



# Cogswell Chronicle

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July 21, 2016

## Our lead story

Picture this: The US is in the thick of a second World War and The Cleveland Memorial Shoreway was just extended from downtown to Edgewater Park. Your younger brother enlists in the Army at age 16 and your two younger sisters are placed in the care of The Jones Home on West 25th Street, not far from City Hospital (now MetroHealth). You are living at the Cleveland Training Home for Girls, 7200 Franklin Blvd., with 26 other girls ages 13 to 17. You are Marge Weindel (Szemenyei), 14 years old. The year is 1942.

Now that you've imagined yourself in her place - meet Marge today! She toured Cogswell Hall June 29 with her daughter, Kathy. Despite time passed and renovations completed since she left in 1946, she still felt a deep connection. Passing her old room on the second floor, she recalled walks with her friend, Theresa, to catch a show at the Capitol Theater at the center of the booming Gordon Square neighborhood - before its decline in the 1970s and its recent revival. "Those were the happiest days of my life," beamed Marge as she admired the piano in our historic parlor. "This wasn't here. It was a Player and it

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Marge (right) with her daughter Kathy in the parlor. *Photo by Katie Ramunni*

was in the basement. It was a very popular pastime for us girls." Marge and Theresa, still in touch with each other, are planning to sit down with us soon for an interview about their lives at Cogswell Hall. We hope to share this with you as part of our #EACHSTORY video series. To get updates on this and other stories click here to subscribe to the [Cogswell Hall Youtube channel](#).

## Coming Home

A COGSWELL HALL ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT

# Coming Home

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2016**  
5:30 P.M.—11:00 P.M.  
THE CALFEE BUILDING | 1405 EAST SIXTH STREET  
CLEVELAND, OHIO



Tickets are now available for Coming Home on Saturday, Sept. 24, at the historic Calfee Building in downtown Cleveland. Order yours at [www.cogswellhall.org/cominghome](http://www.cogswellhall.org/cominghome), or by contacting Hans Holznagel at 216-961-1568 or [hholznagel@cogswellhall.org](mailto:hholznagel@cogswellhall.org). Come experience great food, beverages and live music, and bid on the fun and classy outings

available in our silent auction! Support our unique mission. Bring a friend!

## Cleveland Foundation Blog

Our Cleveland Foundation Summer Intern Katie Karpinski has been busy working at improving our volunteer orientation and coordination procedures. Her accomplishments thus far include revised and updated orientation materials and the creation of a volunteer suite. As part of her internship program, Katie was given the chance to post on the Cleveland Foundation's blog. [Keep an eye out for it here!](#) The intern with the most views is awarded a prize at the end of the program so please take a peek and share with your friends!

## Volunteer Spotlight

As part of our overall effort to create a stronger volunteer culture at Cogswell Hall, we will be featuring regular Volunteer Spotlight segments in the *Chronicle* and online at our website's Volunteer page. This month we sat down with Rob Ball who, for over the past two years, has volunteered Wednesday and Friday mornings at our front desk. Learn more about Rob as a token of your appreciation for his service to the residents of Cogswell Hall!



### **How did you get involved with Cogswell Hall?**

*I was looking for a volunteer opportunity and received an email from Cleveland Volunteers with a description of the receptionist role. Because my wife had volunteered here one year with KeyBank planting flowers and landscaping, I knew what Cogswell was all about and it sounded like the kind of place that I would like to help by volunteering my time.*

### **If you could describe Cogswell Hall in one word, what would it be?**

*Community*

### **What has surprised you most about your volunteer experience thus far?**

*The amount of help I see provided to the residents by both the staff at Cogswell, as well as all the visiting nurses, case workers, and others who come here to help the residents.*

### **What do you wish other people knew about Cogswell Hall?**

*What a great service Cogswell Hall provides to the community at large by providing permanent housing solutions for really good people who need some help and might otherwise have no where to live. Also, the manner in which Cogswell provides not only a safe and comfortable place for daily living, but how it gives residents a chance to make friends, learn new things (Talks in the Hall, for example), and be part of a caring community.*

### **What do you do when you're not volunteering at Cogswell Hall?**

*I also volunteer one day a week at the Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries Homeless shelter at 2100 Lakeside Ave. where I monitor the computer lab and help the men there with online job search, resume preparation, and setting up emails. During the school year, I volunteer one afternoon each week in the office of the Urban Community School (Lorain & W. 50th St) where I help the office manager prepare bank deposits from all the money collected from the students for everything from lunches, to field trips, after school activities, etc. In the summertime, I play softball 2 mornings a weekend in an over-60 softball league. Tons of fun!*

*And I also help my hard-working wife by shopping, cleaning house, and doing laundry!*

### **What's your life motto?**

*Take nothing for granted, be nice to people, and never take a called third strike.*

## Public Art in our yard

On Saturday, July 9, Cogswell Hall residents opened their yard for Neighbor Night. In its second year, the event drew friends and new faces from our surrounding Franklin Blvd. blocks and beyond. Children and parents danced to the diverse local music under the shade of our two glorious trees while others tried their hand at screen printing their very own Neighbor Night t-shirt to commemorate the event. To view photos, check out the album on the [Emerging Ambassadors of Cogswell Hall](#) Facebook page.

Cogswell Hall is very excited to be the future home to a public art piece on our very own lawn. Some Neighbor Night attendees participated in an interactive art collage project, in which they were asked to use magazine clippings to create an image that represents what home means to them or why this neighborhood feels like home. Our volunteers then collected a photo of each person with their collage for use in the temporary art installation being custom built for the Cogswell Hall lawn later this summer. The artist leading the project, Dana Depew, is known for his work building thousands of bird houses and beautiful open-air structures out of materials salvaged from abandoned and foreclosed homes in Cleveland. Read this [recent article about Dana](#), who was voted Scene Magazine's Best Local Artist in their 2016 Best of Cleveland contest. We are so grateful to be working on this project and look forward to keeping you updated on its developments, due to conclude sometime late August.



Lindsay Wheeler, Detroit Shoreway resident.

## Blog of the month

### **Housing policy this election season, by Diana Cyganovich**



In this season of political conventions, I am glad to be headed to our nation's capital next week for the National Conference on Ending Homelessness. As we Americans evaluate candidates for President and Congress this fall, all of us - voters, nonprofit workers and volunteers, and people who just care about our neighbors - should think hard about government's role in helping and housing those in need.

[Read the full post by our Executive Director, Diana here...](#)

## We are in need of volunteers

**Lend a helping hand.** Cogswell Hall is currently seeking a passionate neighbor or community member to assist with picking up and unloading Food Bank donations. Volunteers would need to have their own form of transportation and be able to lift heavy objects. Please call us at 216-961-1568 or email [Katie Ramunni](mailto:Katie.Ramunni@CogswellHall.org) for more details!

**Have any hidden talents?** Bring them to Cogswell Hall! Cogswell Hall is constantly looking for talented musicians, artisans, and guest lecturers to donate their time and expertise. Please consider sharing your gifts with the Cogswell Hall community. Call us at 216-961-1568 or email [Katie Ramunni](mailto:Katie.Ramunni@CogswellHall.org) for more details!

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### Cogswell Hall Monthly E-Newsletter

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