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# The Collinwood Observer

VOL. 3, ISSUE 2 • APRIL, 2011

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

## No Schools To Close In Collinwood

by Michael D. Polensek,  
Councilman, Ward 11

### Our schools are open

I am sure by now that you have all heard about the proposed Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) cut-backs and planned K-8 school closures. We as a community are very fortunate that none of our local schools were on the list. I personally believe that this is no coincidence for our local schools are doing much better academically and our population base has remained more stable than other sections of the city.

### Our population is stable

This brings me to the other big issue, the Census 2010 data just released. As expected, the City lost a substantial number of residents from 2000 to 2010, especially in the east side wards 4 through 10. As I have indicated to callers, who have expressed concerns as to how these new numbers will ultimately affect our ward lines, I expect our ward to grow in size to the west. Where that expansion will likely take place is up to City Council. However, I want to assure the residents of Ward 11, as I have

in the past, that I will do everything I can to make sure our community remains intact and secure. That is my personal goal and I plan to do everything I can to see that take place.

### The Collinwood Observer is growing

It is great to see the Collinwood Observer grow. Please support our neighborhood newspaper, and maybe, even become a contributing writer and if you are a neighborhood-based business, consider becoming an advertiser; for we are one of the few neighborhoods in the City

of Cleveland, to have our own neighborhood-based paper. It is our community's way of promoting positive developments and projects. The paper is also an opportunity for our local school students to read about, write about, and promote the good things in their own neighborhood schools.

### Rec Center is on its way

I hope you have all seen the ongoing progress at the new Recreation Center on Lakeshore Boulevard at Euclid Beach. The pool is under construction and the gymnasium floor has been poured. The exterior skin and windows are being installed. Thus the building is about 60% complete. Read the Collinwood Observer or log onto [www.collinwoodobserver.com](http://www.collinwoodobserver.com) for future updates and articles.

### Flow Polymers coming to St. Clair

Great news! Flow Polymers, a company I have been working with for some time, will announce shortly that they are relocating a major part of their manufacturing operations from Connecticut to the Cleveland Industrial Innovation Center (CiIC) at 17000 St Clair Avenue in the Nottingham neighborhood. They are in the

process of renovating 80,000 s.f. of the former Graphite Bronze/Clevite facility and will spend several million dollars in the process. We welcome them to the Ward 11 community with open arms and hope to see expanded job opportunities once they relocate their employees.

### Be a good neighbor

Springtime is upon us! At least, the calendar, says so! With that I would urge our residents to take a good look at their property and yards with the hope that as soon as the weather breaks you can begin to spruce things up. Historically, one of the things that I have been impressed with the most about our community is our respect for one another. How can we show that, besides being neighborly and respectful to one another? It is by maintaining our own property. I know, as well as anyone, how economically stressed many folks are today. However, to keep one's yard clean and the grass cut is essential in maintaining our high neighborhood standards which ultimately benefits everyone. Please join with me in making Ward 11 not only the most neighborly community, but the best-looking one as well.

## St. Jerome School clinches the championship

by Chanelle McCloud

After only their second year back in CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) sports, St. Jerome School won the Mater Dei Mayhem Seventh Grade Boys Basketball Championship.

With a 12 and 2 season, the seventh grade boys triumphed against West Park Catholic Academy, 34 to 30.

Matt Galinac, the seventh-grade boys head coach, said that the team came into the season with the goal of winning a championship.

"I told them that if they wanted to win a championship, they could do it if they worked hard," Galinac said.

Galinac is a graduate of St. Jerome Elementary School. He said the school has always held a special place in his heart and that is why he returned to coach. Galinac also lead the 2005 eighth-grade boys' basketball team to a championship as well. Galinac attributes this team's success to hard-work, dedication, and team work.

"These kids are a really close-knit group," Galinac said. "They get along well together and are mentally tough."

Jason Williams, one of the championship team's leading scorers and point guard, said he credits the success the team has had to having a great coach.

"If we were ever down, he always told us that no team could beat us," Williams said. "That made us feel confident that we really could win if we tried our best."



St. Jerome Elementary School's Seventh Grade Boys Basketball Team beams with excitement after winning the Mater Dei Mayhem Basketball Championship.

Williams, who has been playing basketball for four years, said that the trust that his teammates have also was an important key to leading them to a championship.

"We know we can count on each other out there on the court," Williams said. "That is what helped us to be successful and win the championship."

Raphael Reynolds, who is also a point guard for the team, made the game winning free-throws in the final seconds of the game. This is the second championship team that he has been on in his six years playing basketball.

Reynolds said he felt nervous before the game, but once the game began, he knew what needed to be done.

"I was confident that our team could win," Reynolds said. "We had worked really hard all

season and I knew it was going to pay off."

Reynolds, who will be attending St. Jerome School in the eighth grade, looks forward to repeating the team's championship success next year.

"I know that we can do it again," he said.

Sue Coan, the St. Jerome Elementary School Principal, beamed with excitement and pride when talking about the seventh-grade boys' team.

"They have made all of us so proud here at St. Jerome School," Coan said. "We are very excited about their success and we look forward to next season when we can cheer them on again."

**Chanelle McCloud is a teacher at St. Jerome Elementary School, and is also the co-founder of Professchanelle Inspiraytion.**

## Two groups care for feral/abandoned cats in our community

By Monica Doyle, Debbie Gulyas, Ginger Hannah and Brian Licht

Firstly, it must be said that an unfinished article entitled "Waterloo Alley Cat Project corrections to Euclid Beach Feral Cat Project update" in the Collinwood Observer, Vol. 3, Issue 1, March 2011, was mistakenly printed by The Observer. Both the publisher and the authors would like the entire readership to know that the article should be disregarded. Waterloo Alley Cat Project would also like to sincerely apologize to Ginger Hannah of Euclid Beach Feral Cat Project for any misunderstanding and/or ill will caused as a result of this inadvertent error. Both groups are dedicated to the common cause of managing the feral cat population.

The confusion is partly attributable to the fact that North Collinwood Feral Cat Project (NCFCP) found it necessary to become 2 separate organizations, namely Euclid Beach Feral Cat Project (EBFCP) and Waterloo Alley Cat Project (WACP) in order to be more effective in curtailing the huge problem of the estimated 3,000+ abandoned stray cats in North Collinwood. As very few volunteers are doing a tremendous amount of work, a much greater success rate was and is now being achieved through focused efforts in smaller more manageable areas.

EBFCP has shared over \$800 in donations with WACP in the past year after a charitable windfall resulted from a heartwarming arti-

**continued on page 2**



# Dialogue

## The Collinwood Observer

The Collinwood Observer is a citizen-based news source published by Collinwood Publishing Inc., a local business dedicated to the development of grass roots media and increased connectedness of the citizens, civic groups, non profits, businesses and institutions in and around Cleveland Wards 10 and 11.

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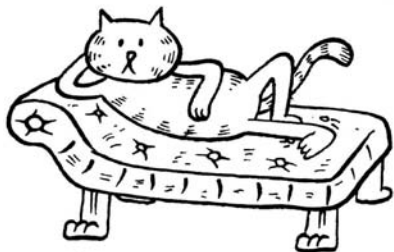
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To submit a story to the Collinwood Observer, go to [www.collinwoodobserver.com](http://www.collinwoodobserver.com), click on Member Center, sign in, click on Submit Story, and start writing. The deadline for the May issue is April 28.



A feline feeling pretty damn good now.  
Cartoon by Jake Kelly.

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## Message from the Publisher: We Need Your Help!

We are proud and happy to have the Collinwood Observer out the first week of every month.

We would like to thank everyone who submitted articles and pictures.

I have received some criticism about the content of the paper. Some folks still don't get it. We can only print what is submitted. We do not have reporters at the Observer. But I do have an idea. Big-city newspapers have a number of desks. I would like to begin that structure for the Observer. I am looking for some volunteers to staff these desks. You do not necessarily have to write stories, although you can if you want to. But it would definitely be your responsibility to seek out stories. You could share a desk - room for all.

**City desk:** We are seeking an individual who is very comfortable in the political arena of Collinwood. Someone who can tell all the good stories of the work being done by our block clubs and local neighborhood development groups.

**Faith desk:** The spiritual community is the moral backbone of our neighborhood. We would like someone to put together a

list of all the services for all the churches of Collinwood. More than that I would like the good stories that come from each of those churches. The success stories from the many programs that each of these wonderful institutions is running.

**School desk:** We are blessed with wonderful school administrators, fabulous teachers, and amazing students. Someone please help me get those stories in the paper. In the summer, this desk should have the responsibility of highlighting all the fun things to do in our neighborhood. This one might be a great project for a journalism class.

**Arts and entertainment desk:** We have a vibrant art and music scene. These artists and musicians should be featured monthly in the paper along with a schedule of the openings and concerts.

Please help make our paper, and then hopefully our neighborhood, a better place. If you would like to volunteer for one of these positions E-mail [johnacopic@gmail.com](mailto:johnacopic@gmail.com). You may also call me at the office at 216.531.6790 or feel free to call my cell anytime between 7 AM and 7 PM. My cell

number is 216-496-6708

*John A. Copic is the publisher of the Collinwood Observer.*



### QR Codes come to the Collinwood Observer

Have you noticed those strange little black and white squares that seem to be popping up everywhere? They are QR codes, and if you have a "smart phone", a Blackberry, an I-phone, you can take a picture of the code with your phone and be immediately transported to a new place, a website, an article, and in our case, really cool videos of our advertisers showing off their restaurants and stores, in their own words. If you don't have a "smart phone," don't worry. The videos will be posted on our website, [www.collinwoodobserver.com](http://www.collinwoodobserver.com), and coming soon, we will put the e-addresses of the videos near the cool QR cube, if you just want to look them up yourself, on your computer, or on the computers at school, work, or at the library.

## Two groups care for feral/abandoned cats in our community

continued from page 1

cle that appeared in the Plain Dealer last May. Their generosity is greatly appreciated since donations to WACP are almost non-existent except for money taken in from a yearly fundraiser and countertop collection cans in Arts Collinwood Cafe, Music Saves, This Way Out Shoppe and Blue Arrow Records. The current financial situation however sees both groups with very low funds.

Both projects practice trap-neuter/spay-return (TNR) on a volunteer basis. In neighborhoods throughout Cleveland, TNR programs have proven to be effective at humanely managing feral and stray cats, while at the same time reducing their numbers. With TNR, the cats are trapped, spayed or neutered, vaccinated for rabies, given flea treatment, in some cases dental treatment, ear-tipped and, if feral, returned to their original territories. A trained caretaker then provides food and shelter on a daily basis, and watches for newcomers or problems. Friendly cats that are most likely abandoned pets are available for adoption after a thorough health check.

### The Unsung Benefits of Feral Cats

Regardless of anyone's personal feelings about felines, the unsung benefit of

### CORRECTION

In the March Observer we printed a feral cat story that we were absolutely not supposed to print. This was entirely our fault and we deeply apologize. Please do not let our error prevent you from donating to this worthwhile project. We are once again, very sorry for any bad feelings this may have caused.



Neferkitty: feral, fixed, healthy and cared for.

having a certain number of healthy fixed feral cats around is that they are actually good for your health.

It is reasonably argued that the millions of cats slaughtered alongside the so-called heretics they were associated with during the Inquisition may well have contributed to the severity and spread of the plague. An epic catastrophe (no pun intended) to mankind caused by rodent-borne diseases because not enough felines were around to kill them.

The Roman City Council now officially protects feral cats living in the ruins of The Coliseum, The Forum and The Torre Argentina Cat Sanctuary. They consider feral cats an important part of the city's "bio-heritage." The same recognition of this "bio-heritage" is totally relevant to our own backyards.

We would like everyone to be aware of the benefits that the practice of TNR as opposed to euthanization provides for the community on very limited funding:

1. Humanely reduce the cat overpopulation.
2. Lower mating and territorial behaviors.
3. Handle the difficulties of mortality and sickness in the cat population.
4. Provide shelter, food and medical care on a daily basis.

### Your Support Is Vitrally Important

The visual impact of free roaming stray cats can give the impression of

an uncaring community. Our goal is to improve the quality of life for not only the cats, but for everyone who lives, works, visits, and is considering moving to/ investing in North Collinwood.

The wonderful work these volunteers are doing out of the kindness of their hearts deserves the highest praise and recognition. All manner of support is greatly appreciated and sorely needed in order to continue and ideally expand.

Please let us know if you are interested in adopting, volunteering, providing information about cats in your area, or making a tax-deductible donation! Contact Northeast Shores Development Corporation, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization located at 317 E. 156th Street, Cleveland, OH 44110. Or call Denise Lorek at 216 481 7660 and mention that you saw this article.

## "The Rise and Fall of the Irishman" ONLY at Atlas Lakeshore Cinema theater April 8th

by Gabriel Saluan

After three sold-out screenings at the Cleveland International Film Festival, Atlas Lakeshore Cinemas will be the only theater to feature "Danny Greene; The Rise and Fall of the Irishman," the documentary by producer Tommy Reid. Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity to see real documentary footage of our own Collinwood legend, Danny Greene. Kaboom.

Atlas Lakeshore Cinemas, 22624 Lakeshore Blvd, Euclid, Ohio. 216-731-1700.



# Health

## Drug Take-Back Day, April 30th, 10am til 2pm-- Drop-off site at Euclid Hospital

by Scott Heasley and Nan Kennedy

On Saturday, April 30, from 10-2, the Euclid Hospital Medical Building is collecting unused or expired medications and drugs...drive behind the hospital, past the emergency department, and without getting out of your car hand the meds to an officer...be sure to remove any prescription labels that may be on the medication.

The Drug Enforcement Administration, in collaboration with the Cleveland Clinic and other local law enforcement agencies, is sponsoring a National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day Saturday, April 30, to enable the public to safely dispose of unused or expired medications and narcotics with no questions asked.

Drive through drop-off sites will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the following locations:

Medina Hospital, 1000 E. Washington Street, Medina

South Pointe Hospital, 20000 Harvard Rd, Warrensville Heights

**Euclid Hospital, 18901 Lakeshore Boulevard, Euclid**

Solon Family Health Center, 29800 Bainbridge Road, Solon

Chagrin Falls Family Health Center, 551 East Washington Street, Chagrin Falls

Please remove all prescription labels before arriving. Prescription bottles with labels will be shredded. Inhalers will also be collected, but please no mercury thermometers or aerosol cans. All medications will be collected and held only by law enforcement officers until they are disposed of safely.

Nationally, teenage prescription drug abuse is rapidly increasing and your family's medicine cabinet could become a teenager's best supplier.

Everyday, 2,500 teenagers use prescription drugs to get high for the first time.

96% of unintentional poisoning deaths in Ohio are due to drugs and medications.

Improper disposal, for instance by flushing pills down the toilet can pollute the environment.

For more information, contact: Scott Heasley, 216/444-8853, heasles@ccf.org

## Bridal Fair comes to Collinwood

by Liz Copic

On Sunday, April 10th, 2011, "Alive on 185" brings you the first ever annual Bridal and Formal Fair, from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Lithuanian Hall, 877 E. 185th Street. Admission is FREE!

This is a chance for you to plan your wedding, from hiring the DJ or the hall, to the caterers, the band, the florists, the minister, the church, the limousine service, the singers for the ceremony, the photographers, the videographers, the printers for your wedding invitations, and thank you notes, and special wedding program, to the rental or purchase, of the beautiful clothing.

There will be a fashion show at 3:00 pm that should not be missed. Picture yourself, as a gorgeous bride or dashing groom, as local bridal and formal fair vendors waltz before you, or strut their stuff on the runway. If you want a perfect wedding or formal event, the Bridal and Formal Fair is the place you want to be, to plan the place you want to be, and the way you want

to look.

Over 20 local vendors will be displaying their wares and services, and there will be lots of raffle prizes.

Sponsored by "Live on 185", The Collinwood Observer, The Euclid Observer, and Northeast Shores.

## April is recycle your computer month

by Nan Kennedy

Recycle your unwanted computers, April 1-30, at 40 city service departments throughout Cuyahoga County. Call your city service department or go to [www.cuyahogaswd.org](http://www.cuyahogaswd.org) to find the collecting center nearest you.

All computers and peripherals – monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, terminals, modems, software, cell phones and accessories, and ink printer cartridges -- will be recycled by RET3 Job Corp, a local non-profit organization. No televisions or other electronics will be accepted. Donations are tax deductible. Call (216) 443-3749. Businesses with large amounts of computers to dispose of should contact RET3 job corp. at (216) 361-9991.



nesses with large amounts of computers to dispose of should contact RET3 job corp. at (216) 361-9991.

## Reusing vacant land

by Nan Kennedy

How do you see the vacant plots in your neighborhood? As gardens? Mini parks? Playgrounds? Rain gardens and swales?

Neighborhood Connections (the Cleveland Foundation's hugely successful small grants program), is conducting a survey. Go to [www.neighborhoodgrants.org](http://www.neighborhoodgrants.org) and click on Survey (second item in the News column). Share your thoughts, and also your contact information – so you can be informed about land reuse planning, volunteer events, and grant opportunities in your neighborhood.

The survey takes less than five minutes to complete – do it now!

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# Around Collinwood

*We are at war with ourselves:*

## April 12, 2011 is the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War

by Mary Louise Jesek-Daley

On April 12, 1861 Confederate batteries in Charleston, SC open fire on Fort Sumter and thus initiate the opening salvos of the American Civil War, a war which would not end until April 1865 with 660,000 lives lost. Thus, this April of 2011 we begin our commemoration of the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War, otherwise known as the Civil War 150.

That is commemorate, with honor and respect, those events in the life of our nation that nearly tore the infant nation apart. The only thing we are celebrating is the fact that after this conflict, when we were able to sew the pieces together again, we were able to define who we were as a Nation; for before the war we were Ohioans and Virginians, et cetera, but after the war we were Americans! The Civil War period, 1860-1865, was a time of hardship and wartime but also a time of bold ideas, contrasts, innovations, inventions, and the defining of the role of women in our nation's history.

It was not yet 100 years since the American Revolution and yet we had had to defend our country again in 1812 and we had fought in Mexico in the 1850's for our safety and security. We were defining ourselves as a nation, proving we could grow as a nation as well as become a global power. Yet, internally, we were faced with issues which were never addressed and never properly dealt with personally or

politically. Finally, arguments and legislation, agriculture, business, and industry as well as culture all clashed by the end of the 1850's.

When North Carolina seceded from the Union of the United States on December 20, 1860, the conflict and the eventual break of that Union occurred. So many believed it would never come to this, including our own State Representative, James A. Garfield. However, as more states seceded from the Union and the Confederate States was formed, war was inevitable; especially with Lincoln calling for 75,000 troops in Washington and then with Virginia's final decision to secede from the Union on April 17, 1861. It was a war, though many didn't see it lasting very long, and believed it would remain localized.

I have studied much on the Civil War and have the privilege of teaching about it with my husband, who is also the Executive Director of the Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument on Cleveland's historic Public Square. Through all the atrocities and the horror of war, never before was there such a display of courage and devotion in the face of adversity. We should learn from this and never forget what took place on the battlefields of our country, or forget the "valorous deeds of her sons" and daughters.

During this Sesquicentennial of the Civil War, let us strive to commemorate and remember what our ancestors did

to ensure that our country survived to become greater and bigger than it was. The Civil War is the story of freedom, from slavery, yes, but also of many other kinds of freedoms; the story of the strength and determination of women; and, the story of courage to overcome daunting odds. May we learn from our ancestors!

There will be more articles forthcoming about Ohio in the Civil War and I hope to be able to talk about the involvement of Cleveland's women and our Collinwood boys in this conflict. If there is anything

you would like to read about on this subject – please let me know via email at CollNottHistory@aol.com. Remember that the Historic Society is here for the preservation of the history of our community, as well as to teach people about our history. Collinwood has a rich history connected with the Civil War period.

***Come see civil war re-enactors and their demonstrations/displays at the international police tatoo to be held at Cleveland's Public Hall, May 21, 2011! Email me for more information.***

## Euclid Creek Dam Removal Celebration



Former Euclid Creek East Branch Dam

by Claire Posius

Please join the Euclid Creek Watershed Program Project Partners as we celebrate the removal of the Euclid Creek East Branch Dam. The event will be held on Thursday, April 21, from 5:00-7:00pm at the Cleveland Metroparks Euclid Creek Reservation at the Upper Highland Reserved Picnic Area.

This public meeting and tour celebrates the removal of the Euclid Creek East Branch Dam, the culmination of six years of work. Several speakers will briefly discuss the fish passage and stream resto-

ration project, followed by a short hike to the overlook of the former dam site. Meet the project partners and funders pivotal in making this project happen and learn why a dam removal project is important to Euclid Creek.

For more information, call or email Euclid Creek Watershed Coordinator Claire Posius at 216-524-6580 x16 or cposius@cuyahogawcd.org.

***Claire Posius is the Euclid Creek Watershed Coordinator, Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District.***

## Recycling bins are coming to Euclid Beach Park

by Stephen Love

Join Us Saturday April 16th at 12pm For The Dedication!

The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach volunteers have purchased new trash and recycling bins for Euclid Beach Park, thanks to roughly \$400 raised in community and local business donations, a \$100 donation from The Friends of Euclid Creek, a \$1000 grant from the Cuyahoga Solid Waste District and a \$1300 Neighborhood Connections grant!

The brief dedication ceremony will take place after our beach cleanup on Saturday April 16th at 12pm on the beach (park pavilion-rain location) (the beach cleanup begins at 10am)

Special Guests include: Cleveland City Councilman for Ward 11 Mike Polensek, Brian Friedman, Executive Director of Northeast Shores Community Development Corporation, April Mather with The Alliance For The Great Lakes and Stephen



Here is an example of what the new trash and recycling bins will look like!

Love, with Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach.

Light refreshments will be served. The City of Cleveland Division of Water Pollution Control (WPC) and Sustainable Water 2019 Drink Local Drink will also have materials and merchandise available.

Thank you to everyone who made this project possible!

Neighborhood Connections, The Cuyahoga Solid Waste District, Northeast Shores Development, The Friends of Euclid Creek, Cleveland Lakefront State Park

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## Upcoming activities at The Salvation Army

by Lieutenants Christopher & Ashley Mauk

On April 21st, 6 – 8 pm, The Salvation Army on 17625 Grovewood Avenue is having an "Easter Eggs-travaganza." This free event welcomes the entire community for a night of fun for the whole family. We will have lots of games, crafts, food, an Easter egg hunt and other hands-on activities to experience the real meaning of Easter. Please join us for what is sure to be a great time for all ages.

We would also like to invite the adults

of our community to join us on Good Friday, April 22nd, for a walk-through reflective service at 5 pm. On Easter Sunday, for all ages, we will have a Sunrise Service on at 7:30 am, followed by breakfast at 8:30 am, Sunday School at 9:30 am and an Easter Celebration at 10:45 am. It would be great to have you!

Summer is right around the corner! Be on the lookout for more information concerning signups for our Summer Enrichment Program (Day Camp), Softball and much more!

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Naturally Collinwood

Not So Silent Spring

by Marie Nightingale

I have a dear old friend who lives on a 10 acre farm in Newbury in Geauga County who laughs whenever I say that I live on an oasis near Eden because in actuality I live in the Collinwood section of Cleveland, which my friend feels is overcrowded with questionable safety.

However, my house has a vacant lot next door where I garden, 3 very tall Spruce trees & a lilac bush in front of my porch and in the backyard, an ancient maple, clematis, grapevines and a mulberry tree with delicious berries.

Twice a day I walk my 3 dogs: small, Bebe, a Sheltie mix; medium, Sunny, a Golden Retriever mix & large, Moosie, a 110 lb. chocolate Lab, only one block past the pool and playground to an unspoiled area behind the football field. This area once had railroad siding tracks on it for the adjoining WWII factories but is now 5-10 acres planted by birds & wind, and perhaps even the RR cars. I am thankful this land has never been "developed" but left wild for wild animals, dogs and people to enjoy. I have taken many photos back there and hope to create a book entitled Hidden Treasures in Collinwood someday.

Way back in college I read "Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson, which has come true in Collinwood as far as the spring peepers are concerned. Redwinged blackbirds still chirp and establish territories from late in February among the phragmites, killdeer call out warnings to their chicks, Canada geese & gulls eat the grass on the football field, and a pair of mocking birds keep us company and entertain us while we are dog walking. Crows are noticeably fewer since the bird flu of several years ago, but a few still caw their warnings to their friends that our dogs and I are coming.

Besides the meadow of wildflowers like Queen Anne's lace, Purple Loosestrife, goldenrod, daisies, and asters, there are wild rose bushes, crabapple & cottonwood trees, a few young oaks, many black locusts & in a higher area, that once was a parking lot for Nela parks' chemical plant-- and thus the ground is covered with black slag from the coal furnaces-- many beautiful white birch trees thrive. As you can imagine, the black ground with the white trees rising from it is very striking. Here nest the goldfinches or wild canaries as I like to call them. So the spring is not completely silent, just missing the peep of frogs.

This year when all the rain started I armed (or footed) myself with new boots as I foresaw the rise of the water in the swampy area between the football field & the RR where I let our three dogs run free. The approximately 1/2 acre of phragmites in the lowest section have been barely holding their own these last few dry years but this year they should thrive. Since there are no more frogs in this area of Collinwood, even though it once was nicknamed "Frogville", I intend to import a bucketful of tadpoles from Geauga

Co. marsh on Pekin Rd. to hopefully repopulate the endangered species of spring peepers.

We still have snails aplenty which climb up the very prickly teasel stalks whenever it rains too much or when they have the urge to mate. It seems like an unlikely place for romance but the sexual urge is obviously very strong in snails. But snails are very quiet, so I miss the peep of frogs and hope to hear them this summer in the evenings when the birds have settled for the evening.

**Among other things, Marie Nightingale is a retired librarian, a wife, mother, grandmother, a nature lover, dog walker/trainer, photographer, chess player & writer.**



Snowdrops in Collinwood.

The Euclid Beach cleanup season is off to a great start!

by Stephen Love

On Saturday March 19th, volunteers from The Collinwood Masonic Lodge #582, a Women's Rugby Team, General Electric employees, college and high school students and neighborhood residents came together to clean and screen the Euclid Beach! This was our first beach cleanup of 2011 and we managed to collect an absolute hands down record of 234 pounds of trash, over 75 pounds of which was recycled! Thanks to these hard-working volunteers, we collected over 850 cigar tips, close to 200 plastic bags bottles and cans and well over 150 plastic and paper bags! The most "unique" items collected included a freezer door and a construction barrel!

But this is only the beginning of a

long and active year ahead! With summer around the corner, we are going to need your help! Now more than ever join volunteers just like you this summer along with 7,000+ other volunteers across the Great Lakes as we tackle some of the toughest months of the year for beach and water quality! Remember, our Great Lakes constitute over 1/5 of the earth's fresh surface water. Let's at least take care of the beaches in our own community!

Our next beach cleanup will be on Saturday April 16th from 10am-12pm at Euclid Beach Park!

Also, join us for a volunteer meeting on Tuesday April 19th at 6pm at the Arts Collinwood Community Center (397 East 156th Street-The community center

is located behind the Cafe Arts Collinwood)

For more information on the Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team, please e-mail Stephen Love at [stephen.love20@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.love20@gmail.com) or call 216-571-0685. Visit the Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Euclid-Beach-Adopt-a-Beach-Team/110703672309610?ref=ts>

**Stephen Love is the team leader of the Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach program. Each month his team conducts cleanups and water tests at Euclid Beach State Park. He is currently a graduate student at CSU pursuing a Masters of Public Administration and will be attending law school at CWRU in the fall of 2011.**

A call for volunteers! The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team!

by Stephen Love

Do you care about Lake Erie....the water we drink...our beaches and our wildlife? Do you visit and use Euclid Beach, Villa Angela or Wild Wood State Parks? Do you care about access to quality recreational parks in your community?

Then join Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Volunteers For A Volunteer Meeting and discussion on Tuesday, April 19th, at 6pm at the Arts Collinwood Community Center! (397 East 156th Street-The Community Center is located behind the Cafe Arts Collinwood)

\*Refreshments will be provided courtesy of The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team and The Cafe Arts Collinwood.

This meeting is open to anyone and everyone! This is a great opportunity to get involved, give back to your community, take care of our parks and of course, get out to the beach! Please help us prepare for events and activities planned for the spring/summer/fall of 2011!

**Here are some activities and events that we need volunteers for:**

Monthly Beach Cleanups (collecting/tallying trash on the beach and conducting

beach observations)-the next cleanup will be on Saturday April 16th from 10am-12pm

Event Support (we will have several summer events at Euclid Beach Park and need your help!)

Marketing, Communications and Public Awareness

Social Media

Emptying Recycling Bins Weekly At Euclid Beach Park

Submitting Park Observations to State Park Officials

Advocacy Initiatives

Community and Local Business Engagement

Fundraising

Grant Research and Grant Writing

Purchasing and Reimbursements

We believe that there is a collective desire in the community to make Euclid Beach Villa Angela and Wildwood parks cleaner and safer public parks for both recreation and preservation. Together, let's 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 it an asset for years to come!



Volunteers pose for a picture at our March 19th spring kickoff beach cleanup!

**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.**

**Can't wait for the April 19th meeting to volunteer? Then, please e-mail Stephen Love at [stephen.love20@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.love20@gmail.com) or call 216-571-0685**

**Visit the Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Euclid-Beach-Adopt-a-Beach-Team/110703672309610?ref=ts>**

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# Development - North East Shores

## East 156th Street Block Watch grows and plans future

by Denise Lorek

On Wednesday March 16th, the East 156th St. Block Watch had the biggest attendance yet at their meeting. With over 50 people in attendance, Gregory Soltis from Neighborhood Progress Inc asked the group what they would like to see happen in their neighborhood with federal stimulus money that is headed their way. Greg commented, “I was really impressed with the turnout at the meeting! It is great to see that so many people are invested in the health of Collinwood. On top of so many people being there, it was just great to get people’s input about what they want their neighborhood to be. After all, they are the ones that live there and know it intimately.” Some of the ideas the group would like to see implemented are Free WiFi on Waterloo, a changeable sign to announce events and meetings, a Farmers Market, more gardens (indoor and outdoor), an Interactive Art Park and a playground around the East 140th corridor.

Over the past few months, Greg has been able to experience Collinwood on a deeper level and has discovered so many terrific things about it. “Besides the Lake, there are the beautiful homes on quaint streets, great places to grab a bite, and places like the Beachland Ballroom where music is an experience. I’ve

been most impressed with the people,” Greg continued. “After all, when it comes down to it, people are what make a neighborhood vibrant, and the built environment is an expression of the people who went before them and made lives there. All that said, I think Collinwood is definitely looking up!” Greg would like to thank Anthony Becham from B&M Barbecue for letting us use his space! “Great BBQ!” he said.

If you would like to become a member of the East 156th St. Block Watch and have a say about what goes on in your neighborhood, all you have to do is come to a meeting. The meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at 6:00 pm at B&M Barbecue, 15116 Lakeshore Blvd. (Additional parking is available at St. Jerome’s). Membership is free so please come join us. Councilman Polensek is at every meeting as well as a member of the Fifth District Police to take your questions and address your concerns.

If you would like more information about Block Watches in North Shore Collinwood call Denise Lorek at Northeast Shores 216-481-7660.

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

## How the Weatherization Program can reduce your gas and electric bill

by Shannon Harney

During my still somewhat short tenure here at Northeast Shores as the Housing Program Manager, I have found my duties rather rewarding. This sense of reward can be heavily attributed to the fact that I have been assured that individuals have experienced substantial reductions on their Dominion East Ohio utility bills as the byproduct of their involvement in the Housewarming Program. Funding is currently available to provide energy conservation services to your home. In most instances, this service is free.

**Compliments of Housewarming Inspector, Tim Davis:**

“The weatherization program can benefit any household. The home weatherization program funded by Dominion East Ohio Gas is available to all gas customers with proper applications. The service is free to all qualified applicants. Benefits can include attic and wall insulation, electric panel upgrade, furnace and hot water tank inspection, as well as replacement if need be the case. All work is performed by professionals in the field. The program is offered year-round with summer still providing a perfect opportunity to receive this service. The Housewarming program can reduce energy consumption by up to 40%. Northeast Shores Development Corporation has successfully coordinated this program for over 15 years. This program operates consistent with the core values of Northeast Shores Collinwood by contributing to the quality of life of the residents of North Shore Collinwood.”

**Compliments of Housewarming Program Recipient, Tina Lusane:**

Mrs. Lusane noticed the difference in her home’s heating with particular emphasis on the upper level of the home. She indicated that the insulation has shifted the upper level from freezing to comfortable. She feels that the contractors assigned to her home were very effective and efficient.

**Compliments of Housewarming Program Recipient, Hattie Smith:**

Mrs. Smith indicates that the contractors who performed her work did a really good job. She feels that she is definitely a program recipient who has received the full benefit of involvement in the program as she had a non-operational furnace replaced for free. Mrs. Smith was also able to have follow-up work performed by the same contractor nearly a year later under the warranty that is provided through the program. She maintains that she feels that her utility bills are markedly noticeably reduced because of her involvement in the Housewarming Program.

These case experiences illustrate the efficacy of the Housewarming Program. If you fall within the income guidelines that render you eligible for HEAP or PIPP, you would also be eligible for the Housewarming Program. If you have an interest in the program and feel that you are an eligible candidate, feel free to contact Shannon D. Harney, Housing Program Manager at Northeast Shores Development Corporation (216) 481 – 7660.

**Shannon D. Harney is the Programs Manager and the Property Manager at Northeast Shores.**



A Northeast Shores Cuyahoga County land bank home.

## Northeast Shores \$5000 home program continues in partnership with Cuyahoga County land reutilization corporation

by Camille Maxwell

In 2009, Northeast Shores partnered with HUD to acquire foreclosed, abandoned and vacant homes located within North Collinwood. Once the partnership was developed, Northeast Shores implemented the \$5,000 HUD Home Program. The \$5,000 HUD Home for Sale program was designed to sell single family and two-family properties in an “as is” condition. This program presented an opportunity for residents and those whom have a great interest and desire to own property in North Shore Collinwood to become an active participant in stabilizing our community. The goal of the program was to maintain homeownership, establish a bridge between vacant properties and occupied properties and preserve North Collinwood’s housing stock by requiring quality rehabilitation practices from end-buyers. To date, we have brought six out of the ten homes back to productive use. The program was measured with great success by allowing first time homebuyers the dream of owning their home, feeling a sense of pride and putting sweat equity into their home.

At this time, the \$5,000 HUD Home program no longer exists. However, HUD has partnered with the Cuyahoga County Land Re-utilization Corp informally known as the Cuyahoga County Land Bank to address the significant increase in the thousands of vacant and

abandoned homes that torment our neighborhoods.

Chief Operating Officer William Whitney had this to say: “The Cuyahoga County Land Re-utilization Corporation is very pleased with its partnership with Northeast Shores. The need to address blighted structures that plague our neighborhoods is critical at this time. Northeast Shores has the skills and wherewithall to take blighted properties obtained by the CCLRC and return them to a productive re-use.”

The mission of CCLR is to rebuild real estate markets and protect the tax base throughout the county. CCLR’s mission has allowed Northeast Shores to acquire de-valued properties and again give potential home buyers an opportunity to become a neighborhood residential partner with us to renovate and own a home through sweat equity. Currently, Northeast Shores is in the process of acquiring our first Cuyahoga County Land Re-utilization property located at 16004 Pythias Avenue, if you’re interested in touring this property and potentially owning a \$5,000 Northeast Shores Cuyahoga County Land Re-utilization Home Program house, please contact Camille Maxwell at 216-481-7660.

**Camille Maxwell is the Real Estate Development Director at Northeast Shores.**

## How you can grow your own food for (almost) free

by Denise Lorek

It’s that time of year again! The gardens will be in full swing in the next couple of weeks.

We have several garden opportunities if you are interested. There are two gardens on East 156th street, the Corsica Garden and the New Life Garden. These gardens are community gardens, you provide the labor and time. The seeds and plants are provided by Summer Sprouts. Both gardens received Neighborhood Connections grants this year, making it possible for more beds to be added to the gardens.

This year HCR Manor Care is getting involved with the Corsica Garden. Pam

Diemert, Activities Director of Manor Care Euclid Beach, told me “this is a wonderful opportunity for the patients who are in Manor Care to get out in the sunshine, socialize and grow some fresh produce.” Pam has worked with community gardeners in other neighborhoods so we are looking forward to her help in our gardens.

If you have a vacant lot in your neighborhood, call us, we may be able to help you start a garden at that location.

If you are interested in gardening in one of our existing gardens, please call Denise Lorek at Northeast Shores 216-481-7660 to reserve your garden spot.



Development - North East Shores

What the most recent census told us about North Shore Collinwood

by Brian A. Friedman

As you may have seen in various news outlets recently, the total population in the City of Cleveland dipped just below 400,000 people living within Cleveland’s borders according to the 2010 United States Census. Various news outlets have also widely reported that the city’s total population of 396,815 represents a loss of 17.1% of the city’s total population since the 2000 US Census. The media has reported less on what occurred in individual neighborhoods. Therefore, this article informs the Observer readership about what the 2010 US Census told us about the City of Cleveland neighborhood of North Shore Collinwood.

According to the 2010 US Census, the neighborhood of North Shore Collinwood now boasts a total population of 16,761 individuals. This population count is a 15.5% reduction in population from the total population of 19,828 counted in the 2000 US Census. Where did the reduction in population come from? There are two major factors that impacted the population in the neighborhood. The first factor is several large multifamily structures were demolished over the last year. Over the last decade, 351 housing units were demolished. The other significant factor is vacant properties. Due to the foreclosure crisis, the number of vacant residential units in the neighborhood spiked over the last ten years. In 2000, the neighborhood of North Shore Collinwood had 908 vacant housing units. In 2010, that same figure was 1,617 which is an increase of 78.1 percent. Combined, these two significant changes represent the greatest portion of the 3,067 decrease in population over the last decade.

How does our population loss compare to other city neighborhoods? As already noted above, the neighborhood’s population loss (-15.5%) was below the

city’s population loss (-17.1%). In the entire city, only two neighborhoods actually gained population over the last decade. Both Downtown and the Central neighborhood experienced +52.7% and +5.2% population gains respectively. Meanwhile, some noteworthy neighborhoods experienced much less population loss as a percentage than North Shore Collinwood. The neighborhoods of Ohio City (-1.1%), Old Brooklyn (-4.5%), Kamms Corners (-6.7%), and Puritas (-7.8%) all experienced smaller population losses than North Shore Collinwood. North Shore Collinwood’s population loss was relatively even with neighborhoods such as Euclid-Green (-13.7%), Stockyards (-14.5%) and Tremont (-15.3%). North

Shore Collinwood fared slightly better than University Circle (-16.5%), Detroit Shoreway (-17.6%), Buckeye-Shaker (-22.4%) and Collinwood (-26.7%). The neighborhood of North Shore Collinwood experienced much lower population loss than some neighborhoods such as Fairfax (-31.2%), Glenville (-32.3%), Union Miles (-33.6%) and Slavic Village (-38%).

How does our population loss compare to our neighboring communities? While North Shore Collinwood lost 15.5% of its total population, the City of Euclid dipped to 48,920 in 2010 from 52,717 in 2000 which is a population loss of 7.2 percent. The Village of Bratenahl reported a total population of 1,197 in the 2010 US Census and 1,337 in the 2000 US Census. Therefore, the

Village of Bratenahl lost 10.5% of its population over the last decade.

Northeast Shores already is diligently working on various housing and neighborhood marketing initiatives to ensure that the 2020 US Census reports a total population higher than the 16,761 reported in 2010. Many of these initiatives have opportunities for volunteers to get significantly involved. If you are interested in helping, please do not hesitate to e-mail me at [bfriedman@northeastshores.org](mailto:bfriedman@northeastshores.org) or call me at (216) 481-7660 to discuss how your interests, talents and time may benefit the entire neighborhood.

**Brian A. Friedman is the Executive Director of Northeast Shores.**

Get ready for a clean ride at American Pride Car Wash

by John Boksansky

North Shores Collinwood car, trucks, and boat owners will never be cleaner.

American Pride Car Washes will soon break ground on an automated and self-wash location at the south east corner of Lake Shore and east 156th Street, 15610 Lakeshore.

American Pride Car Wash founder and CEO, Pat Montgomery and Jack DiCocco, President and General Manager, are excited about this new location as their sixth location serving the east side of the City of Cleveland. American Pride Car Washes are family-owned and operated businesses that have served the car-washing needs of Cleveland communities for over twenty-five years.

Jack DiCocco, President and General Manager stated, “Our market niche has always been a low-volume, neighborhood car wash. We have a reputation as

a good neighbor in the commercial areas of residential districts providing a clean, appealing, safe location to serve our customers. The process for getting started involved input from the Design Review Committee and Cleveland City Planning. We purchased the premises from John Daher who formerly operated Instant Tax Service at the premises.”

The architecture for the project was coordinated by City Architecture. The site will utilize the existing building for self-serve bays and a new structure which

will be buildt for the automatic wash and service storage. The site will have comprehensive landscape planning, including their site signature of displaying the American flag.

American Pride car washes are a Cleveland-based business with five locations on the east side and five on the west side. The project is scheduled for completion by July of this year.

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



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# Collinwood Nottingham Development Corp.

## Don't get scammed this spring!

by Jayme Lucas

Greg Pollard, Ward 11 Safety Liaison, has been receiving complaints about scams recently. Below are a few that we wanted to bring to your attention:

**The Long Lost Relative Scam:**

This scam begins with the victim receiving a letter, email, or a phone call from someone with a very confidential business proposal. The letter states that an individual, worth millions of dollars, has died without leaving a will.

The individual contacting you is trying to keep the money from reverting back to what they tell you is a corrupt government and requests assistance from the consumer. The victim is asked to provide an account number where the money can be transferred, and in exchange for this "service," the victim will make a profit. (In some cases, the victim is asked to send money in exchange for a much larger sum).

It does happen, but not very often. So if you receive a notification in a email or regular mail from an "estate locator" saying that there is an unclaimed inheritance waiting for you, be very wary. You could be the target of a slick con artist.

**Handyman Scams:**

There are many different types of handyman scams, but they all have a few things in common:

The handyman calls you or knocks on your door, identifying a problem with your home. (Instead of YOU calling them, as is the norm.)

The handyman often will ask to come inside so they can get a better idea of the "scope of the problem."

The handyman will want to have payment upfront and commence work WITHOUT a contract.

The most dangerous scammers prey on elderly people by posing as a handyman and then burglarizing their homes.

There is also the handyman scam of leaving without finishing the job (but lots of money paid upfront!)

**Here are some steps you can take to keep from getting scammed:**

Be extremely wary of contractors/handyman that come to your door or call you. This should be considered a red flag.

Don't let the contractor finance your project. This almost always results in unnecessary charges. If you need financing, contact a bank or credit union.

Don't be pushed into making quick decisions, get at least two other bids.

Demand a signed, written contract, outlining the work to be performed, the time frame and the agreed-upon cost of supplies and labor BEFORE giving the contractor any money upfront.

Never allow an uninvited handyman inside your home so they can give you a supposed estimate. This is often the setup to a scam or burglary. Ask them to leave immediately. Call the police if they don't.

Always get 2 or more estimates for work before selecting a contractor.

Utility Worker & Police Officer

**"Poser" scams:**

These scams involve perpetrators posing as utility workers or Police Officers. They will knock on your door, flash an "ID", and ask to come in. Their plan is to burglarize your home.

If a utility worker knocks on your door and you did not call in a complaint/repair, call the utility company before letting him/her in your home.

If a Police Officer knocks on your door, you can call 216-621-1234 to make sure he/she is legitimate. Scamming "Police posers" are almost always in plain clothes and there will not be a squad car visible. Real police will be dispatched to your home right away if it was a scammer that knocked on your door.

Note that "real" utility workers and Police Officers will not try to bully you to let them in your home while you are verifying their legitimacy.

For more information about these scams and/or any neighborhood safety concern, call Greg Pollard at 216-383-9772.

**Sources:** Ohio Consumer Council, AARP, and Ohio Attorney General's Office

**Greg Pollard is the Development Manager at Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation.**

## North East Shores

## retailspacescleveland.com matches businesses with location

by John Boksansky

Area businesses have a tool to match their business expansion and location needs with the space that will work for them by utilizing the website established by Cleveland Neighborhood Development Coalition (CNDC), an umbrella group for Community Development Corporations (CDC's) in Cleveland.

Concerned with the decline of vital neighborhood shopping districts in Cleveland, CDC's started to discuss critical issues surrounding the future of retail activity in urban neighborhoods. CDCs are non-profit, neighborhood-based organizations that build affordable housing, create jobs, renovate storefronts, rehabilitate distressed structures and tackle other challenges that threaten the livability of neighborhoods.

The Retail Spaces Cleveland website furthers the goal of the initiative to create new tools to help strengthen neighborhoods by increasing the visibility of investment opportunities in Cleveland's varied retail districts. You will find the locations of these opportunities on the Locator Map of the website.

"Sometimes looking for space is what a business seeks to do first. The reality is that while location is important, there are a host of other considerations such as area competition, niche market, and business-planning which are also very important," stated Wendy Sattin, Director of Planning and Development at CNDC. "CDC's such as Northeast Shores that serve the Waterloo, East 185th Street and Lake Shore Blvd.

commercial districts know the "ropes" and have the tools for accomplishing the business goals. On the website, you can click on the names of the commercial districts, and then be taken to a page with listings of their area's demographics, assets, and space available. The Retail Space website which was established in 2001 consistently logs between 4,000 and 6,000 unique visitors monthly."

The new American Pride Car Wash which will be starting a renovation on Lake Shore Blvd, initially explored the prospects of several locations on East 185th Street and Lakeshore Blvd before negotiating a purchase. Jack DiCocco, President and General Manager stated, "We spoke with John at Northeast Shores and he mentioned several properties that could fit our needs. We confirmed the availability on the Retail Spaces Cleveland website. We contacted the owner, met with Ward 11 Councilman Polensek, and with technical assistance provided by Northeast Shores and the City of Cleveland, we were able to commit to the location."

Keeping the area strong and occupied with viable businesses is the goal. The commercial district property owners can also benefit by listing their space on the Retail Spaces Website.

**If you are a business looking for that ideal location or a property-owner with prepared space seeking a business tenant, you can call or e-mail John Boksansky at Northeast Shores for information (216) 481-7660 or [jboksansky@northeastshores.org](mailto:jboksansky@northeastshores.org) for further information.**

## Fannie Mae foreclosure help: www.KnowYourOptions.com

by Jayme Lucas

Fannie Mae recently launched a website with comprehensive information about options available to homeowners who are at risk of (or in) foreclosure.

Options for those who want to stay in their homes: Some options for those who

want to stay in their homes include forbearance agreements, repayment plans, loan modifications, and Fannie Mae's "deed for lease" program.

Options for those ready to leave their homes: Options for those who want to leave their homes include short sale, a deed in lieu of foreclosure, etc.

Personalized Assistance: If you are behind on your mortgage and need assistance, you can call the Homeowner's Hope Hotline at 1-888-995-HOPE or United Way's 2-1-1 to contact a certified housing counselor. They can help you figure out which options are available and best suit your needs. [www.knowyouroptions.com](http://www.knowyouroptions.com) also has a wealth of information.

Beware Of Foreclosure Scams — Help Is Free! Scam artists are stealing millions of dollars from distressed homeowners by promising immediate relief from foreclosure, or demanding cash for counseling services when HUD-approved counseling agencies provide the same services for FREE.

If you receive an offer, information or advice that sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don't let them take advantage of you, your situation, your house or your money.

You can report the possible scam by calling 1-888-995-HOPE.

**Jayme Lucas is the Development Manager at Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation.**

## Senior Transportation Services for Ward 11

by Jayme Lucas

The Senior Transportation Connection will provide one round trip or two one-way trips per week to Ward 11 seniors starting March 1, 2011. Riders must be 60 years of age or older, and have limited options for transportation services.

Medical related trips are considered a priority and must be located within Cuyahoga County. Personal shopping trips/errands must be located within the City of Cleveland. A fare of \$1.00 per one way trip (\$2.00 for round trips) will be charged for the service.

First time riders must call the Cleveland Department of Aging at 216-664-2833 to sign up for the program.

Once signed up, riders can call 1-800-983-4782 to schedule a trip. Trips must be scheduled at least two days in advance.

Call Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation for more information.

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# Schools

## Vikings Classic Mixer Fundraiser is a Friend Raiser, Saturday April 9th

by Emily Robinson

Here's a chance to turn back the clock and feel like a teenager again. VASJ alumni and alumnae are sponsoring a throw-back dance, a Vikings Classic Mixer at the VASJ gym, aka The Purple Palace. Whether your era was Bobbie sox, Poodle skirts and the "Twist", Wing Tips or Penny Loafers and the "Hitchhiker", or bell-bottoms and Disco Dancing, this event is for you.

The house band for the evening will be CHANCE, a ten-piece band with horns and highly active vocals. CHANCE is the band Mike Trivisonno raves about. CHANCE has been the opening act for The Beach Boys, KC and the Sunshine Band, Donny Osmond and Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes.

CHANCE covers songs from groups such as: The Temptations, The Beach Boys, Chicago, Doobie Brothers, Santana, Earth Wind and Fire, The Four Seasons, The Spinners and the Four Tops. They perform songs from artists such as: Michael Jackson, Frank Sinatra, Bobby Darin, Louie Armstrong, Tom Jones, Louie Prima, Rod Stewart, Van Morrison and Al Green.

CHANCE was born over 35 years ago in Cleveland, Ohio and has five St. Joe Viking band members: Don Battista '65, Rick Tennyson '69, Bob Burdecki '70, Dr. John Messina '71, Rich Masley '72.

CHANCE will be the house band in support of some musical artists from historic St. Joe Viking mixers. Grammy Award winner Joey Porrelo, of Joey and the Continentals/GTO's will sing.

The GTO's became the house band for Cleveland's nationally televised rock and roll show UPBEAT. They earned national status when their single, "She Rides With



Me" written by Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys, which reached the Billboard Charts.

Joey and the Continentals

Also appearing will be Jeff Gould of Shake (formerly the Sensations). The Sensations were a fixture at St. Joe mixers in the 60's with their classic Motown sound.

The event will be more than a fundraiser for VASJ. It will also be a "friend raiser" giving alums and guests an opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make some new ones. Tickets are \$40 which includes food and beverages. (Unlike Viking Mixers of past eras, beer and wine will be legally served!) Also being served is a delicious dinner buffet. And there will be exciting live and silent auction items to add to the fun.

All proceeds from the VASJ Classic Mixer ticket sales and auctions will be used to continue building our young people into 21st Century leaders in the Ursuline and Marianist Catholic tradition. Sponsorship opportunities are still available!

For additional information... [www.bit.ly/guwVkc](http://www.bit.ly/guwVkc)

Contacts:

Event Chair; Peter Apicella

[peter@ferengifts.com](mailto:peter@ferengifts.com)

216-272-8278

Event Communications:

Neil McCormick

[neil@cinecraft.com](mailto:neil@cinecraft.com)

216-952-9698

## Megan Scheider of Villa Angela-St. Joseph High named Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction

by Emily Robinson

A Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School Assistant Principal and teacher was recently selected as a Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction by The National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS). A role model to pupils, Megan was nominated by VASJ senior Terika Hyneman, for outstanding dedication and commitment to excellence in the classroom.

"Mrs. Scheider is the best teacher any student could ask for," Hyneman said. "She deserves this award because of all the hard work she has put into this school and her students in her math class. I nominated her because of all the help she gave me personally by tutoring me in Calculus. I wouldn't be where I am today academically without Mrs. Scheider."

Each year student members of NSHSS have an opportunity to select the teacher who has made the most significant contribution to their academic career. The Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction award recognizes teacher role models who have made a lasting difference in their classroom by encouraging students to strive for excellence.

"Dedicated educators who exhibit a commitment to excellence deserve our highest praise and appreciation," said NSHSS President James Lewis. "We're excited to provide an ongoing means to do so, and we encourage our members to nominate teachers who have contributed

to their academic success."

"Too rarely do educators learn whether their dedicated efforts are appreciated," said VASJ President Brian Menard. "I am proud of Terika for taking the initiative to recognize Mrs. Scheider for the exceptional educator she is, I am proud of Mrs. Scheider for the inspiration she provides to students and proud that VASJ offers such models of students and educators alike for all our community to follow. Congratulations!"

*Emily Robinson is the Communications & Media Coordinator at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School.*

### Spring Open House especially for 6th and 7th grade students

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Check in at 6:00 pm. Program begins in the gym at 6:15. Tours until 8:00 pm.

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VASJ Winners of the LifeWorks Ohio Art & Essay Contest Row 1: Allison Insana, Ellen Cvelbar and Jonelle Evans (all Seniors) Row 2: Jodie Di Donato, Rita Hidalgo and Bobby Vollman (all Seniors) Not pictured: Jeremiah Bates, Liz McDonnell and Sarah Rodgers

## Nine VASJ students win awards in annual LifeWorks Ohio Art & Essay Contest

by Emily Robinson

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School is excited to recognize the achievements of nine current students who were recently announced as winners in the LifeWorks Ohio Art & Essay Contest.

Each year students from VASJ submit essays and artwork to be entered into the LifeWorks Ohio Art & Essay Contest, a program which encourages grade school and high school students to express their commitment to life through writing and art. Using the following Bible verse, students were asked to express their belief on the sanctity of human life, giving special consideration to the unborn, elderly and disabled:

"In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me," Matthew 25:40.

Winning in the essay portion of the contest are Seniors Bobby Vollman, first place, Sarah Rodgers, honorable mention, and Rita Hidalgo, third place and Sophomore Jeremiah Bates, third place.

The winners from the art category are Seniors Jodie Di Donato, first place, Liz McDonnell, honorable mention, Allison Insana, honorable mention, Jonelle

Evans, second place and Ellen Cvelbar, third place.

As a first place winner of the essay contest, VASJ senior Bobby Vollman is invited to read his essay at the LifeWorks Ohio Art & Essay Contest awards ceremony being held on Sunday, April 3, 2011, where all the winners will receive a ribbon, certificate and monetary award.

The essay was easy for Vollman to write as he focused on his personal experience of taking care of his great-grandmother while she was ill and in hospice, ultimately leading him to become a volunteer there. This summer will mark three years that Vollman has been volunteering at the hospice, an experience he finds very rewarding.

When asked what he plans to do with the monetary award he will receive, Vollman's response was not what you would expect from a high school senior. "I don't want to keep it. I want to donate it. It seems like something special that should be given to someone else," Vollman explained. As for where he plans to donate the money, Vollman is still trying to decide. He has narrowed it down to three worthy causes and will be making his decision soon.

## Coach Bill Gutbrod Night

by Emily Robinson

On April 8th, Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School will be honoring and paying tribute to a man who has shaped the lives of countless people. That man is Coach Bill Gutbrod.

This special event will be held at the Croatian Lodge in Eastlake. The room is big enough to fit 1000 people and we want to fill the room! The Master Of Ceremonies for the event will be St. Joe's Alumnus, professional athlete and Cleveland restaurant owner, Bob Golic. The event takes place on Friday, April 8th at 5 PM at the Croatian Lodge in Eastlake. Visit [www.vasj.com](http://www.vasj.com) for more event details. Coach Gutbrod was and still is a big part of our lives. Like Coach Gutbrod himself, this will be a night we will never forget!

## VASJ High School presents "Into the Woods Junior"

by Emily Robinson

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School presents the spring musical, "Into the Woods Junior" - a part of The Broadway Junior Collection. In the musical, "Into the Woods," classic fairytales such as Cinderella, The Baker and His Wife, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk and Rapunzel all collide for a magical and imaginative journey that teaches lessons of the power of tolerance, community and shared sacrifice.

There will be three performances of the musical: Friday, April 29, 2011 at 7:30 PM, Saturday, April 30, 2011 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, May 1, 2011 at 2:00 PM



Schools

# Noble Academy Cleveland welcomes new director, Mr. Hakan

by Amy Britton

Noble Academy Cleveland (an Excellent with Distinction School) wishes our former Director, Mr. Kose best wishes while establishing a new school in Minneapolis. After five years as the founding director of Noble Academy, Mr. Kose takes his experience and knowledge to a new community where he will build another strong academic environment and school. In his goodbye letter to our families, he attributed the success of our excellent school to our committed families, students, and staff. Mr. Kose felt personally that the five years at Noble Academy were his favorite and most memorable.

Although the expectations are high at Noble Academy, our students, staff and families are confident our new director, Mr. Hakan will continue NAC's path of excellence. Mr. Hakan (from Horizon Science Academy Cleveland Elementary) expresses that the goal of academics is preparing our students for success by focusing on three areas: high grade point average, superior academic performances, and leadership skills. He looks forward to students, staff, and family working together to continue the excellent academics and safe environment at Noble Academy.

Mr. Hakan has spent 19 years work-



NAC's New Director, Mr. Hakan.

ing in education. His Bachelor's degree is in Math Education and he has received a Master's degree in Educational Technology. Anticipating his second Master's degree this fall, Mr. Hakan can relate to students and families on the amount of homework and hard work it takes to earn good grades and academic success. The community is vital to successful schools and students. Mr. Hakan looks forward to

meeting our friends in the community.

Noble Academy Cleveland has begun open-enrollment for grades K-8 (2011-2012 school year). Please request an application from the office (216)486-8866. Seats are limited, and grade levels will be full shortly.

Noble Academy Cleveland is a K-8 Community School. It is the only community school rated Excellent with Distinction in Ohio.

# Eighteen VASJ students inducted into the National Honor Society

by Emily Robinson

On Thursday, March 24, 2011, VASJ held its annual National Honor Society Induction Ceremony where 18 students were inducted as new members. The ceremony was coordinated by the student officers of the National Honor Society (NHS) chapter at VASJ.

In order to be considered for this prestigious honor, students must maintain a 3.5 grade point average, be actively involved with the school and community, and submit an application and letters of recommendation. In addition to the 18 newly elected NHS members, VASJ has 16 current members.

St. Joseph Alumnus Robert Jaquay '73 was invited to address the newly inducted members. Jaquay, who spoke of how good it felt to be home at VASJ, explained that he, too, was a member of NHS during his time at St. Joe's. "It gave me one more reason not to let down and to keep going," he explained. Jaquay ended his address to the students by saying, "You're on a righteous path. I urge you to continue on with God's blessing."



Junior Christopher Pokorny accepts his NHS medal.

**NHS Inductees:**  
**Seniors:**  
John Fialko  
Phillip Wellington

**Juniors:**  
Kierra Cotton  
John DiDonato  
Ryan Gallagher  
Ashlie Hughes  
James Maher  
Christopher Pokorny  
Dennis Strnad  
Malik Sullins  
**Sophomores:**  
Bianca Gulley  
Angelica Hall  
Julia Humensky  
Patrick Mastalski  
Domenic Nicholas  
Christian Raddell  
Laniece Thomas  
Jordan Walker

## Personal Hell

by Crystal Mays

Then  
I saw  
A black  
Cave.  
When I widen  
My eyes I expected to see  
Home before me.  
But I didn't see anything.  
I would have sobbed dramatically  
But I can't seem to let the tears escape.  
There!  
Off to the right.  
I hear  
Your distant  
Laughter.  
Laughter of  
Success.  
What  
Have  
You  
Done to me?  
You wanted to take all  
Your anger out on me for  
Something I didn't do?  
Oh.  
Wait.  
That's right.  
You were jealous  
Of me.  
You knew you would never  
Have my dark chocolate eyes  
Or my quick thinking mind.  
So you wanted me out of your way.  
What will everyone think  
Of you now?  
I feel my blood  
Seep into the ground  
So I can be reborn again.  
Sticky and  
Thick as though  
You chewed me up  
Like a piece of gum  
Just to spit me out  
Onto the pavement  
For someone to  
Step on.  
And yet  
You let the bullet  
You shot,  
Sever my soul.  
My only reason  
For existing.  
As my life  
Slips away,  
You look at my  
Lifeless body  
As your trophy.  
Then,  
This black cave I let  
My mind  
My being  
Slip into  
Is your  
Personal hell.  
You just needed  
My perfectness  
To run it.

Crystal Mays is a 15-year-old from The Cleveland School of the Arts. It is her first year there and she is going to be part of the Slam U Poetry Workshop.

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Schools

Domestic Violence Center presentations at Collinwood: Johanna's story

by Judy Mengel

During the week of March 21, more than 200 students in Mrs. Beacham's Health and Physical Education classes and Mrs. Mengel's GRADS and Child Development Classes participated in a three-day workshop presented by Cleveland's Domestic Violence Center.

Shannon Crumpler, Teen Educator from Cleveland Domestic Violence Center presented a program Monday outlining Types of Abuse. Students were involved in naming and giving examples of Physical, Verbal, Sexual, Mental (or Emotional) Abuse, and Financial Abuse. Also a hand-out was given which shows red flags on one side and green flags on the other. The green flag side indicated healthy relationships and the red flag side gave signs that indicate a relationship can be going in the wrong or unhealthy direction. Both males and females can be guilty of abusive actions.

Tuesday, Johanna Orozco, domestic violence survivor, held the Collinwood students spellbound with her story which ended in the March, 2007 shotgun blast to her face from her former boyfriend, Juan. She talked about her life, family and the beginning of what had been a wonderful, loving and caring relationship. For the first five to six months, everything was wonderful and beautiful. Then Juan became jealous, then possessive, controlling, and eventually abusive.

After their final breakup, Juan raped Johanna at knifepoint, was arrested, and



Johanna

put on house arrest, awaiting trial. Juan did not follow the house arrest rules, stalked Johanna for days before walking up to the car she was about to drive and destroying a large part of her face with a shotgun blast. After months in the hospital, Johanna returned home where she finished her high school work, graduated with her class and was even elected prom queen. In the last four years in addition to her recovery, she has also told her story on television programs such as Oprah and 20/20. After a plea-bargain, Juan was sentenced and is now serving 27 years in prison without chance for parole.

Johanna tells her story to help young

people learn to recognize the signs of an abusive relationship and to get away from the abuser before it is too late. She does not want others to suffer as she has suffered nor for a person to become a perpetrator and spend the best part of their lives in prison. Johanna has had to undergo many reconstructive surgeries and now is a speaker for The Domestic Violence Center as well as being a college student majoring in psychology. She helped pass two laws in Ohio related to teen dating violence. House Bill 19 requires schools to educate teens in grades 7-12 about teen dating violence and House Bill 10 allows juvenile victims of dating violence and bullying to obtain protection orders.

Thursday, Mrs. Crumpler again led a discussion presenting the Cycle of Abuse and the definition of an apology. Having heard Johanna's talk on Tuesday helped students understand that abuse runs in a cycle beginning with a "honeymoon period" when everything is good and may escalate to an explosion which may result in violence, then the perpetrator apologizes and everything is good until the tension builds and the abuse occurs again.

We at Collinwood look forward to having Mrs. Crumpler return to finish up her series about healthy dating and avoiding abuse during a person's entire lifetime.

DVC or Domestic Violence Center is available to area schools and community groups for similar presentations and in

these subject areas:

- Day 1- Types of abuse, Cycle of abuse
- Day 2- Setting boundaries, Consent, Definition of an apology
- Day 3- Media influences on teens
- Day 4- Healthy relationships, What's a real man/woman
- Day 5- Sexual assault (by Cleveland Rape Crisis Center)

My contact person for Cleveland Domestic Violence Center is: Shannon Crumpler, CHES, Domestic Violence Center, Teen Educator 216.688.7288, [scrumpler@dvcleveland.org](mailto:scrumpler@dvcleveland.org), [www.domesticviolencecenter.org](http://www.domesticviolencecenter.org) 24 Hour Hotline 216.391.HELP [www.facebook.com/dvc.cleveland](http://www.facebook.com/dvc.cleveland)

*Judy Mengel has been a teacher at Collinwood for almost 19 years. She says, "Mostly, I have taught GRADS--a special class to help and encourage teen parents to stay in school, wait to add the young family, graduate on time, and pursue training or college to attain a successful and valued career. I would like to tell the Collinwood Observer about the program and possibly help keep more students--both teen moms and dads in school to reach their goals and a better life for themselves and their families. Also this might help me to reach community agencies or business or even individuals who might wish to lend a helping hand or to give encouragement to the teen parent population."*

VASJ Students of the 2nd Quarter

by Emily Robinson

At the end of each quarter, teachers at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School nominate a few students to be chosen as Student of the Quarter. Student of the Quarter is not just for the top academic students, students who demonstrate leadership in class or who have shown a lot of improvement during the quarter are also nominated.

Once all the nominations are received, VASJ's National Honor Society Committee, a student-driven committee, chooses one student from each class. All students nominated receive a certificate. In addition to the certificate, the four students selected as Student of the Quarter receive a



The VASJ Students of the 2nd Quarter of 2010/2011 are: Matt Brickman (Junior), Casey Timko (Freshman), Mychael Primes (Sophomore) and Laura Grudzinski (Senior). dress down day at school and their names and pictures are prominently displayed in a showcase outside of the main office.

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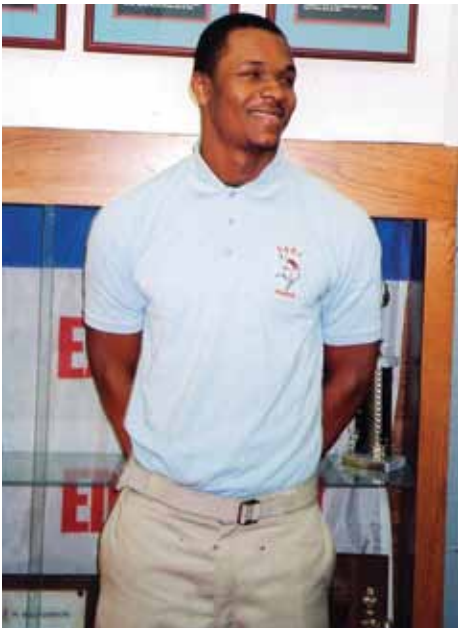


School Sports

VASJ Basketball stars

by John Sheridan

**VASJ's Basketball stars are:**  
**Demonte Flannigan**, 6-7 sophomore: averaged 16 points, 11 rebounds, and 2.5 blocks per game. His athleticism and all-around play remind some St. Joe fans of past Viking stars like Clark Kellogg and Eric Riley, both of whom made it to the NBA. "Whether or not Demonte achieves his potential will depend on how hard he wants to work," says first-year Head Coach Babe Kwasniak. "So far, he's shown a very good work ethic. We expect him to take more of a leadership role over the next two years."



Delmonte Flannigan



Karlton Garner

**Karlton Garner**, 5-9 junior: averaged 14.1 points per game, while shooting 42% from three-point range. Karlton connected on 72 three-pointers for the season, leading all players in the Greater Cleveland area in a Plain Dealer ranking. He also sank 74% of his shots from the foul line. "He's our best free throw shooter," Kwasniak says. "Off the court, Karlton is active in several campus ministry programs."  
**Duane Gibson**, 6-1 sophomore: averaged 11.6 points, 6 rebounds, and 5 assists per game, ranking among the top assist leaders in the Cleveland area. Says Coach Kwasniak: "Duane is probably our best competitor. He's

very good at driving to the basket. We're very pleased with the progress he's made. If he continues to improve, he could be a very good college basketball player one day."  
**Dahuntae Parrish**, 6-3 senior: averaged 9 points and 5 rebounds per game. "He was our best defender," the coach points out. "He defended whoever the other team's best player was. We're going to miss him a lot."

**Darryl Jones**, 6-3 senior: averaged 5 points and 4 rebounds per game. "He started the year playing power forward," Coach Kwasniak explains, "but we moved him to the back-up point guard slot. Once we did that, it turned our season around. He gave us a spark coming off the bench. He also provided leadership. He was our quarterback in football and, by the end of the season, he was quarterbacking our basketball team."



Anxious Moment - VASJ Coach Babe Kwasniak paces the sideline during a tension-filled stretch of the Vikings' district basketball tournament game against Central Catholic. Meanwhile, Bab's father - Tedd Kwasniak (in sweater vest) - offers encouragement from the bench. The elder Kwasniak coached the Vikings' to two state championships in the 1990s.

Can This Be love?

by Laniece Thomas, VASJ Sophomore

I lived for love  
Love lived through me  
You say you care.  
When boundaries between us begin to tear

Love told me that it was true  
It showed me things I never knew  
But all I saw were lies  
Taking away the blindfold from my eyes

It sucked me in  
And took me over  
Making me feel  
As though I found a four-leafed clover

Love picked me up  
And dropped me back down  
Taking away  
My joyous crown


I lived for love  
Love lived through me  
Blinding the truth  
I could not see

VASJ Wrestling stars

by John Sheridan

**The Wrestling Stars from VASJ are:**  
**Phil Wellington (senior, 189 pounds)** – Chosen as the Vikings' "most valuable wrestler," Wellington placed fourth in the state meet after earning third-place honors in the Division III district tournament. He finished the season with a 35-6 record. "At the state meet, Phil wrestled five great matches," says head coach Bob Mullin. "He took it right to the wire against the state runner-up before losing a hard-fought 3-2 battle."  
**DiAnte Jackson (junior, 215 pounds)** – Selected to receive the "outstanding junior" award at the Vikings' awards banquet, Jackson also qualified for the state tournament. He compiled a 27-13 record and was coming on strong late in the season, earning runner-up honors in the district meet. In the district finals, he had his opponent—Ken Smith of Chanel—in pinning combinations several

times; however, Smith struggled free and won the district title with a pin of his own. Mullin, who was named one of the "coaches of the year" by the Greater Cleveland Wrestling Coaches and Officials Assn., reports that Wellington and Jackson were invited to compete in a national tournament in Virginia Beach, Va., in late March. Others selected for our wrestling All-Star team are:  
**Mato Vunak (sophomore, 119)** – A district qualifier, Vunak finished the season with a 15-7 record.  
**Chris Pokorny (junior, 125)** – Increasing his intensity on the mats this season, Pokorny recorded a 19-13 season mark.  
**Ryan Gallagher (senior, 145)** – A district qualifier, Gallagher compiled an admirable 25-10 season record and provided leadership as the Vikings stepped up their overall team performance against tough competition.



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## Collinwood Arts

# What's up with the Tower on Waterloo?

by Cheryl Carter

Frequently asked Questions about the Tower on the corner of Waterloo Road and 156th Street:

### Who owns it?

Northeast Shores Development Corporation (NSDC) funded, owns and insures the Tower. The City of Cleveland owns the land the Tower sits on and Arts Collinwood facilitates the committee which is responsible for the arts programming of the Tower.

### How will the Tower be used?

As a landmark, for public art installations, as a meeting place, as a stage for performances, and as a gathering place.

### Who designed the Tower?

Christopher Deilh designed it and Mike Moritz fabricated it.

### Who decides how the Tower is programmed with art and performances?

The Tower Committee, which is made up of a representative from the City of Cleveland, NSDC, Arts Collinwood, a Waterloo merchant, a neighborhood resident and an artist.

### It is leaning. Is it going to fall?

No, it is very secure.

### What is it made of?

Stainless steel.

### What if I want to submit a proposal for Tower Art?

The procedures are being developed with the help of Cleveland Public Art and will be posted on the Arts Collinwood



"The Lighting of Hill House", the first art installation at the Tower on Waterloo.

website when they have been finalized.

### Is anything else coming?

When the streetscape is completed in 2012, there will be lights, electrical outlets, landscaping and outdoor seating. There is a possibility that the electricians will be in place before that.

### What is up there now?

Several months ago, the first installation by Robin VanLear and Ian Petroni was installed on the Waterloo Tower. Installations on the Waterloo Tower result from a collaboration between Arts Collinwood and Northeast Shores with committee input from neighborhood residents, art-

ists, and merchants.

The following is the artist's statement about this initial installation.

The House at Waterloo is the latest installation in a series The Lighting of Hill House that began in 1991 with an installation/performance at the Montgomery Museum of Art for their annual Flimp Festival. Since then, Hill House installations have been displayed in the 1990's in Rockefeller Park for the Art Through the Park event, in Wade Oval and in the new sculpture gallery at the Cleveland Museum of Art in conjunction with the annual Winter Lights Lantern Festival.

The iconography of Hill House references several concepts. First perhaps is the most obvious reference to owning one's own home as the ultimate achievement of the American Dream. Ironically in Hill House, while the house is placed on the proverbial pedestal to reference its importance, it has also become reachable by a non-functional ladder. In the earlier Hill Houses, the house itself, which was wrapped in canvas, was quite similar in proportion to a monopoly house and, while it had an entryway, there in fact was no way to get in. Entry to this most recent Hill House (nearly a twin to the Hill House recently ensconced on Wade Oval for the 2010 Lantern Festival) is even more unattainable because the entrance sits 17 feet in the air and the doorway itself is designed for a child. Neither could the open mesh structure of the walls, floor and roof support an adult weight.

While the original Hill Houses were also lit from within, because of their opaque canvas surface they glowed functioning as an orb of light, almost like the moon come to earth. These two latest Hill Houses are more akin to lighthouse beacons. Because of the way the expanded steel walls fragment the light, at times it is only slightly visible and at other times it shines strongly. This time too, the interior light source is also an important part of the concept. Fabricated of copper tubing and mesh by Ian Petroni, it appears to be growing within the house interior, suspended in mid air as some sort of urban bromeliad.

The materials of these two latest Hill Houses are specific too to a rust belt city such as Cleveland, where the weathering of metal surfaces is a frequent inspiration to artists. In this instance, the house exterior began as a sort of soft grey color and the lamp was a brilliant copper. As the installation engages with our weather, the house and its support structure will turn a deep orange and the lamp will begin to take on a lovely blue green patina.

The Hill House series is conceived and designed by Robin VanLear. Mike Moritz fabricated the House. Ian Petroni created the lamp.

This initial installation is the first of what we hope is a series of interesting, conversation-starters for the neighborhood and our visitors. Future installations are not yet set and you too can participate in a future Waterloo Tower Installation. If you are interested in proposing an installation for the Waterloo Tower (or you just have an idea of how the Waterloo Tower might be used that could seed future artists' imaginations), please e-mail your proposal to Amy Callahan at Arts Collinwood (a.callahan@artscollinwood.org).

## Poetry at the Arts Collinwood Cafe

by Elena Tomorowitz

What a wonderful place for poetry, I thought, when I began working at the Café at Arts Collinwood just about a year ago. When the Sunday Roast reading series first began, it was simply a chance to host one of my favorite poets, Zachary Schomburg, who was on an American tour to promote his new book. I was thrilled to not only meet him, but also give him a venue. Since then, each month has been a surprise, and just when I think I'm out of readers, I stumble upon someone interesting or they stumble upon me. In April, the reading series will celebrate its one-year anniversary.

Sunday Roast isn't the only reading series that makes Arts Collinwood its home. She Speaks, which also began last April at Visible Voice Books, soon outgrew their space there and decided to head east. According to their website (shespeaksup.org), She Speaks works to cultivate a safe environment so that women can gain personal confidence and strength through written and spoken word. They offer a women's writing workshop, an open mic, and a performance by a local female slam poet every fourth Saturday of the month (fifth Saturday in April due to Easter). With great performers and a lively audience, it's a great night out, for both you and your boyfriend.



Writers Catherine Donnelly, Lee Chilcote, and Toni Thayer converse after a well attended reading at the Sunday Roast held on March 27th. Photo by David Hansen.

With only a few of these events around the city, Arts Collinwood is bringing the best of the best right to your neighborhood. Be sure to check out the next Sunday Roast on April 17th with a writer/performer published by the local

press, Artless Dodges. And if that leaves you wanting more poetry, no worries, She Speaks will bring another great evening of poetry on April 30th. Be sure to check the website, artscollinwood.org or the Facebook page for more information.

Join the discussion • [www.collinwoodobserver.com](http://www.collinwoodobserver.com)



## Collinwood Arts

### Michael Romanik is Creative Workforce Fellowship Recipient

by Michael Romanik

Michael Romanik, a 1989 graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Art and an East Cleveland resident, received a one-year, \$20,000 fellowship for his outstanding work as a craft artist in Cuyahoga County, OH.

Out of 310 applicants in craft, design, media and visual artists, Michael was announced on December 10, 2010, as one of 20 artists to receive a Creative Workforce Fellowship. The Community partnership for Arts and Culture (CPAC), the organization that operates the program, convened a panel of seven experts from around the country to judge the applications. After six weeks of studying the entire application pool at home, followed by a four-day public adjudication session they unanimously approved the 20 finalists. Applications were anonymous to the panel, and were judged based on artistic merit and a written statement about how the artists would use the Fellowship.

"This Fellowship is a tribute to the benefits artists bring to Cuyahoga county," said Tim Mueller, chair of CPAC's Board of Trustees, "and our community's investment in these artists shows our commitment to a strong and vibrant economic future."

In addition to the financial award, Fellows receive a one-year membership to the COSE Arts Network, and a tuition waiver to CPAC's Artist as Entrepreneur Institute. Fellows are also featured in a professionally-designed catalogue at the conclusion of the Fellowship year.

Michael writes: "Having been chosen to receive this Fellowship has been an amazing honor! I have been a self-employed jewelry artist and enamelist since 1992. This Fellowship will give



American Goldfinch Brooch / Pendant  
Cloisonne' enamel, fine and sterling silver,  
2.5" x 1.75" x .25" by Michael Romanik,  
Photo: Larry Sanders

me the opportunity to concentrate on my work and expand my business more quickly in ways that I normally couldn't afford to do.

I plan to purchase a new enameling kiln and, in pursuing my interest in creating more sculptural work, purchase metal-forming stakes and hammers. Setting up a website and purchasing/replacing items for my retail art and craft show display are also planned.

With the immense rising cost of precious metals, I'll be able to more easily afford the silver and gold to create my work without too much apprehension! I am truly grateful for this opportunity."

For more information about the Creative Workforce Fellowship, including biographical information of the fellows and links to their web sites, please visit [www.cpacbiz.org/business/CWF2.shtml](http://www.cpacbiz.org/business/CWF2.shtml).

To read more about Michael and see images of his work, please visit [www.crafthaus.ning.com/profile/michaelromanik](http://www.crafthaus.ning.com/profile/michaelromanik)

**Michael Romanik is a local jewelry artist whose work has been shown on Waterloo.**

### Waterloo District to celebrate Record Store Day, April 16th

by Pete Gulyas

You may be wondering, "What is RECORD STORE DAY"? Or you might be thinking that "records" went the way of 8-tracks. Actually, music on vinyl records has made a dramatic recovery. Record Store Day (RSD) is an internationally celebrated day observed the third Saturday of April each year. RSD celebrates the culture of independent record stores by playing host to in-store events/performances, signings and special product releases on a global scale. Recording artist and record labels commemorate the day by the issuing of special vinyl and CD releases along with other promotional products. The first Record Store Day was held in 2008, with about 300 stores participating and approximately 10 special RSD releases. The second RSD was celebrated in 2009 with approximately 85 special releases. Last year more than 1,400 independent record stores participated and over 150 special limited edition releases were released.

This year, the fourth annual Record Store Day will take place on Saturday, April 16, 2011. There are upwards of 200 special release items this year. The Waterloo District has two independent records stores, MUSIC SAVES (15801 Waterloo Road) and BLUE ARROW RECORDS (16001 Waterloo Road). Both shops will be doing their part to help celebrate RSD in

Collinwood. Music Saves (which specializes in Indy Rock) has been a participating RSD outlet since its inception. Music Saves co-owner, Melanie Hershberger has seen the event grow exponentially. "After the Waterloo Artsfest, RSD is the single biggest draw to the street." This year Music Saves has ordered roughly 65 limited release titles (of various quantities). "We expect a line to start forming somewhere after 9am to noon that day." The doors will be open from noon to 9. Melanie adds that, "In order to be fair, there is a limit of one unit per item for each person." For more information on what Music Saves has ordered, please check their website at [www.musicsaves.com](http://www.musicsaves.com).

Blue Arrow Records, which primarily specializes in vintage (used) albums, has ordered roughly 20 special release titles. Both stores will be open at noon on RSD. Blue Arrow will have guest DJs spinning records all day. Starting at 5:00 pm there will be half-hour sets of free live music alternating between the Blue Arrow Stage and. For more information be sure to check out [www.bluearrowrecords.com](http://www.bluearrowrecords.com)

Look for other activities all day long on the street, including Blue Arrow Vintage Boutique, This Way Out Vintage Shoppe, the Beachland Ballroom, Native Cleveland, Star Pop, and the Waterloo Café.

### Upstage Players "Seussical, Jr." takes stage

by Matthew Orgovan

Don't miss your chance to witness the spring musical performances of one of Northeast Ohio's hardest working children's theater companies, UpStage Players. From April 15th through April 17th, the group, numbering over 70 children and several adult volunteers, will be producing and performing the stage adaptation of Seussical, Jr., a heartfelt, feel-good, and often comical story that incorporates many of Dr. Seuss' most recognizable characters.

UpStage Players' opening performance will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 15th at the Slovenian Workmen's Home (15335 Waterloo Road; Cleveland), their permanent performance residence. The group's second show will commence on Saturday, April 16th, also at 7:30 p.m. Their final performance of the spring will begin at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 17th.

Advanced tickets/reserved seats are \$6 each. Tickets for the Sunday, April 17th show are SOLD OUT. To order or inquire about advanced tickets, please e-mail [upstageplayers@gmail.com](mailto:upstageplayers@gmail.com).

The plot of Seussical, Jr. centers on Horton the Elephant's endeavors to protect the people of Whoville, who live on a tiny speck of dust. The story also features characters and scenarios from many other Seuss books. In fact, the character The Cat



in the Hat is an outside observer who acts as narrator and devil's advocate throughout the show.

Upstage Players is a non-profit professional children's theater group run by an all-volunteer staff in Cleveland, Ohio. The organization was founded in 1995 with 30 children and a vision to create love and respect for the arts. They have evolved into a strong group that uses theater as a vehicle to teach leadership, creativity and responsibility to over three times as many children today. Although the UpStage family has grown tremendously over the years, their no-cut policy remains unchanged.

The children of UpStage Players come from varied backgrounds and neighborhoods, yet share the same drive to optimize their potential. In addition, the diverse cast/crew of UpStage Players is headed by an unpaid staff and supported by an army of volunteers dedicated to transforming everyday kids into accomplished artists.

**For additional information about UpStage Players, or to download a printable ticket order form for Seussical, Jr., visit [www.upstageplayers.com](http://www.upstageplayers.com). Tickets can also be purchased through PayPal.**

# Beachland

## Ballroom & Tavern

**APR 11 SCOTT HANSON (OF SCOTTI'S ITALIAN EATERY) & THE CHAMPAGNES: REVIVAL CD RELEASE PARTY!**

**APR 16 RECORD STORE DAY! ALL DAY / ALL NIGHT ON WATERLOO! BE SURE TO VISIT BLUE ARROW, MUSIC SAVES, & THIS WAY OUT!**

**11AM-4 BRUNCH IN THE TAVERN WITH: DJs BILL (I ROCK CLEVELAND), VINCE (GOTTA GROOVE RECORDS)**

**9 PM BALLROOM: THE BUDOS BAND, CHARLES BRADLEY**

**9 PM TAVERN: CLOUD NOTHINGS, PARTS & LABOR, CHILD BITE**

**APR 28 THE SCHWARTZ BROTHERS (A MONTHLY EVENT)**

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# Collinwood Observer

My secret wish for 185th:

## Dinner at the Dube

by Erin Randel

Computer-generated graphics have gotten so common on TV these days that it's not often a bit of CGI really catches my attention, but a commercial that came out around the Superbowl really did. In it, a guy with a white sedan gets into a front-end collision, and then, right there on the berm, opens the trunk and wrenches out a complete exact replacement car, thanks to his insurance or the car brand, I can't remember which. The new car makes a bouncy crunch on the gravel when it lands.

I think about this commercial on the rare occasion that I take the 'long' way home, 185th all the way north to my street, Rosecliff. If you're not sure which of the 20 or so streets that intersect 185th, mine is the one that used to come out in the middle of the Lakeshore Chevy madness, which is now

just empty pitted expanses of asphalt. That emptiness, along with the few lights along the street, is the reason we more often dogleg up Neff and come around by Lakeshore.

Now, a lot of major companies have recognized the potential and invested in 185th in recent years, but the middle of the district has some worrisome voids that make me wish for a portal in the universe like that car trunk. If you could reach through the portal and bring the perfect place onto the street, fully-formed and operational, what would it be?

For me, I'd reach through and pull out a diner I loved during my college days in Columbus. It's called the Blue Danube and, on the far north side of campus, is as far from the frat houses and bar scene on south campus as possible. The Dube was opened in the spring of 1940 by a Hungar-

## National Arts Program's All-City Show at Arts Collinwood

by Nan Kennedy

The National Arts Program's All-City Show holds its grand opening and awards ceremony on April 1, 6-9 pm – in the Arts Collinwood gallery, which is already full, full, full of art and, with the addition of food (good food, past experience suggests), drink and people, will be one big party.

I enjoyed a quick tour just after it was hung (very effectively hung, as is usual) and was charmed by the works of young Clevelanders, as well as noting some entries by familiar names – Linda Zolten Wood's girly little cat, Michele Biondo's grandbaby photo, Scott Goss' landscape on glass. Lots of good stuff – and the award ceremony is always fun, because there are so many (awards, that is) and everyone is so thrilled about winning.

Later in the month, French-born abstract painter Liliane Luneau comes to our gallery with a collection of new paintings, after almost a decade since her last solo show. Luneau's work, says the curator, "combines the idea of the geometric with the technical frame of the painterly 'stroke.' Her work is the poetics of space." (For a translation, I think you'd better go look.) The show will run through May 15. Enjoy the usual food and music at the opening on April 22, 6-9 pm.

## Poetry Workshop explores iconographic American women poets

by Nan Kennedy

The National Poetry Month Workshop Series will concentrate on Emily Dickinson, Gwendolyn Brooks, Sylvia Plath and Audre Lorde. April 3, 10, 17 and May 1, Sunday afternoons, 3 – 5 pm in the Arts Collinwood Café, facilitated by Michelle R. Smith, MA. The workshops will explore these poets' iconography and work as a basis for discussions of poetry writing and personas. Participants will be asked to complete some pre-reading-- an article on the poet, a prose piece, and a small collection of poetry. Each workshop will be divided into two parts: a discussion of the reading material, aimed at identifying and further developing useful concepts for the participants' own work,

followed by a writing workshop in which the participants will share pieces inspired by the featured poet of the week and the pre-reading. Scans and links to all reading will be provided.

This sounds as good as many college classes – but with tea, coffee and wine.

Our Sunday Evening Roast Poetry Series continues April 17. Artless Dodger Press and friends appear at 7 pm.

And finally, April 30th the She Speaks Movement returns to our cafe for another night of ideas, truth and poetry, workshop and slam at 7 pm. 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 E156th.

## The Wiz: A journey through our own city streets

by Rhonda Hudson-Williams

TNV Productions presents, "The Wiz, a journey through streets in own community." Joey Ruffin, Director and CEO of TNV Productions, stated that his intentions are "To bring the fantasy aspect of the original Wizard of Oz and the soulful greatness of the movie, The Wiz, to life, while addressing some of today's social issues" while using our own community as its setting. Joey Ruffin's wish is for the movie's message to look familiar. "It is a great adventure for the whole family to enjoy."

Enjoy seating in the auditorium of

Euclid Ohio's Historical Shore Cultural Center.

For Ticket information: TheWIZ-MANCRYTHEMOVIE.COM or call Joey Ruffin at: 216 322-0483. Doors open one hour before showtime.

Friday April 15th, 7:00pm, Saturday April 16th, 2:00pm, 6:00 pm, Good Friday April 22, 7:00pm, Easter Sunday April 24, 5:00 pm.

**Collinwood writer, Rhonda Hudson-Williams enjoys writing inspirational and thought-provoking articles. She is also one of the dancers in The Wiz and is amazed by the experience.**



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ian couple as a white tablecloth restaurant featuring strolling violinists and the layout, bar, booths, even the mirrors all around date from that time. But by the time I was there, it had all aged into a venerable greasy spoon unlike anything here—despite the variety and delectability of our local establishments. The ceiling tiles, yellowed over decades of smoking, were replaced in the 90s, when the latest owner took over. And here's where the clientele of mostly arts and sciences majors has really left its mark—Instead of pulling the nicotine-stained tiles down and swapping in some bright new white ones, the owner made the tiles available to the arts students who were among the Dube's most devoted followers. The tiles came back one by one with art of every description drawn and painted on them. Some featured three-dimensional elements, including one that looked like a little upside-down mushroom house, something the Smurfs might build if they dropped acid. (If?)

I can't picture it being open for breakfast at breakfast time, the typical patrons would still be asleep, but it served breakfast lunch and dinner. They closed at 2 a.m., had a bar and a great jukebox. The menu was homestyle comfort food like French dip, meatloaf, open-faced roasted turkey . . . kind of anything you can serve involving the word "smothered" plus burgers, with one notable exception: The Dube Deluxe, \$175 for a bottle of Dom Perignon and two grilled cheese sandwiches.

The menu at the Academy Tavern on Larchmere comes close. You could roll in at

10:30 a.m. and recover from a hangover or make up for the fact that you hadn't made it to Big Bear (the nearest decent grocery store) in a week. The quieter afternoons made it a good place to study or read and no one gave you the evil eye for taking up a table, there were plenty at that hour. But the Dube really came into its own as the sun went down and the neon sign buzzed on. Draft beer, cans and bottles, plates of hearty food to balance them out, meals to close out a raucous night started elsewhere.

A college friend brought me a T-shirt from the Dube a few years ago. He meant it as a bit of nostalgia, but I was appalled at the thought that perhaps the servers were being made to wear something more than faded waist aprons to distinguish them from the clientele—humanities majors and locals of all ages who savored the mix of people and the snap of a PBR tallboy. I never saw anyone get snippy with the wait staff, or vice versa. The kind of people who demanded fastidious service ate elsewhere, and it wasn't about the food anyway. We were away from home and content with our freedom, except at mealtimes when the only hot meal was the one you made yourself.

If I had this portal, I guess I could grab my husband and three kids and go through to the Dube, but I'm afraid I'd feel like a tourist. Better to have it come here, to magically appear, all buzzing pink neon, grimy linoleum and Doors B-sides, on 185th superimposed on the blank-eyed Horseshoe. Then we could be the blue-collar regulars . . . I'd gladly take the long way home to see that.

## Save the date: Summer is packed!

by Denise Lorek

As you make your plans for a busy and entertaining summer, please keep a couple of dates in mind this April.

**Early warning: The Alive on 185 Parade is on Saturday May 21 at 11am.**

**April 16** Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Easter Egg Hunt. 10:00 am to noon at VASJ High School. \$5.00 gets you breakfast and a picture with the Easter Bunny. Easter Egg hunt will be at 11:00 in the front yard of VASJ. More information and tickets, call Denise Lorek at 481-7660 or email [dlorek@northeastshores.org](mailto:dlorek@northeastshores.org)

April 16 Record Store Day at Music Saves, Blue Arrow Records and This Way Out. Record Store Day is an annual event that celebrates locally owned music stores by offering them totally exclusive, limited edition records, CDs, and DVD's. Music Saves, Blue Arrow Records, This Way Out and the other businesses on Waterloo will be celebrating Record Store Day with free live

concerts, the aforementioned exclusive releases, and other sales, treats, and more! [www.recordstoreday.com](http://www.recordstoreday.com) for more information.

**Saturday April 16th 10am-12pm**  
Euclid Beach Clean ups with Adopt a Beach and Saturday May 21st 10am-12pm.

## Progress on Euclid Beach's Carrousel sign project

by Elva Brodnick

We're coming along nicely on the Carrousel Sign project. We've found a manufacturer, and are now finalizing the design. Plan is to dedicate it at the next EBPN Remembering the Sights & Sounds of Euclid Beach Park event September 25th.

Look forward to seeing you all around the neighborhood this summer – don't know about you, but I was DONE with snow weeks ago! Can't wait to see the Park all green again.

**Elva Brodnick is the President of Euclid Beach's Carrousel Committee.**



# Neighborhood Family

## Slovenian Workmen's Home-- 95 years of memories, Part 1

by Pat Nevar

On November 10, 1916, in a building known as Stakich Hall, a group of Slovenians representing fourteen lodges and societies, met for the purpose of discussing the building of a "home" to accommodate the promotion of their social, fraternal, cultural, athletic and civic activities. The organizations involved were:

Blejsko Jezero #27  
CFU Sons of Zagrebace Sloge & Hrvatska Sloboda #285  
Carniola Tent #1288 Maccabees  
Collinwood Hive #283 LOTM  
Collinwood Slovenke #22  
Jadran Singing Society  
Slovenian Band Bled  
Slovenska Godba Triblav  
SNPJ Lodge #53 V Boj  
SNPJ Lodge #142 MIR  
SNPJ Lodge #312 Vipavski Raj  
The Socialist Club #49  
Waterloo Camp #281  
Waterloo Grove #110 WC

Before the building was completed, the following organizations formed: Anton Verovsek Dramatic Club, Ladies Auxiliary, who to this day hold Friday Fish Fries, and Waterloo Club (United Cultural Society) who took on the task of raising funds for the Home.

After securing a bank loan, ground was broken and in 1926 the building was completed. Those having the distinction of being the first Board of Trustees were:

John Rozanc, Valentin Pirc, Louis

Pengi, Frank Oblak  
John Gorjanc, Vid Jancic, Joseph Prestri, Elizabeth Matko  
Anton Rupnik, Mike Podboy, John Hrovat , Anton Dolgan  
J. F. Durn, G. M. Kabay, Frank Strehovec, Frank Mihelich  
John Lokar, John Habe, Frank Fende, Jannie Lampe  
Rose Erjavec

A Slovenian school was organized in 1931. Classes began on January 20, 1932. That same year saw the beginning of Sokols, a gymnastic group. The Slovenian junior chorus, Mladenski Penske Zbor was formed in 1934, The MPZ.

The original building consisted of a recreation hall, auditorium, business offices, meeting rooms and a library. In 1935 the public bar was completed and four years later eight bowling alleys, indoor balina courts and a party room opened. These additions helped to produce added income. That same year the lower bar was built and the second parking lot was purchased.

During the 1940's, many of the boys in the community were serving in the armed forces and the "Home" became a center for Red Cross, War Bond drives and many other wartime activities. The Progressive Slovene Women of America Circle 1 felt the patriotic urge and commenced to raise funds for the memorial monument (currently located next to the building) to commemorate the many boys who were in the service

and many who lost their lives. In 1945, the memorial garden with its monument was dedicated and turned over to the "Home" and a tradition was born that was upheld for many years. The "Home" is most grateful to the Euclid Veterans Club who remembered their war buddies and paid tribute to their memory every year with traditional Memorial Day services in this garden.

The year of 1945 also saw the charter of the corporation changed to a non-profit status and all shares were exchanged for membership certificates.

In 1948, additional office space and an apartment were added and this completed the building program.

In the political arena, the 32nd Ward Democratic and Republican Clubs made the Slovenian Workmen's Home their headquarters. Another renter was the Waterloo Beach Association, which awakened the community with its pride of ownership and its neighborly attitude towards all newcomers.

In the sports groups which have met at Slovenian Workmen's Home are the St. Clair Rifle Club, American Slovene Golf Club, Wildwood Yacht Club and their Skipperettes, Cleveland Athletic League of SNPJ, Balina Club and the North East Little League Ladies Auxiliary.

Since most of the pioneers of the Slovenian Workmen's Home were in the working class, they became staunch supporters of unions and the working man. The facilities

were available in the event of strike to all 23 local unions who met on the premises. Currently, only a few unions continue to meet at Slovenian Workmen's Home.

**COME TO OUR ANNIVERSARY BANQUET AND CELEBRATE!**

The anniversary banquet celebrating 85 years will be held April 9th. This will be a "2011 Polka Tour Event" to celebrate 50 years of the Federation of National Homes and 50 years of Tony Petkovsek being in the polka business. Following is a listing of other events at the Slovenian Workmen's Home through May.

Fish Fry - Every Friday throughout the year from 3 PM until 8 PM. During Lent hours are 12 noon until 8 PM.

POLKA DANCES - Every Sunday 3 PM until 7 PM, held in the "Waterloo Ballroom" of the Slovenian Workmen's Home, \$10 per person includes 1 sandwich and soft drink.

Cash Bar April 3 - Bob Kravos and the Boys in the Band April 3 - Jeff Pecon Band April 17 and 24 - NO DANCE May 1 - Al Battistelli Band May 8 - Del Sinchek Band May 15 - Fred Ziwich & the Internationsl Sound Machine May 22 - Don Wojtila Band.

*Do you have pictures of some of the good times you and your family have shared at the Slovenian Workmen's Home?*

*Email them to the Collinwood Observer, or bring them to our office on E. 185th St. We will publish them in our May issue to continue the celebration of the anniversary of the Slovenian Work-*




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# The Grandmothers

## Talking to children about disabilities

Sidewalks are now made without curbs at the corners and laws prohibit putting up new buildings that are not accessible to everyone. We are now aware of the extra large stalls in bathrooms and parking for people with disabilities in every mall. We take these improvements in our way of life for granted now. We assume that our toddlers and preschoolers also take these changes for granted and don't notice the person in the wheelchair or leaning on a walker. That is, until our very curious four-year-old sees a man with Cerebral Palsy and blurts out, "What's the matter with him?" What do we do or say at that moment?

We know our four-year-old's question has been overheard and we are embarrassed. We certainly don't want to hurt the man's feelings and our mind races over a thousand answers. We often settle for silencing more questions and escaping into the next aisle. Often we settle it by telling our child that asking questions like that hurts the man's feelings.

### HOW IS THE CHILD FEELING?

During the preschool years, children's bodies are changing rapidly and it's the time when they become fully aware of them and what they can or cannot do. It's also a time when they imagine that almost everything in their lives seems to happen because of something they've said or done or even thought. The early years are the time when children are putting together ideas about their world and about themselves. They ask, "How am I the same as other people and how am I different?" "What control do I have or not have over what happens to me?" Many differences are common in the child's world such as size, sex, voices, skin color and clothing – that both the parents and the children take for granted. With new experiences, children meticulously watch and gather clues from Mommy and Daddy about what is safe to talk about or even approach. When differences are not so common it's not only our little preschooler who begins to "notice" and worry but the adults as well. She notices differences and worries about catching what the man with Cerebral Palsy has. She also gets a clue from Mommy who is deliberately not noticing and continues to shop. Furthermore, the question she has asked receives a quiet "no" nod or Mom whispers "Shhhh. That's not nice to ask." Now this little girl's anxiety doubles, for suddenly her question is unacceptable and mommy's message suggests, "This really is not safe to talk about!" The question she might have asked was whether she would lose her ability to walk should she happen to brush by the man or whether she could catch what he has. She needs to be reassured that it's all right to

ask questions and to be given simple, clear answers.

### HOW DO WE FEEL AND WHAT DO WE KNOW

We know that our preschoolers take cues from our behaviors. Many of us have not had significant experiences with people with disabilities and really don't know what to say ourselves. We feel sorry for the mother pushing a developmentally delayed five year old in a stroller and we busy ourselves with shopping or pointing out the colors on the cereal box. We haven't talked with anyone with Cerebral Palsy at length so don't really have the words to describe this to our children. Often, the last thing the mother with the curious little four-year-old would think about is the message her own anxiety gives to her daughter. The last thing any of us would want is to give the message that someone with a disability is to be feared and avoided.

### SO WHAT CAN WE SAY?

We want our little girl to be respectful and not hurt people's feelings. We don't want her to be frightened by people with disabilities but we really don't know when or how to answer her questions. Perhaps it helps to think first about the person with the disability. Nothing our little girl says will be new to the person living with Cerebral Palsy or with a large facial birthmark or any other noticeable disability. We can try to predict what our curious child might be thinking and the questions that might be asked before the situation occurs. "I notice you are looking very hard at the woman with the mark on her face. Does that worry you? Sometimes people are born with birthmarks. It is not anything you can catch. We can talk about it in the car after shopping if you have more questions."

Often we won't know exactly why someone uses a wheelchair or speaks in a way that seems different to us. The important thing is to convey to our child that her concerns and the questions that follow are OK. If we haven't predicted the on-the-spot loud questioning, a simple answer can be provided. "I don't know exactly why he is in a wheelchair but I know wheelchairs are the way people can get around when they have trouble walking or can't walk." Many times, if you yourself are comfortable with disabilities, you could engage the person with the disability, "Perhaps this man can answer your questions about his wheelchair." You might also offer to get something off a top shelf for him.

### WHAT IS THE MESSAGE?

The important thing is your own attitude and awareness of the message you

convey. We do not want to hurt people's feelings. Letting our child know this and that her questions can be answered later is very important. The reason that woman is, "so fat, so old, so bent over" is not something you want to discuss within hearing of the individual, but it can be answered simply when you are in another place. "Some people have a hard time when they are very fat. I think it hurts their feelings to hear people talk about it and we don't want to do that. You can always ask me your questions later." Our answers will better convey the right message if we educate ourselves about different disabilities and ways attitudes and modern technology are helping to integrate everyone into our society.

Knowing when to answer the child's question within hearing of the person with the disability and when to briefly defer the

questioning is a hard call. We will be able to determine this better when we become aware of both our and our child's understandings and reactions. Everyone understands things differently; we do, our children do - as does the person with a disability.

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

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

## Long-lost video resurfaces in time for Gutbrod tribute

by John Sheridan

The date was Nov. 25, 1989. The St. Joseph Viking football team was trailing, 14-7, at halftime of the state football championship game against Fostoria in the "Horseshoe" at Ohio State University.

But, as he had done many times before, veteran Coach Bill Gutbrod found a way to get his gridders charged up--and they went out and won the game, 21-14. (It was the last football game ever played as the "St. Joseph Vikings." The merger with Villa Angela Academy took place the following year.)

What did Coach Gutbrod say in that halftime pep talk? Well, hundreds of alumni and other supporters of the East 185th Street school might find out on Friday April 8, when the school—now VASJ—hosts "Coach Bill Gutbrod Night" at the Croatian Lodge in Eastlake, beginning at 5 p.m. Former NFL player Bob Golic, a 1975 grad, will serve as master of ceremonies.

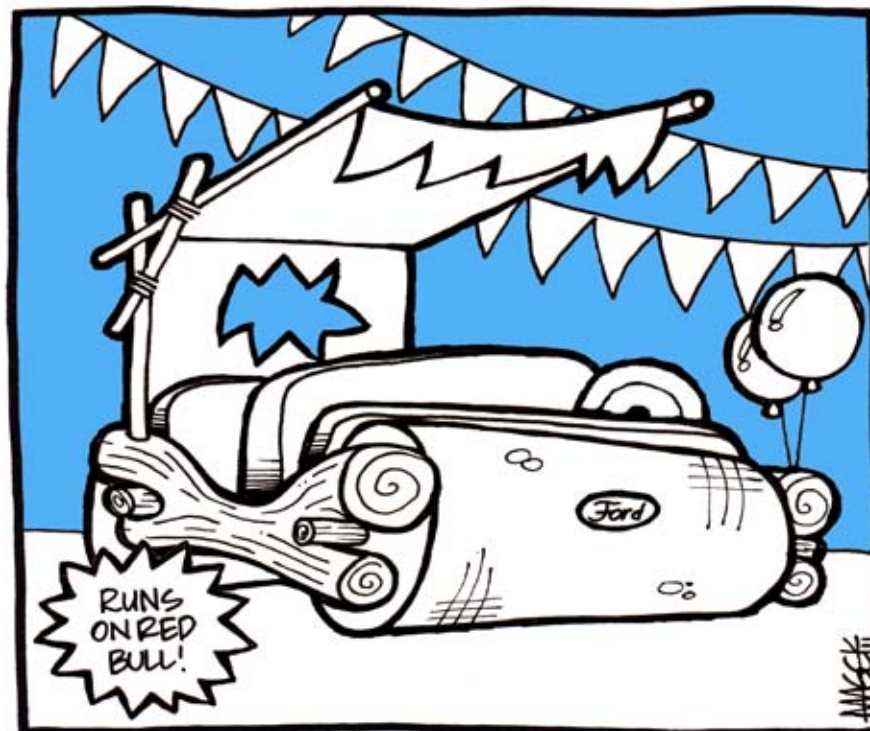
Just in time for the tribute to the storied coach, who devoted 40 years to St. Joe's, a long-lost videotape recording of that final halftime pep talk has turned up.

Tim Ryan, a professional photographer who filmed many of the Vikings' football games, recently stumbled across the video in his archives while searching for something else. "I had been looking for that tape for 20 years," he says, "but I couldn't find it because it was mislabeled. Until now, no one has ever seen that tape."

Making good use of his discovery, Tim (Class of '61) has been working with Cinecraft Productions to process the tape into a video presentation that should be a major highlight of the April 8 event. Cinecraft is headed by Neil McCormick, also a St. Joe grad. The full video production, Ryan notes, will include a few plays from the championship game in which quarterback Tony Miller led the comeback-from-behind victory.

Tickets for "Coach Bill Gutbrod Night" are \$35 and, reportedly, have been selling fast. For ticket information, contact Mary Paxton at VASJ at 216-481-8414, ext. 259.

John Sheridan is a retired journalist who has lived in Euclid for almost his entire life. He is a graduate of St. Joseph High School and John Carroll University.



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# Nan's Notes

by Nan Kennedy

## ON WATERLOO

### AT ARTS COLLINWOOD

**CREATIVE WRITING** April 10 Gail Bellamy, who is editor of Penton Media's Restaurant Hospitality (a job I once coveted and didn't get) and – more meaningfully -- has been called the poet laureate of Cleveland Heights, will be at the Arts Collinwood Writers' Group on April 10 at 2 pm, discussing nonfiction writing and reading some of her poetry.

### CALLING ARTS FEST VENDORS

The Waterloo ArtsFest committee has been quietly meeting: they're collecting volunteers, and they're updating the Fest's Web site. Go to [www.waterlooartsfest.com](http://www.waterlooartsfest.com) and click on the Vendors tab to download an application – complete with information about what art will make the cut, how the Fest is set up and so on. Applications for musicians, DJs, food vendors and others will be added soon. 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.

**AT THE BEACHLAND** Saturday, April 2, 8:30 pm: Festival with Waterband, Elemental Groove Theory, JP & The Chatfield Boys, Broccoli Samurai, Willie Mac – and more. 2 rooms of music for 1 great price! Monday, April 11 - Cleveland Blues Society April Meeting Jam \* Hosted by: Brickhouse Blues Band \* FREE SHOW Sunday, April 17 - Swing Brunch with: Ernie Krivda & The

Fat Tuesday Big Band featuring vocalist Erin Kufel Beachland Ballroom, 15711 Waterloo, 216.383.1124, [www.beachland-ballroom.com](http://www.beachland-ballroom.com)

## IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

**NSDC GENERAL MEETING** April 19 Northeast Shores will hold its quarterly General Meeting (meaning anyone can attend, though only members can vote. But membership is only \$15) at 6:30 pm at the Golden Age Center, 16700 Lakeshore Blvd. This is a great place to meet local officials and bend their ears about your neighborhood concerns. Also a good place to find out what they think is going on in the community.

**AT THE MARKET** On last week's visit, along with Grandma Sandy's banana-chocolate chip squares I collected mushrooms, spinach, eggs, and a quart of local maple syrup – passing up sweet potatoes, cabbage, onions, salad greens, apples, focaccia, cheese, jam, honey, heirloom seeds (tempting!) and a couple of hundred spices.

George from Blackbird Farms had sold all his bacon, but I got a deal on ground pork (because his butcher accidentally ground up all his lovely fresh hams). Go to [www.BlackbirdFarms.com](http://www.BlackbirdFarms.com) (it appears to be case-sensitive) to read about the enormous superiority of pasture-raised meat – and to enjoy a really delightful pig portrait. I also chatted with the vendor of Blaze Gourmet's salsas, hot sauces and Bloody Mary mixes – born in

Mexico, raised in the US (the vendor, and also the hot sauces, I suppose).

**Furthermore** – the market's library has collected 300 cooking and gardening books, and set up a database with more than 1,000,000 recipes -- internet access coming soon. Now you'll be able to do your shopping and go home with a new recipe to try. They're still accepting donations of cookbooks and other food related books, especially need gardening books. They're also looking for people to do cooking demos on Saturdays -- all dates are currently open. Tell Kevin if you're interested in presenting a favorite recipe featuring local produce (this Saturday, he'll be the guy in the back making tacos con papas.) Coit Road Farmers' 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.

## APRIL AT THE LIBRARY

Memorial Nottingham Branch Library, 17133 Lakeshore Blvd, 623-7039 or email [cpl-memnot@cpl.org](mailto:cpl-memnot@cpl.org). "Poetry Slam!" Contest of Expressions; Tuesday, April 5, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Calling all young poets! Ages 6 through 11! In honor of National Poetry Month, the Memorial-Nottingham Branch would like to celebrate these joyous 30 days of pure poetic delight! If you have the sweetest, funniest or most outrageous poem, come and share it with your peers. The best poem will win a mystery poetry prize! Visit the Memorial-Nottingham Branch to learn more about

the National Poetry Month, and to get to discover some of the most well-loved children's poets. Preschool Story Time Every Monday during April, 10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Stories, rhymes, songs and more for children ages 3-5 and their parents/ caregivers. For more information, please call 623-7039 or email [cpl-memnot@cpl.org](mailto:cpl-memnot@cpl.org). Play and Learn (NEW DAY AND TIME!) Every Thursday during April, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Parents, caregivers and their young children are invited to play and learn with educational toys and books.

**COLLINWOOD LAUNCHES GIRL SCOUT NIGHTS** The Nottingham Youth Center is hosting a Girl Scout recruitment April 13 and May 11, 4:30-6 pm, at Nottingham United Methodist Church, 18316 St. Clair Avenue ~ 216-486-7612. Girls in grades 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be welcomed with open arms. If you can't make any of those dates, call Kareemah Darby, 216) 535-7900 or [kdarby@gsneo.org](mailto:kdarby@gsneo.org); she'll help you get signed up.

**COLLEGE FAIR 2011** April 2 Visit Boulevard Presbyterian Church, 9:30 am – 3 pm on Saturday, April 2, to get better informed about college prospects. At 9:30 am, take part in a College Financial Aid Workshop; from 10:30am to 2 pm, talk with representatives from colleges and universities. For more information please contact: Doris Evans, Pastor Anne McCabe or Pastor Norma Bean at 216-731-8147 or [blvdpres9669@sbcglobal.net](mailto:blvdpres9669@sbcglobal.net). Boulevard Presbyterian Church, 24600 Lakeshore Boulevard



# Bridal & Formal Fair

Sun. Apr 10th 2:00pm - 5:00pm

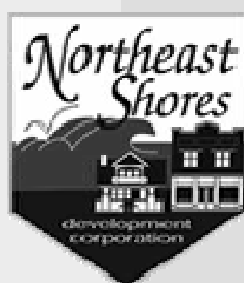
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At Collinwood Memorial Library

by Nan Kennedy  
**APRIL AT THE LIBRARY**  
Collinwood Branch Library, 856 East 152nd Street, 216-623-6934, www.cpl.org  
**GED Classes Sign up:** Monday, April 4th  
Classes are held Mondays and Wednesdays – 12:30pm-2:30pm  
**TAX CLINIC – APRIL 9TH**  
-10:00am-5:00pm. Call 211 from land line or 216-436-2000 to schedule an appointment.  
**Free tutoring for Elementary School Students**  
Monday- Thursday –2:30pm-5:00pm  
**Story Time & Play and Learn**  
Tuesdays: 11:00am. -12:00pm  
**Collinwood Page Turners Book Club**  
Saturday, April 16th  
10:30am- 11:30am – **When the Thrill is Gone**, by Walter Mosley.  
**Conversations:** Community Dialogue Series at Cleveland Public Library  
**Saturday, April 16 – 12:00 pm**  
**Let the Healing Begin** – Yvonne Pointer will share her path to healing in her two books, Behind the Death of A Child, and Word from the Mother. Program attendees will receive copies of her books while supplies last.  
**Poetry For Kids Program**  
Thursday, April 26TH -3:00pm  
**Save the dates for The Boardwalk**  
by Brittainy Heisler  
Here's a list of the Boardwalks latest!  
**Friday April 15th-** Britt's Birthday Bash with The Madison Crawl 9 pm FREE  
**Saturday May 14th-** Fundraiser for the Susan G. Komen 3-day Walk for the Cure. Tickets are \$20 for dinner and entertainment by The Blues DeVille . More info in the May issue!  
**Every Monday-** Jam Nite 10pm FREE  
**Taco Tuesday,** \$1 tacos, Wing Wednesday 50 cent wings

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