

The Collinwood Observer

**FREE TO READ!
FREE TO WRITE!**

Submit your story
online by
January 25th at
CollinwoodObserver.com

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

Volume 12 • Issue 1

January 2020

Cleveland Chain Reaction Winners



CLEVELAND, OH, December 11, 2019—The Cleveland Chain Reaction partners have delivered on their promise to bring major investment to the city's Collinwood neighborhood. The Greater Cleveland Partnership's small business division COSE, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, JumpStart, and Fox 8 have worked to usher the third season of this economic development project into the city of Cleveland. In this process, the Cleveland Chain Reaction partners coordinated a neighborhood competition, seeded an investment fund for the winning 2019 Chain Reaction businesses, attracted interest from more than 60 local businesses looking to grow, hosted a business pitch showcase for 19 semi-finalist businesses and named ten business finalists.

"Collinwood was an ideal location for Chain Reaction, as it has two very unique

and active commercial corridors, E. 185th Street and Waterloo Road, both flanked by vibrant residential areas. This project has successfully introduced new companies and seeded the growth and expansion of existing companies in a city neighborhood full of amenities. We're looking forward to watching these businesses thrive in Collinwood," states Kandis Williams, Vice President of Economic Opportunity for Cleveland Neighborhood Progress.

Megan Kim, Senior Vice President of Membership Development & Marketing for Greater Cleveland Partnership and Executive Director of the Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE) notes the importance of small businesses in city neighborhoods. She states, "Small businesses across the United States and here in Ohio comprise a huge percentage of the American work

(continued on page 3)

#GivingTuesdayCLE at Beachland Ballroom Raised Over \$20,000



#GivingTuesdayCLE nonprofit partners and volunteers take the stage

by Rachel Bevel

#GivingTuesdayCLE is Cleveland's grassroots, hyper-local response to a global movement that started in New York in 2012. Now celebrated around the world annually, on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, the driving belief of Giving Tuesday is that one small act of kindness can inspire another, collectively making our neighborhoods, cities, and the world a better place to live. And thanks to WISH Cleveland's second-annual #GivingTuesdayCLE city-wide giving campaign, local nonprofits are feeling the love.

Collaborating since mid-summer, an all-volunteer planning committee launched a "wear your good hat" campaign, selling grey and black beanie with a distinct "Do Good" slogan stitched on the front. Proceeds from the sale of hats supported any participating organization and were also available to purchase at community retailers such as Waterloo's Six Shooter Coffee and Euclid's The

Green House co-working and event venue. #GivingTuesdayCLE partnered with sponsor Anthony Thomas Advertising to film an inspirational video that featured over 30 community leaders sporting their "Good Hats." It was a warm, trendy and unified approach to fundraising that successfully raised over \$21,000 in donations via a custom dogoodcle.org website donated by Euclid-based Good Cause Creative, the writing, and editing firm that also publishes WISH Cleveland.

Every decision was thoughtfully made by the #GivingTuesdayCLE planning committee. Including the opportunity to partner with the historical Beachland Ballroom and Tavern, the "Good Hat" bash was hosted on Tuesday, December 3. According to Pam Turos, event co-chair and owner of Good Cause Creative, "People were so excited when they found that our event would be held at The Beachland. It's an iconic venue, and it meant a lot to our planning committee to be

(continued on page 3)

Cleveland Plogs 2020!



by Stephen Love

Cleveland Plogs is all about inspiring our community to discover the joy of plogging, from Waterloo to East 152nd, Lakeshore Blvd. to East 185th! In fact, we had such a great time plogging our way through Collinwood in 2019 that we're taking plogging into the next decade!

Need a plogging refresher? Plogging is a fitness and litter cleanup craze from Sweden that is quickly spreading throughout the world and right here in Collinwood. Plogging involves a combination of jogging and picking up trash along your running route using a small bag to collect the litter you find along your route. Plogging is great exercise and a great opportunity to meet new people and make a positive impact on our environment and our neighborhood! Check out - City Lab - Pick Up Trash While You Exercise. It's Called Plogging <https://goo.gl/xRFVRC>

Looking ahead to 2020, Cleveland Plogs will have cleanups scheduled the last Wednesday of the month, May through October starting at 6pm throughout Collinwood. You can check out our 2020 calendar and meet up locations below.

Ploggers should wear clothing you don't mind getting sweaty and a little dirty and

please wear closed toed shoes - preferably shoes you don't mind running in! Water and light refreshments will be provided before we head out. Best part of all, you don't have to be a runner to go plogging! We have plenty of folks join in to walk and pick up litter - we like to call it lawking!

After a successful plogging, we'll take stock of the trash haul and hang out at a local establishment to talk trash and about growing a plogging movement in Collinwood and beyond. All ploggers will also receive a coupon to Chili Peppers Fresh Mexican Grill - good for 1/2 off your purchase of a meal item and drink!

All Cleveland Plogs events will be posted to Facebook - facebook.com/cleplogs, Collinwood Observer, Nan's Notes, and neighborhood flyers so be on the lookout.

We're always looking for plogging partners so if your organization, block club, friends group is interested in partnering with Cleveland Plogs or maybe you want to try plogging with your own group but want to learn more about how its done, just reach out - email adopt.euclidbeach@gmail.com or call 216-571-0685.

Come plogging with us in 2020 and see what you're missing!

Cleveland Plogs 2020 Schedule: May through October the last Wednesday of the month

May 28th - Five Points/East 152nd - Meet at Five Points Community Center

June 24th - Waterloo/E 156th - Meet at the Waterloo Tower 15600 Waterloo Rd.

(Thursday) July 30th - Special edition plogging in partnership with Clean Up Drink Up along East 185th Street. Meeting location TBD

August 26th - Lakeshore Blvd. - Meet at the Collinwood Rec Center 16301 Lakeshore Blvd.

September 30th - East 140th - Meet outside Bratenahl Kitchen - 14002 Lakeshore Blvd.

October 28th - Waterloo - Halloween Themed Plogging! - Meet at the Waterloo Tower 15600 Waterloo Rd.

COMMUNITY

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.

THE COLLINWOOD OBSERVER
PO BOX 17371
EUCLID, OH 44117

Copyright 2014—Collinwood Publishing Inc. All rights reserved. Any reproduction is forbidden without written permission.

PUBLISHER
John Copic, collinwoodobserver@gmail.com

ADVERTISING
John Copic, 216.505.0185

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of each writer, and not those of the publisher, editor or any other entity.

The Collinwood Observer is powered by:



Ninth Estate Software

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, 2020

You can mail your stories to the Collinwood Observer office at 1591 E. 230 Street, Euclid, OH 44117

**WILKE
HARDWARE**
WE REPAIR
STORM
WINDOWS
(216) 731-7070
809 E.222ND ST.
EUCLID OH
44123

**If Winter comes,
can Spring be far
behind?**

--Percy Bysshe
Shelley

Are you or a loved one
struggling to kick addiction to
heroin or other opiates?

We are here to help.
Call us about VIVITROL.

216-486-SAVE (7283) www.MooreCounseling.com



Happy New Year!



by Michael D.
Polensek

HAPPY NEW YEAR to you and yours. May your year be filled with peace, happiness and prosperity, as we enter the "20's."

This past year has been met with many challenges and successes. Let me walk you through an overview of 2019.

- The Greater Collinwood Development Corporation continues to grow its footprint and make positive strides in the northeast side of the city in an effort to create a uniform approach to neighborhood development activities.

- A series of meetings were held with ODOT over the I-90 Bridge work and the construction impact on residents and our commercial business districts, especially the East 185th Street corridor. We appreciated the improvements but made it clear to ODOT that they need to think of the impact of road construction as we move toward the reconstruction of the East 152 Street I-90 bridge which will begin in Spring 2020. We hope they have learned from the previous construction cycle not to make the same mistakes.

- We began in earnest, meetings and discussions pertaining to the Marcella Road / East 185th Street Sewer Project. This \$15 million endeavor was a long time coming but is designed to address the severe basement flooding we have experienced in the northeast portion of our community. Work will proceed until late 2020 weather permitting.

- On another closely related project, the Euclid Creek Tunnel Project went "operational" and the city turned responsibility of the Euclid Creek channel, between Lakeshore Boulevard and Villaview, over the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) for future enhancements and improvements.

- The Division of Water completed the installation of new water lines and hydrants along East 157th Street, East 158th Street and East 160th Street off Waterloo Road.

- The Advisory Committee for the historic Longfellow Elementary School stepped up discussions and meetings. The City took possession of the vacant property from CMSD and in turn sold it to Vesta Corporation, out of Connecticut, to be converted into Senior housing. This project is critical to the East 140th Street corridor. We are looking to get "shovels in the ground" in the Spring of 2020 on this critical project.

- I met with Governor Mike DeWine early in the year on a whole host of topics bringing him up to speed on those issues I felt were important to our community. I look forward to a continued working relationship with him on issues that affect our community.

- The City opened a new City Animal Care & Control facility which was a project near and dear to me. We have to provide the best shelter we can for our furry and not-so furry friends.

- We celebrated the 100th Anniversaries of our beloved St Jerome's Catholic Church on Lakeshore Boulevard and the historic Collinwood Slovenian Home on Holmes Avenue. We wish them another hundred years of service to the Collinwood community.

- We dedicated the new pier at Euclid Beach Metropark to an overflow crowd and continued the summer concert series every Friday evening with record-setting crowds and

a good time had by all. Our partners, the Cleveland MetroParks, took over control of the Wildwood Marina and made substantial improvements to the concession stands.

- The new East Side Market opened at east 105th Street and St Clair Avenue to address the "Food Desert" that existed in the Glenville community. We wish them well.

- Chain Reaction on Fox TV 8 came to Collinwood. Thanks to the efforts of GCDC, community activists and local businesses. We hope to see several new businesses open up as a result of this initiative.

- Walgreen's new version of itself opened on Lakeshore Boulevard next to Dave's Supermarket.

- The Department of Public Works, with the Office of Capital Projects, rebuilt Coit Road, East 168th Street and East 156th Street, besides the resurfacing of several residential streets in the ward.

- Mark J. Tromba Pool & Playground in the Collinwood Village community was completely rebuilt and rededicated with family, friends and residents in attendance. The \$1.2 million project, which included a new art piece, was dedicated to the spirit of the community.

- We saw the long abandoned "Gold Building" on Waterloo Road/ East 156th Street purchased and renovation begun. A new gallery has opened with more to come. We also saw the opening of Pop Life, at the former KeyBank building. There is a new vibe taking hold in the Waterloo Arts & Entertainment District.

- We tore down numerous abandoned, condemned structures throughout the Ward in partnership with the Cuyahoga County LandBank. This process will only intensify throughout the new year.

- When CMSD announced in November they would close our historic Collinwood High School, they found out how passionate the greater community felt about this landmark and its impact on the lives of so many. As a result the community rose up and convinced CMSD to delay any decision on this closing and to give Collinwood High School and the community a new chance on life. In 2020, we will know how serious CMSD is about re-imaging CHS for future student populations. Watch for future announcements and community meetings pertaining to this important endeavor.

I could go on, but I hope you get the point that a lot has gone on in our community this past year. In 2020, not only do I expect the progress to continue but I foresee challenges, as well, not only in our own community but city-wide. Concerns over inadequate police staffing; CPP rates and reliability; the level and quality of city services; public education; and, still the number of abandoned & condemned structures, will take a lot of our time and energy in this new year. However, you know my attitude by now, we never give up or give in Ward 8. We stay committed and focused. Join with us in this process.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention two large looming issues; City Council and the Census. The first should be the Reduction of City Council from the present seventeen (17) members to nine (9) along with a pay reduction. These issues should be on the March Primary, to be held on Tuesday, March 17th. Watch for future announcements on these issues which, if passed, will greatly impact the Ward 8 community, and the city, overall.

The 2020 CENSUS IS COMING!! April 1st is CENSUS DAY. The Census is mandated by the Constitution and impacts Congress-

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 Groveswood 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 Jesek Daley,
Councilman Polensek's office, (216) 664-4236

sional Representation and Federal funding to our local communities. Furthermore, it impacts the Ohio House of Representatives' districts and City of Cleveland Ward boundaries. Compliance with the Census is critical. When these forms come to your home in March – return them immediately, please. I cannot stress enough the importance of compliance with the Census.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! As always feel free to contact at my office at (216) 664-4236 or via email at mpolensek@clevelandcitycouncil.org.

Sincerely,
Michael D. Polensek

CHILI PEPPERS
FRESH MEXICAN GRILL

Chili peppers gives you a choice of over 30 fresh items to choose from to customize your dining experience
869 East 185th • 216.531.2300
Hours Monday - Saturday 11am - 10pm, Sunday 12pm - 8pm

Fresh Food Fast
No MSG
Vegetarian Friendly

COMMUNITY

Cleveland Chain Reaction Winners (continued from front page)



force and the work they do has a profound impact on our economy. Bringing this investment and these businesses into Collinwood will continue the momentum there and undoubtedly spur additional economic activity."

"We were proud to help these companies sharpen their investor pitches and secure these investments," added Lorne Novick, Senior Partner, Services & Deal Flow Management for JumpStart. "As they work to grow their businesses with support from our Chain Reaction partners, we look forward to the impact they will make in the Collinwood community."

Today, at Gatewood Work/Share, a neighborhood-based co-working collaborative on East 185th Street, the Cleveland Chain Reaction partners announced investments totaling nearly \$300,000 to the following Chain Reaction finalists:



The Cleveland Brewery- craft brewery producing a large variety of beverages including, wheat, Saisons, Triple IPAs, and Barrel Aged beers.

Consult 2 Code, LLC- a healthcare consulting company offering medical coding and billing services.
The Link Ltd.- a multi-disciplinary approach to healthcare, including Primary care, Chiropractic care, Physical Therapy, Massage Therapy, Yoga, Personal Training, and Health/Life Coaching services.
Maeve's All Natural- a plant based skin and body care line founded on the ideas of whole body preventative care, aromatherapy and herbal medicine.

Six Shooter Coffee- a small-batch, consciously roasted coffee roaster and café.
Sweet Bean- a small batch artisan chocolate company. They are also the first bean to bar chocolatier in Northeast Ohio.



As part of a new investment structure for the 2019 season, the Greater Cleveland Partnership and JumpStart each provided \$145,000 in an effort to improve the benefits for the winning small businesses and to ensure the businesses located in the host neighborhood. In addition, the partners also created a set a standard, flexible terms for all of the businesses receiving an investment.

"We are proud to be investing in the growth of these businesses and this neighborhood," said JumpStart Chief Inclusion and Outreach Officer Lamont Mackley. "And we are proud to be a partner with Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, COSE and Fox8 in Cleveland Chain Reaction."

"Providing this type of access to capital will catalyze these winning businesses and accelerate strategic development in the Collinwood neighborhood," said Yvette



Ittu, Executive Vice President at the Greater Cleveland Partnership.

Greater Collinwood Community Development Corporation was influential throughout the project and is currently working with all of the companies to identify, secure and/or expand their real estate presence within the neighborhood. Jamar Doyle, Executive Director, states, "Collinwood is well known for the eclectic and diverse businesses that call the community home, which this year's Chain Reaction results underscore. Of the six finalists, we are ecstatic that three existing and three new businesses are being supported. Also, 3 additional businesses were also helped through this season, bringing our total to 9 businesses and counting that will sustain the momentum that is driving our growth and attracting new investment."

#GivingTuesdayCLE at Beachland Ballroom Raised Over \$20,000 (continued from front page)



Joey, a resident at Koinonia Homes featured in the #GivingTuesdayCLE video, and his support team smile for the camera

connected with a local business that has been investing in Cleveland for decades," she explained.

Other Collinwood based organizations that participated in Giving Tuesday include the Neighborhood Pets Outreach and Resource Center, a nonprofit agency with a mission to provide affordable pet care to low-income residents to reduce shelter intake. "Thanks to specific interest and support from Cleveland City Councilman Anthony Hairston & Greater Collinwood Development Corporation we began working out of the Five Pointes Community Center every Saturday, as well as attending community-focused events on the east side. Donations collected through Giving Tuesday will help Neighborhood Pets continue servicing over 2,700 low-income Cleveland pet owners," said Becca

Britton, the program's Executive Director. The Collinwood Painted Rain Barrel Project, a conservation initiative that has received a list of accolades and awards registered with the campaign as well.

With the belief that we can do more together than we can do alone, WISH Cleveland is empowering Cleveland residents to "give local" in their communities. The "Do Good" carried a vibrant message amplifying that community change starts with us. With the support of students and staff at the Tri-C Mandel Scholars Academy, plans are underway to keep the good vibes going all year long through a #52TuesdaysCLE campaign launched on Tuesday, Dec. 31. To keep up with their weekly generosity challenges, visit wishcleveland.com or follow @wishcleveland on social media.



Good Hats still on sale at dogoodcle.org while supplies last



Neighborhood Pets Resource and Outreach Center, recently extended services to low-income pet owners in Collinwood



Stacie Riffert of Empowered Leadership with her daughter Morgan



Beachland Ballroom entrance



Pam Tuross, event co-chair, with News Channel 5 during the event

COMMUNITY

Nan's Notes



by Nan Kennedy

IN THIS ISSUE

AT THE BEACHLAND

Gene Schwartz Trio, The Tufted Puffins, Grateful Dead Revival Brunch with new menu! on Sunday, with DJ Ken Dixon.

AT POP LIFE: Two Ways to Get Grounded for 2020: PopLife (#PopLife) Last Mondays Chanting Chant (#Chant) Aquarian Age Sadhana Sadhana (#Sadhana) In the Juicery **AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD** Neighborhood (#Neighborhood) At Kumbaya and Lady Bug Kumbaya (#Kumbaya) Social-justice discussion series Intimate evening with Reggie Kelly

At The Market

Fruit, veg, cheese and cooking demos

Community Greenhouse Partners Interns

Playwrights Local Radio Plays

Heat them on SoundCloud:

Entanglement, A Historical Fantasy of Almost-Love and Almost-Loss, Art History and Entry-Level Quantum Physics Written by Les Hunter. Directed by Christine McBurney.

Every Play Is a Radio Play When You're Blind, Layers of privilege collide when a naive bridesmaid meets a semi-famous blind artist on a public bus. It's Julia's first time on the RTA and Jason offers to guide her across town. On the way, the unlikely pair discovers an unusual connection that is central to Jason's art and career, making Julia the perfect subject for his next book. Written by Meghan Louise Wagner. Directed by Constance Thackaberry. Recorded live at The 5th Annual Cleveland Playwrights Festival at the Creative Space at Waterloo Arts on October 12, 2019.

Flame Puppy, a Play for Voices, A beatnik finds peace through visions of a mythic turkey. A legless lout survives a ruthless drug dealer and rises to fame by manufacturing trailer hitchers. The origin of the human body is recounted by two friendly anthropologists. And to bring them all together – a house-sized puppy made entirely of flame. Written and directed by Mike Geither.

AT PRAXIS

Praxis Gallery: "Wild and Bloomin": work by Deb Berkebile, Joyce Jentoft and Sandy Shelenberger. "We are friends connected

by a desire to share our creativity. Our inspiration for this joint exhibit was the quote "to bloom where you are planted." We have used a variety of surface design techniques including batik, dye painting, experimental screen-printing processes and Shibori to give voice to our personal and collaborative expressions on fabric. We want this colorful exhibit to bloom and have vitality. Our goal is to inspire those who see our work to not only look more closely at our unique individual marks, but to discover the beauty and strength when our visions are interwoven."

Gallery hours: Wednesdays & Sundays from noon to 4pm or by appointment.

AT POP LIFE: Two Ways to Get Grounded for 2020

Last Mondays at Pop Life

If you're interested in chanting, mostly yogic, mantra, kirtan, devotional, etc., put Denys Morgan and Grant Marquit on your calendar. They have gotten the band back together, with their unique blend of workshop and practice of these forms. Join them from 7:30-8:45pm the LAST Monday of every month! Donations accepted but not required, ever. A great way to prepare for 2020, with improved vision, clarity, the end of a cycle.

Aquarian Age Sadhana

Pop Life will host two major workshops on the third Saturday in January. You can start the day at 5 am with a, a free three-hour sadhana workshop, which Pop Life describes as a personal spiritual effort shared with a group consciousness, through guided song, chanting, and meditation. The Aquarian Age will demand intuition, stamina (both physical and mental), self-awareness, and a new depth of spiritual experience that can hold our identity in the face of global changes, relentless competition, information overload, and ecological and environmental challenges.

The ritual will consist of recitation (Japa) of a sacred Sikh prayer, Japji Sahib (chanting the Naad), a Kundalini Kriya (exercise set), meditation & relaxation, followed by the 7 Mantras for The Aquarian Age (62 minutes of chanting sacred & powerful mantras). Yogi Tea and snacks will be shared afterward. Copies of Japji Sahib and mantras will be available.

For more info on "The Aquarian Age Sadhana" visit: <https://www.3ho.org/kundalini-yoga/sadhana/aquarian-sadhana>.

Learn more about "The Art of Wellness" at www.poplifeuniverse.com and @poplife-cle. Full-day Workshop on Goal Defining and Productivity

Join Side Project Sessions, Free Period Press and Pop Life to kickstart your 2020 with a special full-day workshop, 10 am – 5 pm.

Side Project Sessions is a regular monthly event series designed to help people put their labor of love – and themselves – first. Free Period Press is a Cleveland-based stationery company with products designed to help you slow (way, way) down, take care of yourself, and focus. Their representatives will lead a reflection and goal-refining workshop, and offer productivity tips. Pop Life will offer a special gentle movement time at lunch (bring your own, or order a catered detox lunch from Ritual Juicery which includes a Detox Salad (sweet potato falafel, cucumbers, kale, and beet tahini dressing) and a Detox organic cold-pressed juice (apple, kale and lemon). Please purchase the lunch ticket if you'd like this option.

What to expect:

- Insights into productivity and accountability
- Guidance on goal setting and planning for your project
- Resources to help you plan, prioritize and beat overwhelm
- Distraction-free work sessions to help you start, finish or make way on your project
- All-important breaks to rest, refresh and sustain your work
- The chance to meet and mingle with fellow attendees (without the pressure to share your work, or any forced networking exercises – eep!)
- And a Free Period Press workbook!

Complimentary bottomless coffee and light snacks to ensure you maintain your energy and focus throughout the day. Coffee drinks, juice, and smoothies will also be available to purchase from Ritual Juicery **What to bring:** Laptop, charger, headphones, notebooks, pens, pencils – anything you need for your project, tasks or work! Plus your lunch and/or money to spend at the incredible Ritual Juicery cafe or to purchase additional items from Free Period Press. Pop Life, 15619 Waterloo Road, FREE parking in the lot adjacent to the building.

In the Juicery

Cleanses for the new year. Raw brownies – gluten free, dairy free, sugar free – but chocolate makes up for everything. Bowls, salads, puddings.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

At Kumbaya and Lady Bug

If you're a social-justice warrior (like Mit-tie, who has many talents besides baking Friendship Bread) mark your calendar for a January-February discussion series: Tuesdays & Thursdays starting January 21, 6 – 8 p.m. These are based on The New York

Times 1619 Project; for more information, visit the Education page at www.restorativejusticeinstitute.org

And if you're more of a romantic soul, make time for An Intimate Evening with Jazz & NeoSoul Balladeer Reggie Kelly: Valentine's Day, Friday, February 14. For all these events, check with www.kumbayashore.com. Thursdays & Fridays, 2 - 7 p.m. Saturdays, Noon - 7 p.m. www.kumbayashore.com; 216.376.9692 ladybug@kumbayashore.com

AT THE MARKET

The Christmas greens have all been sold, Chandra's gluten-free cookie frenzy is over – but the market still has just what you need after all that holiday eating: plenty of vegetables. Also eggs and cheese, and pickles and jam ... and just a few cookies, cupcakes and brownies, to go with your Fair Trade coffee. Usually in stock in January:

Apples, Carrots, Beets, Broccoli, Turnips, Lettuce, Mixed greens, kale, collards, Mushrooms, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Onions, Cabbage, Spinach, Garlic, Cauliflower, Winter squash, Microgreens, Radishes.

Community Greenhouse Partners Is Looking For Interns

Community Greenhouse Partners (a big part of the Coit Road market) is a sustainable urban farm at E 67th and Superior in the St. Clair-Superior neighborhood. This will be their ninth season of growing food for neighborhoods that need it. Their interns care for the crops and day-to-day farm chores, doing such jobs as:

- Build and maintain raised garden beds and hoop houses.
- Plant seeds and starts.
- Water and care for plants, prune and weed beds.
- Feed and care for cats and chickens. (Interesting combination.)
- Work with volunteers and staff on farm projects
- Attend Farmers Markets and do Community Outreach.
- All interns are asked to take on a "special project"; previous examples:
- Building a new chicken coop
- Experimenting with increasing micro-green production
- Writing an "Interns Handbook."
- Developing an outreach program with a local school.

All that is required is a strong interest in urban agriculture and a willingness to get one's hands and feet dirty. Must be a junior, senior or recent college graduate. Agriculture-related degrees or specialties are preferred, but not required; ditto permaculture certification. A commitment to stay until at least September 2020 is preferred.

COMMUNITY

5th Annual Lake Erie Folk Fest a Great Event for Music Lovers



Award-winning bluegrass band Carolina Blue will headline the Saturday night concert, as well as offering master classes and educational performances.



Dance workshops help both beginners and lifelong fans get in on the action.

by Sarah Gyorki

The 5th annual Lake Erie Folk Fest will warm the halls of the Shore Cultural Centre in Euclid on Feb. 21 and 22. Since its successful launch in 2016, the traditional music and dance festival has brought stellar performers from near and far to teach and entertain attendees of all ages and backgrounds. Some of the range of offerings have included folk fusion from Winnipeg, Canada, with The Duhks; Appalachian fiddle and banjo originals from Richie and Rosie of Trumansburg, NY; the bilingual trio Ten Strings and a Goat Skin from Prince Edward Island; and awe-inspiring throat singing from Tuva by a band called Alash.

This year's festival will keep the bar high, featuring Carolina Blue, an award winning bluegrass band in the tradition of Bill Monroe that performs a repertoire of original songs, bluegrass favorites, and gos-

pel, all done in the traditional style. Their most recent Pinecastle Records release, I Hear Bluegrass Calling Me, debuted on Billboard's Top 5 Bluegrass Albums chart, and they were nominated in five categories at this year's International Bluegrass Music Awards. Young audiences will get a special opportunity to hear Carolina Blue when they kick off the festival with an educational program the morning of Feb 21, supporting LEFF's mission of bringing cultural opportunities to the community. Dedicated musicians can actually play with the band members on Friday evening, when Carolina Blue will host an exclusive Band Lab Master Class, offering serious students a unique opportunity to study fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar and bass with some of the best in the business. The rest of the public can get in on the act Saturday night, when Carolina Blue headlines the festival's impressive evening concert line-up.



Distinguished Gentlemen of the Spoken Word will be among the many talented performers at the Lake Erie Folk Fest.

Lake Erie Folk Fest

Friday, Feb. 21

10-10:45am. Schools program

For reservations, call:

Shore Cultural Centre at (216) 289-8578.

7-9pm: Band Lab Master Classes

For reservations, go to: www.lakeeriefolkfest.com/bluegrass-band-lab.

Saturday, Feb 22

1-6pm: Free workshops, performances, dances and more.

For information, go to: www.lakeeriefolkfest.com

7:30pm: Evening concert. For tickets, www.lakeeriefolkfest.com/tickets

As good as the headliner is, there's much more for visitors to Lake Erie Folk Fest to discover. Saturday, Feb. 22, will see Shore Cultural Centre jam-packed with musicians, music-lovers, dancers, writers and more checking out a full day of free workshops, jams, concerts and dances. Carolina Blue will appear on the festival's evening concert in the Shore Cultural Centre's historic auditorium starting at 7:30pm. The concert will also feature local legends Harmonia (Eastern European music); Luca Mundaca (Brazilian singer-songwriter); and The Distinguished Gentlemen of Spoken Word (urban performance poetry). Ticket information can be found at www.lakeeriefolkfest.com.

lakeeriefolkfest.com/tickets.

The Lake Erie Folk Fest is a program of the Northeast Ohio Musical Heritage Association, which also produces the Blue Sky Folk Festival in Willoughby, along with other traditional music events and programs throughout the year. It is presented at Shore Cultural Centre, which offers a wide variety of cultural and educational opportunities, which include classes, studio rental and performances. The festival attracts roots music lovers from Ohio, Pennsylvania and beyond, as well as residents from Euclid, Cleveland and surrounding communities. For more information, visit www.lakeeriefolkfest.com.



Architect: Herman Gibans Fodor, Inc. – Architects, Photography: Scott Pease Photography

Skilled Nursing • Rehabilitation • Private Rooms
Assisted Living • Respite • Long Term Care • Hospice

The **SloveneHome**
Skilled Care & Rehabilitation

216.486.0268
www.slovenehome.org

18621 Neff Road, Cleveland, OH 44119
Conveniently located off of I-90 & Route 2 @ Exit East 185th (182A)

GREAT SCOTT TAVERN

Party Room
For Rent
Call Gail !

**All You Can Eat Fish
Every Friday
Prime Rib Special
On Saturday
Specials Every Night !!**

**Tuesday - Thursday : 4:00pm - 10:00pm
Friday & Saturday : 4:00pm - 11:00pm
21801 Lakeshore Blvd. (216) 417-3019**

Party Room
For Rent
Call Gail !

Corrigan-Deighton Funeral Home
21900 EUCLID AVE.
EUCLID OHIO 44117
Call for Information
216-481-5277

Cremation Packages Staring at \$895.00
Visit us online at:
www.CorriganDeighton.com

INFIELD CHIROPRACTIC
www.infieldchiropracticclinic.com

ADJUSTING TECHNIQUES USED:

- *Palmer Package
- *Thompson Drops
- *Gonstead
- *Flexion –Distraction
- *Activator

THERAPIES:

- *Deep Soft Tissue Work
- *Individualized Active Care Plans
- *Electrical Stimulation
- *Ultrasound
- *Inter-segmental Traction

**Accepts Most Major Insurance* Cash
BWC * Personal Injury * Auto Accidents
Digital X-ray Free Consultations**

216-938-7889
www.infieldchiropracticclinic.com
22570 Lakeshore Blvd. Euclid

Just West of Atlas Cinema, Downtown Euclid
Member Euclid Chamber of Commerce

COMMUNITY

Programs, Events, and Activities at Collinwood Library

by Kiara Jefferson

PROGRAMS, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Collinwood Library
856 East 152nd St, Cleveland, OH 44110-216-623-6934
Manager, Caroline Peak
cpl-collwd@cpl.org

Manager's Note: The Branch would like to publically thank the Fifth District Police and their sponsors for their generosity in gifting some of our children with presents during their outreach activities in December. This added a special touch to our annual patron appreciation event and holiday party for the kids on Tuesday, December 17th.



Collinwood Neighborhood Catholic Ministries Dedicates New Little Free Library



Councilman Mike Polensek, Ward 8 and Councilman Anthony Hairston, Ward 10 dedicating the Little Free Library.

by Amy Eiben

On Saturday, December 7, 2019 CNCM (Collinwood Neighborhood Catholic Ministries) hosted their Annual Community Christmas Party at the Five Pointe Community Center. This collaborative event served more than 60 residents with lunch, visits with Santa, gifts, and take-a-ways.

Many thanks to Captain Keith Sulzer from the Community Policing Unit for donating children's toys and coats, Church of the Gesu for donating and wrapping gifts, and for decorating for us on their Annual Day of Service, NEORS (Northeast Ohio

Take a look at what else we've got coming up for you in January:

Youth Programs

Kid's Café Meal Program

In collaboration with the Cleveland Food Bank, Kids Café is being served! Monday – Friday -- 3:30pm-4:30pm

****During Winter Break we will be serving snack from 12:30-1:30p on the following days: Monday, December 23rd, Thursday, December 26th, Friday, December 27th, Monday, December 30th, Tuesday, December 31st, Thursday, January 2nd, & Friday, January 3rd****

Make a Giant Piano (Maker Lab)

Create a giant-sized floor piano that you play by stepping on.

Tuesday, January 14th – 4:00pm

Martin Luther King, Jr. Programs @ the Library

Celebrating Life of Martin Luther King Jr. through Service

Participants will have the opportunity to discuss and thank first responders for their service to the community. They will be encouraged to write letters or cards to people who perform civic and community service thanking them for their service.

Thursday, January 16th – 4:30pm
Cleveland Public Library 35th Annual Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.—
Keynote Speaker Dr. Akram Boutros, President and CEO—the Metro Health System.

January 20, 2010 1:00-pm John Hay Campus High School Auditorium 2075 Stokes Blvd. 44106. Call 216-623-2921 for more information

A Call to Men



Pastor Will Robinson

by Lillian J. Anderson

Pastor Will Robinson: "I believe that God has called men to be the Head of the household. To be the foundation for the family. I pray that this coming year men would assume the position that God intended them [to have] and to be responsible for raising their children--and those that are married being good husbands--faithful men to their families and most importantly to Go! That 2020 be a year of clear---laser vision. That men will see God's will for their lives and see themselves as God sees them. That they will be faithful to His call."

"I pray for men everywhere: free, incarcerated, old, young, black, white, strong, weak..May God have a blessing for them and I believe He does... and may they receive Him...in...deed."

"I've seen men rededicate themselves to the Lord...lost...and found and reconnected to God and...to their families...Repent and renew your walk with Him. Turn from sin and turn to God."

To contact Pastor Will Robinson: Believ-



Leaston Chase, Martial Arts Instructor

er's Bible Church, American Legion Post 343, 20750 Arbor Ave, Euclid, OH 44123, Phone: (216) 285 - 0122, james122.org.

"You have to love yourself first. Love your Mom, Dad, siblings and try to do the right thing. When you mess up take responsibility for it.

Fathers should tell their daughters what boys are about.

"I learned to take responsibility when I was real young. My mother raised me but she didn't baby me. When you do something wrong own up to it...accept the consequences of your actions...My Mom told me that if I acted up and got put in jail she would bring me cookies.

Be responsible. Try to stay on the right side of the law. Be disciplined. Learn to say, "No!". Once you learn how to respect yourself, you can learn how to respect others... Giving someone their space is a way of showing respect...if you love yourself your not gonna let somebody else mistreat you, abuse you."

Leaston Chase, Martial Arts Instructor

Speak Life

by Umeikia Whiting

Having faith when you can't see it, can only mean that you believe that whatever you're going through can be fixed. Sometimes in these types of situations you still have to encourage yourself as well as others. When I say "Speak Life" I mean speak life into those dead situations. Life can be hard on anybody at any time. It is in those times that we must communicate and share our feelings and issues that we are having in life. It's very important that we communicate with one another because we learn from each other's experiences and trials and tribulation. Only if we can stand

together when are going through the issues of life I honestly believe it wouldn't be that hard to get through. We've lost so many innocent lives over the years that it seems impossible to draw strength from anywhere. I speak from experience when I tell you the storm don't last forever but while you're in this storm we must speak life into these situations and help uplift other people who are less stronger and less unfortunate than us. So no matter what you're going through or if you see someone else going through please "Speak Life" into their situations as well as your own.



Church of the Gesu volunteers and board members, volunteers, and staff of CNCM.

Councilman Polensek, Councilman Hairston, and friends of CNCM at the event. We are excited to distribute over 3,000 books to residents in the New Year from our two LFLs. CNCM receives books from the Kids Book Bank and recently held a book drive in partnership with St. Gabriel's Church and St. Anslem School to provide books that represent the diversity of the neighborhood we serve.

CNCM also hosts Creative Painting Classes twice a year, is a partner in the IDCC (Identity Crisis Collaborative), and our Crochet Group works all year to donate

hats and scarves to children and blankets to those in need. We are pleased to announce we are partnering with The Cuyahoga EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit) Coalition and are hosting a FREE

TAX SITE at the Euclid Library starting in February 2020. To schedule an appointment, call the United Way's First Call for Help at 2-1-1 or visit refundohio.org.

CNCM is committed to being a presence of listening, learning, and responding to unmet needs in the Collinwood neighborhood.



St. John Nottingham Lutheran School exists to equip the children of the Greater Cleveland and surrounding area with integrity, creativity, academics, compassion, and spiritual maturity in a diverse, interconnected, and ever-changing world.

10 Reasons Why



SJN Students at the aquarium.

by David Peck

I've been at SJN for two decades now, first as a teacher, and now as Principal. I've seen the school go through many transformations, and I'm proud of where we are and where we are going. The most common question I get as Principal is "Why should we go to Nottingham?" Well, here we are: the Top Ten Reasons to Attend St. John Nottingham Lutheran School.

1. HISTORY. St John Nottingham is one of the oldest continually-operating parochial schools in Ohio, having opened in 1892 when the area wasn't even part of Cleveland. It was a small farming village named Nottingham. Over the last 120+ years, SJN



8th graders hard at work on a group project

has continued to be a central figure in the East Cleveland area, heavily involved in education, community service, and worship. Coming to SJN, you would be joining that long history.

2. FAITH. St. John Nottingham is, first and foremost, a school based on faith in Jesus Christ, His teachings, and the Word of God. Coming to SJN, you will be joining that faith community.

3. EXPERIENCE. St. John Nottingham may be traditional, but it's a tradition based on more than 12 decades of experience. More than half of the teaching staff at SJN have 20+ years of direct classroom experience. The Senior Pastor has been serving

SJN Student of the Month: Marie Gerald-Murray



by David Peck

Meet Marie Gerald-Murray, St. John Nottingham's Student of the Month!

Marie is a 5th grade honor Roll Student at St. John Nottingham Lutheran School and is not only the Student of the Month, but the top PBR earner for the entire school! (PBR's are "Positive Behavior Referrals"

given out by staff when students exemplify acts of kindness and the like.)

Marie's favorite subject is Science class because she likes to do experiments and that science can be used to solve world problems like finding a cure for cancer. Her favorite event at SJN are the quarterly FACT nights when all of the students, staff, and families get together to share a meal and see student work. Marie plans on going to Lutheran High School East of Villa Angela St. Joseph, and wants to be a game designer when she grows up.

Some of her favorite things to do are attending Christian Summer camps and taking swimming lessons, and she is very into arts and crafts like making costumes.

It's quality, Christian students like Marie that help to make SJN the place that it is. Congratulations on being the SJN Student of the Month!

SJN Students Lead Christmas Worship Service



by David Peck

On Thursday, December 19, the students of St. John Nottingham helped to lead a special Christmas worship service centered on Lessons and Carols. A packed Sanctuary joined in in praising and hearing the Word

the school for more than half a century. Coming to SJN, you will be benefitting from that experience.

4.DEDICATION. St. John Nottingham faculty and staff are some of the most dedicated and committed educators I have ever worked with. They consistently put in the extra mile to help every student and family that needs it. Coming to SJN, you will be on the receiving end of that dedication.

5. INNOVATION. St. John Nottingham is not stuck in the past, despite our long history. We are constantly seeking new and better ways of teaching, integrating technology, and assisting students with navigating the complex and at times bewildering social environment of school. Coming to SJN, you will be part of that continuous innovation.

6. FLEXIBILITY. St. John Nottingham, as an independent school of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, is not controlled by some far-off regulatory body. That means that parents get to speak directly with the people who make the final decisions, and issues and accommodations can be worked out quickly and efficiently. Coming to SJN, you will be a part of that local flexibility.

7. ACCREDITATION. St. John Nottingham is fully accredited by the National Lutheran Schools Association, an accrediting body recognized by the State of Ohio

as exceeding the actual requirements of the State to operate a school. Coming to SJN, you will enjoy that increased academic rigor.

8. OPPORTUNITIES. St. John Nottingham offers many, ever-changing opportunities for our students. Some, like our championship basketball and volleyball teams, are offered every year, and others are offered as student interest indicates, from chimes choir to Latin clubs, hobby clubs, academic competitions, and more. SJN uses its flexibility to offer what students want, not just what we think they want. Coming to SJN, you will have the opportunity to help shape these opportunities.

9. INVOLVEMENT. St. John Nottingham encourages parents and families to become as involved as possible with the school and worship. Many of our coaches and support personnel are drawn from parents and families. But SJN also knows that many families are very busy, so we do not require extensive involvement. We just encourage it! Coming to SJN, you will be able to be as involved in the school as you have time for.

10. JESUS CHRIST. It always comes down to this St. John Nottingham is a place where our Lord and Savior is ALWAYS first and foremost. Coming to SJN, you will be joining that Christ-centered community.

Principal's Corner

by David Peck

What would New Year's Day be like in Heaven? Would there even be one? Now, the Bible says in Revelation 21:23 that "[Heaven] does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp." So I guess there won't be a New Year's "day" at all. No sun; no day, no year. But in Isaiah 65: 17-20, the prophet talks about how in the new creation being a century old won't be that old at all, so maybe years in Heaven are a thing after all.

One of my favorite hymns, "Amazing Grace," talks about how, after singing His praises for 10,000 years, we will still have as many years to go as we did when we started, so time in Heaven again doesn't really seem to be a thing, but time here on Earth? That's a thing of which we never have enough.

New Year's Day is a good time to stop and think about that time. The time we have here as well as the time we will have in Heaven. We can be assured that God will bless us in the coming year, even if the thought of the coming year is causing us stress and worry. I try to live my life by Philipians 4:6 at this time of year: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with

thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Probably the hardest thing to do, right there. To let go of anxiety and worry and pray. January is the best time to get back into this habit.

Many passages promise us blessings for our obedience to God (Psalm 5:12, 112:2). Many more promise us blessings for our trust in Him (Psalm 34:10, Jeremiah 17:7), for our faithful prayer (Matthew 7:7-11, Ephesians 3:20), and even for our suffering (Job 23:10, Romans 8:28). Our blessings are assured.

So in this coming year we can set aside the stress and worry. We have our Lord's permission to set it aside and place it on His shoulders. I counsel this almost every day to students and even staff: let God take this one; you don't have to. It is human nature (and very much my nature) to try to assume all the burdens, all the time. To take on the weight of the coming year at 12:01 AM on January 1st. Even for other people (one of the hardest lessons I ever learned in life is that you just can't make New Year's resolutions for other people, no matter how much they may need it....). The ball drops, the glasses clink, and the panic starts.

This year? This year let's put all of that on God. He has our backs.

of God presented by the students and Senior Pastor Marci.

Students sang in German, Latin, and even sign language as the service brought the focus of the season solidly on to our Lord and Savior. The very rafters shook

during the final song and we couldn't be more pleased with the faith shown by the students and their families!

St. John Nottingham wishes each and every person reading this a joyous New Year! Blessings!

EDUCATING FOR ETERNITY | 1027 E 176th St, Cleveland, OH 44119
Church: (216) 531-1156 | School: (216) 531-8204 | stjohnnottingham.org

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School

Faith. Family. Future.

VASJ hosts annual Christmas on Campus event

by Kristen Mott '09

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School welcomed 82 local first-grade students on Tuesday, Dec. 10 for the school's annual Christmas on Campus event.

The children enjoyed a variety of holiday-themed activities, including cookie decorating, ornament making, Christmas games and a "snowball" fight. The first-grade students, who came from Our Lady of the Lake, St. Jerome, St. John Nottingham Lutheran and St. Aloysius, also got to take photos with Santa Claus.

Christmas on Campus is a long-standing tradition at VASJ. During the event, VASJ seniors are paired with a first-grade "buddy."

"I felt like I provided structure and confidence for the kids. I loved running the craft room!" said VASJ senior Sarah Carroll.

This year's event was made extra special thanks to the generous support of students, parents and alumni who donated Christmas stockings filled with small toys, candy, hats and mittens, and school supplies. Each VASJ senior was able to select a Christmas stocking to give to his or her buddy.

"I believe my service made a difference by putting a smile on the kids' faces, especially when they got their stockings," said VASJ senior Deonte Warren.

VASJ senior Henry Spear added, "My kid had a great time. He kept saying he wished he was in my family, which was sweet. ... It was nice to see how grateful he was when getting a stocking."

Thank you to the VASJ Campus Ministry department for coordinating this year's event!



VASJ exceeds #WeGiveCatholic goal

by Kristen Mott '09

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School exceeded its goal of raising \$10,000 during #WeGiveCatholic on Tuesday, Dec. 3.

A total of 89 donors gave more than \$12,000 on Giving Tuesday. The money raised will go toward renovating the VASJ Martyrs Chapel, a quiet, reflective space on campus for students, faculty and staff. The chapel was built in the early 1970s to hold morning Mass. Originally named after the four churchwomen who died in El Salvador, including Ursuline Sr. Dorothy Kazel, the chapel has since come to recognize others in the Marianist and Ursuline traditions who have died as witnesses to their faith. Renovations will include updating the look and feel of the chapel and turning it into a more welcoming, prayerful space.

"We are all thankful for the generosity and support shown to our students during #WeGiveCatholic," said Bill Cervenik '72, VASJ president. "Thanks to everyone's generosity, our students



will soon have a chapel where they can engage in personal prayer and reflect on their faith."

#WeGiveCatholic is an annual one-day giving event that provides Catholic schools, parishes, charities, special ministries and nonprofits affiliated with the Diocese of Cleveland the opportunity to connect with current donors and establish relationships with new ones.

"It is heartwarming to see the support the Viking community has shown to our students," Cervenik added. "We have exceeded our goal and are anxious to begin the long-awaited renovations to the Martyrs Chapel. Thanks to all and enjoy a blessed Christmas season."

Thank you for your outpouring of support!

VASJ is a *faith-based* educational *community* that accepts you for *who you are* and helps you become the *person you want to be.*

Open House:
March 12, 2020, 6 p.m.

VASJ.COM/ADMISSIONS

VILLA ANGELA-ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL
18491 Lakeshore Boulevard / Cleveland, OH 44119 / 216-481-8414 / vasj.com

Catholic education in the Ursuline and Marianist traditions

Join the Discussion at: www.collinwoodobserver.com



Faith | Academics | Community

OLL Open House Sunday, January 26th Ushers in Catholic Schools Week



Students with STEM teacher.

by Bev Caldwell

All are welcome to tour OLL School and learn more about Quality Catholic Education at an Open House held on Sunday, January 16th from 11am to 1pm. Visitors are encouraged to tour the school, sign up for a shadow day, and inquire about scholarships that can help parents get the best education for their child.

OLL Student ambassadors will greet

visitors and guide them to classrooms where teachers will provide insight into the quality academic curriculum that OLL provides, with student work that reflects the technology and enrichment classes offered at OLL.

In addition to OLL's award winning curriculum, OLL's is proud of the supportive faith community of caring teachers, involved families and active



OLL PTO greeting visitors.

PTO that helps children to learn in a positive and nurturing environment.

Catholic Schools Week is Sunday, January 26th through February 1st. OLL kicks off Catholic Schools Week with a public Open House and continues through the week celebrating in the school with various fun activities and events. Mrs. Jenny Millett, principal of OLL School, highlighted some of the week's special

events including "One Book, One School" activities, a Cleveland Cavalier's Assembly, Spelling and Geography Bees, an All-School Mass and an Ecumenical Prayer Service.

For inquiries about the Open House or to schedule a Tour of the School, please call 216-481-6824 or email Mrs. Jenny Millett, principal, at jmillett@olleuclid.org.

Night At the Races Event Saturday, February 1st Supports OLL School



by Bev Caldwell

Life on the Lake presents the annual fundraiser Night at the Races on Saturday, February 1st, 2020. Tickets are still available (\$55) for a most enjoyable evening of Races and Raffles at the Irish American Club from 5:30 until 11:30pm. All are welcome to enjoy a fabulous evening for a good cause.

This favorite annual event combines great food, refreshments and company with a full evening of entertainment that

includes races, raffles and an incredible array of prizes from spas to sporting events.

Proceeds from this largest yearly fundraiser directly benefit OLL School Students, as past proceeds have afforded the latest technology in every classroom.

Join neighbors and meet new friends at this festive event on Saturday, February 1st. For tickets, please call 216-481-6824 or email Lauren Zbiegien at lzbiegien@olleuclid.org or Ann Kilroy at kilroy2012@roadrunner.com.



An Annual Tradition - Christmas Mass Selfies



by Bev Caldwell

This year, at Christmas Masses, parishioners were asked to take a selfie of themselves with their families. Willingly, folks took out their phones and snapped a couple of pictures with their families - everyone smiling - and enjoying what is becoming an annual tradition at OLL.

The Christmas selfie, prompted by Fr. Joe's invitation, once again helps to capture a special collective memory of parish family, as hundreds of smiling faces are put into a beautiful Christmas Album that will be treasured for years to come. These individual family photos help to create a wonderful tapestry of our 2019 Christmas.



Join the Discussion at: www.collinwoodobserver.com



St. Jerome Church

The Beacon on the Boulevard
Collinwood's Catholic School

15000 Lake Shore Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44110



Tradition Continues!



Little Casey, Addie and Cooper heard all about baby Jesus from their mom's Bridget and Molly who posed for Christmas pictures with their mothers here when they were little.

by Adele Markert

The traditions of Christmas have been passed down from each generation to the next and this is true at St. Jerome. We are especially reminded of this at Christmas as families gather to celebrate the day and honor those traditions and memories, while at the same time creating new ones.



Several generations of the Prendergasts gathered at St. Jerome to celebrate faith and family.



Josephina had the very important job of carrying baby Jesus to the manger. She did a wonderful job!

We are so Blessed!!



The ladies of the St. Jerome Altar & Rosary Society add so much to the life of the church! They regularly pray the Rosary together as well as providing the hosts and wine for Mass and maintaining the altar cloths. Every year during Lent they sponsor special events and services. Members raise funds for all of this through bake sales and by selling wonderful frozen strudel! This year they again got together at Shorby Club in Bratenahl to enjoy each others company.



Little Casey, Addie and Cooper heard all about baby Jesus from their mom's Bridget and Molly who posed for Christmas pictures with their mothers here when they were little.

by Adele Markert

As we begin our second hundred years, we wish to recognize and thank some of the people who keep St. Jerome moving forward. Two groups especially form the core of our community and do so very much behind the

scenes to keep St. Jerome thriving. They are the St. Jerome Holy Name Society and St. Jerome Altar & Rosary Society. Their members are such a huge part of the community, the family of St. Jerome, that is the heart of our Parish.

Treat Your Valentine and Try Your Luck!



Who will be the big winner this year? Maybe you?

by Adele Markert

Our 2019 St. Jerome School Reverse Raffle will be held at Tizzano's Party Center on Friday, February 14th at 6pm. Always a fun event, this year's raffle offers a grand prize of \$2,500 along with side boards, an amazing basket raffle, and a delicious dinner. Get your tickets now by calling the school office at (216) 486-3587 or the church office at (216) 481-8200.



It was standing room only at the annual Christmas program.



The students put on a wonderful show for their families and friends.

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

Join the Discussion at: www.collinwoodobserver.com



Leaders of the Month



Congratulations to our Imagine Bella student leaders!

The following students were chosen by their peers as leaders of the month along with Journe Brandon, Niy'La Bagley, Nadya Walker, Ariyonna Davis, Raymond Bacchus, Janiyah

Lash, and Javon Prescott. The character trait for the month of November was generosity. Congratulations to all of our winners!!!

Holiday Celebrations



Ms. Shoemaker's class got a copy of The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats to enjoy over break!



Kindergarten Pajama Movie Party!



Mrs. Nie's room is building gingerbread houses!

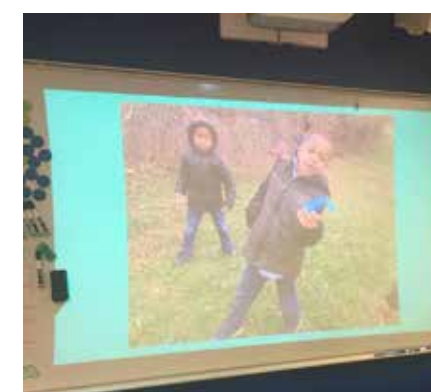


Gingerbread house fun in Ms. Eucker's room! Yum!

Check out some photos from classroom celebrations on the last day before break!

Season of Service

Each classroom completed projects to support their community during the Season of Service at Imagine Bella. See a few photos of projects classrooms were working on with their class.



Kindergarten slideshow of their project cleaning up our park!



2nd graders made cards and care packages for firefighters!

Field Trips and Visitors



Kindergarten had a great time at the aquarium!



Mrs. Jenkins and her class all smiles from the aquarium!



RealEyes visits Ms. Hoy's room to help students learn about their eyes.



RealEyes meets with the 2nd graders and has some students help out in the presentation.

In December, more classes went to the Aquarium and we had presenters visit the school from RealEyes. Check out these photos!

PTO Holiday Helpers



Students stop to help with tree setup



Thank you PTO for help with our Giving Tree this year!

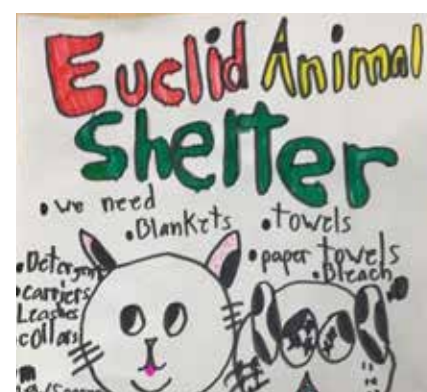


Mystery presents and our giving tree for December.

Thank you to the PTO for helping us decorate the halls for the month of December! We even had some students show off their tree setup skills. Teachers brought in presents for the return of the Mystery Gift Raffle. Thank you to all the families who donated and helped wrap presents for our giving tree. Hope all the students, families, and teachers of Imagine Bella had a great winter break!



6th grade made placemats for residents at a local nursing home!



4th grade collecting donations for the Euclid Animal Shelter!

Join the Discussion at: www.collinwoodobserver.com

COMMUNITY

St. Jerome Annual Christmas Program



by Anna Keller

On Thursday, December 19th, the students at St. Jerome performed their annual Christmas Program for their families, friends, and the St. Jerome community. This year's theme was "Walk in the Light", and it was a great reminder to have faith and spread love during the Christmas season. The show consisted of a variety of Christmas songs and the students told the story of the birth of Jesus Christ. With the help of our music teacher, Harmon Hill, each grade was able to put together and

perform a song of their own, while the 6th grade class was responsible for the narration. The students and teachers work very hard to put this show together and begin practicing well before the program date. This program is something the St. Jerome community looks forward to each year, and this year was no exception as the students spread joy and Christmas cheer before starting off their holiday break. It was a wonderful show and we are already looking forward to next year!



Cleveland should consider opting out of the plastic bag ban



Where can apartment residents recycle their plastics?

by Jeanne Coppola

Cleveland should consider opting out of the plastic bag ban, initiated by Sunny Simon and Dale Miller of Cuyahoga County Council, because Simon and Miller have not proven that the majority of plastic pollution in Lake Erie is predominately from plastic bags.

I am concerned about the environment, and re-use and recycle my plastic bags, but I do not believe the plastic bag ban has been presented clearly and correctly to the public, and that there are other more serious sources of plastic pollution that are being ignored.

Cuyahoga Council has not shown that there is a plastic bag problem in Cleveland or Lake Erie. Plastic bottles are more of a problem, as any beach clean-up can attest to. Lots of plastic pollution in Lake Erie also comes from boaters who throw garbage into the lake, and from micro plastics and "waste water treatment plants, storm water, and agricultural run-off." "Tons of plastic trash enter the Great Lakes every year-where does it go?" (21, Aug. 2018), <https://theconversation.com/>

Other more serious pollution problems caused from agricultural run-off and raw sewage overflow are the dead zones that are forming in Lake Erie.

The majority of plastic bag pollution is in the oceans, because garbage is dumped there. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, "a collection of plastic, floating trash halfway between Hawaii and California, has grown to more than 600,000 square miles, a study found." Dole Rice. "Pacific Garbage Patch, Largest Collection of Ocean Trash, Grows." (28 Dec. 2018), <https://www.usatoday.com/>

Since Simon and Miller are concerned about plastic pollution in Lake Erie, why are they ignoring other plastic pollution problems, including: milk jugs, pop bottles, water bottles, bottle caps, yogurt containers, straws, plastic cutlery, micro beads from personal care products, synthetic fibers that come off in the wash, agricultural runoff from farming, and Styrofoam.

Why isn't the County implementing a major recycling information program, and providing more recycling centers and requiring cities to give recycling containers to apartment buildings? Cities only provide recycling containers for curb side pick-up to private homes, but not apartments. I live in an apartment and cannot recycle my plastics, paper, cans, or cardboard.

Another problem with the plastic bag ban is how much revenue the ban will provide to the County. According to the Cuyahoga County Council Ordinance No. O222019-0005 banning plastic bags, the County's Department of Consumer Affairs will enforce this ban, and give "a written warning for the first violation, a civil fine of up to \$100 for a second violation, and a civil fine of up to \$500 for each subsequent violation." Each day a violation occurs would be considered a separate violation. <http://council.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/2019-Ordinances.aspx>

Who will pay for enforcing this ban throughout all the retail establishments in Cuyahoga County? Is an anticipated monetary gain expected from multiple viola-

tions? Is there a hidden agenda?

Retail establishments should provide plastic bags as a convenience. Plastic bags can be recycled into many useful products, like plastic lumber; to make lawn furniture, park benches, and children's playground equipment! People re-use plastic bags for garbage, baby diapers, and dog poop and also recycle them at store locations, such as: Dave's, Giant Eagle and Marc's, which have recycling bins.

If customers have to purchase sturdy reusable plastic bags, it will defeat the purpose by using more plastic, money and energy to produce these bags. A better option would be to provide compostable bags.

Reusable bags have to be washed between each use, or the bags will be unsanitary for food purchases. Used bags will contaminate the counter for the next customer. It will slow up the line, and cause delays. Each grocery store will have to install a separate bagging station.

Paper bags leak and will cause trees to be

cut down and will increase global warming.

Although I am not in favor of banning plastic bags, I believe each city in Cuyahoga County should have the right to pass their own laws on this matter, individually. The Ohio House Bill 242, and the Ohio Senate Bill 222, both seek to pass a law to stop cities and counties from passing plastic bag bans; and this would deny each city and county of their right to home rule.

Instead of banning plastic bags, Cuyahoga County Council should focus on all the other plastic pollution problems. They should focus on the pollution from agricultural runoff and litter. They should require cities to provide recycling containers for curb-side pickup to apartment buildings, not just private homes, and have recycling containers in all schools (for glass, metal, plastic and paper), for students and local residences, and educate the public about how and where to recycle.

McBiLL'S Beverages



Wine tasting every
Friday from 4-7pm

10% off import wines
on Mondays till
December 31st 2019

1015 East 185th 216.531.1299

Hunger Center Provides Toys for Hundreds of Children



Steeler's Fan and Center Coordinator Mella Young

by Rev. Ron Rollins

Fresh off of their special Thanksgiving and Christmas meal ministry, providing hundreds of roast chickens and even turkeys to needy families, the Hunger Center focused on its Annual Toy Give-Away hosted by St. John Nottingham Church. The church's Fellowship Hall was filled with toys, games, projects, hats, scarves, mittens and more.. hundreds and hundreds of gifts to help bring a little more Christmas joy to parents who may not have been able to give a gift to their children.

"We are so very happy to continue to provide this needed ministry to the people in the community that we serve," says Mella Young, Hunger Center Coordinator. "Through our incredibly generous donors, we are able to get quite a spread of gifts from babies to teens. We have volunteers that take the parents around the different tables, depending on the age of their chil-



Angel Candle sets the Candlelight Worship theme

dren, and 'stock up'. We even have tables for gift wrapping should they like to leave with the presents ready-to-go."

According to Senior Pastor Dr. Walther Marcis this is a very special ministry which reflects the love of Christ. "Our Lord, Jesus Christ, came not to be served, but to serve. We've been a part of this ministry for a very long time and I am still moved by the joy I see in people's faces in receiving these gifts to bring home to their children. Serving the community through our work and involvement in the Hunger Center and hosting special events such as these for the benefit of those in need is very special to St. John and to me."

Funding of the Hunger Center is provided exclusively through donations which may be made directly by mail to SJN Church or through the SJN website under the "Giving" tab at www.stjohnnottingham.org

Christmas by Candlelight



Angel Candle sets the Candlelight Worship theme

by Rev. Ron Rollins

A partially-darkened sanctuary illuminated by candlelight, Christmas carols echoing in the nave, the sharing of the Christmas story from the pastors, choir music lifted up, the message of salvation announced at the coming of the Savior of the world, culminating in the room darkened as the people hold their individual candles while singing 'Silent Night'. This is the tradition of St. John Nottingham and this year was no exception with scores of people attending its Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service.

Recher Slovenian Home
20713 Recher Avenue, Euclid
Hall Rental call 216-531-9309

Kitchen is open on Wednesday and Friday in the "Clubroom"
Regular Menu on Wednesday and Fish Fries are on Friday.
Hours for food 5:00 - 9:00pm

COMMUNITY

Fat Cats Brings a Holiday Meal to Remember to Hospice Families



The culinary team at Fat Cats served a delicious holiday meal to residents and family members at David Simpson Hospice House.

by Laurie Henriksen

Once each month, Meal to Remember brings a different Cleveland-area restaurant to Hospice of the Western Reserve's in-patient care center, David Simpson Hospice House on E. 185th St. Residents of the hospice house and their families are treated to a restaurant dining experience, complete with fine china and linens, wine and live musical entertainment. All of the food, time and talent are donated by the restaurant. Photography, centerpieces and live musical entertainment for the dinners are provided by Hospice of the Western Reserve volunteers, who also assist the culinary teams with serving.

This month, Fat Cats owner/chef, Ricardo Sandoval, business partner Jack Anfang and the Meal to Remember team hosted a special holiday season Meal to Remember. The dinner was accompanied by perfect wine pairings chosen by Bridget Assing Marok and provided by Scoperta Importing.

"Fat Cats has returned several times to prepare and serve a Meal to Remember for

our patients and families," said Bill Finn, President and CEO. "We are incredibly grateful to Chef Sandoval and the Fat Cats culinary team for their generosity. There is no greater gift to give to these families than more time to spend with their loved ones. The simple act of gathering around the table together for conversation and a fine dining experience is an experience most of them have not had for months. It is so meaningful - especially during this holiday season."

Fat Cats, one of the pioneering restaurants in Cleveland's trendy Tremont neighborhood, has been described by one food writer as a "Modern American Melting Pot" with a menu that draws from a variety of influences, including Asian, European and North and South American cuisines. The restaurant was named to the Plain Dealer/Cleveland.com's "Cool Places to Eat A-List" as one of the city's best restaurants.

Interested in having your restaurant participate in the Meal to Remember program? Contact Lori Scotese at iscotese@hospicewr.org, 216.287.8193.

Goings On at Recher Slovenian Home

Recher Slovenian Home

20713 Recher Avenue, Euclid

Kitchen is open on Wednesday and Friday in the "Clubroom" - Regular Menu on Wednesday and Fish Fries are on Friday. Hours for food 5:00 - 9:00pm. Music from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Cover Charge for music will be \$5.00

Band Schedule as follows:

01/03 - Rodick the III and Lynn Marie

01/10 - Al Bucco - Italian Night

01/17 - Patty C and the Guys

01/24 - Rodick and Friends

01/31 - TBA

Sundays in the "Lower Hall" - Music from 3:00 - 6:00pm (\$12.00 cover charge)

01/05 - Bob Kravos

01/18 Comedy Showcase Benefit - Raise the Roof II Comedians will be in the lower hall and tickets are \$15.00 or 8 at a table for \$100.00. Drinks and light food will be available so just bring your laugh. Call clubroom at 216-531-8348 for any information

Hall's are available for rental: weddings, funerals, meetings, kitchen rental, etc.

Call for rentals at 216-531-9309

OVERSPEND THIS HOLIDAY SEASON?

TRANSFER YOUR HOLIDAY DEBT TO AN EATON FAMILY CREDIT UNION VISA CREDIT CARD



- Low fixed rates.
- No balance transfer fees.

Call 216-920-2000 to speak with a Member Service Representative



*Subject to credit approval based on each Member's credit quality. Rates are subject to change without notice.

Savings | Checking | Loans | Mortgages | Business Lending



Drivers and Drivers Aides Wanted

- Part Time
- Must be at least 25 years or older.
- Must have a valid Ohio Driver’s License.
- Must be able to pass a physical and drug screen.
- Must be able to pass a FBI and BCI check.
- Must have experience with children.

(In this position you will be working with children of all ages with special needs)

Stop in the office between 9am-3pm to fill out applications at 36475 Reading Ave. Willoughby, OH 44094

Daugherty Construction Inc.

Serving Northeast Ohio's Roofing, Siding, Window and Construction needs since 1978



Call us today for a Free Estimate!
216-731-9444 / (fax) 216-731-9644

We are a proud member of:



22460 LAKELAND BLVD. EUCLID OH 44132
DAUGHERTY@DAUGHERTYCONST.COM WWW.DAUGHERTYCONST.COM

Fresh Local Food
In Your Neighborhood

COIT ROAD FARMERS MARKET

Healthy Produce
Healthy People
Healthy Connections



**OPEN SATURDAYS YEAR ROUND
8:00AM TO 1:00PM**

216-249-5455 www.coitmarket.org 15000 Woodworth Rd near East 152nd and Noble

Family Sports

A Business Built on Service since 1982!

Steve@familysport.us
216-481-4754
752 E.185th st
Cleveland OH 44119

In a Bind Call Us! Embroidery -
Screen Printing - Custom Lettering -
Teams & Churches - Jerseys & Patches
- School Wearables - Signs & Banners
- Varsity Coats & Sweaters

Jay Dee Cleaners

878 E. 222nd Street Euclid OH 44123
216-731-7060
Mon-Fri 7:00am – 6:30pm Saturday 8:00 – 5:00
We offer pick-up and delivery service.
Send us your E-mail at jaydeecleaners@aol.com for monthly specials like this one.
Or...visit our website at WWW.JAYDEECLEANERS.COM

\$5 off your next Dry Cleaning Order!
Clean out your closets! Bring it All!
Present this offer with your next INCOMING order.
Limit 1 Coupon per Customer. Cannot be combined with other offers.
This offer valid thru January 2020. Void if copied or altered.



Fresh Cut Landscaping

- * Cutting * Edging * Weeding * Blowing *
- * Mulching * Fertilizing * Reseeding *
- * Bed Cultivation * Tree and Shrub Care *
- * Light Hauling * Top Soil * Sod Lawn *

For Info Call Greg
216.376.8485
Senior Citizen Discounts

