

# The Collinwood Observer

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## More facts - Bring our Carrousel home

Elva Brodnick

Euclid Beach Park Now held one of their twice a year "Open Meetings" on Friday April 9th, at St John Nottingham Lutheran Church, to kick off the Euclid Beach Carrousel's 100th Anniversary – and wish long time neighborhood historian Rudy Nagode a Happy 91st Birthday! It was also to present the University Circle plan for the Carrousel, now supported by Euclid Beach Park Now.

President John Frato opened the meeting, to introduce Dr Raymond Rackley, who heads the "Cleveland's Euclid Beach Carrousel" group, to present his ideas for our Euclid Beach Carrousel.

Dr Rackley's plan is to place the Euclid Beach Carrousel somewhere in the University Circle area. He presented some figures as to restoration etc, which were familiar to this reporter, having worked on our Euclid Beach Carrousel Committee's proposal, although he did not have a building concept (as we do), saying that this was not needed until a site was chosen. He also talked about "promoting the Euclid Beach legacy," while stating that the Carrousel "deserves to be at University Circle." Questions were few.

The *Collinwood Observer* did have representatives there early in the meeting (aside from myself), although they were told that there would be no questions allowed. We have contacted Euclid Beach Park Now with some questions, asking them to clarify some of their statements made at the meeting about their position on the Carrousel. This issue's deadline, however, was too close to hear back from them, and so their response will be in the next article.

Whatever Euclid Beach Park Now and Dr Rackley are doing really doesn't matter though. We have our own grand dream to "Bring Our Carrousel Home." I'd much rather talk about our plan.

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## Volunteers clean up East 185<sup>th</sup> Street

Denise Lorek

With the "Alive on 185" Parade and Sidewalk Sale coming May 22, it's time to give the street a good spring cleaning.

On April 23rd, East 185th St. was swept and cleaned by a group of volunteers and the staff of Northeast Shores. Lucky for us, it was a beautiful day. We started at noon with our brooms at the Lithuanian Hall and worked our way down the street sweeping and cleaning as needed.

The East 185th St. Block Watch members JP Franczyk, his wife Bev, and Pat Lorek rolled up their sleeves to pitch in. They helped Laura Robinson, Vice President of the E.185th Merchants and Professionals Association, and the staff from Northeast Shores sweep and clean East 185th Street.

The City of Cleveland Division of Waste Collection provided a dumpster for free as part of their "Clean Sweep" program. PNC Bank donated garbage bags and Northeast Shores brought the brooms. Jeanne from the Harland Pub provided us with refreshments as we made our way down the street.

While we were stopping for refreshments, we noticed the Harland Pub had a butt collector in front of their establishment. Jeanne commented they had to get a butt collector because the bucket with sand they had out there was not working. "Nobody was using it," she said of the bucket they had before. As we progressed down the street, the cleaners couldn't help but notice

that if there were more Butt Collectors in front of businesses maybe there wouldn't be so many cigarette butts on the street. Yes, folks there were lots of cigarette butts along with the usual trash.

As we crossed the street and made our way back up East 185th St., Frank Barresi from Martin's Men's Wear was waiting for us with cold bottles of water. Around 2:30 we were joined by the Franczyk children, Tom and Hannah, who were a big help. Hannah, by the way, has her own clean-up business called Boop's Poop. Hannah, for a small fee, will come to your house and pick up dog poop for you. If you would like to employ Hannah, you can call Denise at Northeast Shores and she will give you Hannah's contact information.

By the time we got back to the Lithuanian Hall at 4:00, we were all tired, sore and dirty but the street was nice and clean. As Laura stood back and looked down the street she commented, "the street looks so much more inviting when it is all cleaned up". The clean-up crew would like to thank those businesses who take the time to clean up in front of their stores.

\*If you would like more information about a butt collector for your business, please call Denise Lorek or John Boksansky at 216-481-7660. They would be more than happy to help you obtain one.

*Denise Lorek is the Community Organizer for Northeast Shores.*



E. 185th Block Watch members, Bev Franczyk and JP.

## Cleveland Job Corps student wins national award

Susan Clark

Cleveland Job Corps Academy student, Jessica Hall, 21, created the official memento of the G20 Labor and Employment Ministers' Summit Meeting.

The eight-inch-high sculpture is a pyramid fashioned out of black walnut, which is native to Ohio, in which a map of the world is imprinted. Affixed on top are four aluminum figures with outstretched arms.

"It symbolizes united humanity," said Hall, a Bricklaying student at Cleveland Job Corps.

Mr. Rick Heimann, Hard Trade & Bricklaying Coordinator acted as Hall's mentor and orchestrated producing 50 of the mementos for the Department of Labor.

Cleveland Job Corps Academy is a program of the U.S. Labor Department, which held a national competition among enrollees in the training program for 16 – 24 year olds. The memento beat out students from 20 other programs nationally. ■

## Young Collinwood artist exhibits work at Waterloo 7 Gallery

Mariesha Mikel

My name is Mariesha Mikel and I am currently a senior at Collinwood High School.

I enjoy cooking, drawing, painting, sewing, writing poetry, and playing piano.

During my freshman year attending Villa Angela- St. Joseph High School, the school magazine called Venture's published one of my paintings and a short story I had written; I was also awarded 3rd place for use of color and 1st place for teacher's choice.

In the summer of my sophomore year, I entered 4 of my paintings into the Vision Arts

Gallery and the Waterloo 7 Art Gallery. They are inspired by music, books that I have read, and dreams I have had.

In the span of my freshman and sophomore years, I have been in several recitals at the Rainey Institute in which I performed on the piano.

During my four years of attending high school, I have gained new experiences by participating in several clubs and community service projects as well. My personal hobbies helped to influence my interest in joining Art

Club (freshman year), Writer's Club (freshman, junior year), and Chef's Club (sophomore, junior year). During my senior year, I joined Key Club and Citizenship Club, which are both community service clubs.

In addition to the community service I have completed in Key Club and Citizenship Club, I have also: read to children at the Lexington Village Reading Center, stocked food and checked inventory at the Interact Cleveland Food Shelter, stocked clothing at Birthright International, and volunteer work as a care runner for patients at Euclid Hospital.

I recently had the honor of becoming a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and wish to further my education. I have applied for Cleveland State



University, Bowling Green State University, and the University of Akron. I have currently been accepted to attend Cleveland State University as a Nursing Major for the fall semester of 2010. ■



DIALOGUE



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Message from the Publisher

John Copic

Exciting things are happening in Collinwood. There were so many great stories submitted by the talented residents this month that we expanded the paper from 12 to 16 pages. Thank you to all who contributed and especially thanks to all of our advertising sponsors. Please patronize our sponsors. They make our paper possible.

Attention cartoonists, photographers, and writers! Arts Collinwood will be having a get together at the Arts Cafe on Sunday, May 16. Don't be shy - join us. We would really like a Collinwood Comic strip.

Summer is upon us. There will be a parade, festivals and concerts. Bring your camera. Share with the community all the fun things your family will be doing in Collinwood this summer. We look forward to seeing the stories and pictures from even more new writers in the next issue.

Thanks for making the paper great.

Election Results

Mike Gallagher

There were a few races and issues of interest to Collinwood residents in the May 4th primary election.

Here's an overview of the results: Lt Governor Lee Fisher, Lt. Governor, defeated Jennifer Brunner, Secretary of State, to become the Democratic candidate to face Republican Rob Portman in the November U.S. Senate race. This senate seat is currently held by our native son, George Voinovich, who will be retiring at the end of his term. Senator Voinovich served the public with distinction, and the perspective he gained as mayor of Cleveland and other offices made him a voice of moderation in an increasingly fractious Republican party.

State issue 1 easily passed, this will extend the "Third Frontier" program by approving an additional \$700 million in funding. The goal of the Third Frontier is to stimulate economic development in Ohio by providing funds to universities, companies, venture funds and development groups in order to spur growth in innovative high tech industries.

The Third Frontier was founded by former governor Bob Taft, and Governor Ted Strickland has called it our state's most critical economic development tool. It's refreshing to see bipartisan agreement on important issues like this.

County Issue 15 passed in a landslide. This was a renewal levy (no new taxes) for Cuyahoga County Health and Human Services. This provides \$86 million to continue to provide vital services to the neediest among us: the homeless, hungry, unemployed and uninsured.

Marcia Fudge, our U.S. House representative, defeated opponents Isaac Powell and Daniel W. Reilly, in the Democratic primary and at this point in time does not have a Republican opponent for the November election.

Cleveland councilman Mike Polensek was elected to the state central committee for our Ohio senate district 25, defeating five opponents. The State Central Committee has male and female representatives from the major political parties. Their purpose is to help coordinate their parties affairs throughout the state, such as: state convention(s), formulating party platforms, and determining which candidates the parties will support.

State representative Democrat Kenny Yuko, will face Republican Tony Hoyer. Democrat Bill Patmon, defeated State Representative Robin Belcher and Roosevelt Coats in District 10.

Democrat State senator Nina Turner does not have a Republican opponent at this time.

Collinwood Community Clean-up, Saturday May 15th

by Jerry Lambert

City Year and CSX Transportation are teaming up to complete a large-scale service project in our very own Collinwood neighborhood. This will provide the opportunity for CSX, City Year, and community members to engage with one another in an effort to support the area in which we all live and work every day.

Everyone will meet at Collinwood High School Parking lot, on May 15, at 9 am. From there, we will start to clean up the streets. The event will end at 3 pm.

Please come and bring your family out to serve alongside of each other in what will be a wonderful service project.

To get involved, contact Donisha Greene of City Year, at 216-466-2889, [dgreene@cityyear.org](mailto:dgreene@cityyear.org). Or Jerry Lambert at 440-339-4202.

59th Opening Day ceremony for the Northeast Cleveland Little League

by Nan Kennedy

Join us for the parade and 59th Opening Day ceremony for the Northeast Cleveland Little League, immediately following the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Rec Center. See you there!

National Drinking Water Week, May 3-8

John Goersmeyer

The City of Cleveland Division of Water will observe National Drinking Water Week, May 3- 8, and will host an Open House at two of its water works facilities, including free public tours and other family friendly activities.

The Open Houses will be held Saturday, May 8th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the following locations: Nottingham Water Treatment Plant, 1300 Chardon Road, in Cleveland, Crown Water Works, 955 Clague Road, in Westlake, Ohio.

Cleveland water system users are invited to tour either of these facilities to see first hand how drinking water is processed and have their questions about water quality answered. Guided tours will take place continuously, throughout the day. A variety of giveaways for both children and adults will be available.

In order to ensure safety the following security measures apply: • Adult Photo ID Required • No Cameras or Video Equipment • Signature Waiver.

Drinking Water Week is an annual event sponsored by the National Drinking Water Alliance, composed of non-profit groups and government agencies. Water suppliers throughout the United States and other countries participate in the observance, and sponsor activities to encourage consumers to get educated about water-related issues in their local communities.

For more information or to RSVP, visit [www.clevelandwater.com](http://www.clevelandwater.com) or call (216) 664-2444 ext. 5676 or ext 5802.

North Collinwood Feral Cat Project Benefit on Waterloo, May 22

Deborah Gulyas

The North Collinwood Feral Cat Project has been working hard since our start-up last November to spay/neuter as many feral cats as possible. So far, we have helped over 40 cats in the Waterloo neighborhood.

In order to further and expand our mission, we are holding a fundraiser on May 22 that will include a reception and Chinese raffle of 20+ pieces of donated art, jewelry, collectibles, and more at Blue Arrow Records annex, 16001 Waterloo Road 7-9 pm; followed by a show at the Beachland Tavern featuring The Rainy Day Saints, Prisoners, The Kyle Sowashes beginning 9:30 pm. Suggested donation for the show is \$5 or \$3 with a can of cat food.

The night will be a special "Walk All Over Waterloo" event supported by all of the Waterloo merchants who will be offering 10% of their sales from 7-9 pm to the Cat Project.

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." -Ghandhi

For more info:[www.ncfcp.org](http://www.ncfcp.org)





## AROUND COLLINWOOD

## CARROUSEL

continued from page 1

If you're not old enough to remember "the Beach", I'll bet you've heard lots about the place from your folks. In its day, Euclid Beach was the place to be in Cleveland in the summer. No matter where you lived in Cleveland, everyone came to Euclid Beach. Frozen Whip and popcorn balls, company and school picnics under the sycamores rustling in the Lake breeze, the Dance Pavilion and Skating Rink (from what I've heard over the years, half those generations met the other half of those generations at the Dance Pavilion or Skating Rink at Euclid Beach Park! Ask them!)

There were, of course, the rides too. Four glorious classic wooden roller coasters (including one of only a few Flying Turns), the Surprise House (that's Laughing Sal's place – you've met, I'm sure), the Great American Racing Derby carousel (now at Cedar Point). Kiddieland, with all those wonderful miniatures of many of the adult rides. The Rocket Ships. The Bug. Turnpike Cars. The Over the Falls. Dodgem Cars. The

Laff in the Dark -- and the Scrambler, Sleepy Hollow Railroad... you know them all. Or have surely heard about them, and if you haven't, ask some of the older folks around here.

And, of course, our own Euclid Beach Grand Carrousel, Philadelphia Toboggan Company's #19.

I'm going to assume that many of you have been to Euclid Beach State Park, which takes in the "ride side" of Euclid Beach – this is the end of the Park where all those coasters, dance pavilion, skating rink, Surprise House etc listed above were, and of course, our Carrousel. The trees that shaded the Carrousel are still there, as are other vintage sycamores from the days of "EBP," as well as many "bits and pieces" scattered around the State Park. If you've been to different events around the neighborhood, you've seen our "concepts" for the State Park site and building, which were designed by Paul Volpe of City Architecture (yes, same firm that designed and is overseeing our new Recreation & Community Center!) We're very excited about this especially, because, while carousels often come back to their hometowns, so far as we can find,

this will be the first time a carousel comes back not only to its hometown, but back to the place where it originally first operated.

Your support of our Euclid Beach/Collinwood neighborhood's Carrousel plans -- and dreams -- is so important! You've signed petitions, told us your ideas and have dreamed with us all. We WILL make this happen! We will keep you up to date as we work on this; watch for us in our *Collinwood Observer*!

Over the next few issues, we'll talk about those plans, introduce the Committee members, and hey, just "talk Euclid Beach". Meanwhile, look for us on Facebook (search

"Euclid Beach Carrousel Committee"), or email us at: [ebcarrousel@gmail.com](mailto:ebcarrousel@gmail.com). or call 440-942-1493. If you'd like to help, please do get in touch with us!

Stay tuned to find us around the neighborhood over the summer, as we'll be at the upcoming Waterloo Arts Fest in June (we'll be sharing space with the Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society), and we'll be celebrating this 100th Anniversary ourselves, sometime mid-summer (think ice cream & cake!)

If you haven't already, check out the new "bollards" now protecting the Euclid Beach Arch. Thanks to everyone who was part of getting this done. They look great!

Original location, 1969 and 2004. Look how much taller the trees are!



## Benefits of the Euclid Creek Tunnel Project

Nan Kennedy

All of us living near the lake are going to get a lot of benefit from the Euclid Creek Tunnel, at the expense of a great deal of inconvenience for a few of us. I wonder if there's some way we could compensate our neighbors?

Much of Northeast Shore's quarterly meeting on Tuesday was devoted to a presentation by the engineer in charge of North Collinwood's Big Dig, a massive chain of underground drains and tunnels that will collect the sewage that overflows Cleveland's antiquated drains during storms, hold it till the flood has ceased and pump it to the sewage treatment plant -- where it will become clean water instead of beach pollution that stops our kids from swimming.

This will be a huge benefit to the entire area -- our beaches are a more than a local asset -- and since we are a beach community, it will be an even huger benefit to us. We'll have to wait to enjoy the benefit, though -- you don't dig a 3.5-mile tunnel, 200 feet underground and twenty-four feet across inside -- in a couple of hours. The project will happen in stages over three or four years, starting in Bratenahl (which gets the biggest drop hole, from which all the mining for the rest of the system will be managed) and proceeding to drops on (1) the northeast plant's own property (900 feet from Dalwood Drive); (2) Beulah Park (again on a

NEORS-owned plot that, inevitably, is too close for comfort to homes and access roads); (3) Triangle Park, where the gazebo sits at Lakeshore and E174; and (4) the former Scrap Mart site at E185 and St Clair.

There will be traffic disruption from lane closings; trees will of necessity be removed; there will be dust and dirt (even though the trucks removing the underground muck have to clean their tires before leaving the site!); there will be the close or distant rumble of blasting explosions (once or twice a day during that particular stage). And for the residents of Beulah Park especially, there will be construction noise from 7 am to 7 pm.

But the alternative is to go on swimming (or not) in water contaminated by sewage, and to go on paying the higher costs of purifying our water, to get the sewage out. Modern cities rest on massive, complex infrastructures that are not easy to fix. To enjoy their benefits, we have to endure their repair or replacement.

A couple of summers ago, NEORS was busy off our beach digging an exploratory tunnel; the clang of barges reminded me it was time to get up, and the barge traffic was entertaining while I swam; there was blasting, but I didn't notice it. That, of course, lasted for a few weeks at most; the current project will go on much longer. ■

## Groundbreaking for the Rec Center

Nan Kennedy

Saturday, May 15, our long-awaited rec center will begin to take shape. Groundbreaking will occur on the site at 16500 Lakeshore Boulevard (former Big Lots), where there is plenty of parking. Construction will begin promptly the following Monday (demolition, really, but as little as possible -- part of the building's green certification is its careful preservation of the shell).

The official ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. with remarks by honored guests including Mayor Frank Jackson, Sen. George Voinovich, Ward 11 Councilman Michael D. Polensek, and other dignitaries.

The \$11.9 million facility will house the Cleveland's first indoor water park with a monster slide and full swimming pool, as well

as a regulation-sized basketball court, three-lane walking/jogging track, kitchen facilities, Senior Center, aerobics, and fitness/exercise rooms. In addition, there will be a community room, computer center and offices for city employees.

Outside will feature a pool patio and bike paths to the 32-acre Humphrey's Sports Complex. A new intersection on Lakeshore Boulevard will link the 5-acre site to Euclid Beach State Park so that people can walk or ride their bikes from Grovewood Avenue to the Lakefront.

The state-of-the-art facility was designed by Cleveland-based City Architecture and will be environmentally friendly with solar panels on the roof and entrance way. The project is expected to be completed by summer 2011. ■

## Getting to Know... Frank Macuga

Susan Brandt

Frank Macuga is the most likable person there is, salt of the earth personality, always smiling, friendly, quick conversationalist and just genuinely warm. Or at least I hope so, you see Frank is the crossing guard at Lakeshore and E. 200th Street. So you would have to encompass all of those traits especially when the cold winter weather hits.

When I went to interview Frank -- wow you cannot believe how many people honk the horn at this gentleman -- he knew them all by name. Funny that when I got home, how many Facebook friends questioned why I was out harassing him on his post, silly Facebook friends, so here is the reason I am out there harassing Mr. Macuga.

Frank Macuga is transplanted here from Indiana, Pennsylvania, a town, at that time (1961) of about 200 people. He is the oldest of four siblings, and has been married to his beautiful wife, Judy, for 42 years, this August. They both enjoy going to the Chautauqua Institute. A retired school teacher from Villa Angela/Saint Joseph's, Frank was employed there from 1964 to 2004, teaching math. To this day, he still receives thank you letters from former students, still using the math lessons that he taught.

Frank takes great pride in his post at the corner of E 200th and Lakeshore Blvd., getting to know all of the kids from Holy Cross and Lincoln Schools that he escorts across the busy intersection. What a great way for children to get their days started at school.



**What is your idea of perfect happiness?** Believe in God and do your best!

**What do you consider to be your greatest achievement?** Teaching for 44 years, and receiving thank you letters from former students.

**What are the qualities you most like in a person?** Honesty and trustworthiness.

**What do you most value in your friends?** Dependability

**What is your most treasured possession?** My Wife, Judy.

**What is your greatest extravagance?** Playing the lottery Mega Million, scratch offs and Power Ball.

**Who are your heroes in real life?**

Joe Paterno, the head football coach at Penn State, because he is honest and dependable.

**What makes you unique?**

I can talk to anyone, I am friendly and I greet everyone!

**If you could change one thing in your life what would it be?**

I thought about that for a while and there is nothing I would change, everything is good.

**What are your favorite words?**

Good Morning!

And he said it with such gusto!!

Bravo, Frank!

## KIDS CAN TAKE RTA TO A SAFE PLACE

Any Cleveland child who needs food, shelter or counseling can now get on an RTA bus or train and alert the operator, who will call a trained worker to escort the child to safety at Next Step/West Haven Youth Shelter or Bellefaire's Homeless Youth Program, who are partnering with RTA. Cards and stickers are going up to let kids know about this source of help, and RTA will conduct information sessions at schools.





AROUND COLLINWOOD

Signs of Spring in the neighborhood

Carol G. Ward, Park Naturalist - Cleveland Lakefront State Park



A bucket of sand, or a bucket of snowballs?

I was recently listening to the radio while driving to work and heard that Cleveland had been named "the worst winter city". I asked myself, if this is true, why am I here? I'm not a big fan of cold temperatures and blustery winds! But there are certainly some beautiful scenes and fun activities that make it all worthwhile.

Of course, one of the best things about winter is that it's followed by spring! Around about March I start looking for those signs that let me know it's on the way. In the neighborhood you might see people finally taking down Christmas lights, snow blowers are on clearance at the home improvement retailers, snow fencing is being removed, and maybe even the first garage sale advertisement of the year is posted.

Nature has its own signs as well. The Red-winged Blackbird is considered the harbinger of spring. When I see this bird back from its winter get-away, or hear its call, I know that spring is truly on its way. Other signs to look for outside include tracks (footprints) in the mud from hibernating animals. They are beginning to become more active with the warmer temperatures - raccoons, skunks and groundhogs. Trees are ready with their buds that contain all the leaves that will unfurl this year.

The nature of springtime reminds us of the cycles of life. From the sounds of new baby birds in nests, to the emergence of various insect species from their winter dormancy as larvae, to their spring and summer presence as adults, ready to start the cycle all over again.

It's a time of renewal and rejuvenation. It's a time to get out – to explore and appreciate the world around us. Earth Day was April 22 – a day set aside for appreciating all that nature and our environment provides for us. Many activities city-wide offered opportunities for education, stewardship, and outdoor fun. But remember, Earth Day is not just one day. It's a state of mind everyday.

Your local State Park has many opportunities for you to get out and enjoy the nature of spring in your neighborhood. For a complete listing of programs and events visit [www.clevelandlakefront.org](http://www.clevelandlakefront.org) and click on Naturalist Programs or call 216-881-8141 ext. 3001 to request a paper copy of the schedule. All programs are offered free of charge.

The Great Euclid Creek Invasive Plant Pull: May 15, 10 a.m.-noon

Get ready to get a little dirty—for a good cause. We'll be pulling Garlic Mustard, an invasive plant that out-competes native species and isn't a good food source for wildlife. This event is co-sponsored with the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District as the first of several Euclid Creek Stewardship Events planned for 2010. Meet at the Wildwood entrance parking lot. Bring garden / work gloves if you have 'em.

Fishing Fun At Wildwood: May 29, 10 a.m.-noon

Meet at the west end parking lot. Equipment and bait provided for the first 15 participants under 16 years old.

Spring has arrived on Nottingham!

Angela Cavotta

Started in 1930 by Felix and Angela Cavotta, Cavotta's Garden Center is a family business where our customers have become family over the past eighty years. Just as our parents and grandparents, we strive to provide the best for your garden, the freshest produce and the same warm and friendly atmosphere that our friends have come to expect from us.

This year we've added bagged soil, chicken and cow manure and a large selection of herbs. Lots of Heirloom tomato plant varieties to choose from along with your basic Big Boy's and just about anything you'd want for your garden. Annuals and perennials galore and beautiful hanging baskets everywhere. We also have fresh eggs available daily from our own chickens.

On your way to the greenhouse in the back, stop and visit our newest additions, Daisy and Petunia our Pygmy goats. Beginning May 7th, we'll be offering fresh fruits and vegetables and local honey also. Vintage items, bird houses, hummingbird feeders, jellies and preserves, beautiful hand decorated cookies and lots of interesting things are offered in the store also. Stop by on a Sunday for a cup of coffee and enjoy our patio. If you've never been to Cavotta's or its been a while, stop in and say hello...you'll be pleasantly surprised!

Store hours - Monday thru Friday 9-7, Saturday 9-6, Sunday 10-5.

Give us a call at 216-692-0300 or you can visit us at [www.cavottas.com](http://www.cavottas.com) and check out our weekly specials. At Cavotta's we're bringing a little bit of country to the heart of the city! ■



Adopt-a Beach™ team supports our Cleveland Metroparks Lakefront Park

Stephen Love

Adopt-a-Beach is a volunteer organization and subsidiary of the Alliance for The Great Lakes, a Chicago based non-profit dedicated to sustaining and improving the health of our lakes and beaches. Each month our team conducts beach clean-ups and monitors bacteria counts. The data is utilized by the Alliance to secure grant funding to target beach/water quality issues. What we can surmise from our data collection at Euclid Beach thus far is that our lakefront parks face a number of challenges from improper waste disposal/management to high levels of bacteria in the water.

Recently, there has been discussion over the termination of the City of Cleveland's lease of the Cleveland Lakefront Park system to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Earlier last month, we read several of your articles about Councilman Polensek's resolution supporting a proposal for the acquisition of the Cleveland Lakefront Park system by the Cleveland Metroparks. The Euclid Beach Team fully supports this proposal. The Cleveland Metroparks is a time-tested organization and its management of the Emerald Necklace park system is nothing short of excellent. We cite Huntington Beach Park as an example of the Metroparks' ability to bring the same excellence to the lakefront. The Metroparks has the financial and personnel resources to dedicate to the physical upkeep and improvement of the lakefront parks, unlike the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources, which faces a number of budget shortfalls and cuts. The Metroparks recently appointed CEO Brian Zimmerman, who is an expert in the acquisition and utilization of lakefront park property.

Our team wants to support what is best for our beaches, our lakefront and our city. Few cities in the world could boast over seven miles of public coastline on one of the world's most precious resources. Cleveland has untapped potential in its lakefront that other cities could only imagine. We urge you to show your support for Councilman Polensek's resolution and to continue to keep the topic on the minds of casual readers and civic leaders alike. Aking action today will prove our lakefront parks a vital asset for years to come.

For more information on how you can support a ClevelandMetroparks Lakefront, contact Councilman Mike Polensek at 216-664-4236 or e-mail [council11@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:council11@clevelandcitycouncil.org). \*For more information on how you can support a The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team this spring/summer, contact Stephen Love at 216-571-0685 or e-mail [sllove@mail.bw.edu](mailto:sllove@mail.bw.edu).

SAFELY DUMP UNWANTED MEDS

Operation Medicine Cabinet aims to make our bathrooms safer by properly disposing of all those outdated prescriptions. Take them to the Fifth District HQ (881 E152 St.) on May 8, 9 am – 10 pm. If in doubt about what you want to bring, call 216-664-3717 or log on to [www.cleveland-oh.gov](http://www.cleveland-oh.gov).

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## AROUND COLLINWOOD

## Census takers will call on households that did not mail back questionnaires

**John A. Willse, US Bureau of Census**

To ensure a complete and accurate count of residents nationwide, the Census Bureau on May 1, 2010 will begin Non-Response Follow Up field operations as census takers contact those households that did not mail back completed census questionnaires.

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau is mandated by the government to count everyone living in the United States. By achieving an accurate count of the U.S. population, census data helps form the basis for many important political, economic, and social decisions that affect our nation and impact our daily lives.

"We need the help and cooperation of every household we visit to answer ten short questions," said Dwight P. Dean, Detroit Regional Director for the U.S. Census Bureau. "Answering the questions asked by the Enumerators helps every community get its fair share of billions in federal funds and the correct number of political representatives in the U.S. Congress."

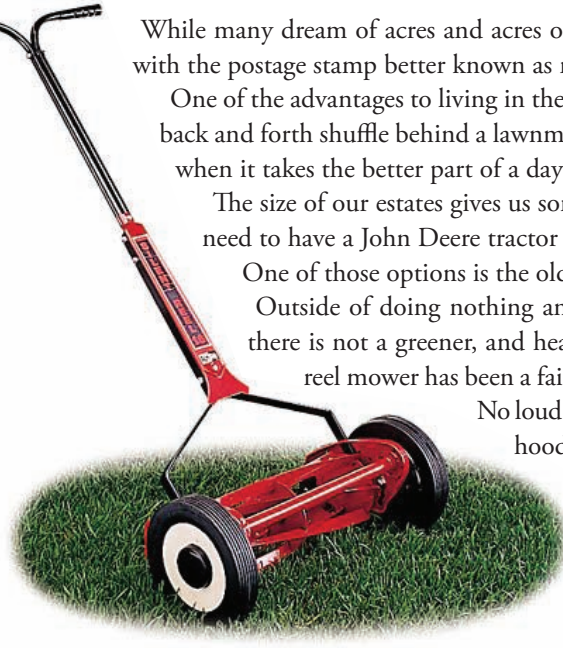
A U.S. Census taker will have a census ID badge that contains a Department of Commerce watermark. The census taker may also be carrying a bag with a Census Bureau

logo. If asked, he or she will provide you with photo identification, supervisor contact information and/or the Local Census Office phone number for verification. The 2010 Census only includes the 10 questions found on the 2010 Census form. Census workers will never ask for Social Security numbers, credit card numbers or bank account information. Further, census workers will never ask to enter a home. If census workers are unable to reach a household member in-person, they will also attempt contact by phone to conduct the interview with a household member. Census workers will never attempt to contact individuals by e-mail.

The 2010 Census is one of the largest operations conducted by the federal government and is mandated by the US Constitution for the reapportionment of congressional seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. The census is also used to help determine how more than \$400 billion in federal funding is distributed annually throughout the country for schools, healthcare facilities, safety forces, roads and highways, and other essential services.

## A green way to trim the green

**Mike Gallagher**



While many dream of acres and acres of sprawling land, I'm perfectly content with the postage stamp better known as my backyard.

One of the advantages to living in the city is a very manageable lawn size: the back and forth shuffle behind a lawnmower can be a relaxing pastime, but not when it takes the better part of a day to do the job.

The size of our estates gives us some choices in how we cut our grass, no need to have a John Deere tractor for this task.

One of those options is the old-fashioned push reel lawnmower.

Outside of doing nothing and letting the lawn grow into a jungle, there is not a greener, and healthier, way to cut your lawn. My push reel mower has been a faithful yard companion for over 15 years.

No loud gasoline engine disturbing the neighborhood tranquility. The smell of fresh air, not smelly fumes accompanies a leisurely workout.

The price is hard to beat - you should not have to spend much over \$100 to get a new machine that will serve you well for many years. A little

oil on the reel and blade over the winter, and sharpening the blade every few years is all you need to do to keep your baby purring happily..

Perhaps the idea of pushing a reel mower is not too appealing. Another way to mow green is a rechargeable battery-powered mower. It's not as high on the sustainable scale as the push reel mower, because energy is still required to charge the batteries. And, it costs more.. But it's still well ahead of the gasoline-powered version.

Either way, you are doing your body and Mother Earth a big favor.

One of our local businesses, Northeast Mower on E 156th Street can put you behind a rechargeable mower, and Home Depot carries push reel mowers and rechargeable mowers.

## HEALTH

## Belly Dance for Health

**Beverly White-Yates**

While we know for certain that belly dancing is fun, it has other favorable side effects as well. Belly dancing is also wonderful exercise. You will discover muscles you never even knew existed! Few understand the effects it has on the human body. The graceful hip drops, rolls, and pivots of this dance form utilize muscle groups in the abdomen, pelvis, trunk, spine, and neck, working with the body instead of against it. Unlike ballet, which can potentially alter and deform the skeleton, or other dance forms that work against rather than with the body's physical inclinations, Belly Dance is based on movements that come naturally to the female form. There is a wealth of health benefits awaiting those who practice this form of dance. Many people are surprised to learn that Middle-Eastern Dance, commonly known as "belly-dance," involves much more than the belly! In fact, belly-dance can benefit many parts of the body. Here are some of the health benefits of Middle-Eastern Dance:

Exercising the carrying muscles without impact. A belly-dancer uses her quadriceps, hamstrings and glutes to hold her steady as she performs hip movements or travels smoothly across the floor. However, even though she gets a great lower-body workout, the amount of impact to her knees and ankles is minimal. Impact is measured not only by how hard our feet strike the ground, but by how much stress is placed on our joints. Using this measure, most of Middle-Eastern dance is considered non-impact; some tribal and folk dances are low-impact.

Building the back muscles evenly. Belly-dancers use their torsos a lot-much more than ballet, modern or tap dancers. Only jazz dancers come close to our use of rib movements and undulations. These movements, coupled with shoulder movements, exercise the back muscles, and they exercise the muscles evenly. Strong back muscles prevent back injuries, and promote good posture as well.

Exercising the arms. New belly-dance students are always surprised by much they have to use their arm muscles. Belly-dancers have to hold their arms up for long periods of time, and it actually takes quite a lot of strength to perform arm movements slowly and gracefully.

Aiding digestion. It's true! Exercising the abdominal area, not just by rolling the belly, but also by swaying the torso, helps food move along the digestive system. Any form of exercise will have this effect to some degree, but belly-dance is especially good for this purpose.

Raks sharki or Belly Dancing can burn up to 300 calories per hour. This estimate will vary, of course, depending on the intensity of your dancing. Combined with a healthy diet that involves sensible eating, raks sharki can without a doubt be part of a sound weight loss program.

*If you want to Belly Dance, come to Indian Hills Senior Community Emeritus House, 1541 East 193rd, in Euclid, Mondays: 7PM - 8PM, \$3 per class. For more info call: 216 650-3914.*

## Mary Mavec Opportunity School

**Barbara Comiskey**

Ask people in and around Euclid about Mary Mavec Opportunity School and many are not really sure what the school is all about. The school has always operated quietly, without a lot of fanfare. But if you ask Peter, one of the school's clients, he will tell you that Mary Mavec Opportunity School is the place he goes every weekday to work, learn and hang out with his best friends.

It has been this way for more than 60 years. Mary Mavec Opportunity School is an adult center especially for clients over the age of 22 who have developmental disabilities. The school offers opportunities to work and participate in a variety of activities that encourage independence, life-long learning and growth.

So far this year, the group has been very busy taking advantage of a number of new opportunities. With helping hands from volunteers and staff members, Mary Mavec's clients took a couple of turns staffing the coatcheck for the Euclid Exposition Center's Home & Garden Show and the Cleveland Sport Travel and Outdoor Show earlier this year. The group is currently organizing and taking orders for a spring flower sale, with flowers available for pickup on Saturday, May 8. Clients will also be participating in Euclid's 200th Street Stroll on June 5, riding in the Euclid Beach Rocket Car during the festivities.

When they are not out and about in the community, clients can be found complet-

ing mailings and other workshop projects for area businesses. Other days, you will find them practicing reading and writing, working on art projects, or developing their sign language skills. With so much going on, the clients recently decided they needed their own newsletter to report all their activities to the community, friends and family members. So, beginning in April, the first issue of the Mary Mavec Newsletter will go to press. Newsletters will be available via email to anyone who would like to receive a copy and sends a request to [marymavec@att.net](mailto:marymavec@att.net).

Day to day activities are overseen by Executive Director, Christine Hazlinger and a handful of volunteers and part-time staff. Christine's primary goal is to support maximum independence through the continued development of lifeskills and the individual talents of each client. "We welcome visitors and are very interested in building new relationships with businesses and other organizations. I invite anyone interested in learning more to give us a call or stop in for a visit."

Mary Mavec Opportunity School currently has a limited number of openings for people who could benefit from the services offered.

*For information on enrollment, volunteer opportunities or workshop services please call Christine Hazlinger at (216) 731-4666 or visit the schools website at [www.marymavec.org](http://www.marymavec.org).*



NORTHEAST SHORES

DON'T PAY DOUBLE FOR TRASH

Brian Friedman

Northeast Shores is continually impressed with the number of neighborhood residents that have their families living alone in doubles in the neighborhood.

These families have the advantage of voluminous square feet to enjoy, a separate kitchen for entertaining, and lots of storage space for those large holiday decorations.

As you may know, the City of Cleveland recently implemented an \$8 monthly fee for trash collection. This monthly fee is a "per unit" fee so that means doubles owe \$16 a month!

Well, the City of Cleveland Division of Waste Collection does not want to charge you double for living in your whole double. If you do live in your whole double, you can reduce your trash collection fee to the single-family rate of \$8 by printing then completing the Exemption Request Form located at: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/30638930>.

This form covers a number of potential exemptions. To help clarify how to complete this form, if you are living in your whole double (and only creating trash for one household), we have completed the form generically as an example. Follow this link that shows how you should complete the form: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/30644103>.

After completing the form, you will need to mail it to the Division of Assessments and Licenses at the address listed on the form. You will also need to submit a copy of your water bill and your deed. Your water bill is mailed to you (and has your water account number which you have to list on the Exemption Form). If you do not have your deed, you can search by the owner's name (under "optionally enter party"). Also, don't forget to change the, "Enter Record Date" to the window of time when you purchased your property, and download and print a copy of your deed from: <http://tinyurl.com/2ezff9n>

Brian A. Friedman is the Director of Northeast Shores Development Corporation.

LaSalle Marquee available for announcements from the community

John Boksansky

The LaSalle Marquee, located at East 185th Street and Kildeer Avenue, will soon be available for your message. Given the special circumstances and energy around the exterior renovation and stabilization plan currently underway for the LaSalle, Northeast Shores together with the community were able to secure a special permit from The City of Cleveland to establish the use of the existing marquee theater sign for community messages. The existing changeable letters will be utilized and Northeast Shores will purchase additional lettering to provide for complete messages.

The Marquee has two sign faces which are fourteen feet wide and five feet high. The sign faces have four potential lines of text, utilizing black eight-inch-high letters and numbers. If you have a special event or announcement that you just have to boast about, we are here to make it happen!



Rental rates are as follows and must be paid at the time of rental: one line of text: \$15/week, one marquee (four lines of text) \$50/week, two marquees (facing North and South) \$100/week.

Proceeds of the rental of the marquee will benefit the LaSalle Marquee Restoration

project. If interested in advertising to help restore the LaSalle Theatre Marquee, please call John at (216) 481-7660 or E-mail [jboksansky@northeastshores.org](mailto:jboksansky@northeastshores.org).

John Boksansky is the Business District Manager of Northeast Shores Development Corporation.

New signage celebrates East 185<sup>th</sup> Street!

John Boksansky

Shoppers and visitors to the area now are greeted by the district entry signs as well as new blue and gold banners on East 185th Street. The signs are located to the South of I-90 at Villa View and Neff Road and South Waterloo and East 185th Street. The new banners replaced a prior design scheme and logo which has been retired. The banners line the street on East 185th Street from Villa View to Lake Shore Blvd. The project was supported by the community and funded by Councilman Michael D. Polensek through his Ward 11 allocation of Community Development Block Grant Funds.

Laura Robinson from Helping Hands Days Care on East 185th Street stated that, "the banners and district signs are so warm and welcoming. We are thankful that the project was able to be completed this year," she said. "The merchants and residents do really take pride in the area, and it shows by the support they provide in celebrating the community, providing for clean ups of the

area periodically, and in the special event programming they organize." The endeavor continues the ongoing effort of branding East 185th Street and celebrating the many positives of the area, including the access to goods and services supplied by restaurants, retailers and institutions in the district. It is particularly timely in that these improvements have been installed previous to the "Alive on East 185" event scheduled for May 22. ■



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## COLLINWOOD/NOTTINGHAM

## Emergency housing help for seniors

Jayne Lucas

Emergency Housing Help for Seniors! The Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation (CNVDC) wanted to let everyone know about two new programs available to help seniors who live in Cleveland. Cuyahoga County Senior Guest House Ohio's first Senior Guest House is one of a dozen sites of its kind in the United States. It is designed as a temporary safe residence for older persons 60+ who must leave their home or apartment due to circumstances such as fire, structural damage, and eviction or strained family relationships. The Senior Guest House can accommodate up to eight residents at one time. Guests must live in Cuyahoga County and must be able to manage the activities of daily living without assistance. For admission criteria and referrals to the Senior Guest House contact Fairhill Partners at 216-421-1350 or 216-496-5604. The Senior Guest House is a demonstration and collaborative effort between Fairhill Partners, Cuyahoga County Department of Senior & Adult Services and the City of Cleveland Department of Aging. You can also call CNVDC at 216-383-9772 for more information.

Homeless Prevention Program for Cleveland Seniors: This federally-funded program, administered through the City of Cleveland, Department of Aging, is to provide homelessness prevention assistance to households who would otherwise become homeless without it. The City of Cleveland has a commitment to assisting Cleveland Seniors who are at risk of becoming homeless. The Homelessness Prevention Program consists of:

- Assessing your current situation to determine your level of need
- Providing case management to help coordinate needed services
- Working with Seniors to achieve a sustainable living arrangement
- Request limited financial assistance if program requirements are met

*For an assessment and/or more information, contact Susan at the City of Cleveland, Department of Aging at 216-420-7673. This program is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) and administered through HUD's Homelessness Prevention and Rapid ReHousing Program (HPRP). You can also call CNVDC at 216-383-9772 for more information.*

## Annual membership drive offers prizes for new members

Jayne Lucas

Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation (CNVDC) is partnering with local businesses to offer gift certificates and prizes to the 10th, 25th, and 50th new members that join online at [www.cnvdc.org](http://www.cnvdc.org).

This is part of our annual membership drive. CNVDC has been serving the South Collinwood neighborhood for over 25 years, including home repair assistance, new homeownership opportunities, and fostering significant new investments in housing and commercial/industrial facilities. By becoming a member of CNVDC, you will be making your voice heard and be part of the revitalization of South Collinwood.

To join online go to "Click here to join" at the top of the homepage and once you are there, complete the online application and then click on "donate" or use the easy paypal option. You can pay the membership fee using a credit/debit card or your paypal


account (\$15.00 for residents & \$12.00 for seniors 65 & over).

The 10th, 25th, and 50th new online members will receive gift certificates from local merchants including Collinwood Village Mart, Bakers Candies, Collinwood Convenient Store, Raddell's Sausage Shop, and Dave's Supermarket. One lucky new member will also receive free Indians Tickets!

All donations to CNVDC, including the membership fee, are tax deductible and we will gladly provide you with a receipt. For more information about CNVDC, the services we provide, and/or the membership drive call 216-383-9772. You can also become a member "the old fashioned way". Call CNVDC and we'll send you an application. You will still be eligible for the gift certificates/prizes if you are the 10th, 25th, or 50th new member.

## Check out [www.cnvdc.org](http://www.cnvdc.org) for South Collinwood news

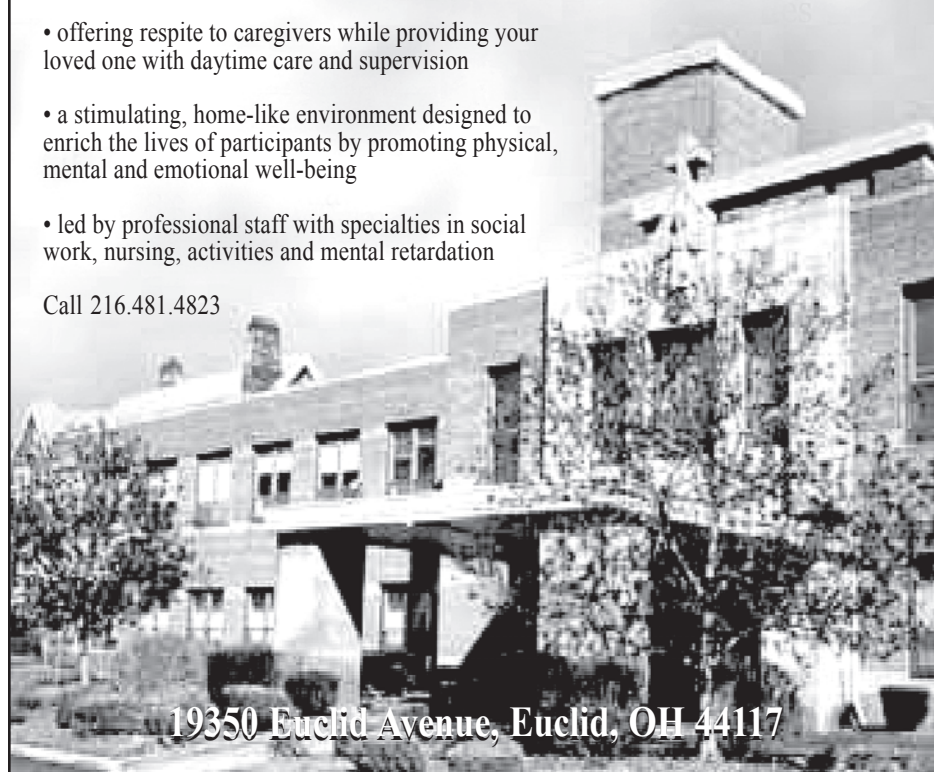
Check out [www.cnvdc.org](http://www.cnvdc.org) for info and news about South Collinwood! The Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation (CNVDC) has a new website! The site, [www.cnvdc.org](http://www.cnvdc.org), was launched last month and features newly rehabbed homes for sale, assistance for home repair projects, and more. We hope you will check out [www.cnvdc.org](http://www.cnvdc.org) and let us know what you think. As with everything, the website is a work in progress and your thoughts/input would be very much appreciated.



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## FORUM

# Earth Day, the Sewer District, and me

**Louise Foresman**

It's about a week since the 40th anniversary of the first Earth Day in 1970. As you've no doubt heard, Earth Day sparked the environmental movement that gave us such improvements as the Clean Water and Clean Air Acts and dozens of other environmental laws that resulted in the indoor and outdoor air and water quality we enjoy today.

Possibly, living in North Collinwood, you have also heard about the latest planned improvement by the North East Ohio Regional Sewer District to Lake Erie's water quality, the Euclid Creek Tunnel, a 3.4 mile colossus, writhing through North Collinwood 200 feet underground towards the Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant, where the tunnel will deposit stored, combined rain and sanitary sewer runoff. Without construction of this tunnel, treatment of the combined sewer overflow cannot be accomplished due to the age and low technology of our sewer structures.

All good stuff, you say, and it is. But the activism of the first Earth Day should now be an inspiration to North Collinwood residents to ask hard questions of the Sewer District, and anyone they employ, to do a project that will be (in their words) for "the greater good".

Given that the Plain Dealer's headline announced on April 21, 2010 (the day BEFORE the 40th anniversary of Earth Day) that NEORSD's ex-lawyer has pled guilty to accepting bribes of over \$600,000 in return for steering contracts to build the Millcreek Tunnel (a companion to the one that will be built in North Collinwood) it's clear that the

Sewer District has a lot of explaining to do to those of us that will have to live with this monstrosity of a project for the next several years, as well as to the ratepayers who will be footing the bill. Just as there were with the first Earth Day activists, there are many issues to educate ourselves about, many questions to ask, and many officials to hold accountable.

On April 20, I attended a meeting at the Cleveland Library on Lakeshore Boulevard where NEORSD presented their plan for the Euclid Creek tunnel to neighborhood residents. This was an unsettling meeting for a number of reasons, the least of which was that NEORSD staff insisted that all questions from those attending be held until the end of the presentation, which ran so long that few questions were addressed.

Unsettling also was the tone of the presentation. Issues like the use of dynamite to allow NEORS D to sink a 24 foot wide shaft 200 feet in the Beulah Park neighborhood were minimized. NEORS D staff said, incredibly, that "the human body is the most sensitive instrument to a vibration, but property won't be damaged". In other words, although humans might find our world rocked by construction dynamite during this project, we don't need to worry about permanent damage to structures, an attitude that presupposes the biggest concerns we might have about dynamite have to do with what happens to our houses, not to ourselves.

In the interest of full disclosure, I have to say that one of the project's planned "baffle-

drop-shafts" which will be sunk 200 feet underground turns out to be sited about 50 feet from my front door in Beulah Park. The details of this project were not revealed to the neighborhood that will be living this dream for (they say) the next four years, starting this November, until the April 20 meeting, although NEORSD has owned the land where they will be digging this shaft for the past 7 years. Preliminary statistics about the project are dizzying.

Our neighborhood association (I am the Vice-President) is taking steps to educate people and to communicate with the sewer district about our needs. We are having a meeting with NEORSRD on May 6 at the Golden Age Center on Lakeshore Boulevard, and I suspect others will follow. I advise everyone in North Collinwood and anywhere that is affected by NEORSRD, to do the same regarding this project and the projects that will follow this one. NEORSRD staff said that it will take about the next "20-30 years" (and billions of dollars) to finish the complete tunnel system that will clean up Lake Erie.

We need to demand the sewer district inform and protect residents along with our natural resources. Given their track record with the Mill Creek Tunnel and their shortsightedness in working with people in North Collinwood so far, we have no other choice than to get involved. This newspaper is a great vehicle to move the discussion. What better way to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day? ■

*What can be made  
of the La Salle  
Theater?*

## Barron Glass

We have a great opportunity being presented to us with this topic of a theater and what use can be made of it.

I believe we can achieve excellence through the use of this building in very creative ways through the arts, with acting, dance, and music. The very idea sparks real hope for our youth to have a place to express themselves and meet others with the same interests. I believe the movie industry could interact here at this theater with productions and education in theater. Finally, the music industry could have an anchor point as a place to perform different types of styles as well. The expression, "If you build it they will come," makes the point.

The adjacent store fronts could augment the theater's presence with a coffee shop, and act as meeting places before and after the performances in the theater. I believe the whole area could benefit from its presence. Finally, still another use would be rollerskating and dancing during the week. The theater's potential for expressing people's ideas is tremendous. The timing of this opportunity is so apropos to what happened long ago when it first opened. The mood is the same. With this theater we can remember and reminisce about times past and look forward to what we can achieve ahead of us, leaving a new mark and memories for our children. ■

# Health Care Insurance

*Talking to Collinwood*

**Mike Gallagher**

President Obama and the U.S. Congress have passed landmark health care legislation. It is being hailed as the most significant health care legislation since the passage of Medicare in 1965.

The Collinwood Observer wanted to talk to some of our citizens (neighbors) and hear their thoughts about the new law.

Shakeela Liddell of Mannering Ave. says: "Everyone has a right to health insurance, how can we deny them? Those who feel different than this have not been in a difficult position, where they were unable to get or afford health insurance. I completely support the president on this issue."

Talking about the political courage it took for the President and other supporters in Con-

gress: "I'm an educator, a 4th grade teacher, and I tell my students there are times when you need to stand up for what's right, and I think that is what the president has done."

C.J., a customer at the Phade Away Barbershop on E.185 feels: "This has been a fight between those who have, and those who don't, between those who have plenty and those in need..." Even with the passage of the new law, C.J is somewhat skeptical. "I'm concerned that those who need it most, may not see it."

Bill Gibson, of Blue Sky Bicycle on E185, wonders how the new legislation will affect him as a small business owner. "Small business is the backbone of our country. Health Care Insurance for all is a noble thought, a great idea.. hope springs eternal.. I just hope that it



will work for the average guy.."

Mike Caruso of Tony's Barber shop says, "The president was not smart about this. He should have been focusing on creating jobs, that's our greatest need."

Tom Griffin, of Shawnee Ave: "We need health care insurance, but I don't think this law was handled right: it just guarantees that insurance companies will get our business-- but

we had to start somewhere."

Brent Staples of Lakeshore Blvd thinks costs are out of control: "I went in for a basic check-up recently, and the cost was ridiculous. I'm a veteran, but prefer to not use the VA," he says. "I agree with the bill, but think it needs to be cleaned up some, then it will be all right." ■

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**"Health Care Brawl" is not over****Joseph Compoli**

"Health Care Brawl," the article written by Mike Gallagher was a good article detailing the positive aspects of the new health care legislation. It was great to see the Collinwood Observer tackle the contentious issue of health care reform.

There were a few points mentioned in the article which need to be amplified and commented upon.

For example, the article mentions that the new legislation fails to address "Malpractice Reform" as part of "cost saving measures".

First, there are no definitive studies linking Malpractice Reform with cost containment. Ohio's Republican insurance-backed majorities in the House and Senate rammed through so-called "Malpractice Reform" in the form of "caps on damages" years ago and, just like in all the other states passing such measures, insurance rates have continued to rise. The only effect it had was to cheat seriously injured people out of obtaining appropriate justice.

Secondly, it has always been advanced by insurance-backed interest groups that doctors are being forced to practice "defensive" medicine by ordering unnecessary and expensive tests. There is no question that doctors are ordering such tests, but it has little to do with practicing "defensive" medicine and has much more to do with practicing "ring up the bill" medicine.

If you look behind any study finding unnecessary tests, you will also find that in virtually all cases, the patient had sufficient insurance coverage to cover the procedures. Rarely will you find that doctors have ordered the extra procedures if the patient is poor, or had no insurance coverage. In other words, the tests are not ordered unless there is an assurance of payment.

Since any person, poor, insured or uninsured, can make malpractice claims against a physician, the amount of unnecessary procedures for both groups, uninsured and insured, should be exactly the same. It isn't, so the only logical explanation is that extra procedures are ordered to enhance the healthcare facility's bottom-line profits.

The healthcare industry has said to hell with consumers and hiked premiums -- by as much as 39% in the case of Anthem Blue Cross in California. This has always been the pattern. According to congressional investigators, over a two-year period, Anthem's parent company, WellPoint spent more than \$27 million dollars for executive retreats at luxury resorts. And in 2008, WellPoint paid 39 of its executives more than a million dollars each. The health insurance industry lives by the motto: "Profit before patients."

**Reply to Jerry Masek's article, "RTA service changes affect Collinwood"****Jeanne Coppola**

In response to RTA's Media Relations Manager, Jerry Masek's article, "RTA service changes affect Collinwood" (March 1), I have many questions and issues which I feel require greater attention and clarity.

In the article, Masek outlines the service changes to our local community bus routes, #30, #34, and #39/F, that started on April 4, 2010. He said "RTA will retain (the #39/F) weekday midday service and rush hour service," but will end evening and weekend service.

The #39/F rush hour service is not acceptable because the bus is always standing room only. On April 2, 2010, the #39 leaving Tower City at 3:20 pm going east, was filled to capacity before it reached Ontario. It was hot, there was no air conditioning, and the seats were dirty. Also, drivers do not take into consideration that disabled people need time to get off the bus. So could Mr. Masek please alert drivers to the fact that riders are still holding onto the handrails when they step into the street, and to NOT slam the door on them or start the bus!

Masek's explanation to riders about the discontinued evening weekend #37 bus routes south of Severance Center is: they have an "option -- (to) Ride the #37 to the Windermere Rapid station, ride the Red Line to the Superior Rapid station, and transfer to the #40." This explanation does not include information that taking THREE different bus routes requires a lot more travel time to make connections, and results in a much longer and inconvenient ride. He fails to mention that RTA does NOT provide transfers anymore, so riders pay \$2.25 every time they board a bus. A round-trip fare would cost \$13.50, unless the rider purchases an All Day Pass on the first bus, at a cost of \$5.

Since RTA claims they are making service cuts because of funding losses, could Masek please explain why the 1% sales tax designated to fund the RTA is not sufficient, while the 1/4 % sales tax increase created by Cuyahoga County Commissioners Tim Hagan and Jimmy Dimora to raise \$400 million for the medical mart, is sufficient! Somewhere along the way...the math does NOT add up!

And, is it true that RTA handed out over 150 pink slips to its drivers, who make over \$50,000 a year, so they can hire new drivers at minimum wage? And does RTA waste funding by providing a new uniform to drivers each week? And does RTA endanger commuters by having drivers work 12 hour shifts, on the #39 bus route (from 6AM to 6PM?) Isn't it dangerous to have exhausted drivers taking riders coming home at 5 o'clock on I-90?

Is having transit police sporadically

check activated passes on the HealthLine a waste of money? RTA built the HealthLine to bring in riders from the suburbs, so isn't it a deterrent to riders to see Transit Police taking a homeless man off the bus in handcuffs, because he did not have an activated fare card? (He may now have to pay a fine of \$250.) The man said he "did not know how to use the machine." He was referring to the ticket vending machines, which are impossible to use. Since riders are required to have an activated fare card to be able to board the HealthLine...why are the ticket vending machines so complicated?

RTA's explanation of how to use the machines to buy fare cards (<http://www.riderta.com/proofofpayment/>) is quite complicated. If any reader knows how to figure this out...let me know!

Sometimes there are no transit checkers, and the bus is standing room only, with a cramped area for passengers to stand because the aisle is smaller than on a regular bus. The HealthLine does not have any more seats than a regular bus and it is TWICE as big! (The HealthLine was built with \$200,000 of Government Grants, so why is it standing room only?) Would YOU continue to ride the HealthLine after a day experiencing all of this?

And is it true that RTA has received "Recovery Act" grants totaling \$12.5 million... (including) \$3.2 million for "operating assistance?" And that Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich "sent a letter to Mr. Joseph Calabrese, (RTA) General Manager"...asking him to restore jobs and bus routes slated for elimination," as posted on Kucinich's website: <http://kucinich.house.gov/News/DocumentQuery.aspx?CatagoryID=1467>

RTA riders deserve clarity, respect and answers.

**RTA responds to reader****Jerry Masek**

Jeanne Coppola raises some excellent points in her letter, and I am pleased to have an opportunity to respond.

#39F -- The #39 route changed as of April 4. The #39F route is rush-hour only and was not affected.

SRO -- The #39F may be standing-room-only at times, and that is allowable under RTA's policies. Transit riders stand on buses in most cities in the country; it shows that our service is being fully utilized. I ride the Red Line to work every day, and I often stand.

NO AC -- When you drive a car, you can switch from heat to air-conditioning with a flip of a switch. Bus coaches and rail cars are not easy to change. Each vehicle must be prepped for the summer by a mechanic, and with 400+ vehicles, it takes some time. The unseasonably changeable weather does not help either.

DIRTY SEATS -- Buses are cleaned daily. By 3:20 p.m., there has been ample time for dirt to collect, from use and abuse. That's why we ask customers to take their trash with them when they exit the bus.

ALL-DAY PASS -- If you have to transfer several times, the All-Day Pass is your best option.

SALES TAX -- A one-percent countywide sales tax provides RTA with about 70 percent of its operating fund. Service in 2009 was based on revenue collected in 2009, and service in 2010 is based on revenue collected in 2010. Because of the recession, sales tax revenue is down \$17 million - \$20 million. The service reductions will save RTA about \$9 million this year. Only the federal government can spend money it does not have.

OPERATORS -- About 130 operators were laid off on April 4, to coincide with the service reductions. All layoffs are based on seniority, so those with the lowest seniority are the first to go. When someone retires, the operators are called back, based on seniority. It's in their contract. Work hours of operators vary, but those on your route (#39F) often work a split shift (AM and PM rush hours). They have 4 to 6 hours in mid-day to relax at the garage, or go home. As far as clothing goes, all operators receive a specific clothing allowance each year. Again, it's in their contract.

FARE COLLECTION -- Off-board fare collection has worked well in many cities. Riding without paying your fare can be compared to shoplifting. And the oversight of the Transit Police can be compared to police who monitor the highways for speeders. They may not catch every speeder, but how many people drive more safely, knowing that there is a chance they will get caught? RTA is aware that the vending machines need to be simplified, and we are working with the vendor to accomplish that.

HEALTHLINE -- The Rapid Transit Vehicles (RTVs) are 63 feet long; standard buses are 40 feet long. Because of the design of Euclid Avenue stations, the vehicle has to have doors on both sides, and some of the space for more seats has been lost. The vehicles are scheduled to come at a 5-minute frequency during rush hour, and less often at other times of the day.

CONGRESSMAN -- I am aware of the letter on the Web site of Congressman Kucinich. To show a more complete picture, you also need to see the response letter from RTA GM Joe Calabrese. In early 2009, the federal government awarded more than \$45 million in stimulus money to RTA, mostly for capital improvements. Construction work started a few months later, and the federal government sent RTA the money installments. The announcement you cite was simply the last installment -- it WAS NOT new money. A small portion of that was legally allowed to be used for operating assistance, and was already included in our budget.

I truly appreciate the fact that you care so much about the health of public transit in Cleveland. I urge you and others to write to your state and federal legislators and ask them to fund transit at a higher level.

*Jerry Masek is Media Relations Manager for RTA*



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SCHOOLS

Collinwood High School  
Key Club Cares

Melissa Svigelj-Smith

Three years ago, Collinwood High School formed a Key Club, sponsored by the Cleveland Kiwanis Club. The mission statement of Collinwood Key Club is “Caring: Our Way of Life.”

There are no prerequisites for joining Collinwood Key Club. Student members must commit to seventy hours of service to home, school and community throughout the school year. There are approximately 38 students in Collinwood’s Key Club, which meets every Friday at 2:30 p.m.

With the help of Kiwanis and General Electric, students have been given multiple opportunities during the year to give back to the Collinwood community.

In the fall, Key Club students attend a leadership camp sponsored by the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio. There are different themes each year, and this year students learned how to organize in their community around issues they care about. Kiwanis pays the tuition for this camp and also for a spring retreat.

Ms. Svigelj-Smith (the adviser of Key Club, and a social studies teacher at Collinwood) has been taking students to this camp every fall for twelve years.

In the fall, students also worked in the kitchen at the Cleveland Food Bank, and did intake for the Salvation Army’s Christmas distribution at the branch on Grovewood Avenue. In December, students volunteered at the Salvation Army Christmas distribution at the Wolstein Center, giving clients’ families needed supplies and gifts around the holidays. Kiwanis provided transportation to and from the center for student volunteers who wanted to help with the distribution.

In January, Key Club students and JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps) students began Collinwood’s annual “Reading Buddies” program with Henry W. Longfellow Elementary students. General Electric and Kiwanis pay for the student volunteers’ transportation to and from Collinwood High School and Longfellow Elementary.

Every Thursday after school at 2:45 p.m. for eight weeks, Collinwood Key Club and JROTC students go to Longfellow to read to students in preschool through first grade for an hour. Students at Longfellow enjoy having reading buddies.

At the conclusion of the eight week period, the students enjoy a pizza party at Longfellow.

Key Club President Robert Wilson said that the experience “was cool and that the kids at Longfellow were funny, which made it fun.”

In the spring, Key Club students usually participate in a school beautification day, assist hospice patients with getting around the zoo, and attend a spring retreat. Kiwanis sponsors a "Senior Medallion Awards" luncheon and ceremony to honor all of the seniors in Key Clubs around the district who fulfill their service commitment to home, school, and community.

This year, Collinwood has twelve seniors that will be receiving medallions. One senior stated that “Our principal (Ms. Moore) always says that it is important to give whatever you can to those with less, and Key Club is an easy way to do that.” ■



Bullying

Ebonie West

*(Xavier Lynch from the 5th District Police is working with a class at East Clark elementary school. He asked them to write a report on bullying. Here is one of the officer's favorites, by student Ebonie West (above).)*

When someone picks on someone that person is called a bully.

Bullies pick on people because they are trying to be cool or they don’t get enough love at home. Bullies think picking on people is fun and they know they are hurting others’ feelings.

Bullies make people that they are picking on feel like they don’t belong in this world. So, the people being picked on think about crazy things and they sometimes do those crazy things they think about. They do crazy things to themselves and to others.

This is how students made other students feel at a high school called Columbine. The Columbine High School massacre occurred on Tuesday, April 20, 1999, at Columbine High School in Columbine, an unincorporated area of Jefferson County, Colorado, United States, near Denver and Littleton. Two senior students, Eric Harris and Dylan Keble, embarked on a massacre, killing 12 students and one teacher. They also injured 21 other students directly. Three people were injured while attempting to escape.

The pair then committed suicide. It is the fourth-deadliest school massacre in United States history, after the 1927 Bath School disaster, the 2007 Virginia Tech massacre and the 1966 University of Texas massacre.

The massacre provoked a debate regarding gun control laws, the availability of firearms in the United States, and gun violence involving youths. Much discussion also centered on the nature of high school cliques, subcultures and bullying, as well as the role of violent movies and video games in American society.

The shooting also resulted in an increased emphasis on school security, and a moral panic aimed at Goth culture, social outcasts, the gun culture, the use of pharmaceutical anti-depressants by teenagers, violent films and music, teenage internet use, and violent video games.

In conclusion, bullying is not nice because of the way it makes people feel, and what it may cause them to do. If someone does mess with you, you should walk away. Be the better person.

We all should be able to live our lives without getting bullied. ■

MAKING A SPECIAL CONNECTION

Students at St. Jerome enjoy a God-filled retreat

Chanelle McCloud

"He Calls You by Name," was the theme of this school year’s school-wide Lenten retreat at St. Jerome Elementary School.

All approximately 150 students attended the all-day activities designed to help the students make a greater personal connection with God.

Retreat coordinator and third grade teacher at St. Jerome Elementary, Cathy Pawson, was honored to put together a retreat that the students would not soon forget.

"I wanted this not to be about me," Pawson said. " I wanted this to be God’s retreat."

The festivities began at eight o’clock with an opening prayer and a story led by Pawson. She told the students a story she created to help the students understand about Jesus and how he sacrificed his life for them because they all were very special to him. The story was about a girl who went into a dangerous cave out of curiosity. The cave began to collapse. Jesus appeared and helped the girl out of the cave. However, he didn’t make it out

of the cave himself.

"They really seemed to like the story," Pawson said. "I think it helped them to understand how important they are to God."

Following the prayer and the story, the school broke up into two groups. Kindergarten through fourth grade heard another story and then drew a picture of Jesus while listening to music.

"I was so pleased with how the children really got into the drawing," Pawson said. "Even the little ones did a great job."

The fifth through eighth graders went to St. Jerome Church for their activities. They were told a story. They were then asked to write down every bad name they have thought about themselves. The students listened to inspirational music and wrote. After they wrote all these names down, they put the notes in a basket next to a cross.

Courtney Hicks, a seventh- grader at St. Jerome School, said she felt relief after the exercise. "I felt like every bad thing I thought

about myself was out of my head and on that paper." Hicks said. "I felt like I would never have to deal with those feelings anymore because I gave them to God."

Following the note activity, the students went to the library to write letters to God. They were instructed to write whatever they wanted to say and any questions they wanted to ask.

Marjani Brown, also a seventh-grader at St. Jerome, said writing letters to God was a very emotional activity for her. Brown, who recently lost her cousin due to complications from juvenile arthritis, continues to grieve her loss. "I was crying because I miss her so much," Brown said. "Writing that letter helped me to ask God a lot of questions. I felt better afterward."

Brown and Hicks both felt that the retreat was a success.

" I think that we should have a retreat every year," Brown said.

Hicks agreed. She said she has worn the cross she was given at the retreat every day as a reminder of how she felt.

"The retreat made me feel empowered," Hicks said. "Wearing the cross reminds me that I always have Jesus on my side." ■



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6<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS AT EAST CLARK  
RAISE MONEY FOR HAITI

Ms. Gloria Jean Brown

Ms. G. Brown’s and Ms. E. Donley’s 6th grade classes worked diligently with the City of Cleveland’s Positive Action Program, run by Lydia Hill, to make different products to raise money for Haiti.

The students designed and sold the items during their lunch hour at prices ranging from \$0.50 to \$2. Items included necklaces, headbands, hair clamps, erasers, etc. This project was not only fun for the students, but meaningful as well.

Each group of students had to run their group like a business. They had to decide what they were going to sell and then set the prices. The group with the highest profit received a gift. The students became very competitive in a positive way. We believed they learned a great deal.



## SCHOOLS

## CHS Students tour John Carroll University

Ceirra Kyle

On April 21st, thirteen young scholars from Ms. Haney's English I classes were given a wonderful trip to John Carroll University.

The scenery was beautiful and the student tour guides put a lot of pride and joy into their work. They even had coffee, chips, and other goodies provided for us to enjoy.

As we walked around the campus, our Collinwood High School students got to see the lives of ordinary college students who live in dormitories. The dorms were pretty small, but there was more than enough room for two students to share. The Grasselli Library that we visited was very attractive and very well-organized.

We also went to a lecture given by Michelle Scott Taylor from the JCU Admissions Office. She talked to us about how there are a lot of choices for higher education. There are over four thousand colleges and universities in the United States. Ms. Taylor's presentation was very professional and unbiased.

She said that John Carroll University may not be for everyone but is a good fit for students who like a smaller setting and who like to be involved in humanitarian services. She also told us, that John Carroll should be explored by students who might even think a community college is their only option.

After the presentation, we had lunch. The cafeteria was magnificent. I was absolutely flabbergasted at how clean and organized



everything was, with a large variety of food.

We also learned that John Carroll has different programs that students can join or even create. Any type of club that they don't have, students are more than welcome to create.

John Carroll is viewed by some as a strictly Catholic college, but it is not just Catholic. You can study any type of religion (yes, it is required!) that you want.

We visited the classroom of Ms. Gail Arnoff, an English teacher who had taught at Collinwood and founded the "Collinwood Creations" poetry club. Ms. Arnoff's students answered different questions that we had about college. Some said that it is a lot of work and that it is much harder than high school, while others said that it was not that hard at all. I do know one thing, however! I definitely am going to John Carroll University! ■

## Collinwood students speak out about layoffs and the future of Collinwood

Arnita Washington

Recently a lot of Collinwood's finest teachers have been laid off due to financial problems in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. Our students are speaking up about the future of Collinwood and where it lies. These students have been asked, "What is the future of Collinwood?"

But a lot are not sure.

Collinwood has always been a school dedicated to the learning and success of young scholars. Is that not worth protecting, the education of students? The students are worried about their education. How will they learn with fewer teachers and more students?

Sharon Smith, a ninth grader, asked, "How can we learn with 45 children in the class?" She wants Collinwood to improve itself with the number of teachers. She also wants to preserve the outside knowledge that Collinwood has recently presented students about sex, love and relationships in all-school programs such as Kaiser Permanente's "Secrets" and a special assembly by actress-teen spokeswoman, Lakita Garth.

Another student stated, "If they lay off all

of our good Collinwood staff, there won't be any learning." This student also believes that we need to protect our great teachers, principals, and staff because they are the ones who increase the number of students who graduate. Not many teachers and principals get involved as much as the Collinwood staff in helping students that take the OGT by making sure they stay on top of it and get extra tutoring sessions.

To the CMSD CEO, Dr. Eugene Sanders, the students of Collinwood would like to know why are you taking away our teachers and then closing our schools? Do you care about our education? How will this affect Collinwood and other communities in Cleveland? Collinwood will not be a stable learning environment that feeds and provides for their children in the future.

Social Studies teacher, Mrs. Svigelj Smith, hopes that the district will find a way to rehire the teachers. She thinks we need to secure the students and staff of Collinwood that she loves. Our hearts go out to all the teachers of CMSD that are affected by this lay-off. ■

### St Mary's Collinwood School First Annual Walkathon

Pam Grigsby

St. Mary Collinwood School invites all to attend its First Annual Walkathon at Euclid Creek Metroparks, Saturday May 15th at 10 am. This walkathon is in memory of the school's late Principal Mr Luis Pla. Any donations or pledges are greatly welcomed. For more information or for donation forms please contact Pam Grigsby, 216 681-0921.

### Senator Turner and family attend Noble Academy International Dinner

Amy Britton

Noble Academy Cleveland was honored with the presence of Senator Turner, accompanied by her father and her husband, at our International Dinner.

Honoring education and the value of diversity are celebrated during the International Dinner. Embracing the vivacious and energetic crowd of students and their families, Senator Turner reflected on the personal tribulations that lead her to be an educated, strong, and brilliant individual.

In her speech, Senator Turner articulated the importance of a solid and concrete education such as her own. Her education began here in the Cleveland area (she graduated from John F. Kennedy High School), progressed to Tri-C and then Cleveland State University.

As an advocate for making quality education accessible to everyone, Senator Turner spoke to NAC families and students and expressed her high regard for their dedication, hard work, and desire to keep their vibrant dreams and hopes thriving today, tomorrow and always. Thank you Senator Turner (and family), for joining our celebration, and addressing our students and families about the importance of education.

### Congratulations Alexis Johnson!

Amy Britton

Noble Academy Cleveland congratulates 8th grader Alexis Johnson on having received three different scholarships for her high school education. Alexis will attend Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School in the fall.

Alexis Johnson and her brother, Rayshawn, have been attending Noble Academy Cleveland since 2006.

Alexis feels NAC put her on the path of excellence, and credits her scholastic success to devoting a lot of time to studying and homework. She promises to continue her academic achievements at Villa Angela-St. Joseph and in college.

Alexis must maintain an academic GPA



of 3.5, check in with the funders twice a year, and participate in an extracurricular activity. Another requirement, being a school leader, will not be hard for Alexis. She is a student that is strong both academically and personally.

Noble Academy Cleveland is excited and proud of Alexis, and wishes her the best of luck at Villa Angela-St. Joseph's, and in college.

### Iowa Maple "TEAM" Group Up and Running

Stacy Lambert-Johnson,

Iowa Maple School's Teachers Educating and Mentoring group has been up and running strong. "TEAM" is a mentoring group that matches 7th and 8th grade students with an individual staff member (teachers, custodians, cooks, secretaries, paraprofessionals, and SPO officers). Once paired with a mentor, students are encouraged to meet with their mentors whenever they have an issue or need someone to talk to.

"TEAM" has been in existence at Iowa Maple for the last three years, and was recognized early this school year by Channel 3 News. In addition to school meetings and breakfast and lunch gatherings, TEAM mentors also take their mentees to Playhouse Square outings, museums, sport events, and youth conferences.

The goal, as explained by Principal, Stacy Lambert-Johnson, is "to make sure our young adolescents know that the adults at school care about them beyond the walls of the school building."

### Lakita Garth tells CHS students "The Naked Truth" while "Secrets" fosters AIDS prevention

Jayne Stokes

On Friday April 16, 2010, Lakita Garth, the world renown best-selling author of the "Naked Truth," visited Collinwood High School to speak to the student body about abstinence and saving sex until marriage. Garth has spoken to millions of students around the world and loves to encourage the high school students with her famous quote "NO RINGY NO DINGY." So why does Garth do this? To let all students know that it's ok to say, "No," and it's ok to practice abstinence.

Not only is Garth an author but she's also a musician, abstinence activist, public speaker, alumni of the University of Southern California, as well as having been crowned Miss California in 1995. Ms Garth's flashy, sassy but very real presentation was riveting. Students even came after school for a personal Q and A session.

So what can you say about a very well-educated role model like Lakita Garth? You can say that she's an inspiration to all, especially to those who wait.

Earlier that week, the stage of Collinwood High School auditorium provided the setting for "Secrets" an informative theatrical presentation that uses drama, humor, popular music and spoken-word poetry to educate teens and adults about the dangers of HIV and STDs. Cleveland Metropolitan School District student actors portray real life situations to show that risky behaviors can put high school students at risk. Kaiser Permanente sponsors this program.

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YOUTH & FAMILY

The Grandmothers on... Scary Church Stories

**Dear Grandmothers,**

One of the kids at my son's pre-school told him about the crucifixion, and what happened, with all the exact details and he was horrified. Telling him about Easter Sunday did not make him feel better. He has been crying about this at night and is afraid of regular pictures of Jesus in a book. I hope it's okay to ask this question because it's about religion and everybody has their own opinion. I just wanted to know if any of you grandmas ever ran into a situation like this and what you did.

Thank you.

*Worried Mother*

**Dear Worried Mother,**

You know what they say about avoiding the topics of politics and religion. But that rule doesn't apply to the Grandmothers. We are glad to try to answer your difficult but excellent question.

We have two side observations on the subject of friends who tell our children frightening things: one, the friends are scared themselves, and try to relieve their fear by scaring someone else; and two, it can be very difficult to protect our children from terrifying stories. Even if our children don't

see the scary movie/television program/book themselves, one of their friends is sure to tell them about it.

But what to do about your child who is having nightmares about Jesus? Already you have done the most important thing: you took your child seriously; you didn't try to make him feel better with platitudes; you listened, you empathized. You didn't burden him with theological concepts that he wouldn't understand and that would trouble him further. Crucifixion is indeed a hideously cruel fate to contemplate. We adults who have been looking at paintings, carvings, and other reproductions of the crucifixion all our lives have become somewhat accustomed to the idea, not allowing ourselves to think about the cruelty in detail. But a sensitive child learning about it for the first time might understandably be horrified. You have probably already told him that the picture of Jesus on the cross is hard for all of us to look at and think about, and that you are not surprised that the story makes him scared and sad.

So, first you listen, realizing that preschool children think egocentrically, hearing things in the context of "if it happened once, then it could happen to me or my family." Perhaps he will have trouble articulating his fear, and

you will have to listen carefully to hear his very concrete interpretation of what his friend told him. You might ask him what he thinks might happen because of this story. Then, when you are sure you have heard him and that he feels understood, you might try comforting and reassuring him with whichever of the following seem most applicable, or a combination:

- Jesus lived far, far away and a long, long time ago. What happened to him won't happen now to you or anybody you know. We will keep you safe at home and your teachers and the people who are in charge of our city will keep our neighborhood safe.
- The picture of Jesus on the cross can be very scary and you don't need to look at it or be worried by it. When you are older you may be ready to understand more about Jesus and the worry won't feel so big.
- Jesus was someone who wanted to help people talk to one another, to use words, instead of hurting. Unfortunately there were some bad guys who hadn't gotten help to use words and they were mean to him. That was long ago before people had TV and cars and a lot of the safety rules we have now. Now, people work very hard to help each other to use words. They can even help bad guys learn to use words.

You didn't mention if church attendance has become a problem, but we can certainly imagine it becoming one. Children can be introduced to religion gradually, starting simply with messages about how to be kind and loving to our family and friends. If it is a family tradition to go to church and the figure of Jesus on the cross is unavoidable, do lots of planning with your child ahead of time. Perhaps the child can bring a coloring book and focus on that during the service, or perhaps the adults can take turns staying outside with the child. It wouldn't be helpful to contaminate his introduction to religion by forcing situations that frighten him.

With that kind of loving attention and ac-

ceptance of his fear as very real, the fear will slowly fade.

If you have a parenting question, please email it to us at [thegrandmothers@collinwoodobserver.com](mailto:thegrandmothers@collinwoodobserver.com). Or mail it to The Grandmothers, Collinwood Observer, 650 E. 185th St., Cleveland, OH 44119.

*The Grandmothers are Kathy Baker, Maria Kaiser, Gann Roberts and Ginny Steininger. They meet at Hanna Perkins Center, 19901 Malvern Road, which houses the Hanna Perkins School and the Reinberger Parent/Child Resource Center. For information call Barbara Streeter (216) 991-4472.*

Life for me (Mother to son imitation)  
A poem by Dominique Ballard

Life for Me  
Well Mya, I'll tell you  
Life for me ain't been no mansion  
It had old paint  
and stinks  
and has moss growing up the sides  
and cracked up windows  
Cold  
But at the same time  
I've been working on it  
and patching up holes  
and fixing ceilings  
I sometimes don't even sleep  
when I want to pass out  
So dont you stop now  
Don't you give up  
Just cause you can't do it  
For I'm still movin  
For I'm still adjusting  
And life for me ain't been no mansion

LIBRARY NEWS

ECO FIESTA AND ART IMPROV MAY 15

Cleveland LEADS invites you to make art, watch art, learn about sustainable home industries (think bamboo here) and check out a library book, at their EcoFiesta on May 15, 11 am – 5 pm, at Memorial Nottingham library.

Write haiku and haibun, paint, sketch, sculpt and juggle. Hear Vince Robertson and the Jazz Poets at an open mic sponsored by CMA's Nia Coffeehouse. Watch improv theater: Ratsack from Down Under featuring Sienna of the Oranges, and ItsRealLight from Brooklyn. Listen to music improv with Jon Holt.

Featured artists are Cavana Faithwalker, Baba Jubal Harris, John Flower, Michael Billings, Stephen Chipps, Andrew Shapiro, Daniel Rosaria, Travis Cook, Giorgio Sabino III .

Enter the lucky bamboo raffle. See a student display from the Cleveland Science Center. Learn about the Cleveland Treatment Center's "Let It Ride" -- a work-based program of learning, occupational skills and recreational options designed to mitigate the effects of poverty on children's lives. Shop at the Art-4-Sale. Trade at the Swap Shop.

Tickets are only \$1 -- but you get in free if you check out a book during the event. And you can get a library card on

the spot with a current ID -- kids, too, as long as they can sign their names.

Cleveland LEADS is presenting the EcoFiesta with help from Neighborhood Connections, the Cleveland Public Library, and the Cleveland Museum of Art's Nia Coffeehouse.

**ROCK YOUR WORLD IN MAY**

It's Rock Your World Festival and Art Exhibition month -- and the Dept of Arts Education needs your help. Rock Your World, the department's premier event, is in its eleventh year of showcasing just what great and wonderful things the kids of the Cleveland schools can do. Their art will go on display May 1 at three library branches (including our own Memorial Nottingham) and volunteers are needed to help hang it-- on Friday afternoon, April 30, and the morning/early afternoon of May 1. For details, contact Karen M. C.-Keys at (216) 574-8635 or [karen.clark-keys@cmsdnet.net](mailto:karen.clark-keys@cmsdnet.net).

The exhibitions can be viewed during the libraries' normal working hours, and portions are rotated to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the lobby of the Ohio Theater.

*Memorial Nottingham Branch Library, 17133 Lakeshore Blvd, 623-7039 or email [cpl-memnot@cpl.org](mailto:cpl-memnot@cpl.org).*



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## FAITH &amp; HISTORY

# Beachland Church is alive!

David Starke

Just what do you make of that little church at the point of Canterbury and Cornwall, near Lakeshore? Is it open? Well, the sign changes each week, so I guess there must be something going on.

Let me assure you we are open and there is something going on. Beachland Presbyterian Church is a wonderful group of neighbors; committed Christians who gather in this beautiful church each week to praise God and to renew ourselves in Him. Our membership is small, but we have a giant heart for each other and for our community.

Beachland enters a new season of life with the arrival of our new pastor, Dave Starke. The members of the church are engaged in a process of retelling the history of our church family, discerning the call of God on this Body of Christ, and then planning action as we faithfully live out that call in the context of our community, state, nation and world. We welcome you

to be a part of the challenge! Come and join us for services each Sunday at 10:30.

We are reaching out into our community. We are planning a community forum series of talks, endeavoring to bring knowledgeable people in to show us ways to revitalize our neighborhood. We are soliciting ideas for relevant, community-based topics to explore. Call the church (531-2330) with suggestions.

We also are beginning a midweek prayer service. If you are hurting, hopeless or know of someone or some situation in need of prayer, we invite you to join us on Wednesday evenings starting May 26th. If you cannot attend, call (531-2330) with prayer requests. We'll be praying for our community, and we will pray for you.

Keep an eye out in June for the 2nd Annual Ice Cream Social. Come meet your neighbors for a fun evening of games, conversation and of course, great ice cream. See you there! ■



## Four Points West? Collinwood bar has a new home

William McCulloch

I've always enjoyed reading the different local papers to keep up with changes in town, especially when it comes to restaurant reviews. So I was very interested upon reading about chef Marlin Kaplan's latest incarnation, Luxe, in the Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood.

In the article it mentions how he tried to incorporate local recycled elements in the space, such as the dining chairs which were from the venerable New York Spaghetti House from Downtown Cleveland, and a bar and backbar which were salvaged from an old tavern in Collinwood that was soon to be demolished. The article failed to mention the name of this former tavern nor where it was located in Collinwood.

A month or two ago I was passing through the West 65 & Detroit area and decided to stop in and see what I could find out. It was a busy night and the 57-year-old native New Yorker was working the room. When he stopped by my seat at the bar, I asked him what, if anything, he knew of its former home. He didn't really know much about its history, but he did tell me that the building that it came from was formerly at the southwest corner of East 152nd and Saranac. I remember passing the whitewashed block structure just south of the Collinwood Railroad Yards many times prior to its demolition in 2008, but it had seemed long shuttered, at least in the six years since I moved to the neighborhood.

After asking a few long-time resident friends, I learned that it was called Four Points Tavern. Subsequent visits to the library revealed that the structure was originally referred to as the Wilke Block. It had changed hands many times through its history. Prior and during the First World War, it was owned and operated as a saloon by Henry Bauer. With the implementation of Prohibition, it became a restaurant operated in the later twenties by George Fisher. After Prohibition and throughout the Depression it was operated by Vincent Piscioneri. During and after the Second World War it was run by John Poll. In the fifties it is referenced as the Four Points Tavern, run first by Jack Skryanc, then Louis Izanic and later Herbert Skall. Through the sixties it was owned Mary Gottwig. For a period in the early seventies it was run by Ralph and Ann Bush, then for the rest of the decade it was operated by George Harris till it closed in the early 1980's.

So even though another local Collinwood haunt is lost to the wrecking ball, at least a part of it still survives to serve up libations to new generations of Clevelanders--only now it resides at 6605 Detroit Avenue. ■

## The Walls Inside Out: Re-entry is working

Evangelist Margaret A. Dua



A successful Walls Inside Out re-entry group with Evangelist Margaret Dua and Pastor Jerome Evans.

The Walls inside Out is a faith-based program involving churches, volunteers, prison fellowship, and training, men and women from many other programs and agencies.

We assist individuals who are transitioning from Ohio prisons to become productive citizens within our communities. Our program helps reduce recidivism, and keeps our communities safe. People leaving prison face many barriers and roadblocks. Often they turn back into the swinging doors of prison. These programs must follow up. We service five prisons. We provide pre-release and aftercare information. Our goals are to use services to motivate, educate, and help individuals understand and manage real life outside of prison.

Former prisoners are back home and succeeding, owning homes and businesses, leading ministries, going to college and working in many different fields. Success is real.

*Evangelist Margaret Dua is the Director of the Walls Inside Out*

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Artist Profile:  
Matthew Orgovan

I believe that art is an expression that reflects one’s own interpretation of the world...or simply just what they find interesting. It doesn’t matter if you attended a top art school or picked up a paintbrush one day and found that you enjoyed “moving paint around on a surface,” either way, you’re an artist to me (I’m the latter, by the way). Maybe your “canvas” is a sidewalk, a chunk of metal, a bar of soap, a computer screen, a gold chain or a greeting card. . .if you inject a piece of yourself and creativity into that medium, it’s art to me.

Growing up in Euclid in the late-70s/early 80s, I began to find a passion for writing. The positive feedback I received from my 11th grade English teacher, Mrs. McLaughlin, along with my interest in “moving words around on a page,” led me to pursue a journalism degree from Bowling Green State University.

My artistic juices began to flow as the director of marketing/public relations for Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School. There, I got involved in helping the drama program in different capacities. After painting a giant Wonka Bar for the school’s presentation of “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,” I realized that painting provided me with another creative outlet.

I consider my painting style to be pop art, inspired by music, pop culture and nostalgia. My imagination is infinitely running, and is often unconventional, such as when I painted a silhouette of Jim Morrison in the eyeball of a frog, or an 8-year-old holding up the world as if it were a tennis ball.

While at VASJ, I met Carrie Walsh-Hilf, then a teacher and drama director at the school, who is also the artistic director for UpStage Players, a children’s theater group. For years, UpStage performed at Shore Cultural Centre in Euclid, but

now make their home at the Slovenian Workmen’s Home on Waterloo. We became good friends and, after witnessing the awesome things UpStage does for young people, I began to volunteer for them. In the summer of 2009, I joined their Board of Advisors.

Today, my fiancée Joanna and I are involved in both the Waterloo Arts District and Euclid. Our affinity for UpStage (we met acting in an adult murder mystery produced by them), as well as my years at VASJ, has led to our fondness for Waterloo. Some of our favorite destinations lie there... Waterloo 7 and Star Pop, to name a couple.

My interests in art and painting converged with Joanna’s love of all things that “smell good.” The result became an artisan endeavor we call CreativExpressions76. Joanna produces an array of handcrafted bath and body products and mineral make-up, and I create hand-painted pop art wooden magnets, keepsake boxes and paintings. To us, it is a way to express our creativity and produce quality, locally-made goods. We advocate buying local, so that communities can rebuild by supporting each other.

In addition to Jo and I once calling Euclid home, our interest in the community returned recently, after meeting Frank Petrovoia, Euclid’s director of community development.



"Modern Day Atlas" — acrylic on canvas.

We initially encountered Frank at a craft show at Euclid’s Irish American Club. His interest in our products, as well as our enthusiasm for the community and for what we do, led him to recommend Euclid to us as an option for either a storefront or studio.

After researching potential spaces in both Euclid and the Waterloo area, we decided to open up a studio, named Studio 76, in Shore Cultural Centre. . .the place where we spent many hours rehearsing for the UpStage murder mystery. We are excited by Shore’s resurgence and the city’s commitment to supporting the building’s renaissance. In fact, we hope that both the Waterloo Arts District and Shore Cultural Centre can collaborate on future endeavors, so that both communities can continue to blossom. ■

Cleveland vs. Wall Street  
ESOP in Cannes Film Festival

Charu Gupta

After three years of working closely with Empowering & Strengthening Ohio’s People (ESOP), a Cleveland-based organizing and foreclosure counseling agency with offices throughout Ohio, a Swiss production company will screen a docu-fiction, set in the heart of Cleveland and the financial crisis, at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, France, next month.

*Cleveland vs. Wall Street* follows a mock-trial in which small town victims face off with big banks. A jury court submits a verdict in this modern-day tale about capitalism and its pitfalls. The movie will have its world premier at Cannes on May 16.

ESOP is at the movie’s center, with former ESOP board treasurer Barbara Anderson acting as herself.

“I was honored to appear in the movie as we highlighted the strength of the community and Cleveland’s fighting spirit,” said Barbara Anderson, a former ESOP board member and vocal community activist.

Jean-Stephane Bron, a director with Saga Productions, based in Lausanne, Switzerland, contacted ESOP three years ago because the grassroots agency was at the forefront of identifying predatory lenders and fighting their scourge. Bron followed ESOP’s work against big banks and Barbara Anderson’s years of personal and collective struggle, especially through the “Bring Back the 70s” street club she formed.

Saga Productions plans to hold a U.S. premier in Cleveland, but no date or venue has been set.

ESOP is a HUD-certified foreclosure prevention counseling agency and a leader in Ohio. We have 11 offices across the state and a nearly 80 percent success rate. We have been on the frontlines of the predatory lending and foreclosure epidemic since 1999. In the last five years more than 13,000 families have come to ESOP seeking assistance. This year, ESOP is on track to assist 8,000 families.

Please call 216-361-0718 for more information or to make an appointment to see a foreclosure prevention counselor. ■



Record Store Day rocked

Photo by Bridget Caswell

Record Day was the biggest success ever, thanks to everyone who came out, sorry to John Copic who came in to check out the exclusive John Lennon vinyl and postcards only to find that people who slept over night in sleeping bags outside the store had purchased every one. Let's hope next year is even bigger. ■

PORTFOLIO PROJECT

by Nan Kennedy

**Call for Artists:** Arts Collinwood is seeking submissions from experienced mural artists to create an original design on the north elevation of the arts center building. The proposed image/concept should build on the work done by students in the Portfolio Project, using their artistic discoveries about themselves and their community as a springboard for an original design. Go to the website for details (lengthy details) and pictures of the site (a wall of many, many bricks; if I were submitting a design, I’d consider hundreds of little frames with eyes peering out; the eyes would belong to kids and their families, and the frames would be copied from neighborhood houses. Some eyes would belong to cats.)

**Progress:**Arts Collinwood’s Portfolio Project is an after-school program designed to give middle school and high school students the full experience of creating a portfolio, jurying a public art commission and creating an exhibit.

In this, its first year, it immediately became evident that the students’ grasp of the artistic mediums is growing almost as rapidly as their self-confidence and their ability to work as a team.

Visit the Arts Collinwood Web site to see some of the portraits they produced in Bridget Caswell’s photo classes. And visit the Arts Collinwood gallery on May 20, 6 – 9 pm, for the opening reception of their show, “This Time, Our Time.” The exhibit will be on view till May 23.



# NAN'S NOTES

## ARTS COLLINWOOD HEAVENLY BODIES IN THE GALLERY UNTIL MAY 15

“Heavenly Bodies” is a pun at several levels; the bodies in Patricia Zinsmeister Parker’s works belong to real women; they bulge and sag in all the real places—at the same time as they gracefully bend and sway. The closing party on May 15 will be enlivened by a concert of contemporary music by No Exit, a distinguished new music ensemble. They will perform music by Christopher Goddard, Witold Lutoslawski and Donald Erb, plus new works by Derrick Balogh, Matthew Ivic and Jenna Lyle. The concert begins at 8 pm.

## GET READY FOR THE PARADE STARTING MAY 4

If you’ve done Parade the Circle workshops with Arts Collinwood, you know how much more fun it is to be in the Parade instead of just watching (not that watching isn’t pretty fabulous). If you haven’t “done Parade,” you probably should. Every Tuesday evening, May 4 - June 12, 6:30 - 8 pm in the Arts Collinwood Community Center. All ages are welcome – children under 10 should be accompanied by an adult – and registration includes all of your materials, parade entry fees and hands-on sessions with actual artists (the things they think of!). Make costumes and constructions, learn music and movement. \$25 per person; family rates available. Call 216-692-9500 for more information.

## HAVE PRODUCTIVE HAPPY HOURS DURING MAY

Anyone – including you (yes, you) can make beautiful things with the right teacher (you should see what our kids turn out). The right person is often Michele Biondo, a neighborhood legend in stained glass and jewelry – and she just happens to be spending Wednesday evenings in May in the Arts Collinwood Community Center, laying out everything you need to create stained glass, wrapped silver jewelry and garden art. So pick up dinner and a drink in the Café, spend happy hour with Michele and take home something gorgeous. After class, enjoy free Jazz in the Cafe and check out the latest exhibit in the Arts Collinwood Gallery. Only \$15 per session.

## GET IN THE FLOW. DO VINYASA

Feeling inflexible lately? Join artist/yoga practitioner Lyz Bly’s May/June series of Vinyasa Flow Yoga—Tuesday 6 – 7:15 pm, Saturday 11:30 am – 12:30 pm. Classes are held in the gallery, \$13 per session; every second Saturday of the month is FREE. Block discounts and family plans available; call 216-692-9500. Please bring your own mat. Vinyasa flow is both aerobic and strength building, calming for the mind and nervous system, and can be easily adapted for all fitness levels, ages, and abilities. Lyz Bly, who became a registered yoga teacher after nearly 10 years of practice, helps students use yoga as a tool for navigating the complexities of contemporary American life.

## JAZZ ON WEDNESDAYS

Jazz on Wednesdays continues; sometimes the group is pre-announced, sometimes not – but there’s always jazz, there’s never a cover charge and the beer selection is inspiring.

## WRITERS’ GROUP AT ARTS COLLINWOOD May 16

The Arts Collinwood Writers’ Critique Group had a good session last Sunday, and will reconvene May 16. Apart from sharing work and critiques, members will mentor aspiring writers of the Collinwood Observer. For further information contact Jim Valentino

at valen470@msn.com, or Louisa Horvath at 216-481-5102 or jartzhorvath@att.net.

## THE BEACHLAND

**Sunday May 2:** Beachland Brunch. Double DJs Lawrence Daniel Caswell and his band buddy Chris Kulcsar. In celebration of Cinco de Mayo, Chef Jeremy is introducing Beachland migas (a Tex-Mex scramble with tortilla strips and lots of veggies); tortilla soup, puerco pibil, a Yucatan pork dish with chihuahua cheesy grits – and quite a lot more. All good. Plus new margarita specials. Work it all off, swinging with Valerie Salstrom of Get Hep Swing Dance – 11 am – 3 pm. Sessions begin with a half-hour mystery “taster” lesson; then you can practice your Charleston, Balboa, or Lindy Hop to mMusic of varying, but easy, tempos.

**May 11:** Local Natives, presented by Beachland and Music Saves

**Beachland Ballroom, 15711 Waterloo, 216.383.1124, www.beachlandballroom.com**

## AT MUSIC SAVES: LIMITED EDITION VINYL CAT ART PRINTS!

Artist Mikey Burton turned the MusicSaves guard cat, Vinyl, into a turntable for the shop’s business cards, and the design was so great, he also turned it into a limited edition (only 175 printed) three-color art print—black, silver, and Cleveland Browns orange, printed on French Construction Whitewash paper, signed, stamped, numbered, 7.25” x 7.25”, \$12. Available at MusicSaves right now.

**MusicSaves, 15801 Waterloo, 216.481.1875, www.musicsaves.com**

## TASTE OF THE ANDES AT THE GROVEWOOD

I remember discovering Chilean wines maybe 20 years ago – so delicious! So inexpensive! Now they’re well known, but there’s still much to explore – and the Grovewood Tavern is the place for exploration. It will be led by a representative from Terra Andina, which blends grapes from different valleys with different micro-climates and soil conditions, to take advantage of the diversity of Chile’s different wine-growing regions. Monday, May 10, 6:30 pm, \$49 per person. By reservation only.

**Grovewood Tavern & Wine Bar 17105 Grovewood Avenue • 216-531-4900. www.grovewood-tavern.com**

## SPECIALS FOR SENIORS

Bernie Walsh of UpStage Theater fame is usually focused on kids – but she’s also come up with some nice little deals for seniors. For instance: Dave’s gives a 5% discount to Buckeye card holders on Wednesdays at all stores.

Senior homeowners (also the permanently disabled) can pay less property tax through the expanded homestead exemption. Get an application (form DTE 105A) from the county auditor and submit it before June 7. You can find the form on line at www.tax.ohio.gov—type Homestead tax in the search box. Or pick one up at the auditors office at 760 E185 (216-515-8302).

Library patrons 60 and older don’t have to pay library fines. (Being a tad absent-minded, I find this one very useful.)

And we can audit college classes for free. Bernie has her eye on a Theatre Appreciation class at TriC.

And for icing on the cake, Baker’s Square adds a free slice of pie to your meal order on Wednesdays (Wednesday must be the slow day in merchandising. Make a note.)

## GIRL SCOUTS ARE READY TO GET GOING

If you have a daughter who’d like to be a Girl Scout, then come on out to the 1st Annual Collinwood/East Cleveland Girl Scouts Round-up

on Thursday, May 6, 6:30 pm, at St. Mary Collinwood Gym, 15519 Holmes Ave. (Holmes is that little street that curves between E152 and St Clair.) If you have any questions, contact Glenda Morrison, 1-800-857-4474 ext. 0430; gmorrison@gsneo.org. Or have a look at the Girl Scout Web site www.gsneo.org.

## AT THE MARKET

Burton Floral and Garden have veggie seedlings (actually quite sturdy plants by now) and Blooming Patches will be bringing some in soon. The assortment of fresh greens is growing: besides BG&F and Blooming Patches, HerbThyme has a nice little selection. There’s also a good selection of cut herbs (have you tried angelica? Me either, but I’m eying it thoughtfully.) HerbThyme has rosemary in pots, as well. And I’m finding a growing wealth of baked goods. Bubbe Sandy and the Hershbergers are old friends; HerbThyme adds five kinds of focaccia and two cornbreads. And practically everybody seems to be selling homemade jam. Coit Road Farmer’s 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; Wednesday, 8 am to 1 pm, mid-April to mid-December; and Monday, 4-7 pm, starting in June. 216-249-5455 during market hours.

## COMMUNITY MEETINGS

**Collinwood Homeowners and Tenants Association:** Meets first Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., St. Mary’s Church, 15519 Holmes Ave.

**Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society:** Third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Lithuanian Village Hall, 877 East 185th St.

**East 185th St. Block Club:** Second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m., Lithuanian Village Hall, 877 East 185th St.

**E. 156th Street Block Watch:** Meets last Wednesday of the month in Arts Collinwood Community Center. Please call Denise Lorek at Northeast Shores for more information, 481-7660.

**Euclid Park Civic Club:** Meets the second Tuesday of every month. 7:00 p.m., Cleveland Clinic Building, 17325 Euclid Ave., 2nd floor.

**Euclid Park North Block Club:** Meets the third Tuesday of every month. 7:00 p.m. Five Points Community Center, 813 E. 152 St.

**Nottingham Civic Club:** Third Tuesday of every month. 7:00 p.m., Nottingham United Methodist Church, 18316 St. Clair Ave.

**Ward 11/ Bratenahl Village Democratic Club:** Second Wednesday of every month, Sept.- May. 7:00 p.m., Slovenian Club, 15810 Holmes Ave.

**Fifth District Police Community Meeting:** Third Wednesday of month at 7:00 p.m., Five Points Community Center, 813 E. 152nd; 216.623.5500

**Ward 10 Citizen Circle Community Meeting:** Second Saturday of month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Five Points Community Center, 813 E. 152nd; 216.664-4743.

*If you are attending any of these events, classes, meetings, or concerts, and would like to report on what is happening for the rest of the community, please take notes and take pictures! Then sign onto www.collinwoodobserver.com, click on Member Center (on the left side of the Home page) sign in and submit your stories and pictures. We'll see you in the paper.*

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CULINARY COLLINWOOD

Awesome, any way you slice it

Laura Partlow-Slea

Any time of the day is a good time for pie." -- Fabienne, played by Maria de Medeiros in *Pulp Fiction*.

Wow, I really know that movie too well. But the truth of the matter is, people like pie. The making of the crust is envisioned as such a hassle, even though it really isn't so bad. However, piecrust is one of the only things left that I let myself cheat on. Just go to the store and buy it. For this recipe you'll want to bake the crust ahead of time. Roll it out into your pan and follow the instructions on the back. To keep the middle from puffing up (since the fillings are cooked when you put them in the crust), put a piece of foil in the crust and dump some dry beans or rice on top of it. Cook the crust about half the time directed on the package. Then remove the foil and finish cooking it. The beans or rice will be unusable, so set them aside to use as a weight some other time.

But let's not dwell on faults when we could be talking about chocolate pie. The looks you get when you whip one of these out of the 'fridge is one of the things people who love cooking live for. One of my neighbours was hanging out on his porch one day. I offered him a piece of the French Silk pie, and he ate it out of his hand right there on the porch. Pie all alone is viewed with a kind of apprehensive reverence: "I could never do that. What a mess it must be. That's got to be so hard..." In the French Silk pie recipe, you'll see it calls for uncooked Egg Beaters. Don't panic! Liquid eggs are Pasteurized, which means they've been heat-treated to kill anything that could make you sick if you went and ate a shell egg straight-up without cooking it. On another note, liquid egg whites won't work for this recipe. This pie should rest in the 'fridge for at least 2-6 hours to firm up before you serve it. It'll be worth it!

**French Silk Pie**  
*Serves 6-10, Difficulty (Scale of 1-5): 2 1/2*

- One cooked 9 inch pie shell
- 3 ounces of unsweetened chocolate
- 1 C Butter, soft but not warm
- 1 C Sugar
- 1/2 t Vanilla
- 1 C Egg Beaters



**Directions:**  
With an electric mixer, beat the butter until it's fluffy. This may take a few minutes. Scrape down the sides of the bowl at least once. Slowly add the sugar and beat until it's mixed in well. Add the vanilla and chocolate. Add the Egg Beaters, 1/4 cup at a time. Beat mixture for 2 minutes between additions. This is a really important step! Don't cheat or the pie won't be worth eating. Scrape it down at least twice. Spoon your filling into the pie crust (it will be very full) and refrigerate at least 2 hours so it'll be nice and firm.

Polish Boy fever strikes again

John Copic

I am driving down St. Clair. It is long past lunch time. I am hungry. I see a brightly painted restaurant at the corner of St. Clair and Coit Rd. I have a weakness for bright colors. For years I drank Busch beer because I thought the cans were pretty. I see a sign promising 2 Polish Boys for \$5. This makes my decision easy. I am a huge fan of a properly made Polish Boy. The perfect Polish Boy starts off with a sturdy, fresh bun, a smoked Polish sausage, hot crispy French fries, ice cold cole slaw, all covered in tangy barbeque sauce. My research found that the Polish Boy is a sandwich unique to Cleveland.

The name of the restaurant is Food on Da Move and is located at 14034 St. Clair Ave., phone number 216.541.MOVE (6683). The Polish Boys were indeed 2 for \$5. I took them home to eat because I know better than to attempt their consumption in the car. At home, with multiple napkins and a pitcher of cherry Kool-Aid I had a fantastic lunch. The sandwiches were excellent especially considering their reasonable price. I look forward to stopping back and trying the other tempting menu items. We are truly blessed with exceptional alternatives to overpriced fast food right here in our neighborhood. Remember - Food on Da Move is open until 3:00a.m. and is also open for breakfast!



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1. Perch Dinner.....	\$7.99
2. Catfish Dinner.....	\$8.59
3. Fried Shrimp Dinner.....	\$10.39
4. Cheeseburger.....	\$5.95
1/2 pound burger with American & Swiss cheese.	
5. Grilled Chicken Philly.....	\$5.75
Grilled chicken breast sauteed with onions, peppers, mushrooms, mayo & provolone on a toasted bun.	
6. Grilled Steak Philly.....	\$6.15
Grilled sirloin steak sauteed with onions, peppers, mushrooms, & provolone on a toasted bun.	
7. New York Strip Steak Salad.....	\$7.95
Mushrooms, peppers, onions, tomato, egg, olives, carrots, cheese & grilled steak over romaine lettuce.	
8. Taco Salad.....	\$5.95
Ground Beef, salsa, sour cream, onion, olives, carrots, & jalapeno peppers over lettuce.	
9. Five Piece Whole Wing Dinner.....	\$5.95
Served with fries & coleslaw.	
10. Fried Pork Chop Dinner.....	\$6.25