

Community Improvement

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AWARDS

On Thursday evening, October 27, City Hall was filled with proud home and business owners who came to be recognized and honored at the Community Improvement Awards event, a strong Cleveland Heights tradition for 36 years. The program recognizes individual homeowners, business owners and organizations that have worked to improve their properties and contribute to the vitality and beauty of our city. In this issue, we present the commercial and business winners. The CIA residential winners, the Historic Preservation winners and Tender Loving Care winners will be featured in the spring issue of FOCUS. In the meantime, you can see the photo exhibit of all the winning properties the next time you are at City Hall.

These businesses received Community Improvement Awards:

Luna Bakery & Café

2482 Fairmount Boulevard

Martini Skate & Snow

2122 S. Taylor Road

Masterworks Automotive

1789 S. Taylor Road

Myxx

12459 Cedar Road

Ten Thousand Villages

12425 Cedar Road

Michael Ochionerio received a **Historic Preservation Stewardship Award** for the excellent care he gives the **Heights Center Building** at 12429 Cedar Road.

Congratulations to the winners for helping to keep Cleveland Heights an attractive and vital community! We encourage everyone to support our local businesses!



City Council members congratulate area merchant Community Improvement Award winners.

Storm Water Management Program

The City of Cleveland Heights, rich in natural streams and waterways, continues to be committed to addressing Storm Water Management to make sure our waterways are environmentally clean. The City follows Environmental Protection Agency guidelines, including public education and participation, eliminating sanitary discharges into the storm water system, maintaining proper inspections on construction sites and adhering to Best Management Practices concerning sanitary and storm sewers (visit www.clevelandheights.com or more information.)

2011 Update

- Approximately 1400 catch basins were thoroughly cleaned.
- Culverts were inspected by a professional engineer to assess their structural integrity.
- The 3rd Annual Dugway Brook Festival was held in June. In addition, the Friends of Dugway Brook continue to maintain a strong clean water initiative in their section of Dugway Brook.
- Many manholes were reconstructed in conjunction with road improvement projects.
- Various storm sewer construction was done in the city, including parts of Delmore and Glenwood.
- Storm water literature and DVDs continue to be available to our residents at the Water Division in City Hall.
- Storm water construction requirements are now totally in place, and new developments must adhere to them and submit reports as required.
- Many miles of storm sewer pipe were televised to evaluate structural integrity.

For information on the City's Storm Water Management Program, contact Dennis Zentarski at 216-291-5990.

FOCUS

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City News

Community Improvement Awards

Storm Water Management

Recreation

An Evening to Remember Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The 14th Annual Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will take place **Wednesday, January 18, 7:00 pm at the Cleveland Heights Community Center**, Monticello Boulevard at Mayfield Road. The event will feature music and winners from our MLK art, essay and poetry contests.

Art, Essay and Poetry Contests

As part of the celebration, the City is once again sponsoring art, essay and poetry contests, which are open to Cleveland Heights students. This includes those attending Cleveland Heights-University Heights public schools, home-schooled students and those who attend private or parochial schools.

The entries should answer the following question:

"How are you living Dr. King's dream today and what is your dream for the future?"

Home-schooled students and those residents attending school outside of Cleveland Heights may drop their entries off at the Community Relations office at City Hall, email them to comrel@clvhts.com or send their entries directly to:

Community Relations

City of Cleveland Heights

40 Severance Circle

Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

Although the City is working with the schools in Cleveland Heights, all students are welcome to submit their entries directly to City Hall. Be sure to include your name, address, phone number, school and grade on all entries. Entries must be received by Wednesday, January 11, 2012. For more information, call 216-291-5794.



- Advertising will be accepted in the Spring 2012 FOCUS. Contact Jennifer Kuzma at 216-291-2854 or jkuzma@clvhts.com for more information.

City Council

Edward J. Kelley, Mayor
Phyllis L. Evans, Vice Mayor

Bonita W. Caplan

Kenneth Montlack

Cheryl L. Stephens

Jason S. Stein

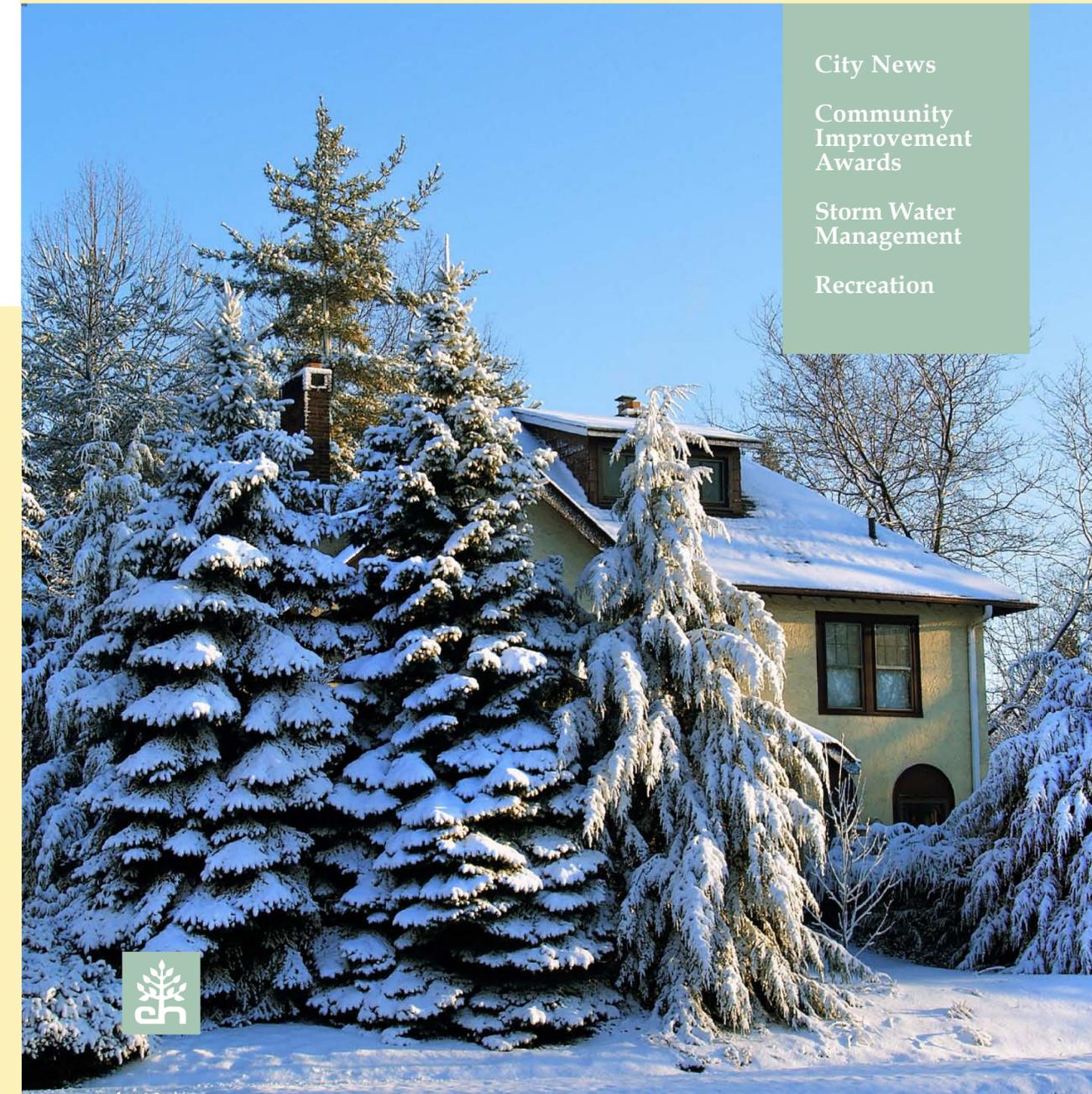
Dennis R. Wilcox

Robert C. Downey, City Manager

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Phone: 216.291.5794
E-mail: publicrelations@clvhts.com

Visit the Cleveland Heights website
www.ClevelandHeights.com





Dates to Remember

Sunday, December 25
Christmas Day
Community Center Closed

Monday, December 26
Christmas Observance
City Hall and the Community Center closed

Sunday, January 1
New Year's Day
Community Center closed

Monday, January 2
New Year's Observance
City Hall and the Community Center Closed

Monday, January 16
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
City Hall and the Community Center Closed

Wednesday, January 18
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
7:00 pm
Community Center

Monday, February 20
Presidents Day
City Hall and the Community Center Closed

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Cleveland Heights City Council meets on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:30 pm in City Hall Council Chambers, 40 Severance Circle. If a holiday falls on the Monday Council meets, the meeting is usually moved to Tuesday. In January, Council meets on Tuesday, January 3 and Tuesday, January 17. February's Council meetings are on Monday, February 6 and Tuesday, February 21.

FOCUS is printed using soy-based inks on paper made with pulp from sustainable forests. ♻️

Relocation Services

The Relocation Services office continues to promote Cleveland Heights as a great place to live, play, shop and enjoy life. The office works with human resources offices, including those in the University Circle area, making sure that packets of information about our city are available to new employees.

Relocation Services also administers the Preferred Realty Office program and has offered continuing education for area Realtors to update them on Cleveland Heights and all the city has to offer. In addition, those looking to relocate to the Cleveland area often contact Relocation Services directly.

Residents make the best ambassadors!

We know from experience that many new residents moved here because someone at work recommended they take a look at our community. Make sure that your company's human resources office has Cleveland Heights materials. Contact Relocation Services at **216-291-5813** or relocationservices@clvhts.com.

Think Summer

Cain Park Gift Certificates make great gifts. Buy them by phone (**216-291-5792**) or stop by the Community Relations Office on the upper level of City Hall (Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm).

Fire Department Reminder

Carbon Monoxide (CO), a colorless, tasteless and odorless gas, kills hundreds of people in the United States each year. CO is produced by the incomplete combustion of fuel-burning appliances – often poorly maintained appliances such as furnaces, hot water tanks, gas ovens and fireplaces. CO detectors can warn of the presence of CO, but they are not a substitute for properly operating fuel-burning appliances. Regularly scheduled maintenance of the appliances is your **best** protection against the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Councilman

Kenneth Montlack to Retire

Councilman Kenneth Montlack is retiring from City Council at the end of this year after 24 years of dedicated service. His commitment to the vitality and progress of our neighborhoods and commercial districts has been outstanding.

As Chair of the Public Safety and Health Committee, he stressed the importance of housing inspections and the use of nuisance abatement funds to improve our residential areas. He led the task force that worked with CMHA to improve relationships between the agency and cities. Montlack has also been a strong supporter of our Safety Forces, always ready to provide them with what they needed to be successful.

As Chair of Community Relations and Recreation, he helped to transition the Recreation Pavilion to the Community Center, supporting fitness programming for all ages. He attended hundreds of street meetings over his career, providing City information and support to the concerns of residents. Known as a good listener, Montlack frequently dealt with residents' concerns one-on-one to try to resolve them. He also has been a fervent supporter for our City as "Home to the Arts" and has continued to see the value of Cain Park and other local art entities.

As Chair of Finance, Montlack worked tirelessly through the difficult years of managing the necessary adjustments in the City's budget due to the economic downturn. Thoughtful and with a great depth of understanding of the community's needs, he stressed what should be prioritized in the City's annual budget.

As Chair of Planning and Development, his attention to detail and his expertise in banking and funding initiatives allowed the City to move forward on projects in the commercial districts.

Cleveland Heights Police Update

- Every **Thursday evening**, residents are encouraged to **"Meet the Police"** on the lower level of City Hall from **6:00-8:00 pm**. It's an opportunity to meet with a ranking police officer to share concerns and ask questions.

- The **Police Bicycle Unit** now has four trained officers who will be back in the parks and business districts in the spring. In addition, call boxes have been installed in the parks.

- In addition to a dedicated email address – MYP@clvhts.com – there is also a **Community Tip Line** – **216-291-5010** – that is answered by a ranking member of the department. If the officer is on assignment, it will go to voicemail. This is an information line where citizens may leave non-emergency information or ask questions, also of a non-emergency nature.

- The Police Department has also established a Twitter account – [@twitter@clvhts.com](https://twitter.com/clvhts) – to provide updates regarding incidents in the city. In 2012, a **police website** will debut, providing more information to the community.

- A **K-9 unit** has been established within the Police Department. An officer and K-9 "Vin" have completed training. Vin is being trained in tracking and in narcotics detection.

- **In case of an emergency, continue to call 9-1-1.**

He also worked as liaison from the City to both the Coventry and the Cedar Fairmount SIDS.

As Chair of Municipal Services, he led the recycling efforts in the early years that brought us to the successful program we have today. He also supported the development of long-range planning for Public Works vehicles and road work.

Montlack has been a leader, not only for our City, but for Northeastern Ohio. As a regionalist, he was the founder in 1996 of the First Suburbs Consortium, a coalition of 19 suburbs dedicated to working together to keep the first suburbs strong. He also was instrumental in the development of the First Suburbs Development Council that brings together Economic Development Directors to brainstorm common ideas. His work with these cities has led to other groups around the country copying this model.

Above all, Kenneth Montlack has brought a passion and a commitment

to the ideals of diversity and integration that our community supports. His commitment to quality of life issues, from recreation to the arts to housing to commercial vitality and to regionalism, has made him an effective and one-of-a-kind Vice Mayor and Council member. We thank him for his years of service and wish him well in the years ahead.



Kenneth Montlack

Recreation

Hockey in the Heights

Support our tradition-rich Heights High hockey team at the following home league games:

Friday, December 23 – Annual Barden-Benner-Carter Heights Alumni Hockey Games
December 27-29 – Annual Heights Holiday Classic Tournament

Saturday, January 7 vs. Nordonia at 5:00 pm
Wednesday, January 25 vs. CVCA at 6:15 pm
Friday, January 27 vs. Aurora at 8:45 pm
Friday, February 3 vs. North Canton Hoover at 8:45 pm
Saturday, February 4 vs. Canfield at 5:00 pm

Raymond A. Robinson Memorial Youth Hockey Tournament

The 2012 Raymond A. Robinson Memorial Youth Hockey Tournament will be held Thursday, January 12-Sunday, January 15. All games will be played at the Community Center ice rinks. A wide variety of items can be won at the annual tournament raffle. Admission is FREE. Please contact Chris Kendel at **216-691-7347** for more information or for tournament program advertising rates.

Youth Scholarship Fund Dinner Dance / Silent Auction

Have a fun night out with your family while you help raise money for the Heights Recreation Youth Scholarship Fund! The City of Cleveland Heights, through its Division of Parks and Recreation, the Recreation Advisory Board, and assisted by the East Side Kickers Youth Soccer program, is planning a Father-Daughter/Mother-Son Dinner Dance and Silent Auction for elementary school families on Friday, January 27 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Cleveland Heights High School. Cost is \$20 per couple. Sean Sullivan, Noble School administrator, Heights High Soccer Coach, Cleveland Heights Soccer Program Coordinator and proprietor of Heights United Soccer, will be the emcee and D.J. for the evening's festivities. Donations to assist families to attend are welcomed and encouraged. For more information, please contact **216-691-7373** or Ishaw@clvhts.com.

Youth Baseball/ Softball Spring Soccer

The Heights Youth Baseball, Challenger Baseball, Girls Softball and Spring Soccer registration packets will be ready in mid-January. Registration begins Monday, January 9. Special walk-in registration for these sports will occur on Saturday, February 4 (9:00 am-1:00 pm), Sunday February 5 (12:00-3:00 pm) and Monday, February 6 (6:00-8:00 pm) at the Cleveland Heights Community Center. Please call Larry Shaw at **216-691-7260** for additional information.

at your service

Leaf Collection

Loose leaf collection was conducted from October 31 to December 2. Leaves will now be collected **only when placed in paper Kraft bags** (available at City Hall, the Community Center and area stores) and set out with your regular refuse and recyclables.

- **Do not place leaves and yard waste in plastic bags** as they will not be picked up.
- The bags should be placed on your tree lawn no earlier than 7:00 pm the evening before the day of your collection, but always before 7:00 am on the collection day.

Christmas Tree Collection

The Christmas tree recycling program offers residents an easy and environmentally sensitive way to dispose of their live trees. To prepare the tree for collection and for the safety of our employees, **all decorations, tinsel, wire, nails, stands and bags must be removed from the tree. Trees in plastic bags or flocked trees cannot be recycled.**

Live Christmas trees will be collected **December 27 through January 29**. The trees will be picked up from your tree lawn normally on your regular collection day.

Recycling

Plastics labeled #6 now accepted. Previously, the City accepted plastics labels #1 - #7 but not #6. Now we are able to also recycle those plastics labeled #6 (except for styro-foam). As always, we thank you for recycling and doing your part for our environment!

Winter Reminders

Protect Your Water Pipes Make sure there is enough heat distribution around your water pipes to keep them warm this winter. In some instances, cold drafts from basement windows blow on exposed water pipes causing the pipes to freeze. Please take the time to inspect your water pipes now and prevent a major inconvenience from occurring.

Turn Off Outside Faucets

Take a few minutes to turn off your water supply to outside hoses (from the inside). Senior residents who need help with this task, or those who are disabled and may need help, should call the Water Department at **216-291-5995**.

Please Keep Sidewalks Clear

City ordinance states that homeowners are responsible for keeping their sidewalks free of snow and ice within 24 hours of a snowfall. Remember that our school children are often the first ones out on the sidewalks after a snowstorm. When removing snow from your property, do not move it into the street. It must be piled on the tree lawn where it will not be a hazard to drivers and will not be thrown back into the driveway aprons by City plows.

Keeping Streets Safe a Priority

During the winter months, it is important to be cautious while driving due to patches of ice that may remain after the streets have been salted. The City attempts to provide safe passage on **all** city streets any time of the day or night. However, each snowfall presents different and variable conditions that impact the snow and ice removal process. The City responds first to all the main roads, hills and areas near schools. Once these areas are in passable condition, crews head to clear the residential neighborhoods.

Emergency Parking Bans

On-street parking bans may be declared when the snow exceeds two inches in Cleveland Heights. However, please remember that regardless of the accumulated amount, snow and ice control will be more efficient if cars are not parked in the street.

Private Snowplow Information

If you own a commercial snowplow business, you must register with the City of Cleveland Heights to obtain a permit to operate, in compliance with Ordinance #83-1987. For more information, call the Building Department at **216-291-4900**. Note: Private snow plow operators are **not** permitted to push snow onto medians, across the street, or onto property that it did not fall upon.

Holiday Collection Schedule



Please note change:

- **Christmas Observance – Monday, December 26: Refuse and recycling collection will be delayed by one day following the holiday. Monday's refuse will be collected on Tuesday; Tuesday's on Wednesday, Wednesday's on Thursday, Thursday's on Friday. Those with a Friday collection day will have their refuse and recycling PICKED UP ON SATURDAY.**

- **New Year's Observance – Monday, January 2: Refuse and recycling collection will be delayed by one day following the holiday. Monday's refuse will be collected on Tuesday; Tuesday's on Wednesday, on Thursday, Thursday's on Friday. Those with a Friday collection day will have their refuse and recycling PICKED UP ON SATURDAY.**