

Cedar Center Plaza merchants had banded together in an attempt to prevent the expansion of Mawby's Restaurant. The city, though, granted Mawby's request to double its size.

University Suburban Health Center on Green Road planned to expand by adding a new building behind the existing structure with a connecting ramp and additional parking.

On a lighter note, Home Days once again was held in conjunction with the city of Lyndhurst. The theme of the joint event was "Homeday in Candyland" and it proved to be a great success.

As the year drew to a close, Mayor D'Amico expected a tight year but no cutbacks.

By August, 1978, the State of Ohio required the implementation of an Emergency Medical Service. Thus, the transportation of all medical emergencies would pass from the realm of the police department to the fire department. A new ambulance, to be used by the fire rescue squad, was needed and rescue personnel were now required to be Emergency Medical Technicians. Though other suburbs were including paramedics in their expansion plans, South Euclid declined, citing cost.

The police department revived its police auxiliary and sought volunteers, men and women over 21, to assist police with special duties.

The city's Commission on Aging expanded to become the first inter-city cooperative program on aging in the state. Renamed the Tri-City Consortium on Aging, residents from South Euclid, Highland Heights, and Lynd-

1978

Top Films: *National Lampoon's Animal House*, *The Deer Hunter*, *Coming Home*

Deaths: Norman Rockwell, Pope Paul VI, Pope John Paul I, Margaret Mead

Major Events:

- * The Jonestown Guyana mass suicide.
- * Reggie Jackson, "Mr. October," led the Yankees to a World Series win over the Dodgers, four to two.
- * Mohammed Ali won his third heavyweight title against Leon Spinks.
- * In Britain, the first "test tube" baby was born.
- * Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Poland became John Paul II, the first non-Italian pope since 1523 (after the deaths of the two previous popes in one year).
- * The city of Cleveland went into default, the first major city to do so since the Great Depression.

What's Hot: disco, the TV show *Dallas*

hurst benefited from five-day-a-week services, including a hot lunch program.

The first Appreciation Day, sponsored by the city, the May-Green merchants, and other local organizations drew a crowd of over 4,000. Appreciation Day was a way for the May-Green merchants to thank residents for their patronage. It was also a way for the city to thank merchants for their community support. Free hot dogs, crafts for the children,

Remember? . . . Police Drama With a South Euclid Connection. 1978

Two men, "T" and "G," entered Superior Savings at 14404 Cedar Road in University Heights, noting that three bank employees were present. They decided to make a withdrawal the illegal way. They drew guns, rushed behind the teller counter, and forced the employees to open the vault. Grabbing the money, they stuffed their pockets and the lining of their coats with \$19,000 cash. Unknown to them, the silent alarm had been tripped.

As the robbers were moving the employees into a back room, two University Heights police officers arrived on the scene. One patrolman entered the bank, shotgun drawn, and approached a teller's window.

"T" stepped into the doorway which led into the back room. The patrolman ordered him to raise his hands and come out. Another patrolman, with a shotgun, entered the bank. "T" remained standing in the doorway and begged the patrolman not to shoot. The patrolman spotted movement behind "T" and heard a woman's frightened voice.

Within seconds, "G" appeared from the back room, holding a pregnant bank teller hostage, his chrome-plated revolver aimed at her head.

The police ordered "G" to release the hostage and drop his gun. He refused, threatening to kill the hostage.

"G" pulled the hostage into the back room. "T" followed. Both men and the hostage exited the bank's back door. The patrolmen followed. Other police cars arrived on the scene.

The robbers forced the hostage into a 1967 Chrysler automobile. They pulled south onto Kerwin Road. The patrolmen, who had returned to their vehicles, were in pursuit. They followed the robbers west on Cedar to Milton Road. The robbers drove behind an apartment building and parked.

Next to them was a 1973 Plymouth Scamp. An elderly man was just entering the Scamp when the robbers abandoned their car and demanded his car keys. The elderly man gave them his car keys and ran for safety inside the apartment building.

The robbers pushed the hostage into the Scamp. Instead of a quick get-away, the robbers were in for a surprise. The car wouldn't start.

When police ordered the robbers out of the car, the robbers went back to the Chrysler. Instead of trying to drive away, "G" decided to drag the hostage, gun still held to her head, into the apartment building. "T" surrendered to police and was handcuffed and taken into custody.

"G" and his hostage entered the apartment building by pushing all the security buttons until an unsuspecting resident buzzed them in. "G" took the hostage up to the fourth floor of the five-story building.

By this time, the apartment building was surrounded by police from University Heights, Cleveland Heights, South Euclid, and Beachwood. Officers from these departments entered the building to offer assistance. A search of the building began.

On the fourth floor, "G" forced the hostage to knock on apartment doors. When one resident opened the door, "G" forced himself and the hostage inside. Another resident of the apartment escaped to warn police.

The police entered the apartment, finding the living room and kitchen empty. A South Euclid police officer walked out onto the outside balcony.

"G", still holding the gun to the hostage's head, started down the hallway from an end bedroom. As he neared the living room, police backed out of the apartment into the building's hallway. An officer asked "G" to give up. He refused.

"G" stood arguing with police from the doorway, threatening to shoot the hostage. He didn't see the South Euclid patrolman on the balcony.

In a split second, a University Heights patrolman pulled the hostage to safety just as the South Euclid patrolman-sharpshooter aimed and fired at "G." "G" was hit critically in the head.

"G" died later at the hospital.

"T" was arrested.

The \$19,000 cash was recovered.

The bank teller delivered a healthy baby a few months later.

and a six-mile mini-marathon from Brush to Bexley were featured.

Though the city was 98% developed, more projects were in the works. Beacon Hill Development wanted the city to rezone from single-family to multi-family 10 acres northeast of Monticello and Trebisky to the Richmond Heights border. Sixty condominiums were proposed.

A proposal to build Belvoir Mews, seventeen duplexes on a parcel landlocked by Belvoir, Francis Court, Mayfield, and Prasse roads, was approved.

Former Mayor Urban died of cancer at the age of 71.

As the "Seventies" drew to a close, South Euclid still pondered its development.

A Community Development Corporation was formed in 1979 to improve commercial areas in the city. Inflation, though, delayed some planned city improvements.

A Convenient Food Mart, including a retail center, was proposed for a lot near the northwest corner of Green Road and Monticello Boulevard. After six years of trying to locate in the city, construction was approved. Approval was also given for a 26-home subdivision from Monticello Boulevard to Ammon Road on a 10-acre site between Trebisky Road and Parkside Boulevard. The new street was named Azalea Drive.

The city was involved in a heated court battle with a developer who wanted to put a 45-unit condominium complex on three acres at Mayfield and Dorsh roads.

1979

Top Films: *Kramer vs. Kramer*, *Norma Rae*

Deaths: Earl Mountbatten of Britain, John Wayne

Major Events:

- * President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel signed a peace treaty at the White House.
- * Nuclear disaster struck at Three-Mile Island in Pennsylvania.
- * Iranian militants seized the U.S. Embassy in Teheran, Iran, holding 90 hostages.
- * Mother Teresa won the Nobel Peace Prize.
- * The country was suffering from an energy crisis and soaring inflation.
- * George Voinovich was elected mayor of the city of Cleveland.

What's Hot: clothes with designer labels, bumper stickers, tee shirts, backgammon, electronic games

The South Euclid Lions Club presented a teletypewriter machine as a gift to the police department so dispatchers could communicate with the deaf.

The Tri-City Consortium on Aging acquired a van to transport elderly residents to medical appointments, shopping, and to the hot lunch program.

Mayor D'Amico won re-election to his third term as mayor, capturing 60% of the vote.



Another decade rolled around, ushering in the "Eighties." It wouldn't be without controversy.

After a year of negotiations due to disputes over work hours and dispatching, the fire department finally used the city's new \$41,000 ambulance. A 40-hour work week for firemen was adopted over the objections of the firemen who preferred the traditional 24 hours on/48 hours off schedule. Fire Chief Charles Gardner retired.

St. Gregory the Great Church proposed a building for the elderly on the northeast portion of parish property. The 1.9-acre site would have accommodated an 80-suite building. The city rejected the plan.

City officials asked the Ohio Supreme Court to end a five-year battle with a developer wanting to build a condominium complex at Mayfield and Dorsh roads.



1980

Top Films: *Ordinary People*, *Raging Bull*, *Coal Miner's Daughter*

Deaths: Mae West, John Lennon, Alfred Hitchcock

Major Events:

- * Recession-unemployment rate was up, production was down, housing starts fell. The prime rate rose to 21.5%.
- * The U.S. hockey team won the gold at the Olympic Games in Lake Placid, New York.
- * The U.S. military expedition to free the hostages in Iran was met with disaster and failed.
- * A nationally-televised debate between President Jimmy Carter and nominee Ronald Reagan took place in Cleveland.
- * Ronald Reagan, Republican nominee, was elected president in a landslide victory. At 69, he was the oldest man ever elected president.
- * The long-dormant Mt. St. Helen's Volcano in Washington State erupted, causing widespread destruction.

What's Hot: "Who shot JR?"

A proposal to put two retail shops in the Loew's movie theater lobby at Cedar Center was approved.

1981

Top Films: *Chariots of Fire*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*

Deaths: Joe Lewis, Bob Marley, Anwar Sadat of Egypt, Natalie Wood

Major Events:

- * As President Ronald Reagan was being inaugurated, the 52 American hostages in Iran were released, ending 444 days in captivity.
- * President Ronald Reagan was shot and wounded by John Hinckley, Jr.
- * The space shuttle *Columbia* was the first space craft to be used a second time. First shuttle flight.
- * Air traffic controllers went on strike.
- * IBM introduced the personal computer, predicting that it would revolutionize office automation.
- * The AIDS virus was identified.
- * Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer of Great Britain were married.
- * Pope John Paul II was seriously wounded in an assassination attempt in St. Peter's Square in Rome.
- * Judge Sandra Day O'Connor was appointed the first woman on the Supreme Court.
- * Cleveland City Council was reduced from 33 to 21 members and the term of office for mayor and council members increased from two to four years.

What's Hot: Sony "Walkman"

Renovation and development, changes in the school system, and recreation were the major issues affecting the city in 1981.

The school board, led by Superintendent Henry Kurdziel, dominated the news with its proposal to reorganize the district. Under this plan, four elementary schools (Victory Park, Anderson, Bolton, Lowden) and Greenview Junior High School would be phased out over the next three years. Decreasing enrollment, a nationwide problem after the "baby boom," and high operating expenses were major factors in the decision. To lower expenses, most public school transportation was eliminated for students in the South Euclid-Lyndhurst system. Students in grades 9-12 and those who lived within two miles of their schools had to find alternate transportation.

Other uses for the soon-to-be-vacant schools were considered. The mayor was hopeful that the city could lease Victory Park School as a community center. The Chapel, a non-denominational Protestant church wanted to lease the Greenview Junior High building for services. This plan later fell through. SELREC hoped to establish Greenview as a community center. The school board leased areas of Greenview to the Cuyahoga East Vocational Education Compact and the South Euclid-Lyndhurst Recreation Commission.

Even though nearby school buildings would be closed, St. Gregory the Great Church proceeded with plans to build a parish family center on its property.

SELREC's funding from the school board was withdrawn and with the failure of two attempts at passing a levy, the recreation department was financially strapped. Because

Fred Rothaermel

Chief, The South Euclid Fire Department

1981 - 1985



A graduate of Shaw High School, Fred Rothaermel spent four years in the U.S. Marine Corps before joining the South Euclid Fire Department on October 25, 1970. He was a veteran of the fire fighting world. He grew up in the life, as his father had been a Cleveland-area fire fighter.

He quickly moved up through the ranks in the department. At the age of 32, he was appointed chief, on May 17, 1981.

Under his leadership, the fire station headquarters were remodeled. He was also instrumental in creating the smoke alarm ordinance in 1983 for multiple dwellings.

He left the department in 1985.

of decreasing sales of pool passes, Victory Park pool was to be closed for the summer. Residents, however, petitioned to keep the pool open and succeeded. The city pools were 26 years old and in need of repairs. Options were studied. Also, the city was still awaiting federal funding to turn the property at Belvoir and Monticello into a recreation area. The city hoped to build two lighted baseball diamonds, a jogging track, comfort stations, and a parking lot.

The city received a grant for the renovation of the business district at Mayfield and Green roads. Trees were planted, benches installed, and litter containers were placed in the area.

Proposed condominiums at Mayfield and Dorsh roads were still being debated. The Ohio

Supreme Court ruled the city's rejection of the condo's rezoning request unconstitutional.

In other news, Fred Rothaermel was appointed fire chief. Fire fighters also regained their old traditional shifts (24 hours on/48 hours off), but with a pay reduction.

Because of an increase in juveniles being involved in and arrested for committing crimes, the police department, in conjunction with the school system, conducted senior-high level classes in an attempt to familiarize youth with police. The program was met with enthusiasm.

A memorial service was held for Lloyd N. Reynolds, 84, South Euclid mayor from 1946-1948.

1982

Top Films: *Gandhi*, *E.T.*, *Tootsie*, *First Blood*

Deaths: Princess Grace of Monaco, John Belushi, Ingrid Bergman, Henry Fonda, Ayn Rand

Major Events:

- * Independent auto-maker John DeLorean was arrested for possession of cocaine.
- * Knoxville, Tennessee hosted the World's Fair.
- * The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. was dedicated.
- * Barney Clark was the first human to get an artificial heart.
- * Tylenol, laced with cyanide, killed seven.
- * The U.S. poverty level was the highest since 1967. The recession was over but more people were unemployed than at any time since the Great Depression.
- * Halle's department store was closed in downtown Cleveland.
- * The *Cleveland Press* ceased publication.
- * Ground was broken for the Sohio (BP) building on Public Square in downtown Cleveland.

What's Hot: a return to elegance, style, and formality in fashion; rap music; government surplus cheese

The fire department wasn't the only thing that was hot on the city's mind in 1982. Residents' protests over proposed development reached a fever pitch.

Plans to expand the city's fire station were approved and construction begun. An existing north wall was demolished and another bay added. Along with a first-floor addition was a second-floor addition for a new kitchen-dormitory. Included was a separate locker facility for women, should they join the force.



Plans for the Victory Park School site ignited sparks. Informal plans from the County Board of Mental Retardation, the Cooper School of Art, and another trade school were presented for the site. The most controversial plan for the site was a proposal by a developer to build a \$3 million Fisher-Fazio supermarket. Included was the possibility of trading a new community center for city-owned land fronting along Mayfield Road.

The school board liked the Fazio plan and negotiated a tentative sale agreement. Eighty vocal residents opposed the plan, citing competition to local stores, noise, pollution, traffic hazards, and the possibility of the school being used in the future. SERA (South Euclid Residents Association) was formed to save the Victory Park School. A petition drive was launched.

Council authorized the mayor to sell the small tract of land in front of Victory Park School to the developer of Fazio's. A deal was negotiated. SERA vowed to fight the plan with a referendum, if necessary.

The city acquired the former ARCO property at Green and Rushton to provide additional public off-street parking.

Voters rejected a proposed increase in the city's income tax. The city predicted belt-tightening and service cuts in the coming year.

1983

Top Films: *Terms of Endearment, Tender Mercies, Return of the Jedi*

Deaths: George Balanchine, Gloria Swanson

Major Events:

- * A report on education stated that we are "a nation at risk."
- * Sally Ride became the first American woman in space, aboard the space shuttle *Challenger*.
- * The embassy in Beirut, Lebanon was bombed. A bomb also exploded in the U.S. Marine Headquarters in Beirut, killing over 200 sleeping soldiers.
- * For the first time in its 132-year history, the America's Cup left for Australia, ending the United States' supremacy in yachting.
- * Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday became a national holiday.
- * Rev. Jesse Jackson ran for president.

What's Hot: VCR's, cable TV, Madonna

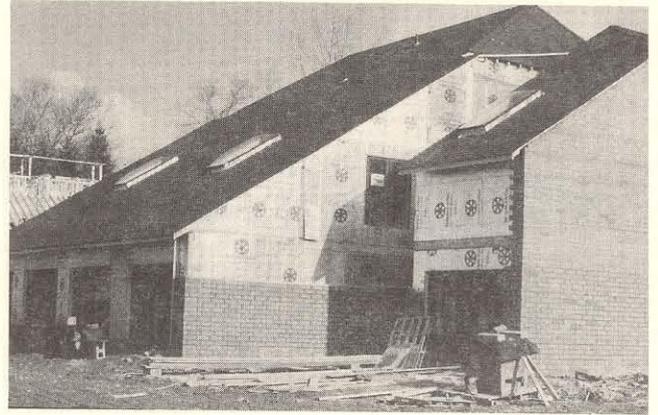
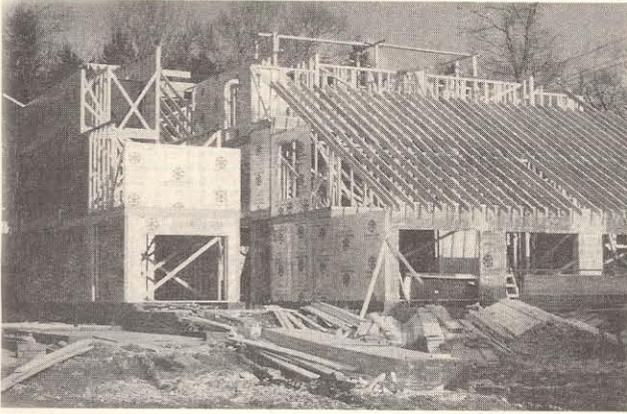
One of the largest issues confronting the city in the previous year made a re-appearance in 1983 with a different result.

The proposal to build a Fazio's supermarket at the Victory Park School site died. However, an Akron grocery store chain, Acme, agreed to an eight-month option to purchase the property on Mayfield Road. The school board approved a purchase option with the Albrecht Company, who had proposed building a \$3.2 million, 65,000-square-foot Acme grocery store, its first in Cuyahoga County and, reportedly, the largest in the state. The deal was almost identical to the one with Fazio's, community center and all. This time, the grocer had taken a more community-oriented approach to the project and the grocer and city reached an agreement.

A plan to open an emergency medical care center at Cedar Center, to be affiliated with Mt. Sinai Hospital, was not approved. Neither was a development for 52 cluster homes on an 8.7-acre parcel off Anderson Road between Trebisky and the Lyndhurst border. Also, a proposed garden center operation on property at E. Antisdale and Warrensville Center roads was rejected.

The police department, in conjunction with residents, established a "block watch" program in the Princeton Boulevard area, enlisting residents to report suspicious activity to the police department.

With the Illuminating Company, the city completed arrangements to convert more than 2,000 mercury vapor street lights to energy-efficient high pressure sodium lights. South Euclid would be one of the first communities in the United States to have exclusively this type of street lighting.



The Lofts, under construction

1984

Top Films: *Amadeus*, *Beverly Hills Cop*, *Ghostbusters*

Deaths: Lillian Hellman, Indira Gandhi, Count Basie

Major Events:

- * Walter Mondale became the Democratic nominee for President and Geraldine Ferraro became the first woman chosen as a Vice Presidential nominee.
- * The summer Olympics opened in Los Angeles.
- * Dr. Kathryn Sullivan became the first woman to walk in space.
- * Seventy-nine banks failed, more than in any other year since 1938.
- * President Ronald Reagan was re-elected.

What's Hot: bold colors and simple lines in fashion, Michael Jackson's *Thriller*, Bruce Springsteen's *Born in the U.S.A.*

Optimism filled the air in 1984. South Euclid was beginning to undergo changes in its retail environment and in its infrastructure.

Victory Park School was scheduled for demolition so the new Acme grocery store could be built on the site. The *Sun Messenger* newspaper had placed ballots in its paper asking readers to vote for or against the Acme store. By nearly a two to one margin, responses favored the store. Merchants who had originally opposed the store now supported the project, believing that it would increase business in the shopping district.

The retail areas of South Euclid were also increasing in number. A new shopping center at Warrensville Center and E. Antisdale roads was under construction. It was to include a Lawson Milk Company, a Pizza Bazaar, and a dry cleaner.

Existing businesses were in the spruce-up mode. The owner of Glengate Shopping Center on Green Road was sinking thousands of dollars into an extensive renovation to modernize the strip center. Merchants in the Mayfield-Green area made plans to renovate their storefronts. A grant to build a parking lot at Green and Rushton was received.



The city was also in the building mode. A new community center was planned, to be designed, built, and furnished by the developers of the Acme store on a site behind the proposed supermarket east of the Victory Park swimming pool.

Plans were made to restore the War Memorial at Victory Park. Instead, the Albrecht Company, builders of the Acme grocery store, were willing to pay for moving the memorial to a new location. Mayor D'Amico favored the grassy triangle at Green and Anderson roads for its central location and scenic beauty. The decision was made to move and rebuild the memorial. Though the memorial itself had deteriorated, many of the granite slabs from the old monument were to be retained and matched with new ones. The old memorial was originally built to honor veterans from World War II. The new monument would include Vietnam veterans as well. Cuyahoga County sent more residents to Vietnam (around 40,000) than any other county in the nation with the exception of Orange County in California. The new memorial was designed by Allen R. Baker, the city's building commissioner, and was to take six months to construct.

Finally, plans for a new city park on the parcel at Belvoir and Monticello were approved. The new park was to include

softball diamonds, a soccer field, a running track, restrooms, and picnic facilities. A facelift was given to the playgrounds at Quarry and Bexley parks.

A long-awaited sewer plan got the green light after years of discussion. Funds were secured for the Heights-Hilltop Interceptor Sewer. The huge 28-mile pipe was to carry water from flood-prone areas to the Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant and into Lake Erie.

1985

Top Films: *Out of Africa*, *Prizzi's Honor*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*

Deaths: Yul Brynner, Ricky Nelson

Major Events:

- * Mel Fisher and a team of divers discovered the treasure-laden Spanish galleon, the Atocha.
- * Cincinnati Reds baseball player Pete Rose broke legend Ty Cobb's hitting record.
- * A summit was held between President Ronald Reagan of the U.S. and U.S.S.R. General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev.
- * Homelessness became a national problem.
- * A famine struck Africa and fund-raisers like the Live-Aid concerts were held.

What's Hot: the song, *We Are the World*