Future NEWS Heights

FutureHeights is dedicated to preserving and strengthening neighborhoods and commercial districts in Cleveland Heights. We advocate citizen participation in planning and development.

NO. 19 WINTER 2006

ANNUAL REPORT 2005



From the President of the Board

Overheard at the Best of Cleveland Heights Awards event: "Gee, can you imagine people in Solon doing something like this?" That terrific celebration of local, independent businesses in October and the "Shop Local" program that accompanies it are among the many ways FutureHeights proactively engages residents of Cleveland Heights in recognizing and talking about quality of life issues that affect their daily lives and the health of the community.

As Cleveland Heights continues to be faced with the harsh challenges of economic competition and the disinvestment that accompanies it it is incumbent upon all of us to work together toward achieving a greater city. FutureHeights is committed to creating opportunities for citizens to participate as partners in this endeavor.

It is a pleasure for me to introduce the annual report of FutureHeights, highlight-

ing the organization's accomplishments of 2005. This was a particularly busy year for the organization and I extend deep gratitude to all those who helped continue the mission to preserve and strengthen Cleveland Heights. Upon the completion of our third year of operation it is truly gratifying to note that the commitment of the board, the FutureHeights staff, and our members and volunteers remains strong.

Your support of FutureHeights programming in 2005, whether you chose to volunteer as a Clean and Greener, attend the FutureHeights Speaker Series, add your two cents to the FutureHeights website polls, or join as a member, is helping to invent a bright future for Cleveland Heights.

Please enjoy reading how your gift to FutureHeights is helping to sustain this work.

Sarah Wean, President



You are cordially invited

FutureHeights 2006 Annual Meeting Wednesday, March 22nd, 5:30 p.m. The Cedar-Lee Theater 2163 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights

Special viewing of the new documentary *Independent America: The Two Lane Search for Mom & Pop* followed by a live presentation by awardwinning filmmakers, Heather Hughes and Hanson Hosein. For more information about the film, visit www.independentamerica.net

Free and open to the public.

Reception to follow* at Studio You, 2180 Lee Road.

*Reception free to FH members/\$20 nonmembers (includes one year membership)
This event is possible through the generous support of The Katherine & Lee Chilcote
Foundation and Sky Bank

From the Executive Director

Board of Directors

Sarah B. Wean, *President Community Volunteer*

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Executive DirectorJulie V. Langan

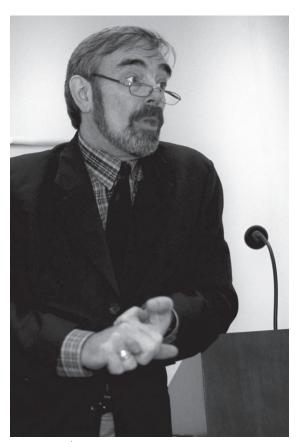
Administrative Assistant Lisa Loveland To those of you who donated your time and talents to FutureHeights this past year, I say a heartfelt "thank you!" Rest assured, we couldn't have done it without you. Hundreds of volunteer hours greatly enhanced our capacity to plan events, try our hand at an on-line auction fundraiser, get our mailings to the post office and set direction for our programs. Whether you gave one or one hundred hours, please know that your contribution was appreciated!

As FutureHeights evolves and matures, our dependence on the talents and generosity of volunteers increases. I invite anyone with an interest in our work to consider getting involved on a personal level. The opportunities vary from participating on a committee, planning an event, or lending an occasional hand on an as-needed basis. Each and every volunteer hour donated to FutureHeights enhances our ability to effectively and efficiently deliver programs to the community of Cleveland Heights. Want more information? Give the FutureHeights office a call at 320-1423 and will happily chat with you about your interests and our needs.

Beginning with our 3rd annual meeting on March 22nd, the 2006 FutureHeights calendar is varied and full, offering a wide range of events addressing issues related to planning, historic preservation and the local economy. If you attended last year's annual meeting, then you know that this event affords a great opportunity to hear a thought-provoking speaker and afterwards mingle with fellow residents at our members-only reception. This year's topic is the importance of supporting our local independent businesses, which will be eloquently presented by an excerpt of the documentary film "Independent America: The Two Lane Search for Mom & Pop' that includes footage of Cleveland Heights filmed this past July. The makers of this film will return to Cleveland Heights to discuss their experiences traveling across the United States this past summer and the poignant conclusions they reached about locally-owned, independent businesses. I hope to see you at this and many other FutureHeights events throughout 2006.

Julie Langan, Executive Director

Program Highights



Donovan Rypkema

Advocacy and Education

Advocacy and education issues and programming represented a significant portion of the work undertaken by FutureHeights during 2005. Communication with residents was achieved through the publication of four issues of FutureHeights News and by increasing our email distribution list by 500%.

The FutureHeights Speaker Series included three events in 2005: Donovan Rypkema of Place Economics in Washington, DC spoke on "The Importance of Historic Neighborhood Commercial Districts," Phil Star of Cleveland State University addressed "The Continuing Significance of Neighborhoods" and in October, candidates for City Council participated in a public forum regarding economic development, historic preservation, and neighborhood planning.

During the spring and summer, Future-Heights was busy with The Picture Project, a grassroots initiative that brought together residents living in the vicinity of the Noble Monticello and Lee Road commercial districts to photograph the places that give their neighborhoods its character. In the

Members

Foundation Support

Our special thanks to these foundations for their support in 2005:

The Cleveland Foundation The Cyrus Eaton Foundation The Wm. J. & Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation The Katherine & Lee Chilcote Foundation The Nord Family Foundation The Paintstone Foundation The Raymond John Wean Foundation The Reinberger Foundation The Sears-Swetland Foundation

Individual and Business support

Abrakadoodle Mark & Kathrvn Adams Michael & Mazie Adams Chantal Akerib Gail Anderson Joe & Betsy Andrews Appletree Books, Inc. Ardmore Tree Service Carol Armbrust & Thomas Aldrich Herbert Ascherman, Jr. Photography Atma Center Bonnie Baker Rita Bar Ken & Ellen Barcus Mary Barkley Geoffrey & Maryann Barnes Russell Baron David Beach & Constance Magoulias Robert Beck Richard & Luisa Beigi Jerome & Maureen Belinson Chris & Meghan Bell Michael Benjamin David Benson Robert Berger David Bergholz Marty Bergman James & McKey Berkman Cliff Berns & Karen Allaire Mark & Melanie Biche Tom & Dorothy Bier Big Fun, Inc. Glenn E. Billington Co. Mark & Kathleen Binnig Ed & Chessie Bleick Patricia Blochowiak Richard Block Boom **Delores Boswell** Richard & Sandra **Bovatzis** Christopher Brandt & Beth Sersia Marilyn Brandt Grace Bregenzer Brennan's Colony Pub Lillian Brinnon Art Brooks Eileen M. Burkhart Janet Burnside Jane Busch

William D. Buss, II William Busta & Joan Tomkins Donald & Jane Butler Café Tandoor **Hugh Calkins** Roy Call Frank & Margaret Carpenter Bruce Catalano & Ann Reichsman Cedar Lee SID **CGB Tech Solutions** Marc Cherry Katherine Chilcote Lee Chilcote, III Lee & Tuni Chilcote Elke Chodorow City of Cleveland Heights/Parks & Recreation Cleveland Cinemas Cleveland Heights Historical Society Cleveland Magazine Cleveland Potters Coop Cleveland Restoration Society Cleveland Urban Properties, Ltd. Coatings Research Group, Inc. Miles Coburn & Peggy Spaeth Jack & Roslyn Collins Kim Conklin & Damir Janigro Mary Ann Cooperman William & Janet Coquillette Joan Costello Catherine Coulter Coventry Village SID Ensign & Lana Cowell Margaret Cowin Jean Cox Patrick Crago & Sharon Grossman Tom & Sarah Croley James L. Cull Helen Cullinan Cutri Photo Arts Lois Davis Kathy Dawson / The Marriage Movement Elsie Day Glenn & Kathleen DeBoer Laura Roberts Dempsey& Daniel P. Dempsey

Jan Devereaux

Dewey's Pizza

Kenneth & Jeanne

Teri Dew

Diamond

Nancy Dietrich Damion Difranco & K. Kornell Bernard & Mary Helen Doherty Donato's Pizza Greg & Elizabeth Donley **Bruce Donnelly** David Dorsch & Cliff Bowers Dream Spa, Inc. William Du Gar Susan Dunlap Edelen Wille M. W. Egar John & Mary Elder Doug & Sheila Epp Andrew Fabens, III Fairmount Letters William & Carol Falender Betsy Fallon Robert & Mia Faxon Elizabeth Fay John & Elizabeth Briggs Feighan fire Robert Fischer Hugh Fisher & Deanna Bremer Fisher George & Suzanne **Fitzpatrick** Forest Hill Home Owners Mark Fremont Bruce Frumker Robert Gaede Elizabeth Gaetiens Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Garfield Gayle Gathercole Carol Gay Joseph & Marge Geiger Jacek Ghosh Tom & Carol Gibson Trevor Gile Carol Gill & Michael Salkind Walter Ginn Rocco Gioia Michael & Stacy Goldberg Paul & Margie Goldberg David Goodman & Barbara Hawley George & Mary Goodwin Patricia Gray Green Tara Yoga and Healing Arts Stuart & Kathleen Greenburg Harry & Kate Greenfield Linda Griffith

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LaRiccia

Ursula Korneitchouk Ray Kowalski Andrew Krage Kulture Kids William Kunkin Allan Kuntz Alan & Virginia Kuper Donna Lalewicz Nancy Lally Mr. and Mrs. Tim Lang Bill & Julie Langan Laura Lee Salon Chris Lauretig Marc Lefkowitz Robert & Susan Leggett Aaron & Reva Leizman Lemon Grass Helen Liggett Richard Lightbody Peter Linberger Kermit Lind Larry & Bonnie Lindberg Linen Consultants Nancy Little Whitney & Georgia Lloyd David Long Rose Lovinger Bruce & Lia Lowrie Garv & Julie Lustic Gordon & Maureen Maas Mac's Backs Paperbacks Jennifer Madden Michael Madorsky Scott & Beth Mahan Mark Majewski/NorthStar Planning and Design David Maltz Katharvne Marcus & Thomas Starinsky Marotta's Restaurant Kay Martin & Dennis Keating Diane Mather Patricia Matteo Don McBride & Jill Tatem Mary Beth McCann Mary Ann McCloskey Christopher & Gaylee McCracken Anne McFarland Mike & Eileen McKeon John & Christine McMahon **David McPheeters** Donald & Sandra McPherson Marilyn Meadows Daniel & Diana Medalie S. Joshua Mendel Joe Mendes Eric & Kat Meyer

John Milgram Chuck & Janice Miller **Bonnie Mills** Frank Mills Mister Brisket John Mitterholzer & Wendy Feinn MJM Design and Construction Les Monroe Michael & Carol Montlack Steven Morchak John & Sally Morley Andrea Morris Geoff & Emily Morton Marian Morton Joe Mosbrook Motorcars Group of Cleveland Heights Patrick & Heather Mullen Robert Muller Patrick Murray & Susan Greene Joseph & Barbara Nahra Rob Namy National Trust for Historic Preservation Nature Center at Shaker Lakes Jim Nemastil Jack & Charlotte New-NewSong Church Walter Nicholes & Nina S. McLellan Samuel Nigro NONA Richard & Irene Nowak Timothy O'Donnell Bob & Buster Oldenburg Louisa Oliver On the Rise Artisan Bread & Pastries Lou & Myra Orenstein Organizing 4U Pacific East Enterprises Inc Patrick Paoletta Richard & Jude Parke Kathleen Patton Paysage International Inc. Myron & Anne Pearce Stephen Pepper & Linda Tobin Ken Perelman & Ann

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case of Noble Monticello, the photographs served as the basis of an exhibit shown at three venues, including City Hall throughout the month of August.

HeightsShops

The purpose of the HeightsShops program is to strengthen the economic competitiveness of the historic neighborhood commercial districts, promote stabilization of neighborhoods, and encourage volunteerism. Two educational opportunities directed towards business owners were offered in 2005. In January, district leaders participated in a lunch seminar with Donovan Rypkema, and in April, FutureHeights held a Storefront & Signage Design Workshop for business owners.

The year 2005 saw the launch of our Shop Local marketing campaign, an initiative to educate the community about the economic impact of spending shopping dollars in Cleveland Heights. As a part of this effort, FutureHeights designed a logo illustrating the concept, produced an information card and decal and showcased local businesses as a part of our on-line auction fundraiser.

A highlight of the Shop Local campaign was the presentation of the 1st Annual Best of Cleveland Heights Awards. From June through September, FutureHeights conducted a survey of residents regarding their favorite businesses in 20 categories. With over 400 respondents and a filled to capacity awards ceremony in October, the awards drew much-deserved attention to the mostloved businesses in Cleveland Heights. Designed to strengthen the local economy by keeping dollars circulating longer in town, the FutureHeights gift certificate program increased sales by 80%. Word is spreading that these gift certificates make terrific gifts, while at the same time supporting our local merchants.



Best of Cleveland Heights Awards



Clean and Green

Thanks to the coordinating efforts of Lisa Loveland, the Clean & Green Program, a volunteer-based community effort focused on the beautification of parks and other public spaces, conducted 10 cleanups in 2005, more than doubling previous year's efforts. Volunteers of all ages helped tidy up highly-visible spaces such as Cedar Hill, the Lee Road mini park, the city-owned corner of Euclid Heights & Derbyshire, Cain Park and Cumberland Park. The 3rd Annual Big Dig, held at Forest Hill Park in October, provided an opportunity to gardeners to swap plants.



Clean & Green

Community Outreach

FutureHeights increased its membership support by over 12%.

In June, FutureHeights members were invited to tour the Euclid Golf Historic District. Led by local historians Deanna and Hugh Fisher, this walking tour provided a historical and architectural overview of this 1920s subdivision, followed by a reception held at a home in the neighborhood.

The FutureHeights website received statewide recognition through a "Best Website" Merit Award from HeritageOhio/Downtown Ohio, Inc., received in recognition of the website's high quality design and content. Throughout 2005, www.futureheights.org averaged 4000 "hits" a month, serving as a "go to" place for information about community events, development projects and the community in general. The website was enhanced in many ways, including the addition of a polling feature that better enables FutureHeights to solicit public opinion.

Our Mission

FutureHeights is dedicated to preserving and strengthening neighborhoods and commercial districts in Cleveland Heights. We advocate citizen participation in planning and development.

Our goals:

To advocate community improvement through attention to both historic preservation and excellence in new design

To support local, independently owned businesses and our neighborhood commercial districts

To promote an ongoing process for citizen input in creating community vision

FutureHeights is a 501 (c) (3) organization.

2005 Financial Statement Unaudited condensed statement of activities

Total Revenue and Support	112,570
Memberships Annual Fund Interest Income Product Sales On-line Auction Miscellaneous	17,739 4,258 455 1,365 12,867 10,186
Revenue and Support Grants	\$ 65,700

Expenses
Programs 51,929
General and Administration 38,799
Fundraising 8,316

Total Expenses 99,044

The FutureHeights financial year begins January 1 and ends December 31.

Form 990 for the year 2005 will be available in June 2006.

Join Us!

Your tax-deductible membership contribution goes directly to supporting the community-based programs and projects of FutureHeights that help strengthen our wonderful neighborhoods. Join online today with a credit or debit card at www.futureheights.org or by calling 216-320-1423. Thank you!





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