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The Collinwood Observer

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Volume 4 • Issue 6

July 2012

Waterloo



arts

The Waterloo Festival brought more people than ever to Collinwood this year.

GOVERNOR JOHN KASICH: Plan a visit to Cleveland Lakefront State Park!

by Stephen Love

Governor Kasich,

My name is Stephen Love and for the past 3 years, I have organized and coordinated an entirely volunteer Adopt-a-Beach team-(part of a network of Adopt-a-Beach teams throughout the Great Lakes supported by The Alliance for the Great Lakes) at Euclid Beach State Park in Cleveland. Our volunteer group, along with two other dedicated volunteer groups at Edgewater State Park--The Friends of Edgewater and Drink Local Drink Tap, have had hundreds of people from the community, local schools, colleges and businesses take part in beach cleanups twice a month, picking up thousands of pounds of trash, raising money for trash and recycling bins and signage and creating events and programming that encourage visitors to enjoy and respect our lakefront parks.

We believe Cleveland Lakefront State Parks (Edgewater, Gordon Park, Euclid Beach, Villa Angela and Wildowood) are public assets to the surrounding communities and serve as a lakefront destination for the entire Northeast Ohio region. At the same time, we are deeply concerned that our Lakefront parks are chronically underfunded and understaffed. From leaky toilets in park restrooms and

overflowing trash cans, to one park ranger on duty at a time, our Lakefront State Parks are becoming liabilities more than assets. Recent coverage of the deteriorating conditions in our parks by the press and media have prompted the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to push for immediate improvements of "first impression" items including mulching flower beds, cleaning and opening vandalized restrooms and installing new signage throughout the park. While we applaud these improvements and believe they make the parks more inviting, they do not address the long term infrastructure and ongoing maintenance issues.

In an effort to address immediate maintenance, littering enforcement and security needs, our three groups are now in the process of launching a volunteer led "Park Ambassador" program to create a safer, cleaner and more inviting park experience. However, all our volunteer initiatives and activities combined will be fruitless in the absence of a long term plan to address sustained maintenance and desperately needed infrastructure improvements.

That is why on behalf of all of our volunteers and the citizens of Cleveland, we invite you to come visit Cleveland



Adopt-a-Beach volunteers posing with trash finds from Euclid Beach!

Lakefront State Park. We would be happy to take you around to see the recent improvements made to the park, the positive impact of our volunteers activities but most importantly, the many maintenance and infrastructure challenges that still lie ahead.

In the meantime, I would invite you to visit our facebook pages to see some of the great things we are doing to make our lakefront parks better places to visit today and prepare for a better future!

Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team, Friends of Edgewater State Park, Drink Local Drink Tap, Urban Beach Ambassadors, The 2012 Euclid Beach Blast!

You can also visit Cleveland.com/lakefront to see pictures and videos from park goers who are documenting maintenance and bad behavior in our parks.

Continued on Page 3

Collinwood Youth and Digital Media

by Darece Daniels

The Collinwood Recreation Center has been hosting a new digital media program for teens! The participants learn broadcasting and communication skills, along with those skills, they learned how to launch a radio show to be broadcast over the internet. The youth, ages 12-17 created a radio news program called, "The Forum." Each week the teens discuss one of the top ten issues that affect their lives including topics such as bullying, teen violence, peer pressure, human trafficking and drugs. The teens provided a unique insight and perspective on these issues. They became citizen journalists, by writing, producing and recording the topics that were covered. The program was created by Institutional Community Development Corporation, in partnership with FCB Musera Entertainment, who provided



Shirellda Terry, Councilman Michael Polensek and Alexis Nunn.

the technical assistance and instructor. Shirellda Terry and Alexis Nunn had an opportunity to interview Councilman Michael Polensek of Ward 11. This interview will be seen on YouTube in the near future. The classes are held at the recreation center on Wednesdays at 5:00pm to 6:30pm. For more information, contact Darece Daniels at (216) 812-6954.

Waterloo Arts & Entertainment District receives \$500,000 ArtPlace Grant

by Seth Beattie

The Waterloo Arts & Entertainment District is fast becoming one of the top night-time destinations for Clevelanders, with an assortment of funky music venues, art galleries and independent stores. A \$500,000 grant from ArtPlace, announced today, will add even more energy to a district that is already fast on its way to success.

ArtPlace funding will support the launch of "Collinwood Rising," a collaborative effort to transform the North Shore Collinwood neighborhood by engaging artists in creatively combating urban vacancy and foreclosure at the community level. Central to the plan is reimagining vacant land

Continued on Page 4

FCB Musera Entertainment is a media and entertainment company specializing in creating, developing and providing content via the internet and other web-enabled devices. The company's media properties are distributed by some of the largest and most prominent digital media distributors in the world, placing FCB Musera content in the hands of millions of people worldwide. Musera Internet Radio's listeners come from the top metropolitan areas of the United States as well as countries such as Canada, El Salvador, Mexico, Australia, and others. <http://www.museraradio.com>



CHARACTERS AT SANDY'S Above: Snow White, Cinderella, and Dorothy. Below: Captain America and friends.



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, click on Member Center, sign in, click on Submit Story, and start writing. Next deadline: July 25, 2012. You can mail your stories to the Collinwood Observer office at 650 E. 185th St. Cleveland, 44119.

Euclid Beach Blast!
August 4, 5:00-8:30 p.m.

by Stephen Love
Come Celebrate Euclid Beach Park with an evening of art, live music, games, and food at the 3rd Annual Euclid Beach Blast! Free and fun for the entire family!

- The fun begins at 5pm with:
- BEACHLAB an outdoor art exhibition
 - A Beachland Ballroom live music concert at the beach
 - Cleveland's famous food trucks
 - Skate Kitchen Skate Spot
 - Bike Cleveland's "Bike to the Beach"
 - Beach games, workshops & much more!

Then follow it all up with an after party at The Beachland Ballroom featuring The Hi-Risers at 9 pm!

Kim Wren, our heart of hospitality at the Rec Center

by Deborah Howitt

Kim Wren's noon water aerobics class (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri) at the Collinwood Recreation Center has a spot for everyone. Just show up about 11:45, with your swimming gear plus a pair of socks to wear in the pool (the bottom is rough) or water shoes, and a lock for your locker. Tell those in the locker room it's your first time and you will be welcomed.

It is the best. There are mostly women, a couple of pleasant fellows, and Kim our fitness/surgery recovery guide. People socialize. Locker rooms promote meeting and greeting each other. It's not easy to remember everyone's names, but no matter how many times you ask a person's name, they gladly provide it. It is the nicest bunch of people you would ever want to meet. Kim Wren started her "get fit" program in the Fall. Her niece AJ and their church friend Sug joined in and shortly, so did I. Kim's program is a very good workout and much more social than swimming up and down. The numbers grew. People committed to doing their best in the workouts and invited their co workers and friends. A community gathering of loving friends developed.

Kim has turned her personal fitness plan into a golden opportunity for us to enjoy a healthier and happier life. She pours out her love of people as she leads us through our routines in song. We join in, "Reach out and touch somebody's hand. Make this world a better place if you can." The voices are strong and sweet.

Our recreation centre is a gem in our community. It has easy access. Its location near the library, Dave's supermarket and other services helps us combine our daily chores and our fitness needs. The paid staff is small. The building is large. We can help keep our gem sparkling by cleaning up after ourselves and others and volunteering to fill needs we see. We, the Rec center users, appreciate Kim's sharing and caring. We thank her for opening up her personal fitness program and her heart to all of us.

Put on your dancing shoes!

by Pat Nevar

The "Waterloo Ballroom" at the Slovenian Workmen's Home located at 15335 Waterloo Road, Cleveland, is the place to be Friday, August 10th. A Big Band Dance will be held from 8:00 PM until 11:00 PM featuring "Swing Time" an 18 piece Big Band directed by Bob Shampay. Doors will open at 7:30 PM and admission is only \$10 a person. A cash bar will be available and NO BYOB.

Prior to putting on your dancing shoes, enjoy a dinner at the Friday Fish Fry in the lower hall, where meals are served every Friday from 3:00 PM until 8:00 PM. Swing Dances are held the



Kim's water aerobics class in action.



The ballroom at the Slovenian Workmen's Home, ready for action.

last Saturday of every month in the "Waterloo Ballroom." Doors open at 7:30 PM, lessons are given from 8:00 PM until 9:00 PM and then dancing to live music until 12:00 midnight. For additional information, please call (216) 481-5378.

Free lunches for neighborhood kids

by Justice Bernard Hill

Students in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District will find the Collinwood Recreation Center and 20 other city rec centers more than just places for fitness activities this summer. Starting Monday, June 18, the centers will be places girls and boys can go for free boxed lunches.

With hunger an issue for many Cleveland youth, the free lunches will fill a need, said Kim Johnson, who coordinates the Summer Food Service Program for the Cleveland Division of Recreation. "Not only do we offer meals at all the rec centers, but the Cleveland Public Library will have meals," Johnson said. "We also have 26 playgrounds we're staffing that we'll be serving lunch as well."

Continued on Page 9

COMMUNITY MEETINGS
Let's make a neighborhood resolution for the new year – check out the block clubs. It takes just one evening a month, it often involves food, you get an up-close view of neighbors you didn't know, you hear what's going on and you can seize the moment and ask why. Or why not. Stick this list on the refrigerator. Or on your Phone.

Collinwood Homeowners' & Tenants' Association First Wednesday, 7 pm, St. Mary's School, 15519 Holmes Ave.

E185 Street Block Watch Second Tuesday, 6 pm, Lithuanian Village Hall, 877 E185 (rear entrance).

Nottingham Civic Club Third Tuesday, 7 pm, Nottingham United Methodist Church, 18316 St Clair.

E156 Street Block Watch Third Wednesday, 6 pm, M&M Bar-B-Que, 15116 Lakeshore Blvd at E152.

Northeast Shores Development Corp NSDC holds its quarterly meetings, open to all, members and public, on the third Tuesday of January, April, July and October, at 6:30 pm, at our lovely new rec center. These meetings are well worth attending, all kinds of neighborhood-wide initiatives come up for discussion.

Collinwood/Nottingham Historical Society Second Thursday of the month, St Mary's Church Hall, 15519 Holmes Avenue, beginning at 6:30 pm.

Naturally Collinwood

Neighborhood pride shows itself on E. 156th Street

by Rhonda Hudson-Williams

In the midst of the housing crisis and foreclosures, neighborhoods have been left with empty and abandoned homes, leaving the city to cut the lawns. Most of the neighborhood does their part in keeping the outside of their homes appealing.

Willie Williams is one of Collinwood's home owners who consistently maintains his properties. His stately-looking home on E. 156th Street is always well-groomed. His well trimmed lawn and colorful flowers stand out and attract attention from cars driving by, people walking by, and get loads of compliments from all. Councilman Mike Polensek has complimented Willie Williams publicly on several occasions

at the E. 156th Street meetings. Owing his home for over twenty years, Mr. Williams says when he first purchased his house there was no paved driveway and there was no grass.

"I keep my home well-manicured because I care about where I live. I hope others will follow and show pride in where they live." Mr. Williams has pride and interest in Collinwood. He regularly attends the East 156th Street meetings and can be heard sharing his concerns, voicing his opinions and offering suggestions.

Thank you, Willie Williams, for showing pride and beauty in our neighborhood.

KASICH Continued from front page

We want what is best for our beaches, our lakefront and our city. We look forward to the opportunity to have you visit our parks in person and get a better sense of both the challenges we face and the opportunities ahead.

You can sign the Change.org petition asking Governor Kasich to visit Cleveland Lakefront State Park via our direct link: <http://www.change.org/petitions/governor-john-kasich-tour-cleveland-lakefront-state-park> Spread the word and ask others to sign!

Or send your own letter directly to the Governor's office or to his staff via the contact info provided below:

<http://governor.ohio.gov/Contact/ContacttheGovernor.aspx>

Governor John Kasich
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
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Development

NORTHEAST SHORES

First round of Artists in Residence grants is announced

by Mariel Behnke

Six artists who live or work in North Shore Collinwood were awarded a total of \$30,000 to support their community art projects through the Artists in Residence grant program. This program, part of a special two-year neighborhood arts initiative of Northeast Shores and the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture, aims to support artists in the community and involve residents in making the neighborhood a better place to live. It will award another \$95,000 in two more rounds of applications between now and fall of 2013. "These community art projects have leveraged and sparked local artist and non-artist interest in purchasing homes within the boundaries of The Waterloo Arts and Entertainment District. People want to be in a thriving, cutting-edge community," commented Camille Maxwell, Real Estate Development Director at Northeast Shores. The six projects that were recently awarded funding are described below.

Shawn Mishak was awarded a grant to create a documentary describing life in North Shore Collinwood through the eyes of residents and create a piece of art representing each resident interviewed. Everything will be exhibited at a premier event that will be free and open to the public. Mishak also hopes to show the film at other events and submit it to film festivals so that it and Collinwood will gain more exposure.

Erin Randel's "Scoop on Summer" pamphlet was also awarded a grant. The large brochure provides a calendar of the events and activities going on in North Shore Collinwood this summer. It is available for free in many areas around the neighborhood.

Jef Scharf received funding to give Collinwood a portable silk-screen printing device to print posters, t-shirts and flyers. He will also provide workshops,

which will take place at Arts Collinwood, to teach residents how to operate the press and use its products to inform the community.

Omid Tavakoli was awarded a grant to reopen the sculpture garden located outside the Zaller building on Waterloo Rd. He plans to fill the space with outdoor sculptures, exotic plants and a pond. The space will be open to the public. The project will also improve the safety and walkability of the area by adding an outdoor lighting system.

Krista Tomorrow received funding to create a pop-up fashion studio and interactive sewing lab in a vacant storefront. The shop will teach high school students basic sewing and fashion skills. This project will culminate with a fashion show and clothing sale featuring the work of the students.

Doug Wood received a grant to host a series of free summer music education and appreciation classes for school-aged children. The hour-long classes will each feature a different guest performer in a different genre of music including blues, jazz and American folk music.

The members of the panel that made the final grant recommendations were neighborhood residents Andrea Hinton, Charlotte Iafelice, and Brian Licht, assisted by Vince Reddy of LAND Studio, and Nelson Beckford of The Cleveland Foundation. The grant program is made possible through the generous support of Leveraging Investments in Creativity, the Kresge Foundation, the Ford Foundation and Charter One Growing Communities.

Please contact Seth Beattie at Northeast Shores at (216) 481-7660 with questions regarding these six art projects or future rounds of this grant program.

Mariel Behnke is an intern at Northeast Shores.

ARTS Continued from front page

into an artist-designed playground, converting a vacant house into an artist storefront and converting a vacant storefront into a performing arts incubator. It also involves the important task of engaging residents in reimagining vacant spaces through a yearlong series of pop-up events, gallery exhibitions and small artist-led projects.

Having a portfolio of strategies for revitalization with art at the core is central to the type of creative placemaking supported by ArtPlace, a collaboration of 11 major national and regional foundations, six of the

nation's largest banks, and eight federal agencies, including the National Endowment for the Arts, to accelerate creative placemaking across the U.S. To date, ArtPlace has raised almost \$50 million to work alongside federal and local governments to transform communities with strategic investments in the arts.

"Across the country, cities and towns are using the arts to help shape their social, physical, and economic characters," said NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman. "The arts are a part of everyday life, and I am thrilled to see

Continued on Page10

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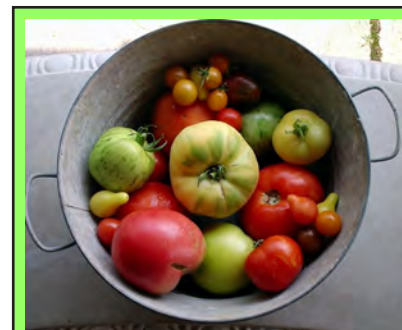
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Development

COLLINWOOD NOTTINGHAM VILLAGE

Cleveland Energy Saver Program

by Yolanda Anderson

Qualified City of Cleveland homeowners can save up to \$3,750* on home energy efficiency improvements through the Cleveland Energy Saver program brought to you by the City of Cleveland, Cleveland Housing Network, and CASH Cleveland.

Here's how it works:

- For a limited time only, as a homeowner living in the City of Cleveland, you will

- not be charged the \$50 for an energy assessment of your home.
- Within 5-7 business days following the assessment, you will receive an energy assessment report with efficiency recommendations and cost estimates. Suggested improvements might include attic insulation, furnace replacements, programmable thermostats, new windows and doors, and water-saving devices.
- You decide which recommendations you would like to complete and choose from a list of pre-approved contractors.

For more details see this story at www.collinwoodobserver.com.

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Paint vouchers are running out

by Yolanda Anderson

2012 Paint Voucher Program

Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation (CNVDC) is taking applications for the 2012 Paint Voucher Program through August 1, 2012. Eligible **South Collinwood** applicants could receive vouchers for up to \$400 in free paint and supplies. You will be responsible for the labor cost involved to paint your home, if approved.

To Qualify:

- Must be a low or moderate-income family (call for income guidelines).
- The applicant may be the owner or tenant, however, he/she must reside in the **South Collinwood** house being painted. If the applicant is a tenant, he/she must get signed permission from the owner to participate in the program.
- Must receive Lead Safe Work Practice instructions at the time of application.

To Apply:

1. Get an application by calling CNVDC at (216) 383-9772.
2. Complete the application and submit ALL required documentation by August 1, 2012. Painting must be done within 30 days of application approval.
3. Required documentation: proof of ownership, proof of income, etc. Call (216) 383-9772 for details.
4. \$60 refundable cash deposit due upon admission to the program. The \$60 will be refunded to you upon passing the final inspection of the paint job and clean-up.

Your house must be in good repair and also be in **South Collinwood** to qualify for the paint program. If you have other housing repair needs, call CNVDC or go online at www.cnvdc.org for information on other housing assistance programs available to Cleveland homeowners. Vouchers and funds are limited. Please call as soon as possible to verify all restrictions for the program and to be put on the waiting list. We look forward to working with you.

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Schools

Schools

Cleveland Industrial Innovation Center jumpstarts Collinwood High School Industrial Internship Program

by Joe Laumer

Cleveland Industrial Innovation Center (CiiC) has hired two Collinwood High School students as participants in Collinwood High School's Industrial Internship Program. Juniors, Dahryce Hogan and Anthony Battle entered into the program at the end of this school year and will work through the summer along with 2011 Collinwood graduate DeAndre Hairston as an integral part of the maintenance staff of the facility; focusing primarily on maintenance and improvement of the grounds, an area totaling 65 acres. The students will also be directly involved with a planned 48,000 square foot expansion for one of the flagship tenants, NatGasCar. The work will expose the students to a multitude of construction and maintenance skills over the course of the summer.

Collinwood teens prove “Love” can take them to graduation

by Justice Bernard Hill

Local business and civic leaders saluted 51 teenage girls from Collinwood High School on Wednesday, June 20 for doing what the odds said the girls would likely not do: get their diploma. But the girls proved that a little love can go a long way in turning an at-risk teen into a high-school grad. And that's what the 51 girls are now, thanks to “Believe to Achieve,” a pilot program that Project Love, a nonprofit, brought to the Cleveland Metropolitan School District five years ago. With substantial funding from Alcoa Inc., Project Love's “Believe to Achieve” set out to turn around the achievement gap of teenage girls. It succeeded. In 2008, the program identified 72 eighth-grade girls who were at risk of dropping out in the ninth grade. Of that total, 71 of the girls entered Believe to Achieve, which provided the teenagers the training, skills and nurturing

Gov. Kasich signs Mayor Jackson’s “Cleveland Plan” into law

by Justice Bernard Hill

Gov. John Kasich signed the “Cleveland Plan for Transforming Schools” into law Monday inside the auditorium at John F. Kennedy High School, an action that trumpets a new beginning for the 43,000 students enrolled in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. In signing the legislation, Kasich thanked members of the Cleveland Teachers Union and their leadership for being receptive to the transformation, which came at a cost to union membership. “But they demonstrated that they could put the kids first,” Kasich said. “It's fantastic what is happening here.” What is happening, said Kasich and Mayor Frank Jackson, who led the effort to get the measure passed, is that Cleveland's schools have the legislative muscle to improve learning and reshape educational outcomes. The legislation removes obstacles that, CEO Eric Gordon had said, stalled the changes he had sought to remake a school system that produced far too many dropouts and not enough positive outcomes. Under the legislation, Gordon and his leadership team can, among other things:

- Make tenure and seniority secondary considerations in layoffs, which will allow the District to retain high-performing and specialized teachers.
- Let the District share property tax money with selected charter schools.
- Give the city and District a voice in which charters can open new schools in the city.
- Set up a salary differential for teachers, which means performance becomes the No. 1 criterion for pay. The better the teacher, the higher the teacher's pay.

Two of the more sweeping options allow for longer school days and for year-round schooling.



Governor Kasich signs legislation at John F. Kennedy High School along with several of the 43,000 students who will participate in the “Cleveland Plan for Transforming Schools.”

Now, Kasich said, Gordon and his administration have to make the plan work. “I was talking to Eric here, and I said, ‘It's all on you now, Eric. You screw up, we're blaming you,’” Kasich joked. He told the audience at the signing that the focus of the transformation plan has always been students. For the students' sake, those who were critics of Mayor

Jackson's original proposal were willing to discuss it, and what all sides came up with was a plan that had broad support. “Sometimes we have to remind ourselves that education's for kids, not for adults,” Kasich said. “In this case, kids have been put first.” First unveiled in February, Mayor Jackson's so-called “Cleveland Plan” led to an unlikely alliance, which included Kasich, Democrats and Republicans in the Ohio Legislature, Gordon and his administration, leaders of the Cleveland Teachers Union and members of the Cleveland Board of Education. “With this legislation, we now have the possibility – and really a great possibility – of creating a different outcome,” Jackson said. Kasich said the city of Cleveland and its school leaders had had enough of those negative outcomes. They resolved to fix education.



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EUCLID BEACH BLAST!

Saturday August 4th 5-8:30PM

Celebrate Euclid Beach Park with an evening of art, live music, games, and food at the 3rd Annual Euclid Beach Blast! All FREE and fun for the entire family! Festivities include:

Cleveland's Famous Food Trucks, featuring FiredUp Taco Truck, B&M Barbecue, East Coast Custard, and TD's Hot Dogs & Hoagies

BEACHLAB Art Exhibition Bike Cleveland "Bike to the Beach"

Collective Upcycle "Beachcraft" Bar Skate Kitchen Skate Spot

Beachland Ballroom @ the Beach Live Music

Face Painting, Beach Games and more!

9PM AfterBlast Party @ Beachland Ballroom featuring The Hi-Risers

DIRECTIONS:
Exit I-90 at East 152nd St. and head NORTH. Turn RIGHT onto Waterloo, LEFT onto East 165th and RIGHT onto Lakeshore Blvd. Head past the arches and turn LEFT into Euclid Beach Park (park entrance is located across from Collinwood Rec Center)

EUCLID BEACH STATE PARK

Lakeshore Blvd.

Collinwood Rec Center





Collinwood resident praises the YWCA Early Learning Center for excellence in childcare

by Margaret Brennan

One of the best kept secrets in all of Cleveland is the Early Learning Center at YWCA Greater Cleveland. Yes, you'll find children at play, and early childhood education at its best. Collinwood residents Darlene and Johnny English have seen all three of their children grow and learn at the Early Learning Center, and they especially appreciate the devotion of the staff. “I appreciate their experience and believe that they love each child and recognize their unique responsibilities in helping to develop each individual. I have personally seen several teachers go above and beyond their job descriptions to do what was in the best interest of the child,” says Ms. English. Everyone on staff is doing what they love most – working with children and helping families establish a solid educational foundation for their children's future. Early Learning Center parents are kept engaged and up to date through a Parental Advisory Council, a monthly newsletter highlighting achievements and daily communication with teachers. “The center is designed to serve as an extension of the home, so we welcome and encourage parental and family involvement. Our success is the result of the partnerships that we form between parents, their children and the teachers,” says Program Director Christine Davis. English agrees that the Early Learning Center keeps parents very well informed of their children's progress. “I have very good relationships with the staff and I appreciate how communicative they are, be it orally or written in daily sheets, planners or the newsletter. They also support me as a resource when I have childcare questions and developmental questions,” she says. Take a quick glance into any of the classrooms at the Early Learning Center and you will see that the children in this unique program are a reflection of the local community. The Early Learning Center welcomes children and families of all races, ethnicities, religions, socio-economic status and other dimensions of difference. “One of the hallmarks of all of our programs at the YWCA is our strong commitment to diversity and inclusion,” says Davis. “At the Early Learning Center, we have created a wonderful environment where diversity is celebrated – and this is greatly valued by the parents and families of the children enrolled here. In teaching children to respect each other, we are establishing a cultural and social foundation that will be with them for life.”

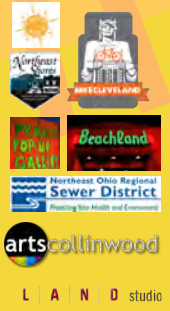
What you need to know about the Early Learning Center before you go

The Early Learning Center provides a high-quality, comprehensive, age-appropriate learning environment for children ages ranging from six weeks to five years. The YWCA is proud that the Early Learning Center has earned a two-star rating by the State of Ohio's “Step Up to Quality” program, indicating it has exceeded the licensing requirements with its evidence-based curriculum, low teacher-child ratios, high teacher education levels, focus on professional development and effective administrative practices. In addition to the Creative Curriculum model of learning, the center emphasizes science and math education. The Early Learning Center provides engaging activities and a project-based learning approach which allows infants, toddlers and pre-school aged children to develop at their own pace. Over the past few years, students from the Early Learning Center pre-kindergarten class have graduated on to Cleveland's most prestigious schools including: Cleveland School of the Arts, Campus International School, Inter-generational School, E-PREP, Cleveland Heights School District, Shaker Heights School District and Urban Community School, to name but a few. The Early Learning Center is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and is currently enrolling children 6 weeks to 5 years of age. It is conveniently located at 4019 Prospect Avenue in Midtown Cleveland – minutes from downtown and University Circle. For more information, contact Program Director Christine Davis by phone: (216) 881-6878 x234 or email: cdavis@ywcaofcleveland.org Children enjoy a wide variety of age-appropriate activities as part of the highly acclaimed Creative Curriculum. Experienced and enthusiastic teachers help make learning fun while building the children's motor skills, social skills and development abilities. English highly recommends the center to other parents of young children, “because of the caring nature of the teachers, their level of experience, the cleanliness of the center, the lesson planning, and their commitment to providing the best childcare for each child.” Visit today and experience the positive impact of the Early Learning Center within your own family!



All three English children have been enrolled in the Early Learning Center

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216.268.0879 or stop by!



Green Collinwood

Urban Beach Ambassadors are coming to Euclid Beach Park Sign up for our FIRST training session

by Stephen Love

If you bike or walk in or just love our lakefront parks and have a few hours here and there to give back to the community then let's talk!

We are looking for Beach Ambassadors at Euclid Beach State Park and this summer 2012! Ambassadors will help make our lakefront parks cleaner, friendlier and more inviting places to visit and encourage park visitors to take pride in our urban parks!

- What will ambassadors do?**
- Walk/ride on the park/bike paths in teams of 2-3 people
 - Make people feel welcomed in the parks!
 - Talk to people about not littering and a pledge to reduce litter, the importance of reducing waste on the beach, not feeding the birds, ask people what they like/dislike about the parks
 - Promote monthly beach cleanups and events
 - Picking up trash/a little bit of sprucing up here and there:
 - Report/Post maintenance/safety issues/general concerns to park staff

How often?

-1-2 hours per week to start-we will be flexible and work with you!

-Weekend coverage will be key!

How to become a park ambassador?

-Attend a training-Our first training session will be on July 26th at the Euclid Beach Park pavilion (16250 Lakeshore blvd. Cleveland



Not the final UBA logo but you get the idea! Picture this on a t-shirt!

OH 441110) from 630pm-830pm.

-Trainings will review the ins and outs of talking to people, using reporting tools available (1-1.5 hours)

-Get an ambassador t-shirt and flyer kit!

-Shirts and kits will be distributed after attending a training

Still Interested? Let us know!

Contact Stephen Love at adopt.euclidbeach@gmail.com or call (216) 571-0685.

Visit us on facebook at facebook.com/urbanbeachambassadors!

Wildwood Wetland and Stream Restoration Project update

by Claire Posius

The Lacustrine Refuge is a wetland and stream restoration project located in Wildwood State Park in the City of Cleveland. Located on the Main Branch of Euclid Creek near Lake Erie, this ~\$1.4 million dollar Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funded project aims to restore three acres of urban coastal wetlands and restore 1,100 linear feet of shoreline habitat to serve as a fish habitat refuge and nursery for the urban coastal estuary zone. An estuary, or lacustrine in freshwater systems, provides habitat for nearshore fish and typically consists of wetlands. Today, the Euclid Creek estuarine zone has been modified for a public park and marina.

In the Spring of 2011, the Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District (Cuyahoga SWCD) engaged the services of consultant team RiverWorks (EnviroScience, GDP Group, and RiverReach Construction) to design and construct the project. While developing the project design, the consultants sampled fish populations to see what fish are present before the project is constructed. Once the restoration is complete, post construction monitoring will take place to see if fish and bug populations have increased with the hopes of finding new fish species in Euclid Creek, like Bowfin and Northern Pike.

Another project goal is to control several of the exotic invasive plants that are taking over native vegetation in the park. The two main culprits, Japanese knotweed and Phragmites, are plants that cannot be controlled through pulling by hand. The EnviroScience crew sprayed these plants several times over the past year with a non-toxic herbicide that does not hurt aquatic fish and bug species in nearby Euclid Creek, or humans and pets using the park for recreation. These invasive plants outcompete native plant



Northern Pike found in nearby Arcola Creek. We're hoping to see some in Euclid Creek once the project is complete!

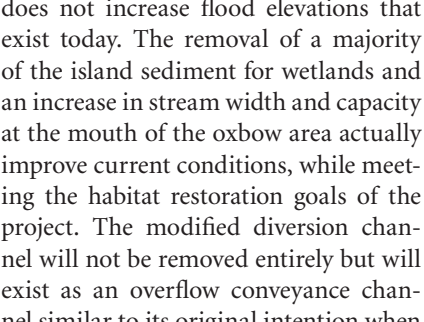


Flowers of the invasive Japanese knotweed, an aggressive plant inundating Wildwood State Park.

biodiversity thus displacing and decreasing populations of wildlife, butterflies, and birds that rely on native plants for food, shelter and breeding.

The project team is close to finalizing all of the necessary permitting and reviews with local and federal agencies. This process has taken a considerable amount of time and resources to satisfy the various permits, including an intensive review from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hydraulic division for the proposed modification to the 1980's diversion channel that created the oxbow condition (i.e. what is considered the main channel of Euclid Creek today). While our Great Lakes restoration project is not a flood control project, the project underwent a similar level of scrutiny and review. The Army Corps has approved the proposed changes to the area based on rigorous hydraulic studies, flood elevations and evaluation of risk. The proposed restoration project does not increase flood elevations that exist today. The removal of a majority of the island sediment for wetlands and an increase in stream width and capacity at the mouth of the oxbow area actually improve current conditions, while meeting the habitat restoration goals of the project. The modified diversion channel will not be removed entirely but will exist as an overflow conveyance channel similar to its original intention when floodwaters reach a certain height.

The project is nearing ground-breaking and residents may see more construction equipment and activity starting in July.



State Park staff hastily picking up trash on the morning after July 4th!

Beach, taking photos and videos, talking to people and working directly with park rangers to crack down on littering so litter thugs, watch out!

A Better park doesn't start with millions of dollars of investment (although it should end with it)! **A BETTER PARK STARTS WITH YOU!**

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Euclid Beach Park Pavilion on July 5th

Around Collinwood

Nan's Notes

by Nan Kennedy

ON WATERLOO

INSIDE THE BOX ON WATERLOO

Email Louis Ross at waterloostudios.net@gmail.com for a viewing of his box assemblages, "Inside the Box," at Waterloo Studios, 15316 Waterloo, until July 25. Wasn't able to get to the opening on Fest day (being lashed to the Arts Collinwood booth), but the postcard is very intriguing. And it's nice to hear of another studio on Waterloo.

AT THE BEACHLAND

World Premiere of I Am Alive, a short film by J. Buckner, with Galactic Mustache and Presque Vu * (bands will perform after screening). Sunday July 15.

And – one of our favorite neighborhood artists, the multi-talented Meredith Pangrace, will perform in A Good Heart Will Break, with Maura Rogers and the Bellows, Saturday July 21.

Beachland Ballroom, 15711 Waterloo
(216) 383-1124 www.beachlandballroom.com

ARTISTS TAKE NOTE

MAKE A SHEKERE AT BRANCHES, July 14

Make your own gourd musical instrument with Meg Garbincus. All materials provided, \$30. To register, call (216) 482-7085; 2-4 pm.

Branches Art Space, 18322 Lakeshore Blvd.

JULY HARVEST AT ZEROLANDFILL CLEVELAND, July 20

The July 20 harvest is the pick-up date for artists, educators, crafters, homeschoolers, arts organizations and community programs to pick up the materials samples received from the graphic design, interior design and architectural community. Examples include carpet, wallcovering, fabric, laminate, tile, brick, stone, metal and glass samples, stock photo books, paper books, paper samples and binders. Please bring boxes and bags to take your materials home. Same Location as last year at the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, 4750 E 131st Street, Garfield Heights.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

EUCLID BEACH BLAST! \$100 A DAY

Euclid Beach Blast 2012 has gone to Kickstarter, the grassroots funding site, to raise \$2700 in 27 days -- for live music, art installations, games, workshops, an after party at the Beachland Ballroom

Cruise this Winter!
Crown Princess 7nts Jan.19 \$895^{pp}
Belize, Honduras, & Cozumel

Independence of the Seas 8nts Jan. 19 \$975^{pp}
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and much more – at the August 4 Euclid Beach Blast! Minimum donation is \$1, and the project will be funded only if at least \$2,700 is pledged by Wednesday August 1 at 10:24 pm EDT. Your card will not be charged until the full \$2700 has been pledged. Go to <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1481657468/euclid-beach-blast-2012> for full information on how (and why) to donate, and the little perks received at each level (limited edition Blastcard, food coupon, a Blast Pack of goodies in a hand-crafted beach trash basket, a ride in the Thriller, a limited edition book and/or print by Ivana Medukic).

SUNSET YOGA + BEACH CLEANUP
Wednesday July 11

Can't get to the beach clean-ups on Saturday morning? No problem – come on Wednesday evening, July 11, at 6:30. Spend an hour cleaning the beach, then spread out the yoga mats from 7:30 till 8:30. Please bring a yoga mat and your yoga gear. A suggested donation to our Kickstarter Campaign of \$5 will go towards the Euclid Beach Blast! (Saturday August 4, 5-8:30 pm).

BEACH CLEANUP + BEACH SAMPLING FOR PLASTICS, Saturday July 21

Come at 12 pm for the beach cleanup, then at 2 pm join Dr. Marcus Eriksen from The 5 Gyres Institute as he demonstrates how to sample small bits of plastic, or microplastics, on the beach. Learn how our beaches compare to other Great Lake beaches and how to prevent plastic pollution on our beaches and in the Lake. Beaches to be sampled are: Huntington Beach at 9 am, Lower Edgewater State Park Beach at 11 am, and Euclid Beach at 2 pm. Contact Cathi Lehn for more information (clehn@cmnh.org). Sponsored by The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo/Cleveland Zoological Society and the Burning River Foundation.

To read more about Marcus and his research visit: <http://www.5gyres.org> or this Plain Dealer article from June 19: http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2012/06/plastic-pollution_study_to_be.html

Line Dance Class, July 23

Learn some steps and get moving! 1-2 pm, \$2.

Paul W. Alandt Lake Shore Golden Age Center, 16600 Lakeshore Blvd.

AT THE PARK: BATS! Friday, July 20

Meet at the Euclid Beach Pavilion at 8 pm for some bat basics and activities before heading out for an evening walk with the bat detector.

Lakefront State Park (216) 881-8141 x. 3001

AT THE MARKET

My July 4 visit to the market was well worth it – Francis supplied potatoes, tomatoes, corn and green beans (mine are just beginning to climb their poles), and also had cabbage, cauliflower, cucumbers, zucchini green and yellow, onions and of course eggs and cheese. From Gloria I got chard and raspberries – she also had beans and – given a few more moments – snow peas. And from Inner City Bakery I collected cupcakes – Red Velvet for Emma and lemon for Jane (who said it was so delicious it didn't even need its icing (she's four – I wonder if I should worry about that statement). Kevin was grilling and the market house smelled wonderful.

Save This Date The market will be doing their third "Cookin' with your Kids" free cooking class on Saturday July 21. These are rapidly growing in popularity. Don't miss out.

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.

LUNCH Continued from Page 2

She predicted more than 100,000 meals will be served this summer, a total that doesn't include meals nonprofit organizations like the YMCA, the Boys & Girls Club, the Cleveland Foodbank Inc. and Cleveland Catholic Diocese will provide for youth.

At the Glenville Recreation Center, Hal-loran Park Skating Rink, Lonnie Burten Recreation Center, Zelma Watson George Recreation Center and Ken Johnson Recreation Center, the summer program is providing free breakfasts between 9:30-10:00 a.m.

To find additional locations for the free meals, go to: <https://oh.cnpcares.com/summer>

Cleveland Softball Rocks



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Congratulations to Team Music Saves for remaining undefeated in the Cleveland Softball League.

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Around Collinwood

Waterloo Alley Cat Project awarded grant from ASPCA

by Monica Doyle

The national office of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) has recognized the Waterloo Alley Cat Project (WACP) as being worthy of a grant specifically designated for covering the high cost of testing felines for fatal diseases, i.e. FIV/ FELV, better known as feline AIDS and leukemia. When WACP volunteers trap feral/ abandoned/ homeless cats to be taken in for spaying or neutering they must be tested for FIV/FELV first. The tough decision in every one of these instances when the cat tests positive, is that it usually results in euthanasia, with very rare exceptions. The least expensive rescue rate offered anywhere in Cleveland is \$30 per cat. Multiply that by the 100+ cats trapped to date and the cost is in the astronomical ballpark of \$3,000.

WACP would like to publicly and wholeheartedly thank the ASPCA for their vital support. Their assistance contributes so much to the quality of life of all residents and to the health of outdoor cats in the Waterloo neighborhood.

Individual contributions make a huge difference in the same way a large grant does when it comes to funding the cost of daily feeding, shelter and other vet care. WACP would also like to publicly and wholeheartedly thank individuals who fuel the day to day reality of the work being done. Without your generosity, the task at hand would be impossible to maintain.

WACP funds are currently depleted to the point where group members will soon have to use their own money (again) just to buy food. We are fortunate to have a very understanding and kind veterinarian who has let us run up a bit of a tab, but we need to pay off our debt in the next couple of weeks. Please, if you can help, tax deductible donations can be made to Waterloo Alley Cat Project and sent to Northeast Shores Development Corporation at 317 E 156th Street, Cleveland, OH 44110. Blue Arrow Records at 16001 Waterloo Road, Cleveland, OH 44110 is also able to accept donations via mail or in person.

Lastly, WACP will be having a benefit at Cebars Tavern, 595 E. 185th St. Euclid OH 44119, on August 10th. Come down for some live music, raffle items and lots of fun. Be sure to visit Waterloo Alley Cat Project on Facebook for all updates and some ridiculously cute photos of our cats!

Jay Dee
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Cannot be combined with other offers. This offer valid thru July 2012

Meet Branches intern Mitch Hawk

by Mitch Hawk

I am the middle child of three, attending Strongsville High School in my last year before college. I've seemed to have a real talent for the arts ever since middle school. Since the beginning of high school, I've been working to develop my talents and take them seriously to grow as an artist. Recently I was accepted to the Columbus College of Art and Design, and I'm ecstatic about what my future holds.

I've been branching away from my usual pencil pieces and have begun working with watercolor paints as well as other types of media like polymer clay sculpture and stencil printmaking. My mind works from the ground up, trying to understand every little detail of a piece before the pigment hits the paper, planning out each element of the composition to achieve maximum results and a professional look.

Science, philosophy, and sociology inspire me to create more and more by

the day, as do other works of art. Being able to tell a story or get a point across in a piece makes it all the more appealing to have the opportunity to display my art. I put forth my best effort every day, confronting an intellectually starved, consumerist society, trying to make people think.

This is my first time putting my artwork up in a gallery and so far it's been a rather pleasant and educational experience. I've learned a lot just from listening to Jerry take care of everyday things and even more from inputting my own ideas for improvement. I'm working with Branches as a part of my high school's Senior Project program, allowing me to shadow a profession that I find relevant to what I want to do after school. I'm so grateful to have this opportunity to get out and see what the local art scene is all about -it's bound to come in handy when I arrive in Columbus.



Junior is a Waterloo Alley Cat. His tipped ear means that he has been fixed and is cared for.

Featured artist at Branches art space

by Jerry Schmidt

Jerry Schmidt is a second generation metal sculptor, son of the sculptor Fred Schmidt. Jerry's work can be seen at his studio gallery and in the local Collinwood area. (15315 Waterloo Rd, Cleveland, 44140) Jerry's son Tyler Schmidt is the third generation of the family now working beside his father sculpting. Jerry has his work displayed in an exhibit at the Cleveland Hopkins Airport. His work can also be seen at Branches Art Space, (18322 Lakeshore Boulevard, Cleveland, 44119) a gallery which he manages. To see more of Jerry's work, visit his website at schmidtsculpture.com to set up an appointment with him at (239) 293-9548.



Jerry Schmidt

STAR POP vintage + modern's 3rd Anniversary Party!

by Troy Schwartz

STAR POP vintage + modern, in Cleveland's Waterloo Arts District, is turning three! Come celebrate three years of recycling pop culture, and saving the planet; on Saturday August 11, 6-9pm with cake, prizes, drawing, and a dragon!

STAR POP vintage + modern | 15813 Waterloo Rd. (216) 965-2368 | codename7@gmail.com | www.starpopcleveland.com | www.facebook.com/starpopcleveland

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Out and About

BeerJointsRUs

Sticks Pub & Grill! A great tavern with a very special bonus... It comes with a Golf Course!

While Sticks is one of the newer watering holes in BJRU, Briardale Greens have been around for some time!

Sticks Pub & Grill is a full-service bar and grill that satisfies every appetite for great food. Their menu consists of American cuisine with homemade soups and daily lunch and dinner specials. Some of our delicacies include our famous Double Eagle Burger - a double patty grilled to perfection on a three layer bun, topped with American cheese, pickles and our own Double Eagle sauce.



18 Hole event starts at 11 am and costs \$39 per player. Includes golf, food, range balls and prizes. \$10 per person goes to the Wounded Warrior Project.

9 Hole event starts at 5:30 pm and costs \$25 per player. Includes golf, food, range balls and prizes. \$10 per person goes to the Wounded Warrior Project.

This event is held annually at over 100 Billy Casper Golf courses nationwide. The event helps benefit the “Wounded Warrior Project” (www.woundedwarriorproject.com).

Night Golf on Friday August 24

Play golf after dark. Cost is \$35 per player. Includes food, beverages, golf, prizes and two (2) glow in the dark balls. Sign up a foursome by Thursday August 23 and pay only \$25 per player.

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*"... We know that what
we're learning can apply to
something else ... we're more
engaged, and we think
about what we're doing more."*

*"... I get up in the morning and think,
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| Benjamin Franklin • PreK-8
1905 Spring Road, 44109 | Jane Addams – Business Careers
Academy • 9-12
2373 East 30th St., 44115 | Newton D. Baker • PreK- 8
3690 West 159th St., 44111 |
| Buhrer Dual Language • K-8
1600 Buhrer Ave., 44109 | John Hay – Architecture
and Design Academy • 9-12
2075 Stokes Blvd., 44106 | Oliver H. Perry • PreK-8
18400 Schenely Ave., 44119 |
| Clara E. Westropp • PreK-8
19101 Puritas Ave., 44135 | John Hay – Early College
Academy • 9-12
2075 Stokes Blvd., 44106 | Orchard @ Halle • PreK-8
7901 Halle Ave., 44102 |
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and Medicine Academy • 9-12
2075 Stokes Blvd., 44106 | Robinson G. Jones • PreK-8
4550 West 150th St., 44135 |
| Cleveland School of the Arts
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Leadership Academy
@ Margaret Spellacy • PreK-6
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1991 Barber Ave., 44113 |
| Cleveland School of the Arts
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4401 Valleyside Road, 44135 | Martin Luther King Jr.
Health Careers Academy • 9-12
1651 East 71st St., 44103 | Valley View Boys'
Leadership Academy • PreK-6
17200 Valley View Ave., 44135 |
| Early Childhood Center
@ Mary B. Martin • PreK-3
8200 Brookline Ave., 44103 | Max S. Hayes Career Technical • 9-12
4600 Detroit Ave., 44102 | Warner Girls' Leadership
Academy • PreK-6
8315 Jeffries Ave., 44105 |
| Garfield • PreK-8
3800 West 140th St., 44111 | MC ² STEM • 9th grade
Great Lakes Science Center
601 Erieside Ave., 44114 | Watterson-Lake • K-8
1422 West 74th St., 44102 |
| Garrett Morgan
School of Science • 9-12
4016 Woodbine Ave., 44113 | MC ² STEM • 10th grade
GE Lighting and Industrial
1975 Noble Road Bldg., No. 336
East Cleveland, 44112 | Whitney M. Young Gifted and
Talented Leadership
Academy • 2-12
17900 Harvard Ave., 44128 |
| Ginn Academy
@ Margaret Spellacy • 9-12
655 East 162nd St., 44110 | | William Cullen Bryant • K-8
3121 Oak Park Ave., 44109 |

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