

Future Heights NEWS

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

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ANNUAL REPORT 2004



Now is the Time to Join FutureHeights

This could be your final issue of *FutureHeights News*. BUT . . . You don't have to miss an issue if you JOIN TODAY!

We know you've enjoyed reading *FutureHeights News* over the past four years. It is a labor of love produced by people who, much like you, value Cleveland Heights and are working to keep it strong. Popularity has been a double-edged sword, however: our printing and mailing expenses have soared. Because we want to direct most of our lean budget to community services, we have decided that, after this issue, we will send *FutureHeights News* only to members of the organization.

You can continue to receive the city's best publication on citizen planning issues, city development information, and FutureHeights events—and be treated to free and discounted members-only special events—by becoming a member. Your *tax-deductible* contribution goes a long way to supporting vital community programs and projects that enhance the quality of life for all. We've enclosed a convenient pledge envelope. We hope to hear from you soon.

From the President of the Board

When a group of Cleveland Heights citizens sponsored a town meeting in January of 2001 to discuss the challenges of big box stores entering our historic neighborhoods, we had no idea that four years later the effort would have spawned the creation of FutureHeights, a nonprofit organization committed to community revitalization and citizen involvement. It is gratifying that the work of a few has grown to the work of many. FutureHeights, so named because we look to the future of this wonderful city, has established itself as a vital component in the work that must be done to preserve and strengthen Cleveland Heights.

FutureHeights' programs are designed to revitalize the community as well as to give Cleveland Heights citizens the opportunity to directly participate in making their neighborhoods better places to live, work, and play. Our second year of operation as a nonprofit organization saw the further development of the HeightsShops program,

the Clean & Green program, and many of the public education and advocacy projects that are the cornerstone of the organization.

These core programs will continue to grow in 2005. HeightsShops will offer additional educational workshops for independent business owners and increase the "Buy Local" campaign. We hope to double the sales of the FutureHeights gift certificates program, and will continue to offer technical assistance to districts as well as work to increase beautification efforts of public spaces within those areas.

The 2005 speaker series gets off to a great start on January 19 at the annual meeting. We are honored to present Donovan Rypkema, an internationally recognized authority on real estate economics. I have had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Rypkema speak on a number of occasions and it is always a great delight. He will speak about the important role of Cleveland Heights' historic neighborhood commercial districts, a presentation sure to spark lots of ideas and discussion at this major yearly get-together for friends of FutureHeights.

Members will be treated to a couple of free events: the annual meeting reception at Studio You!, a "meet and greet" full of great conversation and good cheer, as well as a fun walking tour of an historic Cleveland Heights neighborhood this summer.

Other 2005 highlights will include another public participation planning exhibit in August, three more issues of *FutureHeights News*, additional volunteer opportunities, and community forums featuring local experts.

This annual report chronicles who we are, what we do, and the many ways you have helped your community through support of FutureHeights. Your generosity continues to inspire us, renewing the dedication of the staff, board, and volunteers as we work to strengthen Cleveland Heights.

It is with great enthusiasm and pride that I present this progress report on our services to Cleveland Heights in 2004.

Sarah Wean, President

Program Highlights



Clean & Green



Considering Lee Road



Big Dig



Stacy Mitchell



Lee Road Holiday Stroll

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Education and Advocacy

Education and advocacy issues were front and center in 2004. We expanded the email newsletter outreach to more than 475 residents to inform them of pertinent issues and meeting dates. We endorsed the rezoning of the Lee Road corridor and produced a citizen's planning vision document for Lee Road development.

The FutureHeights Speaker Series presented four events in 2004: Tom Bier of the Levin School of Urban Affairs at CSU addressed aging housing stock and its implications for the future; Lou Tisler, Director of the First Suburbs Development Council, spoke of the advocacy work of the organization and its new development projects; Pat Carey addressed the statewide policy work of GreaterOhio; and Stacy Mitchell, of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, spoke on chain stores and their economic toll on the American way of life. In August over 500 people viewed "Considering Lee Road," a five-day citizen participation planning exhibition recognized by the *Plain Dealer's* Steven Litt as "an unusual experiment that should be repeated throughout the region, for projects big and small." The exhibition continues to draw input through our website, www.futureheights.org.

And we published three issues of *FutureHeights News*, including a special report on Lee Road that was distributed to 2000 citizens.

Heights Shops

In September, 25 Cleveland Heights merchants participated in a workshop devoted to strengthening local, independent businesses in the face of corporate competition, conducted by national expert Stacy Mitchell. Clean & Green, our beautification program,

held four volunteer clean-up events in 2004, bringing together citizens and student groups from JCU and Cleveland Heights High School. The Garden Angel program raised \$300 for bulbs that were planted along Lee Road. The Big Dig Perennial Exchange in October brought together Cleveland Heights gardeners to swap plants and exchange plant stories.

The FutureHeights Gift Certificate program, designed to keep resident's hard-earned dollars circulating in the local economy sold over \$3,000 in 2004. Over eighty Cleveland Heights independent businesses participate in this program. We provided technical assistance to the Cedar-Lee Special Improvement District through facilitating partnerships in the planning and design of the Lee Road streetscape and assisted the Cedar-Fairmount and Cedar-Lee districts with their special events.

Community Outreach

FutureHeights increased its membership support by over 20%.

In September, FutureHeights members were treated to a sneak preview of the Beechwood Road two-family conversion project, sponsored by the First Suburbs Development Council.

The FutureHeights website, www.futureheights.org, was enhanced to include additional information, a more comprehensive community calendar, and additional public input tools such as the discussion forum and surveys.

To promote the beauty and livability of Cleveland Heights, FutureHeights developed a screensaver that features over 100 photographic images that highlight the buildings and neighborhoods that make Cleveland Heights unique and attractive.

Members

Our special thanks to these foundations for their support in 2004:

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 Sears-Swetland Foundation

Individual and Business support:

Mark & Kathryn Adams
Michael & Mazie Adams
Tom Adams
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Susan Alcorn
Gail Anderson
James Anderson & David W. Wittkowsky
Tom & Rosalie Anderson
Joe & Betsy Andrews
Richard Andrews
Carol Armbrust & Thomas Aldrich
Atma Center
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Ken & Ellen Barcus
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Delores Boswell
John Paul Boukis/Kalliope Stage
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Helene Brady
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Bunny Breslin
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Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District
Dorothy Ceruti
Andrew Chakalis
Robert Cheshire
Lee Chilcote, III
Lee & Tuni Chilcote

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Michael & Jennie Collyer
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James Corcoran
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Katharine M. Coss
Joan Costello
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Ensign & Lana Cowell
Margaret Cowin
Patrick Crago & Sharon Grossman
Tom & Sarah Croley
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Lois Davis
Elsie Day
Glenn & Kathleen DeBoer
Peter & Rachel Degolia
Laura Roberts Dempsey & Daniel P. Dempsey
Kenneth & Jeanne Diamond
Nancy Dietrich
Damion Difranco & K. Kornell
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Gregory & Elizabeth Donley
David Dorsch & Cliff Bowers
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Richard Eckert
John & Mary Elder
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William & Carol Falender
John & Elizabeth Briggs Feighan
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Robert Fischer
Jim Fish & Marty Neubert
Hugh Fisher
Forest Hill Home Owners Inc.
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Bruce Frumker
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Gayle Gathercole
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George & Mary Goodwin
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Richard & Gloria Hanson
Samuel S. Hartwell
Barbara Hawley & David Goodman
Heights Guitars
Sean & Nika Heineman
Dawn Heintzelman
Bruce Hennes
Chuck & Ann Herbruck
Rice Hershey & Wilbur Markstrom
Charles Herrmann
Helen Hertz
Rob & Dale Hilton
D. Peter Hochberg & Maxine Singer
John & Traci Hopkins
Lansing & Patience Hoskins
Susannah Hyatt & Barry Mita
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Marc & Karen Jaffe
Edward & Gay Janis
John & Sue Janssen
Eric N. Johnson & Ronald A. Elliott
Fred & Kathy Jones
Laura Junglas
Donald & Nancy Junglas
Susie Kaeser & Jerry Blake
Irv & Wally Kaplan
The Honorable Ed Kelley
Chas Kikel & Barbara Weakland
Gus & Jan Kiouss
Stuart & Anne Klein
Sue Klein
Ann Kocks & Ken Perelman
Sandra Kogan-Jaffe
Thomas Kohan & Susan Kay Weber
Dennis Kolovich
Richard Konisiewicz
Ursula Korneitchook
Ray Kowalski
Kulture Kids
Alan & Virginia Kuper
Kurz Architects
Kynyk-Goss Properties
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Bruce & Lia Lowrie
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Mark Majewski/NorthStar Planning and Design
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Sandra Martin
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John & Christine McMahon

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Donald & Sandra McPherson
Elisa Meadows & Adam Altman
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S. Joshua Mendel
Mike's Convenient Food Mart
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Chuck & Janice Miller
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Terry Schwarz
Susan Semonoff
Victor Serna/ Sky Bank
Nancy Shrader
Peter Shriver
David & Elizabeth Shriver
Charles Shuster
Eric Silverman
Robert & Donna Simons AICP
Ed Small/Cleveland Urban Properties, Ltd.
David & Irene Smith
Steven Smith
Lloyd Snyder & Margaret Terry
Wanda Solaru
Katherine Solender
Glenn Solomon
Peggy Spaeth & Miles Coburn
Sarah Spengler
Michael St. Clair
Carol Staiger
Julie Stanger
Carmine Stewart
Albert & Alice Stratton
James W. Streff
Studio Techne
John & Mary Lane Sullivan
Janet Sweeton
Hank & Sachie Tanaka
Jody Taslitz
George Taylor & Candice Hoke
Sarah Taylor
The Coral Company
The Grapevine, Inc.
The Mad Greek Restaurant
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Marlene Tighe
Jennifer Tucker
Carl Ubbelohde
Robert & Susan Underhill
University Circle Incorporated
Carl Unterweiser
VIP Restoration Inc.
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Judith Van Kleef
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Vixeboxse Art Galleries
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David Walker
Gordon & Sarah Wean
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Victor & Kathleen Weizer
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Keith & Lea White
Allen Wilkinson
Heather Williams
Harold & Dyeatra Williams
Jennifer Wintner
Stephen Wood
Ted & Diana Woodbridge
Chris Wozniak & Susan Strauss
Elaine Wrenick
Edward & Catherine Yandek
Randall & Nancy Yetman
Ned & Janet Yost
Robert & Karen Youdelman
Zagara's Marketplace
Lewis Zipkin
Kal Zucker & Mary Frances Haerr

You are cordially invited

FutureHeights 2005 Annual Meeting
Wednesday, January 19th, 5:30 pm
The Cedar-Lee Theatre

Keynote Speaker: Nationally recognized real estate economist Donovan Rypkema presents

*Competitive Neighborhood Commercial Districts--
Can they survive in today's retail climate?*

Free and open to the public

Reception to follow* at Studio You!

*Reception free to FH members/\$20 nonmembers
(includes one year membership)

Our Mission

Established in 2000, FutureHeights is dedicated to preserving and strengthening neighborhoods and commercial districts in Cleveland Heights. We advocate citizen participation in planning and development.

Our goals are:

- To advocate community improvement through historic preservation and excellence in new design
- To create opportunities for citizen engagement in planning for the city's future
- To support local, independently owned businesses and our neighborhood commercial corridors
- To promote strong and healthy residential neighborhoods
- To nurture effective local and regional partnerships
- To advance the outcomes and recommendations of the Citizen's Vision of 2001

FutureHeights is a 501(c)3 organization.

2004 Financial Statement

Unaudited condensed statement of activities

Revenue and Support

Grants	\$ 60,300
Memberships	19,106
Annual Fund	4,767
Interest Income	218
Product Sales	488
Miscellaneous	4,644

Total Revenue and Support **89,523**

Expenses

Programs	36,124
General and Administration	48,387
Fundraising	6,421

Total Expenses **90,932**

In addition, we have available assets in checking and savings of \$43,234. The FutureHeights financial year begins January 1 and ends December 31.

Form 990 for the year 2004 will be available in June 2005.

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!

**Future
Heights
NEWS**



FutureHeights
2163 Lee Road, Suite 103
Cleveland Heights, OH
44118
www.futureheights.org

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