



# Have You Heard the...

## EAST CLEVELAND MERGER TALK

by Jeff Dross



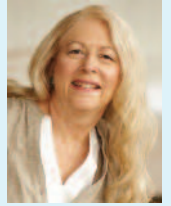
At a well-attended and well planned meeting Thursday evening, April 2nd, East Cleveland Mayor, Gary Norton laid out the realities of the city finances and categorically stated, that East Cleveland has a financial crisis. For the reasons defined, Norton asked the assembled to sign a petition authorizing the creation of a commission, empaneled to investigate a merger with the city of Cleveland.

The mayor made clear that the action simply establishes a commission to gather information. The city of Cleveland has agreed to participate, should the 559 valid voter signatures be collected. Once confirmed that the signers are valid registered voters in East Cleveland, the respective city councils from East Cleveland and Cleveland will each appoint three people to form the six-person commission. The commission will have 120 days to gather facts and present their findings. At that point, the proposal for merging with Cleveland will be sent to the voters of East Cleveland. By a simple majority, East Cleveland voters can either vote to merge or remain an independent municipality. If East Cleveland voters agree to merge, the proposal is then sent to Cleveland City Council. They can, in a council vote, agree to the merger, or they have the option to send the merger proposal to a vote of the general population of Cleveland. The results of that vote will finalize the process.

The municipality merging process is strictly defined in Ohio state code. By state mandate, merging can involve the municipal government ONLY, or it can also include the school system. The direction East Cleveland is pursuing is municipal government ONLY. The East Cleveland school district IS NOT included. It will remain an independent entity. **To read the entire meeting summary minutes visit: [www.fhho.org](http://www.fhho.org)**

## President's Message

by Hester Lewellen



### A WONDERFUL REMINDER...

I recently had a phone call from a woman whose nephew wanted to buy a home on Burlington. She had lots of questions about the association; she didn't know much about Forest Hill. But she said she had gone to google maps and done a virtual tour of our community. She was overwhelmed by the beauty of the homes and the trees. Unfortunately for her nephew somebody else snapped up that Burlington home, but she said he was continuing to look here because he had fallen in love with the neighborhood. And she could understand why.

When I get a phone call like that I am reminded what a special place this is. And how important it is that each of us does her share to preserve what we've got. And to spread the word about the well-built colonials, sprawling ranches and French Norman houses – all with attached garages! – that are looking for new owners.

How often do we hear someone say "I had no idea this neighborhood was here!" We need to be more than a best-kept secret!

### fhho.nextdoor.com

A reminder that FHHO has a private social network to keep you up-to-date on neighborhood doings. To join please email [President@fhho.org](mailto:President@fhho.org) and I will send you an invitation. You must be a resident or nearby neighboring community of Forest Hill. Recent postings included information on landscapers and the rescue of a white rabbit on Mount Vernon around Eastertime – no, not the Easter Bunny!

### NEW V.P. FOR MEMBERSHIP

Our wonderful Membership VP Katie Lewis had to resign due to the pressures of her work. We so much appreciate the hours she volunteered for FHHO and we hope she will keep in touch. Fortunately we were able to find a replacement for Katie.

Burlington resident Rosanna Sprague has stepped up to help us with the delivery of welcome packets to new residents. Thanks, Rosanna!

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



## Forest Hill Real Estate Activities

Current statistics on Forest Hill real estate activities include:

- 6 homes sold from January thru April 15th
- 18 homes are currently up for sale
- 16 homes are in foreclosure proceedings

You can find a list of FH homes currently for sale at: [www.fhho.org/forsale.asp](http://www.fhho.org/forsale.asp).

### UPCOMING FHHO EVENTS

**May 23, 2015 – 9:00 am to 3:00 pm**  
Forest Hill Community Garage Sale  
Contact Marla Zwinggi to sign up by no later than May 15th.

**June 6, 2015 – 10:00 am to 1:00 pm**  
First Saturday Meet-N-Greet  
The Blue Cottage

**June 9, 2015 – 7:15 pm**  
Executive Committee Meeting  
The Blue Cottage

**Forest Hill Home Owners Picnic – TBA**  
Forest Hill Park

# Standards Report

by Dale Rothenberger and Dean Sieck



It is time to pick up and to fix up. Now that the weather is improving, you need to inspect your yard and home for needed work. The winter was hard on everything, so you can expect that you will have some work to do.

The Standards guys will be driving around to see what needs attention in order to keep Forest Hill standing tall. You can help too! Look at your own home and yard and do what is needed to make things look sharp. We have found that gutters and peeling paint are the most frequent problems.

You can also check on other homes in Forest Hill and let us know when there is a problem. Let us know by emailing us at [standards@fhho.org](mailto:standards@fhho.org) or by calling the Blue Cottage and leaving a message at 216.932.8952. Please give us an address and a good description of the problem property.

We have about 20 addresses that we will be following up on from last fall. And of course, we all know there are half dozen or more homes that are chronic problems; homes that are currently in foreclosure or just vacant which we continue to closely monitor.

## GETTING HELP WITH HOUSING PRESERVATION

You can contact the Home Repair Resource Center at [www.hrrc-ch.org](http://www.hrrc-ch.org) for help with DIY projects. They are located at 2620 Noble Road or by phone at 216.381.6100.



Forest Hill homeowners can also contact Mary Ogle at the Heritage Home Program, a subsidiary of the Cleveland Restoration Society, if you are interested in their low-interest loans (through Key Bank). Any home over 50 years old qualifies. These loans are not needs-based. You can reach her at 216.426.3116. They are also willing to come out and do a free consultation on how to preserve your home before you start doing any major repairs or restoration projects.



## National Register of Historic Places

by Trina Pruffer

Forest Hill neighbors including Mary Rice, Della Travis, Sue Maier along with myself and others were able to complete the data entry for all Forest Hill homes in Cleveland Heights with the help and supervision of Kara Hamley O'Donnell at Cleveland Heights City Hall. More data entry is needed to label photographs of all homes taken last summer and to tackle the data entry for our East Cleveland homes. This work is in preparation for a full application for the remaining 920+ homes onto the NRHP.

## Welcome Our New Neighbors

by Rosanna Sprague

Since January 1, 2015 six new residents have moved into our Forest Hill community. Please welcome our newest neighbors:

- Greg Phillips and Patrick Wilt (Brewster)
- Ghainous Diallo (Cleviden)
- Monique Callans (Newbury)
- Marlis McMickle (Rumson)
- Debbie Schaadt (Mayfield)
- Elliot and Emily Barden (Blackmore)

## 2015 FHHO 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 **January 1 thru April 15, 2015.**

### PLATINUM LEVEL – \$200 +

Leslie and Belinda Jones  
Susan and Dr. Geoffrey Lefferts  
Dr. Gregory Videtic and  
Chris McCann  
Nathaniel and Marva Wright  
Aletah Whitman and  
James Van Hoose  
Gloria and Dr. Jess Young

Mark and Judy Feingold  
Gloria Glover  
Peter and Laura Grebus  
James Halsell  
James Harmon and Don Schmitt  
Anna Hooks  
Abdulmalik Nafid Iman  
Alexander and Nancy Jamieson  
Linda Johnston  
Isiah and Emma Jones

Lloyd and Mary Stowers  
Gary and Beryl Tishkoff  
Rev. Wesley and Arvell Toles  
Nick and Trisha Trent  
Gary and Betty Walczak  
Michael and Catherine Wells  
Lelar Whitaker  
Johnny Williams and  
Marguerita Henry

### GOLD LEVEL – \$125 to \$199

Wilma Borden  
James Copeland  
Leo and Betty Coyle  
Jeffrey Dross and  
Michele Ladouceur  
Astead Green  
James Sr. and Lola Harris  
Edward Jr. and Helena Harrison  
William Jr. and Jacqueline Head  
Carolyn Holt and Andrey Smith  
Christopher Hubbard and  
Dr. Abigail Behrens  
Mary Madison  
Marlis McMickle  
Sally and Robert Miller  
John Moody  
Thomas Nobbe and David Ward  
Teacola Offutt  
Glending Olson and  
Hester Lewellen  
Gregory Phillips and  
Patrick Witt  
Trina Pruffer  
David and Dr. Mary Rice  
David and Sharon Richardson  
Levi Shearer  
Sondra and William Welches

Kathleen and Christian Kaul  
Edward Jr. and Mary Beth Kelley  
Kate Kennedy and Karen Slaven  
John and Susan Kenney  
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Beradine Machock and  
Cathy Whelan  
Howard and Sue Maier  
Edward and Elois Malone  
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Lee and Angela McDade  
Leslei McQueen  
Henry and Ella Middlebrooks  
Jan Milic  
Nationstar Mortgage  
Kurt and Bemeda Mott  
David and Sharon Munford  
Paula and Tom Harvey  
Jay and Joyce Nesbit  
Nathaniel Overby  
Robert and Dorothy Pace  
Scott Peters and Jeannine Gury  
C. Randolph and Margaret Keller  
Barbara Reaves  
Dr. David Rickards and  
Jane Riedel  
Lula Robinson  
Dr. Douglas and Lois Rose  
Dale and Joyce Rotheberger  
Anthony and Angela Rupic  
Ella Russell  
Dr. Jerry and Hermina Saidel  
Peter Schofield  
Harriet Scruggs  
Judith and Dean Sieck  
Kimberly Meier-Sims and  
Stephen Sims  
Hubert Smith  
William and Frances Smoot  
Marsha Steele and Lynn Haney

### BRONZE LEVEL – Up to \$74

Timothy and Michele Banks  
Joanne Bielek  
Rosa Benton and Charlotte Perry  
Chester Boyce  
Rose Ciliberti  
Kent and Nelson Collier  
Jane Cunin  
Marilyn Cunin  
Ella Doss  
Inez Everett  
Leevearn and Arleest Grimes  
Laura Gay Hamilton  
Linda Holt and Dennis Grey  
Charlotte Horton  
Patricia Jenkins  
Geneva Jones and  
Stanley Wilson  
Timothy Larsen  
Joseph Meissner  
Carlotta Meneese  
Dorothy Miller and Valda Lewis  
Joann and Richard O'Donnell  
Marquerite, Peggy and  
Pat Opaskar  
Jamain and Keshia Owens  
William and Amy Pendleton  
Mary and Crystal Penn  
James Perdue  
James Polk  
Eugenia Poustryreva  
Frank and Elfie Ricchi  
Emmett Saunders  
David Singerman  
Thelma and James Smith  
Dr. Dalma and Lajos Takacs  
Bonnie Terrell  
Morris and Christine Walker  
Warren Williams

## Forest Hill Community Garage Sale

by Marla Zwinggi

On May 23rd we will host our third annual Forest Hill Community Garage Sale. In 2014 this event grew to 53 homes with more expected this year. This event not only helps Forest Hill residents attract a steady flow of potential buyers...it also serves to showcase our wonderful Forest Hill neighborhood.



Those interested in joining in on the Garage Sale should contact Marla Zwinggi at [mzwinggi@gmail.com](mailto:mzwinggi@gmail.com) or by calling 440.724.9683 by no later than May 15th. The cost is \$5 to participate which includes a yard sign and inclusion on all online advertising. For an additional \$2 you can get a personalized web page where you can feature descriptions and photographs of your specific items for sale.

Even if you don't participate in the actual Garage Sale we encourage you to visit some of the homes participating and enjoy a day of fun and conversation with visitors and neighbors.