



# Coventry Village News

## CITY TO HEAR DAFKY DAN'S REQUEST FOR RESTAURANT VARIANCE

by  
Larry R. Beam

At its meeting of April 13 the Cleveland Heights Planning Commission decided to go ahead with a formal public hearing about a new restaurant proposed by Daffy Dan Gray, the one-time proprietor of a string of t-shirt shops that still bear his name. The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 7:30 PM, in the Court Room at City Hall.

Gray proposes to put a combination bakery, pizza parlor, and deli restaurant in the building that once housed Coventry Bike and Ski, at 1819-1823 Coventry. The City's zoning laws require that the developers of such a project obtain a parking variance and certain other more technical bits of permission. The matter must then receive the approval of City Council.

Plans call for 30 restaurant seats in what Gray describes as a "New York-style deli." Delivery service is planned for an area extending as far east as Lee Road, and as far west as the hospitals in and near University Circle. Carry-out will also be available. A licence allowing the service and take-out sale of beer will be sought. Landscaping and significant improvements to the exterior of the building are planned.

Among the questions the Planning Commission must decide is whether to allow three signs--for pizza, bakery and deli-- as are shown on current plans by architect Al Clough. The key issue is whether to allow at all a business that seems likely to worsen an already bad parking situation.

The variance request comes at a time of renewed interest in the area's parking problem. Both Coventry Neighbors, Inc. (CNI) and the Coventry Merchant's Association (CMA) have recently resolved to lobby energetically for more parking in Coventry. The building in which Gray proposes to put his restaurant is regarded by some as a nearly ideal place to put more parking. Partly because the building is now vacant, new parking spaces there would be significantly less expensive than at most alternative locations. Large-scale, private redevelopment of the area was formally proposed a few years ago, and though that proposal died, there have recently been rumors of a fresh proposal. No mention of these possibilities was made at the Planning Commission's preliminary review of the proposal on April 13.

The City's Board of Control, which regulates land use in Severance, recently refused to renew permission it granted some years ago to Pick-n-Pay for a new store there. Some observers feared that, were Pick-n-Pay to build at Severance, the continued operation of the Coventry store might be threatened. Though officials of Pick-n-Pay denied that possibility, the Board of Control's decision may make more likely the improvement and perhaps rebuilding of the Coventry store.

\*\*\*\*\*

### LIBRARY SEEKS SUPPORT OF ISSUE 10

The Cleveland Heights-University Heights Library Board has chosen to go on the June 7th ballot to seek approval of a 1.5 mill five-year operating levy for the four CH-UH Public Libraries. It will replace the 1.7 mill levy which expires at the end of 1983.

\*\*\*\*\*

COVENTRY VILLAGE NEWS is published monthly by COVENTRY NEIGHBORS, INC. in cooperation with the HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CONGRESS.

EDITOR:

Barbara M. Littell

EDITORIAL BOARD:

Debra Heller, Chair; David R. Burwasser, Dennis Coughlin, P. David Gill, Bruce M. Hennes, and Kathryn J. Young.

EDITORIAL STAFF:

Larry R. Beam, Debbie Graves and June Wortman.

DISTRIBUTION:

Tony Wagner and Adele Burwasser

PRODUCTION STAFF:

Marge Crutch, Jean Harper and the Heights Community Congress Staff.

All opinions and statements are strictly those of the respective writers, except when clearly identified as formal positions of CNI, CVN or HCC. Circulation 2,000.

PERSONS wishing to submit copy for the June issue may do so by sending it to the Coventry Village News, 2701 Hampshire, Apt. #3, C. H. 44106 no later than May 23. Please include your name, address and phone number. While unsigned items will not be published, your name may be withheld upon request.

COVENTRY VILLAGE. . .

We Watch Out

For Each Other

ARTS and SUCH

*The Adding Machine*, by Elmer Rice, will continue through May 21 at Dobama Theatre, 1846 Coventry. A discussion of Rice's expressionist drama, conducted by Dr. William Zucihero of Kent State University, will follow the performance of May 12.

Winners are now being selected in the Fifth Annual Marilyn Bianchi Kids' Playwriting Festival; selections from among 439 submissions will be announced in mid-May. Performances of *The Adding Machine* are at 8:30 on Thursdays and Saturdays, at 9 on Fridays, and 7:30 on Sundays. Call 932-6838 for reservations.

Ascherman Gallery of the Cleveland Photographic Workshop, 1785 Coventry, is currently displaying about 40 photos by Sam Robinson, who worked as a studio photographer in Cleveland in the Broadway and Woodland neighborhoods of Cleveland between 1910 and 1930. The prints on display were made by Herb Ascherman from original glass-plate negatives he serendipitously acquired. Robinson's work, done almost entirely in natural light, show clearly the ethnic heritage of its place and time. Prints may be had for a \$25 contribution to the Cleveland Photographic Workshop. A collection of works by David Weld will open there in mid-May.

A show of paintings and collages by Chris Wilson will open at Arabica, in Coventryard, on May 1. Ms. Wilson, an Ohio City resident who was trained at the Cleveland Institute of Art, says her work is "about relationships of shapes and color; abstract still-life." Prices range from \$50 to \$200.

The work of more than half a dozen neighborhood artists is displayed on the walls of Tommy's, 1820 Coventry. Included are photography by Ron Mathis and David Weld, and works in a variety of media by John Beukemann, John Wagner, Cammie Pierce, Nicki Petrone, and Jim McNamara. Prices vary.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show may be in its last weeks at the Heights Art Theater. Theater manager George Fitzpatrick reports that attendance has been down significantly in recent weeks. The film had played to large and often oddly-dressed audiences for nearly six years, at midnight showings on Fridays and Saturdays.

*If I Scratch, If I Write*, a new film by Kon Petrochuck about Cleveland poet D.A. Levey, will be shown at the Strosaker Auditorium of CWRU on May 20. Accompanying the film will be readings by members of the Poet's Bank, a collective of area poets recently organized by Coventry poet Daniel Thompson.

-- Larry R. Beam

COVENTRY MERCHANTS ASK COUNCIL FOR PARKING

by

Dave Burwasser

Ellen Strong of Coventry Books, speaking on behalf of Coventry Merchants Association (CMA) asked Cleveland Heights City Council to increase the available commercial parking in Coventry. She spoke at the regular Council meeting of April 18. Without mentioning specific proposals, Strong indicated that the merchants would be forwarding suggestions to the City shortly. Strong, a past CMA president, chairs its parking committee. Councilmember Jack Boyle, Chair of Council's Planning and Development Committee, suggested that the merchants review a staff report prepared several years ago by then-Coventry resident Randy Pollock. The Pollock report summarizes various proposals for increasing parking in Coventry.

Strong was adamant on one point in her remarks: That increased off-street parking not be used as a pretext for removing on-street parking in the commercial area. Boyle pledged that no such action was contemplated.

The merchants' request, and its urgency, are quite timely. The City has received an unexpected additional \$600,000 in Federal block grant funds. But there's a catch--any of the sum not spent or committed in contracts by late next year disappears like Cinderella's coach. The City must make and implement plans at an accelerated pace.

In addition to the material compiled in the Pollock report, other proposals for parking in Coventry have been made in the private sector. And it is certainly possible that the merchants will develop some new suggestions of their own.

HCC GROUP TO REPORT ON PARKING POLICY

by

Larry Beam

A task force of the Heights Community Congress (HCC) has been studying the issue of on-street parking since January. Its final report, the contents of which cannot yet be made public, will be given to the HCC board on May 3. The task force was charged with investigating several aspects of the issue--the effects of curb-side parking on businesses, its effects on traffic safety, and the roles of several levels of government in making the present policy.

It is the present City policy that curb-side parking be removed when streets are paved with county money. Less formally stated has been a desire on the part of the City Manager and an apparent majority of Council to replace on-street spaces with off-street parking. Following this policy, the City administration has removed curb-side parking from all of Cedar Road, from most of Noble Road, and from parts of Euclid Heights Boulevard.

Supporters of this policy argue that curb-side parking is of little real importance to business success. They hold that better marketing efforts, more skillful management, and participation in merchant organizations are far more important keys to success. They point out that traffic moves less efficiently on streets where parking is allowed, that accidents are more likely, and that police, fire-fighters and ambulances are slowed in their critical work. They often argue that the removal of curb-side parking is good for merchants; one of the City's most often-cited planning documents, the Jackman Report, holds that when parking is removed from the streets, "merchants will find that patronage will increase as customers find it more easy (sic) to get to the various commercial areas."

Merchants in the areas where "no parking" signs have gone up believe that they have been severely hurt. Annoyed, too, have been their customers and some residents of streets like Noble and Euclid Heights.

Business folk in the affected areas have sought the help of lawyers to fight for the return of curb-side parking near their shops. They have not found success, and the "no parking" signs remain.

The removal of curb-side parking from Coventry Road has been discussed, mostly in the context of making way for increased traffic volumes that would be attracted by contemplated redevelopment in the Pick-n-Pay block.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PANCAKE BREAKFAST COMMITTEE REPORT . . . . . Bobbie Littell, Chair

The Coventry Neighbors Pancake Breakfast is scheduled to take place on Sunday, May 1 and all systems are go. Since at the time of this writing it has not taken place yet, there can be no report as to its outcome. I would like, however to take this opportunity to thank some of the many people and business establishments who have made it possible.

The two people doing the lions share of the work are Tommy Fello and Tony Wagner. Tommy, owner of Tommy's, has helped plan the food and done all the ordering. His know how has saved a lot of time and worry. Tony, who is head waiter at Turkey Ridge, will be in charge of serving and clean-up. The smoothness of the operation will be his responsibility. These two have put in many hours of planning and running around and have my eternal gratitude.

There is a whole list of merchants, business people and artists, some of them here on Coventry, others of them who have no direct connection with Coventry, who have donated goods and services to make it all happen. They are:

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Arabica             | Carroll Drug          |
| Dean Dairy          | Jim Evans             |
| Heights Art Theater | High Tide/Rock Bottom |
| Mayfield Imports    | Merchants Towels      |
| Ohio Farmers Inc.   | Niki Petrone          |
| Joe Polevoi         | Tommy's               |
- Turkey Ridge

Then there are the groups who have helped to get things done:

- Larry Peacock, principal, and the staff at Coventry School
- The Cast of the Coventry School Production of "Alice in Wonderland"
- Coventry School PTA
- Coventry Merchants Association
- The Community Relations Department of the City of Cleveland Heights
- Coventry Street Fair Committee

The following Coventry merchants sold tickets:

- |                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Arabica               | Carroll Drug |
| Coventry Books        | Daffy Dan's  |
| High Tide/Rock Bottom | Mac'sBacks   |
| Passport to Peru      | Trapezoik    |
| Tommy's               | Sunshine II  |

Many, many thanks to you all.

In addition to those who have donated goods and services, and sold tickets, there is a small army of individuals who donated their time and energy to set-up, cook, serve, and clean-up. I do not have all the names at this time so they will be listed in the next issue of CVN. Thanks to everyone.

STREET FAIR REPORT

The Street Fair Committee is about shifting into high gear making final plans for this year's Fair, July 9 & 10. An office has been opened at 1862 Coventry (where Bill Jones used to be). It is open for the present, on Wednesdays and Fridays from 2 - 7 PM and on Saturdays from 10 AM to 3 PM. Applications for booth space are being accepted. You can sign up to help also. Barricade captains and workers are needed, as well as people to help on clean-up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

THE "S-2" COMMITTEE . . . . . Larry Beam

This CNI committee is discussing the future of several prominent bits of land identified in the City's Zoning Code as "Special Development Districts." Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 12, 7:30 pm, at 1811 1/2 Coventry Road. This meeting had earlier been planned for Wednesday May 11, but the date was changed on account of conflict with an important public hearing about the future of the Coventry Special Development District (see Planning and Zoning Notes and story on page 1.

At the committee's first meeting on April 5, committee members shared their differing feelings toward the sort of large-scale redevelopment allowed in these areas. Several members expressed a desire to see a height limit imposed for buildings in the Special Development Districts, and one is considering suggesting changes that would put the zoning questions in these areas to popular vote.

PLANNING AND ZONING NOTES . . . . . F. David Gill

The Cleveland Heights Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at 7:30 pm on May 11, 1983, on the request of Dan Gray to open a retail food store and restaurant in the former location of Coventry Bike and Ski, 1819 to 1823 Coventry Road. Mr. Gray is the former owner of Daffy Dan's T-Shirt Shops. The proposed use in this Special Development District requires a parking variance. The applicant proposes to offer baked goods, delicatessen foods, and beer, and to provide 30 restaurant seats. Delivery of prepared foods to area restaurants is also planned. If the Planning Commission determines that the proposed use is, indeed, a carry-out restaurant, a conditional use permit and a minimum additional 40-space parking variance will be required.

CRIME PREVENTION TASK FORCE . . . . . Bruce Hennes

Citizens and police must work together to counter crime. Police officers cannot be everywhere. They must depend on you to report violations of the law, or suspicious events or persons.

Many persons hesitate to call the police because they don't know what activities should be considered "suspicious." Others are bothered about "bothering" the police, or being embarrassed if their suspicions are unfounded. Others don't call because they assume that others have already called. Some just don't want to get "involved."

Everyone should respond to suspicious activity as if their own family needed assistance, or if their property were being threatened.

Whether or not an activity is "suspicious" depends on what is normal activity under the same circumstances. In many ways, the term "suspicious" is synonymous with "unusual."

Other activities may not be so obvious. Depending on the circumstances, these activities could possibly be considered "suspicious":

- Anyone forcibly entering a home or car; someone who runs from a home or business;
- anyone with a weapon; anyone screaming; a stranger offering young children candy or money; any indication that a home or business has been forcibly entered or the telephone lines cut; a person who seems to have no purpose in the neighborhood; a stranger carrying what could be burglary loot--a radio, tv, pillowcase, suitcase--in your neighborhood; a stranger looking into the windows of parked cars, homes, garages, or other buildings; anyone who rings the front doorbell of a home, and then walks around to the rear; adults loitering around schools, playgrounds, or secluded areas; a car that seems to be "cruising" an area; moving, delivery or maintenance trucks parked at unoccupied homes; a car that has been parked at the same location for several days, especially if it has out-of-town license plates. vehicles with broken trunk or ignition locks; dirty license plates on a clean car.

COVENTRY VILLAGE. . . We Watch Out For Each Other

## KEY BUILDING TO RECEIVE FACADE IMPROVEMENTS

An improved facade is planned for the Coveham Building, on the north-east corner of Coventry and Hampshire. It houses Pee-Wee's, Artisan Antiques, the Cork Screw, and other businesses. Architect Martian Cosentino is working on new signs and a variety of general improvements. The work, which should be complete by mid-summer, is expected to cost about \$20,000, a substantial portion of which will be subsidized by the Cleveland Heights Local Development Corporation (LDC). The LDC, an independent non-profit corporation funded by the Community Development Block Grant program, offers to pay a large fraction of the costs--often more than fifty percent--for improvements to the facades of commercial buildings like the Coveham in most parts of Cleveland Heights.

### PTA TO DEDICATE PLAYGROUND

by  
Baiba Peelle

The Coventry School PTA is planning a grand opening and dedication ceremony for the newly-landscaped Coventry Playground. The date set for the festivities is Tuesday, May 24, at 7 PM.

The ceremony will be followed by an ice cream social, and a puppet show, "Atalanta's Race," presented on the playground stage by Ball and Cooper Productions. The community is cordially invited to attend.

The meeting will end with the installation of PTA officers for the 1983-4 school year. They are: Catherine Krec, President; Dyane Hanslik, 1st Vice-President; Susan Glaser, 2nd Vice-President; Mary Pellegrini, Recording Secretary; Julie Alandt, Corresponding Secretary; Colleen Goss, Treasurer; and Kathy Berg and Juanita Lewis, Council Delegates.

### HCC SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Cleveland Heights community Congress is seeking volunteers to work in a wide variety of community projects to be do in their office and in the field. If you would like to help on such fascinating programs as the New Homeowner Survey, the Open Housing Task Force, the Checker Pool, as Newsletter Editor, for the Congress or one of the Neighborhood Newsletters, in Fund-Raising, in the NACC Program, on the Inspectional Services Committee, the Host House Pool, or with general office work, call 321-6775 and find out the interesting details. The Congress staff will be happy to discuss the programs with you and will provide training.

### NACC SUMMER WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED

The Heights Community Congress announces the Neighborhood Alliance for Code Compliance Summer Home Repair Workshops for May.

- |        |            |  |
|--------|------------|--|
| May 7  | 10 - 12 AM | 1. Electrical, 2. Locks  |
|        | 1 - 3 PM   | 1. Plumbing, 2. Exterior Paint & Preparation                                     |
| May 14 | 10 - 12 AM | 1. Carpentry and Garage Repair, 2. Asphalt                                       |
|        | 1 - 3 PM   | 1. Window and Sash Cords, 2. Masonry   |
| May 21 | 10 - 12 AM | 1. Roofs and Gutters 2. Masonry  |
|        | 1 - 3 PM   | 1. Glass Repair and Screen-Storm Window Repair,<br>2. Exterior Paint Preparation |

For Registration information call the Heights Community Congress at 321-6775.

STRONG TO SPEARHEAD CMA PARKING THRUST

by  
Barbara M. Littell

Ellen Strong, owner of Coventry Books and past officer of the Coventry Merchants Association (CMA) has stepped down from active participation in the administration of that organization to assume the chair of its new Parking Committee.

"Parking has always been a problem in Coventry, stiffling us," Strong said. There have been studies and plans proposed but they have always run into the "Yes, but's. . ." she said. "Yes, but we can't tear down that building;" or, ". . . Mr. X won't sell" - always some roadblock or other.

The City has added some parking on Hampshire and Mayfield Roads but it has been inadequate to the problem.

CMA has not addressed itself to the problem in the past and Strong has chosen to concentrate on that issue. She has set a personal goal of having firm commitment for sufficient parking by next year at this time.

In order to accomplish this CMA has formed a Parking Committee consisting of Strong, Marcia Polevoi (High Tide/Rock Bottom), Kathy Overbeke (Haagen Dasz), Susan Hennenberg (Coventryard Mall) and Carol Norwalk (Feel-Rite Foods). The committee has identified two goals: one is to obtain a firm guaranty to maintain on-street parking on Coventry. The other is to develop new parking in the area.

In order to accomplish the first of these goals Strong has already appeared before Cleveland Heights City Council to communicate that resolution. To accomplish the second, they have developed a list of 10 sites where it would be possible to build new parking. Priorities are now being established for this list and a report will be issued to the community when the work is complete.

In addition petitions are being circulated through the members of the CMA in order to demonstrate the seriousness of the problem as it exists in Coventry and that the need is felt by both the merchants and their customers.

One meeting has been held with the City, Strong said. At that time both the CMA and the City exchanged views of the problem and shared some preliminary ideas about the solution. The City shared some of the projects that are now in the planning stage. Strong said that she was pleased with the outcome and felt that they had developed rapport between the City and the merchants. She felt that the City was pleased that the CMA was taking the initiative in assisting them to get beyond the "Yes, but's. . ." and deal realistically with the many conflicting attitudes that have proved stumbling blocks in the past.

Strong said that CMA is very cognizant of the fact that this is an election year and a number of Council members will be up for re-election.

She also noted that there are some merchants on the strip, mainly not members of the CMA who have been standing in the way of suggested improvements and has called upon all to put aside our individual wants and work for what will be best for the community in the long run.

STREET TALK

Spring seems to have come, finally, just when it seemed as though we were fated to continue in that semi fall/winter/spring mode forever. Life on Coventry is picking up its pace. The grass is green, green, flowers, planted by the CNI Environmental Concerns Committee reflect the bright sun and people, dressed in bright colors are visiting and making music in the mini-park. Coventry is at its best.

While reflecting on the lovely and refreshing aspects of our community life, it might be well to review some of the ground rules: Curb your dog; dispose of your trash; take the cups back; respect your neighbors, the flowers and the grass. and, having been nearly run down by a bike careening down the hill (with a young person attached) I must remind everyone - bike riding on sidewalks is permitted only in the residential areas and not in the commercial (Continued on Page 8)

STREET TALK (Continued from page 7)

districts. That's a great hill to speed down, but a senior citizen walking up to the mini-park may not be very agile and their bones are very brittle. What may be a minor mishap to a young person can be a disaster to a senior citizen.

My face is very red--there were many mistakes in last months issue...My apologies to the PTA for having misunderstood the procedures for their Internatinal Dinner and mis-represented it on these pages. I hope it was straighten out to the satisfaction of all. . . but mostembarrassing of all was one that was supposed to be the correction of an error the previous month. The new manager at Turkey Ridge is Peggy Grosz(her first name was omitted this last time). By now she should know us all pretty well and I hope she is still high on Coventry. Have you caught the new menu at TR? Lots of new "goodies." They have another innovation--early morning breakfast is served on Fridays and Saturdays from 2 AM until closing (which is listed as "?". One new feature, which to my mind, is unfortunate, is the new neon sign. Here is an instance where "you allow one-you allow 'em all." Once there is one neon sign the business must compete for identification and before long you have a string of competing lights. No matter how tasteful they are the overall effect is garish and ugly.

The New England Clam House in Coventryyard Courtyard will be opening its patio in mid-May. They will celebrate with a new and expanded menu including a wider variety of choices in addition to more of a variety of sea-food. Did you know they now have a Happy Hour from 3 - 6 PM featuring free snacks and lower prices.

Best wishes to Jan Citino of the City's Finance Department and Bob Stevens, who was for many months acting Director of Finance at City Hall who will be married on May 14 and also to Coventry Librarian, Debbie Graves and Vernon Shoup who will also be wed on the same day.

By fall the so-called "silly season" will be upon us and many of your Council members will be asking for your vote. City policies will be discussed and analized and hashed and re-hashed for the enlightenment of the voters as we prepare for election of new Councilmembers in November. Have you ever wondered to yourself how much of what you hear at election time is just campaign rhetoric. Now is the time to find out. Council meets on the first and the third Mondays of each month in the Court Room at City Hall at 7:30. Sometimes the meetings are dull as sin, others it is the best three-ring circus in town, and it is hard to predict when the action will take place. But you have paid for the ticket; you should check the show every now and then to see how things really get done. You learn a lot more at one regular Council Meeting than you possibly can at a campaign rally. You might even find, like some of us, that it is habit forming.

-- bobbie littell

HELP WANTED!

The Coventry Village News is in constant need of volunteer help with typing, collation, folding, stapling, and distribution. If you can help call Bobbie 321-8397. It's fun.

We'd like very much to automate more of our typing. All we need now to achieve that goal is someone willing to allow us to use a letter-quality work processing printer that is compatable with our existing capabilities. If you can help in this regard, call Larry 371-6095.



COMMUNITY WATCH-DOG: NEW INTEREST IN NOURISHING - A DISAPPEARING ART

Are you a young couple having your first baby? Perhaps you are an "elderly" (35-40) couple having your first baby. Being a parent isn't easy to learn when your own parents may live 500 miles away, and when not much is taught in the schools about the subject. Now there is a place, right here in Cleveland Heights, as close as your telephone (call 321-0079), and as close as Taylor Elementary School.

You will hear a friendly voice belonging to Marianne Joyce-Sollisch. She will ask you how old your child is. If you have questions about older children, she may refer you. If you have an infant, this is the place for you, the Heights Parent Center, available from 9 - 5 weekdays. Some of your questions can be answered by phone. Some parents like to talk with other parents who have babies the same age. Just getting out of the house with baby, sharing with other mothers, helps many mothers to feel less alone.

The Center has several kinds of parent groups. They are all free. Child care is provided at the center while parents talk together. Parents of babies 1-12 months can come to a six-week series meeting on Wednesdays, 11 - 12 AM, to discuss topics of common concern such as "Why do babies cry? How can you figure out what is bothering them, if anything? Or do they cry just for exercise? What can I do about it besides worry?" Other questions might be about when to begin solid foods, when and how to wean, and what to do about sleep problems. Interested in the group? Please call to register. There is another, more flexible group that does not require pre-registration. Every Thursday, from 1 - 2:30 you and your baby can drop in, come occasionally when you have questions, or come weekly. There are no set topics. Parents bring up what ever questions are hot right then.

Parents of tots (babies 12-24 months) can attend a six-week discussion series on Wednesdays from 9:30 - 10:30. They can also go with their tot to "Fun for Parents" held at Northwood Elementary School in a pre-school room where a child development specialist provides age appropriate toys, arts and crafts, pudding painting, water table and sand-box. For new parents it is often hard to get used to the "messing around" that tots do. It is easier to tolerate and possible to enjoy if you learn how important it is to your child's learning and development. Seeing other tots helps you learn yours is not the messiest. Please pre-register for both groups.

The center will soon start a series for parents of toddlers (24-36 months), possibly one for working parents, and also one for parents who are considering employment for mother, and who want to plan how to work it out for the benefit of the baby and peace of mind for the mother. The center welcomes suggestions regarding topics or groups needed. You may ask to receive their monthly news letter to keep you informed about new groups, speakers, and helpful tidbits of advice.

The center has a library, and special programs offering films and speakers on matters such as dentistry for infants, day care, discipline, sibling rivalry, toilet training, and sex education. They will soon offer a rough health screening. When the center moves to Heights High they plan to offer service to teen-aged parents, and provide a resource center for teachers.

It is refreshing to see that someone believes that the family is not a dying institution. It is a pleasant surprise to see someone interested in helping mothers gain skill, confidence, and a sense of value in motherhood. It is great to see fathers provided the opportunity to learn to be active and involved with their infants in ways they could not learn from their own fathers. Infants need and will have two confident parents. There are no losers at the Heights Parent Center. If you are a parent, or if you want to volunteer to help out at the center, join the winners circle by calling 321-0079.

-- June C. Wortman

