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# The Collinwood Observer

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March 2012

## Another successful Taste of the Neighborhood

by Denise Lorek

On February 23rd Northeast Shores hosted their 4th Annual Taste the Neighborhood Award Dinner and Fundraiser.

If you were not able to attend this year, you missed a feast. We had food donated from local eateries Café at Arts Collinwood, Beachland Ballroom, Bistro 185, Blitz Barbecue, B&M Barbecue, Cakes by Sweetwater, Chili Peppers, Congins pizza, Daves Supermarket, East 200th St. Convenient, Georgios Pizza, Grovewood Tavern, Gus's Diner, Lithuanian Hall, and Muldoons. Every restaurant outdid themselves. The food was wonderful and the representatives that the restaurants sent had just as much fun as the guests.

The restaurants were very generous with their donations. The many businesses, residents and board members who donated baskets for our Chinese raffle went all out. We had a wide assortment of baskets, some full of local merchandise and gift certificates. The event would not have been the same without our “One Fun DJ,” John Copic. He helped MC the event and kept the music going. The student volunteers from VASJ High School were a tremendous help and excellent ambassadors for the event. I would be remiss if I did not send out a huge thank you to Ruta Degutis and the Lithuanian Hall for once again hosting this event.

On behalf of Northeast Shores I would like to personally thank everyone who participated in this fundraiser.



**WINNERS:** Left to right, Brian Friedman, of Northeast Shores, Councilman Mike Polensek, and neighborhood award winners, Jen Ryba, Pat Harrison, Brian Licht, Megan Van Voorhis, Tom Schorgl, Cindy Barber, Patrick Montgomery, Jack Dicocco.

## They are trenching Lakeshore Boulevard

by Nan Kennedy

If you live/drive on or near Lakeshore Blvd, you may want to come to the NEORS D meeting on Thursday, March 1, 6 pm, Rec Center. This project includes an impending trenching of Lakeshore Boulevard, which raises questions about how people get on and off their streets, in and out of their driveways, where they park to pick up an Archie cake...and so on. NEORS D will have the answers. Tell your neighbors.

## Local police officer gets heroism medal

by John Sheridan

Cleveland District 5 Patrol Officer Edward Csoltko, a North Collinwood resident, demonstrated both persistence and bravery one night last summer when he pursued two street thugs who were ultimately arrested.

His actions that evening earned him the Cleveland Police Department's Medal of Heroism, which was presented on Dec. 8, 2011, in a ceremony at City Hall attended by Mayor Frank Jackson and Police Chief Michael McGrath.

The Medal of Heroism is given to policemen who “demonstrate extraordinary bravery or act in an exemplary and extraordinary manner while at substantial risk of personal harm.”

The awards ceremony program provided this description of the incident: “On June 8, 2011, Patrol Officer Edward Csoltko was working alone and stopped in traffic at a red light when he observed two males chase and beat another male. Officer Csoltko went to intervene, but as the suspect males saw the police car approach they jumped into a waiting vehicle and proceeded to flee. The suspects purposely drove their car in reverse and rammed Officer Csoltko's vehicle.

“Officer Csoltko immediately broadcast his situation and a description of the suspect vehicle. Officer Csoltko pursued the males as they recklessly weaved through neighborhood streets. At one point, the suspect vehicle again purposely rammed Officer Csoltko's vehicle

*Continued on page 4*

## And the winners are...

by Denise Lorek

On Tuesday, February 23 at our Fourth Annual Taste the Neighborhood event, Northeast Shores recognized some pretty wonderful people and organizations.

**Resident of the year this year – Brian Licht.** Brian works with both of our Feral Cat projects, Waterloo Alley Cats and the Euclid Beach Feral Cat Project. Brian can be seen trapping feral kitties to be neutered or spayed and then releasing them back in to a colony of cats to be cared for. Brian is also very active in the East 156th St. Block Watch. He has been known to work the coat check room at the Beachland Ballroom and then donate his tips to the cat projects. Brian is one of our unsung heroes. He just does what needs to be done and never looks for recognition for his good deeds.

**Block Club of the Year – East 156th Street Block Watch.** This group of Block Watchers is growing every month. This group has gone from a handful of people attending meetings to a regular attendance of 30 people. Pat and Al Harrison, the chair people of this group, accepted the award on behalf of their group. If you live around East 156th St. and would like



**HONORED** – Officer Edward Csoltko (center) accepts his Medal of Heroism as Mayor Frank Jackson (left) and Police Chief Michael McGrath look on.

## VASJ gridders to play in All-Star game in Italy

by John Sheridan

Seven Villa Angela-St. Joseph Viking football players, all seniors, have been chosen to play for the “Stars and Stripes” team that will represent the U.S. in an All-Star game in Rome, Italy, on April 21. On the opposite side of the line of scrimmage will be an Italian All-Star squad—Italy's national Under-19 team.

Members of the Viking contingent are: tackle John DiDonato, halfback Ryan Gallagher, lineman DiAnte Jackson, linebacker Chris Pokorny, lineman Paul Rini, defensive back Mato Vunak, and center Dan Ward.

*Continued on page 7*

## Collinwood's Jergens hosts Presidential candidate

by William McCulloch

When Republican Presidential candidate Newt Gingrich sought an industrial backdrop for a rally for the March 6th Ohio Primary, Jergens' president Jack H. Schron Jr., 63, obliged to host. Though not particularly known as a Gingrich proponent, Mr. Schron welcomed the opportunity to showcase Jergens and the Collinwood facility to the candidate and the greater public. He is currently a Republican Cuyahoga County Councilman for District 6.

Though a resident of Chagrin Falls, where he was born and raised (Chagrin '66), Jack Schron's family and company have had long ties to the Collinwood neighborhood. His grandfather, Christy Schron, had been chief engineer for the McKinney Tool & Mfg. Co. and chief tool designer for the White Motor Co. for 13 years. During this period, he started to slowly amass a collection of different machine tool machinery in the garage of his home at 15406 Glencoe Rd. with the expectations of opening his own shop. In 1942, with war production contracts secured for building specialty custom tooling, Glenn Tool & Mfg. Co. was established.

Son Jack H. Schron Sr. (Collinwood '35), who prior had been with Thompson Products Inc., then joined on as general manager. Soon after a second separate company was also established manufacturing and selling standard catalog items for industries under the name Jergens. Following the war they decided their future was in manufacturing catalog items as opposed to the custom tooling work and Glenn was discontinued.

Over Jergens 70 year history, they have worked out of four different sites all within Collinwood. Initially they were at 878 E. 152nd St. but by war's end they had moved to a larger space at 716 E. 163rd St. Later on they relocated to 19520 Redwood Rd. In 1999 they moved into their current 130,000 sq. ft. facility at 15700 South Waterloo Rd. The newly built 5.5 million dollar structure is on a 10-acre section of the former Collinwood Railway Yards that was redeveloped as an industrial park.

Currently employing 220 people, Jergens produces various components engineered to improve manufacturing efficiency as well as operating a separate industrial supply division. They have been able to show by example that by understanding your market, by being adaptable, and committed to quality, that manufacturing can continue to succeed and thrive in Collinwood.

*Will McCulloch is an amateur local historian.*



Jergens CEO, Jack Schron, gives Newt Gingrich and his wife a tour of the Jergens facility.

*Continued on page 4*



## 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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PUBLISHER  
John Copic, collinwoodobserver@gmail.com

EDITORIAL COORDINATOR  
Betsy Voinovich, betsy@collinwoodobserver.com

ADVERTISING  
John Copic, 216.531.6790

EDITOR  
Liz Copic

WRITERS: Elva Brodnick, Evelyn Copan-Bute,  
Jeanne Coppola, Rev. Damon P. Dillard,  
Meghan DiCocco, Matt Donovan, Ron Emser,  
Robin Howell, Angela Jones, Charlie Kamen,  
Nan Kennedy, Lynn Krumholz, Denise Lorek,  
Stephen Love, Mike Polensek, Emily  
Robinson, William McCulloch, Richard  
Osborne, John Sheridan

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bridget Caswell, John Copic, Betsy Voinovich,  
David Hansen, Maria Estrella

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click on Member Center, sign in, click  
on Submit Story, and start writing. Next  
deadline: March 25, 2012.

## Resolution for non-resident Rec Center users to pay fees

by Councilman Michael D. Polensek

First of all, thanks to all the ward residents who continue to register and utilize the new Collinwood Recreation Center on Lakeshore Boulevard. As of this writing there are now over 8,000 members who have registered at the Center. Out of that number approximately 1,500 are from other cities and municipalities including the Village of Bratenahl and the City of Euclid.

As a result of this growing disparity, on Monday, January 30, 2012 at the regular meeting of Cleveland City Council, I sponsored Resolution No. 124-12 “urging the Jackson Administration and the Department of Public Works to study and implement a fee structure for charging non-Cleveland residents for use of the City of Cleveland recreation centers, including the Collinwood Recreation Center.” I was joined by my colleagues The Honorable Jeff Johnson, Mamie

Mitchell, Tony Brancetelli, Zack Reed, and Kevin Conwell, who co-sponsored the Resolution with me.

It goes without saying how long we worked to bring about this state-of-the-art Center and I am very honored and, quite frankly, flattered that so many suburban residents would now flock to our neighborhood to experience this magnificent complex. However, as we all know, especially those of us who grew up in the Collinwood community, historically Cleveland residents and their children have been flatly denied or have had to pay exorbitant fees to use suburban recreational facilities. To this councilman, it is not about barring our suburban neighbors; it is about fairness, equity and being treated decently.

In addition, the Friends of Collinwood Recreation Center, the Advisory Group for the Center, voted unanimously to support this Resolution mandating a

fee structure for suburban residents or a signed co-operation agreement with suburban municipalities regarding likewise usage and visitation by Cleveland families of their facilities.

However, at the end of the day, the taxpayers of Cleveland paid for and built the Collinwood Recreation Center. If we are to maintain first-class facilities then we all must share the same financial burden to support the Centers. If suburban residents, whom we welcome with open arms, wish to use the Center, then they should have to pay for it just as we do.

We look forward to Mayor Jackson and the Public Works Department coming up with a plan of action to be presented to City Council to level the playing field. It is the only right and fair thing to do and, quite frankly, it's long overdue.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you and your family at the Center.

## “Branches” Art Space Grand Opening March 23



Branches Art Space owner Sue Brandt with Bert Dennis, new artist.

by Evelyn Copan-Bute

Join us for our Grand Opening Art Exhibit on Friday March 23 from 6-10 pm at Branches Art Space, the new Collinwood-based artists' alliance. Experience a variety of art including jewelry, photography, metal sculpture, beachglass jewelry, driftwood sculpture, painting, mixed media mandala work, and more, and have some wine and cheese with the local artists.

After our Grand Opening, this art exhibit will run through May 4. We are still looking for a few more artists in the following media: ceramics and pottery, sculpture, watercolor, painting, wood craft, portraiture, multimedia. Come join us to share the gift of creativity with the community.

Contact Evelyn Copan-Bute managing partner (216) 408-5142 or [evelynbute@adelphia.net](mailto:evelynbute@adelphia.net)

Evelyn Copan-Bute is managing partner of Branches - located at 18322 Lakeshore Blvd. next to Beachland Hair Design. Branches is a shared studio, gallery, and teaching space.



Sarah Gyorki of Shore Cultural Center and Branches managing partner, Evelyn Copan-Bute

## Job Club

by Jeanne Coppola

The Northeast Shores Collinwood area should have a job club for residents who need support in their search for employment. Since there are many diverse job seekers, in the North Collinwood area, ranging from students to adults reentering the work force, I suggest that a “North Shores Collinwood Job Seekers Group” be started.

It could be different from other job clubs in surrounding suburbs, in that it would be accessible to local residents, and cover a wide variety of topics, including information for our many older workers and people with disabilities. The topics covered and suggestions from members could be endless...

As an example: local merchants and companies could volunteer a half hour of their time to speak at meetings and give participants an idea of the employment picture in our neighborhood. Librarians and school teachers could give resources on the fundamentals of online websites. And a fax service, with copy facilities, could be provided (for a nominal fee) by the new Collinwood Rec Center, which has a computer lab.

There could be widespread community involvement, with employers and job seekers meeting and getting to know each other which would be very beneficial to everyone involved.

Meetings could be held at the Memorial-Nottingham library, or at Villa-Angela St. Joseph High School.

Anyone with suggestions and ideas, please call (216) 268-1818. Or submit responses to the Collinwood Observer. Go to [www.collinwoodobserver.com](http://www.collinwoodobserver.com), click in Members Center, sign in and submit.

Jeanne Coppola is a life long resident of the Collinwood neighborhood, and is interested in art and writing. She graduated from Collinwood High School, and attended Cleveland State University.

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## Unlocking the vault

by Matt Donovan

Have you noticed any new activity happening in the old Key Bank on Waterloo? KaleidoArts Productions Inc. has begun to establish residency as a “creative business incubator” in the top floor of the building, in conjunction with Northeast Shores Community Development Corporation.

KaleidoArts Productions is a nonprofit collective of young local independent artists. Its mission is to enrich the community by providing support and resources to young independent artists through the collection, presentation, and production of local fine art. Saturday, March 3rd is an open house to give you a chance to come down and see their vision for the future of this space, and to see if you want to be a part of it. There will be live music, DJs, independent film, and a silent art auction from 5pm-10pm. For more information



The top floor of the old Key Bank building on Waterloo is the location of the new KaleidoArts Productions “creative business incubator.”

contact Karah Vance, founder and executive director of KaleidoArts Productions. [karahvance@yahoo.com](mailto:karahvance@yahoo.com).

Matt Donovan is the Chief of Operations at KaleidoArts Productions. They will be renting art studios and giving free music lessons at 15619 Waterloo Rd.

## Clean Euclid Beach for World Water Day 2012 and get a free taco!

by Stephen Love

Join Adopt-a-Beach volunteers in celebration of World Water Day 2012 for a beach cleanup at Euclid Beach State Park from 10am-12pm March 24th and get a free taco and drink from Chilli Peppers restaurant (869 E. 185th St. Cleveland)! We will meet in the park pavilion at 10am, break up into teams and head down to the beach to pick up trash, conduct water quality tests and have a trash weighing contest! Gloves, trash pickers, rakes and bags will be provided. Please dress for the weather...whatever it may be and wear tennis shoes or boots! Coffee and water will be provided at the cleanup. After the beach cleanup all volunteers are invited to Chilli Peppers restaurant for a free taco and drink (Be sure to thank Steve Newman owner of Chilli Peppers)! The winners of the trash-weighing contest will also get a special prize...to be announced at Chilli Peppers!

Check out our next lineup of cleanups for Spring/Summer 2012! **Saturday April 21-Global Youth Service Day, Saturday, May 19 10am-12pm, Saturday June 16 10am-12pm. More dates and events to come!**



Saving the Great Lakes one cleanup at a time!

For more information contact **Stephen Love** Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team Coordinator **Email:** [adopt.euclid-beach@gmail.com](mailto:adopt.euclid-beach@gmail.com) **Mailing address:** The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team 317 E. 156th Street Cleveland, OH 44110

Please mail donations (**checks only please!**) to: **Northeast Shores Development Corporation** 317 E. 156th Cleveland, OH 44110. Make checks out to **Northeast Shores Development Corp.** Subject line: “Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Volunteers”

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.

## SilverSneakers Fitness Class offered by Lakeshore Golden Age Centers

by Lynn Krumholz

The Lakeshore Golden Age Center is pleased to partner with the SilverSneakers Fitness Program to offer a Basic Range of Motion class, beginning on Thursday, March 1 at the Lakeshore Golden Age Center, 16600 Lakeshore Ave., Cleveland.

Offered Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 am, this class can be done standing or in a chair. Using weights, balls and fitness bands all to upbeat music, the class is tailored to all ability levels and taught by an upbeat and expert instructor. Class

time is approximately 45 min. and builds flexibility, motion and provides strength.

Many supplemental insurances offer SilverSneakers Fitness Programs as a benefit. SilverSneakers Fitness Members and those who think they may be eligible are encouraged to attend. Upon registering, SilverSneakers members should bring their SilverSneakers card. All participants should bring water, wear comfortable shoes and clothing.

Call the Golden Age Centers, (216) 481-0631 or visit [www.silversneakers.com](http://www.silversneakers.com)



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Development

Winners - Continued from front page

**Business of the Year – All American Pride Car Wash.** Patrick Montgomery and Jack DiCocco, the owners of American Pride Car Wash, accepted this award for their investment in our neighborhood. Their car wash located at the corner of East 156th and Lakeshore is a wonderful addition to the Lakeshore Corridor. The architect who designed the Rec Center also designed their car wash so that it would complement the Rec Center. If you have not washed your car there, stop in and do your car a favor.

**Partner of the Year – Community Partnership for Arts and Culture.** Tom Schorgl accepted this award on behalf of CPAC. Our Artist In Residence program would not be possible if not for CPAC. They have brought \$500,000 to our neighborhood to use in many ways from grants to loans for artist-based projects. Whether you already live in the area or are thinking about moving to our area, there is a grant or loan program for you. We are lucky enough to have Seth Beattie from CPAC in our Northeast Shores office 3 days a week to administer this program. If you have questions or need help with your grant or loan application, call Seth at (216) 481-7660 x 27.

**North Collinwood Hall of Fame – Cindy Barber.** You would have had to be living in a cave to not know who Cindy Barber is. Cindy is the biggest cheerleader Waterloo has. Not only does she own the Beachland Ballroom but she has been instrumental in bringing businesses to Waterloo and residents to the neighborhood. Cindy envisions a whole artist community for the Waterloo area and is well on her way to accomplishing this. The Branchland Ballroom is the anchor on Waterloo. She has world-renowned acts there as well as small local acts. People come from all over the world to catch acts at the Beachland. Cindy is also a resident of North Shore Collinwood. She has been on the Board of Northeast Shores for over 9 years, at one time serving as the President. She was also on the Board of Arts Collinwood serving as their president at one time as well. Cindy won the 2007 Martha Joseph Prize for distinguished service to the arts for her perseverance in bringing the Beachland Ballroom to an area that needed a vision. Now several other businesses have opened nearby and people are visiting the Waterloo area.

Hero - Continued from front page

on the driver's side. Officer Csoltko continued his persistent pursuit until the males finally stopped and began to flee on foot. Officer Csoltko quickly apprehended one of the suspects while the second suspect was eventually captured by the other responding units.”

Officer Csoltko, a graduate of St. Joseph High and the University of Dayton, is a 15-year veteran of the Cleveland Police Department.

Learn more about the Euclid Creek Tunnel Project

by Angela Jones

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, in partnership with Northeast Shores Development Corporation, will host two meetings for the Collinwood community to update area residents and commercial businesses about the Euclid Creek Tunnel. **Both meetings will be held at the Collinwood Recreation Center, 16300 Lakeshore Boulevard. Businesses: Wednesday, February 29 9:00 a.m. Residents: Thursday, March 1 6:00 p.m.**

These meetings are for **commercial businesses and residents** in proximity of the NEORS D Euclid Creek Tunnel. We will provide a project overview and an update on construction schedules and impacts to traffic patterns. We also want to address any concerns the local businesses may have regarding this project and resulting impacts.

The Euclid Creek Tunnel is a \$197 million project that will capture combined sewer overflows, or CSOs, drastically reducing raw sewage that enters our waterways during heavy storms. Construction began in April, 2011, and will continue for four years.

Two additional large-scale construction projects will be integrated with the Euclid Creek Tunnel. The Tunnel Dewatering Pump Station is an \$80 million project that will pump sewage out of the storage tunnel to the Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant for treatment. Upon completion of the Euclid Creek Tunnel, the Sewer District will begin construction on the Dugway Storage Tunnel, which will further reduce combined sewer overflows in the area.

For more information about the meeting, contact **Angela Jones** (NEORS D) at **216.881.6600** or **Denise Lorek** (Northeast Shores Development Corporation) at **216.481.7660**. Information about the Euclid Creek Tunnel project is available at [www.neorsd.org/ect](http://www.neorsd.org/ect)

Cover Your Assets No Interest Loan Program

by Charlie Kamen

Need help replacing your old, battered roof? Do you live in the 44119 zip code? Then you may qualify for the 0% Loan offered by Neighborhood Housing Services in partnership with Northeast Shores Development Corporation. This program, unlike other programs, has no income qualifications. The loan amount is a maximum of \$10,000 for roof and gutter repairs. There are no payments due upon the loan until sale or transfer of the property. To enroll into the program

income documentation and application is required though it will not disqualify you in any means from the loan. The only restrictions are that you must be up-to-date with your current mortgage, tax payments and that the home must be owner occupied.

For more info call Charlie Kamen at (216) 481-7660 or via email at [ckamen@northeastshores.org](mailto:ckamen@northeastshores.org).

**For more details see this story online at [www.collinwoodobserver.com](http://www.collinwoodobserver.com).**

Weatherization isn't just for the income-eligible, CHN now offers Energy \$aves Program

by Charlie Kamen

Attention Collinwood Residents, The Cleveland Energy Saves Program now gives those households that do not qualify for the Housewarming or Weatherization programs the chance to improve their homes energy efficiency. Residents should take advantage of this one-year energy efficiency program. Now you can make those updates to your home to keep you warmer. The new program offers costs incentives that were never available before.

This program is made possible through the City of Cleveland, the Cleveland Housing Network(CHN), and Cleveland Action to Support Housing (CASH). How, any resident may take part in the benefits of increasing your homes efficiency and cutting down your utility bills. The new Cleveland Energy Saves Program now gives residents:

- Low Cost energy audits (\$50 a savings of over \$300) to assess what needs to be done to improve their home's efficiency and help save money on their utility bills.
- A detailed report with recommendations on upgrades the owner can make to achieve the highest level of energy savings. If the homeowner goes forward with retrofits/upgrade, the audit fee of \$50 is refundable.
- The improvements report, could include attic and side wall insulation, furnace replacement, programmable thermostat and new windows/doors.
- Each homeowner interested in improvements can assess what improvements will be right for them depending on cost, incentives/rebates, and payback period. Available rebates reduce the cost of the retrofits by nearly 40%.

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Around Collinwood

BeerJointsRUs

Coach's Place has indeed been around awhile. Not quite sure how long, but I'm sure it was long before we put a man in space... and we probably needed a can opener to open up a can of Schlitz! It was the Buckhorn Saloon, Bunky's Place, but it is indeed now, Coach's Place

Perry Ward is the latest purveyor of fine spirits behind the bar at Coach's Place and likely one of the best. Just sitting down with Perry you get the feeling that he's always planning the next BIG THING.

The next big thing is Saint Patrick's Day. His objective is to make it "GROUND ZERO" for this year's celebration. He's opening at 6 am, serving up 22oz. Harps on draught, Guinness in bottles, a shot of Jameson or a Corned Beef Sandwich. Certainly a menu of the day., and the best part... they're all available for only \$2.25 each.

Good deals are really par for the course at Coach's Place. Speaking of par, Perry's next event (after the St. Patty's Day Blast) is the Spring Golf Outing, scheduled for this Spring. From golfing to "Christmas in July" Party. Seriously this guy doesn't quit!

Now that the E. 185th Street Festival is history, you may have heard of "PERRY-FEST"? If you haven't... YOU WILL! Coach's Place's Anniversary is Aug. 25th and over 1000 folks knew about it and attended last year.

Charlie Kamen is the Housing Programs Manager Northeast Shores Dev. Corp.

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Perry Ward...  
Purveyor of fine spirits  
at Coach's Place

Big Tents. Live Music. The Works! Over 250 lbs. of free food was consumed. This year's menu will include Mahi-mahi and a Pig Roast.

BREAKFAST CLUB, often called the Best 80's Cover band in Cleveland, will headline this year's Perry-Fest. Other acts include Ted Riser, Michael Allman, (yep, Gregg's son) and the Elm Street Blues Band.

Perry's also quite a philanthropist, and he gives a lot of stuff away, too! Last year he provided over 2000 meals as a result of his very successful Christmas Party.

All the Cavs games can be seen at Coach's Place and as always the "Red & Gold" Drink Menu Specials are available.

If you haven't visited Coach's Place yet, stop in and say "Hey" to Perry & the girls!

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Let's pull up a stool and discuss it!

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- Completely Re-built
- 3 Bedrooms
- 2 Full Baths
- Finished Basement
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- New 2 Car Garage
- Hardwood Floors Throughout
- Open Floor Plan
- 10 Year Tax Abatement
- \$1,500 Appliance Allowance



**391 East 163rd**

- Completely Re-Built
- 2 Bedrooms
- 1 ½ Baths
- 1st Floor Laundry
- Built In Bookcase
- Large Walk-In Closet
- Fireplace
- 10 year Tax Abatement
- \$1,500 Appliance Allowance



**382 East 163rd**  
(Under Construction)

- Completely Re-Built
- 3 Bedrooms (first floor bedroom)
- 2 Full Baths • 2nd Floor Laundry
- Screened Sun Porch
- Fenced-In Large Side/Rear Yard
- Hardwood Floors Throughout
- Cathedral Ceiling • Open Floor Plan
- 10 Year Tax Abatement
- \$1,500 Appliance Allowance



**15615 Trafalgar Ave**  
(Under Construction)

- Completely Re-Built
- 3 Bedrooms
- 2 Full Baths
- 1 ½ Car Garage
- Hardwood Floors Throughout
- Open Floor Plan
- 10 year Tax Abatement
- \$1,500 Appliance Allowance

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(216) 268-4175 \* TTY (216) 472-1884  
Seniors 55 & Older

**Euclid Beach Club**  
123 E. 156th Street, Cleveland, Ohio  
(216) 383-9779 \* TTY (216) 472-1884  
Seniors 55 & Older



**Owl's Nest**  
2020 Taylor Road, E. Cleveland, OH  
(216) 541-4472 \* TTY (216) 472-1884  
Seniors 55 & Older



**Gates Mills Villa**  
6755 Mayfield Road, Mayfield Hts., OH  
(440) 461-2294 \* TTY (216) 472-1884  
Seniors 62 & Older

**Euclid Hill Villa**  
100 Richmond Road, Euclid, Ohio  
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## Schools and Libraries

### VASJ students start making plans for college

by Emily Robinson

As graduation approaches, students at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School are starting to solidify their college plans. For two seniors, that means full four-year scholarships to play football. For another senior, that means acceptance to one of the top colleges in the country.

Chavien Nolcox signed with Youngstown State where he will play as an outside linebacker on their football team, keeping his VASJ jersey number, #46. C. J. Germany signed with Notre Dame College where he will join their football team as a wide receiver and kick returner while also majoring in criminal justice. Ryan Gallagher was admitted into the West Point Class of 2016 at the United States Military Academy where he is considering studying engineering and hopes to walk-on to the football team. He will leave for Cadet Basic Training on July 2, 2012.

Excitement is building for other members of the Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School Class of 2012 as they continue to receive acceptances and scholarship



VASJ senior Ryan Gallagher was admitted into the West Point Military Academy Class of 2016.

opportunities and get one step closer to making the important decision about where they will continue their education.

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

### Viking Views

by Richard Osborne

Here's a trivia question to test your knowledge of Viking history: What's the Purple Palace? (Bonus points if you can explain how the name came about.)

Now tune up some quiz-show music in your head. We'll return with the answers after this message from our sponsors...

Make your reservations now for the 2nd Annual Viking Classic Mixer to be held on April 14 in the Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School gym. Everyone is invited to "have a ball" at this glittering evening filled with memories of Villa Angela Academy, St. Joseph High School and, of course, VASJ.

Starting at 6 pm, guests will be treated to auctions, raffles, dinner, live music, dancing and special surprises too numerous to mention – all enjoyed under a sparkling dance-floor ball that itself evokes memories of classic mixers way back when.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening will be Larry Morrow, Cleveland's most venerable broadcaster. Music once again will be provided by Chance, who rocked the house last year and whose members include several alums.

For many VA girls – not to mention some of us St. Joe boys who occasionally stopped by to see them – Memory Lane may seem a lot like the long drive-way leading to "The Castle" that was the

old Villa Angela. For younger alums and friends, it may feel more like a visit to the "new VA" that is now a beautiful branch of the Cleveland Public Library.

But whether your classic memories were made then, are continuing to be made now or are just beginning, the Classic Mixer is your chance to celebrate the role VA, SJ and VASJ have played – and continue to play – in the community we all love.

While we take this commercial break, it is important to note that the Classic Mixer is also your chance to show your support for VASJ. Many businesses, alums and friends already have stepped forward to make sure we have a night to remember that also will leave a lasting legacy to the school. For ticket and sponsorship information, please visit [vasj.com](http://vasj.com).

OK, now back to our program...

Veteran Viking Villagers know that the "Purple Palace" has actually been the centerpiece of the foregoing message. It's the nickname we once had for the gym where the Classic Mixer will take place—so named because of the lighting that gave the place a purplish hue "back in the day."

The purple hue is long gone, but here's the good news: It's given way to a brighter light. And a brighter day.

That kind of spirit is classic VASJ.

Richard Osborne, St. Joseph High School Class of 1969, is the president of VASJ. He is returning as the author of this column after a 45-year absence. He wrote his first "Viking Views" columns for the local community newspapers in the 1966-67 school year.

### Adopt A Senior Day sponsored by Collinwood High School

by Robin A. Howell

The students from Ms. Howell's class from Advanced Placement Academy@Collinwood High sponsored an Adopt-a-Senior Day. The students took holiday baskets filled with: cornish hens, stuffing, mac n'cheese, canned fruit & vegetables, milk, yams, spices and much more. Councilman Polensek graced our presence for our community event. The students interacted with their "adoptees" by playing games and conversing with them. The seniors were very appreciative and there were many tear-filled moments between the two groups. Students are required to write to their adoptee and send a self addressed stamped envelope for return.

I felt that the High School students were in need of some positive attention and those selected students were happy to partake and came away from this event richer.

### Memorial-Nottingham Library celebrates Black History month

by Jeanne Coppola

The Memorial-Nottingham Library, on Lakeshore Blvd. held two events in February, in celebration of Black History month.

On Monday, February 13, a group of children from the Salvation Army's Learning Zone (an afterschool program for grades K-6), attended the "Black History to the Beat" program, where they "received an introduction to digital music composition and learned the art of writing poetic lyrics," said librarian Alfonso Daniels.

Cleveland's own Edward "Phatty" Banks, helped the kids create a musical composition of their choice about African American heroes from Cleveland. They started recording their CD, and hope to finish it next month, on March 12.

On Tuesday, February 14, The Passport Project—a group of diverse musical artists and dancers—performed exciting African Drum music, to the delight of the group of students and adults in attendance.

The group uses "the rhythm that connects us all," in their music and metallic-sounding drumbeats. They perform at free community events in Cleveland, S. Euclid/Lyndhurst and Shaker Heights.

For information about upcoming library events, call: (216) 623-7039

Jeanne Coppola is a lifelong resident of the Collinwood neighborhood and is pleased to be able to write for "The Collinwood Observer," and to offer her comments and opinions in this exciting community-written newspaper.

### Building Community Through Catholic Schools Week at St. Jerome



Parishioners enjoy bingo with St. Jerome students during Catholic Schools Week.  
— Channele McCloud

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Collinwood's Back Page

“If You Build It, He Will Come!” VII

Blue skies & sunshine, everywhere

by Reverend Damon P. Dillard

Hello Collinwood Family,

Sometimes during these cold winter days filled with grey skies it's difficult to maintain joy and hope in a world that seemingly grows frigid and loveless with each passing moment. Scientific studies show that depression increases during these “dark” months. And yet blue skies and sunshine are really everywhere. I suppose that is what the Psalmist meant when he wrote: “I will lift my eyes above the hills from which comes my help. My help comes from the Lord, the Maker (Creator) of Heaven and Earth.” (Psalm 121:1,2)

Yes family, above those grey clouds exist blue skies and sunshine. And lest we forget during the midnight hour a myriad of stars including our Earth's amazing cousin the moon lights even our path at night. Both the day and night sky represent a beautiful portrait painted by a universally renowned artist. Truly a loving and kind artist who gave us this “mural” as an eternal gift for our enjoyment. So the next time you feel a bit “down” (you probably need an increase of both vitamin D and vitamin B12 [the direct effect of the sun's rays provide you the same thing] in your diet) remember that beauty exists all around you through the snow, the cold and yes particularly the vista “above the hills from which comes your help.” Take the time to appreciate what can only be seen by closing your eyes. Remembering that blue skies and sunshine are everywhere will put a smile on your face and maybe even a song in your heart.

Until next time, Happy Planting Collinwood Family.

For a scientific explanation of why the sky is blue, see the online version of Rev. Dillard's story at [www.collinwoodobserver.com](http://www.collinwoodobserver.com)

American Pride Car Wash at Lakeshore and E. 156th

by Meghan DiCocco

American Pride Car Washes is proud to have opened our sixth eastside carwash at the corner of East 156th and Lakeshore Blvd and we are happy to be a part of the neighborhood. Our new carwash features an Automatic Express Soft Cloth tunnel wash, 4 self-service car wash bays, 7 vacuums, 2 fragrance machines, 2 shampooer machines and a variety of vending products. The self-service, vacuums, scent, fragrance and vending are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Soft Cloth tunnel is open daily from 8am-7pm, weather permitting.

There is still time to enter our Grand Opening Drawing. Once 10,000 entries have been submitted, we will draw the winners. The First prize is A Trip for Two to Las Vegas. Second Prize is \$500 cash. Third Prize is Free Carwashes for One Year. To get an entry form, wash your vehicle through our Automatic Soft Cloth tunnel.

We are a family business started in 1984. We understood that people take pride in one of their largest assets, their vehicles, and we provide a clean, safe, state-of-the art environment for people to clean their automobiles.

We have great employees and very low turnover. Our average employee has been with us for 10+ years. We've never laid off an employee due to lack of work; we know how important it is to keep



Come visit the Soft Cloth Tunnel at the new American Pride Car Wash at Lakeshore and E. 156th.

good people and give them a means to support their families.

We have perfected the carwash process over our 28 years in Cleveland neighborhoods and have the most up-to-date computer-controlled processes. American Pride Car Washes guarantees 100% customer satisfaction.

Nan's Notes

by Nan Kennedy

**HAND BUILDING POTTERY CLASS WITH GINA DESANTIS March 1-29**

Five sessions, \$90, every Thursday March 1 through 29, 6:30-8:30 pm. With food, wine and an open mic! Call 216.692.9500 to register.

**CLEVELAND'S ALL-CITY ART SHOW**

Opens Friday March 30 at Arts Collinwood on March 30. If you live in or work for the city, go to [www.NationalArtsProgram.org](http://www.NationalArtsProgram.org) to register – due by March 19. Amateurs and professionals, children and adults are judged in separate categories – there are lots of prizes. Arts Collinwood 15605 Waterloo Road, 216.692.9500, [www.artscollinwood.org](http://www.artscollinwood.org). Gallery and Café hours: Thur–Sat11-11; Community Center, 397 E156.


**THE BEACHLAND TURNS PRE-TEEN**

12th Anniversary Weekend with The Greenhorns on Friday, March 2, and the Rmpke Mountain Boys on Sat, March 3. It's been a great ride, and it hasn't slowed down yet. Beachland Ballroom, 15711 Waterloo, 216.383.1124, [www.beachlandballroom.com](http://www.beachlandballroom.com)

**WILDWOOD STATE PARK: SATURDAY SCIENCE: SHIPWRECKS Sat March 3**

Kevin Magee from CLUE will do a presentation about Lake Erie shipwrecks followed by hands-on science activities around the topics of waves and weather. 1-3 pm. The Exploration Station will be open during this program. Pre-registration is greatly appreciated for planning. 8701 Lakeshore Blvd, Collinwood.

Rocket Car about to let go and fly off into Lake Erie, or is it?



Read next month's Collinwood Observer's "Myths of Euclid Beach Park" to find out.

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Join the Discussion at: [www.collinwoodobserver.com](http://www.collinwoodobserver.com)