New Planning Director
at July 8 CNI meeting

Mark Majewski, recently-appointed
Cleveland Heights Planning Director,
will meet with Coventry Neighbors, Inc.,
on July 8, 7:30 PM, at Coventry Village
Library, 1925 Coventry Road.

He will display and discuss a set
of very tentative plans for added park-
ing in Coventry's commercial district.
Majewski will also be available to
answer questions about any aspect city
planning in our community.

The recent Coventry Village Street
Fair will be discussed.

Our meetings are open to anyone who
wishes to attend, but only dues-paid
members may vote.

No CVN in August

The Coventry Village News will not
be published in August. Omission of the
August edition is traditional.

Constitutional Review

Each five years, according to the
by-laws of Coventry Neighbors, Inc., the
organization must review its constitu-
tion, and make changes if necessary. A
committee to perform that review will be
selected at the meeting of July 8.

CNI seeks volunteers
for Heritage Tour

Coventry Neighbors, Inc., is join-
ing other neighborhood groups in Cleve-
land Heights in providing volunteer
workers for the Heights Heritage Tour,
planned for September 27 and 28.

If you can help, please call CNI at
371-6095, or the Heights Community Con-
gress at 321-6775.

City parking plans
begin taking form;
some relief already

As many twenty-four off-street
parking spaces could be added to the
City lot next south from Coventry
Beverage and Pizzas (1815 Coventry Road),
just by reorganizing the place. Another
eighty spaces could be added by raising
three houses behind Pick-n-Pay, on the
south portion Rock Court, and paving the
area.

A very preliminary plan of these
parking improvements will be displayed
and discussed at the July 8 meeting of
Coventry Neighbors, Inc. All interested
residents and merchants will have an
opportunity to make suggestions. The
meeting will be held at Coventry Village
Library, 1925 Coventry Road, beginning
at 7:30 PM.

The parking plan will likely be
broken down into several phases. A first
phase, which might be done as early as
this summer, could provide a temporary,
graveled surface on some of the flat,
now-unused land behind Pick-n-Pay.
Permanent improvements, like the removal
of the houses from Rock Court and paving
there, will have to wait until next
summer.

City staff has not yet offered cost
estimates, and financing remains uncer-
tain. Merchants and landlords have
expressed tentative willingness to pay
at least some of the costs, probably
through a real property assessment pro-
cess. Owners of commercial buildings in
Coventry's business district now pay a
total of about $122,200 in real property

[Continued on page 4]
Two cheers for C.H.,  
and boo for the *Press*;  
or, A matter of inches  

*a CVN editorial*

The most troublesome department of our municipal government has just been re-organized. Bob Wilkinson, who brought reason and common sense to the housing inspection programs, has been appointed to head the new Division of Housing and Building.

In his new role, Wilkinson controls what was the Division of Building. That Division, under previous administrations, was a profound impediment to the economic development of this community. It had richly earned a reputation for foolish and destructive nit-picking.

Its routine performance even more outrageous than that of the *Sun Press*, which has recently attacked the City Cleveland Heights for having installed doors on a new jail which are one inch too narrow. A *Sun Press* lead editorial called the one inch deficit "bad planning." The story was on page 1, *twice*.

The old Division of Building regularly burned investors in our town for similar nonsense.

It does no good to have a respected newspaper encourage just this sort of untoward concern for inches.

Especially when the City is trying to mend its ways.

**Interracial living is**  
photo contest theme

The Heights Interfaith Council will sponsor a photo contest on the theme of interracial living. The purpose of the contest is to recognize and display visual images of the racial diversity of our community.

Competition will be divided into categories including children, youth, professional, and amateur. The deadline is October 15. Application forms are available at any area church, synagogue, library, or city hall.
Tom Paxton headlines
Cain Park Arts Fest

Tom Paxton, a folk music performer and song writer national prominence, will perform at Cain Park Amphitheatre on July 12 at 8:00 PM.

Paxton's appearance is part of the ninth annual Cain Park Arts Festival. More than one hundred national and local artists will set up booths along the walk through the park.

The festival runs from noon to 9:00 PM on Saturday July 12, and from noon to 8:00 PM on Sunday July 13.

Selected Cleveland Heights restaurants will operate food concessions.

Also performing this weekend will be Sam Finger's Dixieland Band, Seona McDowell, Trevor Guy Band, Reggie Pittman Latin Band, and Howie Smith and Band.

No tickets or reservations are necessary.

"Birdhouse Park" is rejected by HUD

The City of Cleveland Heights had planned to spend between $19,000 and $20,000 rebuilding a small park in front of the Baskin-Robbins store at 2476 Fairmount Boulevard, at Cedar Road.

James Black, a Program Specialist at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), has informed the City of Cleveland Heights that the project cannot be built with funds from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Mr. Black's responsibilities include monitoring the the HUD-funded CDBG program in Cleveland Heights.

The City is expected to take formal steps to withdraw the "Birdhouse Park" proposal in a few weeks, when Mr. Black's determination that it is not eligible for CDBG funding is formally communicated to the City in writing.

Mr. Black's action occurred at about the same time that Coventry Neighbors, Inc., wrote to him, expressing the organization's belief that the project was ineligible for CDBG funding. Such funds are to be spent, according to federal regulations, only in areas that are "slum and blighted."

The site of Birdhouse Park is already a pleasant small park, with benches, trees and a flower bed. It is located in front of one of the most elegant antique shops in town. The Cedar-Fairmount business district, in which it is located, has far fewer urban problems than most older business districts in Cleveland Heights. The area has already received about a half million dollars in CDBG funds. Most of that money went to a parking deck, with space for nearly one hundred cars.

—Charles J. Owen

We need art to fill spaces like this. If you can help, call 871-6095.
Thanks
PARKING . . . continued from page 1

taxes each year. Financing a $100,000
parking project would add perhaps 10% to
that tax bill.

Additional funds will be sought
through the City’s Community Develop-
ment Block Grant program, and from other
sources.

The construction of a large parking
deck—containing perhaps several hundred
spaces—remains at least a few years in
the future. Spaces in surface lots can
be constructed for an average cost of
$3,000 to $5,000; spaces in a parking
deck are expected to cost at least
twice as that.

Some changes in the rules governing
parking have already added a bit to the
supply of parking spaces here. Some "no
parking" signs have been removed from
Lancashire Road, and nine parking meters
have been installed there. Some spaces
once reserved for permit-holders have
been converted to metered spaces in the
municipal lot across from Turkey Ridge
Tavern. To the west along Euclid Heights
Boulevard, near Kenilworth Road,
regulatory changes have eased the park-
ing problems of residents.

Coventry Merchants Association
(CMA) continues in the meantime to en-
courage merchants and their employees to
park outside the area, leaving the more
convenient spaces available for cus-
tomers.

Tommy Fello, proprietor of Tommy’s
Restaurant, estimates that nearly one-
third of the parking spaces in the
business district are now routinely
filled by merchants and their employees.
Merchants and employees who insist on
parking in the most convenient spaces,
closest to their stores, could provide a
large part of the solution to the park-
ing problem simply by parking farther
out, and walking for a few minutes.

Preliminary results of a parking
study being conducted by CMA indicates
that the demand for parking in Coven-

try’s business district has increased
sharply in the last three years. The
increase is attributable to longer hours
for Pick-n-Pay, the change in format at
Coventry Cinema, opening of the Bistrot
des Artistes, and general increase in
the level of economic activity in Covery-
try Village.

Construction of a new restaurant in
the lower level of Coventryyard began
recently. Yet another new restaurant, in
the former book store space at 1824
Coventry Road, has received zoning
approval, and will probably be open next
spring. The former site of Faces Restau-
rant will also likely be open again for
business by then.

These changes imply a significant
worsening of the already-desperate park-
ing situation.

—Larry Beam

Library goes—on

Hurrah for the U.S.A., this sum-
mer’s reading program is off to a great
start. The grand opening, held on Satur-
day June 14, included film strips,
crafts, and an American sing-along with
Julie Alandt. Joy the Clown was special
guest.

There is still time for school-age
children to join the program, which
continues until August 15.

Family storytime will be held on
July 24 at 7:00 PM. Bring the whole
family for an evening of storytelling.

The Saturday Afternoon Special Film
Program will be held on each Saturday in
July at 1:30 PM.

Preschool Storytime meets on Tues-
days at 7:00 PM and on Wednesdays at
10:30 AM. Registration is required.

Regular hours at the Coventry Vil-
lage Library are Mondays, Tuesdays, and
Thursdays, noon to 8:30 PM; Wednesdays
and Saturdays, 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM; Sun-
days, 1:00 to 5:00 PM. The Library is
closed on Mondays.

LIBRARIES:
Learning for Life
Around Coventry

SIDEWALK CAFE . . . There will soon be a sidewalk cafe in front of Coventry Yard. Arabica, and probably other tenants of Coventry Yard, will be allowed to put tables on the concrete oval in front of the building. Only details of the project remain to be worked out, according to City officials.

PRIME RIBS . . . Work began in mid-June for a new restaurant on the lower level of Coventry Yard. Opening is expected in September. The restaurant will specialize in prime beef ribs. There will be a bar, and a dance floor. A zoning variance, allowing 162 seats, was approved last August. The business was presented as an Italian restaurant at that time.

A liquor license was transferred to the site under the name Red Suspenders. More recently, a source says the place will be called The Rib Works in Coventry Yard.

BEADS MOVE . . . Marcia Polevoi, proprietor of High Tides/Rock Bottom, the gift shop at 1814 Coventry Road, has sold the bead department of her shop to Bobbie Littell, who managed it for years.

Ms. Littell, a former editor of this newsletter, has opened her own shop in the basement of the Murray Hill Gallery, once an elementary school on Murray Hill Road in Little Italy. The shop is open noon to six, except on Sunday. In addition to beads and supplies, Ms. Littell offers classes in jewelry design.

BEACHWOOD BUST . . . Beachwood Place has been a much less prosperous place to do business than Coventry Road for several merchants. Recently, Marcia Polevoi rented a small stand in a public area there.

Mrs. Polevoi's husband Joe, who retired recently from a job as a graphic arts honcho with Ohio Bell, sold kaleidoscopes from that stand. He was able to sell just enough to pay the rent for the few days that the venture lasted. That left nothing for wages or other costs.

"People just walk around; they don't spend," Marcia says. "I don't see how retailers there make it. My Coventry shop is always busier than any shop I saw there—and the rent is much lower." She also reports a problem with young folk at Beachwood Place that rivals that here in Coventry Village. "There are fewer young people there, and they're more contained, because security is better," Marcia says, "but they make just as much noise, and cause as much disruption, especially at midday."

BIKERS . . . We counted twenty-seven motorcycles parked in front of the Saloon (1765 Coventry) on the evening of June 21. The scene resembled something from the 1960's.

But much was different: the cars parked in front included a Corvette, a Bricklin, and two Mercedes. The bar was packed with bikers—but the mood of the place was far more friendly and cheerful than most gatherings of, say, local politicians. No roughness, and no colors, were visible—a big change from the 1960's.

The evening was a one-time thing, an effort to raise money for Scott Sawyer, a biker who lost a leg in a collision with an automobile. Many area bars, restaurants, and retailers contributed. More than $3,000 was raised.

STREET FAIR . . . Thanks to all who worked so hard to make the thirteenth annual Coventry Street Fair run smoothly on the week end of June 28 and 29.

Now, while memory of this year's Fair is fresh, is the time to start thinking about next year.

If you have any thoughts about the event, please call us at 371-6095, and share your views and suggestions. —Ed.
COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. General Meeting, Tuesday, July 8, 7:30 PM in the Community Room of the Coventry Village Library. The public is invited.

COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. Trustees Meeting, Thursday, August 7, 8:00 PM at 2929 Washington Boulevard. Committee Chairpersons are asked to attend. The Trustees meeting is open to all dues-paid members of CNI.

NOW is the time to join COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. Membership includes a subscription to the Coventry Village News. All memberships expire on December 31 of each year. The form below may be used for renewals.

Please check one of the following:
Class of membership: ______Individual ($5.00) ______Family ($7.00) ______Senior ($3.00)
______Just a subscription to the Coventry Village News—no membership.
($5 for 11 months; the CVN is not published in August.)

I'd like to make an additional tax-free donation of ___________________.

NAME:____________________________________________________ PHONE:_____________________

ADDRESS:_________________________________________________________________________ ZIP:________________________

I am now receiving the Coventry Village News by mail: YES_____ NO_____

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