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November 2017

The Kickoff: Kickball with Cops Recap



Ward 8 Councilman Polensek, teachers & students of Memorial School, and 5th District Police Officers group photo

Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation

"There is nothing like an old-school game of neighborhood kickball." Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corp in partnership with St. Clair Superior De-

velopment Corp kicked off the "Kicking it with Cops" program with Kickball with Cops on Saturday September 30, 2017 at Humphrey Park. This year, we teamed up with Memorial School (410 E. 152 Street Cleveland, Oh 44110) to participate in

Kickball with Cops. The kickball game included Memorial School students' grades 5-8 playing against Cleveland Police 5th District.

The students of Memorial School tried to take the win, but the cops of 5th District Police Station won the Championship Game with a score of 12-4. Although Memorial School didn't win the trophy, all of the students, staff and administration had a great time.

"This was a great event and a great way to break the barriers between police and the community" says 5th District Commander Sammy Morris. "These types of activities will create not only a better relationship with the community and police, but will ultimately cultivate a safer environment explains Jamar Doyle, Acting Director of

Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation.

The event had food, music, and lawn games. We also had a 50/50 raffle and bake sale. A Memorial School teacher was the winner of the 50/50 raffle; she decided to donate her winnings back to support the cause. Proceeds from the raffle and bake sale will be donated to the victims of Hurricane Maria

Kickball with Cops was supported by Ward 8 Councilman Michael Polensek, Cuyahoga County Councilman Anthony Hairston, Cleveland Police 5th District, City of Cleveland Community Relations Board and Cleveland Neighborhood Progress.

Legendary Collinwood High School Coach Bill Kronik Honored

The Legendary Collinwood High School Coach, Bill Kronik, was inducted into the Greater Cleveland Slow Pitch Hall of Fame this October. Bill is also a member of the Northeast Ohio Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame inducted in 2011. Mr. Kronik grew up in the St. Jerome's area around E. 149th and Lakeshore Boulevard and is a proud graduate of Collinwood High School and the University of Dayton.

Coach Kronik began his 33 yr. teaching career at John Adams in 1965 before becoming a well-respected member of Collinwood High School's Teaching and Coaching Staff in 1970, working under Principal Bill Martin. Mr. Kronik was an assistant

football coach from 1970 through 1973 and became Collinwood's Head Baseball Coach in 1970. Moving forward in his career, he was named Collinwood's Athletic Director in 1980. He worked tirelessly during his tenure for his kids and the school, often giving up his own time to help a student in need or to personally make sure the schools concession stand was stocked for home basketball games by shopping himself for refreshments.

Bill has been a Supervisor for the Neighborhood Leadership Institute/Schools as Neighborhood Resources, for over 20 years and he worked 3 nights per week overseeing a school-community initiative partially

funded by Councilman Mike Polensek, at Collinwood High School, which included recreation and enrichment programs for all ages. Councilman Polensek, who's known Coach Kronik throughout the years stated, "Bill Kronik demonstrated time and time again that he cared for all the students as Collinwood High School. Bill symbolizes commitment and concern, and only reinforces the old saying, 'Once a Railroader, always a Railroader.'"

We wish Bill the best in all his future endeavors. Congratulations from the Greater Collinwood community!



Empty Bowls



by kimberley hanford-galippo

On Thursday, December 1, 2017, Ginn Academy will hold its fifth annual Empty Bowls fundraiser to directly support the Cleveland Food bank. For a \$10 donation, you will receive a handmade bowl, created by a member of the Ginn Academy ceramics program. Along with your bowl you will also receive a cup of homemade soup,

a spoon and linen, a slice of freshly made bread and a cookie. Please come to the Ginn Academy from 11:00 AM-2:00 PM to support this important cause for those in need in Northeast Ohio.

Helping to Feed People in Need: Empty Bowls is an international grassroots effort to fight hunger and was created by The Imagine Render Group. The basic premise



is simple: Potters and other craftspeople, educators and others work with the community to create handcrafted bowls. Guests are invited to a simple meal of soup and bread. In exchange for a cash donation, guests are asked to keep a bowl as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world. The money raised is donated to an organization working to end hunger and food insecurity.

For more information go to: <http://www.emptybowls.net/>

This fundraiser has been organized by Judy Rickel, ceramics teacher at the Ginn Academy.

For more information, please call 216-8384466.

Community

Councilman's Corner



by Michael D.
Polensek

We had a great October and hopefully the rest of the Autumn season will be like we enjoyed in October.

My sincere appreciation for all those who volunteered for our two neighborhood Halloween events at the Collinwood Recreation Center and the 5th District Police Headquarters. These are always great events for our kids. My sincere appreciation as well to the Staff at the Recreation Center and to Commander Morris and his Officers for helping to make these events fun and memorable.

A lot has happened since my last report. Five more abandoned and derelict structures have been removed and we are up to 230 for the year with more in the pipeline. As a result of this action, plus the fact that individuals are purchasing vacant properties for rehabilitation or yard expansion, we are seeing property values not only stabilize but starting to appreciate. That is good news for our neighborhood. Let's keep the momentum going into the next year.

Talk about momentum, 2018 will be a critical year for both of our neighborhood development corporations (CDC's); Collinwood Nottingham (CNVDC) and Northeast Shores (NSDC). Both have seen major changes, some good and some bad. However, I finally feel that the community is becoming more and more aware of just how important these two groups really are to our ward. Remember, the City, nor the Mayor, nor the Councilman are developers. We look to the CDC's, who are separate corporations, to partner with private individuals, non-profits, businesses and developers to do just that. Our two CDC's are funded by the City, private foundations and this councilman for most of their general operations. It would be an understatement to say that the city and my office have been happy with the performance of either group over the last year. However, with recent staff changes, more neighborhood participation, and the engagement of Cleveland Neighborhood Progress (CNP), a city non-profit group whose sole purpose is to provide guidance and help to CDC's across the city, they are both now poised to get back to business; and, that is to provide development and job creation activities. Stay tuned for future major announcements and developments.

As I reported last month, the City Law Department has reached out to the US and Ohio EPA with regard to the former National Acme Site at East 131 Street and Coit Road. As of this writing we have received no word of any official action forthcoming to address this critical property and the inherent issues at the site.

I am glad to see, like everyone else, the construction work going up and going again at the historic LaSalle Theatre. As many of you know, the project had stopped temporarily due to financial issues. How-

ever, due to the help of new Executive Director at NSDC, CNP, outside funders, the City's Department of Economic Development, and this councilman, the project is back up and running. I, like all of you, look forward to the completion and opening of this critical project for our community.

Work on the new O. H. Perry Elementary School is well underway and I am surprised to see how fast the building is going up. Let's hope the weather stays relatively mild to allow work to continue on this important elementary school throughout the winter. Once it is completed, all of the CMSD elementary schools in the Collinwood and Nottingham neighborhoods will have been rebuilt.

My congratulations to St Jeromes, VASJ, St Marys, St Casimer and Holy Redeemer on their successful clambakes this fall. St Mary's Fall Festival is coming up on Sunday, November 19. Please support all of our churches, institutions and groups who work on behalf of our community. Any church or neighborhood institution having an event- get us your information to my office and we can help promote your event or activities throughout the year.

Don't forget that there is a General Election on Tuesday, November 7 for not only Mayor but Judicial Races, County and Statewide issues as well as local Ward 8 and Ward 10 Council races. You have all heard the old saying "that you get the government you deserve." That saying is more true today than ever before in this country. We only need to look to Washington to understand that. On Tuesday, September 12th, Primary Election Day, only 13% of registered voters in Cleveland cast their ballots. When 87% of the registered voters didn't vote, they abdicated their basic right to a small number of individuals city-wide. Remember, whoever is elected this time for Mayor and Council will preside over the Council ward redistricting, once again. We all know what we faced last time. We need strong and committed leadership at City Hall. That is a given.

I urge all concerned citizens to remember all those who have given their lives so that we can have the right to vote. Don't sit on the sidelines - become a stakeholder in our community and in our city. Anyone needing an absentee ballot or poll information can call the Board of Elections at (216) 443-8683 or visit their website at www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us. The polls open on Election Day, Tuesday, November 7, at 6:30 AM and remain open till 7:30 PM. Hope to see you there.

May you and yours have a HAPPY AND

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

COLLINWOOD HOMEOWNERS MEETING
1st Wednesday of the month
7:00 PM
St Mary Church
15519 Holmes Avenue

MyCOM MEETING
1st Thursday of the Month
5:30 PM
Salvation Army Temple Corp
17625 Groveview Avenue

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

DEMOCRATIC WARD CLUB
2nd Wednesday of the Month
(September to June)
6:30 PM
Collinwood Slovenian Home
15810 Holmes Avenue
PRESIDENT: Councilman Polensek

FRIENDS OF COLLINWOOD RECREATION
2nd Thursday of the Month
6:15 PM
Collinwood Recreation Center
16300 Lakeshore Boulevard

5th DISTRICT COMMUNITY RELATIONS MEETING
3rd Wednesday of the month
6:00 PM
Collinwood Five Points Community Center
East 152 Street except for:
May (Murtis Taylor),
July (St Clair Superior Dev Corp),
October (Cleveland Job Corps Annual Dinner),
November (Glenville Rec Ctr.)

EAST 156th STREET NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
3rd Thursday of the month
6:00 PM
Collinwood Recreation Center
16300 Lakeshore Boulevard

EAST 140TH STREET NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
4TH Wednesday of the Month
(March to November)
6:00 PM
Collinwood Five Points Community Center
East 152 Street

CLEVELAND CITY COUNCIL
Monday night at 7:00 PM
Please note - this is a public and an open meeting but does not take public commentary

Any questions about these meetings please feel free to call
Mary Louise Jessek Daley,
Councilman Polensek's office, (216) 664-4236

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Michael D. Polensek
Councilman, Ward 8

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HGR

Get to know a zoo vet tech turned fabricator: A Q&A with David D'Souza



A cutting board

by Gina M. Tabasso

What do you do for a living? I'm actually a veterinary technician at the zoo in Los Angeles. I've always been an animal lover, and I've worked with animals since I was 16. It's such an exciting and often dangerous job that it keeps me sharp and motivated. Every day is an adventure. I would honestly do it for free, but luckily it pays enough for me to enjoy my other hobbies.

How and why did you get into welding, art and making? Speaking of my other hobbies, many of them center around motorsports. I've always enjoyed building fast cars, trucks and bikes. Welding is a necessary skill in fabricating many high-performance parts and "one of" custom setups; so, I had to pick up welding both MIG and TIG along the way. Once I immersed myself in the metal fabrication hobby It quickly developed into a real passion and from it my creative side started to blossom.

What types of items do you design and make? I typically design and create industrial-style items, as well as a few more delicate things. Custom tables are my favorite along with mobile carts and other heavy items. Almost everything I design incorporates a blend of heavy steel and wood. I particularly like building butcher block or farmhouse-style slabs and mounting them on industrial steel frames. I like playing with different wood finishes such as epoxy resins. I feel that wood has a warm, deep beauty that is brought to light if the correct finishing technique is used.

How do you market or sell your creations? **Do you attend shows?** I haven't focused on the marketing or selling aspect too much until recently. This is still mainly a hobby, and I'm constantly learning and improv-



David welding



Chicken feet pots



A cart



David with a gorilla at The Los Angeles Zoo



The two red dogs

ing. I recently started Red Dogs Crafts, and I currently only have an Etsy website as a marketing tool. I do plan on becoming a vendor at a few local flea markets here in Los Angeles to see if I can find a target audience for my style of fabrication. I plan on attending a few shows to get some ideas of what other fabricators are doing out there. I love seeing new ideas and techniques because it motivates me to learn more.

How did you learn to do this? I'm 100-percent self-taught in everything that I do. I've never taken classes, had a mentor or worked in the industry to have someone show me the ropes. I believe I'm a fast learner in anything that I do, and I also know that I learn best when I do things on my own by making mistakes and doing my own research on different techniques. Nowadays, with the Internet and YouTube there isn't anything that you cannot learn online. Heck, there's even YouTube videos on how to do cardiac surgery for that first timer doing a valve replacement. LOL. My usual mode of action is to buy the tool first then figure out how it works and then practice until I'm proficient at it or at least achieve the end results that I can be proud of.

What artists, designers or makers do you most admire? I like Kevin Caron's work. I think he's very practical and down to earth with his techniques. He's also a wealth of knowledge and experience; so, I respect his abilities and his work because he's constantly learning like the rest of us. He's also on the WeldingWeb forum where I met HGR for the first time; so, he adds to the knowledge base, as do many other experienced guys.

What inspires you? I think I'm inspired by the challenge of creating something that I

visualize in my mind and having to physically take the steps to make it materialize to as close a rendition of what I see in my mind's eye. I feel that many people love certain things but always feel that they're unattainable either because it's too difficult, it's too much work or they just can't figure out how to do it. I love figuring out how to do new stuff. That is what inspires and motivates me.

What do you do when you aren't working or making art? Whenever I have free time I spend my time pursuing my other hobbies. Typically, I'm out in the deserts of Southern California riding my dirt bikes or drag racing my cars. I think the feeling of being on two wheels ripping through our beautiful landscape gives me the exhilaration that I'm constantly chasing. I also enjoy spending time outdoors at the beach with my two dogs and my girlfriend. Sometimes, I just love my family time staying home with my girlfriend and the dogs just relaxing.

What advice do you have for makers? My advice is that you can go as far in this hobby/profession as you choose. It's all dependent on the effort that you put into it. I would advise anyone starting in the hobby to take classes first. I think this would set you up with a good fundamental foundation which would expose you to the different techniques, tools and options out there which would then allow you to make intelligent choices going forward with the hobby. Being that I'm self-taught, I feel that I've gone around in circles a few times and would have wasted less time had I gained the experience a class provides. Also, if you can work in the industry do so, even as a volunteer. It's invaluable the skill you develop by immersing yourself into the in-

dustry. **What is your personal philosophy?** I've never been asked this question before so I'll have to think of one now. I think of life as a journey that is based on choices or decisions. Every decision we make has an effect on the direction that our life takes. If we make good decisions early in life, we are started on a path to success or happiness. I realized the consequences of my decisions in my late 20s and it was at that point that I started in the direction that I'm headed now. My philosophy would probably be something along the lines that life is a constant test of your character. If you make good choices based on good character you'll be on the path to success and happiness in whatever you pursue.

Anything that I missed? The two red dogs? Ah, my babies. "ShyAnne" and her daughter "Lil Cheese." These are my two red dogs. A mom and daughter pair that have been part of my life for the last 15 years. ShyAnne has been by my side through thick and thin and good and bad. It's amazing how having a strong bond with your dogs can keep you positive through so many difficult times in life. These two are a part of everything I do. Hence, I decided to name the fabrication shop after them as they are a part of everything I build. I'm glad to have my workshop at home because it allows me to spend time with my two dogs while I'm building stuff. I take lots of breaks to play ball with them and build cool dog toys to keep them occupied. In return, they only ask for more of my attention, and treats, which I am always glad to give. *Gina M. Tabasso, marketing communications specialist, HGR Industrial Surplus, www.hgrinc.com*

The Collinwood Observer

The Collinwood Observer is a citizen-based news source published by Collinwood Publishing Inc., a local business dedicated to the development of grass roots media and increased connectedness of the citizens, civic groups, non profits, businesses and institutions in and around Cleveland Wards 10 and 11.

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Community

Serve Your Community Join Our Board



by Carly Lovely

It is time once again to prepare for Northeast Shores Development Corporation's Annual Meeting Directors elections. Please save-the-date for the NSDC Annual Meeting on Tuesday, January 16th, 2018 at 6pm at the Collinwood Recreation Center.

After the annual report presentation and updated organizational bylaws vote, elections will be held for vacant seats and expired board terms. Northeast Shores is seeking representation from both residents and business institutions for the upcoming election.

Experience or interest in real estate, marketing, law, and/or finance is beneficial but all community stakeholders are encouraged to apply.

Being a member of the Board of Directors requires a commitment including but not limited to: attending board meetings held monthly on the third Tuesday; active involvement in at least one of our committees, which meet monthly; active participation in neighborhood activities and events;

and a personally significant financial contribution to the organization.

Board of Directors must be active dues-paying members of NSDC in good standing. There are numerous rewards to serving on the NSDC Board and by becoming more involved, your efforts will be directly translated into the improvement of North Collinwood. With your help, North Collinwood will be a better place to live, work, and visit.

If you wish to serve on the Board of Directors, please send a letter of interest to Northeast Shores by November 30, 2017. Please include your name, address, preferred phone and email and your relationship to the neighborhood (resident, business owner, etc) and a brief description of your interests in serving on the NSDC Board and your work and volunteer experience. This information will be shared publicly in a packet distributed to NSDC members prior to voting at the Annual Meeting.

For questions and to submit your letter of interest via e-mail or USPS, please contact: Carly Lovely (Marginian), Project Coordinator, Northeast Shores Development Corporation E: CMarginian@northeastshores.org 216-481-7660 Mailing Address: 317 E. 156th Street Cleveland, OH 44110

Street Cleanup for Lake Erie - Saturday November 4th!



It's always fun to jump up and celebrate keeping litter out of Lake Erie!

by Stephen Love

Join your neighbors and community volunteers for our final street cleanup of 2017 Saturday November 4th at 10am!

Why a Street Cleanup?

Every time it rains, litter from our streets makes it way into our storm sewers and our storm sewers outflow either directly into Lake Erie or into creeks and tributaries. If it is on the ground, chances are it will make it into our water. Let's do our part to keep trash out of our waterways!

The Details:

Volunteers will meet outside the Collinwood Recreation Center (16300 Lakeshore Blvd.) in the parking lot at 10:00 a.m. for registration. Cleanup teams will pick up litter along Lakeshore Boulevard between Wildwood Park

and East 156th Street. Gloves, bags, rakes and trash pickers will be provided. However, you are welcome to bring your own. We will have coffee and other refreshments

Volunteers under 18 are required to have a parent or guardian complete the sign in registration and volunteers under 13 are required to be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Need motivation?

All volunteers will receive a coupon good for one half off the purchase of a drink and meal item from Chili Peppers Restaurant (869 East 185th Street). Please be sure to thank owner Steve Newman when you stop in!

Questions? Contact Stephen or Dan at 216-571-0685, adopt.euclidbeach@gmail.com or visit facebook.com/adopteuclidbeach See you out on the street!

and others listened and shared ideas and point of views. How to make both neighborhoods ONE and ways to inform citizens of county and/or community resources and programs, make the library bigger, share resources and make our community more youth friendly were just a few of the feedback given. "This is a great start and I would like to have more of these kinds of conversations", stated Peggy Kearsey from the 5 Points Community Center. This

event was followed by a special art exhibit from students in Mr. Dean Bryson's science class displayed by Amy Callahan, ED of Waterloo Arts. Manager, Caroline Peak expressed thanks and gratitude to the group for their willingness to help build better communities collectively for ALL.

Community

Fall into Exciting Programs at the Collinwood Library!

by Kiara Jefferson

Fall into Exciting Programs at Collinwood Library!

Collinwood Branch Library
856 East 152nd St, Cleveland, OH 44110
216-623-6934

cpl-collwd@cpl.org

YOUTH PROGRAMS:
Kids Café

In collaboration with the Cleveland Food Bank, Kids' Café is now back in action! Monday – Friday 3:30pm-4:30pm
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 3:00pm – 6:00pm

Dia de los Muertos Celebration

Celebrate the Day of the Dead with face painting and crafting papel picado banners while you learn about this cultural event.

Thursday, November 2nd 4:30pm-5:30pm
Cleveland Museum of Art-In Your Neighborhood

The Cleveland Museum of Art is coming to the Collinwood Library to make art with you! We will be exploring peace while you get to create a scroll! At the end of the program your scroll will be displayed at the Cleveland Museum of Art on MLK day and you will also receive a free art kit!

Thursdays, November 9th, 30th, & December 14th 2:30pm-3:30pm

ADULT PROGRAMS:

Free Computer Classes

Subject to be announced

Fridays, November 3rd, 10th, 17th, & 24th
11:15am-12:45pm

Collinwood Branch Highlights!

1 Collinwood—1 Community "Keeping On Track for All"

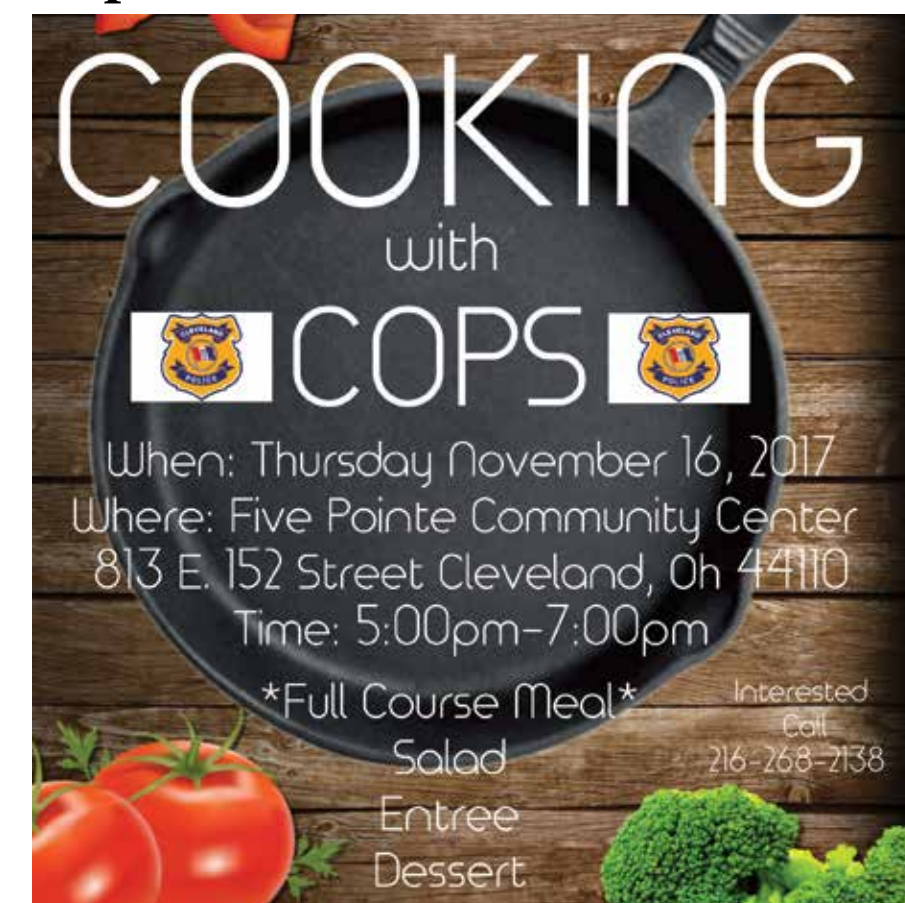
Collinwood Community Conversation
By Caroline Peak, Manager-CPL-Collinwood Branch

On Wednesday, October 25th from 11:00am-1:00pm, at the Collinwood Library in collaboration with the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio hosted its first 1 Collinwood-1 Community "Keeping On Track for All" Community Conversation. Twenty three community members, including six students from Collinwood New Tech Academy, discussed three questions:

1. What can we do to make this community and the library a "destination"?
2. What can we do to build a community that is equitable and inclusive?
3. What can we do to have young people appreciate and stay in the neighborhood?

During the conversation many participants, including Councilman Polensek and County Council Member, Yvonne Conwell, Camille Maxwell, ED of NSDC and others listened and shared ideas and point of views. How to make both neighborhoods ONE and ways to inform citizens of county and/or community resources and programs, make the library bigger, share resources and make our community more youth friendly were just a few of the feedback given. "This is a great start and I would like to have more of these kinds of conversations", stated Peggy Kearsey from the 5 Points Community Center. This event was followed by a special art exhibit from students in Mr. Dean Bryson's science class displayed by Amy Callahan, ED of Waterloo Arts. Manager, Caroline Peak expressed thanks and gratitude to the group for their willingness to help build better communities collectively for ALL.

Kicking it with Cops: Cooking with Cops



by Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation

Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corp in partnership with St. Clair Superior Development Corp is still in the season of "Kicking it with Cops". This month is time to cook some delicious food and fill our bellies. We will be Cooking with Cops on Thursday November 16, 2017 at Five Pointe Community Center 813 E. 152nd Street Cleveland, Ohio 44110 from 5:00pm-7:00pm.

Cooking with Cops is a community dinner party in which everyone plays a role and everyone belongs. Community members and police officers will share a meal, share an experience and connect with one another. Participants will be able to make a full course meal (salad, entrée, and dessert) and provide dinner to our officers.

This event is free, family activity and opens to the public. If you are interested in participating, please contact Kristian at 216-268-2138 to get registration details.

1 Collinwood - 1 Community "Keeping On Track for All" Collinwood Community Conversation

by Caroline Peak, Manager-CPL-Collinwood Branch

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- During the conversation many participants, including Councilman Polensek and County Council Member, Yvonne Conwell, Camille Maxwell, ED of NSDC

Vendor & Craft Fair @ Kiddie City

Saturday, November 18th 10 am to 3 pm
Kiddie City Gym @ 280 E. 206th St. Euclid, Ohio

Free Admission ~ Concessions

~ Mini Chinese Auction ~ Touchstone Crystal ~
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St. Mary's Collinwood Fall Festival

Sunday, November 19 1:00 pm till 7:00 pm

Located on 15519 Holmes Ave, Cleveland

Come down for food, refreshments, games of chance and the opportunity to win one or more of the 100 turkeys or 30 golden hams that will be raffled off throughout the day.

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Community

Kathy Hlad to Be Inducted into Polka Hall of Fame



Accordionist and instructor Kathy Hlad, a Collinwood resident, will be inducted into the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame at the gala Polka Music Awards Show in the Grand Ballroom of the downtown Marriott Hotel in Cleveland on Saturday, November 25.

by Joe Valencic
Collinwood’s Kathy Hlad joins two other popular polka musicians to be inducted into the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame at the annual awards ceremony on November 25, 2017. Accordionists Kathy Hlad, Stan Blout and Frank Stanger were voted for their lifetime achievements in Cleveland-Style polka music by Hall of Fame members and trustees. The announcement was made at the October 12 membership meeting of the American Slovenian Polka Foundation in Euclid, Ohio.
Kathy Hlad has performed on the diatonic accordion in the Cleveland area since she was a teen. She has taught two generations of button-boxers. She appears with the Button Box Divas. Frank Stanger has been a popular bandleader for more than fifty years. The Doylestown, Ohio, native is a three-time Musician of the Year. Stan Blout has led a well-known polka band and recording artist in Cleveland and California since the 1960s. He is best known for “Waltz of Love.”

Two all-time Cleveland-Style hits were also chosen by voters. “Slovenian Home Polka” was written by Kenny Bass and Eddie Habat. “Riverboat Polka” was made popular by Eddie Habat. Both songs became hits around 1950. The New Song of the Year was also announced, “Happy Polka Day” by Milwaukee bandleader Mike Schneider.

The Board of Trustees added five names to the Polka Hall of Fame Honor Roll. Mikey Dee is a bandleader and entertainer based in McKeesport, Pennsylvania. Bob Doszak is a Joliet bandleader and major force behind the Illinois Polka Fest. Drummer Harry Faint has led a Cleveland band since the 1960s. Accordion-player Linda Hochevar leads Cleveland’s Magic Buttons ensemble. Ray Somich is a musician and promotes polka music on his radio station, WINT, in northeast Ohio.

The 30th annual National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame awards ceremony takes place on Saturday afternoon, November 25, 2017, 2:00, in the Grand Ballroom of the Downtown Marriott Hotel on Cleveland’s Public Square. This year’s all-star stage show, “Polka Road Trip,” features TV’s Barefoot Becky, Minnesota’s Singing Slovenes, and Canada’s Polka King Walter Ostanek, among other entertainers. The stage orchestra is directed by Tom Mroczka. A Polka Mass follows with Minnesota’s



TV’s Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchman arrive from Iowa for the 54th annual Thanksgiving Polka Party Weekend, hosted by Euclid’s National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, November 23, 24 and 25.

Polka Priest, Fr. Frank Perkovich.
The Awards Show is the high point of the annual Thanksgiving Polka Music Weekend hosted by the Polka Hall of Fame at the Marriott. The event was first produced by radio personality Tony Petkovsek in 1963 and attracts polka entertainers and fans from the U.S. and Canada with three days of music and dancing, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 23, 24, and 25. Performers include Nashville’s Joey Miskulin, Jack Tady and Dick Tady, New York’s Fritz’s Polka Band, the Don Wojtila Orchestra and reigning Band of the Year, the Jeff Pecon Orchestra.

Dance admission Thursday and Friday is \$20 per person and \$10 on Saturday, including free indoor parking. 18 and under free. Awards Show tickets are \$25 each. Save with a Weekend Polka Pass – the Awards Show and three dances are only \$60 per person. For dance and show tickets, call the Polka Hall of Fame, (216) 261-FAME, toll-free (866) 66-POLKA, or polkashop@aol.com.

Reserve rooms at the Downtown Marriott Hotel through Kollander Travel at a special rate of \$105 per room-night, including free indoor parking, (216) 692-1000, toll-free (800) 800-5981, or kwt@kollander.com.

The Polka Hall of Fame and Museum was founded in 1987 by musicians and leaders of Slovenian and ethnic organizations. The Cleveland style of polka has roots in Slovenian folk music with influences from country and western, jazz, Tin Pan Alley and other nationality sounds.

The museum features audio exhibits, photographs and original instruments tracing the Cleveland-style polka to its origins in Slovenia in the late 1800s. The Hall of Fame portrait gallery pays tribute to significant musicians and individuals. The archive preserves 5,000 Slovenian and Cleveland-style recordings, dating back a century. Each year members nominate and vote for polka musicians and achievers in ten categories, including from orchestra, album and musician of the year.

The National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame and Museum is located at 605 East 222nd Street in Euclid, Ohio, in the historic former Euclid City Hall. Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 11:00 to 4:00. Admission is free. Polka recordings are on sale in the museum store.

Rescued Kittens Need Furever Home

by monica doyle

Meet Cuddles & Coco Bean. They were rescued from the North Collinwood neighborhood on Labor Day weekend. These 2 babies were approximately 4 weeks old at that time, and in pretty bad shape.

Thanks to a few concerned residents who used their own funds for vet care, medicine, food; and their daily dedication to love and socialize them in a foster home, these 2 fur babies are thriving in every way. Adoption applications are available via

my FB page. Please send a friend request to Monica Doyle (Cleveland) and we can correspond via private messaging.

Cuddles’ Bio - A female orange Tabby, (FYI - 99.9% of orange tabbies are male!). She’s the leader, very curious, purrs like a motorboat, and loves her sister Coco Bean. Coco Bean’s Bio - A female Torty. She’s an introvert and a follower, inspired by her sister to be more outgoing and playful. She is also characteristically independent and her own self.

Collinwood Counseling partners with The Nature Factory, healing from the inside out

by Robin Phillips

Collinwood Counseling and The Nature Factory have opened at 690 East 185th St. The shared space invites you to take care of yourself, inside and out.

Robin Phillips is a therapist with 40 years of counseling and medical experience. She works with individuals to help them find their own path to wholeness and happiness. Robin works with young adults, persons in recovery and persons dealing with chronic illness. LGBTQ individuals and their family members are especially welcome. You may reach Robin to set an appointment by calling 440 328 8854.

Denise Culberson uses the gifts of nature to create healing skin and hair products, the natural fragrances adding to the magic. Denise is a lifelong creative; she is an accomplished jewelry maker, seamstress, hair braider and artisan with leather, textiles, metal goods, beadwork and semi-precious stones. She receives inspiration from her



Robin Phillips and Denise Culberson (with satisfied customer) family roots in Creole, Oglala Sioux Native and Africa. She became entranced by natural healing techniques and combined this with her gardening skills to create healing products. Three generations of her family have worked together for the past five years at The Nature Factory creating original recipes for bath and body products from homegrown and locally sourced food grade botanicals and minerals. You can reach Denise at 216-647-3887 and also check out The Nature Factory on line: www.facebook.com/TheNatureFactory.

The Millard Fillmore Presidential Library

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November 2017 Events

Mondays
Rick Gleason Jazz Night Every Week

Tuesdays
Bert Plays Guitar Every Week

Wednesdays
Open Mic is always on the 1st and 3rd
Wednesdays of the month

Thursdays
Rick Gleeson Trio the 2nd
Mother Wart the 30th

Fridays
The Original Waysiders the 3rd
Madison Crawl the 10th
Cuyahuga the 17th
Kiss me Dealdy the 24th

Saturdays
Vinyl Night the 4th
Swap Meet the 11th
Silver Strings Band the 18th

All shows start between 8pm - 9pm

The Candidates for Council in Ward 8 Answer our Questions

Donald Boyd’s answers running for Council in Ward 8



What do you believe the role of councilperson is in the City of Cleveland?

First and foremost, council members should devote their official time to the problems of the ward through

policy implementation and act as liaisons between the city government and the residents of Ward 8. Council members should be concerned, not only with conduct of daily affairs, but also attend to a strategic vision for future developments within the ward and city.

What are the top three things you’d like to accomplish in this role? Three main things that I would like to accomplish during my time serving Ward 8 are:

- a. Bridge the increasingly apparent divides between residents of the ward. This includes racial divides, socioeconomic divides and generational divides. We can only move forward together.
- b. Provide increased safety for the community by promoting Community Policing Efforts that have been shown through research to create safe and inclusive environments for both our safety forces and our residents.
- c. Create a strong economic base through community development within the ward.

What prior career or personal experience correlates to this position? On October 7th of this year, my wife and I will celebrate 11 wonderful years of marriage with two beautiful children that we have chosen to homeschool. I graduated from culinary school in 2001. Over the past 16 years, I have been an executive and personal chef for a number of high profile organizations, clients and everyday people. This career path is so much more than what happens in the kitchen and I believe that the conversations had over meals with one another are often the most rich.

How long have you been a Cleveland resident and what is one thing you are proud of about our community? I have lived on Cleveland’s East side my entire life. I am

most proud of the diversity of Ward 8. We have a great deal of diversity in race, age, religions, incomes, sexual orientations and other identities that both makes our community unique but also uniquely positions us for innovation and success.

Give an example of when you had to manage conflict? A neighbor in Ward 8 purchased a basketball hoop for the children on her street because she was concerned about the lack of resources for children in our community. Unfortunately, the basketball hoop was stolen from her yard. I knocked on doors and engaged with community residents to eventually locate the responsible parties. I talked to the young adults and had them return the hoop to her yard. I know that the young residents should not have stolen the hoop, but I understand firsthand how challenging it is to want things that you don’t have the resources to acquire.

If you were a Ward 8 tour guide, where would you show off? Ward 8 has a full day of places to visit! With the challenge of taking them in one area, I would walk down East 185th Street and finish with the best BBQ in Cleveland, Holland’s Bar-B-Que!

If elected, to what topic do you think the residents would like you to give most of your attention? With the unfortunate amount of crime permeating our community, the obvious answer is safety. Yet, a major reason why things are not currently safe is because of a lack of good paying career opportunities in our community. As councilman, I will focus on both sides of this issue as a first order of business.

If you could have dinner and an evening of conversation with any person, alive or dead, who would it be and why? Collinwood’s own, former Mayor, Governor and US Senator George Voinovich. His insight as to the historical perspectives of our ward can be examined in order to chart a better way forward towards prosperity for all residents.

What book are you currently reading? The 48 Laws of Power by Robert Greene

Councilman Polensek’s answers

(continued)

historic leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Pres. John F. Kennedy, Mother Theresa, and most world leaders and scientists. One can only imagine the conversation to be had and knowledge that could be learned about human nature.

What book are you currently reading?

Jokingly, when do I have time to read besides the Collinwood Observer? Between emails and phone calls, I am lucky to read my personal mail. However, I just picked up the autobiography of my dear late friend, The Honorable Louis Stokes, called The Gentleman from Ohio. It looks to be good reading.

Editors Note

Collinwood Observer would like to extend our deepest apologies for the misprint in the October paper. The headline for Donald Boyd’s answers to our questions should have been Ward 8 and not Ward 5. We have corrected our online edition and apologized to Mr. Boyd.

Councilman Polensek’s answers



Dear Readers of the Collinwood Observer
The publisher of the Collinwood Observer asked of me the following questions. So, here we go ... Thank you for your support.

What do you believe the role of councilperson is in the City of Cleveland? The role of the Councilperson is to represent the people of the 8th Ward and all citizens of Cleveland; and, to interact with residents, businesses and individuals who impact city services, public safety, education, recreation, job creation and economic development. As a public official I will put my legislative, voting and attendance record against anyone who has ever served in City Council. I come to work every day to represent our community and the families who live here. The Charter says I am a legislator; however, my biggest role is being an advocate for our community. Remember, whoever is elected this November will once again preside over the ward redistricting in City Council which is critical to our ward 8 and the entire northeast side of the City.

What are the top three things you’d like to accomplish in this role? As the incumbent in this upcoming term I would like to complete several projects and initiatives which are in the pipeline: first, the complete rebuilding of the Mark Tromba Pool and Playground, which legislation has passed Council already; second, the reconstruction of the historic Euclid Beach pier ; and, third, the streetscape project for East 185th Street and St Clair Avenue. In addition, I want to work more closely with CMSD on a comprehensive gameplan for both Collinwood and Glenville High Schools. Furthermore, I want to work at getting more neighborhood residents and businesses involved in both of our local development corporations, which have gone through major changes recently and need more community engagement and participation.

What prior career or personal experience correlates to this position? Obviously, being a full-time councilman and heavily engaged in this community, has given me a great perspective on not only our challenges and needs but our assets and strengths. Ward 8 is a very unique community. It is racially, ethnically and culturally diverse and that is something we must continue to nurture and be very proud of. I know how city hall operates and I know how to get things done – as difficult as that may be at times. It is about building working relationships with people, institutions and organizations. My record in public office speaks for itself.

How long have you been a Cleveland resident and what is one thing you are proud of about our community? I have lived here all my life. I was born in Glenville on East 120 Street and have lived in Collinwood on Darley off East 140th Street, Clearaire Road, East 169 Street, East 187th Street and now on Brian Avenue, off of Nottingham Road. I own my home. I attended Nottingham and Hannah Gibbons elementary schools and I am a proud graduate of Collinwood

High School and a member of their Hall of Fame. I also raised five children in Collinwood. The thing I am most proud of our community is that the fact that we don’t give up. Look at the challenges and issues we have confronted over the years and yet it has only made us stronger and more committed to making our community the best it can be. We, as a community don’t give up and I, for sure, don’t.

Give an example of when you had to manage conflict? You are asking me that question? I deal with conflict in various levels everyday whether it is amongst neighbors, young people, businesses and/or individuals who disrespect our community. I have always attempted to be up front and call it as I see it. Sometimes, people cannot accept that, especially if they think they are justified in what they have done or said. It all comes down to basic respect and obeying the law. Some people think they can do whatever they want regardless of how it impacts the community or their respective neighbors. Respect, decency and common courtesy toward one another is the glue that holds us together. I attempt to personally interact with all parties involved in conflicts or seek outside assistance who are professionally trained to help.

If you were a Ward 8 tour guide, where would you show off? I am a tour guide for our community and I have several sites I always showcase. The lakefront is the most obvious. I also like to showcase sites that have been transformational such as the historic Collinwood Rail yard which became an abandoned industrial wasteland and which has been redeemed into a shining example of commercial and industrial redevelopment. How about the Collinwood Recreational Center, the first Gold LEED certified building in the city, where we took an abandoned big box store and turned it into an award winning facility? I like to show off many of our schools such as Ginn Academy, where I am a Board Member and where young men at risk are given a second chance to excel in life and to “Be somebody.” What about our residential neighborhoods and our historic churches and other landmarks? Ward 8 is home to many wonderful institutions and organizations. I enjoy being a cheerleader for our neighborhood. Lolley the Trolley knows me well.

If elected, to what topic do you think the residents would like you to give most of your attention? Based on phone calls and emails into my office daily, the two highest priorities are housing code enforcement, ie. demolition and/or rehabilitation of abandoned properties et cetera, and issues pertaining to public safety such as basic police patrol, community policing and response time. These, along with other “quality of life” issues are critical areas that I will continue to focus on because they affect neighborhood growth and stability.

If you could have dinner and an evening of conversation with any person, alive or dead, who would it be and why? Without a doubt the Good Lord himself, however, I actually pray to him each evening before bed; outside of him, probably my great grandparents. I always wondered what motivated them to come to America with virtually nothing except a dream. Besides them, my list would be very long to include



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Prayer Shawls Provide Comfort



Barb Carney is one of the parishioners at Our Lady of the Lake who is active with the Prayer Shawl Ministry that brings comfort to so many.

In this season we spend time thinking of all that we have to be thankful for – but we also know people who are experiencing hardship. The parishioners at Our Lady of

the Lake have those people in their hearts and minds when they support their Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Each prayer shawl is hand-knitted, each one is unique – and each one comes with a personal prayer. By putting a little bit of themselves and their faith into these shawls, volunteers are making connections with those who may be struggling, and providing them some comfort and warmth, along with the knowledge that someone is praying for them. Whether the person is suffering ill health, or struggling with the loss of a loved one, or some other personal hardship, a caring human connection is often what they need most.

Shawls are provided at no cost to anyone in need – parishioners simply stop at the rectory to pick one out and take it in a gift bag with a hand-made card to deliver to anyone they think would be warmed by the gift. To learn more about Prayer Shawl Ministry at Our Lady of the Lake, visit the website at www.olleuclid.org.

OLL Developing Young Leaders



On October 26, Fr Joe offered a special blessing to the newly elected student council at Our Lady of the Lake. We are proud of

these young people, and all the good work they are doing on behalf of their school and community.

We Give Catholic at OLL

In this season of Thanksgiving, it's important to take time to remember what gifts we've been given, and how we can share them. At Our Lady of the Lake, we're committed the Catholic values of service and giving, through our parish and through all the good works of the Catholic Church. We are invited to care for all the people in our community, to stand for principals of Catholic social justice, and to be caring stewards. We do this work year-round, through our many ministries – from our Baby Corner to our food pantry, providing services to the homebound and caring for the sick, lifting up people suffering loss and bereavement and celebrating new families, in good times

and bad. That's why, at the end of November, we are happy to participate in the We Give Catholic online day of giving. On November 28, we take 24 hours to recognize all the good work we do when we give to our parish. We support our ministries, we support our mission of Catholic education, and we support the important anchor that Our Lady of the Lake has been and will continue to be in this community. Join us on November 28 at www.olleuclid.org and be part of the fun as We Give Catholic!



We Are Thankful for All of You!

Our Lady of the Lake wishes all of our friends, neighbors, families and partners a very happy Thanksgiving. We are thankful for our talented, dedicated teachers in our school, our wonderful, engaged families, our faithful family of parishioners, and all the wonderful partners we work with. This Thanksgiving, we are thankful to be part of this wonderful community!



Get Your Tickets to Aladdin Now!

Don't miss Our Lady of the Lake Theater Group's production of Aladdin at Shore Cultural Centre!
November 17, 18 and 19. To get tickets now, visit www.olleuclid.org, or call the Shore box office at (216) 289-8578.



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Collinwood's Catholic School

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Blessing of Animals



Danielle and Cocoa wait their turn at the Blessing of Animals. Photos by Maura Schroeder



It was quite a menagerie at St. Jerome recently for the blessing of animals. Parishioners and friends gathered with their furry and feathered friends for a special blessing. Photos by Maura Schroeder

"The Red Violin"



Fr. John Sullivan came back to St. Jerome for the concert and agreed with Christa Balint and Deacon Peter Travalik that it was a wonderful evening.



Charlotte and Gerry Norsic made sure to arrive early to get good seats for this wonderful free concert.



Violinist Tessa Lark and Marguerite DiPenti took time to get reacquainted after the concert. Miss Lark first performed at St. Jerome two years ago and we are thrilled that she will be back in May.

by Adele Markert

City Music Cleveland Chamber Orchestra opened their 14th season at St. Jerome Church. The opening night audience heard a masterful rendition of Corigliano's "The Red Violin Concerto" by Tessa Lark. Schumann's Overture Op. 81 and Symphony No3, Rhenish rounded out the program.



Lydia & Michael Ridenour enjoyed both the concert and the pastries and are looking forward to December 6th when City Music Cleveland will again perform at St. Jerome.

Miss Lark again delighted concert goers with a bonus bluegrass tune that she sang just before concert goers and musicians alike enjoyed pastry and coffee

The Orchestra will return Wednesday, December 6th at 7:30pm. Stefan Willich, founder and conductor of the World Doctors Orchestra will conduct.

Fourth and Fifth Grade Activities



Fundraising for a great cause!



Some of the students were examining the area around a big tree.



Students were looking in the soil for critters.

by Marilyn Ottato

The fifth graders are studying ecosystems in Science this quarter. They just finished a field study on their school grounds. They brought with them string, gloves, magnifying glasses, collecting jars, and field guides to do their study. They collected and identified the producers and the consumers that they observed within their sample area. They recorded their findings. They were pretty surprised that they found many insects and worms in their area. Now that they have completed their field study, they will be putting together their own ecosystems that they will display in the classroom. They will be putting together terrariums. They will get a closer look at how a very small ecosystem can develop and survive in a very small container.

In Social Studies we just started to study the Indians of the Southwest. We will be putting together their own totem poles

with construction paper. They will pick three animals that will represent their totem poles. They will research totems poles and learn how important these structures represented the culture of the Native Americans of the Southwest

St. Jerome will once again participate in the "Pennies for Pasta" a fund to help those with Leukemia and Lymphoma. During our kick-off assembly, students learned how the smallest donation of spare change has the power to make a difference. Each student was given a box to collect spare change or change they may have earned from doing chores. The funds raised will assist in serving all patients, as well as funding innovative research worldwide to find cures, public health, and professional education. As an extra incentive, if the school raises \$750.00, the classroom with the top donations will receive a pasta lunch from Olive Garden.

Advent Vespers

by Adele Markert

You are invited to begin the Advent season with us for our annual Advent Vespers Service on Monday, December 4th at 7pm and to continue your journey to the hope of the nativity on Monday, December 18th with the Collinwood Cluster Communal Pen-

ance Service at 7pm at St. Jerome. This season of preparation for the coming of Christ is always special but, more and more it is important to guard against becoming so busy creating the "perfect" holiday, that we lose touch with the meaning of Christmas. Jesus is the reason for the season!

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Fall Festival



Enjoy your pumpkin! Thank you Ms. Johnson for carving the pumpkins for the pumpkin raffle!



Fall festival bingo!



We won a pumpkin in the raffle!

Imagine Bella's fall festival had an awesome turn out with crafts, games, food and the haunted house! Thank you for everyone who volunteered or attended to make the night a success. We can't wait to do it again next year!

Metroparks Environmental Learning Center Field Trip



We found a fossil!

First grade students traveled to Metroparks Environmental Learning Center for a field trip in October. Students learned about motion and made rockets, moved on scoot-



Time to make our own fossils!

ers, and more. Outside students went digging for fossils and made their own fossils. Check out the first graders in action in these photos.



Learning about fossils.



Check out our rockets!

Skating Party



Get out and skate!

Thanks to all the staff, students, and families that attended our skating party at the end of September!



Imagine Bella teachers love to skate too!

Orchard Field Trip



All smiles on the Kindergarten fields trip to Hillside Orchards!




Time for a hay ride!

Kindergarten had an amazing time at Hillside Orchards! They learned about how apples are grown, doughnuts are made, and saw the apple orchards. Then they took a



Time to have some doughnuts!



hay ride and sampled some apple cider, apples, and a doughnut. Check out the photos from their field trip.



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Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School

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VASJ raises money to help Puerto Rico

by Hanna Johns '21 & Elizabeth Smith '18

Members of the Viking Village raised over \$3,000 for the Marianist community in Puerto Rico who were affected by Hurricane Maria. For the week of October 9-13, VASJ students, faculty, and staff were able to dress down for one dollar a day. The money raised was sent to Colegio San Jose in Puerto Rico to help the students' families pay for school tuition and other expenses.

Like VASJ, Colegio San Jose is a Marianist-sponsored school. It is an all-boys Catholic school based in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. The school building was damaged, but thankfully they were able to open it back up for those who needed shelter.

Mr. Patrick Preto, a VASJ religion teacher, as well as some students, personally know some of the people affected by Hurricane Maria at Colegio San Jose. Mr. Preto brought the idea of a dress down week to VASJ Principal Mr. David Csanik who supported the idea.

VASJ's Christian Leadership class took the initiative and made videos and posters promoting this fundraiser.

They titled the fundraiser, "Rebuilding Colegio San Jose Brick-By-Brick." This symbolized VASJ sending support to our Marianist friends who need help building their community back up. They also created prayer cards that were signed by all of the VASJ students and staff.

VASJ senior Alandia Strong was one of the members who attended the Marianist L.I.F.E Retreat with students from Colegio San Jose.

"I really enjoyed helping with this project," says Alandia who is a member of the Christian Leadership class. "Especially with me knowing a couple of the students personally from Colegio San Jose, it made it even more important to have a successful fundraiser.

"There was a lot of student involvement which helped make this fundraiser possible. We were able to dress down and make difference."



Students and staff from Colegio San Jose who attended the Marianist LIFE retreat this past summer and became friends with the VASJ students and staff also in attendance.

When the fundraiser was over and the prayer cards were completed, VASJ President Mr. Bill Cervenik '72 and Principal Csanik were able to personally deliver VASJ's well wishes to the Colegio San Jose President who was also attending a Marianist meeting in St. Louis.

"It was great to be there when

the Marianist presented all the money raised for our family from Puerto Rico," says Cervenik. "I was proud of our students, faculty, and staff, for coming together to support those in need."

The VASJ community came together and showed what it means to truly be a part of a Marianist family.

Jason Heil '01 returns to VASJ to teach Viking Mindset course



by Patrick Bradford '19

have it that sometimes those new faces are former students of the school. This is exactly the case with VASJ's new Viking Mindset teacher Mr. Jason Heil '01.

"On my first official day with students in the school, I had some of our ambassadors walk into my class, introduce themselves, and sit down and carry on a conversation with me," says Heil.

"Actions like this from our students are what makes me excited to come to school and be with our students on a daily basis. I could not be more excited to be back."

Heil is teaching the Viking Mindset course, which is a required course for all freshmen at VASJ.

"Viking Mindset is a class that

will help freshmen start off their high school career in the right way," Heil says.

The class will also touch on the history of Villa Angela Academy, St. Joseph High School, and Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School.

"We will have guest speakers who will share their experiences with us," Heil says. "I will be their biggest advocate, given the fact that I am the only teacher that has all of the more than 130 students in the class of 2021."

Returning to VASJ was a no-brainer for Heil.

"I have always had strong feelings for the school and have stayed connected to it in certain ways," Heil says. "After graduating in 2001, I was

hired onto the baseball staff. I loved working with our students. After receiving my teaching degree, the first thing that I was asked was if I would be interested in coming back to VASJ. I know how special the school is and I jumped at the opportunity to come 'home.'"

Heil is very eager to help the Class of 2021 succeed and to teach them why the Viking Village is such a special place.

"My hope this year is to help my students in any way possible," Heil says. "I told the students that my door will always be open to them no matter what. If I can help my freshmen to be better students and to learn what it is to be a Viking, I will consider this year to be a success."



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It’s OK to be a little selfish...with your time



by Chris Burnett

In today’s world of speed and technology we are always on the go either physically or mentally. Don’t get me wrong I am all for technology and the way it has connected us in ways unthought of until recently. However it seems we are always giving our time and attention to outside sources; our jobs, our kids, parents, television, emails, social media sites, etc. It seems that alot of the time our thought processes are related to things and occurrences that exist outside of our being. We often pride ourselves on being multi-taskers when in fact we are just switching tasks at a rapid rate. How many times when you are walking are you paying attention to each step? Or are you lost in thought about a past or future event? Do you pay attention to each breath that you

which can be researched but most will have the similar effects. When we meditate we learn to listen to our body, our balance, our emotions, our breathing becomes deep, meaningful, our focus increases as well as patience. We clear our minds of the clutter that surrounds us and tries to penetrate us. Meditation usually brings feelings of peace, clarity and stress relief. Often times answers that we are seeking are revealed during or after meditation. There many more benefits, these are just some great examples.

Meditation is not as hard as some people may think. Some believe that they cannot meditate or that you have to be perfectly still with a crystal clear mind having no thoughts at all. I too believed this at one time. It is natural fo the human mind to always think and be active. Through meditation we learn to empty the unnecessary thoughts and control the rest, focusing on the purpose or nature of the particular meditation we are doing. In some mediatactions the breath is the key to uniting mind and body so we attach our thoughts to the breath being conscious of it from start to finish. Other forms of meditation may involve connecting to one’s inner energy and facilitating it’s flow and circulation. Some meditations are laying down, some are sitting, standing or moving. Tai Chi is an excellent example of moving meditation. In Tai Chi we learn to be aware of breath, balance, and the harmony of energies while moving in a relaxed and flowing state.

Learning to meditate will relieve some of the stress and tension created by this

Happy Thanksgiving

by Mary Louise Jesek Daley

How do you celebrate or observe THANKSGIVING? We all have our own memories and traditions. For me it was a house full of people, family and friends, plenty of food, and lively conversation. It was the parades, “Snoopy’s Thanksgiving” and football on the television. But Thanksgiving dinner always started with prayers and the Catholic, Lutheran and other blessings over the meals depending on who was eating dinner with us.

Our Thanksgiving Days in our lifetimes have come to mean food, parades, shopping and football. We need to remember what “THANKSGIVING” really means and show our gratefulness for the blessings we enjoy as a family and as a nation. In all the day’s preparations and activities - let’s not forget to be thankful for our bounty.

However, how many of us recall why we celebrate Thanksgiving in the first place? When I was young it was all about the Pilgrims and the turkey. Then I started learning the true history and found it is quite fascinating.

The FIRST THANKSGIVINGS were truly days of prayer and thanksgiving held by those who came to the shores of America. First, the Spanish came to the shores of Florida in 1565 and settled St Augustine. Their first thanksgiving was an outdoor mass in gratitude for safe deliverance and prayers for a prosperous venture. English

settlers came once again in 1607 and settled Jamestowne finding a new life. After some years of hardship they survived to celebrate in thanksgiving as the settlement finally began to prosper. In 1619 other English explorers came to the James River area and settled what would become Berkley Plantation. Upon landing they knelt in prayer in thanksgiving for their safe journey, new freedoms and opportunities and ate their meal together. The Pilgrims, seeking

tion reads in part that the day shall be “... observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.” It also reads that the People of these United States should devote themselves to being thankful, “in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.” Finally,

On October 3, 1863 President Abraham Lincoln, after some of the worst battles of the Civil War then raging for over 2 years and a month or so before delivering his now famous Gettysburg Address, at the urging of Sarah Josepha Hale, a magazine editor, proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving to be held in perpetuity on the same day in all of the United States. Thus the last Thursday of November was set aside as a “Day of Thanksgiving and Praise.” The Proclamation states all the good things we had been blessed with despite being at war for which to be thankful for. President Lincoln, therefore, made further Proclamation that, “... I recommend to them [the people] that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverance and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, command to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.”

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



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Community

The Lowdown at Lakeshore Intergenerational School



CWRU students teach Primary Cluster about oral hygiene.

by Shawn Hallowell
WHERE WE’VE BEEN:
October was an exciting month both inside and outside of our multiage classrooms here at Lakeshore Intergenerational School. To supplement their day to day learning,



A primary student and elder share a story.

our students had additional learning opportunities thanks to our wonderful community partners! All 12 of our homerooms participated in their first Intergenerational Visits (IG) of the year! In total seven eldercare facilities and over 200 students



Cleveland Clinic’s Dangerous Decibels program.

partnered to enjoy fall crafts and conversation. School presentations included visits from The Cleveland Clinics “Dangerous Decibels” program, Case Western Reserve University’s Pre-Dental Society, and a visit from published Author Dr. Raquel Ortiz courtesy of the Cleveland Public Library. We also hosted over 150 moms on October 18th for our first ever “Muffins with Mom” event where moms and other significant females walked their children to school and enjoyed muffins and conversation with their child and others.

WHAT’S NEXT:
We are very excited about our events and activities to close out October. On the 24th, our Primary Cluster students will head to Patterson’s Fruit Farm to enjoy a behind the scenes tour of the market and farm. Students will also get to enjoy “Fun Fest” where students will get to play in haystacks, explore a treehouse, wander a corn maze, hike and explore fall foliage, and take a wagon ride! Halloween brings two exciting



Friends who pose together, stay together! IG fun!

opportunities for our students. Primary Cluster will participate in a fun Halloween Celebration with our community neighbors at Villa Angela Saint Joseph and in the afternoon the entire school will participate in a Halloween Costume Parade!
November will start with our Family Group’s Fall Dance, students get to dance the night away with a special family member, staff members and friends. We have two new IG partners, Bridge Arts and Lakeshore Rose Center, that we will begin working with in November. Bridge Arts is an adult learning center for individuals with learning disabilities. Our intergenerational partnership with them will be all about learning and exploring commonalities between our students and theirs through the use of various art programs in Collinwood. Our work with Lakeshore Rose Center will include developing and performing an Intergenerational Play. Stay informed and learn more by visiting us on social media or at www.lakeshoreschool.org

Seeking Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) for Youth

by Michele Blazina
CASA of Cuyahoga County, a program of Child and Family Advocates of Cuyahoga County, recruits, screens, trains, and supports volunteers who act as independent fact-finders for the court in cases involving child abuse and neglect.

CASAs collect information that helps the judge make the best decision for a safe, caring, and permanent home for children involved in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. CASAs are everyday citizens who are trained and appointed by the court to advocate for the safety and well-being of children who are victims of abuse or neglect. CASAs are assigned at the earliest stages of a case, and continue to be an advocate for the child through their time in the court system. CASAs work collaboratively with all parties on the case, for the best interests of children. CASAs are only assigned to 1-2 cases at a time and spend

approximately 10 hours a month on a case.
The CASA is responsible for the investigation, facilitation, advocacy, and monitoring of the assigned child’s case of abuse, neglect, and/or dependency to represent the child’s best interests.
Volunteer Requirements: At least 21 years of age; have access to transportation; pass screening; complete training; respect and relate to people of various backgrounds; gather and record factual information accurately; communicate effectively; maintain objectivity/perspective; work within established program policies and procedures and accept supervision from program staff.

Take a stand ~ Make a difference ~ Change a life ~ Get involved today!
Those interested in becoming a CASA, visit www.cfadvocates.org to apply or call 216.443.3377 for more information.

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Senior Page

Bob’s Corner

by Bob Payne
What do you want most for yourself in this life? Take a moment and think about it. Be 100% honest. Sift through all of the “things” you think will make you happy and get down to the core of what is really important for you. Dig deep. (Take as long as you need. I’ll wait.)
Well? What did you discern? What do you want the most for yourself?

In life, we tend to be private people and it’s rare when we talk about profound subjects. Most people are a bit reserved and don’t readily reveal a lot about themselves. And yet, what most of us really want for ourselves is a deep, honest, mutually life-giving relationship. We want to be accepted for who we are, warts and all, and still be loved, unconditionally.
The paradox is that even though we want this type of relationship, we are not willing to share the intimacy of our unguarded true self. There’s reasons for this.
As we’ve lived, we’ve had many different types of experiences. We’ve learned what works well for us, and what causes pain. At one time or another we’ve all been made fun of, or been embarrassed. We’ve learned that opening ourselves up means that we are exposed, vulnerable and can be a target for criticism. We’ve been hurt, so it’s hard to trust. And, we’ve built protective walls; walls that we hide behind, walls that conceal our faults, our failings, and perhaps even a deep nagging fear that maybe we just aren’t good enough the way we are.

So, we settle for less. We develop superficial relationships, and we busy ourselves and waste the most precious thing we have; our time. Oh, it may not appear that we are wasting time. Perhaps we work long hours, volunteer, are active in civic groups, church, sports or something else, but deep down we remain unfulfilled.
If this sounds familiar, I’d like you to consider that some of your protective behavior patterns may have outlived their usefulness, and they may even be unhealthy and holding you back. Are you ready for some personal growth?

If you take the time to examine and journey through your defenses, you will probably find fear. If you dare to look beneath the fear, you may well find echoes of past pain. The big question is - how long are you going to allow those past hurts to control you?
After all, what do you want most for yourself in this life?

Bob Payne, Manager

Euclid Senior Center

All the programs listed are available at Euclid Lakefront Community Center
1 Bliss Lane, Euclid, OH 44123
216-289-2985 www.cityofeuclid.com

Breakfast with Bob
Thursday, November 9th, 8:30AM at Maria’s, 22578 Lake Shore Blvd, Euclid, OH 44123. You must have your OWN transportation

FUN FOR SENIORS Bingo
November 7th & 14th, 1:00 – 2:00PM
Bingo for Prizes. Sponsored by Hilltop Village & Manor Care. FREE.

Breakfast with Grande Pointe
Wednesday, November 8th, 9:30 – 10:30AM Join us for muffins or bagels, fresh fruit, coffee and tea. Please sign-up at the front desk by November 6th

Name That Tune sponsored by Kindred -November 9th, 11:00 – 11:45AM. Prizes and fun, fun, fun!

It’s a Paint and Sip Event
November 9th, 2017 5:00 to 7:00 PM
\$20.00 BYOB
FOOD, MUSIC AND FUN. ALL PAINT SUPPLIES INCLUDED. FEEL FREE TO BRING A SIDE DISH. SEE MONICA, BOB OR TOMMALENE FOR TICKETS.

Euclid Senior Donuts Day!
Tuesday, November 14th, 10:00 AM
Join us for delicious Donuts provided by The Willows Health Rehab Center.

BIRTHDAY DAY-
Wednesday, November 15th. Cupcakes sponsored by Alter Care.

Music Bingo
Thursday, November 16th, 11:00AM – 12 Noon. Music Bingo with Kenny Gilder.

Ballroom Dancing!
Join us for 8 weeks of Ballroom Dancing lessons, for FREE. Classes will be on Monday and Wednesday afternoons at 1PM in the Annex. You can be part of the class as a single or as a couple. It’s a fun and entertaining way to get your exercise!

Rose Center for Aging Well Newsletter

by Ashlee Williman
The Rose Centers for Aging Well has a newly designed newsletter! The newsletter contains information specific to each of the seven Rose Centers & Home Delivered Meals program, as well as general wellness information that is applicable to all older

adults! Stop by Lakeshore Rose Center to pick up a copy, or visit: www.RoseCenters.org, and subscribe to have the newsletter emailed to you monthly. Please contact Lakeshore Rose Center at 216-373-1915, if you have any questions!

Bake Sale
Friday, November 17th from 10:00AM – 1:00PM. Donate baked goods and help support

EUCLID SENIOR PROGRAMS FFF
Thursday, November 16th, 10:30 - 11:30AM. Join us for Fun For Foodies. All participants please bring your favorite

dish. Sign-up at the front desk. For questions, please see Monica.

Fun and Games
Thursday, November 16th, 1:00 – 3:00PM
Stay and play, board games, cribbage, cards and more.

Pool Tournament – Friday, November 17th at 9:20AM
October winner – Bill Solnosky

Dec 1–2, 2017
Fri Dec 1 6:30–9pm
Sat Dec 2 10am–8pm

cia.edu/holiday-sale

Cleveland Institute of Art

Student Holiday Sale

Cleveland Institute of Art
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Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday	
10:00 Coffee and chat with friends		10:00 Coffee and chat with friends		10:00 Coffee and chat with friends	
10:30 Yoga/Meditation		10:30 SilverSneakers exercise		10:30 Various Activities	
11:30 Lunch		11:30 Lunch		11:30 Lunch	
12:30 Line Dancing		1:00 Knitting group		12:30 Bingo	
1:00 Cards, puzzles, games					
		216.373.1915			
				10:00 Coffee and chat with friends	
				10:30 SilverSneakers exercise	
				11:30 Lunch	
				12:00 Bible study	
				1:00 Computer lab open	
				Movie afternoon	

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