

# The Collinwood Observer

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Santa pauses to take a photo with his volunteer elves from VASJ High School.

## Breakfast with Santa

by Denise Lorek

Santa had breakfast with the good children of North Shore Collinwood on December fourth at the Lithuanian Hall. Ruta Degutis made sure the Lithuanian Hall was decked out in holiday decorations. The twinkle of the lights matched the twinkle in Santa's eyes as he listened to the children's wishlists. All the children got to take their pictures with Santa. After they had their pictures taken, they were able to decorate a frame for each picture with help from volunteers from VASJ High School.

The children had french toast and sausage donated by Gus's Diner, as well as milk and juice from Lucky's Diner. Coffee for the parents was donated by Arabica. Breakfast

was served up by volunteers from VASJ High School. Thank you so much to these merchants of East 185th St. for helping make this a very filling event for the children of North Shore Collinwood. Please remember during this Holiday Season to shop and eat at the local establishments in our neighborhood.

I would also like to give a big thank you to the volunteers from VASJ. They made this event truly special. As you can tell from the picture, even the volunteers had a good time with Santa. This article would not be complete without an even bigger thank you to SANTA and his helpers who came all the way from the North Pole to visit with our children and hear their Christmas wishes.

## Christmas at the Carrousel

by Elva Brodnick

Christmas at Euclid Beach, since Euclid Beach, of course, was not a year-round park, would've been a quiet time of year; the rides would've been winterized and things would've looked considerably different. The "Closed for the Season" sign would've been up, snow would have been on the ground, and the roofs of the buildings (including our Carrousel's) would've looked quiet and dull. We all know what winter in Cleveland looks like. Come Christmas time, it's dreams of Euclid Beach and summery breezes off the Lake that we'd have, to tide us over until spring and Opening day again.

But Euclid Beach Park was not entirely asleep. As is true of all seasonal amusement parks, this "off season" is the overhaul and maintenance time; it's time to take things apart and clean things up and polish it all up for Opening Day. The Park's maintenance department would've been hard at it, checking over coaster cars and other rides' cars, repairing, refurbishing and shining everything up, be it the Carrousel's mechanism (you



Merry Christmas from Euclid Beach's Carrousel horse, number ten, outside row stander.

should see the blueprint of just the upper part of the Carrousel - talk about intricate workings!) or the coasters' track or even the floors of the Dance Pavilion and Skating Rink. And Euclid Beach was also known for its innovative rides; now is when new ideas would be worked up and put together - many of the stunts in the Over the Falls and the Laff in the Dark, for instance, were invented by the Park, and those wonderful big shiny Rocket Ships were designed and

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## Cheryl Carter is new Executive Director Of Arts Collinwood

by Miles Kennedy

Some of you were no doubt present a few months ago at the opening of the annual Members' Show at the Arts Collinwood Gallery, when Sarah Gyorki announced her approaching resignation from the position of Executive Director of Arts Collinwood. Whereupon Councilman Mike Polensek read from a certificate that Cleveland City Council had authorized to commemorate the wonderful service that Sarah has performed in bringing Arts Collinwood to life and building its numerous programs that so much enrich our neighborhood. Not to be outdone, Representative Kenny Yuko then read a motion passed by the Ohio Legislature that similarly recognized Sarah's many accomplishments.

At first the Board of Arts Collinwood was in a state of shock. How could they possibly replace the founding director? They approached the Cleveland Foundation, who were optimistic and provided funding to cover the transition and support the search. Janus Small of the Mandel School at Case was retained as a consultant to help manage both the transition and the search. A subset of the Board was appointed to a search committee, advertisements were placed and to their pleasant surprise, more than forty applicants expressed an interest in the position. A review of resumes enabled the committee to narrow the field; five highly qualified applicants were interviewed and the field was further narrowed to three extremely good possibilities. On closer examination, they found that Cheryl Carter, one of the three, was all they had dreamed of. In a special meeting, the full board unanimously approved her selection. Question was - would she accept? Fortunately, Cheryl had heard high praise for Arts Collinwood from all the referees she consulted, so the attraction was mutual.

A reputed photographer herself, Cheryl has a great love of the field of the arts - Studio Art was her undergraduate major at Hiram College, with minors in photography and English Literature. And it is the heart of the MA program, interdisciplinary studies, which she will complete at Hiram in 2011 (as a part-time student).

But there's also a very practical side to Cheryl -- she was co-founder of Art House, and as a board chair, saw it through the first years of its life (always the most difficult). For the last twenty years or so she has worked at several non-profits as development director and, in that capacity has helped raise several million dollars of grant support.

These are the skills and passion that Arts Collinwood needs as it moves forward. Under Sarah Gyorki, a strong base of programs was developed - the summer camp, Weekends on Waterloo, Parade the Circle workshops, the Sand Sculpture Contest,



Cheryl Carter. Photo by Bridget Caswell.

after-school programs for kids, classes and clubs for adults in the new Community Center and, most recently, the Café at Arts Collinwood -- not to mention the diamond in the crown - the Waterloo Arts Festival. These programs have grown to the point where the Executive Director position is now a very full-time job. And the budget has crept north of two hundred thousand, so that fundraising has become extremely important.

Besides building its own programs, Arts Collinwood has partnered with other entities on Waterloo Road, such as the Beachland Ballroom, St John's Lodge, Waterloo Seven Gallery, Music Saves, Blue Arrow Records, UpStage Theater, the Waterloo Sculpture Garden and the Slovenian Workmen's Home. This group, working with Northeast Shores Development Corp, has truly put the Waterloo arts district on the map. We've been covered as an exciting new arts center by the Wall Street Journal, no less. And just the other day Channel 3 ran a segment on how the Waterloo district is attracting artists from Boston, New York and even Australia.

Given the solid foundation that has been developed over the last seven years, Arts Collinwood is now poised for dramatic growth. As Nan Kennedy, the chair of Arts Collinwood's Advisory Board, put it: "Sarah Gyorki created a terrific programming base; now we need an equally terrific fundraiser to see to it that Arts Collinwood not only continues, but expands. We're extraordinarily lucky to have found a new director with strong experience on both sides - plus restaurant experience!"

Bridget Caswell, President of Arts Collinwood puts it this way: "We need a visionary to fill our community center with vibrant new programs, but we also need a person skilled and experienced in fund raising. It's truly miraculous that our Board of Trustees has managed to find in Cheryl Carter a person with a very strong track record in both of these requirements."



DIALOGUE

The Collinwood Observer

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Collinwood 2010 Update

by Councilman Michael Polensek

Over the past several months we have been engaged in a wide range of issues from the proposed closure of the Trauma Unit at Huron Road Hospital to the anticipated beginning of the long awaited Euclid Creek tunnel project and a whole host of other critical projects and concerns that effect the “quality of life” of our community.

First, let me update you on the proposed closure of the Trauma Unit at the Huron Road Hospital. The Mayor’s offices of both Cleveland and East Cleveland are in discussions with Cleveland Clinic at this time. I hope that they can convince Dr. “Toby” Cosgrove and Clinic officials to keep the Trauma Unit open due to the adverse impact it will have on the Greater Collinwood and Glenville communities, including our inner ring eastside suburban neighbors. Thanks to all who sent emails and letters and made phone calls to the appropriate officials on this matter. I believe it had a big impact. However, the fight is far from over. Watch for future updates as we go into 2011.

The Collinwood Community Recreation Center on Lakeshore Boulevard is well under construction and is already just over a third completed. What a joy it is to watch this state-of-the-art eco-friendly facility being constructed right here in our own community. Anticipated opening for the new center is Fall of 2011. I myself cannot wait to experience all the complex will have to offer to our residents and our neighborhood children.

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) has awarded the Euclid

Creek Tunnel Project to a joint venture of the McNally Construction and Kiewit corporations. The project’s final bid was \$198 million and is scheduled to begin in March 2011. The work will take approximately three (3) years to complete and is designed to capture storm and waste water, treat it, and then release it at the Easterly Waste Water Treatment Plant. District officials tell us that this will greatly improve water quality in Euclid Creek and along the lakefront at Wildwood, Villa Angela and Euclid Beach State Parks. This effort is part of a much larger project to restore the 24 square mile Euclid Creek Watershed which will include dam removals upstream and the creation of a five-acre fish and wildlife refuge just north of Lakeshore Boulevard called the Lacustrine Refuge Project. These projects have been a long time coming and I have lobbied for years to see these become a reality because of the positive impact they will have on our greater community.

Furthermore, the Cleveland Automated Curbside and Recycling Collection Program will expand beginning in April 2011 to incorporate another 25,000 residential households city-wide. In our community, the expanded area will be begin at Lakeshore Boulevard and grow westbound to link up with the pilot project area that was initiated off of St. Clair Avenue. Hopefully, within the next five years our entire ward will have city-provided wheeled waste and recyclable carts at each residential property. This has been a long time coming due to the tremendous cost of rolling out the program city-wide.

A great debt of thanks goes to the Hospice of the Western Reserve located at 300 East 185th Street for relocating their Corporate Headquarters to 17876 St Clair Avenue at the former Brush Engineered Metals site in the Nottingham neighborhood. This will bring 200 jobs to this location. Thanks to the hospice for believing in our ward. Another long time good neighbor, the Slovenian Home for the Aged on Neff Road, announced that it is undergoing a long-anticipated expansion. They could have left the community but instead they decided to re-invest for an estimated \$7 million in three construction phases. This will mean more employment opportunities and a greater presence in the East 185th Street corridor. Thanks, once again to their Board for believing in Collinwood.

Finally, on behalf of the Ward 11 family, I would like to wish you all a prosperous, safe and healthy New Year. I understand, all too well, since I deal with it daily, the trials and tribulations which many of our families and local businesses are faced with. I came to the realization a long time ago, that for some unknown reason, the powers that be in Washington, whether Democrat or Republican, have failed us miserably over the years. Unless, we as a nation, manufacture products, and provide goods and services within our national borders, we will continue to see a growing number of families and communities in despair. Charity and goodwill begin at home. Our Federal representatives, whom we elect nationally, need to understand that.

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Message from the Publisher

by John Copic

Publishing the Collinwood Observer this past year has truly been a wonderful experience. Our backgrounds are not in the newspaper business, and we have learned a lot. We are

very proud of the papers that we have printed. A big thank you to our wonderful writers for all of their hard work and the beautiful stories that they have written. Another big thank you to all of our sponsors and advertisers who made our paper possible. Our editors and layout people have truly been first class.

If you have an interest in taking part in the paper, we are looking for volunteers to help us proofread stories, and reach out to individuals and groups in the neighborhood to encourage them to tell their stories. It can all be done online and with email! If you’re interested, email to betsy@collinwoodobserver.com. You can become an integral part of the new and improved Collinwood Observer, 2011. If you are not currently online, write to Betsy Voinovich at 650 E. 185th St, Cleveland,

OH, 44119. We are also looking for new advertisers and sponsors. If you would like to advertise in the Collinwood Observer, or be a sponsor, please let us know.

We are going to take a short break from printing the newspaper to build our website, reorganize and come back bigger and better, stronger and smarter, with more of the neighborhood represented (With your help! Volunteer today!) The Collinwood Observer will be online only in January and February; continue to submit your stories, pictures and news at www.collinwoodobserver.com. Look for the newspaper version of paper to be back in your neighborhood libraries, businesses, schools and stores, March 1. The deadline will always be the 21st of the month before. To keep kept up-to-date by email about what's going on, sign up at our Member Center today.

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## AROUND COLLINWOOD

## Happy Holidays from Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society

by Mary Louise Jesek-Daley

Greetings for the Holiday Season from the Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society. We hope everyone has a joyous holiday season and peace and joy in the New Year.

We have had a busy year and have plans for a yet busier year ahead. In February 2011, we will be celebrating our 2nd anniversary already. We cannot believe this either. As we complete our holiday preparations for this year, we realize that there is so much to plan for next year. All the hustle and bustle will follow us throughout 2011 as we make preparations for our Annual Meeting (Sat., February 19th), field trips (Erie, Pa for one later in the year and not the casino), cemetery field trips, and events surrounding the Civil War commemorations--150 are planned locally, in Cleveland and other nearby locations.

We'd love to see more people involved in

their local history and everyone is invited to join us on our field trips. We meet the third Thursday of the month beginning at 6:00 PM. Check with us via email to find out where we will be meeting. So, watch the Observer for more details or email us at CollNottHistory@aol.com or at maljesek@aol.com for more details.

We will update everyone on our past projects and projects for the future in January. If there is something you would like us to be working on, feel free to reach out and touch base with us. A few people have come up with some intriguing questions and we are pursuing these.

Thank you for the support in 2010 and we look forward to seeing you in 2011. HAPPY HOLIDAYS. Let's make 2011 an historic year for the Collinwood Nottingham communities.

## Christmas at the Carrousel

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built in house, at Euclid Beach. All in all, while the Park may have looked quiet, to those of us passing on Lakeshore Blvd, there was a lot going on behind the scenes!

The same goes for your local carousel. Most carousels shorten their hours after New Year's, since there are fewer visitors, so this becomes the time for the bigger maintenance projects – horses need going over for paint touchup and damage repair, while the mechanism gets a through going over (think of all those bearings and gears and other moving parts, as you can imagine, all of which dearly love grease and oil.) The brass all gets a good polish, lights are checked out, the band organ gets a tune-up – there's certainly a lot to do, to keep everything running smoothly.

Meanwhile, here in Collinwood, whatever your particular traditions are this time of year, 'the holidays' will be all of our focus for now until after New Year's – there's candles to light, homes to trim, all that wonderful food to make (and eat!) Time too to enjoy our families and friends (there's all that food,



for one thing!) and just enjoy the season. (Do check out the Richland Carrousel in Mansfield and the Merry Go Round Museum in Sandusky, for a "carousel fix" between now and the end of the year – there's something about a carousel ride when it's winter outside that really brightens the season! Must be that "Happiest Music on Earth"!)

And after the first of the year (looking into 2011 and all the excitement we'll be looking forward to, with the new Recreation / Community Center opening especially), let's get our Museum idea rolling! It'll be time to begin plans to make this very unique idea happen. We know there's a lot of support



here for the idea, now's the time to get it all together and make it happen. So -- with the idea of a Collinwood Museum soon to be discussed, your input is all the more important – stay tuned for information about those meetings to begin planning this. Both our Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society and our Euclid Beach Carrousel Committee will be working on this, and we look forward to seeing everyone when we all get together and begin to plan this wonderful idea for our neighborhood.

Until then, please get in touch with us at the Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society at CollNottHistory@aol.com or (216) 486-1298, or the Euclid Beach Carrousel Committee at ebcarrousel@gmail.com or (440) 942-1493 with your ideas, suggestions etc – we'll need everyone working on this! Won't it be great to showcase our neighborhood's story, as only our neighborhood can tell it – and that's all of us doing the telling! (There's also the signing project at Euclid Beach State Park happening too; we just had our second meeting, and are now looking into what styles and materials are available and would work best for what we have in mind.)

Have a wonderful Christmas, and looking forward to hearing from all of you. Hope you've enjoyed these articles as I've had a ball writing them! And I'm looking forward to next year's; it'll be exciting to see what happens next. Thanks for your support!

Elva Brodnick

President – Euclid Beach Carrousel Committee

Euclid Beach Carrousel Committee

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Email: ebcarrousel@gmail.com or carrollsell@gmail.com

Phone: 440-942-1493

Facebook: Euclid Beach Carrousel Committee

## Greetings from Councilman Polensek

by Mike Polensek

Greetings to all of the residents of Collinwood and their families. During this season of the year no matter what your beliefs or what holidays you celebrate - the sentiment is the same - may joy and hope come to you and peace be with you and yours in the New Year.

This past year has been one of contrasts, one of losses and new beginnings, and one of changes. I am sure more awaits us in the New Year. I look forward to working with each and every one of you as we begin together, once again, to make those positive changes in our community.

My wish for the community is for prosperity and a coming together for the common good. Together, we can make positive change and help our community grow the way it should. We have that small town feeling - but are still a part of the larger city - let's use this to our advantage.

Once again, HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL, AND PEACE IN THE NEW YEAR.

## LETTER FROM COUNCILMAN POLENSEK

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I pray and hope that somehow common sense and patriotism will prevail over lobbyists and special interests whose only desire is to make money and exploit our national interests for a growing number of firms and companies who wish to outsource our jobs and which will ultimately create an economic and military monster in China, which we will eventually have to contend with.

God bless you and God bless Collinwood along with all our families throughout the Greater Cleveland area.

PLEASE JOIN MY EMAIL LIST: email me with your name, address and email at Council11@clevelandcitycouncil.org for Ward updates and important neighborhood alerts!!

## Hospice of the Western Reserve headquarters moves to St. Clair Avenue

by Paige Boyer

Hospice of the Western Reserve plans to open a new headquarters at 17876 St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland, a property donated to the non-profit agency by Brush Engineered Materials Inc. Hospice of the Western Reserve took possession of the building on October 28, 2010. Approximately 200 employees will be relocated to the building during the first quarter of 2011.

The St. Clair property will house CEO David Simpson, his direct reports and their teams, including communications, education, the End-of-Life Library, human resources, information services, palliative care, pediatrics, planning and evaluation, professional relations and volunteer services.

The new headquarters relocation will significantly increase Hospice of the Western Reserve's programs, services and its work on behalf of the community to advance quality end-of-life care.

"During each year of our 32 years, Hospice of the Western Reserve has grown to meet the needs of patients and their families facing a terminal or serious illness," said CEO, David Simpson. "With the addition of this building, our agency is poised to continue to provide the community with the support and care they deserve, while reaching underserved populations."

The property, with 40,000 square feet of existing office space in a two-story building situated on 18 acres, is approximately 2.5 miles from the current headquarters at 300 E. 185th Street. Ample warehouse space, vacant land and parking will permit future expansion.

"I am pleased to have learned that Brush Engineered Materials has transferred its former corporate headquarters on St. Clair Avenue to Hospice of the Western Reserve," said Ward 11 Councilman Michael Polensek. "I have been involved in discussions with Hospice of the Western Reserve and Brush on this transfer.

Hospice of the Western Reserve is one of the largest employers in my ward and their acquisition of this site will help spur economic development in the historic Nottingham neighborhood of the Collinwood community. I wish to thank the officers of Brush Engineered Materials for their concern for our community and Hospice of the Western Reserve for believing in Cleveland and being a wonderful neighbor. We look forward to seeing Hospice of the Western Reserve's presence at 17876 St. Clair Avenue. We welcome them to the Nottingham neighborhood with open arms."

Hospice of the Western Reserve will continue to house several teams at its current headquarters building on East 185th, adjacent to Hospice House. During this process The Elisabeth Severance Prentiss Bereavement Center will relocate to that building.

"We've been seeking an opportunity to consolidate several of our offices to enhance teamwork and ideal patient care," Simpson explained. "This new property is an excellent opportunity to improve communication and achieve optimal effectiveness while not disrupting patient care and business operations."

About Hospice of the Western Reserve

Hospice of the Western Reserve is a community-based, non-profit agency providing comfort care and emotional support to patients and their families, regardless of age, disease or ability to pay. Care is provided wherever the patient lives – in the home, hospital, assisted living/long-term care facility, at Hospice House, our 42-bed residential facility overlooking Lake Erie or at a 13-bed inpatient Hospice Care Center in Olmsted Township. For more information visit [www.hospicewr.org](http://www.hospicewr.org) or call 800-707-8922.

About Brush Engineered Materials Inc.

Brush Engineered Materials Inc. supplies highly engineered advanced materials to global customers across a wide range of markets. The company serves customers in more than 50 countries.



NATURALLY COLLINWOOD

Downtown still magical at Christmastime

by Jerry Masek

Remember the words from the song, Silver Bells: “It’s Christmas time in the city.” Remember the dear, old days of Christmases past, when you came downtown to see the massive Sterling Linder tree, shake Mr. Jingeling’s keys on Halle’s seventh floor, or stare into Higbee’s magical store windows. Ah yes, those were the good old days. Cleveland has changed a lot, but there’s still magic here at Christmas. Here are some of the reasons to hop on RTA and bring the family downtown.

Euclid Creek’s first dam removal project underway

by Claire Posius

After five years of planning and piecing together funding, work on the Euclid Creek East Branch dam removal and stream restoration project began on October 18th. The dam is located in the City of Euclid, south of Euclid Avenue in the Euclid Creek Metropark Reservation below the Highland Road Bridge, and is one of six dams in the Euclid Creek Watershed impeding fish and aquatic life from traveling through the watershed’s stream network. The dams in Euclid Creek range from small dams built in the old mill days to others built as part of roadway improvement projects in the 1960’s. The East Branch Dam was constructed in 1933 to impound water for swimming at a YMCA camp. The dam is roughly 6 feet high by 40 feet wide and made of concrete. Over the years, the area behind the dam filled with sediment and now provides no recreation or other essential purpose. The construction team has installed a stream by-pass pump to re-route the stream around the dam area so the crew can work in dry conditions. Large rocks will be installed in the stream to direct stream flow away from the Highland Road bridge footers, and the rocks will slow down the water and provide places for fish to spawn and hide. Once the rocks are in place, the dam will be removed before the end of the year. The final step is to revegetate the areas disturbed during construction with native plants in the Spring. The project cost is \$526,585, of which \$145,000 was for design and engineering through Burgess and Niple, and \$381,585 for construction through Great Lakes Construction. Funding is provided by the following sources: ODNR, Division of Wildlife; ODNR, Division of Wildlife through USFWS; Ohio EPA, Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP); Ohio EPA 319 Program; US Fish & Wildlife Service, Midwest Region, Fish Passage Program; a Federal contract with the Cleveland Metroparks; the Northeast Ohio

**Snow Days at Progressive Field**  
For winter family fun, RTA suggests Snow Days, which runs through Jan. 2 -- and maybe longer -- at Progressive Field. Leave your baseball glove at home. \* Ride down the Batterhorn, a 10-lane snow tubing hill presented by RTA, with eight 60-foot adult lanes and two 19-foot childrens lanes. \* Skate around The Frozen Mile, a quarter-mile track around the outfield. Skate rental is offered. There is a small child’s ice skating rink in the left-field corner.

\* Experience Slider’s Snow Mountain, a child’s play area in shallow left field. \* Walk on a trail through the outfield under winter lights. \* Relax in a social area, with a fire pit and concessions. Hours vary, but the field closes at 10 p.m. on most days. As an added bonus, just show a valid RTA farecard and get a \$2 discount on admission. For details, go to [indians.com/snowdays](http://indians.com/snowdays).

**Lights on Public Square**  
Public Square is again bathed in holiday lights, and admission is free. Several buildings also offer enchanting window displays that will entertain both children and adults. Free trolley service is available until 7 p.m., Monday-Friday.

**Monster ticket specials**  
If you enjoy ice hockey action, check out the Lake Erie Monsters at Quicken Loans Arena. On RTA fun night -- 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20, vs. Rochester -- just show a valid RTA farecard and get admission for \$5. On College ID nights, college students who mention they take RTA to the game will get a Monster of a deal -- a ticket for just \$5. College ID nights are every game, Monday-Thursday at the Q through the rest of the season -- including the Dec. 29 game.

**Ride the Rapid**  
To reach Public Square, just park for free at many Rapid Stations, and ride the Red, Blue and Green lines to the Tower City Station. From there, you can walk to Public Square, or take the Walkway to Progressive Field and Snow Days. The Walkway is open before, during and after all events at Quicken Loans Arena and Progressive Field. Rapid service starts well before breakfast and runs until after midnight, seven days a week.

**Hop on the HealthLine**  
RTA’s state-of-the-art HealthLine oper-

ates 24/7 on Euclid Avenue, from Public Square through University Circle and on into the Louis Stokes Rapid Station in East Cleveland. There are many holiday attractions and fine retailers along this route. Buy an All-Day Pass for just \$5, and get on and off as many times as you wish. The Pass expires at 3 a.m. the following day.

**Enjoy Shaker Square**  
This unique and historic shopping area is conveniently served by all Blue Line and Green Line trains. Through early January, Shaker Square will be bathed in holiday lights that can be enjoyed from the train, or by stopping there and visiting the many shops. **From Collinwood** Both the Red Line and the HealthLine stop at the Louis Stokes Station at Windermere, 14233 Euclid Ave. To reach that Rapid Station from Collinwood, use bus route #37, with service 7 days a week. There is also ample free parking. To reach a light-rail train serving Shaker Square, hop on bus route #34 (weekday service only). This route starts at Euclid Hospital, and serves East 185th Street and East 200th Street. It also serves the Green Road Station on the Green Line. Or, you can ride bus route #37, with service 7 days a week, and board the Green Line at the Lee Road Station. Either way, you can ride to Shaker Square, and then go on to Tower City, if you wish.

Please know that service times may vary. For more specific information on your trip downtown -- and coming home -- log onto [rideRTA.com](http://rideRTA.com), or call 216-621-9500. Just watch out for reindeer. **Jerry Masek is RTA’s Publications Manager.**



Euclid Creek East Branch Dam

Regional Sewer District providing in-kind by acting as the Construction Management Entity; and the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District providing in-kind staff time to pursue and manage the grants and public outreach.

This project could not have happened without strong partnerships with the City of Euclid, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Cuyahoga County Engineer, Cleveland Metroparks, Ohio EPA, Friends of Euclid Creek and the Euclid Creek Watershed Council.

Removing or retrofitting the remaining dams in Euclid Creek will improve fish migration and the number of species traveling from Lake Erie throughout the upper watershed, which will in turn increase recreational fishing opportunities. Once the project is complete, a celebration will be held to mark this historic first dam removal project in the watershed. Please keep updated on this project and the Spring Dam Removal Celebration at the following website: [http://www.cuyahogawcd.org/EuclidCreekFiles/EC\\_EastBranchDamRemoval.htm](http://www.cuyahogawcd.org/EuclidCreekFiles/EC_EastBranchDamRemoval.htm).

Euclid Beach Feral Cat Project update

By Ginger Hannah

Dear Animal Lover, It has been more than seven months since the Cleveland Plain Dealer did a feature story about the feral cat project at historic Euclid Beach. We would like to give you an update on what we have been able to achieve, thanks to you and other very generous donors. So far this year we have helped more than 312 cats and kittens - that’s up 391% from last year. We have worked tirelessly to help sick, old and unaltered stray and feral cats. Our primary focus is the Euclid Beach area because that is where people endlessly dump unwanted cats and kittens, but we also care for other needy cat colonies in North Collinwood. Because our focus is primarily Euclid Beach we felt that changing our name from North Collinwood Feral Cat Project to Euclid Beach Feral Cat Project was appropriate. In the Euclid Beach area (which includes Wildwood Marina, the Euclid Beach Trailer Park, the Pier and the Euclid Beach Villa apartments) we have trapped, neutered and released (TNR) 21 cats, and surrendered to the Cleveland Animal Protective League (APL) more than 89 sick, old, and friendly cats, plus 39 sick and healthy kittens.

In North Collinwood, we TNR 68 cats and surrendered 96 cats and kittens to the Cleveland Animal Protective League. The APL cares for the friendly, adoptable cats and kittens until they can find their forever loving homes. As you can see, the issue of over population is a constant challenge and we work very hard to keep the four colonies at Euclid Beach under control. We have a resident population of 138 healthy cats and the cost of caring for them is huge. As with all living beings, they need daily feeding, adequate shelter and medical care. You are one of the bright lights in the world - you and the people like you who make a tremendous difference in the lives of abandoned and feral cats. We thank you again and again for your continued support. Please consider yourself whisker-kissed by all the cats who are fed and cared for every day because of your generosity.

Sincerely,, Ginger Hannah Please make checks payable to Northeast Shores Development Corporation, a 501(c) (3 ) non-profit Organization which acts as fiscal agent for the Euclid Beach Feral Cat Project. Please write EBFCP on the memo line of your check and mail it to 317, East 156th Street, Cleveland, OH 44110. All donations are tax deductible.

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FAITH IN COLLINWOOD

# That Church on Pawnee

by Elva Brodnick

If you’ve ever been down Pawnee Ave, off E 185th, you’ve passed our small white church, sitting there at E 193rd. And probably wondered about who we were. Who are we, really?

Well, I’d like to tell you a bit about us . . .

A bit of history to start off with. We’ve been in this Collinwood neighborhood for more than 80 years, with our ties to our neighborhood going back to the Collinwood School Fire of 1908. Records show that on February 12 1927, the Baldwin family, whose daughter Laura died in the Collinwood School Fire, donated the property where our church stands, for a Spiritualist church to be founded as a lasting memorial to Laura and all the victims of the Collinwood School Fire.

We opened as the Sunflower New Thought Spiritualist Association Church in the brick building that still stands today. In 1973, we changed our name to Memorial Spiritual Church, to honor our ties to the Collinwood School Fire, and a few years later, we became Memorial Spiritual Christian Church, when our late Pastor, Reverend Karen Hill, became head of Memorial.

So, that’s why we’re here. The big question, of course then, is What is Spiritualism? What is it we believe and follow at Memorial Spiritual Christian Church? What is it we do?

There’s alot of “buzz” out there these days about things ghostly and “paranormal”; I’ve lost track of the number of shows that are all over the airwaves, showing both “ghost chasers” and mediums. All very exciting of course -- and pretty much exaggerated as well. Spirits that always turn up as full-bodied apparitions, eerie noises and lights (why do they always “investigate” at night?!), and spooky situations are all very good television, but not necessarily how this really works.

So what exactly is Spiritualism? Very basically, “As Spiritualists we believe that, although the body dies, the spirit of the person lives on and is active in helping us with love and guidance from a higher, invisible level of life.” Death, therefore, does not end our connection to each other, and we believe it is possible to not only communicate between those

here and those who have crossed over, but to use that communication to help people.

That’s the basics. It’s pretty simple, really. The idea of this sort of communication is not new by any means, many religions and cultures have accepted the idea of this possible communication between “here and there” for centuries; Spiritualism as we understand it here in America came together in the 1920’s, and the tradition continues at churches like ours and centers like Lily Dale NY.

So what do we DO? If you would come to either our Sunday Worship service or an All Message service, you may be surprised at how this really works. Our church is a peaceful place, and when you come, we’ll welcome you warmly; though our approach to Spiritualism is Christian, we are non-denominational, and welcome everyone. As our All Message service begins, we say a prayer thanking God for our spiritual gifts, then our members who are workers that can connect with Spirit will take turns going in front of the church, and asking Spirit for messages for those there. If a worker has a message for you (and not every worker gets a message for everyone there) they will ask you “if Spirit can come to you”. If you’re willing, then the worker will relay what they have from Spirit.

What’s fascinating is who the message can come from – it’s not always a relative or loved one, and can be simply from someone who has an insight they feel they need to share with you. Messages can deal with almost anything, and can be humorous as well as serious. (Personalities don’t seem to change after you cross over; a great sense of humor, for instance, always goes with someone, as does opinions!) You can also ask questions if you’d like, about a specific topic, and we will try to find an answer. We also have healers at our services, to help you; it’s all about using your “Spiritual Gifts”, as Spiritualism teaches – to use your gifts, whatever they are, to help each other.

What does NOT happen here at Memorial Spiritual Christian Church is histrionics, speaking in weird voices, thundering preaching and yelling, tapping noises, floating candles etc

continued on page 8



Our church as it is today, Memorial Spiritual Christian Church.

## Getting to know Kris Kringle

by Susan Brandt

What an elusive character this Kris Kringle is. I first met up with him in 1964. Actually my earliest memory, that is. Living in a brownstone on E. 72, my parents were gone all day long. The weather was extremely cold and my Uncle Ray was watching my sister and me, until my parents returned home, from wherever it was they were at. After watching the Flintstones on the black and white that evening, we were ushered into bed and told that, when we woke up, something magical would happen.

So, of course there was no way that we were ever going to get to sleep! That was when my Uncle Ray read my sister and me, "Twas The Night Before Christmas."

I have no memory of falling asleep, but I did remember the part of the jolly old man, Kris Kringle and his eight tiny reindeers. When my sister and I woke up, something magical had happened. Kris had paid a visit to E. 72, for in the living room was one of the most beautiful Christmas trees my sister and I had ever laid eyes on. After that year, we would chase the entire year away knowing that Dec. 25th would be here and Kris Kringle would return, and that for just one night, something magical could happen.

So now my crazy historic side has taken over and I really do want to know, where did Kris Kringle come from??

This information is from "The Historic St. Charles, Missouri Christmas Traditions":

Kris Kringle is of German and American descent. The figure of Santa Claus first begins to show up among the Pennsylvania Dutch in the mid 1820's in the form of Kris Kringle, or as he was also known, "Belsnickle". Belsnickle is a derivative of the German, "Pelz-nickle," which means "Nicholas in Furs."

Belsnickle would travel the Pennsylvania countryside ringing his bell looking for good children to give out his small gifts of cakes and nuts to. If Belsnickle came across a child who had not been behaving in the past year, he would warn the child to be good or else he might give them a smack with his rod.

By today's standards he would have been arrested for child endangering; I like my memories better.

So I sat down with Kris Kringle and asked him a few of my questions before he popped the all elusive question to me: "Susan, what do you want.... for Christmas?"

So Kris, how's it going these days?  
Great couldn't be better, a little busy with the holiday coming up and all.

What's your idea of perfect happiness?  
Good weather on the 24th of December, preferably at night and with a full moon so I can see.

What is your greatest achievement?  
Settling down with a good woman, working one day a year ,managing a factory of toy-making elves, and farming flying reindeer.

What quality do you like most in a person?

Ho, ho, ho. I like them to be good!

What do you value most in friends?

The Missus is my best friend, and she makes me cookies all the time, so I guess I would have to say if they can bake.

What is your most treasured possession?  
Mrs. Claus

What is your greatest extravagance?

My Santa suit. Mrs. Claus made it for me years ago, but if I had it my way I would probably just travel in sweats.

Who are your heroes in real life?

Parents who teach their children right from wrong.

What makes you unique?

The twinkle in my eye

If you could change one thing what would it be?


Why stop at one? Ho ho HO! I would want Peace in the whole world!

What is your favorite word?

Believe.

And so, I end the interview with Kris Kringle on the belief that, yes, Susan, there is still a Santa Claus.

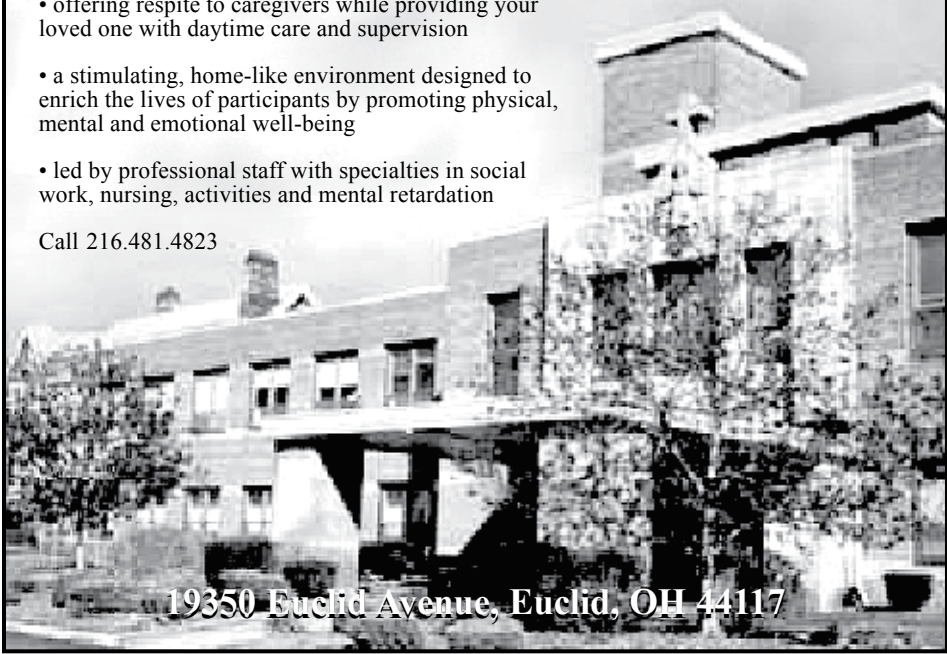
And what to my wondering mind should appear????



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NATURALLY COLLINWOOD

# The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team one year later

by Stephen Love

If you did not know already, Adopt-a-Beach™ has a volunteer team at Euclid Beach State Park and during the past year, we have collected well over 700 pounds of trash. If you are not familiar, Adopt-a-Beach is a volunteer organization and partner 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 (excluding December, January, February) our team conducts beach cleanups and monitors bacteria counts.

The word team is used lightly because volunteering is open to anyone and everyone! Past cleanups have included volunteers from area colleges and universities, local high schools, neighborhood nonprofits, neighborhood businesses and residents. As we close this beach cleanup season and prepare for the spring/summer/fall 2011 season, it is important to recap some of our projects and partnerships formed during this past year. Since we started our beach cleanups in fall 2009, The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach

- Team has:
- \* Conducted 11 beach cleanups, collecting over 700 pounds of trash and recyclables with a total volunteer hours per person count of 600 service hours!
  - \* Supported Councilman Polensek's plan to begin discussion of a Cleveland Metroparks lakefront park acquisition process via a letter writing and signatures campaign.
  - \* Collaborated with neighborhood nonprofits like Arts Collinwood to incorporate a beach cleanup with a recreational all-day event that attracted several hundred visitors to Euclid Beach park.
  - \* Attended community block watch meetings and Northeast Shores quarterly meetings to encourage neighborhood participation.
  - \* Used City Works grant funding to purchase cleaning tools and to landscape and trim back overgrowth throughout the park.
  - \* Secured partnerships with local businesses to make available beach cleanup information to customers but also, to help raise donations.



The Adopt-A-Beach team at Wildwood.

## Fifth Third Bank helps support the Euclid Beach Adopt-A-Beach Team



Volunteers after a successful day of cleaning up the beach.

by Stephen Love

When he is not volunteering at an Adopt-a-Beach cleanup at Euclid Beach Park, Fifth Third Bank Financial Center Manager Michael DiRauso is always thinking of ways that he and his staff can support efforts to keep Euclid Beach clean.

Michael, along with Tia Little, Azalea Price, Anitria Dudley and Rachael Ambrose at Fifth Third Bank on East 185th Street are sure to place Adopt-a-Beach event flyers throughout the bank and make volunteer sign-up sheets available for anyone interested in volunteering.

A couple of weeks ago, the bank staff thought of a creative way to raise money for Euclid Beach Park. They decided to have a bake sale. On Friday October 29th, bank customers could get a little more than just money out of their paychecks! They could have a cookie or a cupcake and know that

the proceeds were going towards improving the quality of Euclid Beach and protecting Lake Erie. When all was said and done, Fifth Third managed to raise close to \$50 from their bake sale! Proceeds from the bake sale will go towards the purchase of three new trash and three new recycling bins to be installed next spring at Euclid Beach Park!

With our spring/summer 2011 cleanup season around the corner, The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team hopes to continue to collaborate and get support from Fifth Third Bank and other local businesses in the community.

As Michael DiRauso puts it, "I feel it's important for 5/3rd and local businesses to support groups like Adopt-A-Beach because it brings people in the community together, raises awareness, and hopefully, inspires others to contribute their time to something they would enjoy doing."

- \* Raised donations and secured grant funding to purchase 6 new beach side closed-lid and anchored trash and recycling bins to be installed early next spring.
- As we begin our next cleanup season, it is important to continue our commitment to communicating and developing neighborhood initiatives that focus on:
- \* Improving the quality and appearance of Euclid Beach Park through continued monthly cleanups, targeting pollution sources and community-based project input.
  - \* Encouraging awareness and stewardship of the beachfront and Lake Erie through increased outreach and education.
  - \* Fostering partnerships and capacity building between volunteers, residents, community businesses, nonprofits and the Lakefront State Park.
- Euclid Beach is everyone's park but it belongs especially to the community. We believe that there is a collective desire in the community to make Euclid Beach, as well as Villa Angela and Wildwood parks cleaner and safer public spaces for both recreation

and preservation. The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team wants to help make that desire a reality. A better quality park translates into a better quality of life for neighborhood residents and the community as a whole, making Euclid Beach Park an asset for years to come! To quote one of our community volunteers, "Keeping the beach clean not only positively impacts the quality of the lake water and the cleanliness of the beach but also displays a sense of pride and stewardship to the people who enjoy the lakefront experience."

Thank you for reading and we look forward to seeing you at Euclid Beach!

-The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team

Be sure to check the Observer's calendar for our first beach cleanup in March 2011.

- \* If you are interested in being added to our volunteer e-mailing list or if you would just like to request more information, contact Stephen Love at [slove@mail.bw.edu](mailto:slove@mail.bw.edu) or call 216-571-0685.

\*You can also visit our facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Euclid-Beach-Adopt-a-Beach-Team/110703672309610>

## The Euclid Beach Team Is purchasing three recycling and trash units to be installed at Euclid Beach Park

by Stephen Love

The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team will be able to purchase new trash and recycling bins for Euclid Beach Park thanks to roughly \$400 collected in individual donations, a \$1000 grant from the Cuyahoga Solid Waste District and a \$1300 Neighborhood Connections grant!

The three trash and recycling bins will be installed next spring by park maintenance staff on the beach at the bottom of each beach stairwell and will be distinctly labeled trash and recycling (for plastic and aluminum). Additionally, the units will be anchored and closed-lid.

Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach volunteers will be responsible for emptying recyclables

weekly. Volunteers will also be responsible for tallying estimated trash and recycling totals collected as well as reporting to park maintenance staff any evidence of damage or tampering to the units.

If there is a noticeable decrease in trash collected during our beach cleanups because of the new trash and recycle bins, we will consider installing additional trash and recycling units throughout Euclid Beach Park.

Thank you again to everyone who supported this project!

-The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team

- \*For more information on The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team or how you can volunteer to help empty recyclables visit us on facebook or email [slove@mail.bw.edu](mailto:slove@mail.bw.edu)\*



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NORTH EAST SHORES

# Meeting kicks off feedback for preliminary Waterloo Road Engineering Plans

by John Boksansky

In 2010, Northeast Shores successfully advocated that the City of Cleveland rebuild Waterloo based on the preliminary plan created in 2007. After being awarded nearly \$4 million for the 2012 construction of the new Waterloo Streetscape, the City of Cleveland engaged Osborn Engineering and Knight & Stolar Landscape Architects to develop construction drawings for the impending improvements.

On November 29, thirty-five merchants and stakeholders met at the Waterloo Slovenian Workmen's Home for the first public meeting to begin the review of the preliminary design. Feedback was accepted on these draft plans so that the curbcuts, bump-outs, and road width can be finalized.

Jim Jagger, resident, commented that "the consultants and Northeast Shores did

a good job of presenting during the meeting. The project is heading in the right direction with some valid concerns mentioned. This project would be a nice shot in the arm for the area. Thanks to all for making this happen." Dave Desimone commented, "I cannot stress enough the benefits of urban trees and green spaces. Green spaces entice neighbors outdoors on a regular basis, thus helping to build community."

Maximizing on-street parking as well as the placement of curb bumpouts for traffic-calming were concerns for Pete and Debbie Gulyas, from Blue Arrow Records and Books. They said they hoped that they hoped construction can occur with minimal business interruptions.

In 2011, additional public meetings will occur regarding other street amenities including benches, trash cans, bike racks, trees, other foliage, and paver selection. Please



watch the Observer for announcements for these meetings.

To review what was proposed, please see [www.northeastshores.org/initiatives.php](http://www.northeastshores.org/initiatives.php) and look for "Waterloo Streetscape Engineering Plan". The plans can also be reviewed at the offices of Northeast Shores Located at 317 East 156th Street. To submit feedback, please e-mail John Boksansky at [jboksansky@northeastshores.org](mailto:jboksansky@northeastshores.org) or call him at (216) 481-7660.

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

# First Annual East 185 Candy Cane Cruise gets off to a solid start

by Brian Friedman

On a bitterly cold Friday night, Northeast Shores Development Corporation and the Alive on East 185 Committee hosted the first annual Candy Cane Cruise. For slightly more than two hours, visitors to the district drove up and down East 185th Street honking and spreading holiday cheer.

Registration for the event occurred in front of the Lithuanian Hall. Participants received an ornament emblazoned with logos of the Candy Cane Cruise and East 185th Street. In addition, the registrants received a goodie bag with items donated by many neighborhood businesses and institutions including VASJ High School, Euclid Hospital, Key Bank, Huntington Bank and PNC Bank. Of course, goodie bags included copious candy canes too!

Participants were encouraged to stop at various locations along East 185th Street for special events during the event. Arabica Coffee hosted trick demonstrations from the Cleveland Yoyo Club as well as historical artifacts were on display thanks to Euclid Beach Park Now. Merchants and restaurants also had specials and freebies for participants in the Candy Cane Cruise. "I think it's great that Northeast Shores and the Alive on E185 Committee is trying to attract more visitors to the district," said Steve Newman of Chili



**Candy Cane cruisers enjoying hot cider at Scotti's with Scotti.**

Peppers.

"This was a strong foundation for another great promotional event for the district", said Denise Lorek, Northeast Shores Community Organizer. "Coming right on the heels of Breakfast with Santa was stressful but it is nice to have a wintertime district-wide event to add to the early summer Alive on E185 Parade and Sidewalk Sale."

A favorite of this writer was the free hot cider provided by Scotti's. After standing outside for several hours registering cars, the cider really helped keep me warm. Thank you to all that participated and let's start planning a bigger and better Candy Cane Cruise for 2011.

*Brian Friedman is the Executive Director of Northeast Shores and wishes the entire community a safe and happy holiday season.*

# Keeping warm in North Collinwood

by Shannon Harney

In anticipation of new funding becoming available in 2011, now is the ideal time to submit your application and all relevant supporting documentation to determine your eligibility for the Dominion East Ohio Housewarming Program. The program is designed to assist low-income Dominion consumers with maintaining warmth in their homes while concurrently employing energy-efficient methods that will result in a markedly noticeable difference on your Dominion utility bill. Services will be provided to both homeowners and tenants who fall within the specified income guidelines. Such services consist of:

- \* Safety assessment of your furnace, hot water tank and electrical box
- \* Installation of carbon monoxide alarm
- \* Furnace maintenance or replacement

contingent to the condition of your existing furnace

- \* Insulation in attic/sidewalls
- \* Minimal repair/replacement of damaged windows within reason
- \* Consumer education regarding energy efficient practices

Individuals who have been deemed eligible for utility assistance programs such as (HEAP) Home Energy Assistance Program and PIPP (Percentage of Income Payment Plan) would also fall within the income guidelines for the Housewarming Program. To acquire an application and additional information regarding the necessary supporting documents, contact me, Mr. Shannon D. Harney, Housing Programs Coordinator/Property Manager at Northeast Shores Development Corporation (216) 481-7660 x31.


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HEALTH NEWS / FORUM

# Clear your mind

by Desiree James

We are in the mist of the holiday season. The endless store commercials, Christmas songs, parades, and all the fuss. After all the hustle and bustle, right before the New Year begins, we begin to think about clearing clutter and cleaning our homes. The superstition goes, if you go into the New Year with an unclean house and clutter that is how the rest of the year will be. Did you ever think that our minds might be the same way? If you go into the New Year with an unclean mind and clutter in our minds, that's how the rest of the year will be. Just as we clean and clear our homes this time of the year, we need to also clear and clean our minds. What is mind clutter? Mind clutter is

useless, worn out thought patterns, habits, unproductive ideas, people, and relationships. How many of us start year after year letting the same old people and stuff take up space in our heads? We seem to hold on to bad relationships, unresolved issues from our childhood, drug addiction that imprisons, and painful events. Sadly, some of us will go to our graves with this garbage; still angry, blaming someone for something that happened last month, last decade, or even last century. Think about the people and individuals you have held grudges against, old and new. Who are you still blaming for mishaps that happened in your live? Who have you not forgiven? Are you still upset over your parents and your childhood? Do you still have resent-

ment for that person you gave your all to and it did not work out? Addictions are allowing us to escape from what? Are you still harboring anger at people who mistreated you or should have protected you but did not? Ask yourself what it is that you need to do so you can release this stuff, move on, and enjoy life fully. It may mean confronting someone or telling them how you feel in person or in writing. Writing a letter forgiving someone on paper and burning it as a symbol for your forgiveness and releasing can do wonders. Only you know what you need to release.

Remember, forgiving and releasing does not mean that you did not suffer an injustice, nor does it mean you have to deal with the person you are forgiving. Forgiving means acknowledging what happened, releasing it, and moving on in peace. Look in the mirror at your beautiful face and say, "I have experienced some pretty terrible things, or I may not have made the best decisions in life thus far. This is a part of my life, but it is not my life." Let it go and move on. What a great way to start the New Year.

# That Church on Pawnee

continued from page 5

etc. This may all be good television, but it's not reality, at least not here at Memorial. Our work is done quietly and calmly, out in the open with no such "fireworks" – we want to help make that connection to Spirit, not put on a circus! Rather, we keep it low key, letting Spirit do the talking, simply acting as the conduit for Spirit and helping make that connection. We do indeed have our "resident" spirits, but they have quieter ways to let us know they're around, and certainly aren't shy about doing so. (They're also not afraid of the dark! Why television insists on this is a good question, since you can connect with Spirit any time and anywhere. Without funny green lights.) So there it is. We'd very much like to have you join us and "see what Spiritualism is really about". Come to our next All Message Service on December 15th at 7:00 pm (we hold these every 1st and 3rd Wednesdays) or to our regular Sunday Service at 5:00 pm. In fact, our traditional Candlelight Christmas Service will be Sunday December 19th at 5:00 pm, this year with Santa dropping by earlier that afternoon. Says he wants to check in one last time with the kids before the big day, so he'll be stopping by around 4:00 pm. Do join us in our historic church, filled with Christmas songs, warmed by candlelight, for a truly traditional Christmas celebration. And afterwards, join us for our Potluck Christmas Dinner. (Feel free to bring a dish, but we'd just as soon have your company!)

You're all welcome to share this very special day with us at Memorial Spiritual Christian Church – come yourself, bring a friend, enjoy our service and stay for dinner. Join us for as much of the day as you can; we'll be delighted to see you. Do check out our website at: [www.memorialspiritualchurch.org](http://www.memorialspiritualchurch.org) for details, and for more information on Memorial Spiritual Christian Church. Next year, we're planning a Psychic Fair in February (watch for details!) and hope to plan a talk on Spiritualism for the community. Meanwhile our book, *If You Plant Roses, You Don't Get Carnations: An Introduction to Spiritualism* by our own Cynthia Christman, is a great way to be introduced to Spiritualism, and is available both on Amazon and from us. So come on by! We're an open-minded, friendly, and down to earth group, people just like you. Come on by, check us out, and "See What Spiritualism is Really About!" Look forward to meeting you soon! **Elva Brodnick**  
**President / Memorial Spiritual Christian Church Advisory Board**  
Memorial Spiritual Christian Church  
19204 Pawnee Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44119  
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Email: [memorialchurch@hotmail.com](mailto:memorialchurch@hotmail.com)  
Web: [www.memorialspiritualchurch.org](http://www.memorialspiritualchurch.org)

# Happy New Year! Clean out your closet!

by Rhonda Hudson-Williams

How fast has 2010 come and gone. We have all survived uncertainty. For thousands, job loss. Some have had to leave their homes. Children are having to return home or live with friends or other relatives. We have all had to downsize as we adjust to another way of living. Living on less, and possibly living with less. With so much going on all at one time, it seems there is no time for one's self causing our immediate surroundings to become cluttered and out of order. If this is true for you, then the clutter and disorder we see around us is also going on in our minds. Although the times we are living through are trying, peace can be found when we clean out our mental closets. At home, when my closets are out of order, it reminds me that something in my life is out of order too. I start working on clearing whatever it is, by cleaning out my closets. What I am not wearing or using, I give away. The process of clearing out and giving away relieves stress.

The process of giving away, or eliminating, makes room for something else. I pray that as I regain order and eliminate, I make room to hear clearer the still small voice inside of me as I pay more attention to how it speaks to guide and direct me. Order and cleanliness are next to Godliness. As we clean out our mental closets for 2011, let us see the good that exists in these challenging times in situations, circumstances, people, and things. As we rearrange things in our mental closets, let's change the way we see things. Things are not usually as they appear. As we decide we need to eliminate some things, let's make room for new ideas. It is a refreshing and good feeling being able to see everything that is in your closet, and to know where everything is. Such is also the case for our minds. When there is no clutter, we think more clearly and have more confidence in ourselves and our decisions. It is my wish the we all work on our "Happy" from the inside out. Have a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year. Happy New "YOU"!

# Weighing in on Obesity Part 2, Falling Down

by Susan Brandt

"Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall, Humpty Dumpty had a great fall!" Remember that fairytale? Grimm Brothers were probably not thinking in terms of weight as more in terms of prosperity. This past month I had a fall. Literally and figuratively. While biking to work one day, I fell off my bike. No major damage, just a little sore. When I did get to work, the boys (Toto and Joe) both remarked that if I had not been working out so much I may not have gotten up so quickly. More positive reasons for more healthier living. Eventually I had to go home so getting back on the bike was a must. The main thing is that I got up and dusted myself off and continued. How many times have I stopped because of fear of failing or falling? Since my workout regimen started almost a year ago, I developed bunions, boils, blisters, callouses, bruises, brainstorms, and pinched nerves. Not one of these conditions has stopped me; it may have set me back a little, but never ever stopped my quest to be and stay healthy, and active. "All the Kings Horses and all the King's men, couldn't put Humpty together again." I always wondered if the Grimm brothers had lived today, would they be able to write

that part of the verse? Not! You have this ability to put yourself back together again, I did; it is a struggle and it is not going to happen over night. But when you give yourself the time, (and you are worth that) and put in the effort, amazing changes can start to happen. My time started with a visit to my local gym, where I met Mike Karban, my personal fitness guru. He owns and operates Totally Toned at Miller's Gym. I started off with weight training 3 days a week for one hour, after a few weeks we started to add cardio. Add to that all the dog walks and riding my bike to and from work and still putting in close to 55 hours of work a week, and to date, I have taken off 100 pounds. And the food, man can you trip that up in a hurry. On the week that I hit 100 pounds, I remained pretty quiet about the whole thing, then when the second week came in and it was a solid 100 I celebrated with a trip to Cold Stone Creamery. Not good but at the time much needed. The next morning I woke up, got on the treadmill, then later in the day worked out with Mike. If you're sitting on a wall and you're ready to fall, I can only hope that you land where I did, and put your self back together again! You're worth it!



I plan to find joy in the littlest things.



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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

# Call for Artists for "Transformation" pop-up galleries

by Nan Kennedy

Artists are invited to submit their work for the upcoming exhibition, “Transformation.” All artists must be willing to show works in a non-traditional commercial location.

**Eligibility:** Artists of all disciplines who currently reside or work in the Greater Cleveland area are eligible to apply. All media will be considered: paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography, prints, performance art, mixed and new media. Artists from all backgrounds are encouraged to apply, including students.

**Requirements:** All submissions must fit the theme of “Transformation.”

**What to include in your submission:**

1. Name and contact information (email address, mailing address, telephone number).
2. An artist’s statement of 150 words or less.
3. A description of how your work fits the

theme of “Transformation,” of 150 words or less.

4. Up to (3) images of work samples OR (3) two-minute segments of audio and/or video (or appropriate combination of images, video, audio and web-based work).
5. A label for each image or segment with your name and the number corresponding to the title list (For example: Basquiat\_1).
6. A title list (For example: Sample #1 Artist’s Name, Title of Work, Medium, Size, Price).

**Deadlines:**

Submissions are due by December 23, and must be post marked before December 23. Late submissions will NOT be considered. Submissions: Work samples must be submitted by mail in an envelope no larger than 8.5 x11. Mail submissions to: Northeast Shores C/O Project Pop-up Galleries, 317 East

156th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44110. DO NOT SUBMIT ORIGINAL WORKS IN THE MAIL. NO SUBMISSIONS WILL BE RETURNED.

**Accepted Works:** Artists will be notified of acceptance by January 4, 2011. Actual work that differs dramatically from the submitted works may be disqualified. Artists must supply all equipment for display and secure mounting, including electronic media. All possible care will be taken to ensure the safety of work but we cannot bear liability for the loss or damage of any artwork. Insurance is the responsibility of each artist. Artists are responsible for installation and de-installation, travel, shipping and insur-

ing artwork.

**Sales:** The curator will charge a 30% commission on sales.

**About Project Pop-up Galleries**

This project will develop temporary ‘pop-up’ galleries in the Collinwood district through utilizing vacant residential and commercial properties owned by Northeast Shores. This project intends to increase awareness of the available housing and business opportunities in the neighborhood of Collinwood. Additionally, Project Pop-up Galleries will provide artists an affordable, unconventional space to exhibit their work, and the opportunity to contribute to the development of this emerging artists’ community.

# Tracking "Music Saves" in 2010

by Nan Kennedy

For those who track these things, in 2010:

- Vinyl cat put on more lbs.
- Timployee and Raysistant helped keep the HMS MUSIC SAVES afloat.
- The store was rearranged to make room for MORE VINYL!
- Store won second place in Secretly Canadian's Yeasayer display contest.
- Record Store Day was the best day they ever had, and it nearly killed them.
- Local Natives packed 'em in for their best-attended in-store ever.
- The new National record flew off the shelves.
- Melanie got an American Analog Set tattoo.
- Wolf Parade DJ'd our 6th anniversary show.
- They got to dine with their Menomena friends again. They put out an awesome record, AND finally played Cleveland again.
- The TEAM helped Matador celebrate their 21st Birthday in Las Vegas, and Melanie got her own birthday hug from Stuart Murdoch.
- They bought an awesome collection of 800 used records for the store – biggest stash yet.

- Cleveland bands started to get some national attention (here's lookin' at you, Cloud Nothings and Herzog).
- Melanie became obsessed with chillwave. Not coincidentally, she also became obsessed with Fleetwood Mac.
- Kevin and Melanie attempted to become the Jack and Meg White of record store owners.
- Kevin had trouble coming up with 20 records he felt worthy of his Best of 2010 list. Melanie had too many.

Glad you asked – MusicSaves does have gift certificates. Also many specials: 50% off sale price on all used and sale CDs Plus 1 free CD (from a special section) for every 2 bought, plus grab bags: 7 mysterious CDs for \$3. Plus for every Best of 2010 you buy, you get \$1 off in January.

Holiday hours will be normal, except: CLOSING EARLY Friday, December 24, at 5pm (What? You thought they didn't go home to hang stockings?) CLOSED Saturday, December 25. CLOSED Friday, December 31 THROUGH Monday, January 3.

MusicSaves, 15801 Waterloo, 216.481.1875 [www.musicsaves.com](http://www.musicsaves.com)

# Attention-Deficit Glee Club celebrates three year anniversary with CD release party

by Louise Foresman

They might be called the Attention-Deficit Glee Club Band, but they've managed to play music together for three years. The A-D G Club Band celebrated their third anniversary with a CD release party at the Beachland Ballroom on Waterloo Road on Friday, December 10.

The band is a collection of home-grown musicians who live three doors from one another in Collinwood and several blocks from the Waterloo entertainment district. The two husband/wife duos (Dan Chambers and Louise Foresman and Leila and Dave Snodgrass) discovered their common musical interest during a series of Collinwood open

mics funded by the Cleveland Foundation's Neighborhood Connections grant several years ago.

Although they started playing covers of Carter Family songs and 60's folk music, most of what they do now are original pieces about life, work, and politics. This original work was recorded during a performance at the Beachland Ballroom and is featured on the CD released this year. One of their signature pieces describes the neighborhood they all live in—Beulah Park.



# Youthful movie reviews

by Mary Howell

## Skyline \*

After watching the movie “Skyline,” I would give it one star. There is a group of young adults who try to escape brain sucking aliens. The movie doesn't explain why the aliens need human brains. Most of the cast do not survive. The most interesting part of the story is at the very end, which causes you to wonder if there will be a part two. I hope not. This movie is not worth your time.

## Alice in Wonderland \*\*\*

I enjoyed watching the remake of the movie, “Alice in Wonderland,” starring Johnny Depp. Alice is now a young lady expected to be engaged. However a turn of events sends

her back to Wonderland. The characters in Wonderland expects her to save them from the Red Queen. Alice believes she is in a dream and has no desire to fight. While in Wonderland, Alice regains something she has lost and learns about herself. The movie was entertaining and humorous at times. I give this movie three stars.

## Red \*\*\*

Red was a great action and comical movie. Bruce Willis was a retired CIA agent targeted to be killed. He gets help from his friends (Morgan Freeman and Helen Mirren), who were also retired CIA agents. They had to discover who and why someone was out to kill them. This movie was exciting and entertaining. I gave this movie three stars.

# Winter Wanderings: Wondering what to do?

by Carol Ward

With the next season just around the corner and the temperatures continuing to drop, you may be wondering what there is to do inside that might be fun and entertaining, as well as educational. May I suggest a visit to the area's newest nature center - The Exploration Station - the nature center at Cleveland Lakefront State Park. Located at the park office building, 8701 Lakeshore Blvd., Cleveland, this facility is housed in retrofitted office space and offers hands-on activities and exhibits about Lake Erie and aquatic ecosystems as well as recreation, local wildlife and park history.

The Exploration Station also houses a rotating photo exhibit. Currently on display is 'Picturesque Park: an employee's view'. These are photos taken by park employees of various park areas, events, or inhabitants (wildlife). This exhibit will remain on display through February, 2011. In March the exhibit will change to display photos taken on Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve (Dike 14) during the winter photo safari event (see below).

The park funded and created many of the displays while area organizations and groups such as CLUE (Cleveland Underwater Explorers), Euclid Beach Park Now, Friends of Edgewater, NEORSD, ODNr Division of Watercraft & CABBS, and The Lake Kleenerz also contributed. Much of the park funding came in the form of funds generated by sales of the Ohio State Park license plate. Proceeds from sales of the park plate are designated for interpretive and environmental education programs and displays.

The Grand Opening Open House held in June welcomed nearly 100 visitors – some regulars to the area and park programs as well as newcomers to the neighborhood. Visitors to the Grand Opening Open House had the following to share about the facility: “...a number of very interesting exhibits for all ages.”, “A great new asset to the area.”, “A lot of information packed in a small space.”, “...really great interactive educational activities!” Since the opening, the center has been open on a limited schedule for the general public and has even hosted several school field trip programs this fall.

The Exploration Station currently has open hours for the public most Saturday afternoons from 1 pm - 4 pm and will have additional hours over the upcoming holiday season. The schedule is available on the park website by visiting [www.clevelandlakefront.org](http://www.clevelandlakefront.org) and clicking on Exploration Station or calling 216-881-8141 ext. 3001. Private visits are also available for organized groups (schools, scouts, etc.), along with related programming, by appointment. All visits and programs are FREE.

Your local state park also offers seasonal public programs throughout the year. All programming is offered FREE of charge. The schedule is available by visiting the park website listed above and clicking on Naturalist Programs. Some highlights for this winter season include children's nature programs during the holiday break, shipwreck science sessions with hands-on learning activities, shipwreck speaker series for adults, Backyard Bird Count & Photo Safari on Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve (Dike 14), and more. Check the website for details.



SCHOOLS

During the Holidays it's worse

Dear Grandmothers:  
I have this problem all of the time but during the holidays it seems worse and I've been meaning to write so now I am doing so.  
I am a divorced mom with two kids, 6 and 9. I have the main custody of my kids but they get time to go with their dad to his family's events during the holidays, or wherever he wants to take them.  
His family hates me and tells my children bad things about me that are not true and that upset them and my ex does nothing to stop it and even maybe encourages it.  
I don't even know what they say because I think my kids don't tell me when they get back to not hurt my feelings or because they are hurt or confused or they are afraid that what those people say is TRUE!  
I have talked to my former spouse about this. I try to not say anything about him to my kids, I realize the court says he can see them. He does not seem to pay attention, I don't think he wants to cross his family and stand up for me.

I don't know what to do about this, don't know what to say to my kids to not make it worse.  
Thank you and happy holidays. I appreciate your column whenever I see it. I would like to show this to my ex husband.  
Marilyn M., North Collinwood.  
Dear Marilyn,  
You are so right: during the holidays it is worse. Everything is worse, because we are assaulted on all sides by visions of smiling families sitting around perfectly symmetrical and lavishly decorated Christmas trees, knee-high in gifts and good will. In reality, most live trees have a regrettable side, and most real life families do, too. In our heads we realize that, but in our hearts we wish so desperately that we could have, just once, the holiday season of our dreams.  
And it seems especially unfair that our children have to be exposed to adult conflicts in the midst of the holiday festivities. It's so hard for kids when the people they love are in disagreement, and they feel themselves being

pulled apart by loyalty to both sides. To avoid this, many kids choose not to talk about it, thus avoiding additional conflict but also leaving themselves with no one to talk to about their unhappiness and confusion. Meanwhile the separated parents – consciously and subconsciously – take satisfaction in hearing recriminating things about each other, and with the relatives contributing their opinions the children hear comments that can be unfair and exaggerated.  
You have wisely decided that talking to your ex-spouse doesn't help, and that you have no control over him or his family, but that what you say to your children is of primary importance. And, in fact, the Grandmothers have only three things to offer you: our empathy, hope (it may take a few years, but you will recover), and the words to say to your children:  
“Daddy and I say unkind things about one another sometimes and have mean thoughts, and I know it shows. This puts you in a hard place because you have love for and feel loyalty toward each of us. We both love you very much. Often married couples, although in love in the beginning, grow apart for many reasons. This is not your fault, even though it may feel that way sometimes, especially when you're asked to take sides. I'm going to try hard not to make you feel that way.”  
“It's OK to tell me how you feel about this. I know you're sometimes sad, sometimes angry, sometimes confused. I understand how mad you get at me about this, how sad it all makes you. You wish we could be one big happy family like the people you see on TV. I wish it could be different too. I'm so sorry it happened.”  
“When Grandma Z and Aunt Y tell you bad things about me, you have to realize that

they are angry about this divorce situation too. They feel loyalty to your dad, because they've known him the longest. I am sorry you have to hear those things, and that they upset you. Even very nice people say mean things sometimes, especially if they are angry.”  
And sometimes don't say anything at all. Just listen, and nod, and give your children the time and space to talk. You may hear concerns that are very different from the ones you think they're worried about.  
Say the same reassuring things over and over. They need to hear them repeatedly, because they will take them in at different times at different levels of understanding. Avoid asking questions; just wait for the confidences to come out gradually, when they are sure, because you have said so, that it is safe to talk to you about their fears and concerns. Make it as safe for your kids as possible.  
Don't try to make it better; simply acknowledge their feelings. What your children need from you is what we as adults most need when we are despondent or anxious: a willing ear, some empathic understanding, an arm around the shoulder, a hug.  
It won't be easy, but you can do it.  
If you have a parenting question, please email it to us at <mailto:thegrandmothers@collinwoodobserver.com>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.

Panthers beat VASJ on a buzzer-beater

by John Sheridan

While most Northeast Ohio sports fans—and sportswriters—were focused on the big high school state football championship game down in Canton in early December, two area basketball teams staged an “instant classic” that went practically unnoticed.  
In front of a large crowd in the Euclid High gym on Dec. 4, the host Panthers survived a see-saw battle against neighborhood rival Villa Angela-St. Joseph, eking out a 55-54 victory in a game with a storybook finish.  
The evening's unlikely hero for Euclid was a substitute player by the name of Don Won Demore, who sank only one basket all night. But what a shot it was—a buzzer-beating three pointer off the backboard as time expired. As the scoreboard clock approached the 0:00 mark, Demore, a six-foot junior who entered the contest when Arthur Cook fouled out, let loose with a shot that area basketball fans may be talking about for years to come. And, importantly from the Panthers' standpoint, he sent the home crowd home in a happy mood.  
Unfortunately, from the perspective of the visiting VASJ Vikings, it meant a heart-breaking loss in the head coaching debut of Babe Kwasniak. A former star player for the Vikings, Babe is the son of Tedd Kwasniak who coached the team to two state championships—in 1994 and 1995.  
Still, for the Vikings, battling a highly regarded Division I team right down to the wire was no small accomplishment. And the effort bodes well for the future of the VASJ



program—at least, after 6-7 sophomore phenom DeMonte Flannigan gets back into the swing of things. (Flannigan, who didn't play against Euclid, returned to the lineup for the Dec. 10 game against Chanel.)  
After the game, the mood was upbeat in the Panther lockerroom as third-year head coach Andy Suttell and his staff rehashed the events of the evening. Suttell said he wasn't entirely surprised by Don Won Demore's late game heroics.  
“He's a good shooter,” the coach emphasized. “And up to that point, we were something like 0-for-20 on three-point shots. I thought we might be due to hit one.”  
“We decided to space the floor and see if we could find a shooter,” Suttell added. “And we did.”  
Of course, a basketball game entails more than one big shot—and there were plenty of them on this recent wintry night. With a little

more than two minutes left in the game, and the score tied, the Panthers' Martel Madley scored to put Euclid in front, 51-49. A six-foot senior, Madley finished the night as the Panthers' top scorer with 15 points.  
Shortly thereafter, the Vikings' Karlton Garner nailed a three-pointer from the right wing to put VASJ back on top, 52-51. A Madley free throw knotted the score again before Dahuntae Parish hit one from the charity stripe to regain the lead for VASJ, 53-52. (Free throws, as it turned out, proved to be a huge factor in the final outcome, as Euclid connected on 20 of 24 shots from the foul line while the VASJ shooters hit on just eight of 20.)  
With 31 seconds left in the game, the Vikings' Duane Gibson was fouled. He hit his first free throw to put VASJ up by 54-52, but the second rattled off the rim.  
As the Panthers brought the ball back up court, the VASJ fans launched a familiar chant: “Defense! ... Defense!” At that point, Darryl Jones, who starred at quarterback for the Viking football team, obliged with yet another steal and soon found himself at the

foul line. But he, too, was unable to find his shooting touch, thus setting the stage for Demore's big finish.  
The victory in this classic installment in the long neighborhood rivalry, coming on the heels of a 73-63 triumph over Lorain the night before, gave Euclid a 2-0 record on the year. In addition to Madley, the top scorers for Euclid were Chuck Bradford with 12 points and Je'Land Head with 10.  
For VASJ, Karlton Garner and Dahunte Parrish set the pace against the Panthers with 13 points each, while Duane Gibson chipped in 12. Four nights later, Gibson topped all scorers with 24 as the Vikings lost their home opener to Beachwood, 65-59, to begin their season with a 0-2 mark.  
On Dec. 10, DeMonte Flannigan was back in uniform and led VASJ in scoring with 17 points against No. 12-ranked St. Peter Chanel; but the Vikings again failed to notch their first victory, losing another heartbreaker by a 46-42 score. Coach Kwasniak's squad raced out to a 23-16 halftime lead, but stumbled down the stretch against the No. 12-ranked Firebirds.

New Fall Menu!



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NAN'S NOTES

by Nan Kennedy

*I wish our entire community a warm and wonderful time doing whatever they do to celebrate. Happy Holidays!!*

AT ARTS COLLINWOOD

Arts Collinwood 15605 Waterloo Road, 216-692-9500, [www.artscollinwood.org](http://www.artscollinwood.org). Gallery and Café hours: Tuesday –Saturday 11-11; Sunday 11-5. Community Center, 397 E156.

THIS WAY OUT Vintage Shop

Open every weekend during the holidays in the basement of the Beachland Ballroom: Fridays, 2 pm-midnight, Saturdays & Sundays, noon-midnight PLUS all show nights! Beachland Ballroom, 15711 Waterloo, 216.383.1124, <http://www.beachlandballroom.com>

GO CAROLING WITH UPSTAGE

Join UpStage Players for a morning of Christmas caroling with veterans: Louis Stokes VA Medical Center (Wade Park Oval) on Thursday, December 23. Meet at the Slovenian Workmen's Home (15335 Waterloo) at 10:30 am (spread the word!).

Louis Stokes VA Medical Center is located at 10701 East Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44106. Drivers are needed to carpool from the Slovenian Workmen's Home to the caroling site. Please wear UpStage apparel if you have it. Caroling will be followed by lunch at McDonald's on E. 152 and Lakeshore (please bring money for lunch). Please

make arrangements to be picked up no later than 1:30 pm from McDonald's. Questions answered at [upstageplayers@gmail.com](mailto:upstageplayers@gmail.com).

GOT A DATE FOR NEW YEAR'S?

AT THE BEACHLAND

01/01 - A Very Roxy New Year \* Featuring: Bella Sin \* Lushes La Moan \* Shy Kamikaze \* Rubinesque \* Viva Valezz \* 18 & over

POLKA! AT SLOVENIAN HOME

New Year's Eve – December 31 - Bobby Kravos & the Boys in the Band – Watch for details of this special celebration dinner/dance. Slovenian Workmen's Home.

MORE ON ARTISTS FLEEING TO CLEVELAND

According to Crain's New York Business, artists who can no longer afford New York prices are moving to (for instance) Collinwood, lured by Northeast Shores Development Corporation. The New York Foundation for the Arts fears that New York, like Washington DC, may become a city with many venues for the presentation of art, but no arts community creating art. Which would make it a very different place from Cleveland, where artists are creating art by the roomful.

BUY GIFTS LOCALLY

Waterloo/Lakeshore/E185

Walk All Over Waterloo (below) lists most of the many shopping opportunities on that charming street (don't you just love the way

The Tower bends over to beckon you in?), but I would be the first to agree that you can't find everything there, not even in the Variety Flea Market (though I must remind you about the sausages). What Waterloo lacks, E185 mostly provides. Just a few favorites: Tuthill Florists, Beachland Hair Styling, Beuttner's Bakery, Family Lettering, Olde World Meats, Bistro 185, Chili Peppers and Scotti's. Sandy's ice-cream stand on Lakeshore has excellent Christmas trees. And I hear good reports from the younger generation about the Video Game and Record Exchange on E185. For addresses/phones, go to [www.northeastshores.org](http://www.northeastshores.org) and click on Directory.

LOCAL MUSIC

Folk musician Doug Wood has two very buyable CDs: I Am Kiroc (Doug on 12-string & 6-string guitars, with Darren Frate on bass); and Dreamcatcher (Doug, Darren Frate, violin by Tracy Silverman, percussion by Jamey Hadad, vocals by Jennifer Erb and harmonica by Dan Bode). I am Kiroc is available from CD Baby for under \$8; you can buy or download Dreamcatcher at [www.dougwoodmusic.com](http://www.dougwoodmusic.com). With Doug being married to an Arts Collinwood founder (artist Linda Zolten Wood) and Dan Bode being a stalwart board member, you can't get much more local.

AND MORE

I was pleased to hear my chocolate-snob visiting son exclaim over the Thanksgiving box of chocolates from Baker Candies (16131 Holmes Avenue, 216-451-7779). Cavotta's Nursery ([www.cavottas.com](http://www.cavottas.com),

19603 Nottingham, 216-692-0300) is another good source for trees, and Angela is holding Open House on Saturday & Sunday with chocolate gifts, gourmet caramel apples, lots of vintage Christmas items and some pretty neat things in the house. Holiday hours are Monday-Friday 12-8; Saturday 10-8; Sunday 11-6.

Don't overlook the Coit Road Farmers' Market; Terry is always there with a tasteful assortment of jewelry, and the Spice Hound has hundreds of little packets of flavoring – he may even still have some of those rosy, translucent salt slabs – they'd make an exotic gift. Coit Road Farmer's Market is located at the corner of Coit & Woodworth Road in East Cleveland. [www.coitmarket.org](http://www.coitmarket.org). Open year-round Saturday 8 am to 1 pm. 216-249-5455 during market hours.

SPEAK UP FOR CLEAN GOVERNMENT

I usually avoid mentioning politics – but C. Ellen Connally's comment that, "Leadership is not the public's business," is sticking in my throat. I understand that boards of all kinds engage in a certain amount of deal-making – or compromise, to be polite – but a board that is split into confrontational factions is not a healthy board. I'd like the county councilors to forget political allegiance and concentrate on improving life in Cuyahoga County.

If this bothers you, too, and if you'd like to remind the councilors that you're watching, here's contact info (from the Plain Dealer) to use until they officially take office: 216-621-9750 or [info@cuydem.com](mailto:info@cuydem.com).

News from Nottingham Civic Club

by Tip Nichols

We meet the 3rd Tuesday every month at 7 pm at the Nottingham United Methodist Church, 18316 St. Claire Ave. Mark your calendars now for the January 18, February 15 and March 15 Civic Club meetings.

Bring a friend and get a free raffle ticket. Show your up-to-date membership card and get a free raffle ticket.

*Come as a new neighbor & receive a free Welcome Bag.*

The City of Cleveland is currently studying the need for restricted left-hand turns when going south on Nottingham at the St Clair intersection. Our written input is most welcomed. Please send your thoughts to the Collinwood Nottingham Village Development Corp., 15614 St Clair, 44110.

**Loud Music:** Call Community Service at 623-5620

**Nottingham Civic Club Monthly Awards**

**Good Citizen Award & Attractive Home Award:** This month, both go to Anita Snyder of Penhurst for keeping her house attractive and for volunteering to pass out Newsletters for the Civic Club and pack backpacks for the youth at Hannah Gibbons.

**Good Business Neighbor Award:** To Ron Singh of Convenient for continuous improvement of his business and its appearance these several years he has been in the neighborhood.

**Youth of the Month Award:** To Elease Moore for coming home from Baldwin Wallace College for a weekend of decorating the Nottingham Church for the Holidays.



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# The Flying Scotsman

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