The Gold Member of the Observer Media Family of Community-Owned and Written Newspapers & Websites

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Mardi Gras Celebration at this Year's Taste the Neighborhood



Some of the residents enjoying their meals



Aaron Habermann and Caroline Peak selling raffle tickets by the arms length.

by Julia DiBaggio

For all of you that missed it, Northeast Shores hosted their annual Taste the Neighborhood at the Lithuanian Hall on East 185th Street on Tuesday, February 17. Yes, that was Fat Tuesday. With a Mardi Gras theme, the party was in full force. There were over 130 party-goers and 19 restaurants in attendance serving their finest fair, still nobody went home hungry. Taste the Neighborhood was more than good food, we celebrated the accomplishments of 2014, and raffle prizes lined the walls!

There was something there for everyone, whether it was one of the amazing raffle prizes or food from some of the best eateries in town. Samples were provided by long time neighborhood favorites across North Collinwood. From the East 185th Street neighborhood, we enjoyed samples from Muldoon's, the Lithuanian Club, Gus's Diner 185, Bistro 185, Chili Peppers, Bob's Place at Gostilna, and Holland's BBQ, as well as wine samples from Bari Beauty and Health. Restaurants from the Waterloo neighborhood include Beachland Tavern, Grovewood Tavern, Callalo Café, B&M Barbecue, and the new kid on the block, Waterloo Brew. Area pizzeria's in attendance include Scotti's, Georgio's on Lakeshore, and Congin's. Of course, no party is complete without deserts from Archie's Bakery and Cakes by Sweetwater.

All of this fun and good food was for a reason. Each year we recognize some of people that make Collinwood so special. We recognized investments, businesses, and people. In case you missed it, here are the winners!

North Collinwood Hall of Fame: Charlotte Iafeliece

Charlotte is a lifetime resident of Collinwood and is easily the most active member of the community. She is a retired teacher,



This years award winners



Grovewood Tavern chef serving Barbecued Bison

and is highly involved with, and is an active volunteer and mentor at the Collinwood public schools. When not lending her talent to the schools, she is the chairperson for the East 185th Street Neighborhood Association, and is a regular at the other neighborhood association meetings. Charlotte is on the board of the City of Cleveland's Senior Advisory Council, and through that is a conduit of information for the community. She is also a member of Quality of Life Committee at Northeast Shores and is active in the Democratic Party.

Investment of the Year: Mayor Frank Jackson, Councilman Michael Polensek, ODOT

The Waterloo Road Streetscape has helped to transform North Collinwood into an art's and entertainment destination. Because of the streetscape, new restaurants and businesses are joining the district, bringing economic development opportunities. This investment has ushered in a new era for North Collinwood. Thanks to this investment there is a new gem in Cleveland's east side.

Business of the Year:No Problem Printing

Brandon has printed thousands of postcards and posters for Vibrancy Grant events – sometimes at well less than cost to support events like the Waterloo Arts Fest and the Euclid Beach Blast! - over the past year so people near and far could learn about and visit our neighborhood.

Block Club of the Year: Groveland Club Drive

Groveland Club Drive's Block Club is a strong community of both long-time and new residents working together for the health and safety of the street and each other. In 2014 the Block Club made positive safety and beautification improvements

(continued on page 5)

CHS Family Literacy Night and African American Read-In: An Engaging Experience



Collinwood teachers, Dean Bryson and Cara Colker-Eybel join in the African American Read-In.



Community member, Collinwood grad and retired CMSD teacher, Charlotte lafeliece (left) peruses the wealth of resources from Cleveland Public Library, along with parent LaShona Driscoll and her son.

by Gail Greenberg

Frigid temperatures and snow-filled skies did not deter Collinwood students, staff, families and community members from participating in the school's Family Literacy Night and first African American Read-In program, which culminated Black History Month activities.

Keynote speaker Margret Bernstein, Director of Advocacy and Community Initiatives at WKYC, shared her lifelong passion for reading and her mission to make literacy for all a top educational priority.

Collinwood grad, Ramona Smith delivered a similar message that resonated with the critical importance of early literacy and the need to read, read, read.

Madison Reid, a fourth-grader at Wade Park School and the unofficial ambassador for our city's

Little Free Libraries warmed everyone's hearts with a host of stories and thoughts



Margaret Bernstein, WKYC Director of Advocacy and Community Initiatives, explains why literacy matters

about reading, poetry, and the contributions African Americans have made to our nation's history. Much to her credit, Madison has already read 10,000 books!

In addition to food, book giveaways and a raffle for a Kindle, the program's highlight was the reading and recitation of original poems as well as those by notable African-Americans, including Cleveland's own, Langston Hughes.

Students in Ms. Ora Butler and Ms. Patricia Blackmon's class were instrumental not only in transforming the multipurpose room into an extensive display of Black History but also in learning poems, which they shared.

This program was a parent engagement project, planned in partnership with Collinwood High School, Cleveland Public Library, Collinwood Branch, and the Ohio Center for the Book at Cleveland Public Library.

CLE Rocks Project to help Waterloo Engage the Music Industry

by Julia DiBaggi

Northeast Shores Development Corporation has taken on a new challenge in partnership with Waterloo based non-profit Cleveland Rocks: Past, Present and Future. Founded by Beachland Ballroom and Tavern co-owner Cindy Barber in 2012, and based at 15721 Waterloo Road, where it also operates the Space: ROCK Gallery for music photography. Fueled by grants from the Ohio Arts Council's Creative Economy

Initiative and Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, Northeast Shores Development Corporation is the lead fiscal partner, while Cleveland Rocks does the legwork, in a project to help explore how a neighborhood can grow through clustering creative economies, and in this case music.

Called Rock Solid, the grant partnership also includes Cuyahoga Community College's Recording Arts and Technology (R.A.T.) Program. The program is de-

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Community

Collinwood Observer

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To submit a story, go to www.collinwoodobserver. com, click on Member Center, sign in, click on Submit Story, and start writing

Next deadline: March 25, 2015. You can mail your stories to the Collinwood Observer office at 650 E. 185th Street, Cleveland, OH 44119.

Fresh Local Food

In Your Neighborhood

Coit Road Farmers' Market

Call 216-249-5455

or go to www.coitmarket.org

Councilman's Corner



My dear Eskimos - OOPS!

They're warmer in Alaska than we are. What a Winter! don't have to tell ou the ongoing

roblems which we have had with snow plowing, especially on our residential side

streets and now pothole and street repair. We are all hoping that the City Administration is getting on top of the shortcomings in their Winter Snow Attack Plan, so that we don't have to go through the ordeal we had the week after the Super Bowl and beyond. Please, if there is an issue with snow or ice on your street please call (216) 664-2510, which is the number the City wants all of us to use. In addition, you can call the same number to report potholes and dangerous road conditions.

Another problem we have been experiencing due to the extreme cold are frozen water lines and broken pipes in people's homes. Please take precautions so that your pipes do not freeze; if you have a forced air furnace, which most homes in our neighborhood have, please keep a vent open in the basement and make sure that there is air circulation around all water lines. Never use a torch or direct flame on a frozen pipe but rather use a heat gun or space heater with caution. If you see water running in the street from a valves, hydrant et cetera,

please call the Emergency Division of Water Hotline at (216) 664-3060.

> Furthermore, in some rare incidences, the streetlights and electrical lines can be affected by salt spray coming from passing vehicles. If a streetlight is out on your street please call CPP at (216) 621-5483. For CPP Trouble call (216) 664-3156. Just as the City has its responsibilities to provide basic winter services, as residents we can help; if there is a car on the street that has not moved and is obviously snowed in, please call the 5th District at (216) 623-5505, with all the information about the car (including make, model, location, plate number, if possible). A vehicle may be ticketed if not moved from same location after 48 hours and towed after 72 hours.

> I urge you all - who have access to email to please let the Administration of the Metroparks know that we NEED LIFE-GUARDS AT EUCLID BEACH & VILLA ANGELA BEACH THIS SUMMER! There are petitions floating about in the community or online at https://www.facebook. com/LIFEGUARDSEUCLIDBEACH or http://tinyurl.com/kc9rve5. Speaking of petitions, there is also time to sign the petition to get Community Policing back up and operating in the community (ie Police Mini-Stations). Call Northeast Shores Development Corporation, at (216) 481-7660, or my office for petitions.

> Finally, I am looking forward to Spring, as I am sure you all are as well. There is a lot planned for this Spring and Summer in Ward 8. Please read the Collinwood Ob-

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

March 2015

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.

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 neighborhoodwide initiatives come up for discussion.

Collinwood/Nottingham Historical Society Second Thursday of the month, St Mary's Church Hall, 15519 Holmes Avenue, beginning

server regarding projects underway and

events being planned Feel free to call me at the office at (216) 664-4236 or email me at mpolensek@clevelandcitycouncil.org.

Just think Spring!

Waterloo Alley Cat Project 6th Annual Fundraiser

Open Saturdays

Year Round

8:00AM to 1:00PM

15000 Woodworth Rd near East 152nd and Noble

Saturday, March 28, 2015, 7-11p.m. The Waterloo Alley Cat Project's mission is to protect and care for the abandoned/feral cats that live in the burgeoning Waterloo Road Arts & Entertainment District, in the North Collinwood area of Cleveland. A non-profit, volunteer, grassroots organization, WACP uses the humane trapneuter/spay-return method to help reduce the number of cats and kittens roaming

Since its inception in November 2009, the WACP has spayed and neutered over 250 cats and continues to feed over 50 cats on

On Saturday, March 28, 2015, the Waterloo Alley Cat Project is hosting its 6th Annual FUNdraiser at GALLERY 160 located at 16008 Waterloo Road. The night will begin at 7 p.m. with basket raffles and silent auctions. Over 30 fabulous items have been donated by artists, local businesses, and individuals - including: an original photograph by world-famous cat photographer, Walter Chandoha; a beautiful queen size handmade quilt; handcrafted jewelry; a guitar; gift baskets, and much more (you must be present to win). There will also be food, DJs, and beverages. 100% of the money

raised will go to the care of Waterloo cats. The event is FREE. There will be a red

pick-up truck parked in front of the gallery for people to "STUFF THE TRUCK" with cat food & litter donations. If you cannot attend the event but would like to contribute, tax deductible donations can be sent to the Northeast Shores Development Corporation, 317 East 156th St. Cleveland 44110 (mark in the memo Waterloo Alley







(216) 738-1177 Closed Sun & Mon Tues - Wed 2:00 to 10:00pm Thur & Fri open Noon to 10:00pm Sat open 4:00 to 9:00pm



Psychodynamic Therapy



Danielle J. Dronet LISW-S, LICDC DDronet@DDronet.com 216.501.1730

Collinwood Neighborhood **Catholic Ministries**

15706 St. Clair Avenue Cleveland, OH 44110 **Mary Ellen Brinovec** 216-407-1836 MEBrinovec@Ursulinesisters.org



Community

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

by Julia DiBaggio

March 2015

There has been an Easter Bunny spotting and he is preparing for breakfast with the kids in North Collinwood. This year the event will be held at the Salvation Army on Grovewood. Breakfast will be donated by Gus's Dinner 185, and the students from Villa Angela-St. Joseph will be there to help will be there to take pictures with the kids.

Salvation Army

17625 Grovewood Ave

Cost is \$5.00 which includes breakfast and a picture with the Easter Bunny

Coit Market Classes

March 7: Calamari: Learn to make perfect, non-rubbery calamari in your own

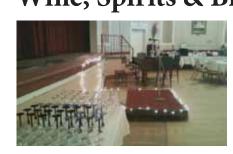
March 14: Smokies, that wondrous snack! March 28: Annual French Toast Breakfast!

The Coit Road Farmers' Market is open

Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods, coffee, soaps and craft items.

15000 Woodworth Road (corner of Coit and Woodworth, one block west of E 152 and Noble) East Cleveland, OH 44110 216 249-5455 www.coitmarket.org

Wine, Spirits & Brew



A Wine, Spirits & Brew Tasting Party will take place in the "Waterloo Ballroom" at the Slovenian Workmen's Home Saturday, April 11, 2015. The event will begin at 7:00 p.m. with a per person cost of \$30. Included will be tastes, hors d'oeuvres and continuous entertainment with Mike Sonata (a Frank Sinatra impersonator) and at the piano bar will be Ralph Turek ("Me, Myself

& I") playing and singing for your enjoyment until 11:00 p.m. Also available will be a cash bar, a Chinese auction, a silent auction and a sideboard.

Experts of the liquid refreshments will be available to answer your questions regarding the tasting beverages. One of the experts will be winemaker, Ed Trebets of Debonne Vineyards. Ed recently won the "Sweepstakes Award Best Dessert Winemaker" award at the San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition out of 6,300 entries from all across the country.

The Slovenian Workmen's Home is located in the Waterloo Arts and Entertainment District at 15335 Waterloo Road Cleveland. For additional information or tickets to this event, please call 216-789-9746 or 216-481-5378.

Great Fish Fry at St. Mary's on Holmes



by Lauren Merkys

Dinner will be served on Friday's from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. during Lent, except Good Friday. Fried ocean perch is \$9, baked cod, shrimp, scallops or combos is \$10. Dinners include home fries or french fries, coleslaw, bread/ butter, dessert, coffee/tea. Homemade macaroni and cheese dinners are \$6 and a weekly featured homemade soup is \$2. Takes out is available. St. Mary of the Assumption 15519 Holmes Ave. Cleveland.

Throw Down Cook Off

Do you have a favorite recipe that you just can't wait to enter into a competition? We have the answer. Enter it into the first Women's Night Out/Family night "Cook Off" at The Salvation Army Cleveland Temple on Friday, March 20, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Categories will be,main entrée, side

dish and dessert. Prizes will be awarded! But wait there's more, judges wanted and everybody gets to do that! Bring \$5 with you and you get to judge and sample all the delicious competition! Call Captain Ashley at 216-692-1388, Ext. 15 for more information or to sign up your dish. Dish sign ups are due by March 16, 2015.

Walleye, Perch and Flounder, oh my!

As you already know, Bob's Place at Gostilna offers mouth-watering favorites such as stuffed cabbage, pork chops, pot roast and meatloaf as well as delicious hamburgers and hearty salads. Did you know that all through the Lenten Season you can savor a tasty fish fry? Bob offers numerous options for your fishy needs such as Lake Perch, Flounder, Cod, Lake Erie Walleye and Pollock. There are also several fish sandwiches available including crab meat salad and tuna salad.

Fish fry dinners are served with a generous portion of golden french fries, locally made cole slaw and a dinner roll. The complete menu of items (including all fish fry specials) are available for carry-out.

Drop in and see Bob to enjoy a scrumptious fish fry along with a glass of your favorite beer or wine. Don't forget to end your evening with a slice of pie, cheesecake or one of the other delectable desserts waiting for you. You won't be dissappointed!

Bob's Place at Gostilna 768 E. 200th Street Cleveland, OH 44119 216-738-1177

Monday 4:00 to 9:00 p.m., Tuesday & Wednesday 2:30 to 9:00 p.m., Thursday & Friday 12:00 to 10:00 p.m., Saturday 4:00 p.m., Sunday: closed

Second Annual Brotherhood Breakfast

by Margaret Craig

The Collinwood Brotherhood Coalition is hosting it's second annual Brotherhood Breakfast on Saturday, March 14, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at The Salvaiton Army located at 17625 Grovewood Ave. Last year's event was enjoyed by over fifty men and young men from around the neighborhood. There was great food and fellowship. This year there will be more of the same. This is a great opportunity for the men and young men of Colllinwood to come together, bridge the gap, and make a connection. These connections will defi-

netly make our community stronger. We are currently looking for men who are willilng and able to give a litte time to make a connection with the young men in our neighborhood. The great Frederick Douglass said" It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men", and we all know that it truly takes a village! So please join us and become a part of the village! If you would like more information about the Collinwood Brotherhood Coalition or the Brotherhood Breakfast please call Mr. Ted Carter at (216) 288-8274 or the Salvation Army (216) 692-1388 ext. 31.

Lodge 604 Utopians Hosts Bar-B-Que Pulled Pork Dinner

If you are looking for something to do to help chase the winter blahs, why not stop down at Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue Clubroom for a delicious bar-b-que pulled pork dinner on Monday, March 30, 2015. Menu consists of pulled pork, baked beans, corn, cole slaw and lucious cake for dessert topped with ice wine infused whipped cream.

We will be serviing from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and the cost of the dinner is only \$10.00 per person and tickets are pre-sale only. Kathy Hlad will be providing the music for your danciing and listening pleasure. For tickets or more information, please contact Gerri Trebets at 440-951-9611 or tickets can be purchased at the Recher Hall Clubroom by either stopping down or calling at 216-531-8348.

Euclid Art Association Meeting

Euclid Art Association meeting

7p.m. April 6, 2015 at East Shore Methodist Church in Fellowship Hall 23002 Lake Shore Blvd. Euclid, Ohio 44123

Mural artist, John Troxell, will be our guest for a demo.

EuclidArt.com

Free Half-Day Retreat Helps Grieving Teens by Uniting Them with Peers



Bridges of Courage, a free half-day retreat, provides support to grieving teens coping with the loss of someone special.

by Laurie Henrichsen Are you aware of a young person who could use support on his or her grief journey? "Bridges of Courage," a free half-day retreat for teens, ages 14 to 17, provides support to adolescents who have experienced the death of a loved one by uniting them with peers who are also experiencing the death of a loved one. The retreat will take place at the Elisabeth Severance Prentiss Bereavement Center, located on Hospice of the Western Reserve's Lakeshore Campus, 300 East 185th Street, Cleveland, on Saturday, April 11, 2015 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. A dinner of pizza and salad will be provided.

recommended. To register, contact Dominique Butler at 216.486.6287. (Registration cutoff date is April 6.)

Space is limited, so early reservations are

"Teens often have special needs when coping with the death of a loved one, and may process their grief far differently than adults," explained Dominique Butler, school liaison, Hospice of the Western Reserve. "The retreat provides an opportunity for them to express their feelings, learn ways to cope, remember their special person who died, and meet others in their same age group who have also experienced

grief counselors who will help participants in a supported environment of peers who are experiencing the same pain. "A variety of activities - such as a drumming circle to explore and express feelings, yoga to help with the healing process and stories from a teen advocate, who will discuss living life fully following a loss - will encourage memories, coping skills and self-expression, and provide a way for teens to memorialize and honor their loved ones," she added. The retreat will end with a circle of support around a bonfire.

Butler said activities are led by trained

Allison's Page

Do Good, Make Art



Attend the first cleanup of 2015 on March 14th and contribute to a large scale Lake Erie plastic trash art

by Allison Lukacsy

As a resident of North Collinwood I am Did you know that nearly 300 million pounds of plastic is produced globally each year, and less than 10 percent of that is recycled or given a second life. A large portion of the plastic is lost in the environment, primarily in Earth's waterways, including Lake Erie. This is a huge environmental problem that threatens us all.

Join the Euclid Beach Adopt-A-Beach team as we kick off the 6th year of beach and street cleanups in North Collinwood and be part of the solution for a cleaner lakefront.

Need motivation? Since 2012, neighborhood artist Ali Lukacsy has been crafting with beach trash creating installations on Waterloo and Slavic Village and furniture including a piece currently on view at

AT-HOME CARE,

HOME MAY BE.

Most people think you call hospice when you're all out of options. That's not true if you call Hospice

of the Western Reserve. As Northern Ohio's most

experienced and most referred hospice provider, we offer more options to personalize care. Our patients and their families live their lives where

they choose-at our unique care campuses, at

home, at a hospital, at a nursing home or at an

assisted living residence. See why more families choose the hospice of choice at hospicewr.org.

WHEREVER

w.78th Street Studios. Her line, cigARTips, raises awareness about the most prolific form of plastic trash in The Great Lakes, cigarillo tips. In 2013, the Alliance for the Great Lakes reported that Lake Erie's southern beaches collected more tips than

any other region from New York to Wis-

consin, that's disgusting Ohio!

This spring, plastic trash collected from cleanups on lakes, rivers, and streams in the Greater Cleveland area will be incorporated into a large scale sculpture at North Coast Harbor part of the Great Lakes Science Center's "Great Lakes Adventure Week" programming. In partnership with artist Loren Naji, Euclid Beach Adopt-A-Beach's trash collection will also appear in an installation to debut during the Waterloo Arts Fest. Every clean-up participant's name will appear next to the artwork

downtown and in North Collinwood. Through art you can help educate the public about plastic pollution in our Lake.

Want more? Free coffee, water, and snacks is generously provided by neighborhood merchants and all volunteers will receive a coupon from Chili Peppers Mexican Grill good for 1/2 off towards the purchase of a meal item and a drink.

Spring 2015 Cleanup dates

WHEN: Saturdays between 10am and noon.

Gloves, trash bags, and pickers are provided. School, community, and corporate groups welcome!

March 14, 2015, street cleanup on Lake-

shore Boulevard with ACE Students from Collinwood High School. Meet at the Collinwood Rec Center 16300 Lakeshore Blvd. RSVP at http://goo.gl/RQUMoE

March 2015

April 11th – Beach cleanup with students

May 2nd – Beach cleanup with Loren Naji for Green Up Cleveland Day

May 30th – Beach cleanup with The Lakefront Literacy Project's free Kickoff Celebration to follow

June 13th – Beach cleanup

For more information or RSVP (optional), contact: Stephen Love adopt. euclidbeach@gmail.com facebook.com/adopteuclidbeach 216-571-0685.

Spring Clean Your Bookshelves



Donate used books to a new mobile, mini-library at Euclid Beach this summer! Email Email us at read. euclidbeach@gmail.com to arrange a pick-up / drop off.

by Allison Lukacs

Imagine clear blue skies, gently lapping waves, sand shifting under your toes. But what's missing? A BOOK!

Thanks in part to a grant from Neighborhood Connections, in summer 2015 The Lakefront Literacy Project is bringing literature and a love of learning to Cleveland's Euclid Beach Park's lakefront with a custom-crafted mobile library, part of the renowned "Little Free Library" network.

This free library dreamed up by North Collinwood residents Ali Lukacsy, Emily Martis, and Robert Gatewood and staffed by neighborhood volunteers will appear at the beach during weekends, holidays, and special programmed events and house a rotating collection of books, magazines, and newspapers catering to both children and adults and our English and Russian speaking North Collinwood neighbors.

In addition to donations from Cleveland Public Library, Half Price Books, and other local libraries, we are looking for books of all genres and all reading levels to be donated by community members like you. Email us at read.euclidbeach@gmail.com to arrange a pick-up or drop off. Save the date and join us for the library's Kickoff Celebration on Saturday, May 30, 2015 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and be one of the first to borrow a book! Learn more: www.facebook.com/lakefrontliteracy

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Friday : 9:00AM - 6:00PM
Saturday : 9:00AM - 3:00PM
No Appointments Needed, Walk-ins Welcome
25580 Lakeland blvd.
(216) 731-4345





Hospice Resident Inspires Others by Sharing Legacy of Love

by Laurie Henrichsen

Those of us who are privileged to provide care and support as volunteer and paid staff members at Hospice of the Western Reserve are often inspired by the wisdom, strength and incredible dignity of our patients. It's what keeps us coming back. It's what makes hospice a calling, and not just another job. Such is the case with Malik, a current resident of our David Simpson Hospice House on E. 185th Street.

Malik suffers from Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. He is currently bedridden and on an assisted breathing machine. Members of his hospice care team have repeatedly expressed how honored they are to care for this incredible young man. Recently, they joined Malik for a very special 19th birthday celebration for Malik and his twin sister complete with cake, handmade birthday cards, photos, family, friends and lots of love. It was a day to remember.

Malik, who was born on Feb. 15, 1996, has endured a very difficult life, including moving in and out of foster homes most of his life. He lost two brothers to the same disease, but is fortunate enough to have a healthy twin sister, Malikah, who has helped care for him.

As part of his legacy, Malik expressed a desire to share his story with others. Hospice of the Western Reserve volunteer Jerry Pockar of Euclid, who is also a gifted writer, worked with Malik to document his life story and personal values in a book. Hospice arranged to have it professionally bound and published so Malik could provide copies for his family and friends. The following words, condensed from the book, demonstrate that despite suffering beyond his years, Malik's spirit is one of hope, and his outlook remains positive. All those who have met Malik agree that he is a truly good and loving person. Hospice is honored to share his story here. The following account was written three years ago, when Malik

The Story of Malik

I'm a 16-year-old-young man working with a great challenge. Like my two older brothers Byron and Paul I have been chosen to deal with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a devastating genetic illness, which shows up as a weakness of the muscles when a boy is around five or six and quickly gets worse. As I am still learning, the disease is my enormous burden but, strangely, I am also coming to learn it is my blessing.

Why do I say that? I say that because I think the illness with which I struggle 24 hours a day has taught me about life, about the preciousness of all souls and about the healing wonder of love. I am still learning how God's way can be mysterious and very difficult while remaining a path given to us

so we can learn, grow and ripen as souls.

That's what I feel on a good day, maybe I should say in a good moment. On a day or a moment that are not so good, I am likely to be angry, scared, confused or in grief over how much I have lost and how difficult it is to bear the particular cross my older brothers and I have been chosen to bear.

During the most difficult years, both Malikah and I found a refuge from our situation in school. I spent more than eight years at Sunbeam School on Mount Overlook Avenue. On the basis of its standardized test results, Sunbeam has been rated as a "Great School." During all those years, school was a positive place to escape from the trouble-some situations.

Malikah was helpful in my learning to read and write. I am grateful to her for that as I am for so much more that she has given me.

My good experience at Sunbeam has been repeated in a good experience at Lincoln West High School, thanks in part to several health aides and teachers I particularly like and who have been extremely good to me.

I haven't been at Lincoln nearly as long as I was at Sunbeam. At present, I get picked up at 7 a.m. and come back on the bus after 2.30 p.m. Lincoln has become home and is a community that has embraced and nourished me. It's my clear understanding that they like me at Lincoln because I am nice and a good person.

Altogether I spend just about 40 hours a week at school and traveling across the Cuyahoga River to school. That is the equivalent in hours of a full-time job, so I think it's obvious that school is a very important part of my life.

One positive foster home was on the West Side of Cleveland. That period lasted about a year and began in the late fall of 2010 and ended in the late fall of 2011. [My foster caregiver], a woman of less than 40 years of age who works as a nursing assistant, was a powerful blessing in Malikah's and my life.

"[She was our] our second mom," a title she earned. Malikah and I got whatever we needed from her. She is bright and works in the health care field so she was also able to open doors to other resources that benefited us. The experience of living with there for a year also led Malikah and me to begin coming out of the protective shells we had developed over the difficult years living elsewhere.

I have learned to speak up and ask for what I need. That alone has made things much better. I am also hard at work at forgiving those who have hurt me. I have made definite progress at doing that. I have made progress in so many ways. Yet, the big burden, my genetic illness, continues and has a tremendous impact on my life. Despite that, I try to stay positive and live well, one day at a time



Hospice of the Western Reserve volunteer Jerry Pockar of Euclid spends time with Malik at his birthday celebration. Pockar, a writer, worked closely with Malik to record and publish a book about his life and values for Malik's friends and family.



Lori Scotese, Volunteer Service Manager, and a party guest make final preparations for a 19th birthday celebration at David Simpson Hospice House recently for Malik and his twin sister. Malikah.

CLE Rocks Project to help Waterloo Engage the Music Industry (continued from front page)

signed to take up where the Remix research study of Northeast Ohio's music sector left off. That study done in 2012 by Cleveland State University and the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture found a significant number of musicians living in the Northeast Ohio region, but only a small portion of them able to live off their craft. Cleveland musicians have long faced living in a city with limited resources compared to other major cities. This collaboration is pairing a few original songwriting musicians who are already working on a music performance career with RAT students to go through this spring semester with hands-on effort and real-world advice from regional professional resources, such as touring insights from Eighth Day Sound, musician loan resources from Noteworthy Credit Union, pressing vinyl from Gotta Groove Records, merchandise distribution by Jakprints, and more. Students will work with band members as they learn from these resources and be able to help with problem solving; technology creation such as YouTube videos; and documentation of what these resources might do to help advance the artists in their musical careers from say a promising mid-level local band to a regional touring artist with support and representation.

There is a special focus on the North Collinwood and Waterloo area, so two local resident songwriters, who regularly perform at the Waterloo Arts Festival, have been chosen to participate: Maura Rogers and Joey Beltram. There will also be local collaboration with the music photographer Bryon Miller, who runs Gallery 160 on Waterloo; graphic designer Brandon Abate, who owns No Problem Printing on Waterloo; Zygote Press, who is opening a poster printing satellite on E. 156th soon; and Music Saves and Blue Arrow, the record stores on Waterloo that sell local band products. The project is inviting several other bands and songwriters to participate, but all must have already achieved some level of professional success in various areas including live performance, recording, social media identity, but most importantly have a body of quality original songs and have the determination to make a career in

A portion of the project is also to help provide resources and ideas for music business careers to residents, so events will be created to show how the two-year program at Tri-C can prepare someone for a job as a tour technician and more; and a music business job fair/summit is being planned. As the project discovers music industry deficiencies, such as lack of a nationally acknowledged booking agency, some of the project's resources will be mustered to support the creation of new business ventures to fill these gaps. By next fall, we hope to see much more music business networking and commerce on Waterloo.



HOSPICE

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Faith

Academics Community

March 2015



Successful Fundraiser Means More Opportunities for Our Lady of the Lake School

Our Lady of the Lake School held their annual Life on the Lake: Races and Raffles fundraiser on February 7, and it was a great success. The sold-out event raised more than \$35,000 to support enrichment programs and educational technology, such as iPads and Chromebooks in classrooms, new Spanish language curriculum and an expanded music program. A tremendous team of volunteers, families, friends and neighbors came together to support quality Catholic education at Our Lady of the Lake School, and the students have been sure to let them know how much their support is appreciated.

Special thanks go to the following sponsors for their generous gifts:

Martin V Rini, Anonymous, William Jansa, George & Janet Voinovich, Richard Mott, Anonymous Donor II, Anne & Dean Petters, Mayor Bill & Mary Kay Cervenik, Frank & Mary Pat Dempsey, Bob Monroe, Euclid Hospital, Lake Catholic, Dr. Rich & Linda Holzheimer, Bill & Pat Monroe, John Monroe & Mary Cavanaugh, Father William - Ed & Shannon Jerse, Our Lady of the Lake Staff, Kate & Jim Petras, Tim & Molly Delaney, Suzanne Tanner, Tom & Cathy Gentile, Michael and Mary Kay Zbiegien, and the Simonis Family.

Visit Our Lady of the Lake School in March



Children considering kindergarten or preschool programs should visit Our Lady of the Lake School in March, for a chance to spend time in a classroom with current students and find out more about all the great

learning opportunities available. Buddy Day will be March 13, and is open to any students entering preschool or kindergarten. For information, call (216) 481-6824.



After School Program Makes Learning Fun



of the Lake School's after care program recently, to teach the children about Log Cabin Presidents. She talked to the kids about what it was like to grow up in a log cabin, and shared fun activities: they constructed a mini log cabin out of foam logs, tried their hands at tabletop log cabin building, experimented with "combing"



wool, and made simple dolls out of clothes pins and material scraps. They wrapped up this informative session with a presidential trivia game. After care director Debbie Barberio believes that when learning is fun, everyone is a winner, and looks forward to planning more fun activities to make sure that after school time is quality time at Our Lady of the Lake School.

Happy Start to 5th Anniversary Year





Our Lady of the Lake Parish kicked off its 5th Anniversary year on February 22, with a special Mass and reception featuring honored guest Bishop Pilla. It was a great way to celebrate community and spend time with friends both new and old. Afterward Ron Humberson, a new parishioner joining Our Lady of the Lake Parish, said meeting the bishop made it "an amazing day". We agree, Ron! And we look forward to more celebrations with our friends and neighbors throughout this anniversary year.

Living Stations



In what has become a cherished tradition at Our Lady of the Lake Parish, our youth ministry group will once again present the Living Stations of the Cross in a moving and emotional journey through Jesus' last days on earth. This inspiring reenactment by our youth ministry group prepares our hearts as we begin our journey through Holy Week.

All are welcome to join us on Friday, March 27, at 8:00pm.

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Collinwood's Catholic School

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Upcoming Parish and School Events

Monday, March 2nd Collinwood Catholic Parish Cluster 7 p.m. Mass at St. Mary Church, Holmes Avenue Fr. Robert G. Stec - Homilist

Wednesday, March 4th Evening of Confession 5 - 8 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation is being held in every parish in Cleveland.

> Friday, March 6th Friday, March 13th Friday, March 20th Friday, March 27th Friday, April 3rd Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, March 7th & 8th Food Pantry Collection After Weekend Masses

Monday, March 9th Collinwood Catholic Parish Cluster 7 p.m. Mass at St. Casimir Church, Neff Road Fr. Paschal L. Petcavage - Homilist

> Saturday, March 14th - 4 p.m. Mass Installation of Fr. William Jerse as Sixth Pastor of St. Jerome Church Bishop Roger Gries - Celebrant

Monday, March 16th Collinwood Catholic Parish Cluster 7 p.m. Mass at St. Jerome Church Fr. William J. Jerse - Homilist

Monday, March 23rd **Cluster Communal Penance Service** 7 p.m. St. Mary Church, Holmes Avenue

HOLY WEEK Palm Sunday Saturday, March 28th - 4 p.m. Mass Sunday, March 29th - 10 a.m. Mass -Bishop Roger Gries, Celebrant

> Tenebrae Service Wednesday, April 1st - 7 p.m.

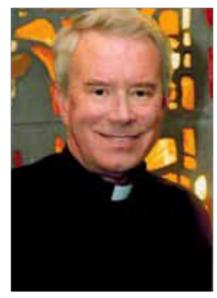
Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Last Supper Thursday, April 2nd - 7 p.m.

> Good Friday Solemn Passion Service Friday, April 3rd - 3 p.m.

Holy Saturday Saturday, April 4th Blessing of Food - 2 p.m. Mass - 8:30 p.m., Bishop Roger Gries, Celebrant

> Easter Sunday Mass Sunday, April 5th - 10 a.m.

WELCOME FR. BILL JERSE



Our new pastor officially started his duties at St. Jerome's on Wednesday, February 18th. While he is a familiar face to many, he would like to introduce himself to our parish and community:

First and foremost, I would like to thank you all for welcoming me to your beautiful

parish. I am the grandson of Slovenian immigrants. My parents grew up during the Great Depression and *I incorporated a lot of their values. My parents* worked for Addressograph-Multigraph in Euclid. My dad was a time keeper and an accountant, and my mom worked in the war effort and the factory. It was there that they met, fell in love, and married. My dad died in 2001 and my mom is 94 years old and currently resides in a nursing home due to disability.

I am the oldest of four children. We grew up in North Collinwood and spent a lot of time in the old Euclid Beach Park. A favorite childhood memory is seeing John F. Kennedy speak at Euclid Beach when he ran for president in 1960. Both my brothers, Joe and Ed, are attorneys. My sister Mary Ann was a psychiatrist in Madison, Wisconsin, but she died very suddenly in

I was ordained on June 7, 1980. I have served at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Cleveland, Holy Family Parish in Stow, and St. Vitus Parish in Cleveland. In 1983, I joined the Marriage Tribunal and have worked on declarations of marital invalidity since then, ten years full time and the remainder part time. I earned a degree in canon law from St. Paul's University in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, in 1995. I then served as Administrator of St. Paul Parish in Euclid until it closed in 2009. For two and a half years, I served at St. Bartholomew Parish in Middleburg Heights, and for the last two and a half years at St. Joe's, Strongsville.

My assignment at St. Jerome's is in conjunction with my assignment at the Marriage Tribunal. I am looking forward to meeting you and hope to be of service in my time here. Thank you for the warm welcome which you have given me.

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6th grade - It's Official!

Next year Imagine Bella will have 6th Grade! Thank you to all Imagine Bella families that expressed the desire for us to have 6th grade. All 6th grade students will be interviewed and a review of their academic and discipline records for joining the EXCLUSIVE 6th grade team. Current

students in grades K-5 completed their Re-Enrollment form in February. Call Imagine Bella Academy of Excellence today at 216-481-1500 if you are interested in finding out about available spots for the 2015-2016

Happy Valentine's Day





Valentine's Dance Party in Mrs. Kinder's Third Grade.



Fifth graders pass out Valentine's.



Ms. Caddick helps students pick their candygram.



Students in Ms. Kostyack's Kindergarten class pass

Character Bowl Touchdowns



During Super Bowl Season students kicked off the Imagine Bella Character Bowl. Each classroom had a football team and earned yards for being present and on time to school, turning in homework, and showing academic growth on STAR benchmark tests. In the cafeteria, football helmets showed where each class was on the football field as they tried to earn touchdowns

March 2015

Friday Club Time!

Beginning Fall 2014, Friday clubs returned to Imagine Bella. Starting in February students were able to pick a new club. Returning favorites include Lego, Art, Choir, German, and Cross Fit Club. Check out the list of new clubs for 2015!

Bead Club Chess Club Coloring Club Creativity Club Drill team Club Jigsaw Puzzle Club Line Dance Club Martial Arts Club Office Helper Club Puppet Club Science Club String Bracelet Club Video Game Club

Teacher Spotlight



Fifth Grade Teacher Mr. Leuszler shares out to the

The chilly weather in 2015 resulted in school closures in the Cleveland area. With negative wind chill in the morning it was simply too cold for students to travel into school. Imagine Bella students were missing their regular daily in school tutoring through success time, guided reading, and math centers, but teachers were right on track. Teachers used the time when students were out to prepare blizzard bags, spruce up classrooms, and collaborate with other teachers on how to maximize learning time when the students returned.

Practice Test Resources



5th grade students track their progress with

The following are great resources to prepare for state required tests for grades 3-5

PARCC Practice Tests in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics http://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/

Ohio Computer Based Assessments

Science and Social Studies Practice Test http://oh.portal.airast.org/ocba/studentsand-families/

https://www.gogetwaggle.com/Log-

Login password available from class-

Upcoming Dates

March 20th 3rd Quarter Ends

March 23rd 4th Quarter Begins

March 30th-April 6th No School-Spring Break

Tuesday, April 21st 3rd Grade Spring Reading OAA

School News

Lakeshore Intergenerational School Discovers Collinwood

by Robin Bartley

August 9, 2014 was a thrilling day as Lakeshore Intergenerational School (LIS) opened its doors to over 100 kindergarten, first and second grade students. As the third location of one of the top-rated charter school models in Ohio, we were new to this neighborhood and felt welcome right away. The past six months have been full of learning, not only in the classroom, but in this new community.

The Intergenerational approach focuses on life-long learning for learners of all ages. We are thrilled to have over 18 community members working with our students weekly as reading mentors and tutors. We have formed partnerships with several nursing homes and long term care facilities including: Slovene Home, Gateway Family House, Governors Village, AlterCare, St. Joseph, and Manor Care. Our students visit these facilities once a month for curriculum-based activities that the students and residents engage in together. Our classes were excited to be a part of the Halloween celebration at VASJ. Enjoying the fun and food with the "big kids" at the high school was quite a thrill.

Not to be left out, this month, it was the staff's turn to have a little fun and get to know the Collinwood neighborhood a bit better. Brian Friedman and Julia DiBaggio planned a day of adventure for the LIS staff during a professional day on February 13, 2015. A Lakefront Lines bus pulled into our lot and Rich, our driver, was ready to carry us away. Brian was a fabulous tour

guide pointing out highlights and history as we toured through the streets of Collin wood. The Collinwood Recreation Center was a highlight as we learned of all the wonderful opportunities, not only for our students, but for the adults to participate in as well. Our visit to the Salvation Army was especially meaningful as many of our students attend the after school Learning Zone program each day. The history along Grovewood, 156th Street and the shining stars along 185th Street were valued opportunities for us to really get a feel for this fabulous and diverse neighborhood. To top off the day, and to quiet our rumbling tummies, we were treated to a special luncheon at the Beachland Ballroom. The food was amazing as was the tour and details of such a wonderful feature along Waterloo. The staff is already planning their next trip to this wonderful arts district to learn and experience even more. Thank you to all the community mem-

bers who have made LIS, the new kids on the block, feel so welcome, including Father Bacevice and the St. Casimir Parish. The ideas and foundations that embody the Collinwood community are very much in line with those of Lakeshore Intergenerational School. We have monthly "visitor days" listed on our website (www. lakeshoreschool.org) and encourage community members to stop by for a tour. We look forward to not only serving the children and their families in the area, but being an active part of the community, a real shining star along the lake.



Mentor working with primary math students



LIS staff on our bus tour

Mardi Gras Celebration at this Year's Taste the Neighborhood

to the communal park and beach spaces as well as implementing important safety measures at the Lakeshore entrance to the street after a few incidents on and around the street. In 2014 communication among residents greatly improved with highly attended gatherings, email chains, and the implementation of Nextdoor for all "Beach Streets" in North Collinwood.

Resident/Volunteer of the Year: Stephen

Stephen's total dedication to the neighborhood is although it were his full time job and then some - waking up at the crack of dawn on Saturday mornings to race around Collinwood collecting coffee, bagels, and juice (served up on reusable dishware he takes care to wash!) to entice Euclid Beach Adopt-A-Beach volunteers during monthly cleanups and burning the mid-night oil sending emails and making budgets for the will continue to be an anchor in this com multiple events he dreams up and executes

in a given year in the neighborhood. Every thing he does, from writing monthly articles for the Collinwood Observer to soliciting volunteers, donations, and fundraising for grants, is done as a volunteer! August 2014 marked the 5th Annual Euclid Beach Blast, a summer staple so successful that new park owners, Cleveland Metroparks, asked permission to copy the event at their other lakefront properties. They also adopted into their repertoire another program Stephen began, Urban Beach Ambassadors.

Partner of the Year: University Hospital University Hospital has been part of the Collinwood community for a long time. This past year, they completed construction of their new medical facility on the corner of E. 185th Street and Lakeshore. This building demonstrates continued sup-

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Meet Lindsay an Inspiring Poet



Lindsay B born and raised in Cleveland Ohio. I am an aspiring poet, I've been writing for as long as

I can remember. For a while I let my peons go to waste because of life situations. That was it. I had to learn to control my life and not let life control me. Instead of learning and fixing mistakes that have been made by me I made excuses and tried to run from them. I ran so much I got use to running, the thing about that is I ran out of places to run. I was pushing all my talents to the back of my

big poet or writer that touches people hearts and souls, but what's the point of believing if you don't have faith. I learned faith without work is dead and I have to stick to and work on what I believe in. nobody said life was going to be easy I changed that saying to nobody said life would be this hard. just another excuse not realizing life my life is what I made it. always expect the unexpected. listen and learn. Sometimes there will be hard decisions but you always have to keep claim n keep control of any situations good or bad. it took 20 years allot of heart ace confusion

and ups and downs. but here I am still stand-

ing and ready to touch the world heart n soul.

mind. Yes I believed one day I'll be the next

Collinwood Native featured at Autorama

by George Blade

Local Native George Blade Jr. custom built a motorcycle from various metal parts that actually can run right out his own garage and will be one of the vendors at this year Auto Rama at the IX Indoor Center March 20-22. He is a sell taught welder who can weld and create just about anything with scrap pieces. What makes this bike unique is that unlike other custom built motorcycles and bikes, he used various scrap pieces such as tractor tires, bbq grill pieces, steel bars and various steel and metal items purchased from home depot and junkyards. George Blade Jr. born and raised in the Collinwood area of 146th & St Clair. He attended East Clark Elementary, St Joseph middle School and Collinwood high School. He has always been a very talented young man. He was a excellent player on the junior varsity and varsity basketball team. Won various dunk contest and played with the Harlem road king bball squad for a few years. His love for building started at a young age with Lego (which he still have to this day). "My name is George Blade Jr., a builder/welder/ fabricator. Father of two gorgeous children, i am devoted to family, hard work, and building a better life. Grew up in Cleveland, OH all my life. Inspired by the phrase "unbuildable" is what feeds my creativity. My goal is to push to limits of design and build the some would say unbuildable machines. My Cleveland based company Go Boy Customs is owned and operated by me and all my machines are built by me. I started this dream in my garage about 5 years ago building custom cars and bikes with my dad, who passed a couple years ago, I must continue to push the envelope of creativity and design. I just love the "wow" factor." Late 2015 he plan to conducts FREE class to young men who want to learn basic welding techniques. CONTACT INFO: Marketing Director: Stephanie Saddler at 216-798-2804 Email: goboycustomsmarketing@yahoo.com GoBoy Customs Inc.

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March 2015

Have Faith - Spring IS Coming!



Are There Buds?

by Elva Brodnick

Well. we've survived. Here we are at the end of February (as I write this), and (believe it or not!) winter's end is in sight! It just doesn't feel like it.

But Mother Nature knows her business. See if you think there's signs of spring here in this snap of my front yard trees - am I really seeing buds?! I don't think it's wishful thinking, but the signs are there. Small, but there. Or will be - very shortly!

Go ahead - go look in your yard. Slow down enough, for once in our lives, to really look at God's world around us. We all need to do this, whatever your path to God is. Even if for just a few minutes, let's enjoy that crisp air and hey, maybe even make some snowpeople

Meanwhile, our Collinwood neighborhood is beginning to stir, after this long winter's downtime, and all kinds of things are getting started for this upcoming spring and summer. That, of course, includes our own Collinwood Area Pastoral Association (or CAPA).

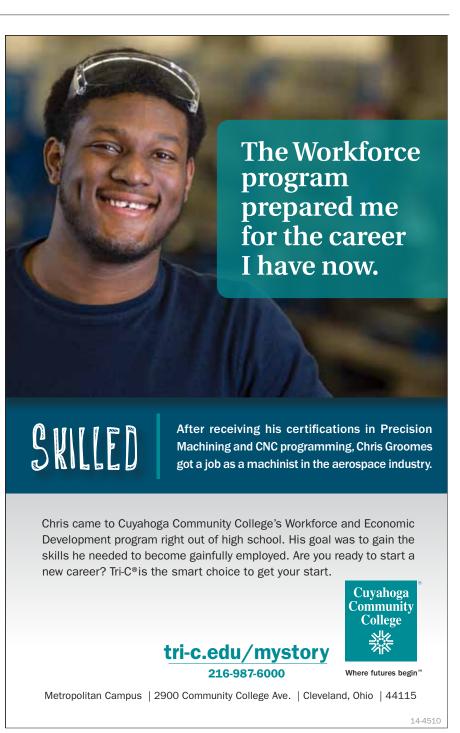
CAPA just met again on February 12, 2015 and accomplished alot by way of plans for this year. If you are a congregation in our neighborhood, you really do need to at least check CAPA out. It's shaping up to be a wonderful way for all our faith organiza-

tions to share ideas, resources and work for this Collinwood neighborhood of ours. Come to a meeting, see what we are, and be part of working for a better Collinwood. The next meeting is set up for Wednesday April 22, 2015 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Holy Redeemer Store. Look forward to

If you haven't been to a meeting, we invite you to join us. Just contact Mary Louise Daley at Councilman Polensek's office (216) 664-4236 or via email at mdaley@clevelandcitycouncil.org and let us know how to reach you. Also, if you've already been to a meeting, please contact Mary Louise just to verify your contact information.

Once again, about this column. Here's your chance to introduce yourself to your neighbors! Tell your neighbors about yourself, your history, what you're doing and your faith. Who are you? Is there news about your congregation? Are you celebrating something special? Let fellow Collinwood neighbors know you're here.

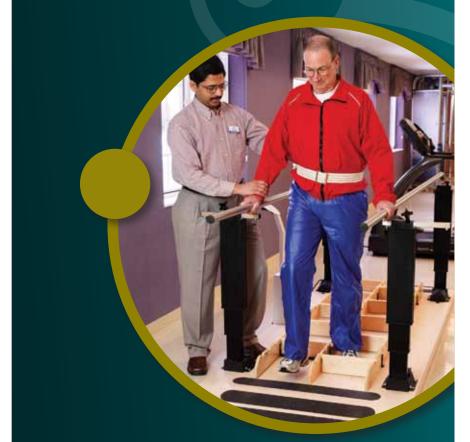
Until then, we can all work for peace. Peace within ourselves, peace with our neighbors. It has to start with all of us. Everyday, in every - even small - way we can.





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March Events at the **Memorial-Nottingham Library**

by Jeanne Coppola

The Collinwood Observer Volume 7 · Issue 3

For Adults: Free GED Classes. Monday and Wednesdays, at 10:15 a.m. These free GED classes are offered through a partnership with Tri-C. Registration is required to take the classes. Please call the Memorial-Nottingham Library at 216-623-7039 to register, and for further information.

For Children: I Love My Mom! Monday March 16, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. "Mom is such a special word. It's the loveliest ever heard!" To celebrate Mother's Day, this special class

for kids will teach children how to make a "beautiful bouquet of roses" just for their mom on her special day. And also have fun doing a special Mother's Day crossword

For Children: Celebrate Maewyn! Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. Maewyn is another name for St. Patrick's Day, and kids of all ages are invited to learn about the beginnings of St. Patrick's Day, and also to make beautiful clovers out of coffee filters, and do

Join Us for the Exciting Programs at the Collinwood Branch Library

by Monique Christian-Long PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH **Growing Readers Storytime**

Help Grow Your child's early reading skills! Children 3-5 are invited for stories songs and rhymes that will help them become

Tuesdays, March 3- April 7 at 10:30 am For additional storytime appointments call us at the branch 216-623-6934.

Express yourself Art Lab: An Art Studio environment for children and teens Join us and local artist for a day of creativity! Friday, March 13 at 3:30 pm

Aww...Snap Circuits Explore the Basics of electronics, integrated circuits and more with the Snap Circuit® Kits. Tuesday, March 24 at 4pm

Women's History BINGO

Learn about women in history while you play a fun game of BINGO Thursday, March 26 at 4pm

Something 2 Do!

Exciting and fun STEM based activities for children and and teens! Friday, March 27th at 3:30pm

America Reads FREE After School Tutoring Students in K-8 can get assistance with their homework. College students from Cleveland State University assist with any subject and/or reseach project.

Mondays-Thursdays from 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Kids Café Snack Program

The Cleveland Foodbank in collaboration with the Cleveland Public Library offers FREE after school meals for ages 18 and under. Mondays-Fridays from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Crucial Community Conversation: The Struggle for African American Liberation Facilitators: Donald and Norma Freeman local authors, educators and community

Thursday March 12 at 5-6:30pm

FREE GED Classes

The GED class will have two sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please contact 216-371-7138 or visit www.tri-c.edu/ged for more information on registration and

Mon. & Wed. from 12:30-2:30pm

FREE Tax Preparation Assistance at your

Free tax preparation assistance offered by volunteers from VITA/EITC. Taxpayers must bring the following documentation to their session:a current phot ID, social security cards for taxpayer and all dependents, last year's tax return and all W-2 and 1099 forms for the 2014 tax year. Appointment Required. Please call 211 - First Call for Help to schedule your appointment.

Saturdays March 14 and 28 11am - 2pm

Writers & Readers Series of Hope: Presents Michelle Knight

Join us to hear about Michelle Knight's journey past and present while she talks about her book Finding Me: a Decade of Darkness, a Life Reclaimed: a Memoir of the Cleveland Kidnappings. This event will be held at the Louis Stokes Wing at the Main Library located at the corner of East 6th and Superior Ave.

Cleveland Digital Public Library Opens

by Chatham Ewing

The Cleveland Digital Public Library, a new Main Campus opened on February 14, 2015. The space includes a digital classroom, multimedia area (with a touch wall!), and powerful scanners available to the public during

Main Library's regular hours. Members of the public are invited to come visit, partic department at Cleveland Public Library's pate in workshops, and learn about digital culture. ClevDPL has a web-site where you can learn more about what they do at www. cpl.org/clevdpl.

Taking the Next Step: Event for **Nursing Students**

by Sabrina Powers

Cleveland Clinic's Zielony Nursing Institute and the Cleveland Council of Black Nurses are holding, After Nursing School: Taking the Next Step, on Saturday, March 21, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at South Pointe Hospital, 20000 Harvard Road, Warrensville Heights, 44122.

The informational session will cover Cleveland Clinic's Zielony Nursing Institute application process, interview preparation and what to expect in the first 90 days of em-

ployment. Speakers include Chief Nursing Officer for Cleveland Clinic's South Pointe Hospital, Sheila A. Miller, MSN, MBA, RN and the President of Cleveland Council of Black Nurses, Peter Jones.

Registration and breakfast begin at 8:30 am. To register, visit clevelandclinic.org/ AfterNursingSchool

Cleveland Clinic is proud to be an equal opportunity employer, recently honored by Minority Nurse magazine as a Top 25 Nursing Employer.



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