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**GREAT INVASIVE PLANT PULL, MAY 12**

**ALIVE ON 185, MAY 19**

# The Collinwood Observer

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May 2012



## RECORD STORE DAY ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS

After waiting in line outside MUSIC SAVES for up to 3 hours, happy customers shopped the array of limited, exclusive Record Store Day releases in the store. Photo by Cari Thornton.

## Euclid Hospital celebrates Earth Day

by Angela Smith

Since its inception more than 40 years ago, Earth Day has become an important reminder of the human impact on the ecosystem. Euclid Hospital proudly celebrated this special day as a way to remember that everyone can contribute to a healthy environment. On April 20, over 100 people stopped by the cafeteria to learn more about saving energy and reducing waste at both home and work. Hosted by the hospital's Green Team, the event also featured a light bulb giveaway, coloring contest and other educational activities.



Over a hundred people participated in Euclid Hospital's Earth Day.

## ODOT agrees to replace I-90 noise walls

by Councilman Michael D. Polensek

I am pleased to announce that after a great deal of discussions and negotiations the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has agreed to replace the deteriorated and failing existing I-90 noise walls between East 140th Street and East 185th Street, both north and south sides. This is great news for the community and I wish to personally thank ODOT District 12 Deputy Director, Mr. Myron Pakush, for his commitment to our community. He saw firsthand how bad the existing walls have become and agreed that they needed to be replaced. The project is set to go out to bid in June with construction to begin later this year with completion scheduled for late summer 2013. This is another example of the fact that when we as a community join together we can and will make a difference whether it be local or dealing with the State.

### Incorporating our lakefront parks into the Metroparks

On that note, another project that is dear to this Councilman is to see our Cleveland Lakefront State Parks incorporated into the Metroparks System. On Thursday, April 19th I was given the opportunity to address the three Commissioners and the staff of the MetroParks System to present my thoughts and ideas for our lakefront. Quite frankly, I was absolutely impressed with their knowledge of the parks and our community and what they thought needed to happen in the interim.

It is clear that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), the present operator of the parks, has significantly reduced their support and funding for the entire Cleveland lakefront park sys-

tem from Edgewater to Wildwood. As a result, even some of the most basic maintenance items are becoming more difficult to obtain. The only hope, in my opinion, is for the Greater Cleveland community to really move toward a metropolitan park system.

Obviously, the Cleveland MetroParks, who have an outstanding track record for administration and recreational opportunities, is the way we need to go. Just imagine our parks with day-to-day maintenance, on-site Park Rangers and additional capital improvements, with possibly the reconstruction of the historic Euclid Beach fishing pier. Just think what this could do for our entire neighborhood. Not only from the standpoint of recreational opportunities but job creation as well.

### Identifying vacant property

Finally, the high grass season is upon us already. If there is a yard on your street or in the neighborhood that is unkempt please call Environmental Health at (216) 664-2300. Please continue to monitor any vacant or abandoned home on your street. Call these complaints in to the Housing Code Hotline at (216) 664-2007. Both of our development corporations have attempted, along with my office, to identify every vacant property in our ward. We will continue to press for meaningful and effective code enforcement so as to abate these ongoing nuisance properties. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office at (216) 664-4236 or email me at [council11@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:council11@clevelandcitycouncil.org).

I'm looking forward to seeing you at all the summer activities in the Ward 11 community!

## What's going on at Collinwood High School

by Crystal Maclin

In an effort to appeal to the interests of students throughout the City of Cleveland, Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) has adopted an academy model for many of its high schools. Therefore, Collinwood High School has been restructured in such a way as to offer the students of the Collinwood community, as well as others throughout the city, programming centering around three specific themes. These themes are the foundation for the three academies that now make up the Collinwood Campus: The Advanced Placement Academy, STEM Teaching Professions Academy, and The Academy of Interior & Fashion Design.

Each academy has its own principal, staff and location within the building; however, all students have access to general courses, programs, clubs, sports and extracurricular activities throughout the campus. By choosing one of the three academies to attend, Collinwood students focus their studies based on that choice.

The Advanced Placement Academy, which is led by Principal Kevin Payton, focuses on providing students access to culturally relevant advanced placement courses. These courses allow students to experience project-based learning while earning college credit. This academy is housed primarily on the first floor of the building.

Principal Marnisha Brown is at the helm of the STEM Teaching Professions Academy. This academy concentrates on careers in education with an emphasis on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Students in this academy, which is located on the second floor, have the opportunity to participate in experiences like Robotics and Student Teaching.

On the third floor of the building, The Academy of Interior & Fashion Design led by me, uses design concepts and tools as a way to deliver instruction to students. Through classes in interior design, art and fashion design, students build upon their interests in fashion, environments and design to prepare for life after high school.

Collinwood High School is still the home of the mighty Railroaders. Our three-pronged approach to learning will ensure that we remain that mighty presence on E. 152nd Street and St. Clair Ave.

## Convince the Sewer District to green Lakeshore Boulevard May 10

by Nan Kennedy

DO Save this date: Thursday May 10 for The Green Initiative on Lakeshore – A Neighborhood Meeting. Be at the Rec Center at 6 pm on Thursday May 10 to help convince NEORSB that Lakeshore Blvd is a natural for one of their

Green Initiative remakes – the Rec Center itself, with its reused building materials, swale gardens and plantings, is as green as Kermit, and right across the road is one of the area's prize green spaces, in the park. Greening Lakeshore Blvd will tie the whole thing

together and revitalize that stretch of the neighborhood. (I pause to swear that revitalize, excited and passionate are words I very, very rarely use.) NEORSB has us on their list – along with others. Come and persuade them!

## 50+ volunteers brave the chill to clean Euclid Beach Park!

Join Adopt-a-Beach Volunteers on May 19th at 10am for our next beach cleanup...and Chilli Peppers!



Students from University School were eager to do their part to clean the beach and participated in a water testing demonstration.

by Stephen Love

Adopt-a-Beach™ cleanups are in full swing at Euclid Beach State Park with Global Youth Service Day and Earth Day on Saturday April 21st, when over 50 volunteers including middle school students from University School in Shaker Heights, Accenture, CBCG Incorporated, CWRU Environmental Law Society and the community braved the cold, wind and rain to collect 150 pounds of trash (an improvement over last month's 226 pound of trash!) and 20 pounds of recyclables! Unique items included a faux Louise Vuit-

ton purse with a diary! A huge thank you to Steve Newman, owner of Chili Peppers for taking 50% off delicious tacos and burritos after the cleanup!

Beach cleanups are from 10am-12pm on the 3rd or 4th Saturday of the month at Euclid Beach Park.

Next is Sat May 19, 10am-12pm. We'll meet in the park pavilion at 10am! Prizes for most trash collected will include Chilli Peppers Gift Cards. For info contact Stephen Love: [adopt.euclidbeach@gmail.com](mailto:adopt.euclidbeach@gmail.com) or [facebook.com/Adopteuclidbeach](https://www.facebook.com/Adopteuclidbeach).

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## 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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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. Next deadline: May 25, 2012. You can mail your stories to the Collinwood Observer office at 650 E. 185th St. Cleveland, 44119.

## Walking clubs

by Dennis Freeman

With summer approaching, many are eager to take the steps towards getting in shape. Our new Collinwood Recreational Center, which is a great facility by the way, has a walking club that takes those steps towards health every Wednesday and Friday at 8am.

It would be great to see this sort of activity become more widespread in our community as many people may not be able to make it to the rec center due to obligations. I think it would be great for our community to form walking clubs in their particular sections of our neighborhood that could meet on maybe a couple evenings out of the week or weekend afternoons. It would be a great way for everyone from the young to the elderly to burn off some calories with like minded people while encouraging a social atmosphere amongst our neighborhood.

If you are interested and/or have any locations or routes you think should be organized, please visit [www.collinwood-observer.com](http://www.collinwood-observer.com) click on observation deck on the left side, create a log-in, and submit your ideas on the forum.

Or you can visit and make your suggestions at one of the monthly neighborhood meetings, at the following times: Collinwood Homeowners' and Tenants' Association: First Wednesday, 7 pm, St Mary's School, 15519 Holmes Ave, E 185th St Block Watch: Second Tuesday, 6 pm, Lithuanian Village Hall, 877 E 185th St, Nottingham Civic Club: Third Tuesday, 7 pm, Nottingham United Methodist Church, 18316 St Clair Ave, East 156th St Block Watch: Third Wednesday, 6 pm, B&M BBQ, 15116 Lakeshore Blvd.

Dennis Freeman is a young adult interested in the advancement and sustainability of Collinwood and it's youth.

## Interested in becoming a Park Ambassador at Euclid Beach Park this Summer?

by Stephen Love

The Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team is looking for people to be Park Ambassadors this Summer! Ambassadors will spend 1-2 hours volunteering every 1-2 weeks (time slots will be flexible) to help make Euclid Beach Park a cleaner and more inviting place to visit. Some Ambassador duties may include light maintenance and talking to park visitors about not littering, proper waste disposal and litter's impact on beach and water quality. Ambassadors will participate in a training session at the Collinwood Recreation Center (Date TBA-Likely mid May. Check [www.collinwoodobserver.com](http://www.collinwoodobserver.com) front page for announcement.)



Park Ambassadors educating the next generation of beach goers.

If you're interested contact Stephen Love at [adopt.euclidbeach@gmail.com](mailto:adopt.euclidbeach@gmail.com) or call (216) 571-0685.

## The Lady Luck Review

by Jennifer Walker

The Lady Luck is a dying breed of bar. Unpretentious in every aspect of the word, when you step inside at about 3:00pm it puts you in the mood for a quiet beer with the buddies on a Thursday afternoon while you keep an eye on the game. Spacious and clean on the inside, this unique space seems a bit intimidating on the outside. Wedged between residential homes on Nottingham it sprawls in the middle of a mostly empty parking lot during work hours on week days. However, the quiet lunch time hour is perfect if you want some great, traditional bar food with fast and friendly service. When asked what the most popular thing on the menu was, our barmaid, Mary, suggested the wings and the burgers. Both were exceptional. She took the time out to explain that both the ground sirloin for the burger and the large-sized chicken wings are never frozen, plus the sauces, sides and marinara that most bars buy in a can or jar are all home-made and fresh here. It's not hard to see why this "hole-in-the-wall" local bar has the reputation for some of the most affordable and best bar food around. You won't find filet mignon here, but you will find fun, nostalgic, homestyle food like

Sloppy Joe's and Fried bologna sandwiches any day of the week.

The drink specials at The Lady Luck can't be beat! From 3PM to 6PM it's Happy Hour, that means dollar domestic drafts and \$2 shots. Vodka and cranberry, or Jack and Coke would run you about \$2.50 each. Not to mention the fact that they do serve their draft beer in mason jars. You heard me right...mason jars. When asked, Mary said that sometimes the ladies are a bit put off when you hand them one for the first time, but most people just crack a big smile and laugh before tipping it back and chugging it down. The bar wants to keep it's local down-to-earth profile. "This bar is more like how the bar on Cheers was," said Mary, "we know everybody's name!"

The Lady Luck boasts pool tables and a new Touch DJ system as well as their own schedule of events on the weekends. Saturday nights the DJ spins Old Skool hits along with any requests and the place is packed to the gills, but be careful there is also a standard here. On the weekends it's only 30 and older allowed inside. The Lady Luck doesn't tolerate trouble, they just want people who are there to have a great time and some great food. So the next time you want to try a new local hotspot, try The Lady Luck. You won't be disappointed.

## Cleveland Metroparks wants to hear from YOU on May 22

by Councilman Michael Polensek

For more than two years, Cleveland Metroparks has been working on Cleveland Metroparks 2020: The Emerald Necklace Centennial Plan to outline the future of the Park District. Many of the topics were brought to the Park's attention by you, the enthusiastic users of Cleveland Metroparks.

We invite you to attend an Open House to have your say about the future of Cleveland Metroparks.

May 22, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Collinwood Recreation Center  
16300 Lake Shore Boulevard

Topics concerning Cleveland Metroparks' Euclid Creek and North Chagrin Reservations and the Park District's lakefront initiatives will be displayed in an open house format at the Recreation Center. Drop by any time between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. to learn and comment on the Park District's plans, which are designed to make Cleveland an even better place to live. We will have maps and written materials for you to review and staff will be present to answer your questions.

I look forward to seeing you at this open house. If there are any further questions regarding this please feel free to call. I may be reached at my office at (216) 664-4236.

## Naturally Collinwood

## The Great Euclid Creek Invasive Plant Pull at Wildwood State Park

by Carol Ward

The month of March gave us an early taste of spring weather and sights. Nature invited us out to feel the warm breezes and observe the arrival of many spring plants. And not that our winter was so bad, but here in Northeast Ohio, we welcome any chance to get out and enjoy our surroundings.

Now that the calendar has finally caught up with the weather, here are some opportunities for you to get out and enjoy your local Ohio State Park:

**May 12 from 10am-Noon:** The Great Euclid Creek Invasive Plant Pull at Wildwood State Park. We'll be pulling Garlic Mustard, an invasive plant that out-competes native species and isn't a good food source for wildlife. This event is co-sponsored with the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District. Meet at the Wildwood entrance parking lot. Bring garden/work gloves if you have 'em.

**May 26 from 10am-Noon:** Fishing Fun at Wildwood State Park. Meet at the west end parking lot. Equipment and bait provided for the first 15 participants under 16 years of age.

Be sure to watch for our summer schedule at our local website: [www.clevelandlakefront.org](http://www.clevelandlakefront.org)

Carol Ward is the Park Naturalist for Cleveland Lakefront State Park.



Pulling Garlic Mustard at Wildwood.



Catching the 'Big One' at Wildwood.

## Join the Collinwood Nottingham History

by Mary Louise Jesek Daley

There is a lot going on with the Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society. We are doing research, making contacts and moving forward. We invite you to join us on our journeys.

First, we will be visiting numerous historic sites in the Downtown Cleveland area related to Collinwood and Nottingham history and settlement on **SATURDAY, JULY 7** beginning at 9:00 a.m. as a part of our History Discovery Series. We will be visiting the Lorenzo Carter Cabin in the Flats followed by a visit to the Superior Viaduct/Bridge Tour, Huntington Park/Courthouse Square to discuss the story of Oliver Hazard Perry and then onto the Cuyahoga County Soldiers and Sailors Monument on Cleveland's Public Square. Afterwards we will visit Erie Street Cemetery and then Woodland Cemetery. If time and energy permits we may make another stop at Lakeview Cemetery. Regardless we will end the day at our unofficial sponsor, Muldoon's. If you would be interested in joining us on this day, transportation on your own, email the Historical Society at [CollNottHistory@aol.com](mailto:CollNottHistory@aol.com) or [CollNottHistory@gmail.com](mailto:CollNottHistory@gmail.com) or call Mary Louise at work at (216) 664-4236.

Second, we are working with Cleveland State University and their Cleveland Historical Project which is associated with the Cleveland Memory Project held at the CSU Library and Archives. As a part of this project, working with Dr. Mark Tebeau of CSU's History Department and Neighborhood Connections representatives, we will be able to get our neighborhood's stories on-line as well as having them be a part of a Cleveland Historical Smartphone application for even greater access. Find us now not only on our own website at <https://sites.google.com/site/collinwoodhistory> but also at [www.collinwoodhistory.cordpress.com](http://www.collinwoodhistory.cordpress.com). We would love to hear your opinion and have you share with us on either site. A few of the stories we will be sharing in the months ahead will be the Collinwood School Fire, The Railroad, Nottingham Village, Euclid Creek and our own homegrown hero and historic figure in Councilman Michael Polensek.

We are working on other tours and continuing the research about the villages that make up our community as a whole. We are also planning on participating in several community events coming up this summer, namely the "Waterloo Arts Festival" as well as the "Remembering the Sights and Sounds of Euclid Beach" in September. Stop by and say hello.

Mary Louise Jesek-Daley is a lifelong resident of Collinwood community. She is the Councilmanic Aide to Councilman Polensek as well as an historian for the Collinwood/Nottingham community.



NT A FITTING WLCME photo by Erin Randel

## I'd like to buy a vowel

by Erin Randel

At the April meeting of the Northeast Shores marketing committee, residents and business owners in attendance pressed the agency to act upon a request to order a new set of moveable letters for the LaSalle Theater's marquee. NSDC, whose mission is to develop a better neighborhood "for everyone to live, work and visit," owns the building and has been marketing it as a brewpub/entertainment venue for more than 18 months.

If everyone who has cringed with embarrassment at the marquee's so-called welcome sends a dollar to Northeast Shores to help defray this \$400 purchase, Executive Director Brian Friedman will be well on his way to the Bonus Round. Contributions can be sent to 317 E. 156th Street, Cleveland, 44110, Attn: AEIOU.

## Hatha Yoga at NuLife Fitness for Euclid Beach every Sunday 7-8:15 pm

by Stephen Love

That's right! NuLife Fitness (15430 Waterloo Road, Cleveland) is offering hatha yoga classes every Sunday night at 7pm for FREE! A suggested donation of \$5 will go to the Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team for cleanup supplies and to fund the 3rd annual Euclid Beach Blast (Saturday, August 4th 5:00-8:30 pm)! So get over to NuLife and stretch for the beach! More info: Contact Ivana Medukic [ivanamedukic@yahoo.com](mailto:ivanamedukic@yahoo.com), or visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/322598097805284/>



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Development

NORTHEAST SHORES

Northeast Shores announces Cleveland Arsenal Award Winners

by Seth Beattie

Northeast Shores is pleased to announce the 2012 winners of the Cleveland Arsenal award designed to honor the achievements of individuals who share their love of Cleveland on a grassroots level: singing the praises of our city's unique neighborhoods, including North Shore Collinwood. These individuals are actively changing people's minds about Cleveland's future.

The program is part of the Artists in Residence initiative, a 2-year effort to make North Shore Collinwood an even better neighborhood for artists to live and work, organized by Northeast Shores and the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture.

The 2012 winners are:

**Sam Allard** is a journalist and fiction writer from the Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood. He is the editor of Whiskey Island literary magazine and a book critic for the Plain Dealer. He loves Cleveland for its culture and courtesy, its spunk and pluck, the small-town aromas and big-city sports. He is a fan of the city's microbrews, gardens and artists.

**Daniel Brown** is a Cleveland native and recent graduate of DePaul University in Chicago. He is currently participating in a year of service at Saint Martin de Porres High School in the St. Clair Superior neighborhood. Daniel loves Cleveland for its vast potential, its neighborhoods and its never-say-die mentality.

**Valerie Mayen** is a fashion designer, David Bowie advocate and a shop owner. She has lived in Cleveland for

nearly 11 years. While running her locally-made clothing store Yellowcake in the Gordon Square Arts District, Valerie also heads a budding internship program and a developing sewing workspace for other designers.

**Gina Prodan** runs the popular Unmiserable Cleveland blog and is an urban cycling-enthusiast and triathlete. She is a web developer at CWRU by day and an all-over Cleveland adventurer after work. Gina has volunteered with Cleveland literacy programs for the past decade and is a fan of the city's entrepreneurial spirit, shops, restaurants and neighborhood movements.

**Rick Stockburger** is co-creator of Saving Cities and a former Non-Commissioned Officer in the US Army. He was the audio engineer for the highly-anticipated documentary Red, White and Blueprints. Rick's love affair with Cleveland started at an early age ingrained in him through his father's love for the Browns. He can often be spotted at Harland's Pub on E. 185th Street.

Each of the five recipients of the honor will receive \$1,000 to support their grassroots marketing of Cleveland neighborhoods, including potential marketing of Northeast Shores' artist support programs. They will participate in a series of educational meetings to increase their interaction with local civic marketing organizations, such as Global Cleveland, LiveCLEVELAND! and Positively Cleveland. Northeast Shores plans to offer the program again in 2013.

Seth Beattie is the Artists in Residence Coordinator for Northeast Shores.

Historical Marker

by Denise Lorek

Thank you to those of you who donated towards the renovation of the Historical Marker located on Lakeshore Boulevard near E. 185th Street.

In March, it was brought to the attention of Northeast Shores and the Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society that the sign is illegible to passing traffic. The marker notes that Moses Cleaveland founded the City of Cleveland and this area in 1796. "This marker is our history, and the sign is a way to showcase it," said Mary Louise Daley, Historical Society, President.

The sign was originally installed in 1953 as a way to celebrate the State's 150th birthday. The sign is now about 60 years old which is why it is so worn out and needs to be replaced. If you would like to make a donation towards the renovation of the marker, you can send your donation to Northeast Shores Development Corporation, 317 East 156th Street, Cleveland, OH 44110. Please write "historical marker" in the memo line. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Mary Louise Daley, at (216) 664-4236.



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Replace your roof with a 0% loan up to \$10,000 – No matter how much you make

by Charlie Kamen

Need help replacing your old, battered roof? Do you live in the 44119 zip code? Are you up-to-date with your current mortgage, tax payments and your home is owner-occupied? Then you may qualify for the 0% Loan offered by Neighborhood Housing Services in partnership with Northeast Shores. This program 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.

Again, while this is a loan program, you will not have any payments until you SELL OR TRANSFER your home. This program is designed to help us all through these

tough economic times, not to create more debt while we wade our way through these very real issues.

You may have previously self-determined that you don't qualify for other Northeast Shores housing programs, but it is critical to note that this initiative does not operate under the same economic guidelines.

I'm here in our office and excited to help you get the ball rolling on getting your new roof! Once you discuss your needs with me, I will guide you through applying and the documentation that is needed. I can be reached at (216) 481-7660 or via email at ckamen@northeastshores.org.

Want more information? Go online at [www.collinobserver.com](http://www.collinobserver.com), and read: How do I get a new roof? FAQ's answered.

“Alive on East 185” Family-friendly parade & sidewalk sale

by Denise Lorek

On May 19, the E. 185th Street community will be hosting “Alive on East 185,” a family-friendly event featuring a parade beginning at 11 a.m. and a sidewalk sale/party immediately following, until 5 p.m. There is no admission charge, and all are welcome to attend!

The parade will begin at Villaview and East 185th (near Muldoon's Saloon & Eatery) and will continue down E. 185th until it reaches Lakeshore. The parade is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. This year US Representative Marcia Fudge will be our parade Marshal!

Collect rain, Grow veggies, & save the planet! Summer Rain Barrel Program

by Kathy Adams

**Free Rain Barrel Program** You know rainy weather is inevitable, so let's put the rain to good use! Cleveland's Summer Rain Barrel Program provides a number of rain barrels to Cleveland residents FREE. Rain barrels collect rainwater for watering your flowers, veggies, and general landscaping. And the price of rain won't increase by 82% over the next five years...

**Who is eligible?** All homeowners in the City of Cleveland. Rain barrels are distributed on a first come, first served basis.

**What is required to participate in the**

Once the parade has ended, local merchants will set up a street-wide sidewalk sale/party, allowing everyone to enjoy what E. 185th St. has to offer. Alongside the merchants will be local groups and organizations providing information about their many activities and programs. There will also be an Inflatables area set up for the children to enjoy free of charge.

Please mark your calendar for May 19, at 11 a.m. to join us for this streetwide Celebration of the Community!

If your group or organization would like to participate in the parade or sidewalk party, there is still time to sign up. Please contact Denise Lorek at Northeast Shores Development: (216) 481-7660, dlorek@northeastshores.org

COLLINWOOD NOTTINGHAM VILLAGE

Looking for an opportunity?

by Yolanda Anderson

South Collinwood may have one for you. South Collinwood is a unique blend of industry, as well as new and older homes that all sprung up from the Railroad yards back in the early 1900's. South Collinwood is proud to have one of the few “STEM” schools within CMSD located here at Hanan Gibbons Nottingham School (K-8). This is in addition to the 3 schools of Interior Fashion and Design, Robotics, and Advanced Placement currently at Collinwood High School, as well as the acclaimed Ginn Academy (boys, K-12).

South Collinwood offers affordable housing in pleasant neighborhoods. Our historic concentration of manufacturing industries employing over 2000, sits in walking distance of RJ Taylor Park and the

New Collinwood Community and Recreation Center.

We have several storefronts that we are getting ready to rent out. The sizes range from 1000 sq ft to 6500 sq feet.

We have several houses almost ready to rent out. Singles as well as some doubles.

We have several houses that we are going to be selling that do not need MAJOR renovations and might even be eligible for low interest rates.

Do you need paint for the exterior of your home? We might be able to help there also if you live in South Collinwood. So many things to list and say, but not enough room to do it in. Give us a call and we can see where we might be able to help you and what restrictions apply. Collinwood Nottingham Villages Development Corporation (216) 383-9772

Yolanda Anderson is the Executive Director of the Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation.

Schools

Open Mic gives Collinwood High School students a voice



Students from Ms. Horton's Collinwood High School English class read poetry for National Poetry Month.

by Shanita Horton

On Friday, April 20, 2012, selected students from Collinwood High School participated in the first collaborative

Open Mic Friday at the Cleveland Public Library's Collinwood branch, in Celebration of National Poetry Month.

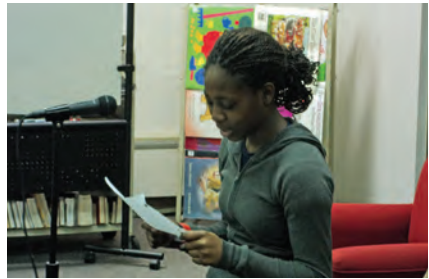
In the tradition of Nikki Grime's Bronx Masquerade (a young adult novel about a group of students whose stereotypical views are challenged and changed through poetry), students read original lyric, narrative, haiku, I Am, and love poems. The agenda included remarks by branch manager Ms. Jeffries, young adult librarian, Ms. Peak, and Collinwood Teaching Professions Academy principal, Mrs. Brown. Sophomore Anthony Jackson served as the master of ceremonies.

Open Mic presented the perfect

chance for the students of Collinwood High School to showcase their poetic abilities. "I enjoyed it," said sophomore, Imani Hudson, who participated by reading her own original poetry. "I got a change to see the talents of my fellow peers, and the staff was nice to us." As in Grime's novel, sophomore L'Dejah Orr found that some of her classmates were more than meets the eye. "Open Mic shows a different side of people. Some people try to act tough, but they're really not."

Ms. Peak organized the event in collaboration with me, I am Shanita Horton, Collinwood High School English teacher. My classes have all read Bronx Masquerade and were excited to have an Open Mic of their own. Ms. Peak saw this as an opportunity to work with students from Collinwood. "It was a pleasure partnering with Collinwood High School students and teachers to celebrate National Poetry Month while sharing library resources. The self-expression through poetry by the students was very inspiring and I look forward to doing it again next year!"

Shanita Horton is a mother of four, teaches at Collinwood High School and loves to read classic literature.



Students read original poetry in the tradition of Nikki Grimes, "Bronx Masquerade."



According to youth librarian Carolyn Peak, the self-expression through poetry by the students was very inspiring.

St. John Nottingham: open to everyone

by Gregory Kita

St. John Lutheran School is proud that it has, over the years, admitted students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies and admissions policies.

St. John Nottingham incorporating technology

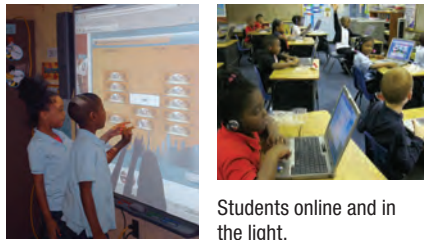
by Gregory Kita

St. John Nottingham Lutheran School has been serving the Collinwood area for over 118 years. We are pleased that the Christian ideals have remained unchanged for that time period; the teaching style sure has changed.

We are blessed to incorporate technology to enhance the quality education that we have offered for over a century. Our school buildings are completely wireless and have two mobile laptop carts available for students K-8th grade. In addition, each classroom has at least two Internet-accessible computers that share network printers. We have a distance-learning lab which allows students to take high school classes for high school credit. All of the classrooms have SMART Boards or will be incorporating Mimio Interactive technology starting with the 2012-2013 school year.

Our students use the computers in many ways beyond simple writing. We use an online suite of programs called "Study Island" for up-to-the-minute assessment and practice in math, reading and language arts, all of which are directly tied into current state standards. This gives the students accurate, timely feedback on exactly how they are doing in these core subjects: where their strengths lie, and where there is need for improvement. St. John also implements Jupiter Grades, the online grade reporting system that lets students keep accurate track of work, progress, and current standings in any class. (Parents get to use that one, too, much to the chagrin of the student who may be missing an assignment or two...)

There are great things going on right now at St. John Nottingham Lutheran School. For more information or to enroll for next year please call: (216) 531-8204.



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## Villa Angela – St. Joseph High School

*Faith. Family. Future. ....*

### Students raise over \$4,000 for charities

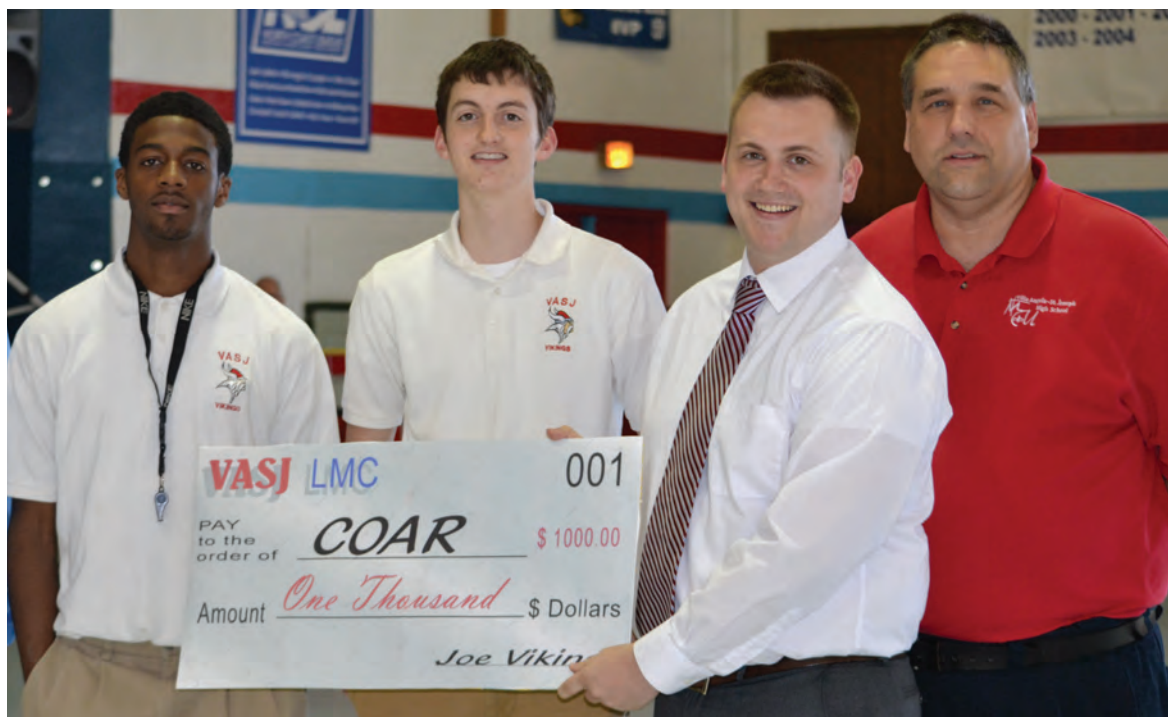
Each year during Lent, VASJ students organize a Lenten Mission Collection (LMC) in which the entire student body raises money for worthy charitable causes. The theme of this year's LMC collection was: *Sacrifice begins with you.*

The students set a goal of raising a total of \$4,000. Not only did the VASJ student body reach their goal, but they actually exceeded it by nearly \$500. VASJ faculty and staff raised an additional \$1,000.

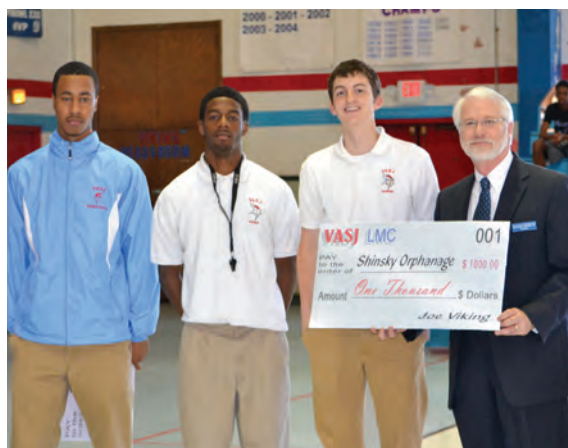
The funds raised were donated to five worthy charitable organizations: the City of Children Orphanage in Matamoros, Mexico, founded by alumnus John Shinsky '69; Comunidad Oscar Arnulfo Romero (COAR) in El Salvador; Our Lady of Nazareth, a Marianist school in Nairobi, Kenya; St. Aloysius pre-school, located right here in Cleveland, and the Greater Cleveland Fisher House project.

At an assembly held on Thursday, April 19, students presented the organizations with the money raised.

The Lenten Mission Collection is an important part of what makes the Viking Village unique. The students are reminded daily of the Ursuline and Marianist traditions of service to others.



VASJ students present \$1,000 check to COAR program manager, John Naujoks '00, and president of the board, Chris Janecic.



VASJ President Richard Osborne '69 accepts check on behalf of his classmate John Shinsky, City of Children Orphanage founder.



Rick DeChant of the Greater Cleveland Fisher House Task Force accepts the \$1,000 check from VASJ students.



VASJ football players enjoy sightseeing during their trip to Italy for the Global Bowl.

### Senior football players play in Italy Global Bowl

Eight senior football players from Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School were selected to participate on the U.S. Stars & Stripes team in the Italy Global Bowl.

The group, along with Coach John Storey '59, who served as the Offensive/Defensive Line Coach, left Cleveland on Saturday, April 14, and returned on Sunday, April 22.

Team Stars & Stripes, which beat the Italian team 50-0, mixed practice sessions with cultural sightseeing.

They visited Florence, set in the rolling hills of Tuscany, Rome via the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, Ancient Rome and the Coliseum and finally The Vatican.

### Spring musical entertains enthusiastic audiences

The cast and crew of *Once on this Island Jr.* put on four wonderful performances the weekend of April 27-29, 2012, including a dress rehearsal performance for more than 300 local elementary students from Our Lady of the Lake, St. Jerome and Sts. Robert & William.

More than 500 were in attendance throughout the duration of the weekend

for the other three performances and the reviews were extremely positive.

The wonderful choreography, which was completely student-driven, made this musical stand out as one of the best productions the Viking Village has seen in years. The hard work of the cast and crew did not go unnoticed.



VASJ students perform the closing number of the spring musical Once on this Island Jr.

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## Villa Angela – St. Joseph High School

*Faith. Family. Future. ....*

### Classic Mixer lights up the Viking Village

The Viking Village was electric with excitement on Saturday, April 14, as the Viking Classic Mixer lit up the gym at East 185th Street and Lake Shore Boulevard.

Entertained by Chance, the venerable and popular band whose members include five St. Joseph High School graduates, mixer attendees bid on dozens of priceless auction items. All proceeds from the evening will benefit the school.

Memories of Villa Angela Academy and St. Joe's filled the room.

The evening concluded with the VASJ alma mater sung in celebration of the rich traditions, character and spirit – past and present – that are alive, well and flourishing in the Viking Village.



A night to remember: A richly transformed VASJ gym was the elegant setting for this year's Vikings Classic Mixer.



Co-chairs Peter Apicella '70 and Marcia (Apicella) Kren '73.



Ernie Fisco '70 and Chuck Giomuso '70.



Bev Moore and Marilyn (Tucci) Belevise '68.



Bill Raddell '68 and Gerri Raddell.



Michael Santarelli '69, Peggy (Woyma) Santarelli '69, Della (Woyma) Osborne '68.



Principal Dave Csank and Assistant Principal Megan Scheider.



Regis '62 and Loretta Novitskey, Ken '62 and Karen Lenardic, Jim '63 and Cary Kramar.



Emcee and Cleveland legend Larry Morrow.

### Viking Views



by Richard Osborne

We say it all the time: "Once a Viking, Always a Viking." We say it so much, in fact, that we run the risk that it could become just another slogan, a phrase that could lose its meaning. At VASJ, however, the words are as powerful now as they ever were.

For evidence, we need only look to our recent Classic Mixer. The annual gala this year netted – after all associated costs – more than \$127,000 for our school. Included in that amount was more than \$44,000 for "Continuing the Dream," a special scholarship drive.

This tremendous outpouring of support – the most successful fund-raising event in the history of the school – dramatically demonstrates the connection our graduates from Villa Angela Academy, St. Joseph High School and VASJ feel with today's students. Their gratitude for the blessings they had as students is such that they want to do everything they can to help others "continue the dream" of a VASJ education.

In turn, we are enormously grateful for the confidence our donors have placed in us. They see, as we do, that our students are winners. And everyone wants to support a winner. Our students recognize and appreciate the gift they have been given to share in the rich Ursuline and Marianist traditions that guide us in every lesson, every day.

At the Classic Mixer, we played a video several of our students produced that traced the history of VASJ through the years – the girls of VA, the boys of St. Joe's, and the shared spirit of the merged school. Our graduates, friends and supporters from many years past were clearly touched by what they saw, and deeply pleased to see that the character of our school has never changed.

It is a theme that also was evident in a recent presentation from Tim Misny '73, who was our keynote speaker for this year's National Honor Society induction ceremonies. He spoke about the moral imperative to reach out to those in need, a principle that has guided him in his highly successful law practice and has shaped the personal values he holds dear.

Not surprisingly, Tim concluded his presentation with the words that have come to mean so much to all of us: "Once a Viking, Always a Viking."

How fortunate we are that the words are so very true.

*Richard Osborne, St. Joseph High School Class of 1969, is the president of VASJ. He has returned as the author of this column after a 45-year absence.*

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**P**ARADISE ISLAND SALOON is the NEW tavern in Euclid and has been termed "THE DICE" by the regulars. They offer no less than 10 beers on tap, featuring domestic, import and craft favorites. Paradise also offers a full bar, with the very popular Rum Bucket and a great Wine Selection. Happy Hour runs Monday-Friday from 11a - 7p with \$2 house drinks and buckets of domestic beer 5/\$10. The menu features some of the best bar food around including Island favorites like the Caribbean Seafood Pasta, also known as "Rasta Pasta", the newest menu item. Every Friday night you can enjoy an A.Y.C.E. Ocean Perch fish fry or Prime Rib Dinner and buy one get one free burgers on Saturday afternoons (11a - 5p).

**I**f you're feeling lucky, you can test your "claw" ability at the Lobster Tank. Catch a lobster and it will be cooked for you with fries and coleslaw at no charge! You can enjoy a little "fresh-air" dining on the spacious patio which offers plenty of seating.

**T**HE DICE is carrying on a tradition from a Euclid landmark, "The Tap House". Remember those great "Tap House" wings...well, you can get them here for 40 cents "All-Day & All-Night"! (Well at least while the kitchen is open!) Wondering what the connection is... the



Mary O'Neill, former Tap House owner, Steve Svrga, is also one of Paradise Island's owners.

**P**aradise features live, local bands every Friday & Saturday night, including Rebels without Applause, Rock File, City Heat, Mid-Life Crisis, Post Road and many more. Thursday Night is Jam Night with The LA Project and Sunday is Fun-day with DJ Scotti! Check out our band schedule, events and specials on BeerJointsRUs.com

**I**f you are a sports fan, come watch the game on any of our flat screen TV's or the 5'x9' Big Screen. You can also root for the Paradise Island Softball Teams at the local diamonds. If you are a golfer, be sure to stop by with your scorecard and receive 10% off your food order.



**M**ary O'Neill, the "Dice" Manager and co-owner, is always busy cooking up new ideas for the business. Starting May 8th, Mary has initiated a weekly Tuesday Night Poker Run including 5 taverns and \$250 in weekly prizes. Motorcycle and Car Riders are welcome to join with no entry fee. (More info at BeerJointsRUs.com).

The One Year Paradise Island Anniversary Party is in the works. It promises to be a party to remember... More to come!

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Faith in Collinwood

“If You Build It, He Will Come!” X How About A Smile?

by Reverend Damon P. Dillard

Wow. Can you believe it? Are you relishing in it? Can you feel it? Are you seeing it? Amazing! Unbelievable! Fantastic! Marvelous! Wonderful! You know exactly what I am referring to Collinwood Family and beyond. Unseasonably warm temperatures and blue sunny skies. I am so excited. I am so stoked. I am going out of my mind. I am giddy like a school kid experiencing his first summer vacation. So family, can someone, anyone answer this question for me? Why aren't more people smiling? Why aren't more people laughing? Why aren't more people displaying a grateful walk and even more of a grateful talk? I just don't understand US. Now at the time of this writing this coming weekend on the Cleveland calendar means St. Patrick's Day as well as the "official" beginning of Spring. But you know family, rarely does Spring show up when the calendar says so. Particularly here in Cleveland. Need I remind you that our average high at this time of the year is a cold 41 degrees and the average low is 28 degrees? And that is not with blue but grey skies. But now we have Sun and fun in Cleveland in the month of March. WOW!

I therefore reference a previous article that spoke about the benefits of sunny skies. In Blue Skies and Sunshine Everywhere I wrote: "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." Well now Family you do have the blue skies and sunshine everywhere so Just Smile.

By the way did you know that science has proven that it takes more muscles in your face to display a frown as opposed to showing those pearly whites? Remember "a smile is just a frown turned upside down." So once again; How About A Smile?

By the way, the forecasted average temperature for the beginning to end of this coming week is 79 degrees. Believe me, I am smiling. How about you?

Just thought you might like to know. Happy Planting Collinwood Family!

Changing perceptions and reinventing South Collinwood

by Dennis Freeman

Much is going on in the city, in regards to new development and reinvestment. Most notably in areas such as Collinwood's own Waterloo neighborhood, University Circle, downtown, and quite a few west side areas. Optimism is seemingly climbing and respectability is returning to many different neighborhoods. Amidst all of this South Collinwood is often viewed as a second-class neighborhood outside of Collinwood, throughout the rest of the city, from my experience.

If you talk to people outside the neighborhood about the area south of the CSX tracks, many view it as some kind of war zone or crime haven. This couldn't be farther from the truth as Fifth District statistics prove that South Collinwood is the second lowest crime area on the northeast side(second only to North Collinwood). At the same time, one can almost see how outsiders could come to that conclusion considering how the news and the mainstream local media seem to portray the neighborhood with an imbalance of light being shed on bad news as opposed to the

good. This can also be understood when noticing the amount of empty storefronts along St Clair, signifying a possible exodus of some kind, which normally leads people to ask the question, what's wrong that caused this?

This perception can be changed by educating folks on the good of South Collinwood. Remind people of the beautiful stadium near the Five Points intersection. Remind people of the beautiful newer school facilities that are Hannah Gibbons and East Clark as well as the one and only Job Corps Center, providing young adults with valuable skills so that they can excel. Inform them of the two businesses in the neighborhood serving fresh, locally grown produce: Cavotta's Garden Center and the Coit Road Farmers Market that sits on the border our neighborhood shares with East Cleveland. Tell them of the sidestreets lined with well-kept properties and people who still care about their neighborhood. Invite people to come and see what the neighborhood has to offer.

The city of Cleveland will not waste their time marketing our neighborhood to

private businesses which would generate traffic in our neighborhood if there is no consumer or residential interest. Once this interest is sparked, the City may market this to the level of a Waterloo or Tremont, or University Circle, attracting small businesses of the private sector to build upon the current foundation, which could spawn 2nd or 3rd waves of businesses to piggy-back off of the neighborhood's momentum and also create jobs for our residents. Our neighborhood could become one of destination as opposed to one of passing through.

This is not something that could happen overnight but it starts with us. You are your neighborhood and your neighborhood is you. I encourage everyone that has access to the internet or the Collinwood or Nottingham Libraries to visit www.collinwoodobserver.com and click on Observation Deck on the left column, create a log-in and post your ideas about how we should advance our neighborhood. Or you can log in to the Member Center section on this same site and submit your response to the newspaper.

Keeping Kids Safe: An Internet & Mobile Safety Workshop from New Birth Ministries

by Jimmie Booze

Currently:

- 1 in 3 kids have been cyber-bullied and many have taken their lives as a result.
- 70% of kids receive unwanted obscene and pornographic materials.
- 30% have received "sexting" messages.
- 63% of kids on the Internet have been asked to meet in person by a complete stranger.

Keeping Kids Safe: An Internet & Mobile Safety Workshop™ is a free, 25 minute, multimedia Internet & Mobile Safety presentation designed for parents. This dynamic presentation uses the latest statistics, resources, videos, and expert tips to convey the must-have information parents need in order to educate, engage with, and protect their children in today's digital world.

Every attendee will receive:

- A clearer understanding of the issues their kids are facing.
- Free resources to help them communicate with their kids about making safer decisions.
- Access to free technology that can be used to stay connected to their kids' online.

This powerful workshop has been shared with hundreds of schools, churches and community organizations across the country and thousands of parents.

Join the movement to keep our children safe in cyber-space.

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New Birth Ministries, 14911 Westropp Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44110

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Around Collinwood

Nan's Notes

by Nan Kennedy

**ALL-STAR BASKETBALL** Sat, May 5 Starting at noon, the best teams from the city's rec centers will be fighting it out at the Rec Center, and the Advisory Board will be selling water, hot dogs, drinks and chips. May the best team win, and may the concessions make lots of money to turn over to the center's management – which needs it, because the city refuses to charge admission, even to suburbanites.

**BIKEATHON** Sat May 5 The tour starts at Gordon Park, E72nd St, south of the Shoreway; registration is 7:30-9 am, start time is 9:30. Riders wind up at about 12 pm at Humphrey Sports Complex Pavilion, 16400 Groveview, where the fun goes on till 2 pm: music, entertainment, raffle, PlayStation 3, bikes, gift cards, Indians tickets. And more hot dogs. Collinwood Recreation Center 16300 Lakeshore Blvd, (420) 8323; Mon-Fri, 7 am-7 pm.

**MOTHERS' DAY AT THE LIBRARY** Thur, May 10 Join Caroline Peak at the Collinwood branch for "Thank You Mom": A Mother's Day Commemoration. Mothers and mother figures are special – create a memorable craft, piece of jewelry or keepsake to show them your care. Collinwood Library 856 E152 St. (216) 623-6934. Mon, Tue, Thur 10 am-7 pm; Wed, Fri, Sat 10 am-6 pm; www.cpl.org

**MAY AT THE GOLDEN AGE CENTER Flea Market** Fri & Sat May 4 and 5 Tables are \$15 for both days, so if you're clearing winter clutter – the gifts you didn't really

want, the clothes that no longer fit because you kept your New Year resolution to lose weight – here's the place to find a home for it. Spaghetti Dinner Tues May 29 For only \$8 you'll get both a spaghetti dinner (at 6 pm) and a FREE Concert by the Hillcrest Band at 7:30 pm. Paul W Alandt GAC, 16600 Lakeshore Blvd, (216) 481-0631.

**AT THE MARKET** Francis has asparagus, spinach, lettuce, mushrooms as well as carrots and sweet potatoes and turnips – asparagus make a welcome change from delicious roasted root veg, round about now. He also has fat and healthy veggie plants: collards, broccoli, celery and such, also onion starts. Redozo Farm is back with heirloom tomato seedlings. Gloria has dandelion greens (don't knock 'em!) from the Farm across the road.

**BTW:** Many people don't know you can buy food-bearing plants and seeds with your Ohio Direction Card. What better way to feed yourself and your family than growing it yourself? And starting May 2, EBT/SNAP recipients will have their purchases matched up to \$10 – so if you use those funds to buy veggie plants, you essentially get free food all season long. And – if you use your Ohio Direction Card every time the market is open each month, you will get \$80-\$90 in free food to help your family eat better. I believe that's called win-win. Coit Road Farmers' Market Coit Road Farmer's Market is located at the corner of Coit & Woodworth Road in East Cleveland. www.coitmarket.org. Open year-round Saturday 8 am to 1 pm; April-November Wednesdays 10 am-1 pm. (216) 249-5455 during market hours.

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*"You're Gonna Like It... A lot!"*

Giving something back...and great Mother's Day gift ideas!

by Victoria Hudson

Hi Collinwood! As you might have seen here, Branches Art Space has opened its doors. Just like art, the space is ever changing and evolving.

I am one of the artists at Branches, and a Schenely Road resident. You've probably seen me walking around the water, park and pretty much everywhere with my dogs - a large black one, Shadow, and a more recent addition, white Luna. Yes, I'm the redhead getting walked by them.

One of the reasons I love this neighborhood is because it truly has an identity and a real grasp of community. I need the community's help right now, and am appealing to everyone to help me give back to others.

Less than a month ago, my Shadow was taken ill. My healthy 16-month-old Shadow had surgery and although many vets tried, no one was able to save her. Our other dog, Luna, came from a great rescue organiza-

tion, Dogs Unlimited Rescue. The assistance they provided me during the week of Shadow's ordeal was unheard of. They were on the phone with me day and night, helped get her to specialists and emergency care when I couldn't take her, met me at the emergency hospital and consoled me the whole time. I simply can't thank them enough, for all that they did for us!

But I do want to thank them, and want to help other animals get the chance to see a vet, have a home and a chance of escaping a puppy mill. I donated all of my work (displaying now at Branches) in April to them and it would mean a great deal to me, and to a lot of dogs if you could give a donation to Dogs Unlimited by purchasing a GREAT gift for Mother's Day. Many thanks.

Victoria Hudson can be reached at BeJeweled, 17516 Schenely,(440) 341-0540, vbejeweled@gmail.com or vkhdusn@gmail.com.

Branches Art Space Open House/Fundraiser

by Jerry Schmidt

Branches Art Space Open House - Fundraiser Saturday, May 12; 2 pm-7 pm 18322 Lakeshore Blvd, across from VASJ High School. 2-5 pm: Children's tent with fun crafts and activities, 5 pm: Live auction, 6 pm: Chinese auction ticket drawing- ART-MUSIC- FOOD-FUN! See the art gallery, artists' studio and student learning space! Enter a "Chinese Auction" to win art by local artists and items donated by area businesses! Talk with Branches artists and check out the classes being offered. All proceeds will help Branches fulfill its mission and offset the cost of art materials for our students.

More info: Meg Garbincus: (216) 482-7085 Jerry Schmidt (239) 293-9548 Tracy Fuzie: (440) 527-4018

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