

CHRONICLE TELEGRAM

1PM CIRC. 34,082

ELYRIA, OH

JUNE-18-07

HCB Lorain County lawyers lend a helping hand

A rose ...

To the Lorain County Bar Association, for trying to recruit attorneys to help The Legal Aid Society of Greater Cleveland. Legal Aid provides legal services for indigent clients. Given its limited resources, Legal Aid can't even come close to meeting demand for its services in Lorain County or anywhere else. That's why we applaud the bar association for offering a free class to lawyers who agree to take on at least one case pro bono for Legal Aid in the next year. It's an important gesture of goodwill toward the community.

A raspberry ...

To a certain homeowner in the Elyria High School neighborhood, who seemed unwilling to accept the results of last month's election. The school district hosted a meeting last week for owners of homes that the district wants to purchase and bulldoze to make room for the new Elyria High, an issue which received overwhelming support last month at the polls. Tuesday's meeting was intended to give homeowners information about the school district's plans for the coming months, but one homeowner used the forum to skewer the school board for the ballot proposal, insisting that voters would not have approved Issue 7 if they had known homes would be snatched in the process.

Superintendent Paul Rigda was right to rebuke this person. The time for debate on the issue is over; voters have made their decision. Furthermore, though other facets of the EHS plan might have received more attention, the idea of purchasing properties for it was never a secret, as this person suggested.

A rosé ...

To the Cleveland Cavaliers, on their remarkable season. Yes, the team's performance in the Finals was a disappointment, but just by going to the Finals, the Cavaliers exceeded expectations for them this year. In the process, they generated the kind of excitement that hasn't been seen in this area in years. A championship would have been great, but hey — at least LeBron and company have another level to shoot for next year.

A raspberry ...

To officials in Lorain County who haven't been able to get their books in order for auditing. Last week, the state auditor declared that the Lorain County Regional Airport's 2006 financial documents were unauditible because of how the county sent in its annual financial report. And last month, the auditor declared that both Carlisle Township and the Arts Academy in Lorain did not prepare their books properly.