



Have You Heard...

EAST CLEVELAND IS MOVING CLOSER TO ANNEXATION

from Brenda Cain – The Plain Dealer

The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections verified on July 17th that petitions submitted by East Cleveland Mayor Gary Norton contained enough valid signatures for the impoverished suburb to proceed with a proposal to be annexed by the City of Cleveland.



In a news release, the elections board reported that East Cleveland had exceeded the requirement of collecting at least 559 valid signatures from registered voters who cast ballots in the November 2013 general election. Of the 1,613 signatures submitted, 827 of the signatures (51 percent) were certified as valid.

Both East Cleveland and Cleveland now have 30 days to each appoint three commissioners to negotiate the terms of any annexation. The commissioners will have 120 days to come to an agreement. Only four of the six must agree in order to proceed. If at least four commissioners agree on terms, both cities will have another 30 days to certify the issue to the Board of Elections. If the elections board receives the issue by December 16, 2015, voters in East Cleveland would consider an annexation issue on the March 15, 2016 primary ballot.

If East Cleveland voters approve the proposal, Cleveland City Council members would either vote to adopt the terms or send the issue to the ballot in their city.

Tender Loving Care Award Winner

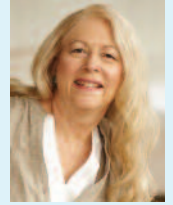
by Jeff Dross

Each year the city of Cleveland Heights presents Community Improvement and Tender Loving Care awards to homeowners who go above and beyond in the care of their home. This year the Greg Videtic and Chris McCann home on Oakhill Road was given a Tender Loving Care Award. Property owners were assembled in the City Hall atrium in October for the ceremony, presented with a certificate and thanked by an assortment of community leaders. We should all thank Gregory and Chris as well!



President's Message

by Hester Lewellen



FOREST HILL MOVING AHEAD

I recently attended a series of workshops presented by Future Heights on Community Building. FHHO is way ahead of the game in the sense that we already have our association in place and every resident of Forest Hill is an automatic member. I was able to share with other neighborhoods the success we've had with fhho.nextdoor.com, and I was able to connect with folks trying to build networks in areas adjoining ours such as Brenda May of Noble Neighbors and Rachel DeGolia of Boulevard Neighbors.

I also attended the special community forum with Cleveland Heights City Council members in which there was a discussion of turning the CH Water Department over to a private company. There were 200 CH residents at the meeting and the vast majority vociferously opposed that idea. The problem remains as to how CH will be able to pay to repair the underground leaks which are costing so much in lost water.

The FHHO Board has recently presented gifts of Sharon Gregor's "Forest Hill: The Rockefeller Estate," signed by the author, to FHHO members who donated at the Platinum Level – with our sincerest gratitude. We are also in the process of planning a party to honor those who donated at the \$125 and above level. Thanks to all those who have sent in their 2015 contribution.

NOTE...If you haven't made your 2015 contribution to FHHO yet please do so today!



Forest Hill Real Estate Activities

The Cuyahoga County Land Bank has acquired the 16237 and 16228 Forest Hill properties and will be restoring those homes to conform to Forest Hill standards soon.

Current statistics on Forest Hill real estate activities from April thru July include:

- 9 homes were sold
- 16 homes are currently up for sale
- 18 homes remain bank owned

For more details on FH homes currently for sale visit: www.fhho.org/forsale.asp.

UPCOMING FHHO EVENTS

September 5, 2015
First Saturday Meet-N-Greet
The Blue Cottage – 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

September 15, 2015
FHHO Trustees Board Meeting
The Blue Cottage – 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm

September 20, 2015
Heights Heritage Home Tour
Visit: www.heightscongress.org for ticket information – 12 Noon to 6:00 pm

October 3, 2015
First Saturday Meet-N-Greet
The Blue Cottage – 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

November 10, 2015
FHHO Annual Meeting
McGregor – 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm
Keynote Speaker – Tom Bier - CSU

Standards Report

by Dean Sieck and Dale Rothenberger



Hard to believe, but summer is rolling by, even though it seems it's just arrived – but summer's heat has kicked in. With the rush of summer activities, it is easy to let the needed repairs to your house slip past your attention. We come to summer with enthusiasm about all that needs to be done to take care of winter's ravages to our homes: filled and fallen gutters, peeling paint, slipped slates on our roofs. But the traveling, family gatherings, concerts and cookouts take our time, and soon the weather cools and the repairs are not completed.

Now is the time to get those estimates, choose those colors and start those projects. Contractors will be busy, and soon it may be harder to find the contractor to get the work completed, especially with the unpredictability of the weather.

You can help the Standards Committee by letting us know of concerns about houses that you see in the neighborhood that need attention. You can contact us at standards@fhho.org or leave a message at 216-932-8952. Messages are picked up twice weekly. Give us an address and a description of the problem. We will send a notice to the homeowner that the house is in violation of FHHO standards and corrective action needs to be taken. Twenty-five such letters were sent out at the end of May. If you received one, please take action now. Let's work together to keep Forest Hill an attractive neighborhood that displays our pride in our community!

Forest Hill Action Committee

by Les Jones



It been almost a year since Forest Hill residents met to discuss the state of over 50 homes in Forest Hill that were in distress. Since that meeting the committee has researched several options to address many of the issues raised and is currently in

discussions with a Real Estate lawyer about representing FHHO. His role would be to begin legal notification to the 20+ current bank-owned properties and demand compliance with FHHO and either fix up and/or sell the problem home immediately. The law firm would collect their fees from the lien holder or owner.

The committee is also working with a couple of prospective investors to match up with the distressed properties once legal action begins and the bank or owner moves to divest the property.

Spring Cleanup at The Blue Cottage

by Sally Miller

On June 6th, a few of your Forest Hill neighbors gathered at The Blue Cottage for the annual spring cleanup. With Sally Miller providing the snacks and drinks these energetic volunteers worked both inside and outside to spruce up the historic home of FHHO.



Participating neighbors were (left to right): Margie Bakale, Cheryl Stephens, Dean Sieck, Sally Miller and Craig Murray.

Also helping inside The Cottage were: Dale and Joyce Rothenberger, Lydia Glaude, Hester Lewellen and Carol Scott.

2015 FHHO FUND DRIVE CONTRIBUTORS

Your FHHO Executive Committee sends out a sincere "THANK YOU" to the following Forest Hill residents for their generous contributions in support of FHHO programs from **April 16 thru July 30, 2015.**

PLATINUM LEVEL – \$200 +

Lincoln Haughton III
Hattie Helm
Carol Miller and
Dennis Freeman

GOLD LEVEL – \$125 to \$199

Marcia Allen and
Pauline Tomlinson
Bernice and Rev. James
Bannerman
Drs. Michael and Kim Barney
Pam and Ron Bradley
Theodore and Coralcyce Carten
Jacqueline Hammond
Betsey Kaufman and
Yvonne Bolitho
Sharon Leary and David Henry
Christopher and
Adele DiMarco-Kious
Alice Lee
Graham and Rosamonde Peters
Harold and Dorothy Rambo
Charles and Rosanna Sprague
Cheryl Stephens

SILVER LEVEL – \$75 to \$124

Dorothy Broz
Martha Cappy and
Stephen Sileo
Melissa Hoyt-Carr
Ann Clancy

Sharon Collins
James and Dr. Edna Connally
Gilbert and Doris Croley
Delmus and Kathryn Deskins
Laudenia and Samuel Dickerson
Jeffrey Duber and
William Fulton
William and Bernita Edwards
Henry and Dr. Diana England
Alisa Feingold
Germaine Gilbain
Doris Gillenwater
Joseph Greene, Jr.
Leevearn and Arleest Grimes
Shirley Kasey Greer-Stockton
Hope Lutheran Church
Clyde Henry, Jr.
Harvey and Sondra Jacobs
Rebecca Jefferson
Malcolm Kenney
Laney Marshall
Peter McCall
Bruce Menapace and Greg Jones
Eugene Pawlowski
Nedric and Mary Pritchett
Ronald and Patricia Ramsey
Clark and Joan Rice
Jimmy and Patricia Seeders
Naomi Hasan-Shabazz
and James Shabazz
Lonnice Ellen Smith
Kenneth and Dana Tench

Gloria Strong
Stephen and Irene Szaraz
Louis Sr. and Nancy Thomas
Sandra and Michael Truett
Marla and Nicholas Zwinggi

BRONZE LEVEL – Up to \$74

Deborah Adrine
Mary and Edward Elridge
Barbara Gover
Mozell and Verna Greer
Anna Harris
Farris Hill, Sr.
Quantice James
Rebecca Jefferson
Bobby and Ida McDowell
Patricia and Luis Ortez
Michael and Amy Pendleton
Perlie Rivers
Gina Chevennie and
John Satola
Carol Scott
Brian Smith and Marjorie Edguer
Charles and Bernice Simpson
Louise and Turner Smith
Thelma and James Smith
Terrence and Loyola Weiler
Timothy Welsh and
Wendy Smither
Dolores and Donald White

2015 Heights Heritage Home Tour

by Les Jones



On Sunday, September 20th, Heights Community Congress (HCC) will present its 38th annual Heights Heritage Home & Garden Tour of outstanding homes. This year's theme "Step Inside Our Stories" will feature 6 homes and 5 gardens.

This year's Tour also will feature the historic "Rockefeller" home of our very own Trina Pruffer and will mark the first time a Rockefeller home has been featured on the Tour since 1978.

Tickets for the Sunday Tour are \$20 and are fully tax-deductible. For more details on the Tour or attending the Saturday Preview Party visit: www.heightscongress.org.

Welcome Our New Neighbors

by Dr. Mary Rice

Let's extend a warm welcome to these new residents that have joined our Forest Hill family from April 15th to July 30th:

- Gerald and Annabelle Hughes (Mayfield)
- Amanda Anderson and Mark Colvin (North Taylor)
- John and Lee Ann Howington (Mayfield)
- Monica and Carlos Gonzalez (Burlington)
- John and Elizabeth Andrews (Forest Hills)
- Sharon Leary and David Henry (Newbury)
- Susanne Hampton and Brenda Pham (Monticello)
- Clarence and Dianne Smith (Lee)
- Rachelle Williams (Glynn)
- Kevin Hill (Hollister)
- Jacqueline Waller (Blackmore)
- John Bausone (Brewster)