

FREE!
Please support our advertisers

The Collinwood Observer

Vol. 2, Issue 2 • February 11, 2010

A member of the Observer media family of community-written newspapers and websites

Save Ginn Academy

Michael D. Polensek, Ward 11 Councilman

I am sure that you read by now about the proposed relocation of Ginn Academy from the former Margaret Spellacy School on East 162 Street to Glenville High School for the next school year.

Many of you know that I worked diligently with Coach Ted Ginn, Sr. over the last three years to find a permanent suitable location to house “Ted’s dream” of a stand-alone, all boys, single gender, academy; one that placed safety, security and academic excellence as its core values. To hear that Ginn Academy is now being proposed to be relocated into a general high school is a tragic turn of events.

After Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) put \$2.5 million into renovating the present building, their consultant from Boston recommends, in order to shore-up Glenville, that the District place Ginn Academy in the building with an all-girls academy,

as well. This would totally defeat what Ginn was supposed to be about from day one. Time is of the essence. We cannot let them destroy this vision because “Ted’s dream” is working.

I am in the process of organizing parents, concerned citizens and anyone else who believes that the young men in Ginn Academy have a right to succeed and to become somebody. I urge you to contact CMSD Board members at (216) 574-8585 or email them via Kevin Burtzloff, Board Liaison, at kevin.burtzloff@cmsdnet.net or mail a letter to them at the Board of Education, Administration Building, 1380 East Sixth Street, Room 152, Cleveland, Ohio 44114, to express your outrage and concerns. Members names are online at www.cmsdnet.net.

On Saturday, February 13, 2010 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, at Ginn Academy, located at 655 East 162 Street, there will be



a Parent/Community meeting with CEO Dr. Eugene Sanders to discuss this proposal. We need everybody who cares about the students and their future to be in attendance. Furthermore, we have petitions available for anyone wishing to circulate them in opposition to the proposed relocation. Contact my office at (216) 664-4236 or email us at council11@clevelandcitycouncil.org to request a petition. Completed petitions should be returned to my office. You can mail them to me at: Councilman Michael D. Polensek, Cleveland City Hall, 601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 220, Cleveland, Ohio 44114.

To quote Ted Ginn, Sr., “It takes courage to be different; to be a Ginn man.” I told Dr. Sanders that the fight has just begun. I refuse to let CMSD wreck a program and a philosophy that is working to save young men in our very community. You have all heard the old saying, “If it isn’t broke; don’t fix it!” Ginn Academy isn’t broke; it needs to be nurtured and protected, and I plan to do whatever I have to do in order to safeguard it. I need your help. Please join with me in making sure that CMSD Board of Education rejects this proposal outright. ■



"It takes a Village..." Collinwood staff and students, City Year team, neighborhood volunteers and Cavs staff helped paint on MLK Day.

Cavs at Collinwood High School for MLK Day

Christopher Eiswerth

On January 18, 2010, fifty students and thirteen teachers from Collinwood High School chose to honor Dr. Martin Luther King’s memory by participating in a “day ON, not a day off.” Joined by City Year corps members, community volunteers, and the Cleveland Cavaliers, the students and staff of Collinwood painted over 25,000 square feet of hallways and helped Collinwood Principal Deborah D. Moore launch the “Be Like Lebron” campaign, a school-wide initiative to foster teamwork and collective responsibility amongst the students.

Chipped, cracked, and peeling, Collinwood’s blue and gray hallways, last painted in 2002, were beginning to show their age when City Year chose the school as a site for its annual MLK, Jr. Day of Service. General Electric, the Urban League of Greater Cleveland, CSX and Home Depot made the project possible by donating over \$2,500 worth of paint, supplies, and refreshments. Starting at 1:00 pm in the school auditorium, Tasheanna Hammond and O’Dasha Johnson of City Year began the day’s activities. Quoting Dr. King, Ms. Johnson told over 125 volunteers, “Everybody can be great,



because everybody can serve.” Following Ms. Johnson, Principal Moore thanked the community for its dedication and challenged the volunteers to continue their support beyond the holiday and invited them to visit Collinwood throughout the school year to see its collective strides forward.

After the introductions, the volunteers split into several different teams and most began to paint throughout the first two floors of the school. Students worked alongside their teachers; current Case Western Reserve University students painted next to local workers. “The volunteers worked hard,” said City Year corps member Brittanny Evans. “There wasn’t any complaining; lots of kids learning to paint; and lots of laughing.” The school cheerleading team shared in the laughter as they took down the trophies in the school’s entranceway and cleaned them.

While most of the walls were painted moonlight grey, volunteers colored one hallway on the first floor, the “Cavs Corridor,” wine and gold as part of Principal Moore’s “Be Like Lebron” campaign. An avid Cavs fan, Principal Moore said, “Lebron [James] impressed me with his sportsmanship and his calm. He takes all this abuse on the court, but he never blows up.” Principal Moore especially noticed these qualities during the Christmas game versus the Los Angeles Lakers. She said, “He rallied his

teammates into a huddle. He kept the people around him calm; he kept the people around him safe.” Principal Moore hopes her initiative will foster a sense of teamwork and Mr. James’s unselfishness within the student body. As an example, she notes how Mr. James will give a young player another chance to shoot after a miss on the previous possession. She said, “The students need to learn to pass, not to give up, and realize that we’re all in this together.”

The campaign seeks to “give students another opportunity to show leadership skills that would not be seen usually.” In addition to the wine and gold colored wall, Principal Moore asked two students, Anthony Sanders and Kyshawn Cook, and their teacher, Ms. Denise Denega, to paint a mural of Lebron James. Mr. Sanders said, “At first I was honored.” Mr. Cook said, “It was great to know our school wanted us” to paint the mural. Then, Mr. Sanders and Mr. Cook both realized, “we’d never painted in our life.” Ms. Denega, however, gave the students a crash course in painting with acrylics and joined them on their day off to help with the mural. Also helping with the Cavs Corridor were several members of the Cleveland Cavaliers. J.J. Hickson, Jawad Williams, Danny Green, and Darnell Jackson chatted and painted alongside the students in the afternoon. The visit by the Cavs was a secret to the students and left them excited. An 11th grader, Jalen Gardner McCoy said, “We don’t get to talk to people like that everyday.” A senior, Marvin Roach said, “It was great to talk with them about the season.” After sharing his newfound painting skills with the players, Mr. Cook said, “It was a big excitement to see the Cavs come out and help their community.” After painting, the Cleveland Cavaliers donated four Fathead posters for the walls, after they dried.

| continued on page 5

AROUND COLLINWOOD

Don't tax yourself

Louise Foresman

It's February. By now you've received 2009 tax forms from your employer and any other forms you need to deal with your taxes. If you're feeling confused about filing (Do I need to file some schedule? Can I claim the Earned Income Tax Credit that can bring a refund of several thousand dollars? And how can I get my refund faster?) you might be thinking about taking your taxes to one of the tax preparing businesses that, like winter's slushy piles of snow, are suddenly all over Collinwood.

These businesses file your taxes and give you a loan in anticipation of the refund you will get from the federal and state government. You go home with your money faster, but are these "refund anticipation loans" with associated fees that gobble up part of your hard-earned tax refund really the best deal for you and your family? If you qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), you could be getting several thousand dollars back, but tax preparation businesses charge a flat fee and often a percentage of your refund. They could be getting the equivalent of a bank loan for you to get the money. There are alternatives.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) trains volunteers to do your taxes for free and will file your taxes electronically at many sites throughout Collinwood and Cuyahoga County. This program, called VITA for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, is available to people with adjusted household incomes of no more than \$49,000. The VITA sites can do taxes for self-employed folks who's filings aren't too complicated, such as home daycares or small home repair businesses. And if you are behind on your taxes, these sites can go back two years to file for you.

The VITA sites are not the only places doing tax preparation for free and filing taxes electronically. Another alternative is Benefit Bank (see adjacent story). Benefit Bank sites exist year-round and can help your household evalu-

ate what public benefits you might be eligible for. During tax season, those with adjusted incomes of up to \$57,000 are eligible for free tax preparation. Benefit Bank sites are usually able to file for self-employed individuals also. The Cleveland Foodbank on South Waterloo Road is one Benefit Bank site that serves Collinwood. You can also get tax help through AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) sites, and there are sites if you need tax help in a language other than English.

And, most importantly, when you file electronically through either the VITA or Benefit Bank sites, and you have a bank account, in most cases, the IRS can direct deposit your refund to your bank account within 7-10 business days of filing. If you don't have a bank account, of course the IRS will send you the check directly, but many of the VITA sites have services such as referrals to credit counseling, wealth building workshops, and information on how to get and keep a bank account.

So, how do you get connected to these sites? One easy way is to call 2-1-1 or First Call for Help M-F: 8:30am-5:00pm. 211 is the 24-hour number for health and human service referrals in Cuyahoga County. They will return your call if you leave a message. 211 staff will help you find the closest site to your zip code, review documents and whether or not your income makes you eligible for free tax help, and schedule you for the next available appointment.

You can also visit 211's web site and find sites where you can make your own appointment for tax help. The site is <http://211cleveland.org>. Put in your zip code and age and you will find sites located in your zip code and beyond. You will find sites where you can make an appointment yourself. The main thing to remember is that you don't have to pay for tax preparation if your qualify for free help. Resources are out there and not far away!

The Ohio Benefit Bank allows you to apply for a range of benefits at one time

Darece Daniels

To help eligible Ohioans claim tax credits and public benefits, Governor Ted Strickland is supporting an initiative called the Ohio Benefit Bank, www.governor.ohio.gov/obb.

The Ohio Benefit Bank is a FREE, web-based, counselor-assisted program that connects low and moderate income Ohioans with free federal and state income tax preparation, and access to potential public benefits such as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly food stamps), health-care coverage, home energy assistance, child care subsidies, FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), Medicaid, and Senior's Prescription Drug Programs.

Billions of dollars in public funds go untouched each year because applying for state and federal benefits such as SNAP or Medicaid is confusing, intimidating, time-consuming or embarrassing. Additional billions in tax credits are also left unclaimed due to lack of knowledge. The Benefit Bank removes these obstacles, bringing people closer to stability and closer to self-sufficiency.

The Benefit Bank is the only program available that can help you apply for a range of benefits such as SNAP, Medical Benefits and file federal and state taxes all at once. The "one stop shop" concept of the Benefit

Bank reduces the amount of time needed to apply for benefits. The Benefit Bank is a free service designed to help you get all of the benefits and tax credits you may be eligible for, the resource that can make a real difference in your life. The Benefit Bank host site, Institutional Community Development can assist people with The Benefit Bank services, privately and securely, at the Collinwood Memorial Library located at 856 E.152nd. To schedule an appointment, call 216-812-6954.

Every Party Needs



(216) 531-3756
www.onefundj.com

Career Training That Works!



Cleveland
Job Corps Center
Success Lasts a Lifetime!

At Cleveland Job Corps, students receive the skills needed to succeed in today's workforce - at no cost to them or their families!

If you are looking for a better quality of life and are willing to dedicate yourself to our life changing program.

Cleveland Job Corps is the place for you!



Cleveland Job Corps Center
13421 Coit Road
Cleveland, OH 44110
Phone: (216) 541-2500

The Bingo Store... And More! 

Bingo Paper, Raffle Tickets,
Side Board, Tickets, Dabbers,
Cushions, Bags and more!

618 E. 185th • 216 - 481-5533



RAS Accounting

Small business bookkeeping/payroll services

Just say, 'Help me, Rhonda!'
216-288-7710 • rhonda_slusser@hotmail.com

Near E. 185th in Euclid ~ Notary



Complete Automotive Service,
Foreign and Domestic

17600 Lakeshore Blvd.

(216) 481-7067

AROUND COLLINWOOD

Negative Space is working for positive change

Sarit Zamir

Where E. 156th Street meets Waterloo Road, Gadi and Sarit Zamir are creating a most appropriate intersection of their own. Within the walls of the old Jepson's Pharmacy and Abby Theatre buildings on the southeast corner, development is merging with sustainability and art to bring a unique new vision to the heart of the neighborhood.

As Negative Space, local artist Gadi and his wife Sarit are creating one new business and enabling many, providing what the neighborhood infrastructure really needs: affordable, attractive, safe and efficient business and working spaces for artists and neighborhood entrepreneurs. The vision is to split each property into a suite of affordable smaller units that will serve as new business incubators as well as providing needed neighborhood services. And it's far more than a vision.

"We know it's hard to see from the street," says Gadi, "but we literally had to start from scratch with this project. New architectural designs that respect the essential nature of Collinwood had to be created. Efficient electrical, plumbing and heating and cooling systems have to be installed. And because it is sustainable renovation, the interior demolition proceeds rather slowly. But we've come a long way already."

Two 40 yard containers with a unique destination have already been filled with debris from the project. The demolition and construction waste materials that have not been salvaged for use in Gadi's artwork are sent to a local Material Reclamation Facility which sorts and repurposes materials such as wood, metal, drywall, concrete and glass. At every turn, the costs and benefits of preservation and the reuse of existing materials are carefully balanced with the introduction of new and innovative materials meeting LEED standards. This intense focus on sustainability while preserving the essential character of an older neighborhood is the key to the Negative Space approach.

The first floor will initially house several businesses: Gadi's art studio, an upscale tattoo and body art studio as well as unique spaces for individual practitioners. The upper floors will become a commercial/office space co-op focusing on shared resources for small businesses. There are also residential units planned for the second floors.

"Our mission is 'Rethink, Reuse, Renew,'" according to Sarit. "Rethinking development by applying green building techniques to existing structures, reusing existing materials to reduce waste, and renewing this community through revitalized business. We can't help



Gadi (top center) filling first of two 40-yard containers with debris destined for recycling.

but believe that this approach, combined with our roots in art, is a perfect match for the Waterloo Arts District and this important project."

Art really is at the heart of Negative Space's vision for the buildings. In fact, it was art that initially brought them to Collinwood, when Gadi's artwork was exhibited at True Art in 2006. Impressed with the spirit and energy they found in the area, they realized Collinwood was the place to start. "My art is all about telling stories," observes Gadi, "and this neighborhood is a love story for us, and one we want to teach to our kids. My studio will be here. Our offices will be here."

Of course, the development is more than a commercial opportunity. It is a perfect fit for the intersection, facing the new triangular park now being redeveloped as part of the Waterloo Streetscape project, into a central public space complete with public art and room for everything, from festival events to quiet lunches in the sun.

GETTING TO KNOW...

Cupid, God of Love

Susan Brandt

While not a real person, Cupid was the God of Love to ancient Romans, and many Italians believed in his powers. Even in the modern world, references to Cupid and his bow and arrows of love are found everywhere on Valentine's Day.

Cupid was not initially the cherubic, happy little angel that we think of today. In his original incarnation, he was a very mischievous, sometimes dark god of love and desire who enjoyed matching odd couples and seeing how they worked out.

Cupid eventually fell under his

own spell of odd matches. He fell in love with Psyche, a mortal. In the Greek language, Psyche means "butterfly" and also means "soul." In many ways, what Psyche goes through is symbolic of the path of each woman's soul in life.

Cupid had been sent by his mother, Venus, to punish Psyche for her beauty. Instead, he was captivated by her. He arranged to have her brought to his mountain home to live with him, but he hid his identity from her, only visiting her at night. Their time together was so tender and full of gentle talk

that Psyche fell in love with Cupid, without ever seeing him.

Psyche's jealous sisters were angered by her wealth and love, and convinced Psyche that her lover must be a monster to so hide himself. The sisters persuaded her to sneak up on him, armed with a knife. He awoke and saw her there, at which point he promptly left her, and all of the material possessions surrounding her were gone as well.

Psyche realized how foolish she'd been, and decided the only way to be with Cupid again was to ask Venus for her blessing. Venus was delighted at having Psyche kneeling down before her, and set forth many tasks for Psyche to perform to prove her worthiness. Each task was more than

Psyche thought she could manage, but in each case, a god stepped in to assist her. Finally, Psyche and Cupid were allowed to be married. They were very happy together, and had a child, named Pleasure.

What is your idea of perfect happiness?
Being in Love.

What is your greatest achievement?
Pleasure.

What quality do you most like in a person?
Perseverance.

What do you value most in your friends?
Their ability to adapt.

What is your most treasured possession?

My bow and arrow.

What is your greatest extravagance?
Well, being the god that I am, I can do whatever I want!

Who are your heroes in real life?
What's that? My only hero is my mother Venus!

What makes you unique?
I am a god!

If you could change one thing what would it be?
I would change hatred. We all need Love.

Favorite word?
Passion.

Happy Valentine's Day! May we all find someone or something to be passionate about!

Are you or someone you know

FACING FORECLOSURE?

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE
Call today to see if you qualify
216.458.HOME (4663)
Se Habla Español

Neighborhood Housing Services
of Greater Cleveland
5700 Broadway Avenue . Cleveland, Ohio 44127 . www.nhscleveland.org

WHY PAY RENT
When you can own?

**CRESTHAVEN
DEVELOPMENT**

WE CAN HELP!

CALL TODAY!
(216) 531-7111
sales@cresthaven.net
www.cresthaven.net

For the same amount you're paying in rent every month, you could be living the American Dream of owning your own home.

FORUM

Health care reform on life support

Mike Gallagher

Although it was not a sure bet, I would have wagered the farm on the Health Care Reform bills becoming law.

Lucky for me, Dan Gilbert's casino is not yet open; at the age of 54, it would have been tough to move back home with mom.

Understanding that there are other issues that affect voters decisions, it's still very discouraging that the Massachusetts Democratic party fell asleep at the wheel, and a candidate whose platform included being against health care reform won the US senate seat vacated by the passing of Ted Kennedy.

This is a bitter pill for supporters of reform to swallow, but maybe some good could come from it. There was a lot of jostling that needed to be done to win the support of senators like Joe Lieberman and Ben Nelson to gain the 60 vote filibuster proof majority. The filibuster proof majority is gone, but the Democrats still have a 59-41 majority. This could be a time to make some adjustments that make the Senate bill stronger, and closer to the House version. Like returning to the bill the public option that Joe Lieberman vowed to vote against. They may not need Joe no mo.

Perhaps some Massachusetts voters voted as they did because health care was not a primary concern of theirs, Massachusetts does have a state coordinated

plan, working with private insurers, with a goal to cover all citizens in the state.

And the majority of the US does have some type of health care insurance, so with a lot of other competing issues, health care may not be on the forefront of their mind, so we can ask:

Who speaks for the uninsured and underinsured ?

There are many in our country, political leaders and citizens alike, who view our health care situation as a national epidemic. And there are likely many more citizens who have at least some concern and awareness about the problem, and would support some type of reform. But their support could be tenuous for many reasons, not least of which is that most of them already have some type of health care insurance. With so many other problems that people could be facing everyday, health care reform may not be high on their list.

There are approximately 45 million Americans who don't have health insurance, and while many of those numbers are by choice, it is still an imposing figure. But there are about 220 million voting age people in the US.

This is not a unique situation, our history is filled with times where less than a majority of our citizens were facing some type of hardship, but it is at many of these moments where our leaders have

been at their best. In many ways, that is the essence of leadership - convincing people that don't necessarily have a direct stake in an issue the value of doing the right thing.

So, maybe we are at one of those moments now. Where our leaders, starting with the president, help convince the citizens of all that is right with a better health care insurance system. If actions like this could win the support of our citizens, then maybe the few Senate opponents that would need to be won over could be convinced by the power of the people's voices. Or, even without their votes, it could look downright foolish to filibuster if you aren't speaking for the people--people who see that there is a better way, and it's here now, right within our grasp. ■

MLK DAY

continued from page 1

Students, volunteers, and corps members agreed that the painting went well. De'shawn Cohen, a Collinwood ninth grader who learned to paint at home, said that the walls "looked boring and dull before, but now that it's brighter, it will make you want to think more." Mr. Cook said, "It felt really good to help my school out." Commenting on the student participation, Principal Moore said, "If the government wants to honor Dr. King by encouraging community service on his birthday, then we should do everything to support that." In the end, volunteers as well as students expressed their sense of accomplishment. Ms. Evans took pride in spending the time improving the community rather than sitting at home. "I feel more productive," she said. Mr. McCoy, an 11th grader, summed it up, "The walls have a different effect now. They make me feel more energized." ■



Cupid's Coming a Day Early!
Indie Craft Show Featuring:
Bath & Body Products • Handpainted Keepsakes • Crocheted Items
Rock-n-Roll Inspired Art • Rock-n-Roll Posters • Candles
Jewelry • Fused Glass Items • Photographic Art • Face Painting
Ceramic Keepsakes • Eco-Friendly Items • And More!
Proceeds will benefit
UpStage Players,
a non-profit,
professional children's
theatre company
run by volunteers

February 13, 2010 9:00am - 2:00pm
Slovenian Workmen's Home
15335 Waterloo Rd. Cleveland, OH
www.upstageartisanalley.blogspot.com



\$10 OSCAR HOLLA
SUNDAY MARCH 7TH 2010
RED CARPET 7PM - OSCARS 8PM
DANCE PARTY FOLLOWING
BEST DRESSED AWARDS, VOTING FOR WINNERS, AND RAFFLES
SS&W BOARDWALK
1601 I WATERLOO RD
CLEVELANDRIVER@GMAIL.COM
OR VISIT THE BOARDWALK
FOR INFO OR PRESALE TICKETS

Gostilna at Knezek
Homestyle Cooking at its Best
Free Dinner Special! Buy one dinner at regular price and get a second dinner FREE of equal value with the purchase of two beverages. Dine In Only!
768 East 200th Street (Across from Drug Mart)
Monday thru Friday 4:00 - 9:00 PM. Saturday 12 - 9:00
Happy Hour 5 to 8 216.738.1177



The Best Home "Suite" Home In North Collinwood!
White Stone Manor Apartments
18009 Lakeshore Blvd.
1 & 2 bdrm suites - \$540 and up
Call today: (216) 481-1604
Nasvytis Enterprises, Inc.
www.mysuitehome.com



Visit www.artscollinwood.org for more information on upcoming events, exhibits, and programs.

arts collinwood
PROMOTING THE ARTS AND COMMUNITY

Open Tuesday through Saturday 11:00am-11:00pm, Sundays from 9:00am-5:00pm

REJUVENATE
with fresh brewed coffee and housemade pastries

GRAZE
from our savory menu, soups, salads and small plates

SIP
a whimsical cocktail, wine, or craft beer

HAPPY HOUR DAILY 4-7:00 PM

the café
at artscollinwood

15601 Waterloo Road



!! LIVE JAZZ EVERY WEDNESDAY !!

COMMUNITY CENTER AVAILABLE FOR MEETINGS, BOOK CLUBS, NETWORKING.
WIFI AND CATERING AVAILABLE!
CALL 216-692-9500 TO SCHEDULE YOUR EVENT

GALLERY COMMUNITY EDUCATION EVENTS

DEVELOPMENT

Northeast Shores Board election results

Brian Friedman

On January 19, the membership of Northeast Shores Development Corporation attended the 2010 Annual Meeting, which always features the election of new board trustees. Members checked in and renewed their annual dues in order to be able to receive their ballot and vote.

The meeting commenced with each of 12 candidates sharing why the membership should elect him (or her) to one of the eight available slots on the Northeast Shores Board of Directors. After hearing from the candidates present, two more members were nominated from the floor. These two additional nominees were Jim Valentino and Miles Kennedy, who shared key details about why they should be elected. Having heard from all interested candidates present, the membership proceeded to complete their ballots.

While the ballots were tallied, Councilman Polensek provided a brief update about projects and happenings in the neighborhood. After the councilman spoke, I shared key details about the organization's outcomes in 2009: Over \$14 million was invested in the community in 2009, Northeast Shores programs created 110 housing opportunities, and 103 current residents were assisted by various housing programs. In addition, 31 businesses were assisted in their creation or growth and over \$45,000 was raised for various grassroots programs in the community.

After my presentation, the results of the election were announced. Returning for an additional term are incumbents Brian Menard (VASJ High School), Fil Scafidi (Euclid Hospital), Pastor Trombley (St. John Lutheran Church) and Victor Rucker (Resident). Newly elected to the board are Bill Eppich (Advance Industrial Glass), KC Petraitis (Resident), John Meyerhoffer (Resident), and Miles Kennedy (Resident).

If you are not a member of Northeast Shores, we encourage you to become a member now, volunteer for a committee, and perhaps next year consider being a candidate for the 21-member board.

Brian Friedman is the Executive Director of Northeast Shores

The sky is the limit for Azure Stained Glass Studio

John Boksansky

Ben Parsons and Mary Zodnik, proprietors of Azure Stained Glass Studio, will soon begin exterior improvements to their 15602 Waterloo location in the Waterloo Arts and Entertainment District. Azure specializes in the restoration of leaded glass windows as well as the design and fabrication of new leaded glass products. The plans for the exterior improvements have been underway for two years with the business receiving technical assistance from the City of Cleveland Storefront Renovation Program (SRP) as sponsored by Northeast Shores Development Corporation, The City of Cleveland, and Councilman Michael D. Polensek. SRP is funded by the City of Cleveland through its federal Community Development Block Grant allocation.

Azure worked closely with SRP Design Specialist Tim Barrett and Northeast Shores to define the scope of the building improvements, which will include: tuck pointing and masonry repairs; painting of window frames and entrance improvements; comprehensive signage package; new entry door adjacent to the parking lot and glass canopy with associated hardware above the front entrance door.

Mr. Parsons stated that "eventually we would have made the repairs to the building which was a deferred maintenance issue, but it is refreshing to have the SRP rebate as an incentive supporting our small business in Cleveland."

After project completion, the business owners will receive a 40% rebate for the dollars invested. While the triangle-shaped brick building has been initially owned by

Northeast Shores with an option to buy agreement, Azure was allowed to participate in the Storefront Renovation Program through a special agreement.

Ben Parsons and Mary Zodnik stated that, "we became familiar with Waterloo because of our trips to the Beachland Ballroom, as well as knowing several friends that live in the area. We admired the building for some time and saw that it was for sale. The building had the space we needed and provided natural light which is a blessing for what we do at Azure. The building met our needs and we are committed to the City of Cleveland. We talked with Northeast Shores to see if they could assist."

Azure has taken an entrepreneurial approach via sweat equity in that they will contribute to the renovation by doing some of the construction work. Parsons stated that "we had to work within an affordable budget. We struck a balance between the aesthetic and structural improvements that the building required. We are also fortunate to provide signature solutions incorporating a glass canopy over the front entry door. We were also able to learn how to tuck-point masonry from one of our friends who is skilled in the masonry trade. We will be utilizing the skill of Waterloo 7 Gallery artisan and metalworker Jerry Schmidt for signage."

Brian Friedman, Executive Director of Northeast Shores, stated that "the building had fallen into disrepair over a number of years. The Commercial Development Committee of Northeast Shores identified this building as an important building to the



Mary Zodnik and Ben Parsons at work.

Waterloo Road District. An end user was identified in Azure Stained Glass Studio, who was exploring a move from a studio in Tremont. We are happy to be able to lease with an option for Ben and Mary to purchase the building. Northeast Shores looks to expand the family of proprietors owning their places of business. We look forward to Azure calling Waterloo home for many years to come."

To learn how the City of Cleveland Storefront Renovation Program can help your building and business, call John Boksansky, Storefront Coordinator at (216) 481-7660.

NSDC presents Taste the Neighborhood on February 23

Denise Lorek

Join Northeast Shores for the annual Taste of the Neighborhood, a chance to sample foods from our neighborhood's many restaurants and eateries, plus help us honor local residents, block watches and businesses for their accomplishments making this a better community to live in. 6:00 PM - food/drink, 7:00 PM - program. Lithuanian Hall. 877 East 185th St.

AWARDS: "Outstanding Residents," regular

folks who go that extra mile. "Amazing Block Watches," neighborhood groups that have made great achievements throughout the year. "Best Businesses," celebrate the achievements of your favorite local businesses and their owners.

FOOD AND DRINK: Taste from many local restaurants and eateries. From ribs and wings to sausage to soup and pasta. There will be

a cash bar.

TICKETS: Make your reservation today! Call Denise at 216-481-7660. Tickets \$20.00. Buy your tickets at Northeast Shores office or from any employee of Northeast Shores. To order by mail, send a check to Northeast Shores, 317 E. 156th St., Cleveland, OH 44110 by Feb 18th. (\$15.00 of the ticket price is tax deductible)

FRESH IS OUR MIDDLE NAME

15867 Lakeshore blvd

Now Delivering 216-404-0300

Mon-Thurs 11am-10pm * Fri & Sat 11am -11pm * Sun 12 noon-9pm

16011 Waterloo

The BOARDWALK

Proudly Serving Domestic Beers

Don't forget us at Lunch!

Warm up with a bowl of Homemade Hot n Spicy Chili!

Taco Tuesdays

75 cent tacos with drink purchase after 5 p.m.

Thirsty Thursdays

New drink special each Thurs after 5 p.m.

FAITH IN COLLINWOOD
IN MEMORIAL

Thoughts from staff and students on the passing of Luis Pla, Principal of St. Mary Collinwood

Compiled by Andrew Kerr

“Mr. Pla was a very loving and caring principal. We will always keep him in our hearts.” — 4th grader

“Mr. Pla was a great man, he always gave me credit when I told the truth. He made me feel better when I talked to him. He really cared about the students at St. Mary's. We had a personal relationship. I really liked Mr. Pla and I hope he is in heaven looking down on us.” — 4th grader

“Mr. Pla was a hard worker for us. He gave up his time if we needed help from him. I know he is watching over us making sure we do the right thing and making sure we do well in school. He wanted to make sure we all did good in school so we can go to high school and college. So just for him I'm going to do my best in school.” — 4th grader
“Mr. Pla loved the kids at St Mary Collinwood. He'd do anything he could to help and protect them” — 5th grader

“Mr. Pla could be a bit rough sometimes, but you always knew he cared. He just wanted the best for all of us.” — 8th grader

“This school wouldn't be here without Mr. Pla. He worked hard to get us computers and new books and stuff.” — 8th grader

“Luis could be tough to work with sometimes. He was highly demanding and would expect nothing less than perfection. That being said, you always knew that he had the best interest of the students in mind. That is why he pushed so hard. Education is not a



job where you can put things off, you must always be on top of all the various tasks at hand. Luis made sure that happened.” — Staff Member

“Luis gave me my first job as a teacher. He served as a mentor for me to learn from and provided me with an excellent environment to start my career.” — Staff Member

“The memory of Luis will always be in these halls. He is a part of this place. There are so many things I see in the building and on the grounds that remind me of him and all he did. All the educational technology he worked so hard to acquire for the students, the beautiful addition he tirelessly saw through to completion; it's like he left little pieces of himself.” — Staff Member

Kindergarteners remember

Christy Fulton

Our kindergartners began praying for Mr. Pla ever since he went into the hospital in late October. Although they are young children, they firmly believe in the power of prayer. They prayed for improvements in his health, for the comfort of his family and that he would soon be able to return to school. Some of the children even prayed for things only a kindergartner would think of: they prayed that he would not get bitten by a scorpion in the forest and that they would point arrows for him to get away from the monsters.

Unfortunately, Mr. Pla never did return to school, but that has not stopped our kindergarten from praying.

This is how our kindergartners either remember Mr. Pla, or how they continue to stay in prayer:

"I hope you feel better and never be sick. Every time I pray for you I pray for God too. I love you, Principal." —Anthony C.

"He was a good principal and I wish he never died. I feel bad for him for dying. I bet God would be happy to see Mr. Pla." —Jai'la

"I miss you Mr. Pla and thought you were going to get better." —Dai'Shauna

"I did not want him to get sick, that's why I prayed for him." —Anthony R.

"He used to help my sister." —Adam

"He is in Heaven." —A'lona"

I pray for Mr. Pla and I miss him. I hope he comes back safely. God will protect him and his heart and he won't be sick anymore. You will come down if God lets you." —Saje

Bryant remembers "hugging him and playing games with him." —Bryant

"He had been a great teacher and told us how to learn." —Keonshae

"I love Jesus and God. I love you Mr. Pla." (Confusing Mr. Pla with Jesus) "He died on the cross and he'll come back and feel better." —Jeffrey

"I love God and Jesus and God is taking care of Mr. Pla." —Kamren

"I pray for Mr. Pla because I miss him. He was a nice principal." —Yolanda

Despite only knowing Mr. Pla for a short period in their young lives, he touched their hearts in a special way and this is how he will be remembered. Thank you Mr. Pla for the sacrifices you made for St. Mary's children, teachers, families and the Collinwood community. Continued prayer goes out to Mr. Pla's parents, brother and sisters, his extended family and friends for their comfort and peace through this difficult time.

Fish Fry at Slovenian Workmen's Home Pat Nevar

The Slovenian Workmen's Home located at 15335 Waterloo Road has a very active Auxiliary. These volunteers (a.k.a. "The Kitchen Angels"), under the leadership of June Slapnik, president, hold a popular Fish Fry every Friday during the year, except for a few holidays. Several of the volunteers have been putting on the fish fry for over 25 years. These ladies not only bread the fish; they also scale, debone and soak the fish in a special sauce before breading.

During Lent, a lunch menu is offered from noon until 3:00 PM, consisting of the delicious hand-breaded fish or shrimp meals, which include coleslaw, roll & butter plus a choice of Slovenian home fries or French fries.

From 3:00 PM until 8:00 PM the full menu is available. The dinner choices are fish, shrimp, pork chops, goulash or macaroni & cheese. Side dish choices are coleslaw, Slovenian home fries, French fries, polenta, cabbage & noodles and macaroni

& cheese. Homemade New England-style clam chowder is also on the menu during Lent. It's hard to pass up the various flavors of freshly-baked strudel that are also offered.

This is the perfect place to celebrate birthdays. The celebrants receive a slice of cake and the volunteers sing happy birthday. A cash bar is always open serving your favorite refreshments. For birthday, anniversary and funeral brunch reservations, take-out orders or additional information, call 216/481-5378.

In This Mirror, a poem

by TaNekqua Partrick

When I look into this mirror
I see a 16 yr old girl
Someone who feels misunderstood
And lost in this world
When I look into this mirror
I see pain and regret
Confusion, broken hearts
And tears I won't forget
When I look into this mirror
I drift slowly away inside
And I reach for that woman
That for some reason I hide
When I look into this mirror
I see a life that's gone wrong
Then I put my ear up to this mirror
Inside I hear sad songs

My mirror reads depression
My mirror reads pain
My mirror that I look in
Shows a girl gone insane
But there is something about this mirror
This mirror hears my cries
Something else I didn't know
My mirror has two sides
On the other side of this mirror
Lives a girl who's very smart
When I peek into this other mirror
The hatred really starts
I hate that I hide myself
I hate my attitude
I hate the way I live my life
I hate this is the truth
When I look into this mirror
My mirror talks to me
My mirror says, it's okay

Cause this is just a dream
I open up my eyes
And everything is clearer

But every now and then
I look into my mirror
THE END!!!

Cleveland State University "America Reads" Tutors are back at the Memorial-Nottingham Branch!

by Maria Estrella

The Cleveland State University America Reads Tutors are back! It's free tutoring and no sign-ups are required! If you need help with your school work, the days and hours are listed below.

TUTORING DAYS AND HOURS through MAY 2010:

Mondays: 4:30—6:30 p.m.

Tuesdays: 4:00—6:00 p.m.

Wednesdays: 4:30—6:00 p.m.

Thursdays: 4:00—6:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact the Memorial-Nottingham Branch Children's Librarian at (216) 623-7039

SCHOOL NEWS

A Trip to the Cleveland Museum of Art

by Lynn Haney

If you ask most Cleveland Municipal School District students if they have ever been to the Cleveland Museum of Art, chances are the answer would be no. Regrettably, a visit to this jewel in the University Circle cultural crown has become unattainable because field trips are so costly. However, guided tours for groups of fifteen



A miniature "Thinker" inspires deep thoughts: Sharrell Pointer and Jamecia Prescott.

or more are available on a first come, first serve basis and teachers can apply at the CMA Education Department section at www.clevelandart.com. Fortunately, before Christmas break I was able to take five Collinwood High School students on a tour of the newly renovated galleries of CMA, which is ranked as one of America's top five art museums. Their enthusiasm was a delight to witness. Here are some of their comments:

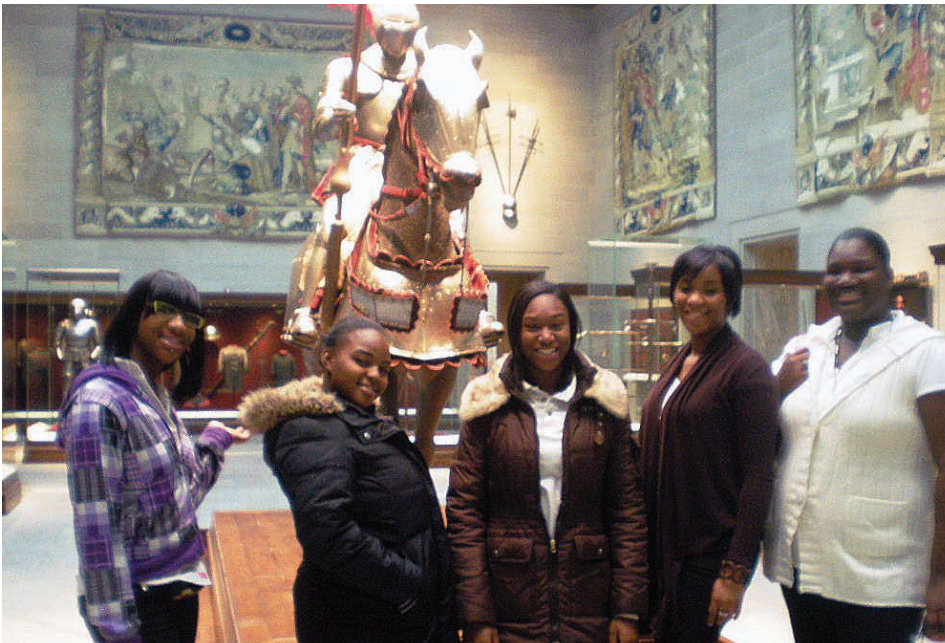
Senior, Dia Williams-Richmond: One of the different types of exhibits that interested me was the Armor Court. That was the most beautiful area I had ever seen. There were tons of different weapons and armor that the soldiers wore back in the medieval times and even earlier. It was very interesting being surrounded by such history and I imagined myself as a soldier back in those days. Fighting off the bad guys and protecting my country. I believe this is why I have a passion for going into the armed forces. Back in those days the people cherished and loved their country and I admire that and just seeing the history of weapons and how people fought in the past, and how everything has advanced in technology was so interesting.

Going to museums inspires me to want to get out and explore the world. I would

like to see the entire world and just travel while I am still on Earth. Going to different countries and experiencing their culture is the best feeling in the world. You can be someone else for a day and that is what life should be about. Experiencing and picking up new tasks will prepare you for life and get you ready for a very diverse world. Field trips are important during the academic year. They prepare students such as myself to experience something different and be open-minded to a very diverse world.

Senior, Leeshawna Howard: I, myself, enjoyed the different colorful portraits. Some were very delicate such as single women with little children. In the Armor Court there were suits of armor, mail shirts, and different types of helmets. It reminded me of the story I have just read in my English IV class about "Beowulf." We also saw different types of weapons such as swords, guns, and crossbows, which were useful back in medieval times and which I found fascinating. In another gallery, they had some romantic statues that were very passionate as well. In the decorative arts areas, we saw beautiful Faberge boxes and eggs. There were a lot of gold ornaments used by the upper class in Europe. With all of the information I learned that day, there was more to it than just art alone. I had a terrific time at the museum. I feel that every student should have the opportunity to try something new and take the advantage of the cultural institutions in Cleveland. I personally plan on visiting CMA again soon to learn more about it.

Junior, Sharrell Pointer: There was all kinds of furniture in the museum. It had many chairs, and couches. There were also a couple of antique tables. The cutlery was also very nice. There were gold ones, silver ones, and some were really small. The vases were all really colorful, bright and shiny. There were also boxes for holding cigars and cigarettes. They were all really small and could fit in the palm of your hand. They also had very pretty designs on them. The jewelry was everywhere. There are many necklaces, bracelets, and rings. The armor that was there came from a lot of different time periods. The armor was for every part of the body. The shields and huge swords accompanied the armor. Other weapons included small handguns and large crossbows. After visiting the museum for the first time, I thought that it was great and I would consider going back.



In the Armor Court: Deasia Bronaugh, Jamecia Prescott, Sharrell Pointer, Leeshawna Howard, Dia Williams-Richmond.



Cleveland Job Corps Students in Washington D.C.

National Job Corps Day! Collinwood Job Corps Delegation visits the State Capital in Columbus

by Susan Clark

The U.S Congress passed a resolution declaring September 23, 2009: "National Job Corps Day" to acknowledge 45 years of Job Corps training which has helped over three million disadvantaged American youth. The Job Corps delegation heading to Columbus to celebrate included Governor Ted Strickland, State Representative Robin

Belcher, Job Corps student Mandisa Black and Congresswoman Marsha L. Fudge. Job Corps is the largest and most successful academic and vocational training program in the U.S. It is administered by the Department of Labor. Their brand new residential 25-acre campus is located in the South Collinwood area.

Family Literacy Night

by Victoria Janke-Mousty

On Thursday, January 21, 2010, the School Parent Organization of OH Perry held a Family Literacy Night. About 100 family members came to OH Perry where they participated in various literacy activities planned by the staff. All attendees received two books each for their family home libraries. At the end of the evening, Principal Victoria Mousty and Family Liaison Beverly

Chunn served the families and staff members dinner. The families all enjoyed eating together and getting to know one another. Liaison Mrs. Chunn planned the event and has many more events coming to OH Perry, including the Father-Daughter/Mother-Son Dance, Black History Month Program, Carnival Night, and Talent Showcase. We look forward to more great things -- things that happen everyday at OH Perry.

Science fair at OH Perry

by Victoria Janke-Mousty

On Thursday, January 28, 2009, OH Perry held their annual Science Fair. Nearly 300 students entered. This year, Science Subject Area Specialist and fourth grade teacher, Karen Shepherd earned a FUSE Grant from Case Western Reserve University. Through the grant, Perry received funds to support the fair. We also had the support of Case engineering students volunteering their time

to assist the students with the completion of their individual Science Fair Projects. Various members of the community, including Case students and retired teachers, served as judges. Parents were invited to view the projects on Friday afternoon. Thank you to Ms. Shepherd for all her efforts to plan the fair and to promote the learning of scientific researching skills in our OH Perry students. Bravo to all the OH Perry students who worked very hard to complete a project this year!!

Collinwood High School Annual Science Fair

by Nicholas Delciappo

The Collinwood High School Science Department hosted its 14th Annual Science Fair on January 25th and 26th in the school's Media Center.

All grade levels participated in the event which included over 135 entries in the following categories: Environmental Science, Health/Medicine, Physics/Math, Chemistry and Behavioral Sciences. Each entry was graphically designed on poster board with an hypothesis, an observation, examples, conclusion and an abstract (summary). A team of outside judges diligently review each project.

At the time of publishing, the Science Department is currently deciding on the winners in each category. We will make sure they are printed in the next issue of the Col-



Junior, Akeem Pennicooke explains his project to a judge.

linwood Observer.

Qualifying projects will be eligible to go to the Northeastern Science and Engineering Fair in March, at Cleveland State University. Collinwood's track record in the competition has been quite impressive with a representative group of students always qualifying for the CSU event as well as bringing home prizes for their scholarly research.

YOUTH AND FAMILY

The Grandmothers on...
NOT ENOUGH OF
MOM

“Dear Grandmothers, Up until recently I have been a stay-at-home mom with several small project-based jobs I could do online for extra money during early morning hours. In October, I took on a real online part-time job, because our family needs the money, with paycuts (but no cuts in hours) that have been made by my husband’s employer. I now work on my laptop at the kitchen table while I cook, while the kids do homework, etc. and my kid time (I have two, 6 and 8) has been severely cut. My kids are unhappy, “hating mommy’s job,” acting out, making it hard to concentrate when I HAVE to. I feel bad for them, and want things to be better but I have to keep this job. Any advice?” – Samantha R., Lakeshore Blvd.

Dear Samantha,

We grandmothers claim to know almost all there is to know about raising kids, but your question leads us first to a confession: when we were young mothers, we didn’t have to deal with your problem. Remember the '50s? Well, probably you don’t, but you’ve seen it on TV: very few moms worked, they were at home baking cookies and playing with the kids. Except the truth of the matter is, we didn’t play with the kids all that much; the kids entertained themselves for the most part. And some of us got tired of baking cookies and wished we had jobs so we’d have our own bank accounts. The good old days.

But your children won’t be comforted much by watching re-runs of “Leave it to Beaver.” They expect to have as much of your attention as they ever did, and they quite legitimately resent having to share you with your job. Being a modern mom you probably did frequently bake cookies and play with your kids, and now you can’t do that as often. What many parents feel in this situation is guilt, so what they say are things like, “I have to work so we can buy [brand name] video games and [brand name] tennis shoes and eat out regularly at the [brand name] hamburger emporium. And won’t we have fun at Disneyland this summer?” Parents don’t like to disappoint their children and they don’t want to hear about their children’s unhappiness. So they try to jolly the kids out of it.

In a word, don’t. Instead, acknowledge in full their anger. Try to find out all the specifics of their resentment, and don’t try to convince them that they’re exaggerating, that it isn’t so bad as all that. You don’t have to agree, just listen and nod understanding. Tell them that you miss having things the way they were, too. Swallow your guilt and listen to their sadness. Just feeling “heard” by you will make them feel better, the same way you feel better after having confided your problems to a friend who is a good listener.

Then start talking about ways you all might adjust to this new reality. They don’t need to hear the details of the electric bill being overdue and the car needing a new transmission, but you can talk about being a family and working together differently now. Recognize your children for managing to solve a problem or do a task that in the past they might have asked you to do, without your help. Emphasize how capable they have become;



tell them that, in fact, their help would be appreciated with some of the household tasks that you used to do all by yourself. Explain how you could be spending more time with them if you were doing some of these tasks together; while you’re working at the kitchen laptop, for example, they could be helping you get dinner on the table. They could certainly learn to help with the laundry, and assist in clean-up after dinner. They might whine from time to time about their newly assigned chores, but you could end up feeling less pressured, they more competent and needed, and all of you important members of the family team.

Explain how their helping frees you up for family play times, and even if it doesn’t quite work out that way, be sure to schedule some, for all of your sakes. Don’t make these costly outings that you can’t really afford, but research some inexpensive or even free activities: ice skating at Wade Oval costs nothing more than \$3 skate rental; the zoo charges no admission on Mondays; hikes in the woods on a sunny, snowy day are free; a favorite family board or card game is likewise.

During one of those hikes you might tell your kids about that job of yours and how sometimes you don’t like it but often you do, just like sometimes they hate school but often they actually have fun there. Tell them in words they can understand what exactly your work entails, and what you had to learn to be able to do it - and branch off to a discussion of the kind of work they might want to do some day. We want them, after all, to appreciate the world of work, and look forward to it.

You don’t have to tell your kids this part, but you could help yourself feel less guilty by realizing that you’re actually teaching your children some valuable lifelong lessons here. Although life can be hard, we can usually find ways to cope, and children need to learn this as they grow up; they will be better prepared for the challenges they meet later on. And you and your husband are setting a wonderful example for your children by working hard together to do what needs to be done, without blaming anyone, without resentment. (Try to voice your blame and resentment only to each other, after the kids are in bed.)

Some day these will be the good old days.

"The Grandmothers" are waiting to hear from you before they write their next column. Because they have helped raise thousands of children as mothers, grandmothers, teachers, and day care center administrators, they can answer almost any question you have about raising kids. Try to stump them! Email your questions to thegrandmothers@collinwoodobserver.com

Little League
Sign-Up

Robert McGraw

Now is the time to sign up your son or daughter for the only nationally recognized Little League in the city of Cleveland - right here in North Collinwood!! If you are between the ages of 5-16, you can sign up this coming weekend at the Slovenian Workmen's Home at 15335 Waterloo Road. Sign up days and dates are as follows: Saturday and Sunday, the 13th and 14th of February - from 1-4 PM.

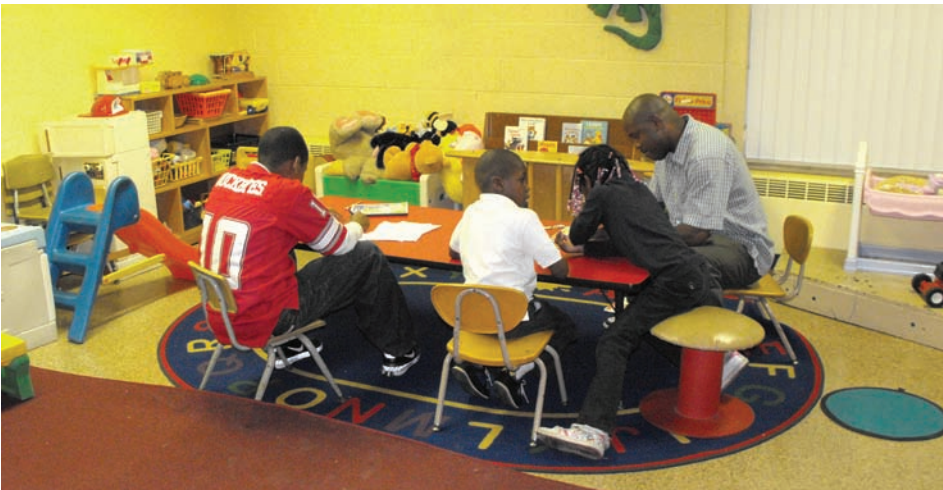
This year the Board of the Northeast Cleveland Little League (NECLL) is offering a \$5 reduced sign-up fee if you sign up these opening registration days. Sign-ups are in the NECLL office on the 2nd floor of the Slovenian Workmen's Home. Sign-ups continue the following weekend - Saturday and Sunday, the 20th and 21st of February. Again, the time will be from 1-4PM. There will be a final sign-up day on Thursday, the 25th of February from 6-8 PM. When you come to sign up, bring your child's birth certificate and proof of residency (i.e., a util-



ity bill). Legal guardians must accompany children signing up.

You may also purchase needed pants on sign-up day. NECLL would also like to involve you and interested supporters in NECLL's annual raffle. The first prize in the raffle is \$1,000. NECLL encourages supporters, parents, and neighbors of our ballplayers to purchase these tickets to both support the needs of our league to run a quality program, and to encourage our youth in their efforts to enjoy a summer playing baseball.

Should you have any question, you may call NECLL at (216) 692-2255. We return all phone calls and will assist you in your effort to register your child or children in the league. We look forward to another banner year and we are grateful to all sponsors and supporters of our league.



Nottingham Youth Center's
Tutoring Program needs
your help

Tom Dickinson

What can I do?

I've asked that at times. What can I do to help? There is so much need around and my resources are so low: little money, no extra time, my own family to care for!! How can I help lift up the neighborhood when I have so little?

Denise Wright and Mike Clark may help me answer by having so little themselves and yet helping so much. They recently moved to the neighborhood, don't own a car, don't have steady jobs, but give what they can to help out. So they joined the Nottingham Youth Center and now head the tutoring

program. About 10 elementary kids twice a week and only 3 or 4 adults at a time. Some of the children need one to one attention but that can be difficult without a couple more helpers. Mike and Denise give what they have but they can only stretch themselves so far.

What can I do to help? I can help a kid with her homework once a week. It is amazing how much that means to the child and it is good for me too! And it helps the adults that are already there to work more effectively. All it costs is two hours once a week. I guess I can do that. How about you? Call 216-486-7612 for more info.



FRESH MEXICAN GRILL

Fresh Food Fast
No MSG
Vegetarian Friendly

Chili peppers gives you a choice of over 30 fresh items to choose from to customize your dining experience

869 East 185th • 216.531.2300

Hours Monday - Saturday 11am - 10pm, Sunday 12pm - 8pm

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Local enamelist, jewelry artist, metalsmith

Michael Romanik

Just before receiving my Bachelor of Fine Art degree from the Cleveland Institute of Art in 1989 as a drawing major, I was introduced to enameling. In my 4th year, a friend showed me pieces of copper she had covered with some sort of colorful, durable coating. She explained that it was enamel, and briefly told me about the class and the process. I'd never heard of this, but was very intrigued and so enrolled in the class at the start of my 5th and final year at CIA, to learn some of the basics of the medium.

Enameling is the art of applying fine granules of colored glass to metal and firing it, at a high temperature, in a kiln. Cloisonné (klwa zô na'), the technique that I use for my work, incorporates thin flat wire that is bent to form "cells" to hold the powdered glass. I enamel on fine silver sheet and use fine silver and 24K gold wire. Mostly using enamels from France and Japan with primarily transparent colors, I also incorporate black and white opaque enamel and a few opalescent (milky, semi-opaque) enamels.

To begin, I cut out a shape from 18-gauge fine silver sheet using a jeweler's saw and then "anneal" the silver, heating it with a torch, making it "dead" soft. This is done to alleviate any stress in the metal. Annealing also makes it easier to "dome" the metal, shaping it by hand to give it a slight convex curve, which is a more stable surface to withstand the many firings a cloisonne piece must go through. A coating of liquid enamel is painted on to the underside of the silver blank and a coating of clear enamel is sifted on to the top. After drying, the piece is fired at 1500 degrees F. The firings are short, approximately one minute long, just until the glass granules melt. The enamel layers must be built up slowly on each side of the piece to avoid cracking and chipping when the piece cools.

The cloisonne wires are bent into shape using small pliers and fine tweezers and adhered temporarily to the clear-coated side of the piece with a binder. Once dry, it is fired so that the wires sink slightly into the softened enamel. The colored enamels are washed and



Eastern Bluebird Brooch

mixed with distilled water and a few drops of binder, making them into a paste-like consistency, and then are applied with fine paint brushes. It takes an average of five layers of enamel for each piece, firing between each layer, until the layers are about the same height as the wires, approximately 1/16" high. The enamel piece is then ground on a lapidary belt sander to smooth the surface and refine its shape. Firing one last time restores the high gloss surface of the glass. A setting is fabricated for the finished cloisonné piece from silver, gold, or a combination of both. Many of my pieces also incorporate gemstones.

I have been making cloisonne jewelry for 20 years and exhibit at art and craft shows throughout the country. Locally, I've participated in the Cain Park Arts Festival in Cleveland Heights last July, and the Lakewood Arts Festival last August. I also wholesale my work to craft galleries throughout the country.

I've participated in Arts Collinwood's annual December Holiday Show for the past 4 years. I was introduced to Arts Collinwood by a friend, Michael Mikula, a Cleveland glass artist who produces beautiful blown vessels and bowls, as well as striking cast glass and machined aluminum and steel sculptures.

I have taught myself many soldering and fabrication techniques over the past 20 years. My work has been included in several books and magazine articles. Inspiration for my work comes from many sources: Asian and Indian textiles, geometric patterns, the imagery of the early Egyptian, Mayan and Celtic civilizations, and nature. ■

CRAFT SHOW TO SUPPORT CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY THEATER & LOCAL ARTISANS

Matthew Orgovan

UpStage Artisan Alley, a fresh, new indie craft show, opens its doors from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 13, 2010 at Collinwood's Slovenian Workmen's Home (15335 Waterloo Rd.; Cleveland, 44110). The event will serve as a fundraiser for UpStage Players, a local, non-profit children's theater company, as they gear-up for their spring musical, "Aladdin, Jr." (March 26-28). In addition to raising funds for this accomplished organization, UpStage Artisan Alley's mission is to showcase the talents of Northeast Ohio artisans in an intimate, family-friendly atmosphere, while allowing patrons to shop for themselves and their loved ones.

UpStage Artisan Alley will feature a variety of talented artisans from around Northeast Ohio. Patrons can choose from handcrafted bath and body products, hand-painted keepsakes and magnets, rock-n-roll inspired art prints, jewelry, candles, crocheted items, rock-n-roll posters, fused glass items, photographic art, ceramic keepsakes, eco-friendly items and more! The event will also feature a rehearsal from UpStage Players, face painters, food and refreshments, raffles, prizes and an opportunity to socialize with the cast, crew and staff of UpStage Players, as well as the local artisans.

The arts scene in the Waterloo/Arts Collinwood area is really starting to blossom, and this indie craft show, in conjunction with UpStage Players, will surely continue to foster that growth.

Upstage Players is a non-profit professional children's theatre group run by an all-

volunteer staff in Cleveland. The organization was founded in 1995 with 30 children and a vision to create love and respect for the arts. They have evolved into a strong group that uses theater as a vehicle to teach leadership, creativity and responsibility to nearly 150 children today.

Although the UpStage family has grown tremendously over the years, their no-cut policy remains unchanged. The children of UpStage Players come from varied backgrounds and communities, yet they share the same drive to optimize their potential. They hail from a variety of communities. In addition, the diverse cast/crew of UpStage Players is headed by an unpaid staff and supported by an army of volunteers dedicated to transforming everyday kids into accomplished artists.

Upstage Players provides many benefits for their artists, including building self-confidence, encouraging self-esteem, providing social outlets, promoting responsibility and leadership and providing a fun, safe haven. In addition to its artistic value, UpStage Players brings communities together and gives kids something to do. The organization produces numerous shows throughout the year, including the upcoming spring musical "Aladdin, Jr.," an improvisational troupe and the Upstage Underground summer show.

For additional information about UpStage Players, the upcoming performance of "Aladdin, Jr." or to download a printable ticket order form for "Aladdin, Jr.," visit www.upstageplayers.com. To find out more about UpStage Artisan Alley, check out www.upstageartisanalley.blogspot.com.

Movie Time 2-for-1

John Copic

How would you like to see a movie on a 60 foot movie screen with an all digital computerized presentation, complete with Dolby surround sound? One of the only places left in Northeast Ohio to experience this treat is at the Lakeshore Theatre, a part of the Atlas Cinema family. In fact the Atlas Theatres on Lakeshore, Great Lakes Stadium 16, and the Diamond Center 16 off Heisley are the only three all-digital 3D movie theatres on

the East Side.

Be sure to ask Melissa and Craig, your friendly managers, at the newly renovated and updated Lakeshore Theatre about their Senior, Church Group, and Student Fieldtrip Discounts. Need one more reason to go to the movies? Bring the Observer ad below to the Lakeshore Theatre and receive 2 tickets for the price of one! This special is valid Sunday through Thursday, evenings only, through the month of March. See you at the movies!

DLP

A TEXAS INSTRUMENTS TECHNOLOGY

real D

3D

ATLAS

CINEMAS

LAKESHORE 7

22624 LAKESHORE BLVD

EUCLID, OHIO 44123

(216) 731-1700

- RENOVATED AND UPDATED THEATRES

- SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNTS

- CLEVELANDS LARGEST 60 FOOT SCREEN

- CHURCH GROUP DISCOUNTS

- ALL DIGITAL COMPUTERIZED PRESENTATION

- SCHOOL - STUDENT FIELD TRIP DISCOUNTS

- REAL D - 3D MOVIE PRESENTATION

- THEATRE RENTAL FOR BANQUETS, CHURCH GROUPS, PRESENTATIONS, ETC.

- DISCOUNTED RATE FOR GROUPS

- BARGAIN MONDAYS - \$5 ALL DAY PER TICKET

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.ATLASCINEMAS.NET

BRING THIS AD WITH YOU TO LAKESHORE 7 AND RECEIVE A DISCOUNT ON TICKETS

Join the discussion • www.collinwoodobserver.com

NAN'S NOTES

THE CAFÉ AT ARTS COLLINWOOD

If you're an artist, film maker, video designer or musician, and would like to show at the cafe, contact Susan at 216-692-9500, 12-5pm Monday thru Friday, or stop in and leave a tape or contact sheet.

And, the Café is always looking for volunteers to help with gallery events, classes and other neighborhood projects!

And, and it's also always looking for couches and easy chairs for its living room theatre, along with video screens, projectors and other artsy things. Don't throw it out! Call first!

HY SNELL AT WATERLOO 7 February 12

Hy Snell is a 91-year-old multi-talented artist who thinks like a man of 25. After 40 years of painting, he turned his focus to metal sculptures for almost another 40 years, creating beautiful dancers, majestic horses, and amazing abstracts from scrap metal. His vibrant abstracts will be on show at Waterloo 7 Gallery from Saturday, February 12; owner Jerry Schmidt is donating several pieces to the raffle at the Free Clinic fundraiser that's happening at the Beachland that night.

Waterloo 7 Gallery 16006 Waterloo; Waterloo Seven and Wunderkind are closed on Mondays; open 2-8-Tue, 2-8-Wed, 2-8-Thu, 2-10-Fri/Sat, 1-6-Sun. Phone 239-293-95458.

BANE AT LOWLIFE

Chod has arrived at his first solo show by way of illustrating and designing for the Medina Gazette (racking up lots of awards in the process) and appearing in group shows. The LowLife presentation of "bane" is an observation of human nature that looks at modern culture, politics, religion and personal reflec-

tions. So nothing serious.

LowLife Gallery, 16101 Waterloo. Thursdays: 6pm-10pm, Fridays: 6pm-11pm, Saturdays: 5pm-11pm.

THIS WEEK AT THE MARKET

Blooming Patches will have delectable salad greens, baby bok choy leaves, arugula, parsley, radishes and more from the greenhouse. They also have cabbage, potatoes, eggs and organic turkeys at \$2.25 a pound. Blooming Patches gift certificates (available in \$5 increments) will let friends choose their own and buy it fresh. Email Barb at BloomingPatches@BloomingPatches.com.

Francis from Burton Floral will have carrots, sweet potatoes, cheeses (including Lake Erie Creamery goat cheeses), eggs (sometimes duck eggs) and other assorted goodies. The greenhouse will soon be turning out baby lettuce, and the farm is building a hoop house, for early and late production. The baby goat is still visiting; he's growing up, though - he's had his horns cauterized.

You'll always find apples in abundance, baked goods in even greater abundance, jewelry and the Spice Hound.

Coit Road Farmers' Market is located at the corner of Coit & Woodworth Road in East Cleveland. www.coitmarket.org. Open year-round Saturday 8 am to 1 pm.

FREE CLINIC BENEFIT AT BEACHLAND FEBRUARY 12

The legendary Carlos Jones is putting on a show at the Beachland to benefit The Free Clinic, and you're invited to the party. This evening of live musical entertainment and art begins at 7 pm, and features Carlos Jones & the P.L.U.S. Band, Austin Walkin Cane.

Plus raffled art works from Waterloo 7 Gallery, which will extend its hours to 6-11 pm, to accommodate evening visitors. Tickets are \$10 on the Beachland website: www.beachlandballroom.com. For more information, contact Mike Kinsella at (216) 707-3418, or development@thefreeclinic.org, or visit www.thefreeclinic.org.

DESIRABLE APT FOR RENT

Corner of Waterloo on E.169: second floor of duplex, 3 bedrooms, bright and sunny, remodeled kitchen and bath, large living and dining rooms, wood floors throughout, porch, grassy yard and offstreet parking, use of third floor attic, washer and dryer hookups in basement. An easy walk to the Beachland! Owner-occupiers next door and across the street. \$600/month. Call 216-577-5511.

A CALL TO ARTISTS

The All-City Art Show, sponsored by the National Arts Program, will be held at the Arts Collinwood gallery March 26 to April 9, with an official opening reception on April 1. Submissions are due by March 22. The exhibit is judged by professional artists and art educators in Amateur, Intermediate, Professional and Youth classifications. Entry is free. Participants must live in or work for the city of Cleveland, or belong to a city employee's family. All entries must be the artist's own original work (no kits!). There's \$1800 of prize money for the nine adult classes; \$600 for the eight under-eighteen classes; and the possibility of an Honorable Mention, besides a Certificate of Participation for all entrants. For information and registration forms call: 216-664-2562, or visit www.nationalartsprogram.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- **A Little R&R with George Roby and GR Hamilton** February 12 opening, Arts Collinwood Gallery
- **Free Clinic Benefit Show** February 12, 8 pm, Beachland Ballroom
- **Mystery of Two Winter Residency** February 13 "Buried Wires"; February 20 "Freedom"; February 27 "Founding Fathers." Performances at 7 pm. Arts Collinwood gallery.
- **Upstage's Artisan Alley** February 13, 9 am - 2 pm, Slovenian Workmen's Home
- **Dr. Sketchy's Anti-Art School** February 17, Beachland Tavern
- **Chris Castle's Songwriter Round** w/ Colette Gschwind, Charlie Mosbrook and Joey Beltram (a Collinwood resident), February 17, Beachland
- **Remembering 1910** February 19, Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society, 6:30 pm, Lithuanian Hall
- **Bluegrass Barn Dance** February 20, Beachland w/Pete McDonald & The Waxwings String Band; JP & The Chatfield Boys; Hiram Rapids Stumblers; Heelsplitter; Misery Jackals and more
- **Polka Brunch** February 21, 11:30 am -2:30 pm Beachland, The Chardon Polka Band
- **Palacinka Breakfast** February 21, 8:30 am-noon, St Mary's Church on Holmes
- **Snowshoe Sampler** February 21, 1-3 pm, Wildwood

ARTS COLLINWOOD SPONSORING THE PORTFOLIO PROJECT

Arts Collinwood is proud to be sponsoring The Portfolio Project, a collaboration between teenagers and senior citizens, and is now accepting student nominations from teachers and others familiar with student work.

This project is a unique intergenerational experience in which a small group of high school students work with senior citizens to create poetry, oral history, video, still photography and portraiture. The sessions will be led by artists pre-eminent in their fields, who will also teach the young artists how to develop a portfolio, curate an exhibit and participate in the jurying process -- by help-

ing to select a finalist for a mural installation at the Arts Collinwood center.

The students will have an opportunity to exhibit in the Arts Collinwood gallery in May - and some of their work will become part of Collinwood's historical record.

This is a pilot project, and is open to area high school students in grades 9-12. There is no charge -- fees for this initial year have been fully funded -- but students are required to commit to completing the full project. Classes begin February 11. Today! You still may have time to register. Call Arts Collinwood at 216-692-9500

Cleveland Police layoffs benefit at the Boardwalk

Liz Copic and Brittainy Heisler

This past Christmas instead of bonuses 67 Police Officers got pink slips. Due to city budget cuts they lost their jobs, and countless others took demotions or switched departments to stay on the force.

The SS&W Boardwalk whom is proud to serve those that serve us, is hosting a benefit party Feb 20th to support the Cleveland Police Department, both current officers and those that were laid off. Tickets for the event are \$10 presale or \$15 at the

door, that includes Blues Deville, playing from 8-12 and free food compliments of Georgio's, Congin's and Papa Joe's. There will also be a 50/50 badge raffle, Chinese raffle baskets, and Texas Holdem tournaments. For more information, or presale tickets come visit the Boardwalk on 16011 Waterloo. Come show your support for those who keep our neighborhood safe, have some fun, and possibly win a prize!

SPICEHOUND

AT THE COIT ROAD FARMERS MARKET
SATURDAYS 8AM-1PM ALL YEAR 'ROUND!

Over 220 SPICES! ONE DOLLAR EACH!

BECOME A FAN OF SPICEHOUND ON FACEBOOK!

Mix and match any of SpiceHound's products to make your custom gift basket!

Gift Sets available at any price!
Spices, Herbs, Dried Chiles, Natural Salts & more Mortar and Pestle Sets.

Call SpiceHound to place an order: 531-3230

The Coit Road Farmers Market accepts the Direction Card!
15000 Woodworth Road (at Coit Road) 44112
One block west of the E.152nd St/ Noble Rd intersection

216•249•5455 or 216•531•3230 WWW.COITMARKET.ORG CHECK OUR NEW WEBSITE!

The neighborhood gathering place Established 1980
16 Beers on tap
100 bottled beers from around the world
Specials

| | |
|---|--|
| Monday - Tuesday Pizza Night \$6.99 Muldoon's own 2-topping pizza (5pm to close) | Wednesday Open Face Strip Steak Sandwich \$8.99 Served with fries on garlic bread. (5pm to 10pm) Texas Style BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich on Texas Toast \$2.49 (5pm to 10pm) |
| Thursday \$2.00 Cheeseburger (5pm to 10pm) | |
| Saturday \$14.99 Prime Rib Dinner (5pm to 10pm) | |

**Monday - Thursday 11 AM - 11 PM * Friday 11 AM - 12 AM
Saturday 11 Am - 11 PM * Sunday 1 PM - 8 PM
1020 East 185th Street * 216.531.3130
www.muldoonscleveland.com**

COLLINWOOD SPORTS

Collinwood Lady Railroaders!!

by Arnita Washington

Our Collinwood Lady Railroaders started their season off with a 4 and 0 record but that record was taken from them by the Glenville girls team. Now our girls are 4th in the senate. We have won 8 amazing games and lost only 3. This Varsity team has been lead by captain Shaleah Combs and co-captain Shalon Noel. Our girls' Junior Varsity is now 6th in the senate: they won 6 hard working, beautiful games and lost 5 heartfelt games. Our girls' teams last games were against John Marshall. The Varsity girls played with heart. Though not all of the calls were fair, they played a great game. A lot of our players improved that night. Candice Hawkins

and De'shay Smith improved their game by shooting three pointers. Shalon Noel improved her game by going to the hole more times. Ms. Shaleah Combs was on fire that night as well. Our seniors weren't the only ones that played a great game, our J.V. got a lot more aggressive and didn't give up on their team. They made it through their wonderful season playing their hearts out and representing our school. They may have lost to John Marshall, Glenville, and John Adams but they never let it get to them or defeat them. They kept their heads up and continued to strive for the championship. Congratulations Collinwood Lady Railroaders on your good season!!!!



From top: Coach Williams, Dijanay Williams, Tatiana Buchanan, Katrina Fielder, Brittany Smith, Alex Lavert, Shaleah Combs, Tatiana Lawson,Middle: Jennifer Giernacky, Candice Hawkins, De'Shay Smith, Shalon Noel, Tranita McKensie, Marisha Whitaker, front: Jade Jackson, Imani Blaine, Ashley Green



CHS Varsity Winning Team: Top - Coach Russ, Gary Little, Tyran Goines, Otis Cloud, Deonte Cowette, Devin Wiggins, Darvae Lanier. Bottom - Josh Ratliff, Alandis Hills, Brandon Stovall, Damario Agee, Jeff Jackson photo by Steve Janeczek

Winning Season for CHS Boys Hoopers

by Rahim Dawson

The Collinwood High School Varsity boys' basketball team has always been good, but this year, 2009-2010, the boys have had one of their best seasons ever. In this wonderful season, Otis Cloud has been our lead scorer, averaging 18 points and 10 rebounds per game. In addition, Otis has been named as Most Valuable Player for the Cleveland Boys' Senate. Gary Little was our second highest scorer with 18 points per game. Our third highest scorer of this great season is Tiran Goines with 10 points, 10 rebounds and 5

assists per game. Collinwood's top basketball stars have done their best to create an exceptional Senate record of 11 wins and 1 loss with an overall record of 11-4 at the time of this publication. Two games that demonstrated their skills include February 2nd when the Railroaders scored 63 points in the second half to beat the John Marshall Lawyers, 96-84, and hitting the century mark when they railroaded South High in a score of 100-64 on January 22nd. With the Marshall victory, CHS wrapped up the Senate Athletic League regular-season title in boys basketball.

Villa Angela - St. Joseph High School Wrestling Tri Match and Parent's Night



Mato Vunak of VASJ vs David Evans of N. Ridgeville.



Ronnel Spates with his parents on Senior Parent Night

Senior Ryatis Petraitis with his parents on Senior Parent Night



Senior Ray Wort with his mom on Senior Parent Night



Senior Chris Latonzio with his parents on Senior Parent Night

805 E 156th

100% renovated Collinwood home for sale! Opportunity to buy lot next door! Roomy w/4 bd,modern bath & kitchen. Call 216-383-9772 for details/preview

940 London

Gorgeous home in Collinwood is getting 100% renovated! Buy now and choose colors & finishes. Call 216-383-9772 to preview the home.

931 Royal Road

100% renovated & updated Collinwood home for sale! Roomy modern floor plan with 4 bd, modern baths & kitchen. Call 216-383-9772 for details/preview.

931 Royal Road

100% renovated & updated Collinwood home for sale! Timeless brick beauty has 3 bd, modern baths,kitchen,& charm. Call 216-383-9772 for details/preview.

Mr. G's & Big E's

GRILL AND TAKEOUT

Home of:

THE BIGGEST PHILLY STEAK IN TOWN

THE G BURGER

WHOLE WINGS

50¢ EACH—EVERYDAY!

NOW OPEN TILL 10

772 E. 185th

531-2612

Gus's DINER 185

Owned & operated by chef Louie Makris

\$2.99 Breakfast Special:

2 x-large eggs, home fries, toast & 3 bacon or 3 sausage or ham

Check out our new menu items!

Daily Homemade Lunch Specials

Homemade Soups • Free Wi-Fi

Full Menu Available for Take-out

797 E. 185th • 481-8781

You can now place your ads online for free and get them in the Collinwood Observer for a very samll price. Reach out to over twn thousand readers and get your message out!

Adult Day Center

St. Anthony Adult Day Center, in Euclid, provides structured, supervised care for adults. Call 216-481-4823 X 166.

BEACHCLUB BISTRO

Downtown Euclid

www.BCBistro.com

Winter Pizza Sale

Sundays and Tuesdays

See www.BCBISTRO.com for details

21939 Lake Shore Blvd.

Euclid, OH

216-731-7499

Micro-Brew List /Wine List Specials