapy

Prevent/manage Muscle Pain, Migraines

Swedish (including Deep Tissue), Neuro-Muscular, Pregnancy, and

Chair Massage. 14 years experience.

Licensed by Ohio's state medical board.

## /IMAC'S BACKS IN

\*\*\*BOOKS ON COVENTRY\*\*\* 1820 Coventry Rd. 216-321-2665 Open 24 hours at www.macsbacks.com

Three Floors of New & Used Books & Magazines **Used Book Exchange** 

> Bring us your used books! **Buy Local First!**

## Ardmore Tree Service

Complete Tree Service Year-round

We Sell and Plant Trees & Shrubs (216) 486-5551

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

Member National Arborist Association

ree Estimates

## Call 216-320-1423

to find out how you can

advertise your business for as

low as \$25/month.

#### **NEED** WINDOWS?



**O**HIO  ${f W}$ INDOW LIMITED

"Quality at the best price' Licensed. Bonded. Insured. Over 30 years experience www.ohiowindowlimited.com Call the **OWL** 

(216) 371-6213

Fully Insured

## Library offers real-world experience to students and volunteers

Julia Murphy

Libraries serve many purposes, and one mission is to make people more knowledgeable. Using books, Internet resources and databases, one can learn about the world in just about any capacity, whether it is watching Korean music videos or digging into local history. The Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library takes that mission to another level as a place for library science students, young interns, and volunteers to gain job experience and learn new skills on the job.

Shannon Titas is a graduate student at Kent State University working on her Masters of Library and Information Science degree, the professional degree required to become a librarian.

As part of her degree, she is doing her practicum at the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library. A practicum is an internship or course of study designed to give a student supervised practical experience working in his or her specific field of study.

Titas has been working primarily with Amy Marshalek, an adult services librarian at the Lee Road Library, but has explored other departments including collection services and youth services.

When asked what she found most interesting, Titas talked about the different talents of library staff members. "Everyone on staff comes from such diverse backgrounds. It's awesome how many interesting skills and talents people have, and that they are put to use here at the library."

Like current staff members, Titas also comes from a background with a unique academic focus. She was a dance major at Ohio University, and has worked the last 16 years as a performer, teacher and choreographer. Her interest in public librarianship actually began when she was teaching dance at Hiram College.

"When working with dance students, I ended up helping them through the research aspects of the college coursework and found that I enjoyed that part of the job a lot. Then, when I had my own children, I rediscovered the magic of public libraries as a place to have really meaningful experiences with my children."

On the volunteer side, there is Callie Swaim-Fox, a sophomore at Cleveland Heights High School, who

volunteers once a week in the administrative office at the Lee Road Library.

"I've always considered the library a second home, and it has been such an incredible experience," said Swaim-Fox. "I've gotten to see all the work put into the library I've been using for years. The energy and spirit of all the people there is exciting and life-giving, and getting to volunteer has been a really unique and fun experience."

To learn more about volunteering or the Library Experience Program, contact Heather Howiler at the Lee Road Library at 216-932-3600 or hhowiler@heightslibrary.org.

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

## Peter and Peter meet again after 46 years





Peter and Peter today, and in the Sun Press article written in 1968.

Library research reveals that there was a television show called "Peter Potamus," featuring a cartoon hippo who explored the world in a time-traveling hot-air balloon. The show aired in 1964 and 1965, so the clues clearly line up.

"My only real memory is of the photo being taken for the Sun Press," said Benkendorf. "While climbing off Peter Potamus, my foot got caught underneath. I fell off and I cried,"

Reminiscing about the sculpture with Nancy Levin, library director, Benkendorf asked about recreating the shot, but she decided he might be too big to sit on Peter Potamus now.



Julia Murphy

Two old friends were recently reunited in the children's section of the Lee Road Library: Peter Benkendorf of Dayton, Ohio, and the children's department mascot, Peter Potamus. When Benkendorf was back in his hometown of Cleveland Heights this October, he stopped by the library to see his old friend.

"In the summer after first grade, my family went on vacation to Lake Huron in Michigan," said Benkendorf. "A man we met there called me 'Peter Potamus' for some reason, and later that autumn, my sister suggested I enter that name in the hippo-naming contest at the library."

In 1968, the library commissioned the sculpture of a hippopotamus by sculptor Libraries paid \$1,200 for the sculpture and held a competition to name it.

McVey attended the Cleveland School of Art (now the Cleveland Institute of Art) and received the Cleveland Arts Prize in 1964. He is known for his sculptures in bronze and limestone, and was also a well-respected animalier an artist who specializes in realistic images or sculptures of animals.

While Peter Potamus is not an anatomically accurate hippo, he is an icon in the children's department. He gets new decorations based on the time of year and current events. During the Summer Olympics, he wore a laurel wreath and carried an Olympic torch.

So, where did the name "Peter Potamus" come from before the young William McVey. Friends of the Heights Benkendorf was given the nickname?









## Advent & Christmas at the Church of the Covenant

An Open and Affirming Community In the Heart of University Circle

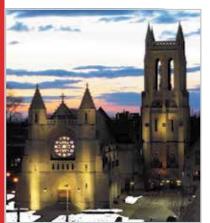
#### Christmas Eve

The McGaffin Carillon 7:14pm "Bells for Peace"

"Silent Night" marking the 1914 World War I Christmas Truce, with Cocoa & Cookies

7:30рм English & German Carols 8:00рм Organ, Harp, Choir & Congregational Carols 8:30pm Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols

## Sundays in Advent Worship 10am



#### December 7 4pm Carol Sing

Covenant Choir, CWRU Concert Choir & Orchestra with Cookie Reception

December 14 11am Giving Tree Carol Sing

December 21 10am Christmas Pageant

CovenantWeb.org · 216.421.0482

Worship 10AM · Sunday School & Child Care 11205 Euclid Avenue Parking at the Church & Ford Road Garage



## Cedar Fairmount hosts holiday affair Dec. 12

Laura Potter

The snow may be falling, the air has a bite, but the shops of Cedar Fairmount are warm and inviting! On Friday, Dec. 12, the public is invited to shop local small businesses in the Cedar Fairmount Business District. It promises to be a delicious evening of fun at the start of the busy holiday season.

From 5-7 p.m. Appletree Books, Four and Twenty Mercantile, Ten Thousand Villages and Vero Bistro are partnering to host an exciting evening for the community. Begin your tour at Appletree Books for tasty appetizers and a glass of Prosecco, jolly stories of the season, and browsing through books to suit every taste.

Enjoy wine and cheese tastings at Four and Twenty Mercantile—a vintage

and custom design store and the newest shop at Cedar Fairmount. Then continue on to Vero Bistro for the best pizza in town. Let Marc and the gang know you're here for the event and enjoy Vero's evening pizza special.

From there, head over to Ten Thousand Villages to explore the store's offerings of items from more than 36 developing countries. Finish your holiday shopping with the shop's handcrafted fair trade gifts and indulge in fair trade sweets and hot coffee.

This is the perfect opportunity to explore what the Cedar Fairmount Business District has to offer.

Laura Potter is the store manager for Ten Thousand Villages in Cleveland Heights and a member of the Cedar Fairmount SID marketing committee.

## Dec. 13 holiday stroll planned for Cedar Fairmount district

Kaye Lowe

A stroll on the sidewalks of the Cedar Fairmount Business District will get you in the spirit of the holidays with twinkling lights, holiday greens, and decorated windows filled with lovely ideas for gift giving.

The merchants of Cedar Fairmount have stocked their stores with an abundance of gifts for the holidays, and all of the merchants are offering gift cards: consider a yoga or Pilates lesson; a manicure, pedicure or haircut; or a gift basket from Dave's Market.

As you stroll Cedar Fairmount on Dec. 13, don't miss Santa and his helper at Dave's Market from 2-4 p.m. Cleveland Heights Church carolers will be singing on the sidewalks of Cedar Road and Fairmount Boulevard, and they invite everyone to join them.

Zoss Bakery and Luna Bakery Café offer delicious pastries and cakes, and the Cedar Fairmount restaurants invite you to take a respite and enjoy a cup of coffee, lunch or dinner, and choose from the specials they will be offering.

Ten Thousand Villages, a fair-trade store, will be serving hot chocolate and coffee, as well as offering gift ideas from around the world. If you are looking for stocking stuffers, you'll find great ideas here.

offered at Four and Twenty Mercantile, Fairmount Special Improvement District.

#### CH merchants to sponsor free trolley rides Dec. 13

Three Cleveland Heights business districts have holiday events planned for Saturday, Dec. 13, and have arranged for free transportation to carry visitors and residents from district to district that evening

From 6-9 p.m. Lolly the Trolley will provide complimentary transportation between the Cedar Fairmount, Cedar Lee and Coventry Village business districts.

Everyone is invited to hop aboard and enjoy shopping, dining and strolling in all three neighborhoods on the same evening, courtesy of the merchants. Note that children riding the trolley must be accompanied by

with its one-of-a kind vintage pieces and fabulous fashion and accessories.

Appletree Books has a delightful collection of books for both children and adults, and also offers original prints and cards, along with other unusual items.

If you are looking for a unique antique, ornament, Advent calendar, or unusual piece of estate jewelry, you will discover it at Cedar Hill Antiques.

During the holiday stroll, register for the free holiday drawing at participating Cedar Fairmount merchants, many of which will offer refreshments.

Lou Armagno will perform "Sinatra Selects" at 8:30 p.m. at Nighttown. For information and to purchase tickets, visit www.nighttowncleveland.com.

Don't miss out on the unique items Kaye Lowe is executive director of the Cedar



## The **Tavern Company**

Mon. Burger Fries & Beer Night \$9 Tues. Flatbread Pizza Beer /Wine Tues. Trivia starting at 10 pm Wed & Thurs: "5 for \$30"

2 Dine for the \$ of 1! Includes 2 small salads + 2 select dinners + a pitcher of Moosehead beer OR a bottle of House wine = ONLY \$30

M-F Happy Hour 5–7 pm

Sunday Brunch 10:30 am-3 pm Sunday Karaoke 10 pm

Kitchen Open 5–10 pm Mon.–Thurs. 5–11pm Fri. and Sat. 2260 Lee Road 216.321.6001



Coventry Claus spreading cheer with 2013 Holiday Fest attendees.

## Coventry Village holiday festival Dec. 13

Angela Hetrick

The Coventry Village neighborhood encourages everyone to shop local and get in the holiday spirit with a full day of free holiday events.

The Coventry Village Holiday Festival will take place on Saturday, Dec. 13, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. All events are free and open to the public. Visitors can enjoy free parking at meters all weekend or take a complimentary ride on Lolly the Holiday Trolley, which will loop between Coventry, Cedar Lee and Cedar Fairmount districts, 6-9 p.m. that evening.

Coventry Village holiday festivities include:

- Classic holiday cartoons from the 1930s through the 1960s, in the Centrum Theater (daytime event)
- "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" in the Centrum Theater (evening event)
- Holiday photo booth with Santa and his Merry Elves

- Coventry merchant holiday window contest—take a stroll down Coventry Road and vote for your favorite!
- Kids' holiday crafts
- Winter storytime
- Holiday karaoke, community caroling (Join in the fun!) and poetry
- Holiday storytellers and poets roaming through the shops and on the streets
- Ugly-sweater bar crawl, led by Coventry Claus
- · Complimentary gift wrapping and more!

In addition to the festival events, the Coventry Village merchants are joining in the fun and will host a variety of unique sales and special events in their stores.

For a full list of special events, times and other details, visit www. coventryvillage.org.

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







## Eat, drink, shop and be merry with Cedar Lee merchants on Dec. 13



Mr. Jingeling

Kelley Robinson

Ceder Lee merchants invite you to share good cheer on Saturday, Dec. 13 at the Holiday Stroll on Lee.

Residents, customers and visitors can enjoy a vast array of festivities, shopping and merriment at 21 participating destinations along Lee Road. Experience a performance by violinist Ariel Clayton at Marotta's, enjoy a champagne tasting at The Wine Spot, and discover handcrafted inspiration at the Heights Arts Holiday Store. Revive, Abrash and Simply Charming will all feature accessories, jewelry, scarves and other wares that are perfect for gift giving. Purchase gift cards, find selections perfect for holiday gatherings, and celebrate the season with your family on Lee Road.

From dining to cocktails, cookies and hot chocolate, celebrate the season with a fun night out. It's the perfect opportunity to shop small with local independent businesses, and customer appreciation is a focus of the evening. Look for giveaways, door prizes, samples, entertainment and a guest appearance from Mr. Jingeling, who will add a touch of nostalgia to the occasion.

Prior to the evening's activities, the Cedar Lee Theatre will screen the Cleveland film classic "A Christmas Story" at 11 a.m., paired with a food drive to benefit the Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

The fun doesn't end at 9 p.m. The BottleHouse Brewery will host an Ugly Sweater Party, featuring music from Brent Kirby and His Luck. Find that well-worn, much-appreciated sweater, grab a friend, and enjoy seasonal ale and toe tappin' tunes to close out the night.

Kelley Robinson is the executive director of the Cedar Lee Special Improvement District.

## Now providing orthodontics including braces

## Walters Family Dentistry Inc.

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

(216) 382-1102 • 14100 Cedar Rd. #260 University Heights, OH 44118



## Simply Charming offers unique array of clothing, jewelry and gifts

James Henke

Elisabeth Gevelber, the owner of Simply Charming on Lee Road in Cleveland Heights, likes to say that her store features "baubles, bijoux and bibelots."

That's trinkets, jewelry and treasures. If you look around the store, you'll see that's a pretty accurate description.

Simply Charming is stocked with unique jewelry, clothing, greeting cards, pens, journals, sketch books, coffee cups, mugs and more. "I basically like to carry whatever my captures my fancy," said Gevelber.

The store originally opened in 2007 on Lee Road, in the space now occupied by the Shawn Paul Salon. Two years later, it closed. "We were

going to move to Arizona," Gevelber said. "It was because my son, Matthew, wanted to be able to play baseball year round. But then he broke his leg playing soccer, so we didn't move after all."

In 2011, she re-opened on Warrensville Center Road near Silsby Road. Less than a year later, Gevelber moved the store to its current location at 2254 Lee, just south of Meadowbrook Bou-

Gevelber grew up in Beachwood. Her father was from Cleveland Heights and graduated from Heights High in the 1930s. As a result, she spent a lot of time in Cleveland Heights as a child. "Every Sunday we would come to Cleveland Heights



Simply Charming owner Elisabeth Gevelber (in back) with salesperson Bri Bryant and Clementine,

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service

Join us at 7:00pm for traditional and contemporary pre-worship music

Worship begins at 7:30pm

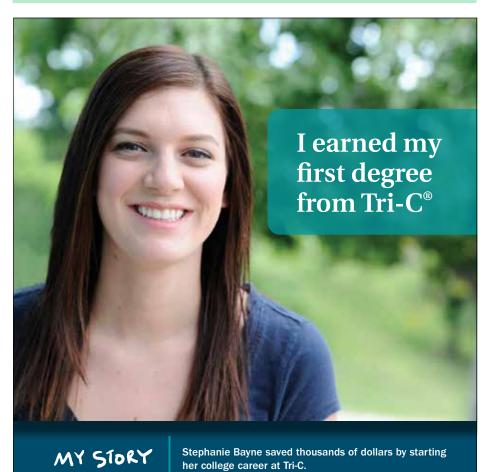


#### **Disciples Christian Church**

3663 Mayfield Road (at Yellowstone) Cleveland Heights (216) 382-5344 www.discipleschristian.org

> Kristine Eggert, Senior Minister Adam Kukuk, Director of Music





Stephanie chose Cuyahoga Community University, where she began as a junior. College (Tri-C) for its convenience Tri-C has allowed Stephanie to save and affordable tuition. Her credits money on the way to completing her transferred seamlessly to Kent State bachelor's degree in four years.

Are you a high school student who wants to earn college credit before you graduate? Are you ready to start your college career? Tri-C is the smart choice for earning

29000 Community College Ave. | Cleveland, OH 44115

tri-c.edu 216-987-6000



and visit my grandmother," she said.

She graduated from Beachwood High and then went to Boston University, where she majored in business administration. After graduating in 1982, Gevelber moved to San Francisco, where she opened a men's clothing store. Four years later, she closed the store and decided to move back to Cleveland. She worked at Saks Fifth Avenue in Beachwood Place for about a year, and in 1990, she got married.

She spent the next years raising her son. Then, in 2003, she opened a tearoom called La Tea Da in Rocky River. After a few years, she came up with the idea for Simply Charming. "I didn't think there was anything else like it in this area. And I liked the idea of carrying a lot of unique items."

One of the store's best-selling items is a series of socks that feature irreverent and silly words on them. One pair says, "The three things I hate most are math," and another,

Free books mailed

to your young child!

If your child is

under 5 years old and lives in

Cleveland Hts., Shaker Hts.,

or University Hts., visit

heightsfamily.org

for registration information

Simply Charming 216-321-1296 2254 Lee Road

Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed on Sunday and Monday www.simplycharmingtheboutique.com.

"I have vague feelings about whatever

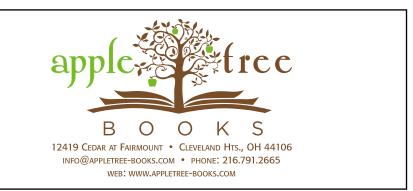
Simply Charming also stocks soy candles that are made in Tennessee but are named for neighborhoods and organizations in Cleveland Heights. One candle is called the Cedar-Lee, another FutureHeights and another Heights Arts. The store also carries cute items for babies and young children.

One of Gevelber's more recent additions to the store is a line of jewelry made by the company Alex and Ani. "They are sort of like charm bracelets," she said. "But they tell something about you."

Gevelber, who lives in University Heights, is a big supporter of area organizations. Her store was a sponsor of the recent Heights Music Hop. "I absolutely love supporting the community," she said, "and the people who come in here are awesome."

If you do visit the store, there's a good chance you will see her dog, Clementine, a seven-year-old long-haired dachshund who likes to run around and say hello to the customers.

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



## Heights Arts Holiday Store offers special limited editions

Mary Ryan

Heights Arts kicked off its annual Holiday Store on Nov. 7, with works from more than 80 Northeast Ohio artists and an energetic new vibe, thanks to colorful new displays and wall treatments created by Heights Arts volunteers, board members and staff.

"This is a very exciting time for Heights Arts," said Rachel Bernstein, Heights Arts executive director. "Courtney Young, our new gallery manager, and CIA intern Julie Rauschenbach worked tirelessly to make this our most spectacular holiday artist showcase yet. In addition, artists we have shown in the past have been particularly prolific in providing us with new works and styles never before seen in our store."

More than a dozen Cleveland-area artists make their debut in the Holiday Store, including Gina DeSantis, ceramics; April Bleakney (Apemade), screen-printed wearables; Annette Poitau, abstract paintings; Denis Balogh, watercolors; Matt Fiorilli, glass sculpture; and Sandra Curry, jewelry.



Gallery-goers enjoy new displays at Heights Arts's 13th annual Holiday Store opening.

While all items in the gallery are handmade and one-of-a-kind, two works are truly unique: a limited-edition glass vase created by Sue Berry of Superior Hot Glass, and a limited-edition ceramic wall tile created collaboratively by painter Susan Danko and ceramic artist Andrea LeBlond. Both works are the result of Heights Arts's new Working Artist Membership program, funded by the George Gund Foundation. The

program offers unique opportunities for visual artists to produce new works, and incentives for gallery patrons to collect them. Working artist members are eligible to be selected by Heights Arts for its commissions of limited edition works and "artist of the month" acknowledgements. Up to three unique, limited-edition works are created each year, with Berry's edition of 25 vases being the premiere edition.

Heights Arts's current limited-edition commission was awarded to artist members Danko and LeBlond, who are both previous recipients of an Ohio Arts

Council Individual Excellence Award. Danko is known for her semi-abstract landscape paintings with stylized natural forms and atmospheric washes of vibrant color. LeBlond, whose distinctive ceramic designs are available in the gallery year-round, provided expertise and guidance in translating Danko's visual language to clay. Offered in a limited edition of 25, each ceramic wall tile varies slightly in composition and coloring.

As part of its "artist of the month" program, Heights Arts purchases an original artwork from one of its artist members each month. Everyone who visits the gallery is invited to enter Heights Arts's free monthly drawings for a chance to win that month's work of art. So far, five pieces have been given to gallery visitors, including a framed linoleum block print by Kate Snow of Zygote Press, in November. December's artist of the month is cut-paper artist Ursula Korneitchouk.

The Holiday Store is open through Dec. 30 with expanded gallery hours: 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday; 1–5 p.m., Sunday.

Mary Ryan is on staff at Heights Arts, a nonprofit community arts organization.

## A fresh look for Appletree Books

Mary Krogness

Alice Webster and Lynn Quintrell are the new co-owners of Appletree Books in the Cedar Fairmount neighborhood. Jane Kessler, now 93, founded the business and ran it for 25 years.

"It's a destination," a loyal customer said of the store.

Now, with imagination, enthusiasm and know-how, Webster and Quintrell have transformed this landmark into an even more enticing hangout for book lovers of all ages.

"It's quirky, vintage and homey," said Quintrell.

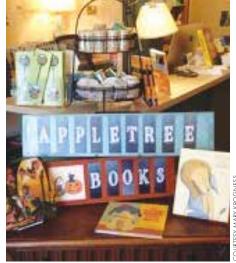
Memorabilia abounds, starting with the old but newly repainted wooden doors. The store windows are a stage set for hot-off-the-press fiction, mystery, biography, science, poetry, children's books and cookbooks.

An old Royal typewriter sits opposite the book, If You Give A Mouse An iPhone! A little, blue 1940s Amelia Earhart suitcase owned by Quintrell's Granny Crogan is full of journals and oldies but goodies like The Three Little Peppers.

Quintrell's great-grandfather's tackle box holds gift cards. The collage behind the new counter and up-to-date computer system was created from the pages of an old hand-me-down book, *Games Children Play*, the frontispiece inscribed for an aunt; Christmas, 1902.

The pièce de résistance is the newly crafted staircase leading to the reading loft. On the risers, Cleveland Heights artist Lari Jacobson has painted the book spines of some of Quintrell's favorites. Lying on her side for hours, Jacobson painted Jane Austen's Emma, Mary Poppins, 'B' Is For Betsy, The Tulip, Stuart Little and others.

"These books resonate with me personally," said Quintrell, an energetic bookseller and voracious reader. She stocks a well-rounded collection, timely and important to a broad audience of readers from the Heights, University



Inside Appletree Books.

## Appletree Books 216-791-2665

12419 Cedar Road

Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

www.appletree-books.com

Circle, and elsewhere. Works by authors Jennifer Egan, Jonathan Lethem, Joshua Ferris and Dave Eggers are on the shelves.

"We offer a well-curated selection of new books. The goal is to be an informed book source for readers," said Quintrell, who can put her hands on nearly every book in the store. Inexpensive but intriguing gift items and distinctive cards are also available.

Appletree holds book discussion groups and author events. On Dec. 12, Appletree and neighbor Ten Thousand Villages will host an evening for shoppers, serving hors d'oeuvres and dessert, respectively.

"At the end of the day, I want my customers to say, 'Great! [Both in regard to] What I bought and the experience of just being in Appletree . . .' " Quintrell said.

Mary Krogness is an author of two books. A longtime resident of Cleveland Heights, she now resides in Cleveland.



Tear-offs • Re-roofs • All repairs Insured • All work guaranteed • Free estimates Shingles • Slate • Tile • Gutters • Siding • Chimney Work

## **Flat Roof Experts**

10% off w/ this ad

Commercial Residential

216-319-0430







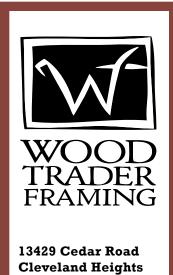
 6-Months of Groceries from Zagara's Marketplace

**CAN'T MISS ITEMS:** 

- Vacation Getaways
- Gift certificates to your favorite Heights restaurants and retailers
- And much, much more!
   New items added daily.

## THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS:

Community Champion: Simply Charming
Local Leaders: Motorcars, Susan Delaney of Howard Hanna, Zagara's Marketplace
Good Neighbors: DVUV, Keller National



216-397-7671

Mon-Fri 10-6 Sat 10-5

# Need the perfect gift?

We can frame almost anything – artwork, photos, memorabilia, jewelry and all your other treasures

Save \$20 on framing over \$100 (One discount per visit)



<u>voodtraderframing.com</u>



## Mister Brisket continues to thrive

James Henke

Several decades ago, butcher shops were quite common. Most people went to the butcher to get their meat products. But that has all changed. During the 1970s, big grocery-store chains, such as A&P and Kroger's, started carrying more meat products and, as a result, most butcher shops closed. There is, however, an exception to that trend: Mister Brisket. A butcher shop and deli, Mister Brisket, located on Taylor Road just south of Cedar Road, has been around since 1973 and it is still thriving.

Sanford Herskovitz, 75, founder and owner of Mister Brisket, grew up in University Heights and still lives there. He attended Heights High and earned his bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University, a master's degree from Kent State University, and a Ph.D. in psychology from Case Western Reserve University. His parents owned Carl's Poultry Market, a butcher shop located at East 86th Street and Cedar Road. In 1972, his father died and his mother took over the business. She remarried and moved to Toronto, and Herskovitz, who was still in grad school, took over the business. He changed the store's name to Mister Brisket and relocated to Cleveland's West Side. Then, in 1978, he moved to his current location.

Despite having worked as a stockbroker and a teacher, he was inspired to get into the meat business after he and his wife threw a dinner party. "She told me to go get some steaks for the party," Herskovitz said. "So I went over to Earl



Sanford Herskovitz and his stepson, Hank Kornblut.

C. Gibbs' slaughter house on the West Side and got about a dozen steaks. Our attorney was at the party, and his wife loved the meat and wanted to get more. So that really had an impact on me."

Mister Brisket carries USDA prime beef, veal, lamb, pork, poultry and seafood. In addition to purchasing meat and seafood, Mister Brisket's customers can also pick up corned beef and pastrami sandwiches and other items, including potato salad, cole slaw, cookies, brownies and beverages. Herskovitz also offers box lunches and party platters.

With its many holidays including Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas and New Year's, the end of the year is a very busy time for Mister Brisket. Herskovitz said the store carries special products like roasted turkey and roasted chicken for people to purchase for the holidays.

Herskovitz is very well-known and respected in the meat business. He has appeared on numerous television shows, including Joan Nathan's "Jewish Cooking in America," ABC's "Home Show" and CNBC's "Tom Snyder Show," and he is a frequent guest on WEWS's "Morning Exchange."

Mister Brisket also started a program called Salamis to the Troops. Herskovitz's stepson, Hank Kornblut, who now runs the store with him, came up with the idea for the program a few years ago after a customer, Max Chan**Mister Brisket** 216-932-8620

2156 South Taylor Road Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. www.misterbrisket.com

dler, came in one day and asked if the shop could send something to his son. When Kornblut asked where his son lived, Chandler told him he was serving in the armed forces in Iraq. After looking into it, Kornblut realized Mister Brisket could send salami overseas and it would stay fresh. In addition, people in the military have an Army Post Office address which enables packages and other mail to get to them rather quickly. "We shipped the salami out to Chandler's son on a Monday and he got it by Friday," Kornblut said. The store charges \$20 for a shipment of salami to the troops, and it can be sent virtually anywhere, even to service members who are posted on aircraft carriers and other ships.

In addition to starting the Salamis to the Troops program, the 51-year-old Kornblut has suggested the store begin carrying vegetarian items. That program may start sometime next year. He added that Mister Brisket is getting many more orders from outside the Cleveland area and the store may start selling products online soon.

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.

# WHY BUY@



#### **Convenient Service Platinum Rewards**

- Open until 3:00 a.m.
- Downtown service center shuttles you Complimentary car washes anytime to and from your office for free
- 1815 St. Clair Ave, Cleveland Ohio
- Oil changes for life
- Free warranty for life with every new car purchase\*

Don't take our word for it: We have over 2000 online reviews from customers that have helped earn Motorcars several online awards for customer reviews including:









## More Google Online Reviews Than Any Dealership In Ohio

Motorcars Honda & Toyota | 2950/53 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118 WhyMotorcars.com | (216) 371-0004