

## Mmm-- Slices Fabulous Pastries

by **Donn Heckelmoser**  
dohnh@oldbrooklyn.com

Slices Fabulous Pastries is the brainchild of Efty R. Simakis, lifelong Old Brooklyn resident. It's located at 4190 Pearl Road, in the heart of Old Brooklyn's downtown commercial district.

cake and took it to his wife and child in France so that they could taste what he called a "real cheesecake".

Currently, Efty's sister, Sophia, is one of the five women helping her bake and decorate the cakes. Two of Efty's other employees have been with her for over eighteen years.

Efty lives right around the corner from



Photo by George Shuba

**Efty Simakis, Old Brooklyn resident and owner of Slices Fabulous Pastries, 4190 Pearl Rd.**

Slices Pastries started back in 1993, right in Efty's home kitchen. All her family and friends said she made the best desserts they had ever tasted. At the time, Efty's brother-in-law Mike Loizos and his family owned the Glenn Restaurant (formerly located on the Pearl Rd. and Memphis Ave. corner where CVS Pharmacy stands today). So Efty's first commercial venture was baking her delicious cream pies for their restaurant.

At first, Efty started baking a couple pies a day, but it wasn't long before the fast-growing business demanded its own separate baking facility. With the help of her brother-in-law Mike Loizos, Efty obtained a small-business loan and opened Slices Fabulous Pastries on W. 47th St. and Memphis Ave. with her sister, Sophia. After a short while, Sophia left to help her husband at the Glenn Restaurant, and Efty became the sole proprietor.

Her first storefront was less than 800 square feet, and Efty baked a smaller variety of desserts than she does today. The mainstay of her business, though, was the same as it is today -- wholesaling to restaurants, delis and coffee shops. Some of her earliest customers included the Jigsaw Saloon and Mr. Z's.

After about a decade on Memphis Ave., Slices moved to its current location on Pearl Rd. At the time, Efty's brother, former Ward 15 Councilman Jim Rokakis, owned the building. Today, Efty owns the building, and supplies over 70 establishments with her baked goods (one as far away as Sandusky, which further transports some of it to Port Clinton!).

Efty started Slices because she loves baking, and felt that she had a gift for it. She has since developed her passion into a business that is known for high-quality ingredients and attention to detail. Even with rising costs, Efty will not sacrifice quality to save money; she sticks with what tastes good, and keeps the recipes the same.

Efty has repeatedly entered the Art Therapy Studios baking competition. The competition is always stiff, including such participants as the Renaissance Hotel, the Ritz Carlton and even Lola's. Over the years, Efty has won two first-place and two third-place prizes.

Efty shared a story about a man who loved her raspberry cheesecake so much that after he tried one for the first time, he found out that Slices had baked it, then ordered a

her shop, in the oldest house in Old Brooklyn (built by Jeremiah Gates circa 1820. Her husband, George Simakis, is a semi-retired attorney whose office is next door to Slices. Their two sons, Konstantine (Dean) and Dimitri are currently grown and living in California, but when they were younger and at home, Efty quipped that they were great taste-testers! They also helped deliver the cakes (and still do when they are back in town).

Anyone wishing to simplify holiday entertaining can do so by ordering one of Slices' twenty-plus varieties of cheese cakes, including apple caramel, mocha chocolate chip and peach schnapps, and/or over ten varieties of specialty cakes, including black forest rhapsody torte and tiramisu.

Because Efty's cakes are made to order and decorated fresh for pickup, they must be ordered in advance. Dial 216-398-0002 to reach Slices' 24-hour voicemail service. Slices requests that you give them at least 24 hours notice.

Wholesale buyers who would like delivery are obliged to place a minimum order, but single cakes are available on a pick-up basis. Slices does not have space for customers to eat there. For more information about Slices, visit their new website, [www.slicespastries.com](http://www.slicespastries.com).

(Lynette Filips contributed to this article.)



Old Brooklyn native William Scheele painted this acrylic on canvas rendition of cardinals when he was the director of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Read his story on page 8.

## Handcrafted snowflakes brighten poles, windows

by **Amy Craft**

**Executive Director of Art House**

Storefront windows decorated by school children are no longer an activity of previous generations or limited to

Halloween. Thanks to collaboration between several Old

Brooklyn business owners and Tom Collins from the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC), 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students from Constellation's Old Brooklyn Community School (OBCS) worked with Art House staff last month to decorate Old Brooklyn's central commercial district -- Pearl Rd., Broadview Rd. and Memphis Ave. -- for Christmas.

The partnership evolved because numerous neighborhood professional/business people having been meeting once a month for breakfast at Dee's Diner to brainstorm about the neighborhood's commercial development. Their goal for this project was the aesthetic unification of the windows of businesses in "downtown" Old Brooklyn during this holiday season -- increasing shopping traffic during the holidays and beautifying the area.

Several months ago, Don Workman from Ameriflag, Inc., John Young from Speed Exterminating, and OBCDC's Tom Collins had approached Art

House to discuss ways the downtown businesses could partner and use art in the empty storefronts. Many lengthy discussions and numerous ideas later, the partners settled on showcasing the work of young artists from the neighborhood. They agreed upon a snowflake theme

in varying shades of blue and white.

Cherie Kasier, principal from OBCS's elementary school,

and Amy Mobley, principal of OBCS's middle school, worked with Art House to

arrange the school visits. The participating teachers rearranged schedules to allow the collaboration to take place.

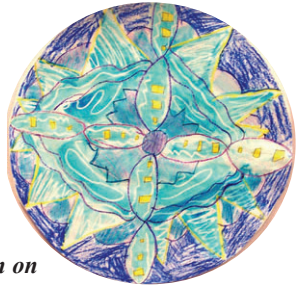
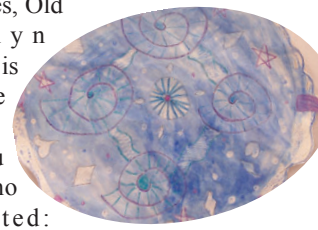
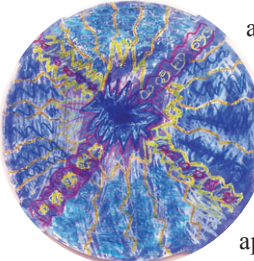
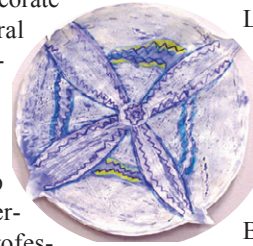
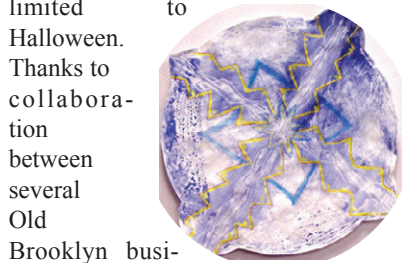
Great fun was had by all! Ms. Allen's and Ms. Almady's 5th grade students made banners for the utility poles; Mrs. Turner's and Ms. Yeager's 4th grade students made paper maché snowflakes for windows; and Mrs. Lewis' and Mrs. Race's 3rd grade students made 3-D snowflakes for windows. The students finished their work with glitter, sequins, pipe cleaners and/or other festive appliques.

Through the participation of numerous businesses, Old

Brooklyn downtown is a little brighter! Thank you to all who participated:

Ameriflag, Inc.; Charter One Bank; Deaconess-Krafft Center; Deaconess-Zane Center; Dee's Old Brooklyn Diner; Ewazen Management; Gavin Lee Party Center; Montalvo, LLC; Speed Exterminating; US Bank; Westerfield Sales; Wholesale Business Furniture; and Yorktown Corporation.

See photo of students making snowflakes on page 12.



## OBCDC Board of Directors News

At their November board meeting, OBCDC's board of directors appointed Jeff Rhodes as a residential member to the board. Jeff lives in Ward 16 and is a technology education teacher at North Royalton High School.

The Board is also looking for OBCDC members to serve on several Board committees as members-at-large. There are currently openings for community participation on the Finance, Leadership, Personnel and Development Committees. Please contact Robyn Sandys at 216-459-1000 or [robysn@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:robysn@oldbrooklyn.com).

Although OBCDC Board meetings are usually on the third Tuesday of each month, in December the meeting will be on **Thursday, December 18, from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.** It will be a shorter general meeting because the Board's organizational planning meeting will follow at 6:30 p.m.

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## The Cane Shop

by **Donnald Heckelmöser**  
[donnaldh@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:donnaldh@oldbrooklyn.com)

Frank & Dorothy Nash are the longtime owners of the Cane Shop at 4196 Pearl Rd. The business specializes in re-seating, re-gluing, and the general repair of all types of chairs. While more of their work involves antique chairs, customers bring in modern chairs for repairs, too.

The Nashes have been at this location since 1995. When they started in business circa 1975, they worked out of their Lakewood home. Their subsequent business locations, before moving here, were on Madison Ave. in Lakewood, at W. 122nd St. and Lorain Ave., and on Berea Rd. west of Madison Ave.

Even though these are all relatively nearby locations, the Cane Shop has customers all over Northeast Ohio, some as far away as Lorain County, and former Greater Clevelanders who have moved out-of-state.

Frank started his life as an educator, moved on to being an interior decorator, and then decided to try his hand at the family business which his great-grandfather had started in upstate New York.

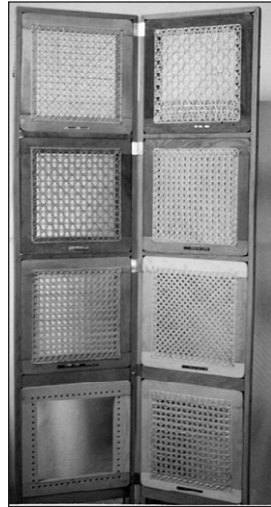
Frank learned the trade -- through observation, practice and repetition -- from his great-grandfather while he was growing up. He delights when he sees pieces his great-grandfather and grandfather made with their own

hands which have lasted all these years. The Nash's daughter, Shelly, has worked in the family business for the past twenty-two years.

Frank and Dorothy only deal with what is non-fabric related in terms of the repairs; they outsource the upholstery segment of the job. Prices for the work vary greatly depending upon the type of chair, extent of the repairs and materials involved.

In addition to doing repairs, the Cane Shop offers a variety of seating materials for people to repair chairs themselves, including cane, rush, splint and prewoven seating material and spline. It is one of only a few places which still sell these types of materials.

To get a quote on a chair which needs work, call the Cane Shop at 216-661-6101 to schedule an appointment, or stop in during normal business hours. They're open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and also on Saturdays by appointment.



**Samples of seating materials**

## COMMUNITY MEETINGS

**Brooklyn Centre Community Association** meeting, fourth Thursday of each month, 6:30 pm, Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church, 2607 Archwood Ave. (corner of Archwood and Pearl).

**Brooklyn Centre Naturalists** meeting, Sat., Dec. 13, & every second Sat. Cleve. Public Library, 3706 Mapledale Ave., 2 pm - 4 pm. Call Gloria, 216-398-3995, for more info.

**Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation** board meeting every third Tues. of the month, 6-7:30 pm, OBCDC meeting room (3344 Broadview Rd., upstairs). The Dec. meeting will be on Thurs., Dec. 18th. at 5:45 pm. Meetings open to public for review & comments, but board reserves

right to close portions of meetings from public. Call 216-459-1000 to confirm date.

**Second District Police Community Relations** meeting, Tues., Dec. 9th (& every second Tues.), 7 pm, Applewood Center, 3518 W. 25th St.

**Southwest Citizens Area Council** meeting, (every first Thurs.), 7 pm, Gino's, 1314 Denison Ave.

**Ward 15 Democratic Club** meeting, Tues., Dec. 23rd (& every fourth Tues.), 6:30 pm, Estabrook Recreation Center, 4125 Fulton Rd.

**Ward 16 Democratic Club** meeting Tues., Dec. 16th (& every third Tues.), 7 pm, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 5801 Memphis Ave.

## From the desk of the executive director

by **Robyn Sandys**  
[robyns@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:robyns@oldbrooklyn.com)



The end of one year and the beginning of another one is fast approaching. I know we all ask ourselves, where did the time go? To much to do and not enough time to do it all; to share our hearts with our friends and families, to spend time giving back to our community, to relax and find time for a hobby or to explore that place we always wanted to go. Each year we resolve to do at least one thing differently to feel like we made a change and a difference in our lives.

On a national level, we have a major change in our political landscape, which will hopefully spark the spirit within all of us to make a difference at home. First with our family and then if time permits in our community.

The CDC is one place to start if you want to engage yourself in the place where you live and or work. We are kind of like a family. Those on our staff and on our board desire to nurture the place we serve, Old Brooklyn and Brooklyn Centre. We want to help sustain what we have and to create new avenues of growth and development. We are like a family especially many today, who have too much to do and not enough resources!

We have 7 full time and 4 part-time staff members working on a "family" income of about \$920,000 this fiscal year of which approximately 38% is to provide for family members (staff) by giving them a decent salary and good benefits for full time members. And, of course we have to make sure they are working on your behalf, our larger family/community by providing an array of housing, commercial and community services as well as planning projects that will help to grow our future. These programs, along with producing the Old Brooklyn News and yearly Business Directory account for the remaining 62% of our yearly budget.

Our larger family or service area consists of nearly 40,000 people or about 18,000 households. That is a BIG Family with not a lot of resources. But, we do our best to tap into other resources that are provided to us on your behalf, our partners on many initia-

tives, like the City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County services, our two great City Councilman, Brian Cummins (Ward 15) and Kevin Kelley (Ward 16), independent nonprofit agencies and other local institutions like MetroHealth Systems/Senior Health and Wellness Center, the Cleveland Metro Parks Zoo, as well as an array of local businesses that give back to their community. For a complete list of all of our partners and family helpers, as well as more information on all of our services, check out our recent Annual Report on our web site at <http://www.oldbrooklyn.com/AnnualReport2008.pdf>.

Our family wants to hear from your family with what bugs you the most about living in this community. What is your top priority for change? What are your suggestions for how to accomplish the change you want to see happen? The staff and board of OBCDC will be starting a new organizational planning process to help set priorities for the organization over the next few years. These goals will be placed in line with the outcomes from the Master Community Planning project that is underway and will be completed in early 2009.

A committee of about 25 people is being formed to work on this planning initiative. We will be starting in December and ending in the early spring of 2009. We need some community members who are not on our board or staff to participate. If you have that little extra time to give back to your community (which we know is hard with the many demands you have), please consider joining our team for this process over the next few months. You will learn a lot about OBCDC and how you can make a difference in the place you call home. For more information call me at 216-459-1000 or email me at [robyns@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:robyns@oldbrooklyn.com). The first meeting is on December 18 at 6:30 at our office. Have a great Holiday what ever you celebrate this December!

## Season's Greetings from Our Family to Yours!

Join our family of satisfied customers. As an independent agency, we tailor the best insurance protection at competitive prices. We represent only the finest insurance companies, like Auto-Owners. The "No Problem" People. Ask us about the many other advantages of doing business with an independent insurance agency.

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3505 East Royalton Rd. Broadview Hts. Ohio 44147  
 (440)526-5700

## LoVelle's Pizzeria

4462 Denison Ave. 216-661-6444

LoVelle's Pizzeria on the northwest corner of Fulton and Denison Ave. features a full array of Italian-American specialties and pizza. You can dine in, order take out or call for delivery to your home or business. The restaurant and lounge feature a spacious dining area and a full bar. LoVelle's Pizzeria and Lounge offers karaoke for adults on weekend nights and kid's karaoke on Sundays from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Brenda Lovell, the long time owner of Vanessa's Pizzeria on W. 14th St. in the Tremont neighborhood (1984-2005), is the owner of the newly rehabbed restaurant and lounge at the site of the former Brookside Inn. Lovell and her family purchased the building in 2005 and spent two years and five months renovating the building.

Lovell hopes that her many loyal customers, who enjoyed her award-winning food at Vanessa's will now become regulars at Lovelle's Pizzeria. She invites both them and her new neighbors to visit at her spacious new restaurant and lounge.

Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 14th from 9 a.m. until noon. Call for reservations, 216-661-6444.

**Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.**

**Friday & Saturday: 11 a.m. - 2:30 a.m.**

**Sunday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Closed Monday**

**Free Parking We Deliver**

*Everyone from LoVelle's wishes you a Happy Holiday*

*This is a paid advertisement*

## Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation

MISSION STATEMENT: We are committed to uniting, engaging and empowering the community to improve the economic vitality and quality of life within the Old Brooklyn and Brooklyn Centre neighborhoods

Greg Huth, President    Lynea Derwis, Vice President  
 Ed Pryll, Jr., Secretary    T.J. Lewarchick, Treasurer

Robyn Sandys, Executive Director  
 Cynthia Cejka, Office Manager  
 Tom Collins, Commercial Program Manager  
 Donnald Heckelmöser, Jr., Residential Services Coordinator  
 Lori Peterson, Residential Program /Marketing Manager  
 Sheila Quealy-Walter, Code Enforcement Manager  
 Barb Spaan, Community Outreach Manager  
 Sandy Worona, Community Outreach Coordinator/OBNA Advertising & Sales Manager

**Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation Board Meetings**, are every third Tues. of the month, 6-7:30 pm. OBCDC meeting room (3344 Broadview Rd., upstairs). Meetings open to the public but the board reserves the right to close portions of the meetings. To confirm call 216-459-1000.

### Old Brooklyn News

Sandy Worona -- Layout & Ad Manager    George Shuba -- Photographer  
 Lynette Filips -- Copy Editor; Assistant Copy Editor -- Cynthia Cejka  
 This month's OBN writers -- Amy Craft, Maria Dimengo, Lynette Filips, Dana Korosi, & OBCDC staff

OBCDC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) that serves the communities of Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn- For more information regarding services and projects call 216-459-1000.

## OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

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**(216) 459-0135**

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### Submission Deadlines

Display Ads . . . . Wed., Dec., 17th  
 Classified Ads . . . . Fri., Dec., 19th  
 [News Releases . . . Fri., Dec., 19th  
 For information call 216-459-0135  
 E-mail: [sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com)  
**FAX NUMBER 216-459-1741**

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# NEWS & EVENTS

**Sunday, Dec. 7th & Tuesday, Dec. 9th & 16th**  
**Christmas Shopping**

Brooklyn Historical Museum Gift Shoppe, 4442 Ridge Rd., Sun., 1:30 - 3:30 pm & Tues., 10:30 am - 1:30 pm. Scarves & hats, handloomed rugs, Amish jams & jellies, handmade gift cards, potholder towels, baby boutique, toddler pillows & cases, dog blankets, fleece throws, purses, costume jewelry, hemp beaded necklaces & misc. crafts available. Slates, aprons, runners with napkins, potholders & glass ornaments featured items for Christmas. Call Barb, 216-941-0160, for more info.

**Wednesday, December 10th**

**Friends of Big Creek Fundraiser**

Johnny Mango, 3120 Bridge Ave. 11am-11pm. The only thing you have to do is eat lunch or dinner & present our flyer. Johnny Mango will give 20% of the sales to Friends of Big Creek. Friends of Big Creek relies on volunteers & donations for all operational expenses. Just print the flyer & hand to your server when you pay the bill. If you cannot make this date, mark your calendar for Jan. 28 for our next Johnny Mango fundraiser. For more info call, 216-269-6472 or to download the flyer go to [www.friendsofbigcreek.org](http://www.friendsofbigcreek.org).

**Take the Lead... Become a Mentor**

Looking for caring adults 55+ to serve the following schools at lunchtime twice a week: Near westside - Denison 3799 W. 33rd; Far westside - McKinley 3349 W. 125th; Eastside - John W. Raper 1601 E. 85th; Southeastside - Emile de Sauze 4747 E. 176th; Central - Rockefeller 5901 Whittier Ave. Carol Hasek, Mentoring Coordinator Experience Corps, 216-391-9500, ext. 125, or [chasek@rsvp-cleveland.org](mailto:chasek@rsvp-cleveland.org).

**America Reads Tutors**

South Brooklyn Branch Library, 4303 Pearl Rd., for elementary school students; Mon., 3 - 6 pm; Tues. & Thurs., 3 - 7 pm; Wed., 3:30 - 5:30 pm. Call 623-7067 for more info.

**Free Flu & Pneumonia Shots**

For people who live in Cleveland who: are between 6 months & 18 yrs old; 50 years or older; have a long-term illness (high blood pressure, liver, heart or lung disease, diabetes, asthma, pregnancy, cancer or a weakened immune system); live with or take care of someone who is 0-5 yrs old, 50+ years old or has a long-term illness.

**Spring Hill Villa**, 4330 Jennings Rd., **Mon., Dec. 22**, 10 am - 12 pm; 216-741-7485.

**Every Friday**, Now thru - Dec. 26, **McCafferty Health Center**, 4242 Lorain Ave., 8 - 11 am; 216-651-5005.

Call 216-664-4621 or visit [www.cleveland-health.org](http://www.cleveland-health.org) for more locations & dates.

**Cleveland Recycles**

**REDUCE! REUSE! RECYCLE!**

The City of Cleveland will pick up Christmas trees from curbs Dec. 26 - Jan. 30. In spring, mulch from the recycled trees will be available to Cleve. residents for free, while supplies last. Reuse or recycle holiday wrapping paper & gift boxes. Continue to recycle throughout the year by dropping off glass, plastic, aluminum, cardboard & paper at any of Cleveland's convenient drop off locations. (There are nearby blue bins at Brooklyn Hts. United Church of Christ, Discount Drug Mart, Estabrook Recreation Center, Old Brooklyn Community School, Trinity United Church of Christ, William Rainey Harper School.) Call the recycling hotline for more info, 216-664-3717, or visit [www.cleveland-oh.gov](http://www.cleveland-oh.gov).

**WSEM Food Center at Brookside**  
**Holiday Food Donations Needed**

Brookside Center, 3784 Pearl Rd. Drop off food Mon. - Fri., 8:30 am - 4 pm. Holiday food needed - canned or fresh sweet & white potatoes, cake mixes, frosting, hams, turkeys, chickens, puddings, gelatin, desserts, sugar, flour stuffing, cranberry sauce & other fruit. Call 216-749-4295 for more info.

**WSEM Food Center at Brookside**  
**Christmas Gifts for Children**

Brookside Center, 3784 Pearl Rd. Drop off toys & gifts for children up to 16 years Mon. - Fri., 8:30 am - 4 pm. Value of gifts should be between \$10 & \$25. Call 216-749-4295 for more info.

**WSEM Food Center**

WSEM Food Center at Brookside Center, 3784 Pearl Rd., 216-749-4295. Open Mon. - Fri., 10 am - 2 pm; the last Sat. of the month, 10 am - 1pm, except for holidays when WSEM is open the Sat. before the holiday. Call WSEM helpline for food stamp applications, 216-749-4295. Ask for an appt. with Jaci, who will help fill out & deliver completed food stamp applications to Dept. of Job & Family Services.

**WSEM Child Development Centers**  
**Free Child Care for Qualified Families**

Archwood Head Start, 2800 Archwood Ave.; free childcare for qualified families. Now enrolling full & part day. Call 216-398-5488.

**West Side Ecumenical Ministry (WSEM)**  
**Enrolling for Early Childhood Education**

All locations for ages birth through age five. WSEM offers infant & toddler care, Head Start, the Early Learning Initiative (ELI) program as well as a home-based program to meet the needs of area families. WSEM offers free services to eligible families, health & developmental screenings, comprehensive services to address educational, health, dental, nutrition, social, mental health & special needs. Variety of program options & locations. Accepts county vouchers. Call 216-651-2037 for more info.

**Our Lady of Good Counsel School**  
**Registration for Preschool - Grade 8**

Our Lady of Good Counsel School, 4419 Pearl Rd., Preschool for 3 & 4 year old children, requires \$50 non-refundable deposit at time of registration. Option to extend day until 6 pm. Still spaces available for kindergarten through grade 8. Offers all-day kindergarten, tutoring program, student council, computer classes, Spanish, music, hot lunch program & physical education. Supportive PTU. Before & after care program (BASE) possible. Registration packets for preschool or K-8 available in school office. Vouchers accepted. For more info. or to schedule a tour, call 216-741-3685 or contact Beverly in parish office, 216-749-2323.

**Ready, Set Grow Preschool**

Located in Brooklyn Heights United Church of Christ, 2005 W. Schaaf Rd. Ages 3 - 5. Learning & social skills for kindergarten readiness. Certified teachers. Registration fee, \$25. Class times, 9:20 - 11:20 am. Call 216-741-2280 for more info.

**St. Leo the Great School Registration**  
**Kindergarten & grades 1-8.**

Pick up registration forms in school office, 9 am - 3:30 pm weekdays. Children must be 5 years old by Sept. 30th to be eligible to register. Bring child's birth & baptismal certificates along with a \$50 non-refundable registration fee. Participates in Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring Program. County vouchers accepted. Call 216-661-2120 for more info.

**St. Mark Lutheran School Registration**

St. Mark Lutheran School, 4464 Pearl Rd. Applications accepted throughout school year for kindergarten - grade 8. Participates in Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring Program. On-site before & after school daycare, hot lunch program, sports, music, newly updated computer labs, accelerated reader program, interactive white boards, Girl Scouts & Cub Scouts. For registration info or to schedule a private tour, call school, 216-749-3545, or visit [www.orgsites.com/oh/stmarklutheran](http://www.orgsites.com/oh/stmarklutheran).

**St. Mary Byzantine School Registration**

St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Elementary School, 4600 State Rd., now accepting applications for preschool - grade 8. Before/after school services available. Local tuition assistance available to all families. Participates in Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring Program. Updated computer lab, interactive Smart Boards in all classroom, instrumental music & art instructor, athletics & more. Call 216-749-7980 or visit [www.smbyz.org](http://www.smbyz.org).

## THEATER NOTES



**Cassidy Theatre of Greenbriar Commons**  
6200 Pearl Rd. 440-842-4600

**"Scrooge"**

Fri., Dec. 5th - Sun., Dec. 21st; Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets, \$20 adults & \$15 students & seniors.

**The Singing Angels**

Mon., Dec. 8th; 7:30 pm. All tickets, \$10. Advance reservations suggested.

**CityMusicConcert at Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus, 3649 East 65th St, Slavic Village.**

Sat., Dec. 6, 7:30 pm. Selections include music from March of the Turks, Cinderella, Petite Symphonie, Belshazzar's Feast, Turkish March, Ruins of Athens, the Christmas Concerto, Rosamunde and Hansel and Gretel. Free admission, but a collection will be taken up. Call 216-341-9091 for more info.

**Cleveland Public Theatre**

6415 Detroit Ave. 216-631-2727  
[www.cptonline.org](http://www.cptonline.org)

**"Boom"**

**James Levin Theatre** - Now thru Sat., Dec. 20th; Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets, \$10 - \$20.

**"The Santaland Diaries"**

**Gordon Square Theatre** - Now thru - Dec. 20th; Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets, \$10 - \$24.

**"Crumble"**

(Lay Me Down, Justin Timberlake)

**CPT Bookstore Theatre** - Dec. 4th - Dec. 20th; Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets, \$10 - \$20.

**Cleveland State University**

**Theater Arts Building**, 1833 E. 23rd St. 216-687-2113

[g.williams@csuohio.edu](mailto:g.williams@csuohio.edu)

**"Aladdin"**

Dec. 6-7 & 13-14; 2 pm. Tickets, \$10 general admission; \$5 students & seniors.

**Cuyahoga Community College**  
**Western Campus Theatre Dept.**

11000 Pleasant Valley Rd, 216- 987-5536

**Tri-C West Dance Concert**

CCC Western Campus Theatre, T building; Fri., Dec. 14th, 7:30 pm. General admission tickets -

\$10; student, senior & staff tickets - \$8; Tri-C students free with valid ID. Group rates for 10 or more. Call for reservations; visit [www.tri-c.edu/theatre/west](http://www.tri-c.edu/theatre/west) for more info.

**Great Lakes Theater Festival**  
**(at the Ohio Theatre)**

Playhouse Square Center, 1501 Euclid Ave. 216-241-6000 [www.greatlakesfestival.org](http://www.greatlakesfestival.org)

**"A Christmas Carol"**

Now thru Tues., Dec. 23rd. Evening curtain times - 7:30 pm; Fri. & Sat. matinees, 1:30 pm; Sun. matinees, 3 pm. Tickets, \$26 - \$57

**Karamu House**

2355 E. 89th St. 216-795-7070

**"Black Nativity"**

Fri., Dec. 5 - Sun., Dec. 28. Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets - Thurs. eve. & Fri. & Sat. matinees, \$25; Fri. & Sat. eve., \$30.

**Near West Theater**

St. Pat's Club Building, 3606 Bridge Ave. 216-621-3242  
[www.nearwesttheatre.org](http://www.nearwesttheatre.org)

**"Finian's Rainbow"**

Now thru - Sun., Dec. 7. Thur., Fri., Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets, \$6.

**Playhouse Square Center**

1501 Euclid Ave. 216-241-6000  
[www.clevelandplayhouse.com](http://www.clevelandplayhouse.com)

**"A Christmas Story"**

**Bolton Theatre**, now thru Dec. 21. Wed. - Sat. evening, 7:30 pm; Sat. matinee, 3 pm; Sun. matinee, 2 pm. Tickets start at \$43.

**"Radio City Christmas Spectacular"**

**State Theater**, Thurs., Dec. 4 - Sun., Dec. 28. Tickets, \$29.50 - \$79.50. Times vary.

**The Beck Center of the Arts**

17801 Detroit Ave. 216-521-2540  
[www.beckcenter.org](http://www.beckcenter.org)

**"Peter Pan"**

Sat., Dec. 5 - Sun., Jan. 4; Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sat. matinees 2:30 pm on Dec. 13, 20, 27 & Jan. 3; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets - adults, \$28; seniors, \$25; students 22 & under with I.D., \$17; children 12 & under, \$10.

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## My point of view

by Maria Dimengo

*Say, buddy, can you spare a dime?*

If you happen to have a parent or relative who grew up during the Great Depression, you might have heard about a popular song called "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?" It tells the story of a hungry, desolate man who, while standing in a bread line waiting for food, questions the years he spent as a laborer and patriot.

When Bing Crosby made the song a hit in 1932, banks had collapsed and families were facing grim times. Thousands of people had lost their savings and unemployment was at an all time high.

Ironically, we see these parallels more than 75 years later. Today in Cleveland, we face a similar crisis and it seems like the only way we can lift each other up is to get back to the spirit of the "greatest generation." They did so without complaint because it was the only way they knew to survive.

Yes, it's true that the Great Depression changed a lot of people and transformed communities around the world. Those extraordinary circumstances paved the way for regular people to come together.

So I don't know what made me think of that song, but when I looked for the words on the Internet, it was like someone handed me the opening lines to read, re-read, and take notice: *They used to tell me I was building a dream.*

I think that many of us can relate to this. I see a lot of us in this community trying to build a dream, trying to make our lives better for ourselves and our children. We needn't look across the globe to tell us there is a shift going on. Just look in your own backyard here in Old Brooklyn and Brooklyn Centre.

Yet, we need to take one minute out of our busy day and ask ourselves if we are ready to take on the challenge that our parents' generation once did. We have to be willing to ask ourselves the really tough questions and dig deep to find the answers.

Are you truly a person of mission, or are you waiting for someone else to take action? Are you really doing your part to make our community the best it can be?

How much do you care about your neighbors? How do you show it? Do you regularly attend neighborhood block groups? Do you say thanks to the safety forces who watch your home and your business?

Do you buy your vegetables from a local farmer who is just trying to put food on his own table? Do you ever patronize a local merchant instead of a national chain?

This isn't as much a lecture as it is a plea for help. If you have some time, I urge everyone to climb aboard. Let's take that Great Depression song and make it our own call to action. How about, *Buddy, Can You Spare Some Time?*

I love the fact that neighborhood groups are meeting over coffee and hanging out in pubs, talking about this generation of change in our community. Many of them are heading out to the parks to organize clean ups, rake leaves for the elderly, or help out a friend who just lost his/her job.

We all have an opportunity to be a part of something big just like thousands of communities all across the world. Dr. Stephen Post, a Professor of Bioethics and Family Medicine at Case Western Reserve University, writes about the power of volunteerism in his book, "Why Good Things Happen to Good People." Post spoke of a 2004 study in England where more than 3,000 people were interviewed in

more than 100 towns. The study showed that neighborhoods with the highest levels of volunteerism had less crime, better schools and happier residents.

I believe this is already happening now — where we live — especially for the folks who make giving a daily part of their routines. Just ask your councilmen and the groups who regularly attend neighborhood meetings. People don't get involved because they have to. They genuinely have a passion to change their communities, one neighbor at a time.

Yet if you drive along State, Pearl, Denison, Archwood, Memphis and Broadview Roads, you will see that there is still plenty of work that needs to be done. So I'm urging all readers of the *OBV* to get involved with a community project that's happening right now. Dozens of civic groups need help, so if you have some time to spare, please join one.

Right now, I personally need help with a plan to create art and revitalize local businesses (described in the box below this article). Just send me an e-mail at maria1526@earthlink.net. I can tell you about all the people who are coming together, and how you can help in a big way.

It all starts with one seed, and maybe one really good idea. As our newly elected president, Barack Obama said during his victory speech on election night, we need people all across America to listen and take note.

"It can't happen without you, without a new spirit of service, a new spirit of sacrifice," Obama said. "So let us summon a new spirit of patriotism, of responsibility, where each of us resolves to pitch in and work harder and look after not only ourselves, but each other."

### Rebuilding Old Brooklyn One Neighbor at a Time

Over the next several months, teams of volunteers from Metro Health & Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) will be organized to paint, create & beautify Old Brooklyn storefronts. Project plans include: painting murals & artwork for businesses along Pearl, State & Broadview Rds.; cleaning up streets & parking lots; assisting business owners with storefront revitalization & beautification; engaging students from local schools to participate & pay it forward; & creating partnerships for in-kind donations, corporate sponsorships & future funding opportunities. Call Maria Dimengo, 440-258-4995, or email maria1526@earthlink.net for more info. CWRU donated \$1,000 to carry this vision forward.

## The holidays are a time to give and receive

by Robyn Sandys  
robysn@oldbrooklyn.com

We all know how much fun it is to give presents and also to receive them for those we care about. We also know how good it feels to be with family and friends during a holiday season especially when there is so much delicious food to eat. Yet every holiday there are folks who don't have the means to give presents or to even cook a full family meal.

It is traditional to think of the holidays as a time to give what you can and this year is no different (well maybe it is a little different because there are more people unemployed and hurting than in previous years). Listed below are many ways that you and your family can share in giving this holiday season. And, if you are reading this and need help, or if you know someone who does, please contact the places listed below.

Perhaps the community's best place to call when you need help or want to give is United Way's First Call for Help; just dial 211. They have an amazing data base of options for help for the holidays. They are also the place to call as a first step in managing your mortgage debt if you think you might get or are currently behind with your mortgage payments. Don't hesitate to call 211 today if you need any type of assistance. Many of the resources below are from their web site, www.211cleveland.org.

### Feed a Family for \$30.00

For only \$30 you can feed a family of four a wonderful holiday meal. To make a donation go to www.thecitymission.org or mail your donation to Holiday Food Drive, The City Mission, 5310 Carnegie Ave., Cleveland, 44103, 216-431-3510

The City Mission also has collection sites to donate food. The closest one to our area is Laura's Home for Women and Children at 18120 Puritas Ave. Drop off times are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 1-3 p.m.

### Holiday Donations/Gifts/Toys

**Salvation Army** - Salvation Army, main office, 2507 E. 22nd St., Cleveland, 216-861-8185

**Westside Ecumenical Ministry-WSEM** at Brookside Center - 3784 Pearl Rd., Cleveland 44109, 216-749-4295

**Toys for Tots** - Estabrook Recreation Center 4125 Fulton Rd., Cleveland 44109, 216-664-4149

**West Side Catholic Center** - 3135 Lorain Ave., Cleveland, 216-631-4741

**Clark Recreation Center** - 5706 Clark Ave, Cleveland, 216-664-4657

### Food Pantries

**American Indian Education Center** - 1314 Denison Ave. Suite 102, Cleveland 44109, 216-351-4488

**United Hearts Life Mission Center** - 3339 Broadview Rd., Cleveland 44109, 216-459-9839

**Hunger Network, Brookside Center** - 3784 Pearl Rd., Cleveland 44109, 216-749-4295

**Salvation Army**- Ohio City Corps, 4402 Clark, Cleveland 44109, 216-631-1515

**St. Michael The Archangel Catholic Church** - 3114 Scranton Rd., Cleveland 44109, 216-621-3847

**Trinity Assembly of God** - 3801 Clark Ave., Cleveland 44109, 216-631-6764

In addition to the above resources, the Near Westside Partnership Ministries is involved with excellent programs this year. They are as follows:

### TOYS to CAMPS

Near Westside Partnership Ministries (NWPM), with the generous support of suburban United Methodist Churches (UMC), is sponsoring sales of new toys at several Near Westside UMCs this December. The primary goal is to bring new toys at a very low cost to families in this economically challenged community. Proceeds from the sales are directed toward NWPM camp scholarships which allow city children to experience fun and faith at UMC summer camps. Donations of new toys or money to buy toys are welcome. Please contact Jim Wallace, ljwallace4645@sbcglobal.net, if you can help or send donations to the Near Westside Partnership office at 2607 Archwood Ave., Cleveland, 44109. (memo: toys), 216-459-1450.

### Christmastime Breakfast

A wonderful Christmastime breakfast at Brooklyn Memorial will be held on St. Nicholas Day, December 6th, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Reminiscent of the "Breakfast with Santa" events held at Cleveland department stores many years ago, this free and delicious pancake breakfast, complete with Santa, song, and treats, is open to all children and families in our near Westside community; for reservations please call Brooklyn Memorial UMC's office: 216-459-1450. Donations of personal care products for adult guests and Nativity coloring books, crayons, mittens or hats for the children are most welcome.

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As we put together this December issue of the *Old Brooklyn News*, we haven't even celebrated Thanksgiving yet, but still it's the time for us to wish everyone "Merry Christmas", "Season's Greetings", "Happy Holidays" (and maybe even "Happy New Year"). Even more ironically, our first entry this month is about Halloween...

Many readers (especially those who live in Old Brooklyn) are familiar with **Frank Smith (AKA Luther Hegges)** of 1608 Merl Ave. who, for the past sixteen years, has gone "all out" decorating his front and side yards for Halloween. The *Old Brooklyn News* did a big feature article about him approximately ten years ago, and since then, this year being one of those times, we've often reminded people to stop by to view his display.

Now Frank's efforts have received national attention, thanks to his having heard about a contest which ABC TV's "Good Morning America" was sponsoring in October.

The show was looking for the best "haunted home" (Halloween displays, not in reality!) in the United States. So that his house and yard could be considered for that recognition, Frank submitted a two-minute video of a previous year's display that people could view and rate on [fearnet.com](http://fearnet.com). The entry that would come out with the most points would be the winner of the contest, and the lucky person would not only receive a check for \$25,000, but also be featured on "Good Morning America" on Halloween.

While "Heggs House of Horror" was not the absolute #1, it did land among the top five haunted homes nationwide! That merited it some recognition on national TV on Halloween -- ABC ran numerous video clips of Frank's display with graphics labeling them as "Heggs House of Horror" from Ohio.

Although Frank would have certainly liked to have received the cash and the top spot, being seen on national TV was the next best thing! Frank said that 2008 was their biggest and best year yet. He estimated that 2000 people stopped by over the two days, and that he and his family gave out over 800 pieces of candy.

(Maybe we ought to mark down the date for next year as soon as we get a 2009 calendar!)

We've written about all kinds of things to do over the upcoming holiday season throughout this month's edition of the *Old Brooklyn News*, but sometimes the way that we list things doesn't allow us to give all the details.

In *Theater Notes*, for instance, there's not room to mention the actors/actresses/musicians from our neighborhood, which is often the case with **Near West Theatre's** productions. Their current show, *Finian's Rainbow*, runs through Sunday, December 7, and three cast members are Old Brooklyn residents or people with connections to our community. **Janette Patterson**, a junior at **James Ford Rhodes High School**, **Grace Schumann**, a fourth grader at **Old Brooklyn Community Elementary School**, and **Taylor Slivka**, a freshman at **Montessori High School at University Circle** are among the *Rainbow Valley*, Missittucky citizens in the play.

If you want to really do something special this month, consider attending the **Historic Warehouse District's "Annual Holiday Tour"** on Wednesday, December 10th. Similar to the Gateway's District's "Wine and Dine" in July, this upscale fund-raiser for the Warehouse District's community development corporation will feature fabulous food, spirits and tours of condos, apartments and buildings in this marvelously rejuvenated section of downtown Cleveland.

The tour will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Bridgeview Apartments' Atrium at 1300 W. 9th St.; it will end with a dessert reception and entertainment in the penthouse of The Bingham. Admission is \$60-\$75, but parking is only \$2 at the Network parking lot on the southeast corner of W. 9th & St. Clair. Call 216-344-3937 for more information.

That's all for this time. Send your ideas for future listings in this column to: Lynette Filips, The Town Crier, c/o the Old Brooklyn News, 3344 Broadview Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44109.

## Potential church closings still in the news

by **Lynette Filips**  
[lynetfef@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:lynetfef@oldbrooklyn.com)

The *Old Brooklyn News'* coverage of the anticipated closings and mergers of Roman Catholic churches in our neighborhood continues this month. The November 15th deadline for parishes on the west side of Cleveland has passed, and in compliance with the directive, the clusters have submitted their closing/merger/staying alive proposals to the Bishop for his consideration.

At press time last month, we were not certain about what the five-parish cluster (officially "Cleveland Central West District Cluster #4") would recommend to the Diocese, but we now have that information. That cluster, composed of Blessed Sacrament, St. Barbara, St. Boniface, St. Michael the Archangel and St. Rocco, was instructed that in the final accounting, there could be only three parishes in that geographic vicinity.

Again a painful, anger-filled scenario emerges. No one wants his/her parish to close, but because of the ethnic associations of four of the five parishes in this cluster, the decision-making process was more difficult here than in some of the other sections of the city. Blessed Sacrament on Fulton Rd. (near the Second District Police Station), a parish without ethnic ties, voiced the least objections, at the cluster committee's vote that they be closed. A majority of the cluster committee also voted that St. Barbara on Denison Ave. in Brooklyn Centre be the other church to close.

The majority opinion of the cluster was that St. Boniface, which serves the Vietnamese community as well as the neighborhood; St. Michael, which serves the Hispanic community as well as the neighborhood; and St. Rocco, which serves the Italian community as well as the neighborhood (and is staffed by Italian priests of the Order of Our Lady of Mercy, the Mercedarians) be permitted to remain open.

St. Barbara's, which serves the Polish community as well as the neighborhood, is understandably distraught. Thanks to the immigrant frugality of their ancestors, they claim to be in a very sound financial position; they are lacking only a resident pastor. (After their former pastor, Fr. Michael Dyrz, retired

due to health reasons, St. Barbara's has been sharing a pastor with another Polish parish, St. John Cantius Church in Tremont.)

Unlike the scenario the *Old Brooklyn News* reported last month about the cluster which included Our Lady of Good Counsel Church also delivering a dissenting opinion to the Diocese, at this time, St. Barbara's has not submitted an official protest.

As he has done with the previous submissions, Bishop Richard Lennon will present the proposals from this third group of clusters to the Vibrant Parish Life - Phase II Committee for their evaluation. This committee includes parish representatives from each of the thirteen Diocesan districts as well as representatives of the major consultative groups and different areas of the Diocese's administration.

Following their review, the Bishop and his staff will study the cluster plans, taking into consideration the Committee's thoughts on the proposals. Then, as required by Canon Law, if any parish closings/mergers are being considered, the priests' council must approve of them before they're enacted. The Bishop will announce these decisions in March.

Fearing the worst, in some endangered parishes in our Diocese, individuals have mobilized in an effort to save their worshipping communities; few have the resources or stamina necessary to engage the services of a canon law lawyer and fight the decisions all the way to Rome. The *Old Brooklyn News* will have another article about this topic and what's being done in our neighborhood next month.

In the meantime, additional information about the clustering process can be found on the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland's website at [www.dioceseofcleveland.org](http://www.dioceseofcleveland.org) and on the Old Brooklyn neighborhood cluster's site at [www.nwclevelandcluster.org](http://www.nwclevelandcluster.org).

Open-minded/progressive-thinking readers might also want to check out the Future Church website at [www.futurechurch.org](http://www.futurechurch.org). This national organization, founded by a Sister of St. Joseph and headquartered in Lakewood, aims, among other things, to assist parishes threatened with unwanted closure. Click on *Save our Parish Community* on the left side of their home page and then on *Download the crisis kit* for potentially helpful information.

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by Tom Collins  
tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

**Uh-oh, is it Pittsburgh again?**

Recently five people from the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation attended a one-day conference in Youngstown. For me it was a welcome lesson about the strong economic opportunity that is quietly growing in the 134-mile, too-long-languishing industrial corridor between Pittsburgh and Cleveland. Pittsburgh may be our sports rival, but as regional neighbors we are as interdependent as Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn.

What has seeded the market are the 700-plus companies providing some kind of bioscience product, service, support or research. What is developing is a concentrated effort to identify and promote this region as the "Cleveland-Pittsburgh Technology Corridor".

If someone says "Silicon Valley", "Seattle" or "Research Triangle", a certain image of business or economic identity comes to mind. Given time, the words "Tech Belt" will come to identify the cluster of businesses devoted to life sciences, ecology sciences, environmental sciences, biological sciences and the many associated health-related industries.

The "Tech Belt Initiative" is a cooperative effort engaging multiple agencies (government, non-profit and business) from southwestern Pennsylvania and northeastern Ohio. Leading this development are the Greater Cleveland Partnership, the Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber and the Allegheny Conference on Community Development.

The endeavor has the very active support of Congressmen Tim Ryan (Ohio) and Jason Altmire (Pennsylvania); they are sponsoring efforts to obtain federal recognition for the "Cleveland-Pittsburgh Technology Corridor". Such a designation can then be targeted for financial incentives such as tax credits and/or development grants that will attract and grow bioscience businesses.

The effort will not be limited to biosciences, but that is the initial area of concentration. The gravity of bioscience will pull in the engineering sciences, chemical sciences, information technology sciences and the cutting edge startup businesses that are born when opportunity is present.

Pittsburgh and Cleveland are both internationally known for health and medical care facilities. This is not an industry where one institution can dominate all disciplines and thereby drive others out of business. It is an ever evolving science where new knowledge and new technology changes service delivery every day.

The concentration of knowledge and skill will build upon itself, making the region even stronger. That is the model that built the steel and manufacturing industry in this same corridor, and it is the model that will bring economic vitality back to the region.

If you look at learning as an industry, here again the region is super strong. There are over 50 universities, colleges, community colleges, trade schools and technical schools in the area. Specialties abound within this cluster of campuses. This assures that qualified graduates can fill specialized jobs. It means that continuing education is available for everyone. It means that research will support the needs of the "Tech Belt". It also means that the region can attract superior educators to tenured positions.

This part of the country offers a lower cost of living than the east coast, the west coast and southern urban areas. Commuting times are shorter than in most cities. Youngstown, the center of the "Tech Belt", is only 80 minutes from either Cleveland or Pittsburgh. The highway system is basically sound and well maintained (although

aging bridges are a serious problem). Fuel is obtainable and energy costs are slightly less or competitive with other urban centers. Housing is plentiful. The arts are world-class. In short, you can have a better quality of life in this Midwest region than on either coast.

The "Tech Belt" will have a geographic definition, but the boundaries will be soft. Akron, Canton, Erie, Lorain, Meadville, Sharon and the many small cities in the area will all benefit as regional opportunity sites for economic development.

The new raw materials that will replace the former steel and manufacturing raw materials will be knowledge, innovation, technology and entrepreneurial spirit. The only limit will be found in those who do not welcome change and insist that yesterday will always be better than tomorrow.

**Holiday decorations**

As OBCDC's Commercial Program Manager, I also want to add my own comments to one of this month's front page stories...

Some people talk and some people do. The holiday banners that are waving in the winter wind along Broadview Rd. and Pearl Rd. came from several people who talk and

do. After Amy Craft of Art House, John Young of Speed Exterminating and Don Workman of Ameriflag, Inc. collaborated on placing student-made giraffes in store windows, they began discussing holiday decorations. The troika engaged the students of Old Brooklyn Community School (4430 State Rd.) to create snowflake banners for utility poles and snowflake sculptures for interior windows.

John and Don funded the project, contacted the businesses about placing the holiday sculptures in windows, encouraged them to add their own holiday decorations, and ultimately mounted the banners and delivered the window decorations. Amy, assisted by staff members Elizabeth Emery and Stephanie Kluk, worked with students and art teachers on design and fabrication.

Downtown Old Brooklyn may not be the shopping district it once was, but it can promote the spirit of the season as vibrantly as other neighborhoods do. Thanks to the local artists and businesses who worked together to brighten the many display windows of the center of our community.

More doers are always welcome.

**IMPORTANT!**

Before you sign any paperwork with a home improvement contractor (even contractors who advertise in the Old Brooklyn News) be sure to check their rating with the Better Business Bureau (BBB). Call the BBB's automated Anytime Line, 216-241-7678, and punch in the business' phone number to receive a speedy report, 24/7.

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tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

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Photo provided by Jacob VanSickle

On Saturday, November 1st, Friends of Harmody Park hosted a community clean-up of Harmody Park and the Treadway Creek Trail. Young and old joined for an afternoon of meeting one another and beautifying the neighborhood. They cleaned graffiti off the playground equipment and gathered about 25 bags of garbage, several tires and some old car and appliance parts. Following the clean-up, the volunteers enjoyed a cook-out, and a drawing was held to award prizes to those who gave of their time. Friends of Harmody Park thank everyone who helped to make this event a success. Anyone interested in learning about future events at Harmody Park can log onto www.harmody.org. Anyone interested in planning activities there should contact Councilman Brian Cummins at 216-459-8400.



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Jeffrey A. Halpert, D.P.M.\*



Thomas J. DePolo, D.P.M.\*

**Charcot foot** is a sudden softening of the bones that can lead to a collapse of the arch.

- Symptoms: Warmth to touch, redness, swelling, and sometimes soreness
- Causes: Usually develops as a result of neuropathy (numbness) and lack of ability to feel temperature, pain or trauma. As the patient continues to walk, the deformity can worsen due to lack of sensation. Uncontrolled diabetic patients with longstanding neuropathy and a tight Achilles tendon have been shown to be at greater risk to develop Charcot foot.

- Diagnosis: Early detection and clinical evaluation is extremely important for successful treatment. X-rays or other imaging tests such as bone scans and MRI studies may be ordered. Periodic x-rays are taken to aid in the progress of treatment.
- Treatment: Early immobilization and protection are most important. Custom shoes, bracing, and modification of activity can slow or cease the progression. In some cases surgery may be used to correct the deformity.
- Preventive care: Control of blood sugar levels, regular checkups with your foot and ankle specialist, and check feet daily for symptoms listed above.

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## Credit union membership can be worth hundreds of dollars

by Dana Korosi  
Steel Valley Federal Credit Union

Did you know that you could be saving money – perhaps hundreds of dollars a year – just by becoming a member of your local credit union? According to the Credit Union National Association's (CUNA) latest membership report, credit unions typically charge fewer and lower fees than other financial institutions.

Of course, the amount you save has a lot to do with your financial habits and the number of credit union products and services you use. On the average, credit union member households in the United States save about \$240 per year.

Some of the savings comes from higher rates on savings products. For example, according to CUNA's latest report, money market accounts at credit unions earned an average interest rate of 1.92%, while the same accounts at banks earned 1.18% interest. Steel Valley Federal Credit Union presently offers an outstanding array of certificate of deposit programs. A four-month certificate is earning 3.5% interest, a seven-month certificate is earning 4.00%, and a thirteen-month certificate is earning 4.25%. Unlike banks which general-

ly require a much larger minimum deposit, all of these programs require only \$500 to open.

Members with ATM (automated teller machine) cards and credit cards will experience additional savings. Credit union fees remain lower than those of other financial institutions. The most common surcharge fee for credit union members is either no charge or \$1, while the typical surcharge fee at other financial institutions is \$1.50. A credit card late fee at credit unions averages \$14 less than the late fee banks charge. Although these amounts may seem small, they can add up over the course of a year.

"Bottom line: If you're looking for a safe place to save and borrow, without getting nicked and dimed to death, credit unions are the best deal - bar none," says Gary Schatsky, chief executive officer of Independent Financial Counselors in New York.

Credit unions can offer better value because they are non-profit, cooperative institutions, owned by their members. Banks, on the other hand, are owned by stockholders who want solid returns on their investments.

Visit your local community credit union, Steel Valley Federal Credit Union at the corner of Pearl Rd. and Denison Ave., to see how much more you can save by using their services.

## Habitat ReStore moves west -- to W. 110th St. near Berea Rd.

by Lori Peterson  
lorip@oldbrooklyn.com

Habitat for Humanity is a household name that conjures up warm feelings of assisting those in need with homeownership. ReStore, a name that is not so widely known, also provides resources to Cleveland residents. It is operated by Greater Cleveland Habit for Humanity.

ReStore sells a wide variety of donated tools, appliances and home building products -- some new, some used -- windows, doors, fixtures, trim, tubs, sinks, wallpaper, flooring, tile, lumber, electrical supplies, plumbing supplies, hardware and more. On November 1, 2008 it moved to 2110 W. 110th St. (between Western Ave. and Berea Rd.) from its former Slavic Village location.

In these tough economic times, ReStore is a place to visit for home remodeling/repair needs because the items are priced at 50% or more off retail prices. As of December 5, it will be open to the public on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1p.m. (except the weekends after Christmas and New Years).

As does Habitat, ReStore has a mission to not only eliminating poverty housing (the

proceeds go to Habitat) but to diverting thousands of tons of usable materials from local landfills by reusing, recycling and reselling building materials and tools.

If a home repair project is on your list for a holiday gift you may want to start at ReStore to give a gift that keeps on giving. Cash, M/C & Visa accepted. For more information on how you can donate items or volunteer, visit their website [www.clevelandrestore.org](http://www.clevelandrestore.org)

**The Home Depot Kids Workshop Program**

**Saturday, December 6th and Every 1st Saturday of the Month** Workshops are free, how-to clinics designed for children aged 5 - 12, available once a month between 9 am & noon at all The Home Depot stores. Children, accompanied by an adult, use their skills to create objects that can be used in & around their homes or communities. The workshops teach children do-it-yourself skills & tool safety & help instill a sense of accomplishment & self-esteem. Along with a new project kit, each child receives a kid-sized orange apron & an achievement pin. For more info, visit [www.homedepotclinics.com](http://www.homedepotclinics.com)

## First - time home buyer tax credit

by Lori Peterson  
lorip@oldbrooklyn.com

With market prices crashing and foreclosures still on the rise nevertheless, it is buyers market. And there are a lot of tools to take advantage of if you are in the market to purchase your first home such as, foreclosure prevention classes, free homebuyer's classes and tax credits. The tax credit or rather the 0% loan from the government will be looked at in greater detail.

The U.S. Congress and President Bush passed the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, which was enacted October 1, 2008. The legislation provides a first-time homebuyer tax credit of up to \$7,500 (10 percent of the cost of the home, not to exceed \$7,500).

In addition, to providing a tax credit to qualified first time homebuyers the act provides other provisions that will help with preventing foreclosures and reinvigorate the housing market. The Federal Housing Authority (FHA) estimates that over 400,000 borrowers are in danger of losing their homes and will be able to refinance into more affordable government-insured mortgages by utilizing this act.

The eligibility requirements are simple: The borrower must be a first time homebuyer which according to the law means that the homebuyer must not have owned a principal residence within the last three years. The sale must occur on or after April 9, 2008 and before July 1, 2009. (The purchase date is the date when closing occurs.) The eligible properties include any single-family residence (including condos and co-ops) that will be used as a principal residence

The tax credit means that if you are a first-time homebuyer and would otherwise owe \$7,500 in taxes, then for the year in

which you purchased the home, you would owe the IRS nothing.

The tax credit must be repaid, over a period of 15 years. For instance, if you earn a credit of \$7,500 then you would pay \$500 per year over 15 years. This amounts to a zero interest loan from the federal government. If the home is sold before 15 years, then the remainder of the credit would be recaptured upon the sale. If the home does not sell for enough to repay the credit, then it is forgiven.

The tax credit has an income limit \$75,000 for individuals \$150,000 for couples earning \$150,000 on a joint return. However a prorated tax credit will be given to individuals earning \$95,000 or \$170,000 filing jointly. For example if a couple makes \$160,000, the applicable amount of phase out is \$150,000 which the couple is \$10,000 over the amount. The amount of \$10,000 is divided by \$20,000 which yields 0.5. Then subtract 0.5 from 1.0 resulting in 0.5 multiply \$7,500 by 0.5 and the result is \$3,750 tax credit for the couple.

So how does one take advantage of this tax credit? It is relatively easy, an application is not required, simply claim the tax credit on your federal income tax return and be sure the prospective home buyer qualifies under the income limits and first-time home buyer tests. However if you have more specific questions it is recommended to consult a qualified tax advisor or legal professional about your unique situation.

The information for this article was obtained from the HUD website and the National Association of Home Builders website

<http://www.federalhousingtaxcredit.com>

If you are interested in finding out more information about refinancing options go to <http://www.hud.gov/news/recoveryactfaq.cfm>

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### AMERIFLAG DISPLAYS LOCAL ART

Old Brooklyn artist Jim Ptacek (right) has once again teamed up with local businessman Don Workman (left) to provide a selection of Cleveland area prints and Christmas cards for the holiday season. The prints consist of local landmarks such as stadiums, ballparks, the downtown skyline, lighthouses, high schools, etc. The Christmas cards are a collection of 20 years of limited edition cards, each signed and numbered by Ptacek. Shop Ameriflag for your gift-giving needs.

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# Art of Old Brooklyn native featured in Natural History Museum exhibit

by Lynette Filips  
lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com



"The Gathering" St. Francis of Assisi  
Watercolor Series (8"x10")

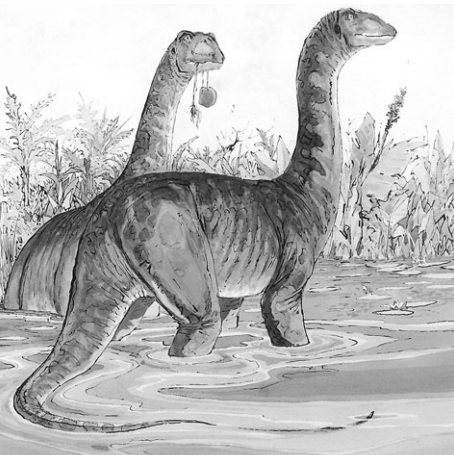
Since September 27, Northern Ohioans have been flocking to a traveling exhibition at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History entitled *Race - Are We So Different?* Organized by the American Anthropological Association and the Minneapolis Science Museum, it's a thought-provoking study which will run through January 4. It is well worth a visit.

Since October 15, visitors on their way into that exhibition room have passed through another less publicized exhibit in the Museum's Fawick Gallery. Entitled *A Passion for Nature: The Art of William E. Scheele*, it, too, is a wonderfully thought-provoking study well worth a visit, especially for residents of our neighborhood.

One of the reasons is that the late William E./Bill Scheele was the director of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History from 1949 to 1972. During his tenure there the Museum moved from its original location in two former "Millionaire's Row" mansions on Euclid Ave. to its present location at 1 Wade Oval Drive in University Circle.

An even bigger reason that the *Old Brooklyn News* is interested in the Scheele art exhibition is that, we've recently learned, Bill Scheele grew up in our neighborhood.

One of three children of William and Pauline (nee Karl) Scheele, Bill was born in



"Brontosaurus"  
Ink and watercolor (18"x18")

1920. The family -- Bill; his brother, Ralph; and his sister, Ruth -- lived at 3316 Tate Ave. He attended Dawning School (now the home of Old Brooklyn Community School) for elementary school, Thomas Jefferson for junior high school and West Tech for high school. (Rhodes had already opened in 1932, but West Tech had different courses of study, including more intense art training for someone with the passion for art that Bill had.) Bill graduated from West Tech in 1938.

In addition to his years in Old Brooklyn, Bill also spent lots of time in Brooklyn Centre. Some of the Scheele's closest relatives -- his Scheele grandparents, William and Minnie (nee Baldi), his aunt and uncle, Frances and Carl Scheele, and his cousins, Carl and Harry, lived at 4224 Poe Ave.

In his later life, Bill began writing down the memories of his youth, and many of them concern the times he shared with his relatives and friends in and around our neighborhood.

Perhaps the most interesting stories Bill recounted are the experiences which kindled his life-long interest in archaeology and the natural world. Among them are the "digs" for



"Tiger Study"  
Watercolor (12"x14")

Indian artifacts in which he participated at a Brecksville Rd. site in Independence before the "Cloverleaf" highway interchange was built there.

After West Tech, Bill attended Western Reserve University (a precursor of Case-Western Reserve University). While still a student, Bill volunteered at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and worked in the Exhibition Department as an exhibits preparator (1939 to 1942).

World War II interrupted Bill's academic and career plans; from 1942 to 1946 he served in Europe with the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Bill Scheele married his high school sweetheart, Joann Seubert, circa 1943.

After the War was over, Bill returned to Cleveland and finished his schooling. He graduated from Cleveland School of Art in 1947. That same year he became the head of the Natural History Museum's Exhibitions Department, a position he held until 1949. That year, impressed with William E. Scheele's vision for the future, the Museum's board of trustees offered him the position of director.

Bill was only 29 years of age at the time.

The Natural History Museum's collections greatly expanded under Bill's leadership. In 1954 it acquired a giant Sauropod dinosaur from Canyon City, Colorado. Then in the 1960s, right "in our own back yard", marine fossils from the Devonian period were discovered when researchers excavated the shale exposed during the construction of I-71 (including the Museum's famous Dunkleosteus and Cladoselache specimens).

Bill Scheele was also instrumental in the Museum's acquisition of the world-class Hamann-Todd Osteological Collection of human and non-primate skeletons.

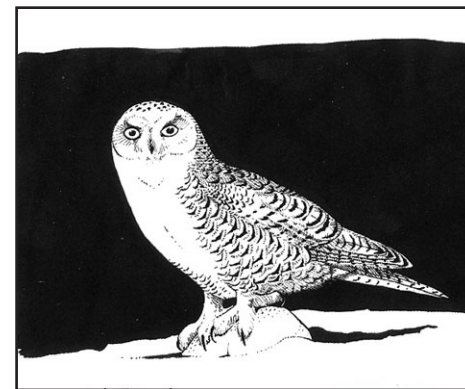
In 1958, in addition to helping the Cleveland Museum of Natural History move to University Circle, Bill organized the interior set-up of the exhibits, arranging them like a walk through time in terms of the evolution of the universe.

Bill Scheele was a writer as well as an artist. From 1949 to 1972, he wrote and illustrated a weekly column about natural history for the *Cleveland Press*.

Bill also wrote and illustrated seven books about natural history for school-age readers: *Prehistoric Animals* (1954), *The First Mammals* (1955), *Prehistoric Man and the Primates* (1957), *Ancient Elephants* (1958), *The Cave Hunters* (1959), *The Mound Builders* (1960) and *The Earliest Americans* (1963).

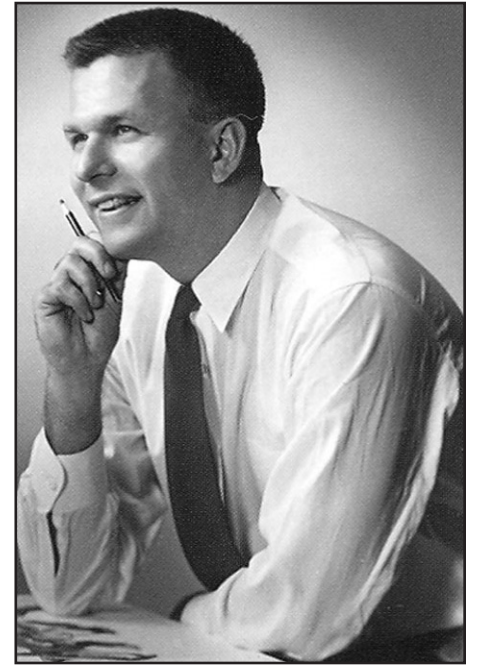
Throughout his adult life, people told Bill that exposure to his books in their formative years had fueled their desire to pursue careers in the natural sciences.

In 1960 Bill launched a quarterly magazine, *The Explorer*, for the Natural History Museum, and eventually it expanded to become the membership magazine for a number of Midwest museums. In addition to Bill's writing and illustrating many of the articles, Joann Scheele was the magazine's editor.



"Snowy Owl Study"  
Ink drawing (6"x10")

Long before ecology and environmental concerns had the public's attention as they do today, Bill Scheele was already calling for action in that area, inviting influential scientists and thinkers to the Museum to speak about the topic. Because of William Scheele's influence, the Natural History Museum acquired land on Kelley's Island in 1955 and Fern Lake Bog in 1956, the first pieces in what



Old Brooklyn native William Scheele (1920-1998) was the director of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1949 to 1972.

have become its study/education areas.

Bill was a naturalist in his personal life, too. In the early years of marriage, he and his wife lived briefly in Lakewood, Kirtland and Cleveland Hts., but the growing family (William G., 1948; John, 1951; Paul, 1952) ultimately settled in Chardon. From 1953-1972 they lived on a seventy-five acre property on Kirtland-Chardon Rd. which they affectionately called "Woodpecker Woods".

According to his oldest son, William G., "Besides having our own pond and forest, we were surrounded by the fascinating natural elements and wildlife of northeast Ohio, which our father was only too happy to help us know." The home's surroundings were often the inspiration for the pieces of Bill's art which appear in the exhibition.

Bill Scheele left the Cleveland Museum of Natural History in 1972, at which time he became the executive director of the World Wildlife Fund in Washington, D.C.

Bill subsequently held positions at the South Carolina Museum Commission (the director), the Miami Museum of Science, and the Columbus Museum of Arts & Sciences in Columbus, Georgia.

When Bill and Joann retired, it was first to Los Angeles and then to Lake Oswego, Oregon, where Joann still lives today.

The pieces of Bill Scheele's art in the exhibition at the Natural History Museum are from the Scheele family archives. The exhibit and the show's catalogue were organized by his oldest son, William G./Bill, who also has been intensely involved with the arts during his lifetime.

The illustrations accompanying this article are only a few examples of approximately seventy-five mixed-media pieces, including books and magazines, in the exhibition. It will run through January 11.

Merry Christmas!



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# FAMILY FUN!

**Art House,**  
3119 Denison Ave., 216-398-8556  
**Family Open Studio** - Third Sat. of the month, 1 - 3 pm; \$5 per person; \$18 family of four; children 3 & under, free. Family members & above cost per visit: \$5 per adult, free for 2 children, \$3 for each additional child. No pre-registration required. Family Open Studio provides a safe & fun environment for families to create art together. Self-guided activities at drawing/painting station, clay hand-building station & craft station. Craft projects vary each month.

**Saturday children's classes, after school children's programs, evening teen & adult classes** - Complete schedule of classes, dates, times & fees available on the website, www.arthouseinc.org To register for a class or workshop call 216-398-8556. Art House is open to the public Mon. - Thurs., 10 am - 4 pm, Fri. by appointment & Sat., 9 am - 12 pm.

**Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church**  
2607 Archwood Ave.  
216-459-1450

**Christmastime Breakfast** - Sat., Dec. 6, 10:30 am. Free. Breakfast, songs & Santa. Call church office between 9 am - 2 pm for reservations.

**CanalWay Center, E. 49th St.**  
between Grant Ave & Canal Rd.  
216-206-1000

**Holiday Songs** - Fri., Dec. 19, 7:30 pm. Hank Mallery & Foster Brown perform a variety of classic & original Christmas songs.

**Children's Museum of Cleveland**  
10730 Euclid Ave. 216-791-543  
www.clevelandchildrensmuseum.org

**Cooking with Kids Family Workshop** - Holiday cookies, Sat., Dec. 6, 12:30 - 1:30 pm. Call for reservations. \$5 per person.

**"Be a Builder" Kids Only Workshop** - Sun., Dec. 16, 12:30 - 1:30 pm. Cost: \$10, member; \$15, non-member. Call for reservations.

**4th Annual New Years at Noon Celebration** - Wed., Dec. 31, 10 am - 2 pm.

**Charles Mooney School**  
3213 Montclair Ave.

**Free Evening Classes** - Schools as a Neighborhood Resource (SNR) Program. Mon., Wed. & Thurs., 6 - 8 pm, now thru April 2009. Activities for children & adults. **Computers** - M, W & Th; **Walkercise/Exercise** - M, W & Th; **Yoga** - M, W & Th; **Basketball** - M, W & Th; **Gung Fu** - M & W; **Wrestling** - Thurs.; **Kids Crafts** - M, **Cooking** - W & **Games** - Thurs. All classes free. Sign up anytime during the year.

**Christmas at the Farm - Stearns Homestead,**  
6975 Ridge Rd., Parma  
440-845-9770

**Old-fashioned Christmas, Sat. & Sun., Dec. 6 & 7,** 1 - 4 pm. Entertainment, refreshments, & vintage decorations in two museums & meeting cabin. Gifts & bakery items available from Country Store. Visit with Mr. & Mrs. Claus. All proceeds benefit Stearns Homestead educational & historical programs.

**City of Brooklyn**

**Annual Tree Lighting** - Fri., Dec. 5th, 7 pm, Brooklyn Veterans Memorial Park. Holiday music, refreshments, a visit from Santa & Mrs. Claus & a holiday story read by Mayor Patton.

**Old-Fashioned Holiday Gathering** - Sun., Dec. 7th, 4-6 pm, Brooklyn Senior-Community Center. Holiday crafts for children, local choirs & holiday music, cookies & refreshments. Brooklyn residents can bring children for a holiday picture with Santa, Mrs. Claus & the Elves. Compliments of Mayor Patton.

**Skate with Santa** - Sun., Dec. 7th, 2:30 - 3:45 pm, John M. Coyne Recreation Center. Free admission for resident I.D. holders & their guests. Skate rentals & non-resident admission fees charged.

**Santa & his helpers visit the streets of Brooklyn handing out candy canes** - Sat., Dec. 13th, south of Biddulph; Sun., Dec. 14th, north of Biddulph; noon - 5 pm.

**Cleveland Botanical Garden**  
11030 East Boulevard  
216-721-1600 www.cb garden.org

**WinterShow** - Now thru Sun., Jan. 4. "City Sidewalks" theme -- Twinkling lights, magical decorations, displays & other surprises. Experience nostalgia of downtown window displays & see a life-size snow dome. Dozens of fanciful gingerbread creations by skilled local bakers. Gingerbread competition is area's biggest & best display of gingerbread houses. Download gingerbread competition entry form to enter the competition.

**Cleveland Museum of Art**  
11150 East Boulevard  
216-421-7340 www.clevelandart.org  
**Artistic Luxury** - Fabergé Tiffany Laliqie Now thru - Sun., Jan. 18. Adult admission, \$17.

**Cleveland Metroparks**  
**Winter Recreation Fun**  
Enjoy sledding, cross-country skiing, ice fishing & ice skating at various locations. Use caution & proper equipment; use the area only when proper weather/snow-ice conditions exist. Call any park district facility, 216-635-3200, or visit www.clevelandmetroparks.com.

**Cleveland Metroparks Chalet**  
Valley Parkway, Mill Stream Run  
Strongsville 440-572-9990

**Tobogganing** - Now thru Feb. Cost - \$8, adults; \$6, children ages 11 & under. One time ride tickets - \$3. Season passes - \$35 adults & \$25 children 11 & under. Family pass (up to four) \$100. 20% off season passes if purchased before Dec. 24. Thurs., 6 - 10 pm; Fri., 6 - 10:30 pm; Sat., noon - 10:30 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. Call for holiday hours.

**Cleveland Metroparks Garfield Park**  
Nature Center 11350 Broadway Ave.  
216-341-3152

**Wrap It Up Naturally** - Sat., Dec. 13, 1 - 4 pm. Decorate sheets of wrapping paper & make gift tags. Bring presents & wrap them here, or bring gift bags/boxes.

**Holiday Open House** - Fri., Dec. 19, 7 - 9 pm. Holiday decorations, treats & music from past times. Bring holiday tradition stories to share.

**Cleveland Metroparks Rocky River Nature Center** 24000 Valley Pkwy.  
North Olmsted 440-734-6660

**Little Explorers: Rocks** - Mon. & Tues., Dec. 8 & 9, 10 - 11:15 am or 1 - 2:15 pm. Discover how fossils form & take a walk to look for rocks. Registration required.

**Paper Recycling Craft** - Sun., Dec. 21, 2 - 4 pm. Find out how to fold old calendar pages into colorful gift boxes. Materials provided, but bring old calendar if possible.

**Family Holiday Hike** - Fri., Dec. 26, 1:30 - 3 pm. Explore one of the trails, then snacks & a campfire at the outdoor amphitheater.

**Cleveland Metroparks Zoo**  
3900 Wildlife Way  
216-661-6500 clemetzoo.com  
Zoo closed Thurs., Dec. 25 & Thurs., Jan. 1.

**Breakfast with Santa** - Sat., Dec. 6 & 13, 9:30 am & 11:45 am; \$14 per person; \$12 for Zoo members; free under 2. Includes meal, holiday crafts for kids, a visit with Santa, face painting & Get Close Animal Encounters. Registration required; call 216-398-5750.

**December Days** - Dec., 22 - 24, 26 - 30; 11 am - 3 pm. Reduced Zoo admission - \$6, adults; \$4, juniors (ages 2 - 11). Children under two & Zoo members free. December Days activities included with Zoo admission.

**Noon Year's Eve** - Wed., Dec. 31. 10 am - noon. Family friendly event includes crafts for kids, live animal shows, an alcohol-free toast & ball drop at noon.

**Reduced Winter Admission** - Now thru - **March 31st** for Zoo & RainForest. Adult admission, \$7; children 2 - 11, \$5; under two & Zoo members, free.

**Night Tracks at the Zoo** - Now thru May, 7 pm. - 11 am. Overnight adventure for kids, families & groups, with opportunities to track & learn about animals using radio-tracking devices, night vision binoculars, maps & compasses. Children 6 & up; some nights reserved for families & groups of all ages. Overnight programs, \$36 per person. Fri. night - Sat. morning & Sat. night - Sun. morning. Call 216-635-3391 for reservations.

**Cleveland Museum of Natural History**  
1 Wade Oval Dr. 216-231-4600  
www.cmnh.org

**Museum** - Mon. - Sat., 10 am - 5 pm; Wed. to 10 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. Age 2 & under, free; ages 3-6, \$6.50; ages 7-adult, \$9.50; seniors & students, \$7.50. Two new dinosaurs on permanent exhibit -- "Jane", in the main lobby, a life-sized skeletal cast of a juvenile tyrannosaur (or possibly nanotyrannus, a close cousin); and "triceratops horridus", in the Kirtland Hall of Prehistoric Life, a 21-foot long, full-sized replica of a dinosaur that lived 65-68 million years ago.

**Cleveland Public Library, Brooklyn**  
3706 Pearl Rd. 216-623-6920  
**Play and Learn!** - Every Fri., 10-11 am. Join

other caregivers & toddlers, have fun with a variety of books & learning toys.

**Preschool Story Time** - Every Fri., 11-11:30 am. Stories & songs for children ages 3-5. Call for specific program requests or more info.

**Cleveland Public Library, South Brooklyn**  
4303 Pearl Rd. 216-623-7067

**Preschool Storytime** - Every Tues., 1:30 pm. Interactive stories, rhymes, songs & other activities for children ages 3-5. Call to register.

**Toddler Time** - Every Tues., 10:30 - 11:30 am. Interactive stories, rhymes, songs & other activities for children ages 1-2. Call to register.

**Play and Learn** - Every Fri., 11- 12 pm. Join other caregivers & toddlers. Have fun with a variety of books & learning toys & make new friends. Call to register.

**Cuyahoga National Valley Park**  
Canal Visitor Center, 7104 Canal Rd,  
intersection of Canal & Hillside Rds, Valley View.  
Year round, daily, 10 am - 4 pm; free.

**Cuyahoga Valley Senic Railroad (CVSR),**  
Rockside Station 800-468-4070  
www.dayinthevalley.com

**Mr. Jingle's Holiday Express** - Sat. & Sun, now thru Dec 14, 10:15 - 11:45 am or 1 - 2:45 pm. Beloved holiday character joins CVSR on train ride. Tickets: \$20, adults; \$18, seniors 65 & over; \$13, children ages 3 - 12. Call above number to register.

**Peninsula Explorer** - Fri., Dec. 6 & 13 & Sun., Dec. 7 & 14, 10:15 am. Ride the rails, take a hike along the Towpath Trail, explore the Village of Peninsula, lunch or shopping. Tickets: \$15, adults; \$10, children ages 3 - 12. Call above number to register.

**Scenic Limited** - Fri., Dec. 6 & 13 & Sun., Dec. 7 & 14, 10:15 am & 1 pm. 1-3/4 hr. excursion through Cuyahoga Valley Park. Tickets: \$15, adults; \$10, children ages 3 - 12. Call above number to register.

**Christmas Tree Adventure** - Fri., Dec. 6 & 13 & Sun., Dec. 7 & 14, 10:15 am - 3 pm. Ride to Peninsula & Heritage Farms to select & cut your own Christmas tree. Tickets: \$25, adults; \$20, seniors 65 & over; \$12, children ages 3 - 12. Call above number to register.

**Grand Pacific Junction**  
Mill St & Columbia Rd., Olmsted Falls  
440-235-9277  
www.grandpacificjunction.com

**Santa Look-A-Like Contest** - Sat., Dec. 6; prizes for winners. Entries taken at 1 pm under the gazebo; judging at 2 pm.

**Holiday Craft Show** - Sat., Dec. 6, 10 - 8 pm.

**Family pictures with Santa; Christmas crafts for kids** - Sat. & Sun., Dec. 6 & 7.

**Christmas Tree Sale** - Sat. & Sun., Dec 6 & 7, Schusters Greenhouse, 9 am -5 pm.

For more info. visit www.grandpacificjunction.com or call Shawn at 440-235-0613, Jeannie at 440-235-9277, or email gpjmerchants@yahoo.com.

**Hale Farm & Village** - 2686 Oak Hill Rd., Bath, 330-666-3711, x 227 www.wrhs.org

**Holiday Lantern Tours** - Thurs., Dec. 18; Fri., Dec. 5, 12 & 19; Sat., Dec. 6, 13 & 20;



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216.398.7743 or 216.375.9466

**In-the-Now Yoga**  
Body-Mind-Spirit Integrative

**Sun., Dec. 21; Mon., Dec. 22; Tues., Dec. 23,** 6 pm. Civil War holiday-history tour through Hale Farm & Village. Guided by lantern light, visitors will be escorted back to 1863 & meet townsfolk who keep the Yuletide spirit alivedespite absent loved ones. Sing carols & discover the magic of the season during this era. Fee. Call to register.

**Once Upon a Time at Hale Farm** - Programs for children ages 2 - 6 & their favorite grown-up. Every Fri., 10 am & 1pm. Cost - \$8, child, with one free adult; \$7, for WRHS members. Reservations required. Each program consists of a visit to part of Hale Farm & Village, plus a craft, story & snack.

**15th Annual Holiday CircleFest**  
216-791-3900 or www.universitycircle.org  
**Sunday, Dec. 7,** 1 - 5:30 pm, more than 20 University Circle museums, gardens, galleries, churches & schools open for free day of music, activities & shopping. **Winter Lights Lantern Festival on Wade Oval** - 5:30 pm. Also opening day of the new ice rink at Wade Oval - 1 - 7 pm. Areas for both free & paid parking; complimentary shuttle buses.

**Lake Erie Nature & Science Center**  
28728 Wolf Rd. Bay Village 440-871-2900  
www.lensc.org

**Tale of classic holiday story, The Night Tree,** Tues., Dec. 16, 3 - 4:30 pm; for families with children ages 3 & up. Cost: \$10 per child. Enjoy appearances by some of the wild animals featured in the story, prepare delicious treats for the wildlife to eat & savor afternoon snack of holiday cookies & warm beverages. Advance registration required.

**Backyard Astronomy** - Sat., 1 pm; fee - \$2. View autumn constellations & other celestial objects visible in the Northeast Ohio night sky.

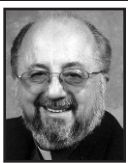
**Holiday Star Shows & Laser Light Programs** - **Twinkle Tots** - 11 am. Fee: \$1/person. **Holiday Laser Lights** - 11:30 am., 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30 pm. Fee:\$3/person. Planetarium special holiday dates: **Dec., 20, 26, 29, 30, Jan. 2, 3, 4.** Family friendly programs for all ages in our planetarium, featuring seasonal music & animated Skylase Laser Lights with jolly holiday flair in addition to usual planetarium line-up.

**NASA Glenn Research Center**  
21000 Brookpark Rd. 216-433-9653  
www.grc.nasa.gov.

**Space in 3D** - Tues., Dec. 30 - Presentations 9 am, noon & 2 pm. Free. Unique view of space exploration, with computer driven 3D movies & images showing new spacecraft, rocket test facilities & jet engines in action. Programs include 3D imaging history & how NASA engineers have used it to design new technology. Free craft activities for children, Eva the Astronaut, digital photos & more.

*As I see it...*

by  
**Pastor Jerry**



People often think of heart surgeons as the prima donnas of the medical world. But those who know Dr. William DeVries, the surgeon who pioneered the artificial heart, couldn't disagree more. Co-workers at Humana Hospital Audubon in Louisville, Kentucky, describe DeVries as the kind of doctor who shows up on Sundays just to cheer discouraged patients. He occasionally even changes dressings, traditionally considered a nurse's job, if a patient wants him to stay and chat a bit.

Friends say DeVries is an "old shoe" who fits in wherever he goes. He likes to wear cowboy boots with his surgical scrubs and he often repairs hearts to the beat of Vivaldi or jazz. "He always has a smile lurking," say his colleagues.

No matter how high you rise, never forget that you started out at ground zero. Even if you were born to great wealth or privilege, you were born as a helpless babe, nonetheless. Real success comes not in thinking you have arrived at a place where others should serve you, but in recognizing that in whatever place you are, you have arrived at a position where you can serve others. And that, my friends, is the real Christmas message.

God's blessings to you and yours this season.

*Jerry Madasz is the pastor of*  
**St. Luke's United Church of Christ**  
4216 Pearl Rd.  
*(at the corner of Pearl & Memphis)*



# SENIOR NOTES

**Senior Citizen Resources (SCR)**  
216-749-5367

**Bocce Ball** - Tues., 8:30 am, Estabrook.

**Book Club** - Call 216-749-5367 to register.

**Chair Bowling** - Mon., 10 am, Deaconess-Krafft. Fri., 10:30 am, The Schwab Center.

**Chair Exercise** - Tues., Thurs., 11:30 am, The Schwab Center. Thurs., 10:30 am, Estabrook Recreation. Fri., 10:30 am, Deaconess-Krafft.

**Chair Volleyball** - Mon., 10:45 am, Deaconess Krafft. Wed., 11 am & Thurs., 10:45, The Schwab Center.

**Craft Classes** - Tues. & Thurs., 9:30 - 11:30 am, Deaconess Krafft.

**Crochet Klatch** - Tues., 9:30 - 11:30 am, The Schwab Center.

**MetroHealth Lite & Easy Exercise** - Mon., Wed. & Fri., 9:30 - 10:30 am. Light exercise class with a certified fitness instructor; \$2 per class. The Schwab Center.

**Post Office on Wheels** - First Thurs. of every month, 9:30 - 10 am, Deaconess-Krafft. 11 - 11:30 am, The Schwab Center.

**"SCR Strollers"** - Walking group, Tues., 10 am; meet at Estabrook Recreation Center.

**Fun & Games**

**Canasta** - Mon. & Wed., 12:30 pm, Deaconess Krafft.

**Fruit Bingo** - Mon., 11:30 am, The Schwab Center; & Wed., 10:30 am, Deaconess-Krafft Center.

**Pinochle Playing** - Tues. & Fri., 12:15 pm, Deaconess-Krafft.

**Wellness & Strengthening Exercise Program**  
The Senior Health & Wellness Center, MetroHealth Old Brooklyn Campus, 4229 Pearl Rd.; Mon. & Fri., 11 am - 12 pm. Program designed for adults 55+. \$2 per class or \$20 for 10 classes (get 11th class free w/punched card). Call 216-957-2800 for more info.

**MetroHealth's/Macy's Oasis Program**  
Macy's, 8001 W. Ridgewood Dr., Parma, 440-886-1157. Weekday classes in many topics -- history, computers, health, art, music & more. Open to individuals 50 years & older. Must be member to take classes. Read class schedule & register online at [www.oasisnet.org/cleveland](http://www.oasisnet.org/cleveland); mail & in-person registration, too.

# CHURCH NOTES

**Friday, Dec. 5th & Saturday, Dec. 6th Christmas Boutique & Rummage Sale**  
St. Lukes United Church of Christ, 4216 Pearl Rd. (corner of Pearl & Memphis, entrance on Pearl Rd.), Fri., 4 - 8 pm & Sat., 9 am - 3 pm. Special appearance by Santa at noon on Sat. New & gently-used holiday decorations, hand-crafted quality products by guest crafters, modestly-priced gift items & rummage.

**Saturday, December 13th Toy Sale**

Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church, 2607 Archwood Ave, 10 am - 12 pm. New toys for sale at greatly reduced prices. Call 216-459-1450 for more info.

**Saturday & Sunday December 13th & 14th Christmas Cookie Bake Sale**

St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, 4600 State Rd.; Sat., 5 - 6 pm & Sun., noon - 1 pm. Cookies - \$5 per pound; containers provided. Contact church school office, 216-749-7980, for more info.

**Tuesday, December 23rd Widows & Widowers Luncheon**

St. James Lutheran Church, 4771 Broadview Rd, noon. Menu - chopped steak, cheesy broccoli and rice casserole, salads & desserts. Cost - \$3. Call 216-351-6499 to RSVP.

**Wednesday, December 24th Two Christmas Eve Services**

St. James Lutheran Church, 4771 Broadview Rd. First service, 3 pm; second service, 7:30

pm. Christmas carol singing before each service. Special gifts for children! Everyone invited.

**Thursday, December 25th Christmas Day Service**

St. James Lutheran Church, 4771 Broadview Rd., 10 am. Service is entitled "Nine Bible Lessons in Carols" & is patterned after an English Christmas service at Cambridge. Everyone invited!

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**  
Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 4423 Pearl Rd., registering those wanting to inquire about becoming Catholic. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) process also open to baptized Catholics who need Confirmation and/or First Communion. Call 216-749-2323 to register.

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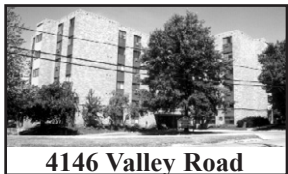
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Cleveland, Ohio 44109

or call 216-459-1000 and charge it.

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**2 Bedrooms \$608 - \$689**

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5133 Pearl Rd. **PEARL BROOKPARK** 661-8030

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# Our Churches Welcome You

Sponsored by the GREATER BROOKLYN MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION. If your Church would like to be included in this ad or changes in this ad are desired, PLEASE CALL (440)845-5128

**BAPTIST**

**Broadview Baptist Church**

4505 Broadview Rd. Over 80 yrs. of worship  
Pastor: Rev. Brent Richards,  
Asst. Pastor: Dr. John Wood  
Phone: 216-351-8414 or 216-431-3515  
Sun. School: 9:45 am. Sun. Worship: 11 am  
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7 pm  
<http://broadview-baptist-church.org>  
website: broadview-baptist-church.org

**Bethel Free Will Baptist Church**

3354 Fulton Rd. Phone: 216-631-9199  
Rev. Freddie Ray, 216-355-2137  
Sunday School: 9:30 am Service: 10:30 am  
Sunday evening service: 6 pm  
Thursday evening Bible Study, 7 pm  
Good gospel singing & preaching

**Harmony Baptist Church**

4020 Ridge Rd., Brooklyn  
Phone: 216-351-3740  
Sunday Worship: 11am & 6 pm.  
Sunday School: 9:45 am  
Wednesday Prayer 7 pm

**BYZANTINE CATHOLIC**

**St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church**

4600 State Rd. Phone: 216-741-7979  
Pastor: Very Rev. Steven Koplinka  
Father Deacon: Joseph Hnat, 216-233-4118.  
Divine Liturgies: Sat. Vigil, 4 pm.; Sunday, 11 am; Holy days, 9 am. Crystal Chalet  
Phone: 216-749-4504  
School #: 216-749-7980 Pre-School #: 216-351-8121

**CHARISMATIC**

**Good News Ministires Church**

3705 West 36th. (W. 36th & Mapledale Ave.)  
Phone: 216-398-4913  
Pastor: Ernie Green.  
Sunday Worship, 11 am  
TV - Tues. 6:30 pm. Ch.21- 9 pm Ch. 26.  
Fri. 6:30 pm, Ch 21 Time Warner Channel.

**EVANGELICAL**

**Grace Church**

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am. (Cafe Oasis following)  
2503 Broadview Rd. & W. 28th St.  
Phone: 216-661-8210  
Email: [Grace.Church@graceoldbrooklyn.org](mailto:Grace.Church@graceoldbrooklyn.org)  
Pastor: Jeff Doeringer & Charlie Collier

**LUTHERAN**

**Dr. Martin Luther Ev. Lutheran Church**

4470 Ridge Rd. Phone: 216-749-5585  
Pastor David W. Bennett. Sunday worship,  
Traditional service 9 am. Praise service  
10:30 am. Sunday school, 10:30 am.  
Christmas Eve Service 7:30 & 10:30 pm.  
[www.LutheranOnline.com/DMLChurch](http://www.LutheranOnline.com/DMLChurch).

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church E.L.C.A.**

5801 Memphis Ave. Phone: 216-741-8230  
Sunday Worship & Sunday School: 10 am.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**

Scranton & Seymour Ave. Phone: 216-781-9511  
Pastor: Rev. Horst Hoyer & Rev. John Hoyer  
German Worship: Sun. 9 am. English 10:30 am

**Parma Evangelical Lutheran Church**

5280 Broadview Rd. (North & Tuxedo Ave.)  
Phone: 351-6376 Pastor: Donald E. Frantz II  
Sunday Worship 10:20 am Sat. 5:15 pm.  
Christmas Eve serv: Child 5 pm. Family 7  
pm. Candlelite 10 pm. Advent soup supper  
& serv., Wed. Dec. 3, 10, 17, 5:30 pm.

**St. James Lutheran Church**

4771 Broadview Rd. Phone: 216-351-6499  
Pastor: Paul W. Hoffman  
Sunday Worship: 8 & 10:30 am / Sat. Serv: 5 pm.  
Sunday School & Bible Class: 9:15 am  
Website: [stjamescleve.com](http://stjamescleve.com)

**St. Mark Lutheran Church**

4464 Pearl Rd. Phone: 216-749-3545  
Pastor: Richard E. Kurth  
Sunday Worship: 10:15 am, Sat. - 5 pm.  
Sunday School & Adult Bible Study, 9 am  
Elementary School: grades K - 8

**Unity Lutheran Church**

4542 Pearl Rd. - Phone: 216-741-2085  
Rev. Peeter Pirm - Worship Service: 9:30 am  
Sunday School & Adult Study: 11am  
Preschool/Day Care 3-12 yrs. [www.unity-lutheran.org](http://www.unity-lutheran.org)

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**

**Circle of Inner Light Spiritual Community**

4815 Broadview Rd. Swedenborg Chapel. 216-398-7743. Ministers, Rev. Virginia Collins & Remielle Brooksieker. Spiritualist services, prayer & healing circle, study classes, ceremonies (marriage, memorial, etc.) Life coaching, Yoga. 6 pm Sun. service. [www.circleofinnerlight.com](http://www.circleofinnerlight.com)  
LTeacherforlife@aol.com

**Institute Of Divine Metaphysical Research**

4150 Pearl Rd. Free Public Lectures.  
Phone: 216-398-6990 [www.idmr.net](http://www.idmr.net)  
Sun.: 11 am - 1 pm, Mon. & Wed.: 7-9 pm.  
All invited & encouraged to attend!

**Palace of Praise**

4274 Pearl Rd. Phone: 216-741-9322  
Pastor: Rev. Joseph Terry

Sunday Worship: 10:30 am  
Wednesday Service: 7 pm  
Miracle Service: Friday, 7 pm

**POLISH NAT'L CATHOLIC**

**St. Mary's Church**

Corner Broadview & Wexford, Parma  
Pastor: Rev. Roman Misiewicz  
Phone: 216-741-8154  
Sunday Masses: 9 am English, 11 am Polish  
Sunday School: 10:00 am

**ROMAN CATHOLIC**

**Our Lady of Good Counsel Church**

4423 Pearl Rd. Phone: 216-749-2323  
Pastor: Fr. LeRoy J. Moreeuw, C.P.P.S.  
Masses: Sat. 4:30 pm; Sun., 8:30 & 11am  
Weekday Masses: Mon.-Sat., 8 am  
School Phone: 216-741-3685

**Church of St. Leo The Great**

4940 Broadview Rd.  
Phone: 216-661-1006  
Pastor: Fr. Russ Lowe  
Masses: Sat., 4 pm. Sun., 8 am, 10 am & 12 noon

**Saint Barbara Church**

1505 Denison Ave.  
Phone: 216-741-2067  
Administrator: Fr. Lucjan Stokowski  
Masses: Sat., 4:30 pm;  
Sun., 9 am, 11am (Polish)

**Corpus Christi Church**

5204 Northcliff Ave.,  
Phone: 216-351-8738  
Pastor: Fr. Russell Lowe  
Masses: Sat., 4:30 pm; Sun., 10 am.  
Weekday Mass: Mon. & Wed., 9 am.  
Prayer Services: Thurs. 9:00 am

**PRESBYTERIAN**

**Brooklyn Presbyterian Church (USA)**

4308 Pearl Rd. at Spokane Ave.  
Phone: 216-741-8331 Rev. Adrienne Lloyd  
Sun. Worship: 10:30 am. Sun. school 10:15 am  
Parking at Busch Funeral Home

**SWENDENBORGIAN**

**Swedenborg Chapel**

A New Christianity 4815 Broadview Rd,  
Phone: 216-351-8093  
Pastor: Rev. Junchol Lee  
Sunday Worship: 11am  
Adult Bible (non-fundamental): Sat., 10 am  
Non-Denomination Weddings- 216-351-8093  
A Warm Welcome Awaits You.

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Archwood U.C.C.**

2800 Archwood Ave. Phone: 216-351-1060  
Rev. Stephen Adams, Interim Pastor  
Sunday: 11 am (ASL Interpreted) Nursery  
provided ages 1-5. Children's Sunday school  
11:15 am Multicultural Open & Affirming.  
[www.archwooducc.org](http://www.archwooducc.org)

**Brooklyn Heights U.C.C.**

Rev. Dr. Lee Holliday  
2005 W. Schaaf Rd. Phone: 216-741-2280  
Nursery with adult supervision  
Sunday Worship & Church School: 9:30 am

**St. Luke's U.C.C.**

4216 Pearl Rd. (corner Memphis Ave.)  
Phone: 216-351-4422  
Pastor: Gerald Madasz  
Sunday Worship: 10:15 am

**United Church of Christ in Brooklyn**

8720 Memphis Ave. Phone: 216-661-0227  
Pastor: Rev. Robert Z. Lahr  
Sunday School & Worship: 10:30 am

**UNITED METHODIST**

**Brooklyn Memorial UMC**

2607 Archwood Ave. Phone: 216-459-1450  
Pastor: Rev. Pamela Buzalka  
Sun. Worship: 10:45 am. Sun. school 10 am  
Tues., Weekday wonders bible study, 11 am.  
Everyone welcome!

**Pearl Rd. United Methodist Church**

4200 Pearl Rd. Phone: 216-661-5642  
Pastor: Rev. Paul Wilson  
Sunday Worship & Sunday School: 10 am  
Adult Study & Coffee Hour: 11 am  
Free hunger meal Thursdays: 6 pm  
<http://www.gbmg-umc.org/pearl-road-umc>



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**A1 WING RITE SERVICE.** Reasonable prices, low service charge, guaranteed work. Central air conditioning. Furnace repair & cleaning. Senior discounts. Call 216-749-2054.

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**HANDYMAN.** Electrical, plumbing, painting, gutter & yard cleaning, hauling, roof repairs.

Call Mike at 216-315-0639.

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mates, insured. Call Jeff Makkos, 216-661-8234.

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**Residential Rate:** \$12.00 for the first 20 words, 25 cents for each additional word. Contact the **Old Brooklyn News** to run your ad and also receive rates for display ads.

Ph: 216-459-0135 Fax: 216-459-1741  
 e-mail: [sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com)

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**3 BEDROOM DOWN** - completely remodeled. Near MetroHealth Hospital. \$500 mn. plus one mn. security deposit. Call 216-702-4374.

**3 BEDROOM DUPLEX** - side by side. Section 8 O.K. \$750 mn. plus one mn. security deposit. Street parking. Call 216-235-1715.

**SINGLE FAMILY - Old Brooklyn.** 4 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, newly remodeled. Appliances included. 1st month rent + security deposit. Call 216-225-7587.

**NICE HOMES FOR RENT in Old Brooklyn.** 2/3 bdrms., singles, 2 families. Looking for good tenants, fair rents. Security deposit. Call 216-324-6007.

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**2 COCKATIELS** - white, gray, with 14/18/28 cage. Asking \$145, OBO. Call 216-281-6237. Serious inquires only.

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**HIRING!** If you are willing and able to work hard - CALL ME. Higher pay if you have a valid Driver License. 216-661-7608

**NOW HIRING:** Companies desperately need employees to assemble products at home. No selling, any hours. \$500 weekly potential. For more info, call 1-985-646-1700, Dept. OH-6505.

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Photos by Elizabeth Emery

Through cooperation among OBCDC, Old Brooklyn Community School (OBCS), Art House and numerous Old Brooklyn businesses, our downtown is a little more colorful and festive looking this holiday season. Here students at OBCS enjoy creating snowflake banners.



Photo by George Shuba

"Here's to Clarence Easterwood", these smiling folks seem to be saying, but the toast is with a cup of chili, not with a cup of some other kind of cheer. On Wednesday, November 22, Clarence (the tall fellow with the white and green hat and a longtime Kiddie Park employee) again treated co-workers and neighborhood friends to a cauldron of his renowned chili. Kiddie Park's Arcade served as the dining room.



Photo by George Shuba

Kiwanis Club of Brooklyn-Cleveland had installation of officers and new members at their recognition dinner at Ridge Manor Party Center on Tuesday, September 23rd. Members pictured (left - right) are Rev. Paul Wilson, Pastor, Pearl Road United Methodist Church; Jodi Donnelly, Executive Director, Kaplan Career Institute; newly elected Kiwanis president, Len Signer; and Regina Reihard, Director of Admissions, Kaplan Career Institute.

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