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January 2016 Volume 8 • Issue 1

The 999 Story



A 1953 photo of the builders of the 999.

by Michael F. Cavottas

The 1890's were the hay-day of the American railroad industry. The aggressive spiderlike consolidations of the New York Central Railway by the industrial barons of the day, Erastus Corning and Cornelius Vanderbilt came under a cloud of negative public popularity. To change this image, the NYC embarked upon breaking the world train speed record just before the Chicago World Exposition in 1893. On May 10, 1893 on a run between Buffalo and Syracuse the specially designed train was the first vehicle to achieve over 100 miles per hour, reaching the unheard of speed of 112 miles per hour. The engine behind this record was the legendary 999 which was rebuilt and now is located at the Chicago Museum.

The Collinwood Yards are one of the principal repair facilities and freight transfer points of the New York Central railroad, originated in 1874 when it established a rail center in the village of Collinwood. A brick roundhouse was built to house and repair locomotives; nearby, a machine shop, housing an engine room, blacksmith shop, and an office was constructed with upstairs apartments for the use of the road's employees. The freight transfer yards were lo-

cated on the south side of the main tracks, with extensive stock yards north of them. In 1874 at least 500 engineers, firemen, brakemen, conductors, and other employees made their headquarters near the yard to handle the 72 freight trains arriving daily. As the railroad grew, so did the village of Collinwood, with its population reaching about 3,200 by the 1890s. The yards, situated along present-day E. 152nd St. just south of the Lakeland Freeway, were expanded in 1903 and again in 1929; at that time they included 120 miles of track and could handle 2,000 cars daily. In 1933 the facilities employed about 2,000 workers. By the end of World War II, the Collinwood yards became a major switching and diesel repair facility for the NYC.

Sometime between 1930 and 1940 a group of NYC workers, members of the American Legion Post 999 which consisted of only railroad workers, clandestinely built a replica model of the Legendary 999 on a 1930 Hudson frame. Once the NYC management got wind of vehicle, they supported its viewing as a show piece by transporting the "999" to various national venues, including several Rose Bowls Parades in Pasadena CA and Washington D.C. Early on Post 999 exclusively took care of it before transferring it in about 1980 to current owners The La Societe Des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux which translated in English is the Society of the Forty Men or Eight Horses which generally goes by 40and 8. The 40 and 8 is a veterans organization with one of its many functions which is dedicated to preserving the memory of French Boxcars in WWI which carried 40 men or 8 horses.

According to our primary contacts, Joseph Cronin and Andy Kiral of the 40 and 8, their group is interested placing this historic vehicle with another group because they can no longer effectively maintain and operate it. They have considered many options including placing this with the Crawford Auto Museum, but it is too large for internal display and relegating it to the external environment would be destructive. Since time is of the essence, several members suggested placing the 999 on eBay which would most likely mean it would leave the Cleveland area. It would be a shame for this Collinwood artifact to leave the area.

The Collinwood High School Alumni Association (CHSAA), the only officially sanctioned CHS alumni organization with over 1,000 members has a mission

of connecting alumni and keeping CHS memories alive. We are keenly interested in keeping this vehicle in Cleveland, specifically near the Collinwood area where

it was built. To that end, CHSAA is taking

the lead position on acquiring this historic

vehicle, preserving it for future generations

and making it available for events in and

Breakinig News.....

around the Collinwood area.

The newly acquired CHS Alumni Train was relocated from storage on W 103 & Madison to it's new home at the "Old Cleveland Graphite Bronze Site" on St. Clair Avenue. Total pickup and unload time was two hours. Train was towed by the old Collinwood Yards on E 152nd Street, up over the bridge where old 999 was built back in the late 30's, little nostalgia eh.... Train will be gone over mechanically, electrically to insure safety. A good pressure wash and then repainted with CHS Alumni insignia and it will be on the road. A hearty thanks to Mike Cavotta for procuring this historic part of Collinwood History. Go Railroaders. Gary & Gerry Budzar



Beachland Ballroom Serves lunch

by John Copic

The Beachland Ballroom is now open for lunch, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 11 AM to 3 PM. They are still serving their famous and award-winning brunch on Saturday from 11 AM to 3 PM and Sunday from 10 AM to 3 PM. The lunch during the week is fairly new, and you do not want

Be sure to start off your experience with



a pour over coffee from the six shooter pop-up coffee shop. I have stopped in numerous times and everything that I tried on the menu was delicious and unique. My favorite item on the menu, and the one that keeps me coming back is the North Coast sandwich made with turkey, bacon, fried egg, avocado, tomato, Gruyere sauce, and basil garlic aïoli on a toasted Westside market multigrain bread. Be sure to order the fresh-cut fries served with the basil garlic

There are many vegan, vegetarian and healthy choices on the menu. Everything is of the highest quality, locally sourced, and an excellent value. Do yourself a favor. Change things up a bit. Go to the Beachland Ballroom for lunch on a Wednesday ,Thursday,or Friday. You'll be happy you





Observer

The Collinwood Observer is a citizen-based news source published by Collinwood Publishing Inc., a loca 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.

THE COLLINWOOD OBSERVER 650 E. 185[™] STREET CLEVELAND, OH 44119

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PHOTOGRAPHY: John Copic, Liz Copic, Stephen Love, Sarah Gyorki

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The Collinwood Observer is powered by:



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

Next deadline: January 25, 2016.

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

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

COLLINWOOD HOMEOWNERS MEETING1st Wednesday of the month
7:00 PM - St Mary Church, 15519 Holmes Ave.

EAST 185th STREET NEIGHBORHOOD 2nd Tuesday of the Month 6:00 PM - Lithuanian Hall 877 East 185th Street – next to Post Office

2nd Wednesday of the Month 6:30 PM - Collinwood Slovenian Home 15810 Holmes Avenue PRESIDENT: Councilman Polensek

EAST 156th STREET NEIGHBROHOOD ASSOCIATION

3rd Wednesday of the month 6:00 PM - East 140th Street Neighborhood Associa-tion - 4th Wednesday of the Month 6:00 PM

Any questions about these meetings please feel free to call

Mary Louise, Councilman Polensek's office, (216) 664-4236 or Julia DiBaggio, Northeast Shores Dev. Corp., (216) 481-7660.

Councilman's Corner



by Michael D.

Greetings! I hope all of you had a wonderful Holiday season and a joyous New Year. In 2015 we had many challenges

many successes and I wish to thank all the neighborhood groups and organizations, above all our neighborhood activists, for their continued engagement on behalf of the Greater Collinwood area. As you have heard me say so often, people can and will make a difference if they take the time to become stake holders in their neighborhood. We have proven that on numerous

In 2015, the Waterloo Arts and Entertainment District improvements were completed and we have moved onto the redesign and planned improvements for East 185th Street commercial corridor, working in partnership with Northeast Shores Development Corporation and the City of Euclid. In the Collinwood & Nottingham Villages and Glenville communities we embarked upon the St Clair Avenue project which is targeting the redevelopment of the

corridor from East 55th Street to Nottingham Road. Discussions continued with the Cleveland MetroParks with regard to capital improvements and the issues pertaining to the beaches and swimming. We have made significant progress and our goal is to see swimming at our beaches THIS SUM-MER and to have a plan put forth for the reconstruction of the historic Euclid Beach

pier. Stay tuned.

Policing and public safety continue to be a major emphasis in our community. This past year Ward 8 had the lowest crime rate in the Fifth District and on Cleveland's east side. My thanks to all for being proactive and concerned about the neighborhood and supporting our 5th District Police while at the same time demanding accountability and professional conduct from our men and women in blue.

My deepest and sincere thanks, once again, to the Salvation Army of Greater Cleveland for their \$10 million commitment to our neighborhood for the new Salvation Army Temple Corps on Grovewood Avenue. Construction has begun and I am looking forward, like all the rest, for the dedication ceremony.

This year of 2016, I am calling upon all concerned neighborhood residents, businesses, organizations and institutions to

become more engaged than ever before. We have well over 200 streets in the new Ward 8. If we had just one person from each street or organization engaged, we would have a small army of neighborhood activists to address and support those issues we believe are critical for the growth, development and stability of our community. Let us all pledge to "step it up" this new year so that we can truly have a neighborhood we can all point to with great pride.

January 2016

I have lived on the northeast side of the city all of my life. I am a proud graduate of Collinwood High School and have raised five children here. I have been honored to have represented this community in City Council for 11 terms. I have never stopped believing in our citizens and our community. Please join with me in 2016 and become "a believer" in what our community can truly become if we work together and join hands as true brothers and sisters. We can move mountains. We have proven that before, the Collinwood Recreation Center is testament to that, and we can do it again.

May you have a safe and prosperous new year. God bless you and God bless the people of the Greater Collinwood and Glenville communities. I may be reached at my office at (216) 664-4236 or via email at mpolensek@clevelandcitycouncil.org.

Cuyahoga County Board of Elections is Seeking Temporary Employees

by Mike West

BOARD OF ELECTIONS ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Temporary Election Clerk: Location: Cuyahoga County Board of Elections 2925 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115 Hourly Rate: \$10.00, Hours: 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m., Monday - Friday

Hours: Generally Monday- Friday from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., but may vary to include evenings and weekends, depending on the workload and needs of the department. Assignments may vary in length from a few days to up to 12 weeks or longer.

REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma or equivalent required. Prior experience in a public contact or customer service environment preferred. Must demonstrate command of Microsoft Windows and Office programs (ex: Word, Excel). Data entry or call center experience is helpful. Driver's license, proof of automobile insurance and access to a personal vehicle may be necessary for some assignments. Good math skills are helpful. Bi-lingual (Spanish-English) is helpful. Applicants may be required to complete a skills

RESPONSIBILITIES: Performs assigned duties related to the preparation for Elections, conduct of Elections, and Post Election processes. Duties and responsibilities will vary with the department assigned, but may include the following:

Preparing, processing and mailing Vote-

by-Mail Ballot applications and Ballots; assisting the public with the In-house Voting process located at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections; performing data entry; answering phones and providing prompt, accurate, excellent customer service; proofreading various Election related documents for content and accuracy; processing Voteby-Mail identification envelopes, Poll Books and various reports; processing mail which includes organizing, opening, scanning, proofing and recording transactions; reviewing, researching, verifying, organizing and/or compiling data, and generating reports; completing tasks associated with Voter transactions such as Vote-by-Mail and Provisional Ballots; safeguarding sensitive documents and supplies; recruiting, sched-

uling, assigning, and processing payroll for Poll Workers; assisting with the testing of Voting or Ballot Scanning equipment; conducting business in accordance with the Federal Election Guidelines, Title 35 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Policies and Procedures of the State of Ohio, and the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections and according to NVRA and HAVA procedures; performing all other duties assigned, delegated, or required of the management team, including those prescribed by law.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Applications and resumes can be submitted through our on-line process only. Visit our website: www.443vote.com, then click on the Employment tab and follow the prompts. Please note that you must complete a BOE on-line profile before you are able to apply for position at the Board of Elections. All job offers are made with the understanding that prospective employees pass a drug test and a criminal background investigation prior to being hired. Applications must be received by 4:30 pm -January 08,2016

Made in Collinwood

Wondering what's happening with Made in Collinwood, Northeast Shores' newest program to support makers in our neigh-

It's almost ready to launch. Over the past couple months, we've been meeting oneon-one with makers to understand how they got here, what they create and what other support they need to thrive.

We're photographing Collinwood makers with one of our incredible resident artists, Bridget Caswell. The final touches are being put on the Made in Collinwood logo. And all this work will drive our support of makers, start-up enterprises and microbusinesses for years to come.

This month we plan to launch Made in Collinwood with all of our makers. Just like our kickoff meeting in November,

Collinwood Neighborhood Catholic Ministries 15706 St. Clair Avenue **Mary Ellen Brinovec** 216-407-1836 MEBrinovec@Ursulinesisters.org

visit us on our website http://www.cncmministries.org

we're getting all of the stakeholders together to find out what we learned, next steps and challenges along the way. Then the real Stayed tuned for the date of the Made

in Collinwood launch later this month. If you're a maker in North Shore Collinwood and would like to be involved, contact Joe Barbaree at 216-481-7660 or jbarbaree@ northeastshores.org.



Danielle J. Dronet

LISW-S, LICDC DDronet@DDronet.com 216.501.1730

Psychodynamic Therapy

Like us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/CollinwoodNCM

Community

Music for Miles in the New Year

January 2016

Local artists Eileen Sheehan and Jen Hearn More Music at Waterloo Arts

Amy Callahan and the Music for Miles committee have announced their 2016-17 dates for the chamber series named in honor of Miles Kennedy, a Waterloo Arts founder and Waterloo benefactor. As usual, the concerts will be varied, informal – and

March 13 - piano chamber; April 10 string quartet; May 8 - The Trillium Trio (flute, clarinet, bassoon - and our very first M4M concert in November 2011); September 11 - brass quintet; October 9 Silver Keys Clarinet quartet; and November 13 -

The concerts always begin at 4 pm in the WaterlooArtsNan & MilesKennedy-ArtsCenter; families with musical children are invited to arrive early so their offspring can watch the professionals set up. They run for about 90 minutes, with an intermission, and refreshments may be found in the adjoining Callaloo Café.

This year's season will be extended by two CityMusic chamber concerts, in the same setting.* CityMusic has added North Collinwood to the Cleveland neighborhoods where it performs - chamber concerts will

be played at Waterloo Arts on January 15 and February 19, and the full orchestra will perform at St Jerome on March 17 and May

Since its founding in 2004, the orchestra CityMusic created has presented a regular schedule of free concerts in city and suburban neighborhoods. Social issues are central to its programming: bullying, the Holocaust, the plight of Cleveland refugees and of its homeless children. It often commissions new works to suit the topic, and recruits stellar soloists and conductors. And it is building new audiences, with an education program modeled after El Siste-

All that will now be enjoyed in North Collinwood, with CityMusic's selection of St Jerome church as its latest venue: the orchestra will play there on March 17 and May 12. CityMusic players will also perform at Waterloo at the beginning of the year - on January 15 and February 19 - as both an introduction to the CityMusic program and an extension of Waterloo Arts' chamber concert series.

Nan Kennedy; nankennedy@yahoo.com

Waterloo Arts 15605 Waterloo Road; 216-695-9000; waterlooarts.org

Taste the Neighborhood



Save the Date for this year's Taste the Neighborhood, February 16, 2016 at the Lithuanian Hall. Join Northeast Shores to sample foods from our neighborhood's many restaurants and eateries. From ribs and wings, to sausage to soup, there is something for

To purchase tickets, or for additional information, contact Julia DiBaggio at 216-481-7660 or jdibaggio@northeastshores.org

Dancing for Health and Science

by Julia DiBaggio

As part of Collinwood 2015, Dancing Wheels Company & School has brought their troupe to O.H. Perry. The residency will work with 4th grade students and focus around Newton's Laws of Motion while students work with professional dancers.

Students will put on a production for grades K-3 at the end of March. Dancing Wheels is a considered one of the premier arts and disabilities organizations in the U.S. that integrates the talents of dancers both with and without disabilities.

Call for Ballot Box Project Proposals



by Julia DiBaggio

As part of Collinwood 2015, Dancing Calling all artists! We need your ideas on how to attack the issues of Vacancy, Healthy Eating, Youth Engagement and Collinwood History. Proposals are due January 14, 2016 at 4:00 pm. Mail or hand deliver proposals to Julia DiBaggio at Northeast Shores Development, 317 E. 156th St., Cleveland, OH

Projects will be voted on by the community in March 2016, but not if you don't submit something first!

Please see the guidelines and proposal form to get all the details on how you can make up to \$15,000 of awesome happen.

Winter-Learning Land at **Collinwood Branch Library!**

Think Out Loud Thursday!

On Thursday, January 14, have fun making a dream board! Dream boards can introduce youth to the power of positive thinking and how to pursue

Thursday, January 14th * 4:30pm CMA in Your Neighborhood!

What is Landscape? After exploring Landscape paintings from the Cleveland Museum of Art, students will create their very own Paper Landscape

Tuesday, January 19th * 4:30pm Kids Café

Visit the Collinwood Branch Library after school for Kids Café! Monday - Friday 3:30pm-4:30pm

(Please note, Kids Cafe is not served during holiday break.) Free Produce on Tuesday's! Pro-

vided by the Greater Cleveland Food

Beginning Tuesday, January 5th after 3:00pm.

FREE Tutoring in All subjects: Grades K - 8

Free one-on-one and/or group tutoring and homework help offered in partnership with Cleveland State University's America Reads tutoring services. Monday - Thursday, 3:30pm - 6:00pm

Starting Monday, February 1st. Super Sleuth Readers (preschool

storytime for ages 3 through 5) After reading fun stories, singing songs and rhymes, our Super Sleuths will look further into their stories through play and crafts! Tuesdays, 10:30am - 11:15am Tuesdays * 10:30am Starting February

Wee Read and Play (toddler storytimes for ages 18 months to 3 years) Continue to develop your toddler's language and social skills! Toddlers from 18 months to 3 years of age and their favorite adult are invited for stories, active songs, rhymes and time for play! Thursdays * 10:30am Starting February

Adult Programs:

Free Computer Classes - PowerPoint I, PowerPoint II, Publisher I, Publisher II. Fridays in February- 11:15am- Starting

GED Classes: Orientation is Tuesday, January 5th, 2016 * 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. Starting Tuesday, January 26th - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30pm-2:30pm. Call 216-371-7138 for registration information.

All Aboard! The Polar Express at Collinwood Library!



In honor of the holiday season and The Polar Express 30th Anniversary, Collinwood Branch hosted a special reading of the award winning Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg. Before the reading began, students wrote letters to Santa and made Polar Express holiday cards.

This special evening ended with cookies and hot chocolate, followed by each student receiving a golden ticket and jingle bell as a keepsake. We would like to thank students from Collinwood High School, in addition to Collinwood library staff and Friends of the Cleveland Public Library for assisting in making this event a great success.

Free Tax Preparation Services

Cuyahoga County and the Cuyahoga Earned earned income less than \$53,505, and must be hosting free tax preparation services as part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. Last year in Cuyahoga County, the VITA Program served 13,000 people and brought back more than \$18 million to the community. County VITA sites are at the County's Westshore Neighborhood Family Service Center (NFSC) and at the Southgate NFSC. Westshore NFSC is located at 9830 Lorain Ave, Cleveland Ohio 44102; the tax site will be open Tuesday evenings and Saturdays. Southgate NFSC is located at 5398 1/2 Northfield Rd, Maple Heights Ohio 44137; the tax site will be open Tuesday evenings and Saturdays. To schedule an appointment go online to www.211oh. org or call 211/United Way.

Returns will be prepared and filed by IRS certified tax-preparers and completed while the tax-payer waits. All returns will be screened for eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit. To qualify, tax-payers must have a 2015

Tax-payers should remember to bring: Current photo I.D., Social Security cards for each adult and child on the return, W2 and 1099 income statements, child care expense statement and provider's Tax I.D. Number, Form 1099-INT for any checking or savings accounts as well as bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit. If the taxpayer purchased health insurance under the Affordable Care Act, bring 1099 tax credit from health insurance company

Community members who want to volunteer to prepare taxes can register online at www.refundohio.org. Free training is available to become an IRS certified tax preparer.

For more information, please visit www. refundohio.org or www.cjfs.cuyahogacoun-

Art

Collinwood Music Legends Johnny Pecon and Frank Yankovic Honored at Polka Music Awards



The late Euclid bandleaders Johnny Pecon and Frank Yankovic were honored at the 52nd Polka Party Weekend and Polka Music Awards Show hosted by the Euclid-based Natiobal Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame and Museum.



Impromptu jam sessions attracted music-makers from around the country at the Polka Hall of Fame's Thanksgiving Polka Party Weekend at the Downtown Cleveland Marriott Hotel Ballroom.



January 2016

Pennsylvania accordionist Joshua Kay, 15, was the youngest bandleader to perform at the Polka Hall of Fame's Thanksgiving Polka Party Weekend at the Downtown Cleveland Marriott Hotel Ballroom.

by Joe Valencic

The the late Euclid bandleaders Johnny Pecon and Frank Yankovic, America's Polka King, who both would have been 100 this year, were honored at the 52nd Thanksgiving Polka Party Weekend, staged at the Downtown Cleveland Marriott Hotel by the Euclid-based National Cleveland-Style Polka Hal of Fame and Museum, and the 28th annual polka music awards ceremony on Saturday, November 28, 2015. The awards show theme, "A Century of Cleveland-Style Polka," saluted the Slovenian and American influences on the music, especially by Yankovic and Pecon, and Slovenia's late polka powerhouse Slavko Avsenik. Pecon's sons John and Jeff and Yankovic's son Bob performed in honor of their fathers.

Featured entertainer was Denis Novato, World Diatonic Accordion Champion, who arrived from Europe for the occasion. Several Polka Hall of Fame honorees appeared on stage, including Canada's Polka King, Walter Ostanek, Joey Miskulin of TV's Riders in the Sky, past President Fred Kuhar, and Dusan "Duke" Marsic, who was recognized by polka radio host Tony Petkovsek for his 90th birthday. Three Polka Hall of Famers celebrated 80th birthdays, Hank Haller, Del Sinchak and Walter Ostanek

The Frank Stanger Orchestra enjoyed a three-peat win as Band of the Year. Frank Stanger, a native of Doylestown, OH, also collected trophies for Musician, Album and Song of the Year, as did bandmates Paul Yeager and Joe Zdelar for Side Musicians. The late Cleveland musician and radio host Eddie Bucar and the late drummer Dave Wolnik were inducted for their lifetime achievements in polka music.

The two All-Time Hits were played by local bands Patty C and the Guys (Lojze Slak's "V Dolini Tihi (Quiet Valley)") and the Veseli Godci (Merry Music-Makers) (Avsenik's "Na Golici (Trumpet Echo Polka)"). Featured performers included Jeff Winard (WI), Denny Anderson (WI) and the Alpine Sextet (OH). The Awards Show orchestra, led by Tom Mroczka, included the show's youngest musician, accordionjist Joshua Kay, age 15. Master of ceremonies were WINT radio hosts Ray Somich, Ray Zalokar and Denny Bucar. The show was directed by Brandon Bucar and produced and written by Joe Valencic, President of the Polka Hall of Fame. The polka weekend was organized by Vice President Mark Habat, a Euclid resident. Each guest received a 64-page souvenir program book.

The Thanksgiving Polka Party Weekend brought polka entertainers and busloads of fans from the U.S. and Canada for the three-day polka event. More than 700 room-nights were booked at the Marriott. Performers included orchestras led by Dick Tady (PA), Ed Klancnik (MI), Linda Lee Brown (MI), Mikey Dee (PA), Fritz Scherz (NY), Brian Sklar (SK). Frank Stanger joined Ohioans Frank Moravcik, Del Sinchak, Eddie Rodick, Anthony Culkar, Dan Peters, the Button Box Divas, Patty C and the Guys, Aaron Dussing, Ron Likovic, Frank Svet, Joshua Kay, and the Fairport Jammers.

Forty-two musicians appeared on the main stage in the traditional jam session on Friday evening. A high point was the Polka Mass, celebrated by Fr. Frank Perkovich of Minnesota, Cleveland's Joey Tomsick Orchestra, and vocalist Cecilia Dolgan, a Hall of Famer and past President. Impromptu polka jam sessions extended into the wee hours.

"I heard about this polka festival in Las Vegas and I knew I had to come," said Peter Geres from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. "The music is first rate. I enjoy it so much I'm coming back next year."

"It's all about camaraderie," added Euclid resident Mark Habat, Vice President of the Polka Hall of Fame and Chairman of the Thanksgiving weekend music festival. "Great music brings out the best in people."

Other winners were Kathy Hlad for Button Accordionist; Patty C and the Guys for Button Accordion Ensemble; Al Bambic for Side Musician; the SNPJ Recreation Grounds in Kirtland, OH, for Culture and Heritage; and Ray Zalokar's 247PolkaHeaven, the on-line polka channel, for Support and Promotion. Christine Hibbs, the Vocalist of the Year, was featured on the New Song of the Year, "Happy Birthday, Baby," written by Frank Stanger and performed by his orchestra.

Six entertainers were added to the Polka Hall of Fame Trustees Honor Roll: accordionists and bandleaders Milan Racanovic (a Euclid resident), Marty Sintic, Eddie Liszewski, and Johnny Pastirik; saxophonist Joe Samsa and radio personality Patty Sluga.

Musicians and leaders of Slovenian and nationality organizations founded the Na-

tional Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame in Euclid in 1987. Museum exhibits trace the story of Cleveland's home-grown dance music from its roots in the city's Slovenian neighborhoods to nationwide popularity. Historic instruments include an accordion belonging to Frank Yankovic. The archive preserves 6,500 vintage recordings, some dating back a century

The Polka Hall of Fame and Museum is

located at 605 East 222nd Street in Euclid, Ohio, in the historic former Euclid City Hall. Admission is free. Polka and Slovenian CDs are on sale on-line and in the museum store. Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 11:00 to 4:00. For more information, call (216) 261-FAME, toll-free (866) 66-POLKA, or check Facebook or the website, www.polkafame.com.



Community

Hold the Salt! And Other Winter Watershed Protection Tips



by Claire Posiu

Salt, as harmless as it sounds, is a chemical that can harm both our personal & pet health and that of our local creeks and streams

Road salt (sodium chloride) is most commonly used to remove ice from roads, parking lots and sidewalks. As snow and ice melt, road salt is carried into our lakes, streams and wetlands, where just one teaspoon can permanently pollute five gallons of water.

HERE ARE IMPACTS ROAD SALTS CAN HAVE ON OUR ENVIRONMENT:

• At high concentrations, sodium chloride is toxic to fish and insects, and at low levels

it reduces the reproduction and survival rates of their young.

Direct road salt splash can kill plants and grass.
 Sodium in road salt can destroy soil sta-

• Sodium in road salt can destroy soil stability, decreasing the ability of the soil to filter water, and increasing soil erosion.

HERE ARE SOME TIPS FOR USING ROAD SALT WISELY AND KEEPING PATHWAYS SAFE:

• Shovel and follow application directions. The more snow and ice you remove manually during a snowstorm instead of waiting until the end, the less salt or chemical de-icer you will have to use and the more effective it will be when you do use it. Adding more salt than is recommended

won't speed up melting, so follow label directions (1 cup per sq. yd) and spread salt out a few inches apart for best results.

• Less is more. Save your back and reduce chemical application by evaluating where you need snow removed. Do you need access to every door or the entire patio? Consider paths versus full snow removal of an area.

• 15°F is too cold for salt to melt snow. Most salts stop working at or below 15°F. An alternate is to use small amounts of sand for traction instead, but remember that sand does not melt ice and too much sand can become sediment pollution if it washes into streams or storm drains.

• Sweep up extra. If salt or sand is visible on dry pavement it is no longer doing any work and will be washed away into your local streams through a storm drain or ditch system.

• Pet Safety. Even if the de-icer says it's safe for pets - look at the ingredients! Calcium and magnesium chloride can burn their paws. Use potassium acetate (hard to find, so ask to create demand) or just use sand. And when you take your animals on a walk, cover their feet and/or wash them off after a walk.

For a thorough analysis of Alternative deicers, click on this article: http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/translating-uncle-sam/stories/de-icing-dilemma-do-streets-need-salt

OTHER WINTER WATERSHED PROTECTION TIPS:

Dispose of shoveled snow in vegetated areas; avoid dumping it in streets or streams. Gardens can better absorb snow

melt than pavement, so in the next warm up, less polluted storm water runoff will get into our streams.

For nuisance wildlife, use non-toxic alternatives instead of chemical pesticides to reduce indoor and outdoor chemical use. Use boric acid, a low-toxicity mineral or bait boxes to keep winter wildlife out of your home versus chemicals that can have negative health impacts on humans and pets indoors, and water quality if chemicals are used out of doors. (For more information: http://www.nrdc.org/health/pesticides/gpests.asp)

Salt piles should always be stored under a roof. Report uncovered salt piles to that community's Service Department.

Encourage your community to pass a Sensible Salt Ordinance. The City of Richmond Heights uses ~4,400,000 pounds of salt per year to keep roadways safe, and this is one of lowest salt users in Cuyahoga County. The city follows sensible salt guidelines by only salting on main streets, hills, stop signs and corners, so imagine how much salt communities are using without these guidelines? Encourage your community to follow suit! Contact Cuyahoga SWCD for model ordinance language.

Have a safe and happy winter knowing that you are keeping the health of the watershed in mind!

Visit our website for more conservation tips on how to Keep Your Yard Green and Our Waters Clean!



Foamy pollution entering creek as snow melts (photo courtesy of Perkiomen Watershed)



Salt needed to treat one commercial parking lot for one winter weekend....THAT's a lot of SALT!



Health

Get into the Groove with Bus Stop Moves





Stay warm and develop a fitness routine while you wait for the bus at three RTA shelters in Collinwood.

by Allison Lukacsy
Baby, it's cold outside!

Next time you are waiting on the Route 39 - or one of the other RTA buses that weaves throughout North Collinwood - remember the best way to keep warm is to keep MOVINCI

Thanks to funding from The Kresge Foundation and Cuyahoga Arts and Culture through Northeast Shores' COLLIN-WOOD 2015 grant program, the project "Bus Stop Moves" launched at three targeted bus shelters last month. The grant and resulting project were designed to address

health issues identified through the annual "Picturing Collinwood" survey in addition to the October quarterly Northeast Shores meeting where feedback was solicited by "Bus Stop Moves" creators.

This project endeavors to inject just a few minutes of stretching and strengthening exercises into RTA riders' commute - while waiting for the bus to arrive - by providing simple illustrations and health tips on clear, vinyl stickers adhered to select glass shelter panels.

Stickers and art (or advertisements) at bus shelters can be seen in Ohio City where

artistic renders of the Guardians of Transportation adorn shelters. "Bus Stop Moves" goes beyond merely providing imagery to dress up the older-style shelters. These stickers have been designed with QR codes to link users to both MetroHealth's website (metrohealth.org) for more information on staying active and moving healthy as well as the project's Facebook page (facebook. com/busstopmoves which is viewable even if you don't have a social media account). Here users can find links to music to keep them grooving, additional exercise resources, and a community of RTA riders exercising together!

Exercise is not only a great way to stay in shape, it's proven to improve your mood, increase your energy and reduce your stress. Each shelter in this pilot project is themed to either mood, energy or stress reduction with exercises that correspond to each benefit. Thanks to a collaboration with Dr. Seeholzer, Dr.Kearney and their team of health and community outreach professionals at MetroHealth, Collinwood resident-artist and grantee Allison Lukacsy

designed graphics and exercise routines for people of multiple abilities. Whether you are just starting to improve your health or are looking for a way to squeeze more fitness into your daily routine, these shelters have something for you – from tips to stay hydrated, ways to make a move more challenging, and suggestions for walking routes from each shelter to a neighborhood asset where exercising comes naturally!

January 2016

Collinwood-based Image Mart, Inc printed and installed the stickers. Each "Bus Stop Moves" shelter has been formally adopted through the RTA's Adopt-A-Shelter program by neighborhood volunteers to ensure the stops and stickers remain clean and maintained.

This project launches just as we enter 2016 and the City of Cleveland's Year of Sustainable Transportation. Be green, take the bus! Move healthy, develop a fitness routine while you wait and stay warm. And don't forget to hashtag #busstopmoves when you post to social media! Let's do this together, Collinwood!

Friends of Euclid Creek Announces Third Environmental Studies Scholarship

by Claire Posius

The Friends of Euclid Creek (FOEC), a grass-roots, non-profit charitable organization which advocates for the health of the Euclid Creek watershed, is pleased to announce the availability of its third annual scholarship in environmental studies. This scholarship was created in order to aid one deserving student in his/her pursuit of a degree or certificate in environmental studies, field biology, or any scientific field related to watershed health.

FOEC is currently seeking applications from high school seniors or college students who are passionate about their study of the environment. One \$1,000.00 scholarship - earmarked for educational purposes - will be awarded in May, 2016.

Applicants must not have received a previous scholarship from the Friends of Euclid Creek. FOEC prefers a student who attends or has attended a school located in Beachwood, Cleveland, Euclid, Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights, Richmond Heights, South Euclid, Willoughby Hills, or Mayfield Village - the communities in the Euclid Creek watershed. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of their background and their potential to make a contribution to environmental studies or a related field.

Interested students must submit a one to two-page letter describing their career goals,

past volunteer work related to environmental studies, and significant achievements to date. This letter must include the applicant's name, address, telephone number, email address, and signature. Applicants also must provide a minimum of one letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor or community member.

All application materials must be postmarked on or before April 1, 2016. They should be mailed to the Friends of Euclid Creek at P.O. Box 21384, South Euclid, Ohio 44121, unless the applicant has reached an agreement with FOEC to submit them via email. Applicants must also be willing to interview with FOEC members, upon request.

Questions concerning the scholarship or application process may be directed to FOEC board member Jeanette Evans via email at: jeanette.evans@sbcglobal.net. Information may also be obtained at the organization's website: http://www.euclidcreekwatershed.org.

The Friends of Euclid Creek organization is again delighted to offer this scholarship opportunity and looks forward to helping a passionate student realize his or her educational aspirations.

The Friends of Euclid Creek's mission is to raise awareness about and preserve the natural features of the Euclid Creek watershed.

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A Visit from Santa

bv Sr. Madeline Muller

Santa came early to the Collinwood Neighborhood Catholic Ministries House kicking off the Holiday Season on Sunday, December 6th in grand style. He posed for photoops with the guests who ranged from eight months to eighty years of age. Festive music filled the air while children, clutching their gift and photo, scurried to the basement to design a frame to hold their precious memento.

On the first floor, guests enjoyed a plentiful buffet that included holiday cookies and a delicious cake. Remnants of frosting coated young lips. As the guests departed, they were given a Humphry's popcorn ball, reminders of Euclid Beach of yesteryear.

Thank you to all of those who made this



Santa and his elf rest after a job well done

party possible: The Jennifer Fund provided food, beverages and paper products, Kathy Payerchin donated popcorn balls and members of Gesu Parish decorated the house and donated gifts and cookies for the children.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!

Rock Solid Summit Recap



by Joe Barbaree

Close to 100 musicians and industry professionals from North Shore Collinwood and beyond came together last month with one goal, to strengthen Cleveland's music economy.

The Rock Solid Summit was held on December 7, 2015 at Cuyahoga Community College's Tommy LiPuma Center for Creative Arts. During the convening, industry experts led discussions about the state of Cleveland's music economy, resources available for musicians and success stories from regional artists. Speakers from Tom Schorgl (Community Partnership for Arts and Culture) to Vince Slusarz (Gotta Groove Records) to Maura Rogers (Maura Rogers and the Bellows) spoke about all the elements that make a healthy music economy.

Kent Smith, Ohio House Representative presented the keynote lecture on the OhioSounds tax credit legislation he is cosponsoring with fellow Representative Sarah LaTourette. The OhioSounds tax credit would spur economic activity in the state by

providing a 25% tax credit to musicians, producers and others in the music industry for the production of albums and investments in infrastructure projects.

Andy Leach, Senior Director of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's Library and Archives announced the Jane Scott Papers in the afternoon. The Jane Scott Papers are a newly digitized collection of the pioneering music reporter's work. The project comes from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's local music collecting initiative, NEO Sound.

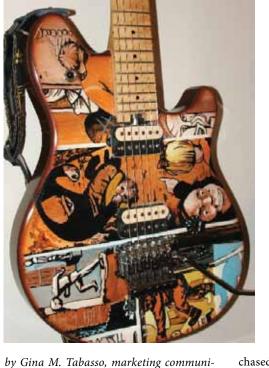
An industry reception in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's Library and Archives followed the Summit, where discussions started during the day continued while attendees perused the Jane Scott Papers.

The Rock Solid Summit was the culminating gathering of the Rock Solid Fellowship, a partnership between Cleveland Rocks: Past Present and Future; Tri-C's Regional Arts and Technology Program and Northeast Shores Development Corporation with funding from Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

The Rock Solid Fellowship connects Cleveland musicians with technical assistance from regional experts and students in Tri-C's Regional Arts and Technology program. Rock Solid started in 2015 focusing on artists in North Shore Collinwood, Cleveland's east side music and arts neighborhood.

To learn more about Rock Solid, contact Joe Barbaree at 216-481-7660 or jbarbaree@northeastshores.org.

Hit the Ground Running



cations specialist, HGR Industrial Surplus

How many of you remember the 1980s

Van Halen song "Unchained?" David Lee

Roth sang, "Change. Nothing stays the

same. Unchained. Yeah, you hit the ground

running." Believe it or not, that's how HGR

Industrial Surplus in Euclid, Ohio, got its

name. Founder Paul Betori had left his

previous employer with a vision for a new

business model. As he sat in his living room

listening to Van Halen, Paul decided to hit

the ground running (HGR) and formed

HGR Industrial Surplus in 1998 with 13

Since then, the company has grown to

more than 110 employees with a showroom

of 500,000 square feet and recently pur-

Change. Nothing stays the same.

chased and dedicated its Nickel Plate Station building on Euclid Avenue. The mission of the company is to serve as a conduit between customers looking for affordable used machinery and equipment and manufacturers hoping to recoup some portion of their capital investments.

Because of its passion for manufacturing and the growth and development of industry in Northeast Ohio, the company decided to work with John Copic, publisher of The Observer, to offer this monthly column to showcase the amazing, fun, interesting and cutting edge manufacturing taking place in the region. It's just another way of connecting customers and industry. There's so much going on right in your neighborhood that you may not know about, but it affects you directly. Your

friends and neighbors work for these companies. You buy their products. Their taxes improve your roads and schools. You have a vested interest in their success because they are contributing to a recovering and, hopefully, stable economy.

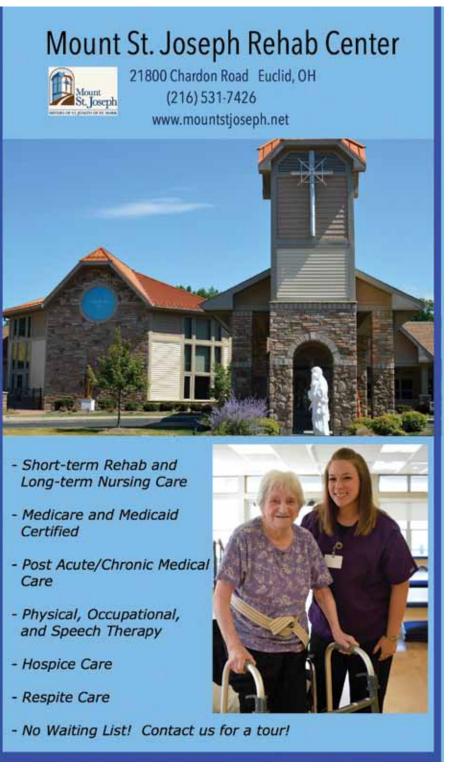
And, as the song says, change is inevitable, especially in manufacturing and industry. The economy has been a roller coaster ride for quite a few years. Families and businesses have had to learn to adapt and creatively problem solve to overcome challenges and turn them into opportunities.

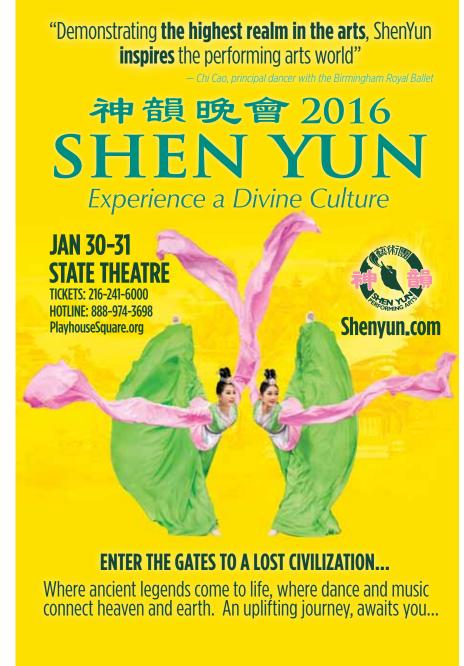
In this column, we intend to showcase some of those opportunities and inspire you with success stories. What are local businesses doing in the community? What new development is happening in The Eu-

clid Corridor? Let's hear firsthand from some local businesses. What are their plans for the area? What tips and tricks do you have for others? What best practices can we apply to our own businesses for success? What weird and wacky manufacturing and product photos can we share?

Speaking of wacky photos, did you know that HGR Industrial Surplus buys and sells everything? Literally! Here is an example of an interesting item that recently became available in its showroom. These GM gears are 19,000 pounds each. Does anyone know how they might have been used?

For suggestions of topics you'd like to see covered or feedback on what you've read, contact Gina Tabasso at gtabasso@hgrinc.com or call 216.296.1118.





Christmas Magic at Rose-Mary







by Lena Chapin

With all of the hustle and bustle of the holidays, it's easy to forget the magic that the season can bring to children and adults alike. The staff and individuals at Rose-Mary were reminded of this joy when a simple event designed for photo opportunities turned into one of the most memorable nights of the year. Brad Wyner, the behavior support specialist, at Rose-Mary donned the big red suit and beard for the "Pictures with Santa" event. His co-worker Martha DiLorenzo played the part of Mrs. Claus and after a long day of work they headed into the party just hoping for a few good pictures to share with the individuals'

families. With each new person that sat down next to Santa, wide grins and Christmas cheer spread across their faces. Wyner patiently gave each person necessary adjustment time and let them begin the engagement. Having a Santa who understood the individual needs and personality of each person he met with was amazing. Staff watched as children and adults who don't usually make eye contact or show interest in their surroundings, became transfixed on the man in the suit. Smiles and hugs







were being collected by the dozen and Santa, Mrs. Claus, and all other staff members in the room became increasingly rejuvenated. Everyone sang carols, drank cocoa, ate cookies, and joined together in merriment. The event didn't just result in "a few good pictures for Mom," but rather hundreds of truly joyous pictures that reminded everyone at Rose-Mary that slowing down, and actively enjoying time with another person is the best way to experience the magic of

Rose-Mary is a non-profit organization separately incorporated under Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland. Established in 1922, Rose-Mary Center continues the ministry of Jesus Christ by nurturing individuals with intellectual disabilities and celebrating love, family, dignity and faith. Through residential, vocational, summer camp, and respite programs, Rose-Mary Center helps individuals to achieve lives of personal fulfillment become more self-reliant and realize their full potential as independent and integrated members of the community. Find out more at www. rose-marycenter.com or facebook.com/ rosemary1922.

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Rose-Mary Center Recieves \$162,000+ Grant From the Ohio **Department of Developmental** Disabilities for Trauma Informed Care

EUCLID, OHIO- The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities awarded over \$162,000 to Rose-Mary Center in Euclid Ohio. Over the next two years, the grant will fund capacity building in the Developmental Disabilities provider system to serve complex individuals using trauma informed care principles.

An estimated 90% of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) have experienced traumatic stress (aldridgepalay.com). Trauma Informed Care is an organizational structure and treatment framework understands the impact of trauma on the individuals they serve and adopts a culture that considers and addresses this impact (mha.ohio.gov/

Rose-Mary will work with Aldridge Palay, a consulting firm specializing in mental health and intellectual and developmental disabilities, and Dr. Stephen Ruedrich M.D. of University Hospitals, to create a person-centered approach for healing trauma, based on brain science and implemented through relational interventions.

"The brain can be damaged through experience, and it heals through experience," says Lara Palay, managing partner of Aldridge Palay Group and independently licensed social worker/psychotherapist.

The new approach will including training staff to respond in practical, compassionate ways to help people feel safe, connected, and in control rather than simply "addressing behavior" as has been the culture of the field.

January 2016

"This is an exciting time for Rose-Mary," says Behavior Support Specialist Brad Wyner. "By the end of this process, we'll be a regional leader in trauma informed care, and we'll have the capacity, knowledge and skill to not only share with the rest of the system, but also to grow as a provider and welcome new individuals as they age out of the foster care system and leave Developmental Centers."

Rose-Mary is a non-profit organization separately incorporated under Catholic Charities, Diocese of Cleveland. Established in 1922, Rose-Mary Center continues the ministry of Jesus Christ by nurturing individuals with intellectual disabilities and celebrating love, family, dignity and faith. Through residential, vocational, summer camp, and respite programs, Rose-Mary Center helps individuals to achieve lives of personal fulfillment, become more self-reliant, and realize their full potential as independent and integrated members of the community. Learn more at rose-mary-







Presidents Day Campus Visitation Day is a great opportunity to:

- * Explore your academic options and discuss the steps for enrollment
- and financial aid ★ Visit any campus and tour our facilities

You can visit us at any of these locations from 10-11:30 a.m. or 2-3:30 p.m.

3605 Center Road, Brunswick



ESS Building, Room 1531 | 4250 Richmond Road, Highland Hills Student Services Building, Ground Floor | 2900 Community College Ave., Cleveland

Student Services Building | 11000 Pleasant Valley Road, Parma

WSHCS Building Atrium | 31001 Clemens Road, Westlake Brunswick University Center

Can't make it? Request an individual tour at www.tri-c.edu/campusvisits

For more information or to register for Presidents Day Campus Visitation Day, go to: www.tri-c.edu/campusvisitation



Academics Community

Technology, Enrichment Put OLL School at Head of Class



A recent STEM open house at OLL School drew enthusiastic crowds



Principal Rita Kingsbury focuses on student engagement.

Our Lady of the Lake School has a tradition of offering quality Catholic education that has served the community for more than 80 years - but they're not resting on their laurels. "We're not only committed to offering a faith-based, caring environment," says Principal Rita Kingsbury. "We're also committed to offering the very best education for your child." That means investing in state-of-the-art technology in everyone classroom - from preschool on up - and ensuring that students have access to a broad array of curriculum and enrichment offerings.

"We educate the whole child, and we use the best available tools," Kingsbury says. A tour of the school shows that iPads and Chromebooks, a dedicated computer lab, smart boards in every room, and a new distance education lab are helping get the job done. When the second grade wanted to learn about water treatment systems for their STEM week project, they powered up their computer-aided design software, and got to work creating their own water filtration models. Technology also features in a new language teaching curriculum, and in countless classroom projects. The recent

STEM open house in November showed the cutting-edge teaching approach is popular with families, too: lines of parents and visitors extended out the door, and hallways were thronged with enthusiastic participants.

"Our parish is invested in Catholic education," says Fr. Joe Fortuna, and you can see the investment in other features of the school, including a full range of enrichment offerings from visual arts and music to after school programs, including new clubs for cooking, sewing and chess. The eighth grade is excitedly planning for a spring trip to Washington, DC, while the students in the drama program are still celebrating the success of the recent parish production of The Lion King. With so much happening, there is a sense of excitement at the school - and also a sense of purpose. "We set goals for this year," Principal Kingsbury says, "of maintaining a positive attitude, building relationships and focusing on student engagement." It's clear that setting goals and investing in the future is making Our Lady of the Lake not only a strong school now,

Taking Physical Education to a New



the Lake School happy to introduce their new Physical Education Instructor, Stephanie Omueti. Stephanie

joins the talented teaching team at Our Lady of the Lake this January, and brings with her an exciting approach to physical education that promises fun challenges ahead for students.

The youngest of four children, Stephanie was born and raised to the age of ten in Nigeria, where her father is a Professor at the University of Ibadan. As a child, she moved to her mother's native Chicago, and attended Whitney Young Magnet High School – the same school attended by First Lady Michelle Obama. She went on to get an undergraduate degree in International Studies from University of Chicago, and an M Ed through the Physical Education Teacher Education program at University

of Texas. She also continued her love of international travel, visiting ten countries, most recently Japan.

As a three-time NCAA All-American in the 100m and 200m dashes, Stephanie likes to be active and fit. She is currently training for her third marathon - which gives some nice balance to her other hobbies of cooking and crocheting. She also has a passion for helping youth learn to love fitness. "The hallmark of my physical education program is: SWEATY FUN," Stephanie says. "This means teaching movement skills, teamwork and positive social interactions, in addition to improving fitness and promoting the joy of movement by keeping students active."

Our Lady of the Lake School has always enjoyed top-quality physical education programs, with a competition-level gymnasium, CYO sports and a full roster of opportunities. Now students are looking forward to taking the fun - and the fitness - to new levels!

To see Stephanie's video, visit www.ourladyofthelakeschooleuclid.org

Life on the Lake **Races and Raffles**

Our Lady of the Lake School celebrates its biggest fundraiser of the year with its Races and Raffles night at the Races on February 6. The event features races, raffles, games and prizes, great food and drink and company and a full evening of entertainment. It all takes place at the East Side Irish American Club, and if you'd like to be there, or be sure that your business or organization is featured as a sponsor, you can call to reserve a space, sponsor a race or place a program ad. Call (216) 486-0850 for more information, or visit www.olleuclid.org.

Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday is February 10! Join us for Lenten services Living Stations March 18 Palm Sunday March 20 Tenebrae March 23 Holy Thursday March 24 Good Friday March 25 Holy Saturday March 26 Easter March 27

OLL Open House. Come and See!

Find out if quality Catholic education is right for your child!

Our Lady of the Lake School will host an open-house on Sunday, January 31, from 11:00am-1:30pm, at 175 E. 200th Street. Visitors are encouraged to come in and see some of the exciting things happening at OLL School, to learn about possible scholarships and discover resources that can help every parent get the best education for their child. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (216) 481-6824, or email Principal Rita Kingsbury, rkingsbury@ourladyofthelakeschooleuclid.org.

Breakfast in Bethlehem

Our Lady of the Lake celebrated Breakfast in Bethlehem with students in the Parish School of Religion, hosting a fun feast that celebrated the true meaning behind the Christmas Season.



The PSR pilgrims preparing for their Breakfast in



Two students earned top honors for punctual, enthusiastic attendance at PSR



The shepherds respond to the good news!

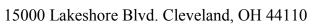


A dedicated team of volunteers guides the PSR pilgrims.



St. Jerome Church

Collinwood's Catholic School







January 2016

St. Jerome School Lunch with Santa

















Taking a seat on the big tractor!



Our Visit To Patterson's Fruit Farm

The Kindergarten class poses for a class picture.



Having fun in the tunnel!



Having fun on the slides!

by Lyndsey Johnson In the fall, The kindergarten class from St. Jerome School took a field trip to Patterson's Fruit Farm. When we first arrived, we were greeted by our tour guide, Ms. Karen. She told us that we would learn all about apples and how to pick the perfect apple in the orchard. Did you know that apples change through the season? The apples that ripen earlier may have that perfect combination of spark and crispness!

We took a walk through the orchards

and came to a spot where we would pick our apples. Ms. Karen told us, never to pull the apple off the branch. You gently twist the apple until it comes off and then place it into your apple bucket. A few of the kindergarteners were able to try this out and they did a great job!

We then got to see where they clean and package the apples. There were so many delicious apples! We did notice that there were a few bad apples that did not get pack aged. These apples are fed to animals, so nothing is wasted. Our class then got to meet Johnny Appleseed! He told us all about his life while we were able to taste apples with a cold glass of apple cider!

After lunch, we made our way to the Fun Fest. When we arrived, we took a wagon ride to our final destination. We were able to play in the hay stacks, climb the big tree house in the woods and slide down the 50 foot double slide! We even had some very brave children who wandered through the corn maze! We had a wonderful time exploring Patterson's Fruit Farm. We made sure to take many pictures to remember the adventure we had!

CONTACT US | stjeromecleveland.org | Follow us on Facebook | Phone: 216-481-8200



Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School

Faith. Family. Future.

Students honored with faith-based award

As a college-preparatory high school, academics are extremely important at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School. The school's commitment to the academic growth of each student is demonstrated at the end of every quarter when students are recognized and awarded for earning honors-level grade point averages.

In addition to academics, though, at the very heart of VASJ's mission as a Catholic high school rooted in the Ursuline and Marianist traditions (the only school in the world to be sponsored by both), is to guide students spiritually and help them to grow in their faith.

There are a variety of faith-based awards given to students each year at the school's Founders Day Mass but still VASJ Religion Chair Mr. Bill Raddell '68 wanted to do more so he created the Faces of our Founders award.

"We have many academic awards, but this one emphasizes that as a school we are doing more than offering a solid academic program and that character development and faith are core to our school's identity," Raddell says. "It reinforces the effort we are making with our students to encourage them to grow in virtue."

At the end of each quarter, one

VASJ student from each grade level who exemplifies the characteristics of the school's founders, St. Angela Merici and Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, is presented with the Faces of Our Founders award.

Recipients are both nominated and selected by their classmates, teaching students to look for these qualities in their classmates.

reflect on who is living out our school's charism and Christian values and perhaps encourages them to look at their own faith witness," says Raddell.

Students are asked to nominate spirit of St. Angela Merici and Blessed William Chaminade with the following character traits:

- They actively live their faith and act in a Christ-like manner. They are a positive example to others.
- has given them in academics, athletics, the arts, or other areas of school life.
- good and family spirit of the VASJ community.
- others through acts of service or by working for justice.

"It is good for the students to

someone they think best exemplifies the

- They use the gifts that God
- They contribute to the common
- They exhibit a concern for

They recognize needs around have been selected truly live the values them and try to respond to these of our faith." needs as a person of faith. Award recipients are recognized

VASJ students Janessa White '19, Elizabeth Smith '18, David Paus '17 and Cara

Faddoul '16 received the Faces of our Founders awards for the second quarter.

service to others. After two quarters of nominations and awards, Raddell is pleased with the

results he has seen. "It is not a popularity contest," says Raddell. "Students are taking it seriously and I think the students who

They exhibit leadership through at an all-school assembly and their their example and in a spirit of pictures are displayed in cases on the school's second floor.

First quarter winners were Candace Trivisonno '19, Elizabeth Gielink '18, Billy Vidmar '17, Carlie Beard '16.

Second quarter winners were Janessa White '19, Elizabeth Smith '18, David Paus '17 and Cara Faddoul '16.

VASJ gathers to celebrate Feast of the Immaculate Conception



The VASJ community came together to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Dec. 8 with a beautiful Mass planned by the student Peer Ministers.

Special thanks to Fr. Joe Fortuna of Our Lady of the Lake for serving as Celebrant and Melissa Gali-Bird for providing the music.

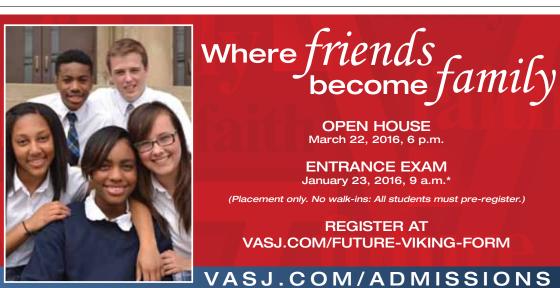
During his Homily, Fr. Joe shared that the Feast is not just a celebration of Mary but also a celebration of

"God never gets tired of forgiving," Fr. Joe said. "God never gets tired of offering mercy." Mercy is a chain reaction, Fr. Joe

explained "We who have received God's mercy must extend the mercy to others," he said. "Our world is in

terrible need of mercy. "The mercy of God we experience today, let it strengthen us to be those ambassadors of mercy."

Congratulations to seniors Gina Ciariello and Cara Faddoul who were commissioned by Fr. Joe as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 23: Entrance Exam

Jan. 27: Founders Day Liturgy Mar. 2: National Honor Society Induction

Ceremony Mar. 22: Open House

Apr. 2: Continue the Dream Annual Benefit

May 5: Ladies Night Out

May 25: Baccalaureate Mass

May 26: Class of 2016 Graduation July 9: Escape on the Lake 5K run

Visit vasj.com/calendar for all events

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Catholic education in the Ursuline and Marianist traditions



Rock Star Teacher Spotlight



Rock Star Teacher Ms. Grimes with Kindergarten.



Rock Star Teacher Mrs. Dudley is the captain of this 3rd grade class.

By Lawren Brown and Abigail Juhas Two teachers were selected as Rock Star Teachers for the month of December, Third Grade Teacher Mrs. Tammy Dudley and Physical Education (PE) Teacher Ms. Brittney Grimes.

Ms. Brittney Grimes

By Lawren Brown

Ms. Grimes likes basketball and the team that she likes is the Cavs. She's a good gym

teacher and she also is a success teacher. She also likes to teach gym because she likes to help people stay active and she wants to stay active.

Interview with Mrs. Tammy Dudley

By Abigail Juhasz

Q: When's your birthday?

Q: How long have you taught?

Q: How many children do you have?

Q: What's your favorite word?

A: Family

Q: Have you ever been late for school?

Q: Where were you born?

A: Columbus, Ohio

Kind Classrooms



Ms. Figueroa's class has filled their kindness jar and Mrs. Dudley's class has filled their too.

By Terrica Bennefield and Logan Dunnican How kindness jars work is you have to fill a kindness jar with at least 250 pom pom balls. To fill the jar you have to be kind a lot

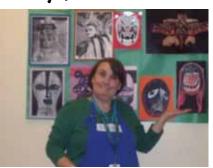
and each kind act earns a pom for the jar. We fill the kind jar at school. Every class is trying to fill their jar by winter break. This is how kindness jars work.

Winter Art Walk



On December 15th, Imagine Bella hosted their annual Winter Art Walk. This winter wonderland was part of the student work on display throughout the building where families could make festive crafts and enjoy hot chocolate.

Q and A with Tony J.



January 2016

Mrs. Heston and her wall of masks.

Interview by Tony Jordan Jr. of Art Teacher-Mrs. Elizabeth Endicott-Heston

Q: How long have you taught art?

Q: What degree(s) do you have?

A: For 31 years. Q: Who taught you how to draw?

A: Mrs. Hall. I started in 1971 in a private

A: B.A. in Art, B.A. in Studio Art, and a

minor in Education, Art Education, and Psychology.

Q: What is your favorite kind of art? A: Messy art, I love it!

Q: Have you taught a pro artist? A: Probably all of these years. By the way, I know one is an actor.

Imagine Bella News



Students check out the teacher decorated stockings and mittens to vote for one they hope to win.

By BK Kennedy

PTO Fundraisers

At Imagine Bella we are raising money for the PE and Art budget. So we decided to have a fundraiser. For the fundraisers we sold candy bars and Krispy Kreme donuts. We raised about \$900 and now we can have more equipment for Art and PE.

Teacher Stockings

Imagine Bella is having a drawing for some stockings and mittens. The teachers at Imagine Bella made some stockings and the students have a chance to win the stockings but they must earn a ticket and put it in the raffle box. So in conclusion, we are getting a chance to win some stockings.

Families helping **Families**



magine Bella Families donated winter wear, uniforms, and more for other families for the holidays

Schools

Tracking the "Epic of American Railroads" Mural at Collinwood **High School**



southwest hall are two of the images from artist John Csosz's "Epic of American Railroads" mural.

by Gail Greenberg

For more than 75 years, the "Epic of American Railroads" WPA mural on Collinwood High School's first floor southwest hall has been a focal point for countless students, staff and community members, and a sentimental favorite among alumni young and old. Although the mural's current condition reflects both the natural aging process as well as considerable wear and tear, this incredible artwork still has managed to stand the test of time and preserve a story that merits recounting.

Looking back through the Collinwood Spotlight student newspaper archives, a front-page article in the February 10, 1939 edition highlights the mural's artist Johhn Csosz (1879-1969) and the fascinating origins behind the mural itself. Student reporter Elizabeth Stanton had the opportunity to interview Csosz, when the first sections of the mural were installed.

Much to the students' surprise, the murals seemed to appear overnight. (In actuality, they were done on canvas at the studio of the Federal Art Project and then glued on the walls with a special adhesive.)

"The theme of the murals was chosen as appropriate for Collinwood, depicting different kinds of industries. The murals around the elevator show the evolution of Currently, preservation and digitization efforts are

being pursued by the school's media specialist, volunteer CHS alumni and local organizations including the CHS Alumni Association and Cleveland

the locomotive -- from the first locomo tive ever made, to the ultra-modern Mercury. Some of the murals show the various phases in the making of steel: Coal mining in the open mines; iron ore mining; a scene showing coal crushers; a blast furnace and several other types of steel furnaces; the soaking of steel; and finally, a view of the steel rolling mill.

"Murals on the opposite wall show the uses of steel -- machinery, electric generators and huge turbines. What follows on the mural is a study of electricity's uses -- an electric train and a lighted building -- chosen because of the several large light companies in the neighborhood at that

"Then in order come: An electric train; a progressive view of a short-to-ship telephone call; a radio broadcast; a television broadcast and experiment; and a panel devoted to airplanes." Csosz used photos taken inside factories

for his reference work. He started designing the murals in the fall of 1937. In the spring of 1938, artists started painting the large murals. (Altogether, there were about ten people working on them.)

The total length of the mural is approxi mately 440 feet, which made it the largest of its kind in the city at that time.

Visual Arts Students Create Holiday Box Sculptures for Community



Croom display an assortment of the decorative boxes created from recylected materials.

by Gail Greenberg

Recycling, creativity and holiday cheer were all wrapped up in mixed media box sculptures designed by students in Ms. Laureen Thomas' visual arts class, just in time for Christmas. Inspiration for this art project was the work of American Abstract Expressionist sculptor and painter David

Beginning with a variety of cardboard containers in all geometric shapes and sizes, students chose crayons, paint, feathers, colored string, ribbon, pipe cleaners and duct tape to design their own packaging patterns. Painted coffee filters tissues were used to line the boxes and hold candy fill-

"This is the third year of the project. Originally, we wanted to do something special for staff members," noted Ms. Thomas. "Candy and monetary donations from other staff have helped make the project a little better each year."

When Cleveland Public Library Collinwood Branch children's librarian, Erica Marks heard about the box sculptures, she invited Ms. Thomas to display them for the community to enjoy and then gift the artsy keepsakes to patrons.

Celebrating Attendance





by Gail Greenberg When students miss school, it's hard to come back. Instruction is missed, assignments pile up, and motivation wanes. Having our students in class every day improves their chances for success and makes our school a better place. To motivate the students to get to school, the Cleveland

Browns Foundation donated several prizes that were raffled off to Memorial students in recognition of their awesome school attendance. Congratulations to A'Mariea Morrison, Tremarreon Tucker, and Adontes Wilson for being the selected winners! Get to school! You can make it!

Senior to Senior Day!

by Sharon Kidd

The DoMore4:Good team at Collinwood had a busy afternoon volunteering at the Five Points Community Center, where they were invited to visit and spend time with the attendees of the center's Daily Senior Program.

Five Points Community Center embraced the idea of intergenerational programming and decided to implement it into their own programs. Senior to Senior activities, such as the ones the DoMore4:Good team were

senior citizens to come together to share talents, resources, and support.

Upon arrival, the ten DoMore4:Good students went straight to the cafeteria where they served lunch to around 30 senior citizens. After lunch, the seniors quickly took the lead by teaching the younger ones how to play Bid Whist and Dominoes. Some of the students had never even heard of Bid Whist previously, and learned that they had been playing Dominoes incorrectly!

At the end of the day both the senior citi-

their time together. The students were inspired to bridge the generational gap and will continue to volunteer at the center. The senior citizens asked them if next time they would teach them about iPhones and computers (in order to keep up with their grandchildren), as well as give them dance lessons in the latest 'line dancing'.

The afternoon was a success, supporting our mission to do more for good within our local communities

About DoMore4:Good

DoMore4:Good's mission is to empower individuals to do more for good by creating positive programs with volunteer opportunities that are supported, promoted, and sustained by local communities. Our programs connect high school students with volunteer opportunities at local nonprofits through a friendly rewards-based competition designed to inspire students to perform acts of kindness and volunteerism in a way that is fun and educational.



Faith

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In our hearts,

In our city

In our nation

In our world

CNCM Brightens Euclid Beach Residents' Holidays



Sr. Mary Ann Baran, SND (left) and Fannie - resident (right) admire the afghans and lap robes before the raffle at the Euclid Beach Club Appartments

hood Catholic Ministries crocheting and

by Sr. Madeline Muller Members of the Collinwood Neighborknitting group made 50 lap robes and afghans for the residents of the Euclid Beach Club Appartments. Sister Mary Ann Baran, SND and Candy Roesler raffled them off as door prizes during the Euclid Beach Club annual Christmas party. The gifts were recieved with gratitude and delight and will be a source of warmth and comfort throughout the new year.

The next meeting of the knitting and crocheting group will take place on Friday, January 8th from 2:00 - 4:00 at the Collinwood Neighborhood Catholic Ministries House (15706 St. Clair Ave.) and every Friday thereafter. All are welcome, including beginners. Instructors are on hand to help.

Enrollment Begins at LIS for the 16-17 School Year

by Courtney De Schepper Lakeshore Intergenerational School has had a great year so far, and are so excited for what is to come. Right before the holiday season the students show cased their talents with parents and the community during our Celebration of Learning and Winter Concert. This month the students will be visiting Playhouse Square as a part of their Children's Theatre programming. The students will also be starting and facilitating a recycling program on campus.

We invite interested parents and com-

munity members to visit LIS for an information session or tour. Please visit www. LakeshoreSchool.org for more information or call 216-586-3872 to schedule a visit. Early Enrollment for the 2016-2017 year runs from January 5, 2016 to February 5, 2016. For more information on the admissions process, please contact our team at admissions@LakeshoreSchool.org or 216-367-5720. Lakeshore Intergenerational School is part of Breakthrough Schools, a network of high performing urban public

As I'm writing this, about a week before Christmas, I'm looking at a yard full of fairly green grass, bright sunshine (or not) - and what looks like a rather confused iris. (Or maybe it's just very optimistic!)

Maybe we should think like this iris though.

I watch all the same news you all probably do. I see the same bad news over and over (and over and over . . . !) too, until you've got to wonder: is anything good happening? (Why is it bad news seems to "sell" better anyway? And, come to think, who says it does??)

Which is why I'm here, writing to you. So, where is peace, anyway?

Here it's the holiday season, for all faiths, and the world seems determined to stay in that proverbial hand basket - heading youknow-where. But we don't all have to go on

Peace, real peace, starts with each of us. It's as small as that. Each one person, doing some (even small) thing. It can just be holding the door for someone, letting someone into your lane on the freeway, or just smiling at that stranger at the store - little things really. Remember that "Random acts of kindness" movement?

And hey, none of us are perfect. We're all human. We're just not going to be cheerful or "in the spirit" 24/7/365 - we're not. But we can try to be more happy than not, kinder than not - and like learning anything new it could become a good habit. Remember that the winter holidays and festivals for our ancestors in the past, always looked to the coming spring - they understood that, without that winter's rest, spring's promise of renewal and new energy could not happen. And we as modern people, need to remember that too - that if we don't slow down now and then, if we don't stop and

really "smell the roses" at least once in a while - if we just don't take the time to talk to God - well, is it any wonder we feel tired, overwhelmed and just plain grumpy?

January 2016

So where do we start? What can we do? Given all this, maybe we're a bit shy about prayer. After all, especially if we haven't been particularly "prayerful", the idea of "talking to God" which is really what prayer is, whatever form it takes - talking to, and listening for - God can be overwhelming. We've been away, after all, He must be busy . . . why even try? But, maybe it'd help to start by praying with other people - the power of prayer, after all, is multiplied when we join together to pray. Are you willing to at least try?

Let's get started then! Come January 10, (now that all the hustle & bustle of the holidays is past!) our Collinwood neighbors will be coming together, at 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm, at the Collinwood Neighborhood Catholic Ministries House at 15706 St. Clair Ave. - corner of St. Clair and Royal for our second annual Prayer Vigil for Peace.

Won't you join us then, for just an hour of neighbors coming together, whatever their faith is, to help each other, and (hey!) to just say "Hi!" to each other, & begin this New Year together? Everyone is truly wel-

Back to my iris then. He's not going to bloom now, he knows better than that. But he is looking ahead to spring though - getting a jump on collecting energy from these wonderfully sunny days, so he'll be ahead of things, come spring. Not to mention enjoying these "unseasonable" days of sun.

The snow will come (& by the time you read this, likely will already have come!) And this iris may also muchly regret having put up leaves in mid-December.

But somehow, I don't think so.



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Spring Session of Tri-C's Women in **Transition Program Now Open for** Registration at Metro Campus in Cleveland



by John Horton

The Women in Transition program at Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C*) will launch a spring session at Metropolitan Campus in Cleveland on Jan. 19.

The free program uses education and training to empower women at a life crossroads. Participants build confidence and self-esteem through classes on personal development, career exploration and financial and computer literacy.

The eight-week course is designed to as-

sist women in transitional periods of their lives, such as a career change or return to the workforce. The non-credit program is free and open to the public.

Classes will be held at Tri-C's Metro Campus from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from Jan. 19 to March 10. Metro Campus is at 2900 Community College Ave.

Registration is required for the program. To learn more or to enroll, call 216-987-

Women in Transition also runs eightweek sessions at Tri-C's Eastern Campus in Highland Hills, Western Campus in Parma and Corporate College West in Westlake. For more information, go to www.tri-c. edu/women-in-transition.

Tri-C's Women in Transition program began in 1978 and has contributed to thousands of personal success stories. It typically serves about 200 women a year.

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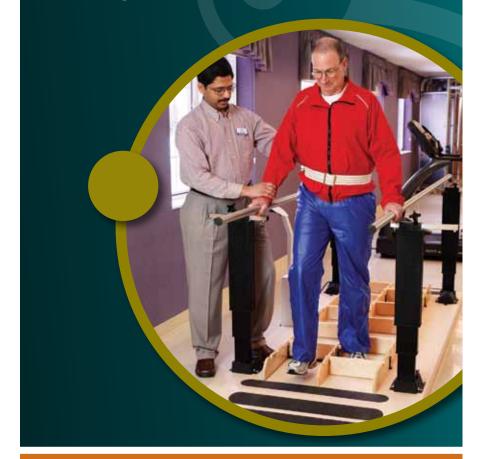
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