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March 2013

Callaloo Cafe celebrates Grand Opening

by Nan Kennedy

On March 1, the Callaloo Café and Bar formally opened, with Caribbean cuisine, tropical fruit drinks, and live music from Panic Steel Ensemble. The Callaloo is Kelvin Cadiz's second restaurant, but few Clevelanders have eaten or sipped drinks at his first: the Captain's Sandbar in his hometown, the small fishing village of Buccoo Point in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. The Callaloo Café brings a sampling of Trinidad and Tobago's culinary traditions to Cleveland, with a rotating menu of portable foods from the varied world cuisines that have inspired Caribbean cooking. On week-ends the Café's signature rotis will take center stage, along with crispy burritos, soft seafood tacos and Sunday's traditional after-church lunch.

Clevelanders who attend Parade the Circle may recognize Kelvin from Panic Steel Ensemble, the Cleveland Museum of Art's Community Arts steel band, who kick off the annual event in University Circle and will be played during the



The Callaloo Café moves into the Arts Collinwood Cafe space, bringing a sampling of Trinidad and Tobago's culinary traditions to Collinwood, and Cleveland. Photo: John Copic

Café's grand opening. Music has already become an integral part of Callaloo Café and Bar, with live bands performing during special events held by their neighbor Arts Collinwood and on many week-end nights. There is also a weekly open mic night on Wednesdays, 7-10 p.m., where you can expect to hear reggae jazz, poetry, and more. Hours: Tues 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Wed-Thurs 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri-Sat 11a.m.-midnight, Sun 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

GCP endorses CMSD waiver request, supports current progress of Cleveland Plan

by CMSD Communications

The Greater Cleveland Partnership has announced its endorsement of CEO Eric Gordon requesting to the Cleveland Board of Education to file the necessary application with the Ohio Board of Education to waive State appointment of an Academic Distress Commission.

This action was in direct response to a letter issued by the Ohio Department of Education recently, and as part of the authority granted to the Cleveland Metropolitan School District by the Cleveland Plan legislation.

Cleveland's extraordinary reform efforts, and, specifically, the already-developed Plan for Transforming Cleveland's Schools, is the reason why

Continued on Page 2

5th Annual Taste of the Neighborhood Dinner is a heck of a party



Newest member of the North Collinwood Hall of Fame, Francis Hunter, for her dedication to North Shores Collinwood here being congratulated by director of Northeast Shores, Brian Friedman and Councilman Mike Polensek.

by Denise Lorek

On February 19, 2013 Northeast Shores hosted the 5th Annual Taste the Neighborhood Award dinner and Fund-raiser at the Lithuanian Hall. If you were not there, you missed one heck of a party. We had food donated by Beachland Ballroom, B&M BarBQ, Blitz BBQ, Cakes By Sweetwater, Callaloo Café and Bar, Chilli Peppers, Chloe's Kitchen Diner, Congin's Pizza, Convenient East 200th St., Dave's Supermarket, Fresh Catch, Giorgio's Pizza, Gus's Diner 185, Gostilna at Knezak, Grovewood Tavern, Lithuanian Hall, Muldoons, Scotti's, T.B's Hhot Dogs. As you can tell from the list of restaurant donors there was some very tasty food being served that night.

In addition to the food that night Northeast shores gave awards out to some very worthy groups and individuals. The award recipients this year were in the following categories:

North Collinwood Hall of Fame - Francis Hunter, for her dedication to North Shores Collinwood.

Continued on Page 11

Big Publicity – Demand Surpasses Supply on Waterloo

by Alan Glazen

It's not every day that Waterloo dominates the front page of the Plain Dealer, but we did so this past week!

Joe Crea spent months following many of us around, interviewing, trying to get inside what's happening here. His conclusion seems to agree with mine: Waterloo is the next great thing in Cleveland. It might be odd to say so, because it's been happening for years, well before I visited a few years ago to see where we might expand our hospitality business.

The results of all this publicity is lots of people looking to open things there! From ice cream to vegan dining, the strip is hot! We bought the Harbor Pub and the Fotina's building, and we leased the bar/bocce courts at the Slovenian Workman's Home. We had a contest to see who would be awarded a free lease to Fotina's, and this resulted in Chloe's new diner.

The biggest news of all is Chef Steve Schimoler (of Crop Bistro fame) has agreed to lease the Key Bank Building to open his "Crop Rocks" along with former Rock and Roll Hall of Fame chief Terry Stewart. What a combination.

Continued on Page 5

CROP ROCKS ON WATERLOO



The latest Big News: Chef Steve Schimoler (of Crop Bistro fame) has agreed to lease the Key Bank Building to open his "Crop Rocks" along with former Rock and Roll Hall of Fame chief Terry Stewart. What a combination.

Fruit Harvest project grows

by Sherrie Zagorc

It started with one pear tree in Collinwood and one simple goal to gather and use unwanted fruit in our community. The project has informally grown to include more people, more trees, and a greater understanding of the good that can be accomplished through the Fruit Harvest Project. Now in its third year and with added assistance from Nicole Wright, OSU Extension's Urban Agriculture program, we are gearing up for the 2013 growing and gathering.

The Euclid Fruit Harvest Project aims to connect fruit tree owners with volunteer harvesters. Fruit trees often produce much more fruit than what a household can eat. By donating extra fruit, fruit tree

owners help reduce the amount of fallen fruit and increase the amount put to good use, either eaten or composted. A portion of every harvest will be donated to the Euclid Hunger Center or other organizations. Besides being eaten fresh, fruit can be preserved in many ways for later use: sauces, jams and jellies, and dehydration are just a few, so an effort will be made to offer classes within the community on these topics.

We will begin scheduling harvests as fruit trees and bushes start to ripen. In the meantime we are looking for tree owners willing to donate fruit

and for volunteers willing to harvest fruit. Please show your interest at our next project meeting Tuesday, March 19 at 6 pm at Shore Cultural Centre. We can also be contacted at euclidfruitharvest@gmail.com and (440) 941-4620.

Sherrie Zagorc is the Co-Founder of Kiddie City Child Care Community, chairperson of the E. 200th Street Stroll Committee, and organizer of the Playground Express - infant/toddler playground in Memorial Park.



The Euclid Fruit Harvest Project connects fruit tree owners with volunteer harvesters.



The project started with one tree in Collinwood.



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: March 25, 2013. You can mail your stories to the Collinwood Observer office at 650 E. 185th Street, Cleveland, OH 44119.

Councilman's Corner

by Councilman Mike Polensek

Obviously, I hope you all read and heard about the ongoing negotiations and discussions with the Governor's Office, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and the City of Cleveland regarding our Cleveland Lakefront State Parks, specifically Euclid Beach, Villa Angela and Wildwood. I can tell you at this point that negotiations have gone well and legislation has passed the Ohio House with regard to the transfer of the parks to the City of Cleveland. The Ohio Senate will hear the legislation I am told in about two weeks.

The Legislation is being fast-tracked and I certainly appreciate the help of State Representative Bill Patmon. This transfer is a process which I have lobbied for the past several years. We are at a point where bold decisions must be made to safeguard our precious lakefront properties. I knew it would happen because as I have said before, "when we work together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish in Ward 11." As a result of this movement the Cleveland MetroPark System has asked the well-respected LAND Studio to convene a Euclid Beach/Villa Angela/Wildwood Advisory Group. I am proud to be a part of this Group and will keep the community apprised as we move forward with the ultimate goal of once and for all creating a real "Emerald Necklace" which incorporates our lakefront.

It finally looks like the stars are aligning. Who would have thought just a few years ago that we are not only addressing water-quality and environmental issues with the Euclid Creek Tunnel Project and the aquatic, nature and wildlife initiatives with the Wetlands Project, but also now reclaiming our historic lakefront parks. Stay tuned for future updates on these exciting times.

Congratulations to the operators and owners on the opening of the new Blitz Bar-B-Que and the Callaloo Café on Waterloo Road. These are two great new additions to our neighborhood. Please patronize these businesses and all the other proud businesses in our community. Shop local! Remember the old saying, "use it or lose it." Our local businesses need your support in these difficult economic times.

Watch for future updates on the Waterloo Road Streetscape Initiative and the Nottingham Village Commerce Park Project on St Clair Avenue.

Salvation Army News

by Lt. Chris Mauk

EASTER ACTIVITIES

On Tuesday, March 26th, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., The Salvation Army on 17625 Grovewood Avenue is having an "Easter Eggs-travaganza." This free event welcomes the entire community for a night of fun for the whole family. There will be games, crafts, food, an Easter egg hunt and other hands-on activities. It is sure to be a great time for all ages.

The adults of our community are invited to attend Good Friday, March 29th, for a reflective service at 5 p.m.. On Easter Sunday, for all ages, we will have a Sunrise Service at 7:30 a.m., followed by breakfast at 8:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and an Easter Celebration at 10:45 a.m. It would be great to have you!



Easter Eggstravaganza FUN!

SUMMER CAMP

Summer is right around the corner! If you are interested in The Salvation Army's Summer Day Camp program, please contact Karen Jones at (216) 692-1388 extension 31!

HEATING ASSISTANCE

The Salvation Army, through the EnergyShare Program, is assisting people with their Dominion East Ohio Gas Bill. Eligible persons can receive a one-time payment of up to \$600 per heating season while funds are available. To determine if you are eligible and qualify for EnergyShare assistance please contact your local The Salvation Army Temple Corps. at (216) 692-1388 extension 11.

SCHOOLS Continued from front page

the waiver option was included in the historic legislation, Gordon said.

"This alternative to state oversight, made possible by House Bill 525, for which so many members of our school community worked, paves the way for Cleveland to continue implementation of the Cleveland Plan," he said.

"We are optimistic that, with the plan that is already underway, and with the support we garnered this year from Governor John Kasich and state legislators on both sides of the aisle, the State will grant the waiver we seek."

Gordon said he is optimistic that the district has the 'Right Plan, Right Now' for reforming Cleveland's schools.

"The Cleveland community's broad support for system-wide reform, the courageous bi-partisan support of the Ohio legislature in passing House Bill 525, and the clearly articulated accountability measures outlined in the Cleveland Plan, have positioned the District for the success we all envision," he said.

The Plan for Transforming Cleveland's Schools is a community-inspired and supported reform plan to transform Cleveland's public schools into a 21st century learning institution. At the heart of the Plan is Cleveland's "portfolio strategy," and the district's pledge to grow the number of high performing schools and ensure accountability for the quality of public and charter schools throughout the city.

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 iPhone.

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

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




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Traditional Saint Casimir's Fair

by Virginia Rubinski

For 58 years the Cleveland Lithuanian Scouts have been holding a traditional Saint Casimir's Fair which has its roots in Lithuania, when pilgrims from all around the country would gather in the capital of Vilnius for Saint Casimir's feast day, March 4. After attending church, artisans and craftsmen would have various handmade goods for sale in the streets. Not only were household goods, such as pottery and woodcrafts, readily available, but a special treat, a decorated heart-shaped honey cookie, became a Casimir's fair tradition.

Today the tradition continues, not only in Lithuania, but also in larger Lithuanian communities, such as ours in Cleveland. The Lithuanian scouts spend many hours making crafts for sale and baking and decorating the traditional honey heart cookies. They also sell another tradition: fresh bagels on a string. A full dinner is available in the

lower hall, or, if you just want to satisfy that sweet tooth craving, there is a table of various homemade desserts. All proceeds benefit the Lithuanian Scouts' activities here in Cleveland.

The fair this year takes place on Sunday, March 17, from 11AM to 1PM, at Saint Casimir's church hall, 18022 Neff Rd., right here in the Collinwood neighborhood. Admission is free, so please stop by and check out the crafts, as well as the delicious food that is available.

Virginia Rubinski is the leader of the local Lithuanian Girl Scouts.



Many various crafts for sale at the Lithuanian Scouts' St. Casimir Fair.



A portion of eager shoppers at last year's St. Casimir Fair

CNCM offers new programs for teens, adults at Memorial Nottingham library

by Sr. Mary Denis Maher, CSA

"Programs for pregnant teens are among the new services offered through the Collinwood Neighborhood Catholic Ministries (CNCM)," announced Sr. Mary Ellen Brinovec, OSU. Director. Mary Ellen, a certified birth doula. "A birth doula," she explained, "is a person trained and experienced in childbirth who provides continuous physical, emotional and informational support to the mother before, during and just after childbirth."

She will shortly set up dates to meet with pregnant teens and discuss their needs and the opportunities provided by the doula program. Among the services that will be offered are classes to be conducted at the CNCM house, 15706 St. Clair Ave. covering topics from pregnancy, birth and post-natal care of the baby. Sr. Mary Ellen will also accompany girls to their doctor appointments, arrange for other doulas to meet with the girls, and when requested, accompany each girl to the labor and delivery.

Other previously scheduled programs for March include:

"Finding God in Quiet Music," led by Sr. Janet Moore, OSU, professor of music at Ursuline College, will be offered on Saturday, Mar. 16 from 10-11am. The experience will give everyone a chance to spend peaceful time away from the busyness of life.

No experience is necessary for two creative programs offered concurrently on Friday, Mar. 22, 2-4 pm: "Creative Paint Program" and "Create a Prayer Shawl." All materials will be provided free for both programs, and follow-up sessions will be scheduled for those interested.

William (Bill) Denihan, who has taught painting at Joseph's Home for the past 5 years and Doug Rothschild, will teach the painting classes, which will be offered several times in April, May, and June for interested adults. The first session will introduce the participants (limited to 5) to equipment, supplies, and teachers. By the end of the session, each person will have completed a simple scene.

Crocheting or knitting a prayer shawl will be taught by Sr. Felicia Petruziello, CSJ and 2 women from the Women's Outreach Center.

"Growing Old With Grace and Humor," 3-part series, by Sr. Eileen Mary Collins, OSU, will be offered Thursdays, April 4, 11, and 18 from 10-11:30 am. This is a repeat of the popular program previously given at the Collinwood Rec Center and the Holy Redeemer Senior Citizen Center.

Some of these suggestions have come from the "Coffee and Conversation" Open Houses with area residents held in February. The Sisters and lay collaborators who form the CNCM welcome other suggestions.

All programs, unless otherwise indicated, will be held at the CNCM house, 15706 St. Clair. Ave. For additional information, call Sr. Mary Ellen at (216) 481-8182.

Sr. Mary Denis Maher, CSA is member of the newly formed Collinwood Neighborhood Catholic Ministries, a group of Catholic Sisters and other collaborators, who are in the process of listening and learning about the needs of the Collinwood area and responding to them.

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Development

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Welcome to Collinwood Website

by *Tonya Broach*
Would you like to learn more about the artist community in North Collinwood? Would you like to know more about programs being offered to artists in the area? You would? Well, there's a way you can find that information. Here's how...
You can go to www.welcometocollinwood.com! The website will inform you about the various offerings to artists in the neighborhood and features what artists are already doing in our community. It's also a place where people can make donations to support our programs and send us questions about our initiatives. So when you get a moment, please check us out! While

you're there, you can also sign up for our newsletter and stay in the loop on future programming updates.
But wait, there's more! Of course, you're always welcomed to stop into our office for information as well. For the low, low price of \$19.95, someone would be more than happy to answer any questions you may have (Uh, just kidding about the \$19.95 part.). So, if you're an artist, know an artist, live vicariously through an artist or just want to know more about what's happening in the neighborhood, reach out and see how YOU can become apart of our vibrant community! Collinwood is steadily rising, so act NOW!

Do you like fresh garden vegetables?

by *Denise Lorek*
If you like fresh garden vegetables, we have openings in some of our Community Gardens. For those of you living on a fixed income this is a great way to make your dollars go a little further. We have several gardens in existence in North Collinwood that you can join.
If you have a lot that you think would make a great garden let us know, we would be happy to help you start your garden. The starter vegetables are free, so are the seeds. The water is on the property, all you have to do is put a little bit of sweat equity into the garden

and you will have lots of fresh produce. For the first time in the four years we have been growing our gardens, we are going to try some berries, in addition to our vegetables.

Please contact Denise Lorek at (216) 481-7660 ext. 21 for more information on how you can join our gardens.



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Hey, Hey, Hey!

by *Tonya Broach*
What's up today? Hope the New Year has gotten off to a great start for you all. Here is the latest installment of featured Facebook pages from the arts and business community. Please feel free to visit, read about their wonderful services, and click on the like button.

Chloe's Kitchen Diner
Formally Fotina's Restaurant and features an all-day breakfast special for \$2.99. The diner is open Tuesdays through Sundays from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is located on 400 East 156th Street, near Waterloo in the Collinwood area.

www.facebook.com/ChloesKitchenDiner?fref=ts

Coit Road Farmer's Market
The Coit Road Farmers Market is a Producer+™ farmers market located in East Cleveland and serving the Heights and surrounding areas. The Market carries a variety of locally grown produce and handmade goods. Many of our vendors participate in the Ohio WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

www.facebook.com/CoitRoadFarmersMarket?fref=ts

Collinwood Recreation Center
Recreation center located at 16300

Lakeshore. The center offers access to a gymnasium, weight room, fitness center, water slide, aqua playground, lap pool, track, computer room, art room, game room and meeting rooms.

www.facebook.com/pages/Collinwood-Recreational-Center/288107734555037?fref=ts

Hospice of the Western Reserve
Hospice of the Western Reserve provides palliative end-of-life care, caregiver support, and bereavement services throughout Northern Ohio.

www.facebook.com/HospiceWR?fref=ts

Neighborhood Connections
Neighborhood Connections is a small grants program affiliated with the Cleveland Foundation.

www.facebook.com/pages/Neighborhood-Connections/148684421844397?fref=ts

Slovene Home for the Aged
The Slovene Home for the Aged is a facility dedicated to promoting total wellness of the residents. Our professional staff attends to the personal, medical and social needs of the residents on a daily basis.

www.facebook.com/pages/Slovenian-Home-for-the-aged/281100998586517?fref=ts

Be sure to stay tuned for next month's exciting lineup!

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Around Collinwood

PUBLICITY Continued from front page

with former rock hall chief Terry Stewart. As a result of all this activity, plenty of prospective tenants are scouring the neighborhood.

When we began this journey, I advised building owners that we could help them sell or lease, get them tenants or buyers. Now is the time to trigger this action, because if an owner just sits on a property, thinking it will just keep going up in value, that owner is dead wrong. What will happen if properties aren't put into action is that the neighborhood will build up one tenant at a time: a sure prescription for difficult times.

If you are an owner and want to look into the possibilities, your best bet is to call Alenka Banco at Northeast Shores. She and they have been immensely helpful to this project!

Now, some wonder how this Alan Glazen, a near westside retired ad guy, seems to have taken a leadership role. The answer is: I just was the guy who took some action and made no noise. Leadership is not my goal! My partners and I share the vision that had kept Waterloo going all those years before we arrived. We aren't developers or urban planners, just tavern owners who've

done well in similar neighborhoods.

This is not to apologize for all the publicity we've helped generate. What we need is all of us to act on the demand we've helped create. Don't sit on that troubled property hoping someday a white knight with buckets of gold will arrive. Don't let your property be the obstacle to success. Again, you can get a fair price to sell or rent right now. It won't necessarily get better with time.

The streetscape has been delayed a few months, which is no problem. This just means that Project Light Switch will cast its beacons on Cleveland's newest go-to neighborhood in the Spring rather than in the Winter.



Harbor Pub. Photo: John Copic

Euclid residents invited to tour David Simpson Hospice House on Tuesday, March 19

by *Laurie Henrichsen*

The public is invited to tour the house and grounds at David Simpson Hospice House, located at 300 E. 185th Street on the Lake Erie waterfront, on Tuesday, March 19, 10 to 11 a.m., during a free Community Open House sponsored by Hospice of the Western Reserve. Refreshments will be provided. Reservations can be made by visiting the hospice's Website at <http://www.hospicewr.org/david-simpson-hospice-house-community-open-house>.

"Hospice of the Western Reserve is part of the fabric of the community, so we encourage Cleveland residents and those in the surrounding East Side communities to bring their friends and stop in during one of our open house events," said Bill Finn, chief executive officer. "It's a great way to see first-hand the unique range of services we offer as a non-profit agency with 35 years of history in Northern Ohio," Finn said.

The 42-bed David Simpson Hospice House provides a peaceful, home-like, therapeutic hospice environment for patients and their loved ones. Located on the shores of Lake Erie, families may walk the beautifully landscaped grounds and winding Vista Walk — a living tribute paved with engraved bricks and lined with gardens.

Among the unique amenities people

will see on the tour are a gallery walk, meditation room, art and music room, patios, family kitchen, library, guest accommodations and beautiful views of the water and gardens. Hospice House was re-named David Simpson Hospice House in 2011 to honor Mr. Simpson, who served as CEO of Hospice of the Western Reserve for 25 years and rallied community support for its construction. Intense Pain and Symptom Management/General In-Patient (GIP) care, residential and respite care are available at David Simpson Hospice House.

"David Simpson Hospice House is a home away from home for our patients and their families, Finn said. "Our experienced clinical teams have the ability to handle even the most complex cases, including pediatric hospice and palliative care, ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease), COPD, HIV/AIDS and patients coping with multiple diseases.

"There are differences, so it's important to do your homework when the time comes to choose a hospice provider," Finn said. "As a non-profit agency, funding from our donors allows us to provide a comprehensive range of care at David Simpson Hospice House that incorporates music, art and massage therapy, life enrichment activities and an integrated, customized plan of care tailored to each patient's specific needs."

Euclid Hospital's Department of Nursing Receives Pathway to Excellence

by *Angela Smith*

Euclid Hospital recently received the Pathway to Excellence designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Euclid is now the fourth hospital in the state of Ohio to receive the distinction, joining Lakewood, South Pointe and Marymount hospitals.

"Our Euclid Hospital caregivers realize what a great job our nurses do every day, but receiving the Pathway to Excellence designation truly validates what an incredible team we have," says Dawn Bailey, BSN, MAOM,

RN, Chief Nursing Officer for Euclid Hospital. "Our nurses have such amazing talent and care so deeply about our patients and our organization." Euclid Hospital earned the Pathway to Excellence honor after successfully undergoing a thorough review process that documented foundational quality initiatives in creating a positive work environment where nurses excel. The American Nurses Credentialing Center is the world's largest nurse credentialing organization and is a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association.

Euclid Hospital celebrates 75 years of AHA membership

by *Angela Smith*

Euclid Hospital recently received the Pathway to Excellence designation The American Hospital Association is very pleased to recognize Euclid Hospital with a plaque for 75 years of continuous AHA membership. The plaque is signed by AHA president Richard J. Umbdenstock and Teri G. Fontenot, chair, board of directors, to commemorate this milestone. The AHA marks membership anniversaries at 25, 50, and 75 years of membership.

The plaque reads "The American Hospital Association recognizes Euclid

Hospital, Euclid, Ohio, on the occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary as a member (in) 2012. The Association honors this hospital for its leadership in advancing the health of its community."

Founded in 1898 and headquartered in Chicago, the AHA is the national organization that represents and serves all types of hospitals, health care networks and their patients and communities. Close to 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks, other providers of care and 40,000 individual members come together to form the AHA.



Pictured: Rich Lea, Dawn Bailey, Mark Froimson, MD of Euclid Hospital and Kim Byas, Sr. of the American Heart Association.

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Villa Angela – St. Joseph High School

Faith. Family. Future.

VASJ '92 basketball state champs honored

Friday, February 8, was a big night for Viking boys basketball. The team was coming off an exciting win against Akron's St. Vincent-St. Mary the night before and were about to take on another big challenge against Cleveland Central Catholic.

Even more nerve-wracking was having the team of VASJ's 1992 state champions, including London Fletcher '93 from the Washington Redskins, in the stands to watch.

During the pep talk he gave the Vikings at Chapel before the game, London did the opposite of wracking the teams' nerves. Instead he shared words of wisdom and encouragement.

"When you become a Viking, you become a part of something bigger than you," London said to the team.

The powerful impact of being a member of the Viking family was exactly what current VASJ boys basketball coach Babe Kwasniak '94, also a member of the '92 state champs, wanted his team to experience firsthand. It was with this in mind that led him to organize the special ceremony.

"If I want my players to learn one thing – it's that these relationships last forever," Babe says. "Watching all the guys see each other for the first time in 20 years was special."

London ended his talk to the team with this message: "Go out there and be Vikings. Once you're a Viking, you're always a Viking." And they did. The Vikings beat the Ironmen 88-75, ending the game with seven straight dunks – an impressive show for all in attendance, including the 1992 state championship team.



London Fletcher '93, left, and Kashem Sawyer '93, right, proudly display the state champs t-shirts they received during the ceremony.



The VASJ 1992 boys basketball state champs were honored in the Viking Village on Friday, February 8, 2013.



Coach Mike Moran '69 pays tribute to his team.



London Fletcher '93 and current coach, Babe Kwasniak '94.



The VASJ 1992 boys basketball state champions and their coaches pose for a group picture.



London Fletcher '93 with VASJ President Richard Osborne '69.

Calling all future **Vikings** -
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Villa Angela – St. Joseph High School

Faith. Family. Future.

VASJ alum shares internship experience

Nick Garuckas '09 returned to share his Washington D.C. internship experiences with Mrs. Maureen Joseph's AP government class.

Nick, a senior political science major at St. Bonaventure University in New York, applied to every government branch he could think of to increase the odds of getting an internship – something he was sure would benefit him when trying to find a job after college.

His hard work paid off when he was selected to serve as an intern in Washington D.C. for Rep. Steven LaTourette in the summer of 2012.

The internship, which Nick described as a lot of work and a very eye-opening experience, was the perfect balance between the stereotypical mundane internship duties and actual real-life work experience.

"I was shocked to learn what an immense amount of work goes into a single bill that will probably never



VASJ alumnus Nick Garuckas '09 and VASJ AP government teacher Maureen Joseph.

even get passed," he says.

As for how he ended up with a political science major, perhaps the credit goes to his experiences at VASJ taking Mrs. Joseph's AP government class and his four-year involvement with VASJ's student government.

"I have always liked political science and history," Nick says. "And he was really good at them, too," Mrs. Joseph added.

The choice to attend VASJ was an easy one for Nick since his mother, Patrice (Valley) Garuckas '75, uncle, John Valley '75 and brother, Rick Garuckas '07, are all alums.

It was a choice he doesn't regret and in fact, a choice that sparked

many conversations with his college roommates.

"I had a very different high school experience than any of my college roommates," Nick explains. "I loved (VASJ) and I was sad to leave. I liked almost every single person that I attended high school with."

And like so many of our students, both past and present, Nick also remarked on the family atmosphere he felt while attending VASJ. "I always liked not being a number. (The teachers) all knew my name."

And someday, everyone might know Nick Garuckas' name, too, as he hopes to one day become a political figure himself.

VASJ boys basketball earn top all-district honors

The Associated Press released the 2012-13 Northeast Lakes all-district team honors for boys basketball and VASJ received the top honors in Division IV.

Duane Gibson '13, who signed with Evansville in November, was named player of the year while Babe

Kwasniak '94, who is in his third year of coaching at VASJ, received coach of the year.

Gibson, along with teammates Demonte Flannigan '13, who signed with Cleveland State, and Carlton Bragg '15, who is a national recruit, also received first team honors.



Demonte Flannigan '13, Babe Kwasniak '94 and Duane Gibson '13 named Division IV district honorees.

Viking Views



by Richard Osborne

Back in the day, we called the gym the "Purple Palace" for the purplish hue cast by its overhead lights. And it really did seem like a palace when – just like this year – Viking hoopsters gave the royal treatment to the competition on a regular basis.

Likewise, there was a regal nature to the place when – again, just like this year – our star student performers enchanted audiences at the annual musical.

But among the most memorable events in the Purple Palace were the mixers that packed in crowds on Friday nights. That's the story behind the annual "Classic Mixer" fundraiser that has grown significantly in attendance and support over the past couple of years.

This year's Classic Mixer is set for Saturday, April 6, at 6 p.m. Once again, it promises to be THE event of the year at VASJ. Couples (including my wife and me) from the days back when will revisit their old stomping (or should I say twisting?) grounds to relive the good times.

But make no mistake: This is not just an event to remember the past.

It is an event where new memories are made, and where support for the future is generously given. Last year's event, in fact, was the most successful fundraiser in our school's history.

The 2013 Classic Mixer promises to be another not-to-be-missed celebration, a tribute to our young men and women who represent Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School and carry on the school's legacy. We will feature music, great food and drink, and many silent auction items that are sure to generate interest and competitive bidding.

We're counting on you to support the Classic Mixer not only by attending, but also through donations of auction items. We encourage you to visit www.vasj.com to get the links to our forms, make "in-kind" donations, sponsor the event, advertise in the program, buy a table or purchase individual tickets.

VASJ is a special place, and your support enables us to hold a special evening to help our students "continue the dream" of a VASJ education.

As we said back then: Be there or be square.

See you at the Palace on April 6. And I hope to see you in the Village even sooner.

Richard Osborne, St. Joseph High School Class of 1969, is the president of Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School.

VIKINGS

Classic Mixer

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School's Annual Benefit Gala



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or visit www.vasj.com/vikings-classic-mixer

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Cleveland Metropolitan School District



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All articles written by CMSD Communications

Collinwood holds “Parent Night” in school gym

Collinwood High School, the Ministry of Reconciliation and Adopt a School partnered to hold “OGT Parent Night” on February 28 at the school gymnasium.

The event, one duplicated at other high schools in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, served as a prep course for 10th-grade students who are scheduled to take the state-mandated “Ohio Graduation Test.” Every student in Ohio must pass the test to graduate.

Roughly 120 students at Collinwood will take the OGT when it is administered across the state the week of March 11.

Marcia Curtis, principal at Collinwood Teaching Professions, said the idea for the event came from discussions she had with Kevin Payton, principal at the two other academies inside Collinwood High School. “We felt it was important to bring parents



Parents at Collinwood High School listen attentively as Dr. Ovelia Roulette-McIntyre from the CMSD Academic Department explains how they can help their children prepare for the Ohio Graduation Test.

in, talk to them and show them what they need to do to help us prepare students to pass the OGT,” Curtis said.

To help students prepare, parents and guardians who attended the event were given OGT study tips to pass along to their children, as well as information about what content the five-part test covered and what their children would see when they took the exam.

At the community event, parents and students were able to participate in game show activities that centered on OGT questions.

Kenneth W. Clement on pace to outgrow new site too

Kenneth W. Clement Boys Leadership Academy had outgrown its space and at the start of the 2012-13 school year returned to its first home in the Collinwood area, but Clement, one of the “high-performing” schools in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, now finds itself bursting at the seams once again, principal Jacky Brown said.

Launched in 2007, Clement had shared a building with all-male Ginn Academy at the Margaret Spellacy building on E. 162nd St., but lack of space and the interaction between the high school students and the younger students at the then K-6

boys academy didn't work.

The two clusters of male students shared the lunchroom, an art teacher and a music teacher.

“It's great to have your own,” Brown said.

A return to the old building on Woodworth Avenue presented Brown and his staff an opportunity to grow the academy.

Clement has grown, too. It has 170 boys now, and with its academic successes and innovative approach to learning, the East Side school is drawing more boys to the building.

“If we had stayed at Ginn, we'd have used up all the space,” Brown said. “We've got enough rooms to house what we have right now. It's just when we grow; that's when the challenge is going to come.”

That growth is coming too, as Clement is scheduled to add an eighth-grade class next school year.

For enrollment information about Clement, call New & Innovative Schools at (216) 348-3651.

Meals program for CMSD students undergoes changes

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has revised its lunch programs in school districts across the United States to feature more healthy options for students and fewer foods high in sugars and fats.

During a visit to Cleveland last month, Kevin Concannon, USDA undersecretary, spoke to representatives from the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, visited a couple of District schools and held at summit at Cleveland Clinic where he shared the importance of nutritious foods in school cafeterias.

Concannon said the new standards were the outgrowth of the historic “Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010,” legislation designed to combat child hunger and obesity.

He called childhood obesity a public health crisis, and while more federal money to fight the problem would help, he and others who joined him at the Clinic all conceded that more dollars are not forthcoming. They all agreed that the fight to improve children's eating habits must be a multi-pronged initiative.

“It's an uphill battle, because marketing tends to promote foods that aren't as healthy,” Concannon said.

The consequences show up in the health problems of children from poor, urban communities like Cleveland, said Debbie Aloschen, CMSD's manager of Nursing Services.

“We've seen too many malnourished kids,” Aloschen said. “They may be fat, but they're malnourished.”

In Ohio, roughly one-third of children aged 10-17 are considered overweight or obese. In Cleveland schools, the figure is even higher, Aloschen said.

One way a school district can improve those numbers, Concannon suggested, is by partnering with an institution like the Clinic, which has a program on healthy eating called “5 to Go!”

The goal of its “countdown to wellness” is simple: “healthy living, inside and outside, for everyone.”

That's a goal the USDA wants to reach with its various programs, including its cafeteria menus, Concannon said. Students now have more lunch options that are consistent with this goal.

“We're committed to that,” he said. “It represents change, but people have nervousness about the changes.”

Cleveland Municipal School District

US Senate Committee invites Cleveland schools CEO to share “Humanware” success

With a 42% drop in serious safety incidents in Cleveland's public schools, members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Education invited Cleveland Metropolitan School District CEO Eric Gordon to share the success of the district's “Humanware” initiative in keeping students safe.

Part of CMSD's strategic plan is to address conditions for learning at the schools, so all students are both academically and socially equipped to succeed. CMSD's “Humanware” initiative was added to the “Hardware” initiative already in place to ensure a safe, well managed, respectful and supportive learning environment.

CMSD students and their book bags pass through metal detectors at the entrance to each school that, along with video surveil-

lance and x-ray machines, have provided assurance to students and their families that CMSD has a zero tolerance for anything that might threaten the safety of students.

“It's not enough to just have the hardware,” says Safety & Security Chief Lester Fultz. “We also have to help students manage emotions and behaviors that lead to unsafe conditions.”

CMSD's ‘Humanware’ program provides opportunities for all students to acquire social and emotional competencies through evidence-based programs that teach students to manage their emotions, show empathy toward others, form positive relationships, work in teams, deal effectively with conflict and make good choices about personal and social issues.

District to hold film contest for “Bully X Project 2013”

Wanna be a filmmaker?

Well, students in the Collinwood area and at other schools in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District can get a taste of making a film if they win “The Bully X Project 2013.”

The film contest, part of “Not on Our Watch” (N.O.W.), is another step in the District's yearlong campaign to stamp out bullying behavior in schools. The project encourages students to submit scripts, songs/raps or poems that tell their peers about the negative consequences of bullying.

Among the entries, five schools will be chosen to produce their work in a feature presentation, which will premier at the end of the school year.

To enter, follow these steps:

- Meet with the school's N.O.W. team and discuss themes, concepts and content.
- Create a script, song, rap or poem that is between 3-5 minutes long and illustrates bullying behavior and how students work to decrease the frequency of bullying.

Community engagement gives CMSD feedback needed to finalize “Year Strategy”

It's anything but ‘Business as Usual’ in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, with school officials making good on CEO Eric Gordon's pledge to citizens to engage them in a Four-Year Strategic Plan to reform the district's schools.

More than 20 community forums, spread across the city, and in online and paper surveys and blogs, members of the Neighborhood Leadership Institute facilitated the district's goal of involving the community in providing input and helping to craft the right direction for the district.

In a tri-fold mailer sent to every household in the city in December, the CEO announced the release of a 33-page document that citizens were asked to review and to suggest changes to, so that, once finalized, the community that invested in the district's first levy in 16 years could hold the district accountable for results.

“It's more important than ever that the Four-Year Strategy document reflects the community's voice and the community's vision for the future of Cleveland's schools,” said Gordon. “The plan will drive our transformation work and create a roadmap for improving our schools and raising achievement across the district.”

The mailer provided a summary and overview of the implementation plan document, along with a request for citizen involvement in forums, surveys, email and online dialogue to help guide the work of the CEO and his team in the next four years.

That feedback, more than 300 pages of it, now appears on the district's website for citizen view, and the CEO said his team and the Board of Education have delved deeply into organizing the feedback to begin pri-

orizing the community's desires for their school community.

“The children of Cleveland are counting on each and every one of us to make the final version of the Four-Year Plan one of which we can all be proud and of which we can feel a sense of ownership,” said Gordon. “Just as we joined forces this year to create the conditions we need to put our schools on a path of excellence, I am counting on the continued engagement of our community to turn that vision into reality.”

The District made a commitment to the community that it will hold itself accountable for measurable goals for the performance of the school system and for the progress of students. Approval of the levy spans a period of four years and gives the community an opportunity to measure the District's success.

GOALS: 1) Increase the number of students enrolled in high-performing schools; 2) Improve or replace failing schools; 3) Increase the graduation rate and graduate more students ready for college and careers; 4) Raise student achievement while closing achievement gaps; 5) Increase college enrollment, and 6) Significantly improve the conditions for learning.

TIMELINE FOR CMSD'S 4-YEAR STRATEGY

February, 2012: The Cleveland community united around Mayor Jackson's release of Cleveland's Plan for Transforming Schools.

July, 2012: Ohio legislators pass House Bill 525 and Gov. Kasich signs The Cleveland Plan into law.

November, 2012: Cleveland voters pass a four-year, 15-mill levy to support the District's transformation efforts.

December, 2012: The Cleveland Plan: Four-Year Implementation Strategy is drafted for community review and input, to ensure the strategic plan reflects the community's vision for its public schools.

Ohio Online Learning Program

At Last! An online program for Ohio students in grades K-12

The Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County is offering an opportunity for students to access their local public school's full or part-time curriculum.

Ohio Online Learning provides access to the same benefits and activities enjoyed by students in the public schools of their community:

- eligibility to participate in CMSD sports and extra curricular activities
- access to over 250 courses and electives that count toward graduation
- this online public school option is free of charge

Students in the FREE Ohio Online Learning Program access:

- state-of-the-art technology
- engaging Lincoln Interactive curriculum
- online guidance and support from highly qualified, certified Instructors
- online programs for students in Grades K-12

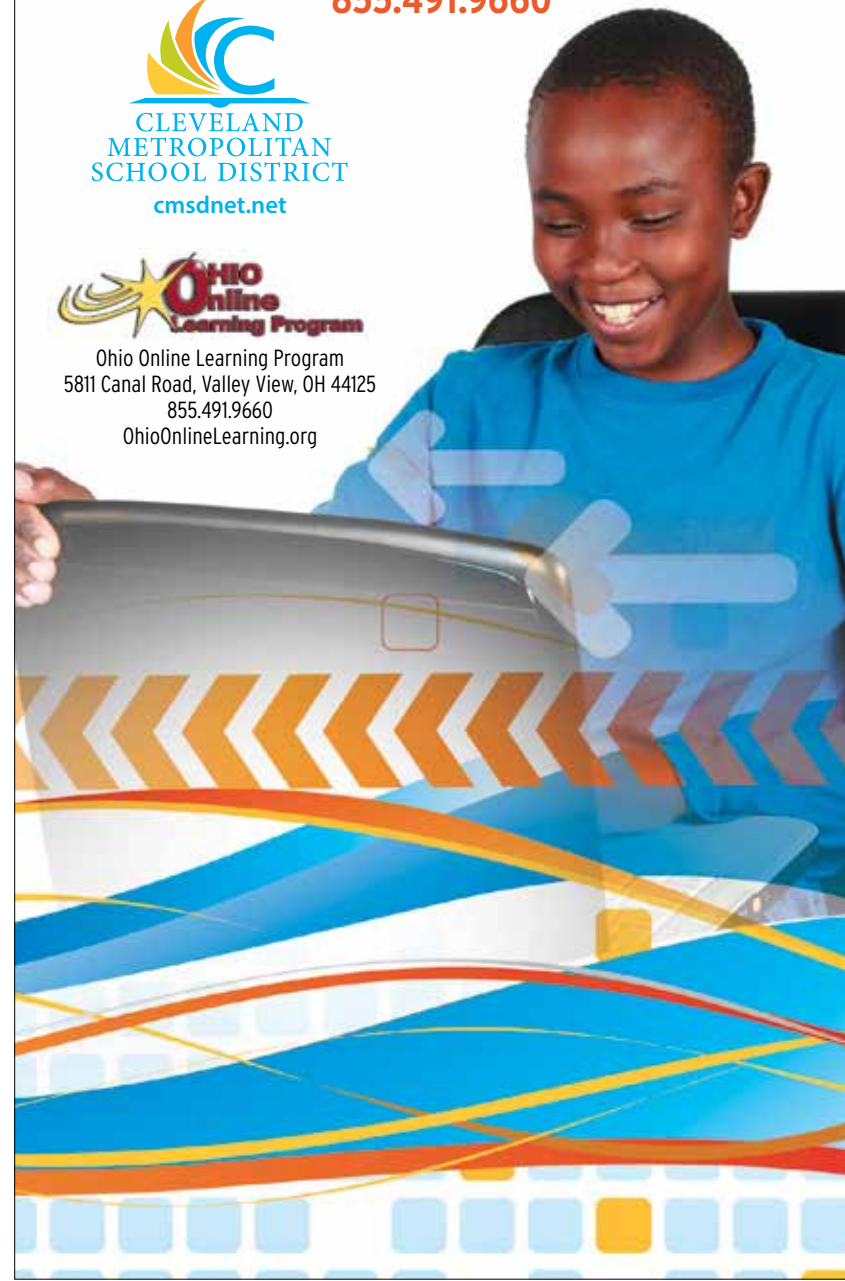
Ohio Online courses use a variety of online and hands-on approaches to accommodate different types of learners. Students engage in web casts, experiments, Power Point presentations, videos, games, and more. And can choose from over 250 free online courses for K-12

Enrolling is easy

1. Register your child with the public school district of residence, and choose “OHIO ONLINE LEARNING”
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Faith in Collinwood

Librarian brings Nigeria to St. Jerome School

by Chanelle McCloud

As soon as you entered St. Jerome School library this February you could see the bold colors, beautiful garb, and authentic artifacts of Nigeria, Africa. Hand guitars, vibrant hair ties, hand fans, leather rugs, sandals and much more decorated the library from the rafters to the eye-level of preschoolers. Ms. Stephanie Uzomah, the school librarian had transformed the book haven into a Nigerian oasis for students, faculty and staff to explore and to learn in.

Mrs. Susan Coan, the St. Jerome School Principal, said she was excited to see that Ms. Uzomah had taken it upon herself to create such a great experience for the St. Jerome students.

“She has given the students something that they may have not otherwise had,” Coan said. “These type of learning experiences last a lifetime.”

Ms. Uzomah was not born in Nigeria, but has been married to her Nigerian husband for well over a decade.

Ms. Uzomah, who goes lovingly by Ms. Stephanie, admits that she wasn't always so into Nigerian culture.

“It took some time for me to adjust to certain traditions and cuisine,” she said. “But out of respect and love for my husband, marriage and my children, I began to immerse myself into it [culture], and I began to really love it.”

Ms. Stephanie said she wanted to bring this experience to the children of St. Jerome School to expose them to what Africa is really like.

“Students have a lot of stereotypical thoughts about Africa,” Ms. Stephanie said. “I wanted students to open up a dialogue and break the ignorance that



Ms. Stephanie shows students how the bowl is placed upon the head.



Eighth-graders Destiny Hill and Sophia Lashley-Uzomah, Ms. Stephanie's daughter, dress in authentic Nigerian garb.

people have about Africa. Africa has malls, beaches, zoos, day cares, and cities. Many students didn't know that.”

St. Jerome School students gathered around Ms. Stephanie's table of goodies during library time and attentively listened to her explain each item.

“Being able to do this has made me feel wonderful,” she said. “I feel like this opportunity really made a difference, and it allowed the students to see another part of me. What more of a better way to celebrate black history than teaching students about Africa, where black history began.”

Chanelle McCloud is a teacher at St. Jerome Elementary School. She is also the founder of Professchanelle Inspiration.



Preschoolers attentively listen to Ms. Stephanie talk about Nigerian artifacts.

Diabetes education Program at Memorial Nottingham library

by Sherrie Zagor

Using a grant from the Cleveland Foundation's Project Access, Kid-die City Child Care Community is sponsoring a community visioning dialogue that focuses on building a strong foundation for the children of eastern Cuyahoga County.

Key people throughout the area have been invited to join in a strength-based discussion about the ideal future for

area children through a strong foundation in early child care and education. Saturday, March 23 from 10 am to 1 pm is when the conversation will convene at Euclid Hospital's Waltz Auditorium, 18901 Lake Shore Blvd., Euclid. Lunch will be provided. If you can add an important piece to this process, please contact (216) 798-7089 or email: kiddiecityeuclid@att.net.

Remembering the Collinwood School Fire of 4 March 1908

by Mary Louise Jesek Daley, Collinwood Nottingham Historical Society

Ash Wednesday, 4 March 1908 started off as any other ordinary school day in the Village of Collinwood. However, by the end of the morning alone it would be far from ordinary and the Village would never be the same again. For, a fire broke out at the school that morning which would change the community forever.

By 1908 the population of Collinwood Village had grown to almost 7,500 residents and the school would reach a total of more than 350 students. By the time the fire was put out, despite the valiant efforts of the community, 172 precious children, 2 young teachers and 1 community resident were dead. While some of the children died from their burns and smoke inhalation, most were either crushed or suffocated in the frantic attempt to escape the building with many being trapped in the stairwell vestibule.

We can only, even today, begin to imagine what the community went through as a result of this tragedy with the loss of 172 children in a community of less than 10,000 people. The Lakeview School Fire is still a part of our collective memory in the Collinwood community and has remained with us now for these 105 years.

No one can relate to such tragedies as we have experienced in just these past few years with mass tragedies taking so many lives where the community is helpless against the onslaught. Are we so helpless to prevent such tragedies though?

After the tragic school fire, fire safety rules which were in place were reviewed and all fire safety and prevention regulations were upgraded. Fire extinguishers, fire safety doors, crash bars and wider stairwells in public buildings are all the result of these improvements.

“Closeness and friendliness was always a unique ingredient of Collinwood. ... Wretched destiny and disaster drew the residents close together when they needed each other, and even when problems or situations arose which divided them momentarily, they worked together to find solutions. From the very beginning, a devotion and dignity in their community made them work for its betterment.” (S. Kern)

Can we do nothing less today? We are a small community despite being a part of the larger City of Cleveland. If we don't work together to make our community safe and a destination such as our ancestors did, then who will? Get involved.



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Green Collinwood

Kickoff 2013 Euclid Beach Cleanups for World Water Day!

by Stephen Love

The snow might still be falling and the lake might be freezing over but there are signs of spring all around us! And with spring comes beach cleanups!

Adopt-a-Beach volunteers will kick off the 2013 beach cleanup season on Saturday March 23rd in celebration of World Water Day. World Water Day <http://www.unwater.org/water-cooperation2013/> is a United Nations' recognized day to focus attention on the importance of fresh water and sustainable use of fresh water.

Volunteers will meet in the Euclid Beach (16250 Lakeshore Blvd.) park pavilion at 10am, break up into teams and head down to the beach to pick up trash, conduct water quality tests and have a trash weighing and World Water Day trivia contest!

Our World Water Day trivia sponsor is STAR POP vintage + modern!! STAR POP vintage + modern, just a few short minutes from Euclid Beach Park in the Waterloo Arts District, buys and sells toys, clothing, music, movies, video games, books, art, toys, and other pop culture collectibles. The store was almost named Sustainable Pop, but despite siding with a shorter name, promoting sustainability remains at the heart of what STAR POP is all about. Everything from the hand selected merchandise to the fixtures are recycled from area families and defunct businesses. Come check it out for yourself! www.starpopcleveland.com (216) 965-2368, 15813 Waterloo Rd. #5, Cleveland, OH 44110

Please be sure to thank owner Troy

Schwartz for his generous support of our efforts!

Please dress for the weather...whatever it may be and wear tennis shoes or boots! Coffee and refreshments will be provided before and after the beach cleanup. Gloves, trash pickers, rakes and bags will be provided but feel free to bring your own if you prefer!

All participating volunteers will receive a Burrito gift card from Chili Peppers Fresh Mexican Grille (869 East 185th St.) and are invited to join us for lunch after the cleanup. Please be sure to thank Steve Newman, owner of Chilli Peppers!

Hope to see you out at the Beach!

Can't make it out to the beach cleanup? Don't worry, there are more this spring!

Saturday, April 27 • 9:30 am -1:00 pm
Global Youth Service Day Super Beach and Park Cleanup

Saturday, May 18 • 9:00 -11:00 am
Beach Cleanup and Alive on 185th Street Parade

Saturday, August 3 • 5:00 - 9:00 pm
Euclid Beach Blast Festival (beach cleanup time tba) www.euclidbeachblast.com

Stephen Love is a Lake Erie fanatic from Cleveland, OH. In his day job he works for the Cuyahoga Land Bank and in every other waking moment is the founder and coordinator of Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team and Euclid Beach Blast! He started Euclid Beach Blast out of a desire to explore the connections between environmental stewardship, art, public spaces, music, and community.

Calling All Urban Beach Ambassadors

by Stephen Love

Thanks to a start-up grant from The Cleveland Foundation, Cleveland Metroparks is working on a collaborative effort with the Alliance for the Great Lakes and volunteers from Friends of Edgewater State Park, Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team and Drink Local Drink Tap, to pilot the Urban Beach Ambassadors program this summer!

This volunteer program, similar to Cleveland Metroparks Trail Monitor program, will take place along the beaches and park trails at Edgewater and Euclid/Villa Angela Beach. Volunteers will be trained to educate and inform park and beach visitors about how their actions can adversely impact beach and water quality and diminish visitor experience. Ambassadors will

also provide park visitors with information about how to get involved in volunteer activities and programs in the park and provide monitoring and observation for park staff by reporting safety and maintenance issues.

Individuals interested in the UBA program must be 21 years of age or older. Ambassadors will monitor park pathways and beaches in pairs during two-hour shifts. Each Ambassador must be certified in First Aid and CPR and participate in UBA training. First Aid, CPR and UBA training is provided by Cleveland Metroparks, the Alliance for the Great Lakes, Cleveland Lakefront State Park and volunteer group representatives from Friends of Edgewater State Park, Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team and Drink Local Drink Tap. Two training sessions will be offered in mid-

April. The UBA season begins on May 1 and ends on October 1. Each volunteer must commit to a minimum of 25 hours for the entire season.

Each UBA applicant will be interviewed. Upon successful completion of the interview, applicants must submit to a background check before being invited to attend an April training session.

Interested in becoming an Urban Beach Ambassador? Download the UBA application! You can either submit the application digitally or in the mail. To download and print the application, please visit: goo.gl/K9IPO To download and submit the application digitally, please visit: goo.gl/SVMJC Connect with UBA on facebook!



Please contact Heather Triplett at hat@clevelandmetroparks.com or (216) 635-3258 for additional information and/or to receive a copy of the UBA application.

TASTE Continued from front page

Partner of the Year

Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland, for partnering with us in the “Cover Your Assets” Roofing Program.

Business Investment of the Year

Muldoon's owner Billy Dagg, for providing the “Neighborhood Gathering Place,” a wonderful outdoor patio.

Block Club of the Year

Shore Acres Block Club/Homeowners Association, for their dedication to their neighborhood.

Volunteer of the Year

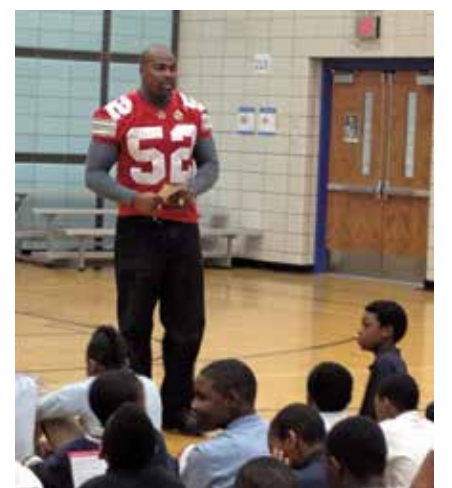
Leonard “Lenny” Kedys, for his many hours of volunteer work repainting the marquee on the LaSalle Theater.

The night would not have been complete without our own neighborhood DJ, John Copic helping emcee the event.

A very big thank you goes out to all of the restaurants and people who made this event successful.

Denise Lorek is the Community Organizer for Northeast Shores serving the North Collinwood area.

Former NFL player and Collinwood grad tells students, “Don’t smoke.”



Former NFL player and Collinwood High School graduate, James Cotton.

by Laurie Henriksen

Former NFL player James Cotton, 1994 Collinwood grad, is teaming with the American Lung Association to discourage students from smoking. Cotton is traveling around the school district to spread his message of “don't smoke.”

Naturally Collinwood

Saving Lives Through Spay and Neuter

by *Gia Campola*

The Euclid Beach Feral Cat Project has been practicing TNR (trap, neuter, release) since its inception in 2009. To date, the Project has assisted nearly one thousand cats! The accomplishments of the EBFCP during 2012 include the “TNR” of 129 cats, the surrender of 175 cats to the Cleveland APL, 11 adoptions by the EBFCP itself, and the birth of only 2 kittens in the monitored, feral community! This represents the saving of over 730 cats from the streets of North Collinwood areas including Wildwood Marina, The Euclid Beach Mobile Home Park, the state park pier, and Euclid Beach Villa Apartments. These numbers also reflect the spay and neutering of 233 cats. To give you an idea of how many cats this project is actually saving consider these statistics: The average number of litters a fertile cat can produce in one year is 3. The average number of kittens in a feline litter is 4–6. In seven years, one female cat and her offspring can theoretically produce 420,000 cats. Only 1 in 12 of those 420,000 cats born find a home. These are facts and the work of The Euclid Beach Feral Cat Project cuts down on the numbers in these statistics dramatically.

The primary focus of the Project is the Euclid Beach area where cats and

kittens are routinely “dumped”. The EBFCP now safely and securely houses and cares, daily, for over 128 - now healthy - residents. The Euclid Beach Feral Cat Project works closely with the Cleveland Animal Protective League to find homes for those friendly enough to be adopted. Those that remain as residents of the Euclid Beach area are strictly monitored, and provided with food, shelter and medical care. The dedication of those that run the EBFCP is overwhelming, unfaltering and constant.

The largest problem this group faces is the abandonment of unwanted cats, and the failure of owners to spay and neuter their pets. In an attempt to rectify this problem, EBFCP will be offering 100 FREE spay and neuters in 2013 at a new spay/neuter clinic opening in Euclid this spring! EBFCP hope that this clinic will assist low income residents as well as the elderly who may encounter difficulty with the trip to the Cleveland APL. This local, low cost facility will make spay and neuter much more affordable and convenient for many cat owners.

The Project is very sincerely appreciative of all of the support it has been given over the years. Without the support of generous donors, this work would not be possible and many, many

cats would reproduce unabated, languish in pain while awaiting medical care, or perish due to the elements and lack of food.

This group is run entirely by volunteers and exists solely due to funding of caring individuals. The new Euclid project will require funding in addition to the monumental costs of feeding, housing, spaying and neutering, trapping, adoption services, medical care. Currently over 200 individuals support this wonderful group, but more and continual support is always needed and very, very much appreciated. The funds donated go directly to these animals who are so greatly in need, and have no other means of survival.

Please consider supporting the noble and much needed endeavors of the Euclid Beach Feral Cat Projects. They have a direct and very pronounced impact on the cats of our area - they are saving cat’s lives and assisting pet lovers with their various issues. Their work can not continue or escalate without the help of compassionate individuals so please consider a donation, of any amount, to these amazing and dedicated animal lovers. Your caring is a powerful symbol of your love, respect and mercy. You will be proud of supporting this “hands on” project that, daily, protects, saves and



EBFCP resident

cares tenderly for the many deserving cats in need.

Northeast Shores Development Corporation is a non profit group which acts as a fiscal agent for the EBFCP. Please send donations to this group at 317 East 156th Street, Cleveland 44110. Please note EBFCP on the memo line of your checks so that funds can be properly dispersed and quickly expedited. All donations are tax deductible.

Ginger Hannah and Brian Licht are to be commended for their unending dedication to these cats, and would also like to express their sincere gratitude for any and all support.

Thank you on behalf of Ginger, Brian and the many animals they protect and save.

Please visit the website for more information. <http://ebfcpc.org/> (Maintained by Beth Gregerson).

Experience the World on Waterloo – With Arts Collinwood

by *Nan Kennedy*

Art, music, food and entertainment, all in one friendly package? It must be Arts Collinwood! And now they’re adding movies (With popcorn? We’ll see), Todd Kwait, who has taken over Independent Pictures (source of those international indie film festivals we’ve had recently on Waterloo) is partnering with Arts Collinwood as its Filmmaker in Residence, with plans for regular screenings over the summer and at the Waterloo Arts Fest, plus film education. Stay tuned.

Arts Collinwood makes it so easy to be a sophisticate: see art from round the state and round the world; scarf Caribbean platefuls in the Callaloo Café (and stomp to the steel band); hear great music by great performers, up close and personal – chamber music actually played in a chamber. And free. (The art shows

are free, too – as are the gallery talks; the Café is not – but it’s great value).

In the Gallery The gallery is scheduled through the end of this year. A new show opens on the first Friday of the month, followed by a talk with the artist on the third Thursday.

“Das Wird Sich Alles Finden (Everything Will Turn Out Alright)”: April The 19 artists (from 7 countries) depict the ways ordinary people connect to the uncertainties of contemporary life. CIA Biomedical Art: May, Annual Members Show: June, “Plain, Ordinary and Human”:July, “Perceptual Beauty”: August. A different perspective on the ways women try to achieve the currently approved appearance.

During the autumn, the gallery will feature one or two of CPAC’s Creative Arts Fellows, and another international show with a distinguished guest curator

– details TBA. And, of course, the year will end with the Holiday Sale.

Chamber Concerts Music for Miles (M4) chamber concerts continue through May: “Stringtime for Springtime” with the Fine Arts String Quartet on April 14; and a treat for Mothers’ Day on May 12: the Silver Keys Clarinet Quartet with “Honoring American Composers.” The concerts are played on the second Sunday of the month; they begin at 4 p.m. and last for maybe an hour and a half; and they’re free. If you come early, you can enjoy a traditional Caribbean Sunday-after-church lunch in the Callaloo Café.

The Callaloo Cafe The Callaloo Café and Bar will be open Tuesday 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Wednesday-Thursday 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday-Saturday 11 a.m.-midnight, Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. (In short, it’s closed on Monday; the rest of the week, it



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Forum

Being played at the Horseshoe Casino

by *Jeanne Coppola*

I am sure everyone knows about the new Horseshoe Casino in downtown Cleveland. It has been written about in The Plain Dealer many times since its opening. First as a new venue for local jobs and then as a resource for tourism... But I have many unanswered questions that should be answered by a casino representative:

1) What happens with the millions of dollars that the casino makes? Where is all this money going? Does the City of Cleveland get a portion? If so, how is it used?

2) Do the Horseshoe Casino owners know why they have had less revenue than expected these last months?

thought they were supposed to look like. (I had to ask, and was directed to a few slots, which were hard to find in the maze of slot machines that looked like flashing tombstones rising high to the ceiling.)

But with the 3 reel slots, the player had to bet 50 credits on each spin (Hey! I learned some of their *!@*!@! jargon!), and only got a chance to play twice for their dollar. And no slot machine had a handle. Aren’t slot machines supposed to have a handle?

As you can see, this was my first time gambling, and I did not enjoy it. I thought, “Do people really like doing this?” And although I did not expect to win anything, I thought I would have a little fun. But I did not have any fun. The atmosphere was sterile, greedy and distant. And the players seemed unhappy and frustrated, as I was.

(I played the 1 cent and 2 cent slot machines, and lost 3 dollars and fifty cents. I had planned to spend 5 dollars. But there was something not right about being in that place, and I left. I am no fool!)

I do enjoy playing the scratch-off lottery though, and have even won a few dollars on occasion. (I can even SEE if I am a winner, with the lottery tickets. Not like the mystery slot machines.)

As more people learn about the awful experience they get at the casino, I believe patronage will drop off. THIS IS GOOD!

Now, one more question...if people are out of work, and the economy is bad, and people cannot afford to pay their mortgage and car insurance, etc.... where do they get the millions of dollars that they gave to the Horseshoe Casino these past few months? If everyone lost their mortgage payments, and went back to the casino to win it back, and lost more money, then the Horseshoe Casino is going to bankrupt the whole population!

Greed begets greed, and the Horseshoe Casino is ruining the lives of poor hardworking people in Cleveland!

Jeanne Coppola is a resident of the Collinwood neighborhood, and is interested in art and writing. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Cleveland State University, where she was a writer for the multi-cultural student magazine, The Vindicator. She is pleased to be able to write for The Collinwood Observer, and offer her comments and opinions for this new and exciting community newspaper.

Horoscopes

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19) *****
March will be a time of beauty and peace. The new moon will be traveling through your 12th house. So will many unwanted relatives. In March your leadership skills will be challenged. It will be like running a cemetery, you will have many people under you and no one listening. As you run into the usual delays and postponements work harder. Storms are coming at the end of the month, gallop through them. Lucky Number: 19

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20) *****
This month should bring lots of money. With Mercury in retrograde you are likely to meet former contacts in the first half of the month. Hopefully you won’t run into HER. The last two weeks of the month money should be falling from the skies. Spend it. Lucky Number: 635

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *****
If diligence is the mother of good luck, then in March you are the father. O Lucky days. Six heavenly bodies are aligned in your sign. May you meet one of them. Accept all invitations to parties. The monster moon, on March 27 will be a especially magical time. Go dancing. Lucky Number: 327

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *****
Take some time to travel, especially near water. Indulge yourself in luxury. Your smile inspires thousands. Your tips inspire waiters. The last week of the month could bring turmoil, especially with a coworker or friend or family member. Or pretty much anybody you know. Remain calm. Lucky Number: 444

Leo (July 23 – Aug 22) *****
The spotlight is on your creative genius. Your inner and outer beauty are only outshone by your talent as a parent and a partner. It is the perfect time to take on new projects. Your wit and your easy-going charm are an inspiration to all around you. You and all around you shall be blessed with good health. Lucky Number: 12

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sept 22) *****
Horoscope Not Found: Abort, Retry, Ignore? Lucky Number: 22

Libra (Sept 23 – Oct 22) *****
You may be feeling a bit overwhelmed. Hire some new help. Go on a trip. You are very very close to becoming a master of productivity. Persevere. The full moon on the 27th will make the last week of the month, tumultuous and emotional. March on, join bravely. Lucky Number: 5

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21) *****
Remember to speak forthrightly and truthfully, unless exaggerating is more advantageous. If you are not sure, be indecisive. Facebook will get you into trouble this month. Carbs are the devil. If you feel that there are too many demands being placed upon you it is probably because there are too many demands being placed upon you. Fabulous opportunities and solutions to your problem, all float to the surface mid-March. Lucky Number: 7

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21) *****
Both you and Everything Bags seem to be making promises that you cannot keep. This is the month to buy and sell property, renovate the kitchen, or buy new modern accessories. Make all monumental decisions after March 18. Remember to make other important decisions every day. The last week of the month is the perfect time to eat at a local restaurant. Over tip. Lucky Number: 100

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19) *****
March begins a time of great peace and healthfulness for you and all around you. You begin to realize that all the important decisions you have made were correct. Be strong. Be happy. Finish that longtime project, especially if it is a movie. The last week of the month, expect the unexpected. Lucky Number: 25

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 18) *****
Your transcendent beauty is only exceeded by your intelligence and skill with people. The month of March will find you receptive to new and wonderful experiences. The middle of the month is the perfect time to travel. The monster moon on the 27th could bring a large sum of money your way. Kick up your heels. Lucky Number: 23

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20) *****
Now is the time to acquire great knowledge. Consider reading books on tape on fast forward. If you feel antisocial, consider joining a support group that never meets. The month of March could be magical for you for many reasons. The number six will be very important. The last week of the month will bring an explosive discovery. Shop local. Lucky Number: 6

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WorkAdvance is a program of Towards Employment and multiple partner organizations.

EUCLID CREEK TUNNEL COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Third Tuesday of every month: Join us to hear the latest news and updates on the construction of our Euclid Creek Tunnel.

6:00 p.m. at the **Cleveland Public Library Memorial-Nottingham Branch**
17109 Lakeshore Boulevard

 **Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District**

BLOG: euclidcreek.blogspot.com **TWEET:** @neorsd

Nan's Notes

Nan's Notes

AT ARTS COLLINWOOD

ALL-CITY IN THE GALLERY
Award Ceremony, March 15

Come early– the All-City show attracts a crowd (so many artists, so many artists' parents and grandparents and friends) for the theopening and award ceremony, 6– 9pm. The event is free and open to the public and the food is good. Thur, Fri, Sat, 11 am to 11 pm.

Arts Collinwood 15605 Waterloo Road, (216) 692-9500, www.artscollinwood.org.

AT THE BEACHLAND

A Very Special Raffle to Benefit Ken Janssen The Black Keys have offered two of the best seats in the house for their April 30 show at Pittsburgh's CONSOL Energy Center with The Flaming Lips, plus a meet and greet, as a fundraiser for Ken Janssen. All proceeds will go to help the Beachland's former booker/ bartender, and his wife Kathy, cope with Ken's recent ALS diagnosis. The Beachland has put together a raffle for a \$5 donation, tickets at This Way Out vintage store starting March 7, and at the Lottery League Big Show at the Agora on Saturday April 13. The winning ticket will be drawn at Beachland brunch on April 21 by Ken and Kathy Janssen.

Frank Green Memorial, March 10

This free gathering is a chance for friends and family of Frank Green, for more than two decades ne of Cleveland's most visible artists and writers, to come together and share the pain of his passing and the joy of his life, with videos of his performance art, archives of his writing, a band of friends to perform some musical tributes and an open mic. 3 pm in the Ballroom.

A Benefit for Crazy Marvin Braxton : In memory of Rita Braxton, March 14

Vernon Jones Blues Cartel, House Band Mike Luszak & Friends, Jarred Goldweber and Cyril Creque Sabinowski will provide the music for this benefit to help Crazy Marvin, long a beloved figure on Cleveland's blues scene, who is experiencing hardship after the passing of his wonderful wife. 7 pm in the Ballroom.

Nerdy Burlesque Revue, March 16

The stimulating effect of pocket protectors. 9 pm in the Ballroom.

Rockin' Brunch with DJ Desimone, March 17

Dave Desimone, one of our friends in the Cleveland art world and a Beachland staffer, will be spinning tunes while you savor the Beachland kitchen's masterworks.

Cleveland From Christ to Santa and Lincoln to Roosevelt (the cool Roosevelt), facial hair has been the standard demonstration of manly kindness and warmth. Minneapolis Renaissance man Art Allen created this contest to find the best beard in three cities: Minneapolis, Madison and Boston. If you're a lady or a man with the face of a lady, simply register with your best fake beard in the freestyle category. (Miles darling, you died too soon!) Music by Cholly. 8:30 pm in the Ballroom.

Beachland Ballroom, 15711 Waterloo, 216.383.1124, www.beachlandballroom.com

MEMORIAL NOTTINGHAM BRANCH LIBRARY

17133 Lakeshore Boulevard, (216) 623-7039 or email cpl-memnot@cpl.org.

Habitat Sense, March 14

What is a habitat? What determines where animals can live? How do animals use their senses to explore and survive in their habitats? Drop by Memorial-Nottingham library for some fun hands-on activities that will provide the answers to these questions, and more. Program will be conducted by the park naturalist from Cleveland Lakefront State Park, 3:30-4:30 pm.

Catch that Egg! Easter Egg Hunt, March 23

Join Memorial-Nottingham's first Easter egg hunt, 2 pm. And bring your camera – the Easter Bunny will make an appearance, and will be available for pictures.

Growing Readers Story Time Mondays 10:30 – 11:00 am

Stories, rhymes, songs for ages 3-5 and their parents/caregivers. For info, call (216) 623-7039 or email cpl-memnot@cpl.org.

At Collinwood Branch, 856 E. 152 Street (216) 623-6934.

Brain Time ABCs; Mondays, March 11 and 25, 11 am – 12 pm

Meet Local Author CJ Hudson, March 16

Join local author C.J. Hudson 12-1:30 pm, for an up close and personal conversation about his books and his journey

in becoming a published author. The author will also share valuable tips and techniques for aspiring authors hoping to publish their own work. Hudson is the author of Chedda Boys, Mo Chedda, Bloody Chedda, Next Door Nympho, Hood Lawz and Knucklehead. Light refreshments will be served. Presented by the Page Turners Adult Book Club.

REC CENTER

Rec Center's Summer Sign-Up (on Saturday April 6) will host a raft of neighborhood organizations, and you'll be able to gather information about Adopt-a-Beach, the Senior Center, MetroParks, the libraries ..and, no doubt, Arts Collinwood. The first 100 kids signing up will get a free meal, and there'll be concession stand for the next 999. Soccer players will be taking the field in April and May, and Jen Ryba would like to sign up more girls. So get your BFFs together and join a soccer team. Grownups can also help the event along by donating toward that free meal – water, drinks, chips and hot dogs are eternal.

Collinwood Recreation Center 16300 Lakeshore Blvd, (216) 420-8323; Monday-Friday, 7 am – 7 pm.

SPRING IN THE PARKS

Friday Family Fun Night: Shipwrecks, March 15

Jim Paskert from CLUE will begin the evening with a presentation about discovering shipwrecks, followed by hands-on science activities around the tools of exploration (new activities!!). It will take place at the park office building conference room, 7-9 pm. The Exploration Station will be open during this program. Pre-registration is greatly appreciated for planning.

Wetland Planting Event, March 16

Join the park people for a planting, 9 am – noon, in the newly restored wetland in Euclid Creek at Wildwood State Park. This work will entail planting wetland plugs in water that is approximately 1-2 feet deep, so bring clothes that can get wet (and/or a change of clothes). Meet at the pavilion behind the main project construction sign at 9am. RSVP to Joel Bingham (jbingham@enviroScienceinc.com) for more details.

March at the Exploration Station

The Exploration Station is available for private visits and programs for youth, school and scout groups. Inquire regard-

ing availability and program topics.

8701 Lakeshore Boulevard, (216) 881-8141 ext. 3001 / www.clevelandlakefront.org March hours: Saturdays 1-4 pm.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

NEWS FROM NEORSD

Mackenzie, the Sewer District's tunnel boring machine, is now 200' below the Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant, just north of the intersection of Lakeshore Boulevard and East 140th Street. That's the good news. The bad news is that someone has been tossing bags of dog poop onto the treatment plant's job site, and tying bags of it to the gate. From this one gathers someone is upset about something, but unless you're fluent in dog poop, it's hard to know what. Better to write a letter. For the latest, go to the Euclid Creek Tunnel blog, at <http://euclidcreek.blogspot.com>.

DATES TO SAVE

LITTLE MERMAID AT UPSTAGE, March 22, 23, 24

The Little Mermaid Jr., Disney's musical interpretation of Hans Christian Anderson's forbidding tale, plays at the Slovenian Workmen's Home (15335 Waterloo) the fourth weekend in March: Friday and Saturday at 7:30, Sunday at 2:30. Reserved seating tickets are \$8 in advance, \$12 during Tech Week; send self-addressed stamped envelope and a check made out to UpStage Players (include \$2 for processing) to: UpStage Tickets, 1750 Buena Vista; Euclid, Ohio 44117. General admission seating is cash only at the door. For questions, contact Beverly at (216) 531-5156 or krisupstage@aol.com. Ticket forms are available online at the company's website: www.upstageplayers.com. Tickets can also be purchased online through PayPal (a processing fee applies).

SHORE ACRES FUNDRAISER, March 25

The Shore Acres Association annual fundraiser, the Grovewood Getaway, will be held Sunday March 24, 2-5pm, at the Grovewood Tavern and Wine Bar (17105 Grovewood Ave). Tickets are \$25/person, \$20/seniors. Delicious food, fabulous company.

Building our community from the babies up

by Sherrie Zagorc

Using a grant from the Cleveland Foundation's Project Access, Kidzie City Child Care Community is sponsoring a community visioning dialogue that focuses on building a strong foundation for the children of eastern Cuyahoga County.

Key people throughout the area have been invited to join in a strength-based discussion about the ideal future for area children through a strong foundation in early child care and education. Saturday, March 23 from 10 am to 1 pm is when the conversation will convene at Euclid Hospital's Waltz Auditorium, 18901 Lake Shore Blvd., Euclid. Lunch will be provided. If you can add an important piece to this process, please contact (216) 798-7089 or email: kiddiecityeuclid@att.net.

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R. J. Taylor Park, off Nottingham Rd	6:36 a.m.	2:58 p.m.
Green Light Shopping Center	7:06 a.m.	2:46 p.m.
East 171 st St & Lakeshore Blvd @ Euclid Beach Entrance	7:14 a.m.	2:50 p.m.
Humphrey Park at East 164 th St & Grovewood Ave	7:17 a.m.	2:48 p.m.







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