

Melissa Yasinow 5/29/19

June 27, 2018

The Heights Observer
2843 Washington Blvd.
Cleveland Heightst, OH 44118

My thoughts about
trash pickup
- Anne

Re: Tom Diamond's article in June 1 issue

My response to Mr. Diamond is **NO** – we don't want those huge bins littering our treelawns all day on trash day. I and most people on our street (and nearby streets) don't have tons of trash each week. In fact, I usually have two small bags, one with recyclables in it. The ugly huge bins are usually left out on people's tree lawns all day, sometimes tipped over, looking messy because the homeowners don't return until late afternoon after work. If Mr. Diamond and others would not put tasty treats in their bags & set them out the night before pickup, rodents wouldn't try to rip the bags open. Meat scraps can be put in our disposals and vegetable scraps can be put in a compost pile. If I have pieces of chicken skin or bones, I put them in a little bag in the freezer and then into the trash bag the morning of pickup. Frozen meat scraps don't attract animals. The day I read Mr. Diamond's tirade about trash pickup, I drove around our neighborhoods and didn't see one ripped open trash bag, but I did see lots and lots of bins on neighboring cities' treelawns.

On another note, those big bins can be cumbersome to tote to the treelawn. My 92 year old neighbor who lived alone and had minimal trash couldn't have toted two bins out to the treelawn every week. Also consider able-bodied folks who could do that but have snow-filled driveways during the winter.

We already pay quite high taxes. How much more would we pay if, as he suggests, we purchase high-end garbage lift trucks? And I would prefer to keep our trash collectors employed rather than ditch them for new trucks.

One of the blessings of living in Cleveland Heights is that we can put usable items on our treelawns and “trash pickers” come by and take them, thus giving some items new life rather than throwing them away. And thanks to the trash pickers for repurposing stuff.

His snide comment at the end of the article about “politicians” needing jobs for their nephews and nieces, is just plain repulsive.* Maybe he should move back to Solon or Sandusky.

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***If we actually look at our employees who pick up the trash/recyclables, we would see that they don't look like "politician's" relatives.**