

## INSIDE



**9**  
Cedar Lee meter parking is free on select weekends



**11**  
Aug. 6 is Star Wars day in Coventry Village



**15**  
Library garden offers programs for all ages



**21**  
The Fairmount bar and restaurant expands

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

## University Heights celebrates park opening

Patrick Grogan

The City of University Heights celebrated the grand opening of University Heights Community Park—the city's newest and largest park—at a community celebration on Sunday, July 24.

The street festival began with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the entrance to the park, at Fenwick and Northwood roads, with Mayor Susan Infeld, city council members, other city officials, and representatives from Braun & Steidl Architects (the park's designer) cutting the ribbon.

Infeld thanked “the leadership of Fuchs Mizrahi School, specifically Mr. Morry Weiss, for sharing our vision to make a park and greenspace on the property.” The park is on the former site of the Fuchs Mizrahi School.

The festival on Fenwick Road featured music from the University Heights Symphonic Band, conducted



Mayor Susan Infeld cuts the ribbon on the new University Heights Community Park, with members of city council, city officials, residents and the park's architects.

by Matthew Salvaggio, and The Northcoast Jazz Collective.

Jungle Bob, Michael Roy's Cirque du Papier, Dr.URawesome, an inflatable bounce house and balloon twister from A World of Magic, and

arts and crafts were among the festival's family-friendly activities.

University Heights businesses Ben & Jerry's and Ellie's, along with The River Dog Café food truck,

*continued on page 8*

## New owners to open Boss Dog Brewing in former Lemon Grass building on Lee

James Henke

Two brothers, Josh and Jason Sweet, plan to open a new brewery and restaurant in the vacant building on Lee Road that was long occupied by Lemon Grass Thai Cuisine. Lemon Grass closed in March 2015, and the large space has stood empty ever since. The brothers purchased the building in June, and hope to open Boss Dog Brewing by the end of 2016.

Their plan is to sell their own beer at the restaurant, and also distribute it to other restaurants on the East Side.

Jason came up with the brewery's name, and Josh explained, “We are both animal lovers, and we both are big dog lovers, so that's why we decided to name it Boss Dog.”

Boss Dog will offer a full menu of food items as well, including appetizers, shared plates and entrees. “It will be an American gastropub,” Josh said,



Josh and Jason Sweet inside the space that will become their new brewery and restaurant. “and we will sell items like burgers and pizza.”

The Sweet brothers were born in Cleveland Heights, and both of their parents graduated from Cleveland Heights High School. When Josh was 4 and Jason was 2, their parents divorced, and the brothers moved to New York with their mother, where they grew up.

Because their father had remained

*continued on page 3*

## UH Library prepares for September renovation start

Sheryl Banks

The University Heights Library is slated to close for renovation on Sept. 6, and it will remain closed throughout most of 2017. The project is expected to take 14 months to complete.

Throughout the summer, staff at the University Heights Library has been sorting through the collection to prepare it for storage. Some furniture and fixtures at the library will be put to use in other CH-UH libraries or sold at a public surplus sale on Aug. 27.

Important dates in the lead-up to the start of the renovation project are:

- Friday, July 29: Meeting rooms at the UH Library closed to public use.
- Saturday, Aug. 27: UH Library (13866 Cedar Road) will hold a surplus sale (furniture, fixtures, etc.), open to the public.
- Sunday, Aug. 28: A groundbreaking ceremony will take place at the UH Library.
- Sunday, Sept. 4: This is the last day that the UH Library will be open until after the renovation is completed.

- Tuesday, Sept. 6: The UH library will close for renovation. (All Heights Libraries locations will be closed on Monday, Sept. 5, for Labor Day.)

University Heights Library staff will continue to work for the library system at its three other branches, and will provide outreach services with Heights Libraries' new bookmobile.

The bookmobile, which Heights Libraries purchased in June, will make predetermined, scheduled stops in University Heights during the renovation.

*continued on page 2*

## BottleHouse introduces new menu and program to benefit nonprofits

James Henke

Four years after it opened, BottleHouse Brewery is expanding its food menu, which formerly comprised mainly sandwiches and charcuterie boards.

The brewery, located at 2050 Lee Road in Cleveland Heights, is also instituting a new program to benefit nonprofit organizations.

“Cleveland Heights has given so much to us,” said owner Brian Benchek. “We wanted to give back to the community.”



Brian Benchek, owner of the BottleHouse Brewery.

Starting in July, for every pint of Community Pilsner it sells, Bottle-

House will donate 50 cents to a nonprofit organization. The first donation recipient is Dobama Theatre, which will benefit from every pint sold from July through October. Every four months a new nonprofit organization will be selected to receive the money.

“I want to use this space in a way that gives back to the community,” Benchek said.

Benchek, 39, has owned the brewery since it opened in May 2012. Originally, he was a co-owner with Dave Schubert, but two years ago he

*continued on page 11*



### Letters Policy

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

## HEIGHTS OBSERVER

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## 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](http://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](mailto:info@futureheights.org).

Articles to be considered for the September issue must be submitted by Aug. 15. We publish some articles online as they come in—and still consider them for the next print issue. We also publish an e-newsletter each Tuesday.

# A Heights Observer blog

Read the whole story at [blogs.heightsobserver.org](http://blogs.heightsobserver.org)

### 17-year cicadas elusive in the Heights area

Though present in swarms only a few miles away, 17-year cicadas have proven scarce in the Heights area.

"We haven't seen them in any quantity," says Sarah Cech, Natural Resources Manager for the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes.

The few cicadas that call the Heights home have mostly revealed themselves by trace evidence: a wing here, a shed exoskeleton there. "I haven't seen any whole cicadas," Cech confesses. "We've seen antennae, wings, and a few parts here [at the Shaker Lakes Nature Center]."

My own, life-long quest for 17-year cicadas in my neighborhood has yielded similarly scanty results. In my childhood searches of my neighborhood during the last cicada emergence in 1999, I came up empty-handed. For 2016, I was determined to do a little better.

During the cicadas' brief appearance in Northeast Ohio in May and June, I undertook daily backyard safaris. I pounded the pavement in every park and public space in the 44118 zip code. No dog-walking session was complete without trying to catch a hint of the bugs' tell-tale, two-tone love song. I struck out in Forest Hill, Cumberland, Oakwood Preserve, and Caledonia parks. By the end of June, the best evidence I'd been able to turn up was a single wing from Cain Park.

Then one day, during a Sunday barbecue, my Dad mentioned in an off-hand way that he'd spotted

a cicada wing in Horseshoe Lake Park while cleaning up after his dog. I insisted that he show me the spot immediately.

It turns out that Horseshoe Lake Park just might be the garden spot for 17-year cicadas in the Heights area. The giant oak trees near the Park Drive parking triangle sported a few dozen shed exoskeletons, and the forest floor was perforated with the cicada's emergence tunnels, each the width of a baby carrot. The littered wings left at the scene hint that the inhabitants are from the species *Magicicada septendecim*, the same red-eyed beauties that emerged in such abundance elsewhere.

Why are 17-year cicadas so rare in the Heights area? In part, it's due to the bugs limited ability to spread to new areas. Most live their entire lives within 100 yards of where they were born.

However, it's more likely that they simply haven't survived the area's transformation over the past two centuries. "It could be because this area was farmed extensively in the 1800's," Cech says, "or the amount of pavement." Pavement, after all, prevents newborns from tunneling down to tree roots and keeps full-grown adults from making it back to the surface.

Personally, I can't wait to see if the cicadas in Horseshoe Lake Park can stick it out for another 17 years.

*Chris Mentrek is a naturalist who grew up in University Heights and now lives in Cleveland Heights.*

*LIBRARY continued from page 1*

tion period, providing city residents with a small, yet popular, selection of books, DVDs, CDs and audio books.

Heights Libraries plans to keep the bookmobile after the UH Library renovation is complete, and will continue to use it for outreach purposes. More details about the bookmobile will be available in coming weeks.

The Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library Board approved the construction budget for the University Heights Library's renovation at its June 20 meeting.

The final budget of \$5.6 million breaks down as follows: construction costs ("hard costs") will be roughly \$4.2 million, with an additional \$1.4 million in "soft costs," including the cost of land, moving, furniture and fixtures, permits, design fees, insurance, technology and other items.

Heights Libraries hired Lakewood-based Regency Construction Services to serve as the construction manager for the project. Regency will work closely with the library and the architect, CBLH Design, during the final design process, providing construction costs and schedule information regarding the project.

During the library's renovation,

Regency and its subcontractors will handle construction, managing field operations at the site while focusing on quality, safety, and keeping the project on schedule and on budget.

For updates on the University Heights Library renovation, including images of the final design, visit [www.heightslibrary.org](http://www.heightslibrary.org).

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

# Teachers need leaders in tough times

To the Editor:

In the June *Heights Observer*, Ari Klein ("We must retain and attract school district employees") and Susie Kaeser ("Intrinsic motivation, not accountability, produces excellence") spoke to difficulties facing teachers. While I am inclined to their perspective, the helpless tone was discouraging to me.

Both articles concerned themselves with a portrayal of what is happening to teachers as though they were unwilling or unable to do anything to influence their own future. The authors wrote from the perspective "this is what is happening to us," as though constraints and requirements fully explained teachers' effectiveness in the classroom, and determined their satisfaction with work.

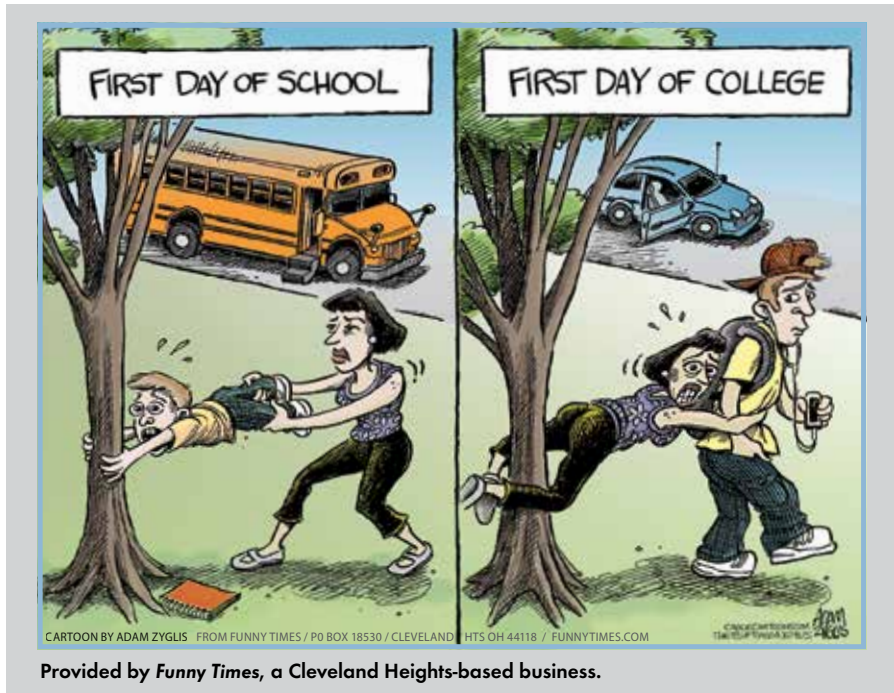
By omission, the authors implied that teachers either cannot or will not work to influence outcomes in the classroom, and that they have little responsibility for results.

I don't think that is true. I know elementary, middle and high school teachers. They impress me as exceptionally bright, committed and hard working. I hear them talk about creativity, developing strategies to overcome obstacles, and their personal investment—emotional and financial—in achieving the best for their students. Yet the authors mention none of this, opting to evoke sympathy for poor souls.

Leaders who lead by complaining in the name of the people they serve do them a great injustice. Education is not the only industry that carries the weight of external forces that impose constraints and requirements, some of which are insane. Yet one can find organizations in such industries that flourish above the norm, with people storming the gates to get in to them.

Your job is to lead teachers to greatness, not to bemoan the present and rail against the machine. You may be doing that, but your articles were absent any news on that front.

Bill Braun  
Cleveland Heights





# CH-UH district seeks support for November levy

Krissy Dietrich Gallagher

The Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District will place a 5.5-mill operating levy on the November 2016 ballot. This request, the smallest in more than 20 years, is necessary for the district to continue meeting its mission, which, according to the district's website, is "to provide a challenging and engaging education to prepare all our students to become responsible citizens and succeed in college and career."

CH-UH voters last approved an operating levy five years ago, in November 2011. The levy was expected to last three years but, through careful spending and strategic cuts, the school board and administration have stretched those dollars over five years.

Because state law freezes the dollar amount going to school districts at the time of last approval, district budgets are unable to keep up with

regular cost-of-living increases. In fact, the district is currently operating with a smaller budget than it had in 2011, due to state cuts and the loss of money to charter schools and voucher programs. This fact makes passage of the upcoming levy vital for the success of the schools.

Kal Zucker, board of education president, said that while he is "proud of our fiscal discipline, which allowed us to stretch the funds from the last operating levy five full years, this makes our need to pass the current levy even more crucial." The Lay Finance Committee (LFC), which recommended the low millage to the board of education out of "consideration for the desires of the community not to raise taxes more than necessary," agrees. "This levy is necessary to maintain at least our current programs," said Jayne Geneva, LFC chair.

Volunteers of Citizens for Our

Heights Schools, chaired by Lisa Hunt, Ryan Routh and Dallas Schubert, will run the levy campaign. This committed team of district parents will be joined by University Heights resident Abby Botnick, serving as treasurer, and many others, including me.

Because this levy coincides with the presidential election, a much broader swath of voters will need to be reached than in past years, resulting in an expensive and expansive campaign. Campaign chairs recognize that this will be a difficult task and welcome an "all hands on deck" approach from school supporters. According to Schubert, "The need for

the dollars this levy will generate is real, and it is urgent. We need as many school families and school supporters to step up and actively participate in this effort as possible. There is so much at stake."

Zucker agrees. "We have great respect and gratitude for the support our community has shown our children in the past, and we hope they see that the need, along with the potential, has never been greater."

*Krissy Dietrich Gallagher is a longtime resident of Cleveland Heights, a graduate of the Heights schools and a former Coventry School teacher. She is a freelance journalist under contract with the CH-UH City School District, and is proud to raise her two sons here.*

BOSS DOG continued from page 1

in the Cleveland area, they came back frequently to visit him. Around 11 years ago, their mother decided to move back to Cleveland, and bought a house on Fairfax Road in Cleveland Heights. A few years later, Josh and Jason decided to come back to Cleveland, and bought a duplex on the corner of Westminster and Kensington roads in Cleveland Heights.

Around that same time, the two brothers started getting into brewing. Jason got a brewing kit as a Christmas present, and became hooked on making beer.

"I wanted to find something I was 100 percent passionate about, and once I got into brewing, I could not shake it," Jason said. "We could make the beer right on our stove." He decided he wanted to find a job in brewing, and he started calling Fat Head's Brewery every week.

"After about eight months of calls, I finally got a job with them in Middleburg Heights," Jason said. "I started from the ground up, and I learned everything about making beer." He worked at Fat Head's for about three years before he left to work on opening his own restaurant and brewery.

"Our intention was always to open our own brewery," Josh said. "And we were looking for a location for about two years."

"Originally," said Jason, "we were

talking about leasing the space. But in the process of negotiations, it turned into a purchasing deal, and we bought the space."

They think the former Lemon Grass spot is the perfect place for their brewery and restaurant.

"We lived here, and we know Cleveland Heights very well," Josh said. "We are very fortunate to have found this space. And this is such a great community for independent businesses."

Josh, now 42, lives in Solon, and Jason, who's 40, lives in Lyndhurst. Both are married, and Josh has two children, a 3-year-old girl and a 7-month-old boy. Jason's wife was pregnant at press time, and they were expecting their first child, a boy, any day.

"We really hope to be a member of the community here," Jason said. "And I feel like Lee Road really galvanizes, and we are looking forward to being an important part of it."

*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. He is on the board of FutureHeights, and is co-chair of the Heights Observer Advisory Committee.*



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## CH Teachers Union provides summer professional development for members

Ari Klein

When I was in college, the big joke among those pursuing teaching as a career was “what are the three best things about being a teacher?” The punchline was “June, July and August.”

Most teachers I know look forward to summer, but few are sitting on the beach eating bonbons for nine weeks. Many teachers spend a week or two cleaning up their classrooms, and do the same with their houses; then, it is almost time to set up classrooms for the start of school. Teachers are also required to take graduate-level courses to be eligible to renew their license every five years. Almost all teachers who stay in the profession earn a master’s degree.

Members of the Cleveland Heights Teachers Union (CHTU) have the opportunity to learn from their colleagues after they have earned a master’s, in the Educational Research and Dissemination (ER&D) program. The American Federation of Teachers, CHTU’s national affiliate, developed ER&D more than 35 years ago. Since 2003, CHTU has been sending teachers to the eight-day national training program so that they can prepare to teach the material to colleagues locally. They spend the eight days learning the research in a particular area and also devote time to adult learning theory. Our trainees take the material home to practice in their classrooms and reflect. At mid-year, they return for a two-day wrap-up. This is what is required before our teachers can offer a 30-hour course to our members.

We believe that courses taught through the union should contain the most thoroughly researched material that is replicable. Unfortunately, much of what is considered “education research” is someone’s opinion canned into a profitable program with lots of catchphrases and acronyms. The material used in ER&D courses is rigorously vetted.

We also believe that any professional training that a teacher attends must be taught in an exemplary manner. We want teachers to be able to use the research as well as the pedagogy. Unfortunately, for most teachers, professional training lectures are the norm. What I notice when visiting our ER&D classes are that the walls are almost always packed

with posters created by participants. Often, teachers are discussing an issue, reflecting on their own practice, or are up on their feet in small groups working together.

Summer class participants are engaged for six hours a day for five straight days. This summer, we offered five courses: Instructional Strategies that Work; School, Family and Community; Thinking Math; Managing Anti-Social Behavior; and—new this year—English Language Learners. In the spring we offered Reading Comprehension every other week for three hours after school. Full descriptions of these courses are on our website, [www.chtu.org](http://www.chtu.org).

More than 100 enrolled in ER&D classes this year. Through contract language, the CH-UH City School District is a partner in this venture, though the CHTU runs the courses and provides the bulk of the funding. Having expert instructors work in the same district makes a difference. Some of this year’s participants’ comments indicate how much they appreciate ER&D: “The reflections helped me focus in and refine my teaching strategies on what works and what I need to do to improve;” “I will hopefully learn how to better show process/relationships when teaching new material;” “I’m leaving very prepared for next school year;” “Thank you for a great informative week;” “More confident about my ability to maintain a positive, productive atmosphere where all students can succeed.”

We believe we are the best equipped to help colleagues improve their teaching, learn new strategies, and reflect on best practices they may be using or want to modify. As the first CHTU site coordinator and as one of the first instructors, I am proud of our local for its continued investment in training. We now have six pairs of trained instructors capable of teaching nine different courses. This is not typical for a local our size, but we believe empowering our own teachers to take on the role of instructional leader is a perfect job for our union and is the best way to provide long-term benefits to the students we serve.

*Ari Klein is a lifelong community member, math teacher at Cleveland Heights High School, and president of the Cleveland Heights Teachers Union.*

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# Alphabet soup—uhm, uhm, not good



**HEIGHTS OF DEMOCRACY**

Carla Rautenberg and Deborah Van Kleef

We're writing this column over the Fourth of July weekend. It seems a good time to reflect on the importance of the rule of law to our democratic system. Legislatures, which we elect, make law; court systems adjudicate that law. It is a highly imperfect system in which tragic mistakes are made daily, but we have not yet found a better method by which to govern ourselves. Our legal system operates from the municipal level up to the state and then the federal level. The U.S. Supreme Court has the final word.

Or does it?

To shed light on this question, we reviewed some testimony presented to Cleveland Heights City Council at the third annual Democracy Day public hearing held last Jan. 21. Stewart Robinson and Dean Sieck addressed the threat that international trade mechanisms TISA and ISDS pose to municipalities like University Heights and Cleveland Heights.

Why might local citizens address their city council on the issue of foreign trade? If it seems bizarre, in fact, it is. And what on earth is this alphabet soup [of acronyms]?

TISA is the Trade in Services Agreement, and ISDS stands for Investor State Dispute Settlement. But wait—there's more: TPP is the Trans-Pacific Partnership and TTIP is the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership. Like their predecessors NAFTA and CAFTA (the North American and Central American "free trade agreements," respectively), the "T" treaties all contain ISDS provisions.

If you get the idea that regular people were never intended to understand any of this, you would be right on the money. Negotiations are kept secret, even from members of Congress. But information can and does leak out.

Stewart Robinson explained, "TISA... is a proposed international trade treaty between 23 parties, including the European Union and

the U.S., [which] aims at privatizing services such as banking, health care and transport." He continued, "TISA is a threat to regulations that people really care about, such as what kind of development is allowed in their neighborhoods or the standards for hospital care. Instead of adopting TISA, governments must strengthen regulations based on public interest and the democratic process."

Dean Sieck stated, "This is how ISDS works: An investor holds that the actions of a government have caused it to lose 'expected future profits.' The aggrieved investor takes its 'case' to a tribunal of three corporate lawyers for their determination. . . . The accused may be any level of government, municipal, county or state, but the defendant is always the national government of the accused."

ISDS was originally devised to stop foreign governments from seizing assets, but is now mainly used by corporations to challenge regulations in foreign countries where they have investments. ISDS provisions are embedded in NAFTA and CAFTA, and have been strengthened in TPP, TTIP and TISA.

Sieck continued, "The 'judges' have no connection to the legal processes of either the investor's or the defendant's home country. . . . The complainant . . . sues a government for the kinds of actions governments take, for example, labor, environmental, or health or safety laws. Once the judgment is rendered, it cannot be appealed. . . ."

Under ISDS, then, the laws created in one country can be overturned in the interest of an investor from another country, and there is no appeal. In other words, the right of an investor to profit takes precedence over our elected representatives' responsibility to guarantee our safety and well-being.

What kind of rule of law is this? Actually, the kind we have right now.

In January 2016, TransCanada sued the United States for \$15 billion, calling the Obama administration's cancellation of the Keystone pipeline "arbitrary and unjustified." Cleveland Heights City Council recently declined to re-zone property at Vandemar Street and Mayfield Road to permit a 16-pump Circle K gas station and convenience store

selling alcohol on the site. Under the ISDS provisions of NAFTA, Canadian-owned Circle K International could sue the U.S. government and Cleveland Heights for having negatively affected Circle K's expected future profits.

ISDS and the rest of the alphabet soup are not so much about "free trade" as [they are] about allowing multinational corporations to override the laws of sovereign governments.

TPP negotiations have concluded; all that remains is an up or down vote

in Congress and the president's signature. TISA and TTIP are still being negotiated. For more information about these top-secret deals, visit [www.citizen.typepad.com/eyesontrade](http://www.citizen.typepad.com/eyesontrade).

*Carla Rautenberg is an activist and a lifelong Cleveland Heights resident. Deborah Van Kleef is a musician and writer, who grew up in Cleveland Heights, and has lived here as an adult for over 30 years. Contact them at [heightsdemocracy@gmail.com](mailto:heightsdemocracy@gmail.com).*

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## Fair education policy needs committed allies



**THE COMMON  
GOOD**

Susie Kaeser

The free-market policy gurus who sold charters, vouchers and testing to the Ohio legislature have created a profitable, entrenched and destructive monster. It is going to take all of us to stop this callous ransacking of the public purse that now benefits education business at the expense of the common good.

This is a moral fight—a social justice fight—that will need to be won in the political arena. It will take courage and organized, sustained opposition.

Successful political fights need to rally allies to their cause, and a good source of support in any political campaign is the people who are hurt by the policy.

In this case, the injured parties are not just the students but the communities that are most affected by a policy that puts the financial burden for charters and vouchers on local school districts, without giving the districts any authority regarding how those precious resources are used. The transfer of funds to nonpublic schools saps precious education dollars out of local districts. It diminishes public education and shifts even more of the burden for paying for public education to the local taxpayer.

While this issue affects all 612 school districts in Ohio, I was interested in finding allies that are close by. So I decided to analyze how this policy affects the 31 school districts in Cuyahoga County. The Foundation Settlement Report and the Cupp Report on the Ohio Department of Education website gave me the data I needed to follow the money. I was able to use these reports to convert the loss of funds to charters and vouchers into a loss per pupil for each district.

I am especially concerned about the effect on poor children. To explore this issue, I identified the poverty rate for each school district in the county and then calculated for each district the

dollars lost to vouchers and charters on a per-student basis. I ranked the districts by their poverty rate and looked for patterns in the funds lost. The numbers were dramatic.

The data deserves a close reading, but three important findings stood out:

- Every school district is losing funds. While districts vary widely in the students they serve and the loss of state funds, tax dollars are precious everywhere and any loss is significant.
- The system is particularly damaging to school districts with high percentages of poor children. High-poverty school districts lose the most money. Public school children with the greatest needs are subsidizing private education, and it is costing them a lot.
- The effect of charters and vouchers depends on who lives in a school district. Each district has its own dynamic and can be at risk of losing funds, not just the eight districts affected by EdChoice vouchers, which are tied to test scores.

When I compared the funds lost by districts in the quartile with the highest poverty rates to the quartile with the lowest, I found plenty of data that suggests we are cheating poor children. Five of the eight school districts in the quartile with the lowest poverty rates—3.5 to 12.3 percent—lost less than \$120 per child, with the highest loss being \$365 in Beachwood. By contrast, the per-student loss in the eight school districts with the highest poverty rates—65 to 100 percent—ranged from \$509 per child in Bedford to \$3,895 per child in Cleveland! Six of the eight districts in Cuyahoga County that lost more than \$1,000 per child were in the highest-poverty quartile.

The other six high-poverty districts included Cleveland Heights-University Heights, which, with a 67 percent poverty rate, had a per-pupil funding loss of \$1,120. Garfield Heights (72.9 percent) lost \$948 per student, Maple Heights (84 percent) lost \$1,410, and Euclid (75 percent) and East Cleveland (100 percent) each lost about \$2,600 per student. Warrensville Heights (73 percent) lost \$3,018 per student.

The kids who need the most are losing the most.

Federal funds to local school districts are largely targeted to help meet the educational needs of poor children. The Cupp Report provided the per-pupil federal funding level for each district. I was distressed to see that the money extracted from high-poverty districts for vouchers and charters often exceeded the federal assistance to each district!

State education policy has effectively wiped out the impact of supplemental federal funding for poor children.

If you believe in public schools and an even playing field, you are an ally. Please help to end this policy scandal.

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

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## University Heights City Council Meeting highlights



JUNE 20, 2016

Councilwoman Michele Weiss was absent.

### Moment of silence

The pledge of allegiance was followed by a minute of silence for the victims in Orlando.

### Public comments

Request for anti-hate resolution: Win Weiser spoke about the attack in Orlando, stating that it was a hate crime. She said that when she and her partner moved to University Heights, they hung a rainbow flag in front of their home. But after some pushback from the neighbors they decided to live more quietly. They were beginning to feel that opinions had changed recently, but clearly there is still hate from some people. She asked council to pass a resolution stating that hate will not be tolerated in University Heights. She said that people can do and believe what they want within their own homes, but public spaces must be protected so that all people can exist in the public spaces safely and peacefully. Weiser distributed copies of an article from *The Columbus Dispatch*, emphasizing that words have power both for good and for ill. June is Gay Pride Month, so she asked council to consider some type of legislative action in recognition of this event.

### Anti-semitism pledge

Mayor Susan Infeld received an e-mail from a resident regarding the fact that she had not signed the pledge against anti-semitism. The resident was applying pressure for the mayor to sign it. Infeld explained that she was unaware of the pledge that had been presented to mayors of large cities, and then printed in an ad in *The New York Times*. Apparently, the delegates in Ohio had decided that all mayors should be approached, regardless of size of community. She has now signed the pledge, but is concerned that such issues are being used as a litmus test—"you must think as I think"—and is an underlying cause of hate.

### New park

The new park on Fenwick Road opens in mid-July and is almost done. The tennis courts are rebuilt and open to residents.

### Library closing

The University Heights Library will be closing temporarily for construction starting Sept. 6, with a groundbreaking [for the new library] on Aug. 28. Instead of moving the library to a temporary space, it will be transferred to a mobile library that will travel throughout the community bringing books to residents.

### Council meeting start time

Council approved changing the start time for regular meetings to 7 p.m. beginning in September.

### Agenda request for Gay Pride Month

Vice Mayor Susan Pardee requested an addition to the agenda to discuss a motion in support of Gay Pride Month, in support of non-discrimination.

LWV Observer: Wendy Deuring.

Note: The observer left early and did not observe the portion of the meeting after the mayor's report on the University Heights Library's temporary closing. The clerk of council provided the observer with information on the subsequent agenda items.

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

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

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

PARK continued from page 1

were on hand to feed hungry parkgoers. The University Heights Police Department came with police cars and officers on bicycles, and the University Heights Fire Department brought its ladder truck.

More than 500 community members came out to celebrate, get their faces painted, slide down the slides, swing on the swings, and be in the company of friends and family.

The park's opening celebration was the culmination of a four-year process during which the city purchased the property, razed the building, and conducted an extensive public process to design a park residents would enjoy.

University Heights residents approved a \$1.8 million bond issue in November 2014 to pay for the park construction, and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, through its NatureWorks program, helped fund part of the playground and adult exercise equipment. The city hired Braun & Steidl Architects to develop the park vision and Behnke Landscape Architecture as consultant to the architect.

The 6.25-acre park features a 0.35-mile pedestrian path, two playgrounds (one for kids ages 2-5 and another for those ages 5-12), a nature play area, restroom

facilities, two adult exercise equipment stations, quiet spaces with benches, and an open-greenspace ball field.

The city's other parks are Purvis Park and municipal pool, the Ashurst Rain Garden and the Saybrook Rain Garden. The city is also working toward the development of the Silsby Road Neighborhood Park, to further expand the greenspace available to University Heights residents.

Like all city parks, the University Heights Community Park is open to the public from dawn until dusk. Among the rules are: no grilling, and no reserving or saving space in the gazebo or pavilion, or of picnic tables, which have a 2-hour maximum use time. The city asks all park users to be mindful of their use of the park's features so that everyone can enjoy the park.

As Mayor Infeld said to residents at the grand-opening celebration, "This is your community park. Thank you for sharing this vision with us, now let's go have fun."

*Patrick Grogan is the community development coordinator for the City of University Heights. He works with residents and businesses to promote University Heights as a great place to live, work, shop and play.*



# The Adams-Long House



CLEVELAND  
HEIGHTS  
LANDMARKS

Margaret Laan

Nestled off of a cul-de-sac, the Adams-Long house at 3555 Birch Tree Path sits on a parcel of land that was once part of the Elisabeth Allen Prentiss estate, Glen Allen.

The Adams-Long house is the only building from that grand estate to have survived. Built in 1860 for the Adams family, the structure was later incorporated into the estate, and likely used as a worker's cottage.

The house has undergone multiple additions and transformations to make it a viable 21st-century home. Current owner Bruce Long has lived in the house since 1956. He was unaware of the history of the home prior to purchasing it. Afterward, he learned of its unique history and was honored to have the home landmarked by Cleveland Heights in 1984.

Over the years, various owners added to the size of the home and altered the façade to look more like a postwar colonial-style residence. The Adams-Long house now blends in with neighboring ranches and colonials along the adjacent street, Glen Allen Drive.

The home's landmark status is significant not only because of the age of the structure, but also because it is one of the last tangible links to the Severance and Prentiss history in Cleveland Heights. These two families were significant in the history of Cleveland and its development.

Migrating from Euclid Avenue, the Severance and Prentiss families chose Cleveland Heights as their new home and established grand estates with wonderful gardens surrounding homes of incredible design and materials. The lifestyle of these families was not sustainable after the Great Depression, and the homes were eventually demolished as the cost to run the properties was too great.

Slowly, new development took place with the advent of Severance Town Center, one of the country's first indoor shopping malls, built on the former site of the great Severance



Adams-Long House, 2015.

estate. Small, affordable postwar homes, like those along Glen Allen Drive, were built on the former site of the Prentiss mansion and grounds. Amongst them, 3555 Birch Tree Path sits as a reminder of all that came before and as an example of how older properties can be transformed to meet current standards of living.

*Margaret Laan is a member of the Cleveland Heights Landmark Commission, which preserves and protects buildings, works of art and other objects of historical or architectural value to the community. The seven members are appointed to three-year terms by CH City Council.*

# Cleveland Heights designates free-parking weekends for Cedar Lee

Kelley Robinson

In an effort to support Lee Road merchants during the disruption caused by streetscape construction, the City of Cleveland Heights has agreed to designate free-parking weekends in the Cedar Lee Business District.

Free parking will be offered the last weekend of each month, through October, and applies only to metered (not permit) spots on the district's streets, in city parking lots and the city parking garage.

Upcoming Cedar Lee free-parking weekends are:

- Aug. 26, 27, 28
- Sept. 23, 24, 25
- Oct. 28, 29, 30

Please note that metered parking within the construction zone along Lee Road will continue to be restricted, as indicated by the bagged meters there.

The city plans to install signage

in the district, and a banner on the parking deck as a reminder to residents and visitors.

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



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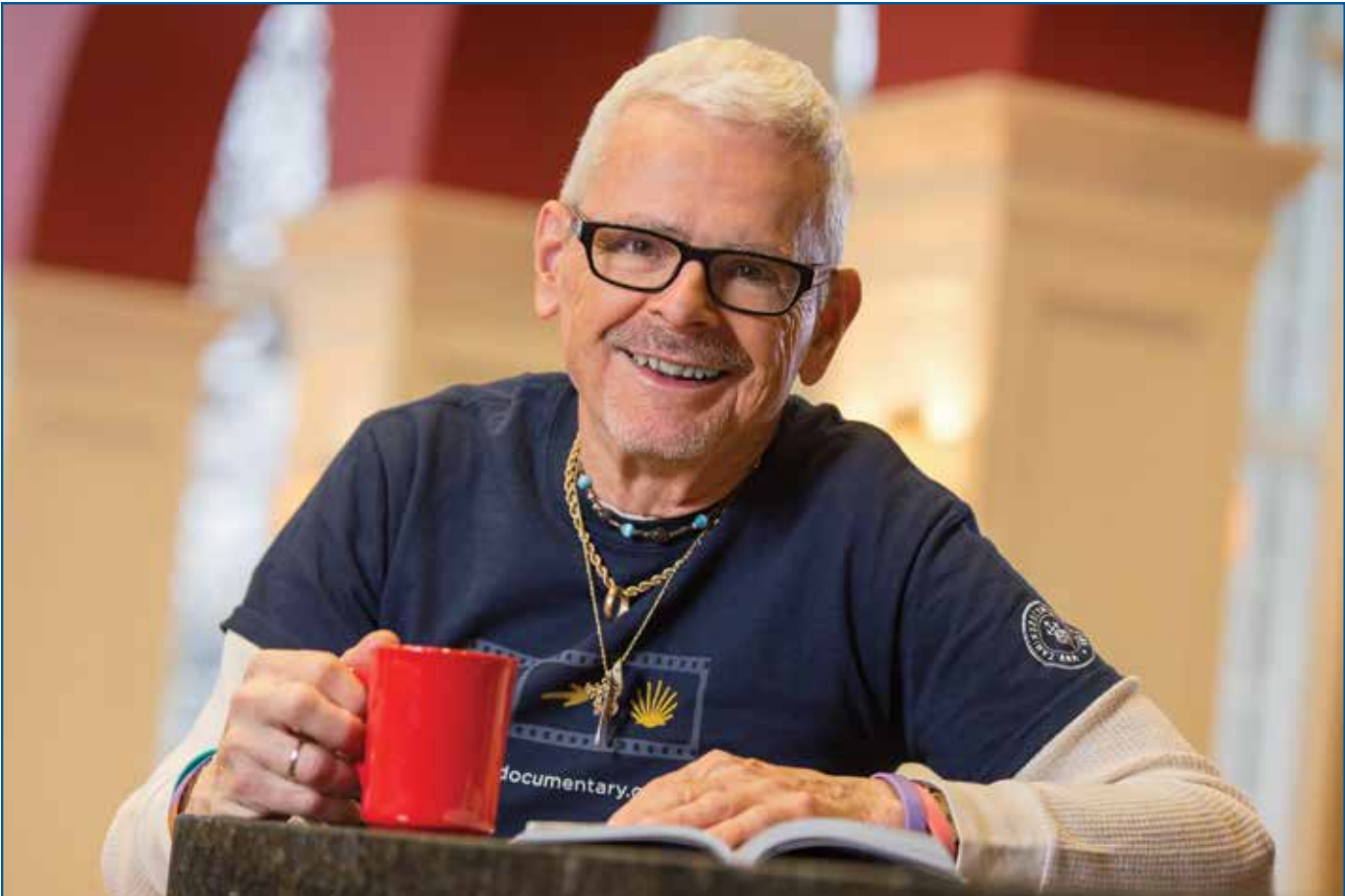


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## Cleveland Heights City Council Meeting highlights

JUNE 20, 2016

All council members were present.

### Public comments

Forest Hill Homeowner's Association: Resident Mike Riley, addressing council on behalf of the Forest Hill Homeowner's Association, said that homeowners associations (HOAs), while common in newer areas, are unusual in inner-ring suburbs. The Forest Hill HOA is concerned about several deteriorated properties. The HOA was asked to buy one of these for \$500, but has discovered that the county land bank is now involved. Mayor Cheryl Stephens said the HOA should work with city staff and approach the land bank to obtain first right of refusal for a purchase.

### Ambulance service paperwork

Council approved a three-year agreement with Life Force Management Inc., to provide billing, collection and related services for all city ambulance services. This is a renewed agreement with a company that has performed this function since 1998.

### Independents Week

Council declared the week of July 1-7 as "Independents Week." This celebration of local businesses honors the entrepreneurial spirit, uniqueness and contributions of independent businesses.

### Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

Council approved six resolutions allocating funds from the Year 42 CDBG to nonprofit organizations serving the citizens of Cleveland Heights. These include:

- \$20,000 to Family Connections of Northeast Ohio for assistance with its Family School Connections Program. Council Member Michael Ungar abstained because his wife is on the agency's board.
- \$5,000 to Geshar, for operating expenses of the Geshar Benefits Referral Program. Council Member Mary Dunbar voted "no" because the agency apparently serves just one ethnic group. She noted that the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) had voted 14 to 1 to deny funding because agency staff seemed not to comprehend how to reach out to other community members with its services. [Geshar is an initiative of Agudath Israel Midwest Region that helps Cleveland Jewish families experiencing hardship to access benefits and government programs for which they are eligible ([www.geshar-cleveland.com](http://www.geshar-cleveland.com)).]
- \$30,000 to the Heights Youth Club Inc., for assistance with its Project Learn: The Educational Enhancement Program.
- \$6,780 to Lake Erie Ink, for assistance with its after-school writing program at Noble Elementary School.
- \$8,000 to the Open Doors Academy for assistance with its year-round enrichment program for youth living at risk.
- \$5,000 to the Start Right Community Development Corporation, for operating expenses for its food bank program.

LWV Observer: Blanche B. Valancy.



JULY 5, 2016

Council Members Dunbar and Ungar were absent.

### Public comments

Traffic light study near Noble Elementary School and Noble Neighborhood Library: Six residents living near the intersection of Mayfield Road with Ardoon and Middleton roads, where a traffic light is being "studied for removal," spoke about the study. Marcie Denton, Ella Watterson (age 9), Faith Susanna Hinkelman, Damian Junk, Melissa Fliegel and Kermit Gable expressed concern about schoolchildren and other pedestrians crossing to go to the school, its playground or to the library. They said that the extra walk to Noble Road, where there is a light, might tempt people to jaywalk. They also noted that the route involves walking past a large empty lot that may be scary for youngsters. The study seems to have been done some time ago, and other lights along Mayfield are being studied as well. The speakers wondered if the city is obligated to follow a state recommendation to remove a light or whether re-programming or upgrading would be possible, such as blinking during certain hours or buttons for pedestrians to control the light. Council members listened intently and Mayor Stephens referred the matter to the city manager. Information on the traffic study was published in a [Cleveland.com](http://Cleveland.com) article, "'Study' of traffic light removal on Cleveland Heights school, library route draws concern."

Kermit Gable claimed that the Cuyahoga Land Bank has 41 properties listed in Cleveland Heights. He volunteers with the Christian Housing Improvement Program, which wants to obtain homes to rehabilitate for veterans and their families, but is having difficulty with the land bank. Mayor Stephens will meet with him soon.

### Bonds issued

Council approved the issuance of bonds, not to exceed \$1.7 million, for the following purposes:

- Reconstructing and resurfacing city streets, \$125,000
- Rebuilding Monticello Boulevard and Taylor Road, \$195,000
- Buying motorized equipment, \$1,124,000
- Buying computer hardware and equipment, \$71,000
- Improving the city's water system by constructing and installing water lines, \$185,000

### Cedar Road paving and streetscape

Council authorized an agreement with GDP Group for administration and inspection services for the Cedar Road resurfacing and Cedar Fairmount streetscape project, with compensation not to exceed \$238,900. The funds will be raised through the issuance of tax-exempt notes or bonds.

LWV Observer: Blanche B. Valancy.

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

**See disclaimer on page 8.**

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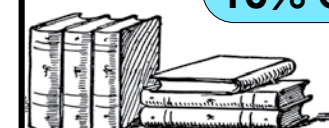
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COURTESY COVENTRY VILLAGE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

## Coventry Village celebrates Star Wars Tribute Day on Aug. 6 with events and film

Angela Hetrick

Coventry Village will celebrate all things Star Wars with its Star Wars Tribute Day on Saturday, Aug. 6.

From 2-5 p.m., snap a photo with your favorite characters as they roam Coventry Village; play Star Wars video games in a free mobile truck parked in the heart of Coventry Village; and battle your friends in Lightsaber Wars, a kid-friendly battle arena.

Coventry Village shops will be joining in the fun, offering Star Wars-themed specials and discounts.

Dress in costume, and meet at the P.E.A.C.E. Park arch at 6 p.m. to parade along the sidewalks of Coventry Village. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes in a variety of categories.

At 7:30 p.m., musicians from Classical Revolution Cleveland will perform a free outdoor concert in Pekar Park, featuring music from, and inspired by,

“Star Wars.” After the concert, cross the road to Coventry P.E.A.C.E. Park and find a spot on the lawn for a special free screening of “Star Wars: The Force Awakens” at 9 p.m.

See stars in the sky, as well as on the screen, as astronomers from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History will be in the park with telescopes for an evening of sky-watching.

After the film, those 21 and older are invited to participate in Bar Wars, a Star Wars-themed bar crawl through Coventry Village. The bar crawl will meet at Panini’s on Coventry Road at 11 p.m., and crawlers in costume will enjoy drink specials and costume contest prizes.

Coventry Village Star Wars Tribute Day is free and open to the public. For more details, visit [www.coventryvillage.org](http://www.coventryvillage.org). May the force be with you!

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

## SHN suggests sustainable activities for August

Laura Marks

The Sustainable Heights Network (SHN) advocates for evidence-based community actions and education that will result in a positive impact on our environment and quality of life. SHN suggests the following sustainable things-to-do for Heights residents, for the month of August:

### Sustainable Transportation:

August’s heat is not kind to marginal automobile batteries, and it’s the month with the second-most battery failures. Have yours checked, along with tire inflation and condition.

School begins late this month. Be alert to changing traffic patterns, including new bike riders en route to and from school.

Parents, this is a good time to walk or bike to school with your child to explain the route and the rules of safe travel.

Errands are more efficient when planned out in advance. Make an effort to consolidate back-to-school shopping trips and other errands. Your trip map should look more like a spiral and less like a daisy.

*Sam Bell chairs SHN’s transportation subcommittee. He can be reached via e-mail at [lustywrench@gmail.com](mailto:lustywrench@gmail.com). The transportation subcommittee is seeking volunteers to help in its work.*

### Environmental Health:

August is National Water Quality Month. Here are some things you

can do to protect Lake Erie’s quality:

- Choose nontoxic and non-antibacterial household soaps and cleaning products.
- Dispose of unwanted or out-of-date medications in a plastic bag and take it to the police department for proper disposal.
- Put only water down storm drains.
- Fix leaks that drop from cars and put liners in driveways to collect oil and other materials.
- Avoid using pesticides or chemical fertilizers on lawns.
- Pick up after pets.
- Minimize impervious surfaces on property, including grass lawns.
- Plan and install a rain garden and rain barrel.
- Plan to plant a tree this fall, and water existing trees.

*Laura Marks co-chairs SHN’s environmental health subcommittee. She can be reached via e-mail at [reforestcity216@gmail.com](mailto:reforestcity216@gmail.com). The environmental health subcommittee is also seeking volunteers.*

For more information about SHN, visit [www.sustainableheightsnetwork.net](http://www.sustainableheightsnetwork.net).

*Laura Marks is founder of ReForest City, whose mission is to plant trees on private property. She is a member of the Sustainable Heights Network steering committee. Her family has lived in Cleveland Heights since 1847.*

## HCC annual tour celebrates ‘All That Jazz’

Pam Wetherill

The year is 1920. World War I has ended, and the Roaring ’20s are ushering in a new Jazz Age. The Cleveland Heights Library has already been around for four years and, in the following year, Cleveland Heights will achieve the status of “city.” Come along with the Heights Community Congress (HCC), and be transported back to this gilded age on HCC’s 39th Annual Heritage Home and Garden Tour: Heights, Homes . . . and All That Jazz!

This year’s preview party and tour pay homage to the spectacular homes and glittering fashions of the Jazz Age. The weekend kicks off with a Jazz Age-themed preview party the evening of Saturday, Sept. 17. Gathering at the home of the Ensemble Theatre (in the former Coventry School building on Washington Boulevard), patrons will board Lolly the Trolley for an early peek at select homes from the tour. Upon their return to Ensemble, they’ll find an array of food, wine and cocktails provided by The Fairmount, as well as jazzy music and—perhaps—a visit from Jay Gatsby himself. This year’s tour honoree, the *Heights Observer*, will be recognized for all it does to support the Heights community.



The home and garden tour will take place on Sunday, Sept. 18, and will feature an array of homes from Fairmount Boulevard to Noble Road.

This year’s tour also honors HCC’s partner, the CH-UH Public Library System, as it celebrates its centennial. Special events and stops along the way will highlight the 100-year history of this invaluable Heights resource.

Tickets for both the preview party and the 39th Annual Heritage Home and Garden Tour go on sale at the end of August. For more information, visit [www.heightscongress.org](http://www.heightscongress.org), or contact HCC at [info@heightscongress.org](mailto:info@heightscongress.org) or 216-321-6775.

*Pam Wetherill is an HCC volunteer. She serves on the Fair Housing Committee, and is a resident of University Heights.*

bought Schubert out and became the sole owner.

When BottleHouse opened, Benchek’s initial idea was to have food trucks come by and sell food to the brewery’s customers, but the City of Cleveland Heights would not allow that.

More recently, Benchek thought he should add some chefs from the area to the brewery’s team. After talking to several, Benchek decided to team up with Mickey Venditti, who operates Zest Cleveland Catering. “He will be here three to four nights a week,” Benchek said. “We are finally bringing the quality of the food we have here up to the quality level of the beer we sell.”

“No one really came here to eat,” Benchek added, “but as the food scene in Cleveland keeps growing, there are just so many amazing food options. We wanted to make some of those options available to our customers.”

Benchek noted that Venditti is a classically trained chef who worked in New Orleans for about six years.

He received his degree from the Culinary Institute of America.

Venditti started at the BottleHouse in July, and every Thursday and Friday night at the brewery will now be Chef’s Kitchen night, presented by Venditti. Tuesday nights will be designated Taco Tuesdays.

In addition to Chef’s Kitchen nights and Taco Tuesdays, Benchek is considering special beer dinners, Oktoberfest dinners and other special food options.

He also plans to work with other chefs, in addition to Venditti. “I want to give chefs the opportunity to bring their creativity into our mix,” Benchek said.

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

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## Nonprofit Coit Road Market supports community's nutrition needs

Joe Jerdonek

The Coit Road Farmers Market—with its mission of providing residents of Cleveland's urban East Side and inner-ring suburbs with access to affordable, locally grown, farm-fresh products—has become increasingly proactive in addressing community needs to improve the health of area residents.

The nonprofit, community-based market's efforts on this front include offering free cooking classes; Produce Perks to double EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) customer buying power; WIC and senior coupons; resident transportation; and collaboration with health care providers through Cuyahoga County's Produce Prescriptions program.

The market also offers a staffed resource center for residents who are working to improve their health through eating more fresh foods.

WIC coupon distributions will take place on Saturdays, Aug. 13 and Sept. 22, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Seasonal vegetarian cooking classes are planned for every Wednesday in August, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children, as well as adults, are invited to participate in these classes.

Other upcoming events are:

- **Saturday, Aug. 6, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Annual Cliff Schultz Corn Roast:** Meat eaters, vegetarians and vegans are invited to enjoy delicious Ohio sweet corn, BBQ, side dishes, and something to drink, for just \$6.



The Coit Road Farmer's Market has provided access to fresh produce for East Side and Heights residents since 1932.

- **Saturday, Sept. 17, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Eat Local Food Show:**

This event will feature cooking demonstrations, hands-on cooking skills sessions, free knife sharpening, food-related art sessions for children and teens, and presentations on gardening techniques from urban farmers and gardeners.

August and September are the peak months for locally grown fruits and vegetables, and the market offers a great selection of produce and other food from local purveyors.

Located for 84 years at the intersection of Coit and Woodworth roads, near East 152nd Street and Noble Road, the market is open on Saturdays, all year, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and open on Wednesdays, June through October, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Operated by volunteers, the Coit Road Farmers Market is supported by customers, farmers, sponsors and fundraising events.

*Joe Jerdonek is president of the board of ECFM (the East Cleveland Farmers Market Preservation Society), the non-profit organization that oversees and funds market operations.*



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## Tri-C honors Tracy Oliver with service award

John Horton

The Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) Foundation Board of Directors has awarded its 2016 Heath Oliver Distinguished Director Award to Tracy Oliver, in recognition of her exemplary service to Tri-C and its students.

Oliver, a Cleveland Heights resident and director of media and local affairs for Dominion East Ohio, joined the board in 2003 and has dedicated herself to making higher education accessible to Greater Cleveland residents.

She has repeatedly championed requests from the foundation and provided opportunities for Tri-C students, particularly through grants awarded from the Dominion Higher Educational Partnership.

"Again and again, Tracy Oliver showed her commitment to the foundation and its mission to make a difference for Tri-C students," said Rick Chiricosta, chair of the

foundation board. "Her commitment to education and scholarships have improved countless lives over the years."



Tracy Oliver

The Heath Oliver Distinguished Director Award was established in memory of longtime foundation board director Heath Oliver, president of Bardons & Oliver and a valuable member of the board from 1988 until his death in 2009.

The Cuyahoga Community College Foundation, chartered in 1973, is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 charitable organization whose mission is to secure funding for scholarships and educational program development and enhancement for Cuyahoga Community College.

*John Horton is media relations manager at Tri-C.*

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# Taking moral inventory



## SENIOR SCENE

Judith Eugene

Retirement is often the time when people look back on their lives and record their personal history, often in the form of a memoir. While these are useful tools for recording the things one has done during a lifetime, they don't often reflect who the person was—his or her character.

Taking stock of one's values and beliefs is an insightful way to define a person and, more importantly, why the person is that way. Writing an ethical will is a great way to do this. An ethical will is not a legal document. It is, instead, an informal document that one writes to bequeath to one's family and friends the principles he or she holds dear.

Many people choose to share an ethical will with family and friends well before they die, as a tool for deeper understanding. Barry K. Baines, author of *Ethical Wills: Putting Your Values on Paper*, defines ethical wills as "a way to share your values, blessings, life's lessons, hopes and dreams for the future, love, and forgiveness with your family, friends, and community."

The Cleveland Heights Senior Activity Center (SAC) will hold an ethical will writing class beginning Sept. 30. This three-session class will teach the meaning of ethical wills, how to write one and what to include. The class is open to Cleveland Heights residents age 60 and older. For more information, call 216-691-7377.

The City of University Heights is offering a lecture that can help seniors take inventory of their current moral and ethical beliefs, as well as guide them in making positive changes, if necessary. Louise Prochaska, chair of the theology and philosophy department at Notre Dame College, will present a talk titled "Moral Character and Conscience, and How to Make a Good Moral Decision" on Aug. 4, 2-3 p.m., at University Heights City Hall.

Prochaska will explain how moral character and integrity are developed, and what defines good and evil actions. She will also explain why people have both virtues and vices, and how a person's actions can affect not only that person, but also his or her family, friends and community.

Basic self-awareness of one's values and beliefs can inspire positive changes in one's character. Prochaska will explain how conscience is developed, and what happens when we choose not to follow it. "Your free choice determines whether or not you listen to your conscience," she said. "We are free to choose, but we are not free from the consequences."

Prochaska's lecture is free and open to all seniors, whether they live in University Heights or not. For more information, call 216-932-7800.

*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](http://www.lovinghandsgroup.com). She can be reached at 216-408-5578 or [judith@lovinghandsgroup.com](mailto:judith@lovinghandsgroup.com). She will teach the SAC ethical will class.*

## UH Senior Citizen Happenings

Senior Citizen Happenings, sponsored by the City of University Heights, are open to all senior citizens. Events take place on Thursdays at 2 p.m. in Council Chambers at University Heights City Hall. To receive the monthly schedule by e-mail, call 216-932-7800, ext. 205, or send an e-mail to [info@universityheights.com](mailto:info@universityheights.com).

**Aug. 4:** Louise Prochaska, theology and philosophy department chair at Notre Dame College, has a specialization in morality. She will probe the essence of conscience and free will while discussing the formation of personal character.

**Aug. 11:** Vincent Guerrieri, a journalist with *The Elyria Chronicle-Telegram* and volunteer at the Baseball Heritage Museum at League Park, will share stories and identify treasured memorabilia that has shaped the history and legends of baseball.

**Aug. 18:** India Pierce Lee, M.S., Cleveland Foundation's program director for Neighborhoods, Hous-

ing, and Community Development, will describe how the foundation collaborates with private banks, community leaders, and anchor institutions, including Case Western Reserve University, the Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals and the City of Cleveland, to rescue and bolster neighborhoods with high unemployment, dilapidated housing and waning hope.

**Aug. 25:** Kathleen Crowther is president of the Cleveland Restoration Society and a member of the Board of Advisors for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She will explain how preservation is a powerful tool for spurring economic growth, promoting health and well-being, and advancing vibrant, sustainable communities.

*[Note: As the University Heights Library prepares for its extensive renovation Senior Happenings has moved to Council Chambers at University Heights City Hall, 2300 Warrensville Center Road.]*

# CH Senior Center News

Amy Jenkins

The Cleveland Heights Senior Activity Center (SAC), located in the CH Community Center at 1 Monticello Blvd., offers a wide variety of programming for Cleveland Heights residents 60 and older.

Did you know that the city offers social work services to its senior residents through the Cleveland Heights Office on Aging? Two part-time social workers are available to answer questions and provide guidance on a wide variety of topics.

In addition, they can connect seniors to services to make life more manageable, including Meals on Wheels for those needing assistance with meal preparation; van transportation for those needing help getting to the doctor; information on senior housing options for those who are ready to downsize and

want to remain in the Heights.

Family and friends of senior residents can also call with questions and concerns.

To contact a social worker, e-mail [jwhite@clvhts.com](mailto:jwhite@clvhts.com) or [lkatz@clvhts.com](mailto:lkatz@clvhts.com), or call 216-691-7377 to make an appointment to meet with one.

The Senior Activity Center is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. A complete schedule of programs is published in the community center's newsletter, which is available at Cleveland Heights City Hall, local libraries, the community center and online at [www.clevelandheights.com](http://www.clevelandheights.com). For more information and to register for any program, call 216-691-7377.

*Amy Jenkins is supervisor at the CH Office on Aging and the Senior Activity Center. She can be reached at 216-691-7379 or by e-mail at [ajenkins@clvhts.com](mailto:ajenkins@clvhts.com).*

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Beaumont senior Kieley joins ocean expedition

Anne Jarrad



Crista Kieley

COURTESY ANNE JARRAD

Crista Kieley, a member of Beaumont School’s class of 2017, will sail aboard Exploration Vessel (E/V) *Nautilus* during its 2016 expedition. As an Honors Research Program student, Kieley will join the Corps of Exploration aboard *Nautilus* in August as they explore the California Margin, a broad area within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) that remains largely unexplored and is crisscrossed by seismically active faults.

Kieley is among 22 students and 17 educators from around the world who were selected by the Ocean Exploration Trust (OET) to participate in the 2016 Nautilus Exploration Program expedition. OET, a non-profit founded by Titanic shipwreck discoverer Robert Ballard in 2008, explores the ocean, seeking out new discoveries in the fields of geology, biology, maritime history, archaeology, physics and chemistry, while pushing the boundaries of STEM education and technological innovation.

“One of the major goals of our Nautilus Exploration Program is to inspire the next generation of explorers in STEM fields,” said Alison Fundis, OET’s vice president

of education, outreach and communications. “We are very excited to provide educators and students with the direct experience of ocean exploration, while allowing them the opportunity to share that experience with their peers around the world.”

Kieley will participate in live audio commentary and question-and-answer sessions through the Nautilus Live website ([www.nautiluslive.org](http://www.nautiluslive.org)) while aboard the ship. Audiences can tune in to the website, Facebook or Instagram at NautilusLive, and Twitter at @EVNautilus to follow the expedition.

*Anne Jarrad is vice president of institutional advancement for Beaumont School.*

Heights High senior Dolman to serve on state teen board

Cathan Bricker

Heights High senior Lexxie Dolman has been invited to join Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine’s Teen Ambassador Board.

Teen Ambassador Board members will advise the attorney general’s office (AGO) on issues relating to teens, and work with their peers to develop solutions to those concerns. Ohio high school students who applied and were selected to join the board will be placed into small groups and advised by an assistant attorney general, according to the AGO.

The students will meet twice a year in Columbus, and will present their work to senior AGO officials at the end of their term.

Dolman said the particular issues she wants to delve into are hate crimes, teen violence and gender equality.

“I have always been interested in the process of how laws are passed,” Dolman said. “I’m excited to have discussions with my peers about conflicts that teens face today, and to come up with resolutions to make life more manageable for the next generation.”

Dolman and her peers will also have the opportunity to attend AGO events around the state, visit the Columbus and regional offices, interact with assistant attorneys general, and meet DeWine and other elected officials.

*Cathan Bricker is the communications administrative assistant for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District.*

Dixon joins AHA Cleveland board of directors

Scott Wortman

Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District Superintendent Talisa Dixon has accepted an invitation to join the local board of directors for the American Heart Association (AHA).

“It is a true honor to join the Board of Directors of the AHA’s Northeast Ohio affiliate,” said Dixon, who began her board service on July 1. “The AHA improves the lives of countless Americans by helping people quit smoking, learn CPR, live healthier and longer by avoiding heart disease and strokes, and so much more.

“At CH-UH, we emphasize community service and we also recognize that health is the cornerstone of successful education, so I cannot think of a more fitting organization with which to be involved.”

This year, through Jump Rope for Heart and Hoops for Heart—youth health initiatives organized and led by district staff, school staff leaders and the AHA—the CH-UH district raised \$22,793.29. Students and staff across 10 schools within the district participated to keep their hearts healthy, and raised funds for heart and stroke research and education.

Valerie Smith, youth market director for AHA in Cleveland, part-

nered with Dixon and school staff leaders to organize a districtwide partnership.

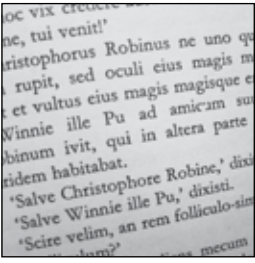
“Her passion for student, staff and community wellness is inspiring, and we are so happy to continue to partner with Dr. Dixon in this new way. Her leadership in the community and understanding of the best ways to make an impact on the health of our youth will be valuable resources as she adds to our board of directors,” said Smith.

The CH-UH district was also recognized by the AHA as a Fit Friendly Worksites for meeting criteria for employee wellness, and received the Gold Achievement recognition for meeting physical activity, nutrition and culture criteria set forth by the AHA.


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

# Observe!

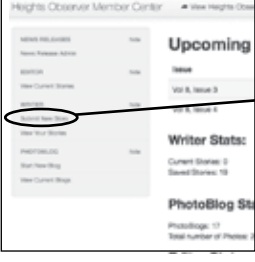
## Submitting an article to the Heights Observer is a piece of cake!




1. The *Heights Observer* is written by people like you. So **write something**. Use a computer.



2. **Register/log in** at the Member Center ([www.heightsobserver.org](http://www.heightsobserver.org)).



3. After logging in, click the **Submit New Story** button in the left-hand column (Don’t see it? It’s nested under “Writer”). Then follow the prompts. Hint: keep your original file open so you can easily copy and paste into the text box.



4. **Reward yourself**; you’re about to be published. We’ll review and edit your article, and let you know if we have any questions.

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

JUNE 21, 2016  
All board members were present.


**Teacher layoffs**  
Six teachers were re-appointed from the reduction in force (RIF) list. There are still 27 on the list.

**Substitutes**  
Council approved an agreement with Renhill Group to provide substitute employees.

**Delisle Options Center roof**  
The board approved replacing the roof of Delisle Options Center.

**Board policy review**  
Paul Lombardo, director of human resources, presented on first reading information from Northeast Ohio Learning Associates (NEOLA), which provides services for developing and updating board policies. The board considered 78 policies that are new, revised or updated. Racial Educational Equity had the most discussion.

**Middle schools plans**  
Director of Career Technical Education Brad Callender, representing the middle school construction committee, spoke about plans to present the committee report to the board and the public. Additional meetings will be planned and allow for public comments.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

LWV Observer: Adele Cohn.

JULY 5, 2016  
Board member Beverly Wright was absent.

**Oxford Elementary School bathroom**  
George Petkac, director of business services, presented what needed to be done to create a bathroom for the preschool at Oxford Elementary School. The bathroom will be located in the classroom and will be ADA compliant. The board approved a contract for the work with Fiorilli Construction. The cost is \$41,800, and includes painting and carpet for the preschool room. The cost is 10 percent higher because asbestos is present.

**Chairlifts for ADA compliance**  
To make all buildings ADA compliant, chairlifts will be installed in Oxford, Roxboro and Noble Elementary schools.

LWV Observer: Adele Cohn.

Look for earlier and often expanded postings of meeting summaries online at [www.heightsobserver.org](http://www.heightsobserver.org). See disclaimer on page 8.

Heights Observer August 1, 2016

14

[www.heightsobserver.org](http://www.heightsobserver.org)



## Coventry Collaborative Garden thrives with support from community partners

Julia Murphy

Over the past few years, neighborhoods both urban and rural have seen a renewed interest in backyard (and front yard) vegetable gardening. As the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library System aims to reflect the interests of its community, gardening has become a standard program.

The Coventry Village Library is home to the Coventry Seed Library, maintained by the Cleveland Seed Bank. The Coventry Village Library also leads gardening programs for adults, with help from local experts.

“Overflowing” is the word that Maggie Kinney, youth services librarian at the Coventry Village Library, used to describe the Coventry Collaborative Garden at mid-summer. The garden occupies a space adjacent to the library, where community members have helped plant carrots, lettuce, basil, peas, parsley, chives, tomatoes, peppers, green beans and marigolds.

“This year, we’ve really had the opportunity to develop the space with permanent structural additions, thanks to a grant we received from the Master Gardeners (MG) of Cuyahoga County,” said Kinney.

Out of 33 applications, both the Coventry Village and Noble Neighborhood libraries received MG grants to support gardening programs. Noble will use grant money to support gardening programs for children and families: buying plants,



At left, volunteer Divina Koonce and her children plant marigolds around the garden to prevent pests. At right, edible flowers were planted in the new raised beds.



enriching soil and purchasing family-friendly tools. Coventry is using its grant to construct a cedar two-bin compost system for garden waste, which will reduce its carbon footprint, provide nutrient-rich soil and serve as an invaluable educational tool.

“The garden is registered as a Cuyahoga County Community Garden through the Ohio State University Extension Program, and many of our programs have been made possible with a grant from Whole Foods,” said Kinney. “We’ve also had a lot of help from our library volunteer, Divina Koonce, who is finishing up her certification to become a master gardener.”

The library has designated gar-

dening days for different age groups: family gardening is on Mondays, teen gardening is on Tuesdays and adults are invited to garden on Thursdays.

Between 2–3 p.m. on these days, visitors can participate in maintaining the garden (weeding, watering and harvesting) and other activities, and learn about caring for a garden.

For adults, the weekly program is primarily hands-on learning; for teens, the program incorporates projects such as making wind chimes and bird feeders; and for families, the garden program offers a fun new adventure each week. So far, families have learned about the water cycle and made rain gauges, studied the color wheel using flowers, and made a “pollinator palace” (a structure made

of odds and ends for insects and small animals) while learning about the role that birds, bats, bees and other insects play in growing food.

All are welcome to visit the Coventry Collaborative Garden during regular library hours.

There are two new benches in the garden, which were gifts given in the name of librarian and longtime library patron Jane C. Butler. One bench features a quote from the Roman philosopher Cicero: “He who has a garden and a library wants for nothing.”

*Julia Murphy is the marketing and volunteer coordinator for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library System.*



University Heights Branch 2017

## University Heights Branch Renovation

Please visit one of our other three branches during the renovation: Coventry Village, Lee Road, and Noble Neighborhood.



### Groundbreaking Ceremony

Sunday, August 28, 3 p.m.

### Last Day Open Before Construction

Sunday, September 4

The University Heights branch is located at 13866 Cedar Road.

More info: [www.heightslibrary.org](http://www.heightslibrary.org)



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Meet & Greet at Firestone Parking Lot:  
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1:30 - 4:30 pm - Sponsored by City of Cleveland Heights

Cleveland Heights Police & Canine Unit  
1:30 - 4:30 pm - Sponsored by City of Cleveland Heights

Super Heroes & Princesses  
Star Wars' White Solider and Elsa - 12:30 - 2:30 pm  
Batman and Cinderella - 2:30 - 4:30 pm  
Sponsored by Edward Jones Investments &  
Abstract Hair Salon

Cleveland Metro Parks Nature Tracks  
Firestone Parking Lot - 12:00 - 5:00 pm

Cleveland Castle Bouncer & Monster House  
Fifth Third Bank Parking Lot - 12:00 - 5:00 pm  
Sponsored by Fifth Third Bank

Cleveland Animal Protective League  
Pet Adoptions - 12:30 - 5:00 pm  
Fifth Third Bank Parking Lot

Cleveland Natural History Museum  
12:00 - 5:00 pm

Akron Zoo Mobile  
Fifth Third Bank Parking Lot - 1:00 - 3:00 pm

KIDS FAIR  
Kid's Fair with Games, Face Painting,  
Hair Coloring, Bubble Machine  
Inside the Cleveland Heights Church  
12:00 - 5:00 pm  
(formerly India Community Center)  
Sponsored by the Cleveland Heights Church

Kids Activities  
Coloring, paper art and more.  
Surry Street - 12:00 - 5:00 pm  
Sponsored by Ten Thousand Villages

Cupcake Decorating by Luna Bakery & Café  
Luna Bakery & Café - 2:00 - 4:30 pm  
\$3.00 or 2 / \$5.00  
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Appletree Books  
Authors and Book Signings & Vintage Visions  
Notecards and Journals  
Sponsored by Appletree Books

American Red Cross Blood Mobile  
Surry Road Lot - 1:00 - 5:00 pm

Lecture at the Alcazar  
The Streetcar City: Then and Now with author,  
Brad Masi - Music Room - 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Blood Pressure Readings  
Surry Road - 12:00 - 5:00 pm  
Sponsored by Cedarwood Skilled Nursing

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINERS  
Eclectic Vision - 1:30 - 4:30 pm  
Musical Mark - 12:30 - 4:30 pm  
Old Boys - 2:00 - 5:00 pm  
The Get Back Duo - 12:30 - 3:30 pm  
Mark Goldstein - Sax and Recorder - 3:00 - 5:00 pm  
Tom Olson - Guitar - 2:00 - 5:00 pm  
Whipple the Balloon Clown - 1:30 - 4:30 pm  
Tiffani, Face Painting Clown - 1:30 - 4:30 pm  
Blazin Bill - 1:00 - 4:00 pm  
Sponsored by Buffalo Wild Wings

FOOD & DRINK  
Restaurant Specials - Crepes, Panini's,  
Gyros, Wraps, Hot Dogs, Pizza, Fruit Kabobs,  
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What's going on at your library?

For a complete schedule of events,  
and to register, visit [www.heights-library.org](http://www.heights-library.org).

**Coventry Village Library**  
1925 Coventry Road, 216-321-3400

Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2-3 p.m.  
*Lake Erie Ink: Zines and Comics.*  
Share your story through the  
creation of comics and zines with  
Lake Erie Ink. Discover the cre-  
ative process behind making your  
own graphic novel. For those in  
grades 6-12. Registration began  
July 2.

**Lee Road Library**  
2345 Lee Road, 216-932-3600

Sunday, Aug. 28, 12:30-5 p.m.  
*Crossword Competition.* Spend an af-  
ternoon solving crossword puzzles  
with friends and neighbors as  
you try your hand at unpublished  
crosswords provided by Will  
Shortz, editor of *The New York*

*Times* crossword.

**Noble Neighborhood Library**  
2800 Noble Road, 216-291-5665

Friday, Aug. 19, 4-5 p.m.  
*Great Lakes Light Opera performance  
of Cinderella.* Great Lakes Light  
Opera will perform its version of  
the classic fairy tale *Cinderella*, for  
families. Registration begins Aug.  
5. This event is part of Heights  
Libraries centennial celebration.

**University Heights Library**  
13866 Cedar Road, 216-321-4700

Friday, Aug. 19, 12:30-1 p.m.  
*Storytime Yoga.* Stretch imagina-  
tions and muscles at this monthly  
drop-in storytime that uses music,  
stories and games to teach yoga  
to children. Meet at Purvis Park  
and bring movement clothes, yoga  
mats or beach towels. For children  
ages 3-6. (Call the library in case  
of rain.)

Cleveland Heights-University Heights  
Public Library Board Meeting highlights

JUNE 20, 2016  
Rick Ortmeyer, board president, and Susan  
Beatty and Chris Mentrek, board members,  
were absent.



**University Heights Library  
renovation groundbreaking**  
The groundbreaking will take place Aug. 28  
at 2 p.m. The branch will close for Labor Day  
on Sept. 5 and will remain closed until the  
renovation is complete. Bookmobile service  
for the community will begin in September.

**Schreckengost loan memorandum**  
The library has had four items on loan for  
the past eight years and wishes to continue  
this connection with the Schreckengost/  
Nowacek families. The display currently in-  
cludes two watercolors, one giclee print and  
one Jazz Bowl. The family intends to rotate  
the works on display and will likely bring in  
new watercolors. The family is pleased to con-  
tinue this agreement and thanks the library for  
perpetuating a presence of Victor Schrecken-  
gost's art in the community, which was the ar-  
tist's home for many decades.

**Dollar General literacy grant**  
The library received a \$2,000 grant from  
Dollar General to support early literacy in the  
summer reading club. The funds will be used  
for incentives such as books and tote bags.

**Mid-year safety and security review**  
Kevin Echols, security supervisor, told the  
board that incident reports averaged less  
than one per day. His staff addressed a re-  
cent spike at Noble Neighborhood Library  
in a number of ways. Two cameras and ad-  
ditional security staff were added. Nancy  
Levin, director; Echols; Constance Dickerson,  
branch manager; and two security staff mem-  
bers met with Noble Elementary School prin-  
cipal Rachael Coleman to discuss incidents  
involving students. Noble Neighborhood Li-  
brary still had less than one incident per day.

**Friends MegaSale**  
The May MegaSale brought in \$8,596.28  
plus 30 new members, for a total of 421 ac-  
tive members. Remaining books were taken  
to Noble Neighborhood Library for a spe-  
cial sale, and June 3 was the next First Friday  
bag sale.

**Public Library Fund (PLF) distribution**  
The May 2016 PLF distribution was 19 per-  
cent lower than the distribution for May 2015.  
Indications are that the State of Ohio's income  
tax revenues have been reduced, and that  
the PLF may decline further. However, the li-  
brary's property tax revenue was \$194,006  
higher than this time last year.

**May public service report highlights:**

- University Heights Library staff walked in  
the city's Memorial Day Parade, and were  
accompanied by the book bike and the li-  
brary van. Staff distributed candy and pro-  
moted the summer reading program.
- For National Preservation Month, Colin  
Compton and Margaret Lann of the Cleve-  
land Restoration Society presented Porches:  
History, Design and Construction.
- A second National Preservation Month  
program was The History of Cleveland  
Heights-University Heights Libraries,  
Schools and Public Buildings. Kara Ham-  
ley O'Donnell, Cleveland Heights city  
planner, Eric Silverman, CH-UH Board of  
Education member, and Amia Wheatley,  
Noble Neighborhood librarian, collabo-  
rated to present this program.
- New library card sign-ups in May totaled  
364.
- Marian Morton, historian, and Bob  
Brown, city planning consultant, presented  
Coventry Village Through the Decades to  
50 attendees of May's Cedar-Coventry  
Author Series program.
- Tamara Murray, library associate, volun-  
teers and students from the Homework Help  
group celebrated its last session. Since the  
program began on Jan. 7, volunteers pro-  
vided 89 hours of homework assistance.

LWV Observer: Anne S. McFarland.

Look for earlier and often expanded  
postings of meeting summaries online  
at [www.heightsobserver.org](http://www.heightsobserver.org).  
See disclaimer on page 8.



# Kathy Ewing writes with understanding and compassion

Robin Koslen



If you've spent time in a Cleveland Heights book group, you know there are many topics that come up. Books inspire thoughts about one's own

life. Of those many topics, a good majority of them are about families: How do you raise thoughtful, caring kids? Are men as unobservant as they sometimes seem? When is a good time to tell a family member that he or she has gone too far? And, of course, which of us was raised in the most dysfunctional family?

Kathy Ewing, a longtime member of a CH neighborhood book group, always had stories to tell that amazed and surprised. She described her dad as a kind, loving and connected—though, imperfect—parent, who became a paraplegic when he was a young father and husband.

Ewing's mom, on the other hand, was rarely kind, loving or connected. Her mom was emotionally distant,

unpredictable and deeply unhappy.

After years and years of book group meetings, Ewing began to mention borderline personality disorder (BPD). It didn't sound too bad; just "borderline," right?

It turns out that BPD is pretty bad—difficult to diagnose, hard to treat, and definitely hurtful and damaging for family members. After extensive research, Ewing began putting those family stories into a heartfelt memoir, which she titled *Missing: Coming to Terms with a Borderline Mother*.

Published last month by Red Giant Books, *Missing* is a mixture of understanding and compassion, careful research and clear, concise prose.

Most impressive, perhaps, is the empathy with which Ewing treats her mother. This is no *Mommie Dearest* memoir. Ewing tries hard to understand her mother's struggles, and she refrains from blaming her mother for her enigmatic, frustrating and inappropriate behavior.

Although the subject is entirely serious, Ewing occasionally infuses her writing with wry and insightful humor. The book is a welcome addition to the very short BPD shelf that currently exists in most

libraries.

As she states in the book's introduction, Ewing hopes "other adult children will find a name for the confusion in which they grew up . . ." Yet, the book is a good read for everyone, not just children of BPD parents.

*Missing: Coming to Terms with a Borderline Mother* is available at local independent bookstores, and can be ordered online.

Robin Koslen is a longtime resident of Cleveland Heights, a friend of the author and a member of the same book discussion group.

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## Judson gallery exhibits work by resident Leonard Trawick

Rob Lucarelli

*Retrospective: View with a Twist*, featuring etchings, watercolors, and acrylics by Judson Park resident Leonard Trawick, will be on view at The Streeter Gallery at Judson Park through Oct. 3.

An Alabama native, Trawick studied literature at the University of Chicago and the University of Dijon in France before receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard University. He taught English at Cleveland State University until he retired in 1998.

Throughout his life, painting and drawing have been serious avocations, and he continues his work with help from the art faculty at Cleveland State University.

His prints and watercolors have been shown in various galleries.

Through his work, Trawick tries to include a subjective element and portray an emotional impact, and his prints often contain fanciful or humorous ideas.

The Streeter Gallery is located



Leonard Trawick with one of his prints.

within the Judson Park retirement community, 1801 Chestnut Hills Drive in Cleveland Heights. The gallery is open to the public daily, 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. Admission is free.

Rob Lucarelli is director of communications for Judson Services.

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# Young CH singer takes inspiration from the past

James Henke

Alyssa Boyd began singing when she was about 6 years old. Now she's 24, and singing is the focus of her life. She regularly performs with Seth Boyle, an acoustic guitar player, and with a local band called the Rifferees that performs jazz and big-band classics.

"I grew up with a lot of music," Boyd said. "My grandmother played piano, and my dad loved soul music, rock and roll and the blues. But no one in my family ever pursued music as a career."

Boyd was born in the Philadelphia area. When she was a sophomore in high school, her family moved to Cleveland Heights. She

attended Heights High, graduating in 2011. She gives the school a lot of credit for developing her singing skills. "The Vocal Music Department at Heights High really changed my life," she said. "I was given opportunities to do solos. I got into the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Chorus, and I got to sing at Severance Hall. I also took vocal lessons at Heights High, and my vocal coach really helped me understand music theory."

Boyd also was a member of the Heights Honors Ensemble choir, and the All-State Choir. While she was in high school, she also appeared on WJW TV, singing with the high school choir, and she sang a solo, accompanied by a harpist, during her

high school graduation.

After high school, Boyd attended Cuyahoga Community College for two years, majoring in liberal arts, but she did not graduate. "School was always something I thought I should do," she said, "but it became clear to me that what I wanted to do in my life was music."

Much of Boyd's repertoire is devoted to the songs of singers such as Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday—unusual, perhaps, for a musician of Boyd's age. Boyd, once again, gives credit to her teachers at Heights High for informing her about these artists. "It was through school that I learned about Billie Holiday," she said. "We watched a documentary, and I was intrigued by her life."

Boyd also likes many contemporary artists. At a June show at Quintana's Speakeasy, she sang two songs by Amy Winehouse and one by Stevie Wonder. Other contemporary artists she admires include Lianne La Havas, Kat Edmonson, Erykah Badu and Esperanza Spalding. "I really resonate with female vocalists," she said.

A CD that Boyd recently sang on, by a local band called Wasted in the Basement, is due out later this month. She has not yet recorded her own CD, but said, "That's my real hope. I would love to record a CD



Alyssa Boyd singing at Quintana's Speakeasy.

of my own."

Meanwhile, Boyd, who still lives in Cleveland Heights, frequently plays shows around the Cleveland area.

*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. He is on the board of FutureHeights, and is co-chair of the Heights Observer Advisory Committee.*

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## WRC announces its 25th season

David Gilson

The upcoming 2016–17 season of the Western Reserve Chorale (WRC) marks its 25th year as a community chorus. The ensemble, with a roster of nearly 100 singers, welcomes all Greater Cleveland residents to celebrate with them during this anniversary season.

WRC will present three separate concerts during the upcoming season.

Its traditional holiday concert, to be held at Disciples Christian Church in Cleveland Heights on Dec. 4, will be performed in honor of John Roberts, founding conductor of WRC who passed away this past spring. WRC hopes all who may have sung with the ensemble, at any time in its history, will attend the performance and after-concert reception. The program will include *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* by Vaughan Williams, and two collections of seasonal settings: the first by Jackson Berkey (arranger for Mannheim Steamroller), and the second, three spirituals by William Dawson. Additional music by Palestrina, Bach, Verdi and Rutter, and two newer works by Norwegian composer Kim André Aarsen, will round out the programming.

In March 2017, WRC plans two presentations of this double billing: Haydn's *Mass in Time of War* (1796) and Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living* (2013). It will perform these two larger-scale works with soloists and orchestra.

*Isn't it Romantic* will close out the 25th-year celebration. This June 4 concert will share the love of singing, as WRC explores choral works with themes of love and romance. In particular, the ensemble will feature the work of Romantic-period composers Johannes Brahms's *Vier Gesänge*, Op. 17, for women's chorus, two horns and harp; and Franz Schubert's *Ständchen*, for men's chorus and mezzo-soprano solo. In addition, WRC will perform Eric Whitacre's *Three Flower Songs*, which are delightful settings of poetry by Emily Dickinson, Federico García Lorca and Edmund Waller.

WRC welcomes any singers who are interested in the art of ensemble singing. WRC members perform a broad range of choral music, from acapella to full orchestral accompaniment; early motets to music written in the past few years, both sacred and secular. Rehearsals begin on Sept. 6, and will be held every Tuesday evening, 7:15–9:30 p.m., at Disciples Christian Church on Mayfield Road in Cleveland Heights (across from Severance Town Center).

For more information, visit [www.westernreservechorale.org](http://www.westernreservechorale.org) or contact Joanne Poderis, WRC's executive director, at 216-791-0061 or [jpoderis@msn.com](mailto:jpoderis@msn.com).

*David Gilson, artistic director of the Western Reserve Chorale, resides in Cleveland Heights with his wife, Suzanne, and twin daughters, Hannah and Sophie.*



# Major league folk music at Nighttown in August



## SONGS AND STORIES

David Budin

Legendary folksinger and activist Peter Yarrow, of Peter, Paul and Mary, will open for my group Long Road at Nighttown this month.

Well, he's not actually opening for us; but he's playing before us. Okay—one night before us. In other words, he's playing at Nighttown on Wednesday, Aug. 10; then we're playing at Nighttown on Thursday, Aug. 11. So it's sort of like a mini folk festival. At a well-known jazz club.

Peter Yarrow formed the trio Peter, Paul and Mary (PPM), along with Noel Paul Stookey and Mary Travers, in the early 1960s. The group found immediate success, with its first album selling more than 2 million copies. PPM helped put the not-well-known singer-songwriter Bob Dylan on the musical map when it scored a million-selling hit single of his song "Blowing in the Wind." The group earned another big hit single, early in its career, with the Pete Seeger song "If I Had a Hammer."

PPM toured and recorded for decades with tremendous success. They also became well known, as a group and individually, for their social and political activism. They marched



Long Road performing at Nighttown.

with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in Selma, Ala., and they appeared at the 1963 March on Washington, where they sang "Blowing in the Wind" prior to King's *I Have a Dream* speech. The three appeared at countless events, marches and protests concerning peace, equality, anti-war, civil rights, anti-nukes and other issues.

Yarrow founded the national organization Operation Respect, an effort to combat bullying among children, in 2000. Always wanting to help and encourage young artists, he also initiated the New Folks Concert series at both the Newport Folk Festival and the Kerrville Folk Festival.

As part of PPM and on his own, Yarrow has won or been nominated for Grammy and Emmy awards, as well as humanitarian ones. He also wrote some of PPM's most popular songs, including "Puff, the Magic Dragon," "Light One Candle" and

"The Great Mandala." And he wrote and produced Mary McGregor's number-one hit pop/country record "Torn Between Two Lovers."

One time, in 2008, I had the great fortune to play alongside Peter Yarrow, onstage at the Beachland Ballroom—with several other local musicians, including folk musicians Noah Budin, Chuck Fink and Kevin T. Richards, reggae artist Carlos Jones, and instrumentalists including Norman Tischler and David Krauss. It was a thrill to be able to play with Yarrow, and it also provided me a unique vantage point: I was able to watch the audience as he sang and told his stories. I could see them laugh and cry. It was a moving experience. Yarrow is someone who has inspired me in my career and has influenced me in my performing with Long Road.

Long Road's six members have a combined total of more than 200

years of professional musical experience (though no individual member has been playing that long). The group plays songs from every era and of many genres—including some actual folk music, plus vintage and contemporary country, bluegrass, early rock, psychedelic rock, vintage jazz, contemporary singer-songwriter, and originals—but we make everything sound like '60s folk music.

All of our songs go through the Long Road "filter" and come out sounding like what you might have heard in a late-'60s folk club or concert hall. Our six members play intricate arrangements on various combinations of 18 instruments, with unusual vocal harmonies sung by three, four, five or six of us at various times. And there is humor and history between all the songs.

This is just my opinion, but I think you should come to one of these shows. Wait—I just got a better idea: Come to both of them.

Nighttown is located at 12387 Cedar Road, just east of the top of Cedar Hill, in Cleveland Heights. For more information, visit [www.nighttowncleveland.com](http://www.nighttowncleveland.com). For reservations to either of these shows, call 216-795-0550.

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



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# Pavilion offers furniture and more in Cedar Fairmount

James Henke

Pavilion Home & Floral, a home furnishings and interior design store, has relocated to Cleveland Heights. It originally opened on Larchmere Boulevard in December 2015, and moved to 12433 Cedar Road, in the Cedar Fairmount Business District, in July.

“We simply needed more space, and we wanted to expand our product offerings,” said Michele Ross, one of the store’s owners.

Leslie Marceau, the store’s other owner, said that she and Ross thought the Cedar Fairmount space would be a good fit, and enable them to grow their business.

Marceau, who grew up near Toronto, has lived in Cleveland Heights for the past four years. Ross was born in Elyria and now lives in Weymouth, near Medina.

Pavilion offers furniture; custom-upholstery items; lighting; art, featuring work by local artists; and home accessories, including candles, rugs, table tops, bedding and custom pillows. Pavilion also sells fresh flowers and faux flowers.



Michele Ross and Leslie Marceau, the owners of Pavilion Home & Floral.

Pavilion also carries vintage items and antiques, dating back to the 1800s. Among the items available at the store at press time were a Chinese cabinet from the 1800s and a French cabinet from the 1890s.

“We have a mixture of new furnishings and antique pieces,” Marceau said. “And we source out items from all over the country.”

“We believe that the best interiors have a mix of old and new pieces. Think of it as a balancing act. The

goal is to create an environment that bridges the past and the present.”

Pavilion offers a full range of interior-design services to anyone looking to have the inside of their home re-designed.

Both Ross and Marceau are delighted about relocating to Cleveland Heights. “There’s a great mix of businesses in Cedar Fairmount, and we are close to all of the Heights residents, as well as the people in University Circle,” Ross said.

The two women met a few years ago, when they were both working for Paysage, the home furnishings store formerly located in the Fairmount Taylor Business District. Paysage closed its Cleveland Heights store last October and relocated to Rocky River.

“We felt the need to keep this kind of business on the East Side,” Ross said. “So that’s why we opened Pavilion.”

“Once Paysage left, it just left a void,” Marceau added. “There were no higher-end interior design boutiques on the East Side.”

Pavilion (216-795-5488) is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., or by appointment. For more information, visit [www.pavilioncle.com](http://www.pavilioncle.com).

*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. He is on the board of FutureHeights, and is co-chair of the Heights Observer Advisory Committee.*

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Case Western Reserve University  
Cincinnati State Technical & Community College  
Clark Atlanta University  
Cleveland State University  
College of Wooster  
Columbia College of Chicago  
Cornell University  
Culver-Stockton College  
Cuyahoga Community College  
Denison University  
DePaul University  
Eastern Michigan University  
Emory University  
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# The Fairmount expands and adds special event space



A wedding reception in The Fairmount's new indoor patio/atrium space.

James Henke

The Fairmount, the restaurant and bar located near the intersection of Cedar Road and Fairmount Boulevard in Cleveland Heights, completed a major expansion and renovation at the end of June.

It has moved into space in the

Heights Medical Building that had been occupied by Luna Bakery & Café's cake-decorating operation (before Luna expanded into part of the Subway space, when that business downsized). The new space is adjacent to The Fairmount's original space, and the restaurant will primarily use it for private parties, wine

tastings and other special events. It features a full bar and table seating, with space for about 40 people.

The Fairmount has also taken over what was essentially an interior lobby for the building, transforming the dated and underutilized area into an innovative indoor patio/atrium that seats about 25.

The original restaurant space seats about 75 people inside and 65 on the back patio. The renovations expand The Fairmount's full capacity to accommodate about 200.

Jake Orosz, who has owned The Fairmount since November 2011, said he decided to expand because business has been going very well, and he knew there would be a need for more space.

"I like the idea of having separate, smaller spaces," he said. "It comes down to modularity. We can use the main restaurant solely if business is lighter. Then, at busier times, we can utilize the additional spaces and increase our capacity. So, essentially, we can open spaces as necessary, and we can use them in any combination that we want."

Orosz, 28, said that the expansions occurred sooner than he had anticipated, "But the space became available, and I thought it would be good to jump on these opportunities." The first event in the new private-party space was a wedding reception for about 80 guests in late June.

Orosz said he is planning additional changes and enhancements to The Fairmount, which he hopes to complete "in the next two years or so."

Inside the original restaurant space, he is looking to add wooden chandeliers and new curtains to cover the windows that face onto Fairmount Boulevard. He'd like to make changes to the storefront, and add more air-cleaning plants in vintage wine crates inside the restaurant. He also wants to install a fire pit in the outdoor patio. And, he plans on displaying old blueprints of the building, which he recently found in the basement.

*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. He is on the board of FutureHeights, and is co-chair of the Heights Observer Advisory Committee.*



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## BP names Motorcars Honda world's first carbon-neutral auto dealership



Chris Ronayne, president of University Circle Inc., and Jonathan Lee, general management executive at BP, present the Carbon Neutral Award to Trevor Gile, general manager of Motorcars Honda, Chuck Gile, owner of Motorcars, and Matt Gile, general manager of Motorcars Toyota.

Lori Goldberg

On July 13, BP presented Motorcars Honda of Cleveland Heights with its Carbon Neutral Award, making it the first automotive dealership in the world to achieve this distinction. BP created the award as part of its Target Neutral program, and bestowed the award as part of University Circle's Wade Oval Wednesdays celebration.

BP Target Neutral is an independently advised nonprofit program that aims to reduce the carbon footprints of both businesses and individuals. Motorcars Honda gained the program's attention after achieving the title of eighth-greenest dealership in the U.S.

Motorcars Honda has implemented many energy-saving technologies, such as LG VRF systems heating/cooling system, LED lighting fixtures and, most notably, solar panels.

"We are eliminating the carbon footprint for every new and used cars

sold, all of our employees' cars, parts truck, rental cars, shuttle vans, and owners' personal travel tied to work," said Trevor Gile, managing partner at Motorcars Honda.

"Five years ago," he noted, "we never thought that we would be going down this path. But as our employees became more involved and concerned with the environment, we started to learn about some of the various options available to help."

Founded in 1971, Motorcars Honda has received many awards, including Honda's Environmental Leadership Platinum award, Green Energy of Ohio's 2015 Ohio Business of the Year, and DealerRater's 2016 Dealer of the Year for Ohio.

*Lori Goldberg is an intern at the Heights Observer. Though a recent graduate of Shaker Heights High School, Cleveland Heights is like a second home to her. She hopes to continue writing, professionally or not, for the rest of her life.*



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Blueprint Boutique opens on Coventry

James Henke

A new clothing store has opened in Coventry Village. Called Blueprint Boutique, the store opened on July 2 in the space previously occupied by Heart and Sole, at 1781 Coventry Road.

The new store sells the same brands of sneakers that Heart and Sole used to sell, along with hard-to-find brands of clothing, most of which are otherwise available only at retail stores in New York City.

"We carry a wide variety of street-wear brands, and we also have vintage clothing from the 1990s, like old T-shirts," said Anthony Ho, owner of the boutique. Among the brands that his store carries are Supreme, a specialized street-wear brand, and Bathing Ape, a New York City label.

"The younger people around here are more the kinds of kids I want to cater to," Ho said. "The clothing I carry is the kind that many young people like, but they have to buy it on eBay or at a store in New York. It's not stuff you can get anywhere else in Cleveland."

Prior to opening Blueprint Boutique, Ho owned two other stores in the Cleveland area. He opened his first store, United Sneakers, on Madison Avenue in Lakewood in 2013, and owned it for about a year before he sold it to Joe Haden of the Cleveland Browns. He then partnered with Haden to open Restock, a clothing and sneaker store on Prospect Avenue near the Quicken Loans Arena. "When my contract with that store expired, I decided it was time to open this store," Ho said.

Vince Manzano, who owned Heart and Sole, said he was looking for something different to do. "I was here for eight and a half years, and I had become interested in other things," he said. When Ho contacted him, Manzano agreed to sell the store. The sale took place in early June.

Ho said business so far has been better than he expected. "When we had our grand-opening day on July 2, there was a line of about 40 to 50 people waiting



Anthony Ho in his new store.

for the store to open," Ho said. Almost everyone who came in on opening day bought something, and Ho estimates he had \$8,000 in sales on the store's first day.

Ho, 28, was born in New York City. His parents moved to the Cleveland area when he was 5, and he grew up in Parma Heights. He attended Valley Forge High School, Cuyahoga Community College and Cleveland State University, though he did not graduate from either college. He currently lives in Cleveland's Asia Town.

Ho said he is a big fan of the rapper Jay-Z, and named the store after Jay-Z's 2001 album, *The Blueprint*. He said of Cleveland Heights, "I like this neighborhood, and I really like the people. I've enjoyed every minute that I have been here!"

Blueprint Boutique is open seven days a week. It opens at noon each day, and is open until 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and until 6 p.m. on Sunday and Monday.

*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. He is on the board of FutureHeights, and is co-chair of the Heights Observer Advisory Committee.*



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# R's Kitchen shares unique relationship with neighboring M.T. Glass

James Henke

R's Kitchen, a new restaurant, is slated to open on Aug. 2 at 13441 Cedar Road, next door to the M.T. Glass bar in the Cedar Taylor Business District. While the new restaurant and neighboring bar have different owners, the two businesses already share a close relationship.

M.T. Glass provides drinks for all of the diners at R's Kitchen, and the restaurant provides food for the bar's patrons.

"We have a management agreement with M.T. Glass," said Arlyn Samuels, the owner of R's Kitchen. "We have a shared space, and we serve each other's patrons."

In fact, when R's Kitchen first started serving food, on June 10, all of its seats were located next door, in M.T. Glass.

Previously, M.T. Glass had a similar relationship with Seafood Place, formerly located in the R's Kitchen space. When the owners of Seafood Place moved that business to Lee Road (next to The Rib Cage, which they also own), Roy Juresko, the owner of M.T. Glass, wanted to find a new restaurant with which to partner.

Samuels' husband, Tom Burrows, has been a regular at M.T. Glass for many years, and Juresko knew that Burrows' wife was in the food business. As a result, they worked out a deal for Samuels to open her



Arlyn Samuels, owner of the new R's Kitchen restaurant.

own restaurant. (Juresko rents the space where R's Kitchen is located from the building's owner.)

A Cleveland Heights resident, Samuels, 56, grew up here. After graduating from Heights High in 1978, she attended both Ohio University and Cleveland State University. She worked in industrial sales for about 20 years before she got into the cooking business.

That said, Samuels has loved

cooking since she was 11. "When I was in school, I would call my mom when I got home, and she would tell me what to make for dinner," Samuels recalled.

In the late 1990s, she decided to make cooking her career. She started working at O'Rielly's Pub in University Heights. A couple of years later, she decided to attend culinary school at Cuyahoga Community College, where she earned a degree

in hospitality management in 2009. She then worked at the Sans Souci restaurant in Cleveland's Renaissance Hotel until last November, when she decided she wanted to open her own restaurant.

Asked how she came up with the name for her new restaurant, Samuels explained, "Because my name is Arlyn, a lot of my friends call me 'R,' and then since Roy's name begins with an 'R,' I thought it would make sense to call it R's Kitchen."

R's Kitchen offers an eclectic menu. Starters include calamari, egg rolls and poppers—jalapeño peppers stuffed with house-made pimento cheese. Several homemade soups are available daily, as well as chili and salads. Also on the menu are a variety of sandwiches and burgers, and entrees such as chicken piccata, braised-beef short ribs, and fish and chips.

"I try to keep everything fresh and local when possible," Samuels said. "I also like to offer vegetarian options, and we change our egg rolls every day."

R's Kitchen (216-406-2715) is open Tuesday through Saturday, 3-11 p.m..

*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. He is on the board of FutureHeights, and is co-chair of the Heights Observer Advisory Committee.*

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