

New programs now open at MetroHealth Senior Health & Wellness Center

by Keane Southard
OBCDC Summer Intern

MetroHealth Skilled Nursing Services

The Senior Health & Wellness Center has become the new home of MetroHealth Skilled Nursing Services, a facility which is able to provide nursing care services for up to one hundred and forty-four patients.

On March 1st, one hundred and thirty residents of the MetroHealth's former Skilled East Nursing Facility in Highland Hills moved to the Health & Wellness Center in Old Brooklyn. The transportation of the patients via ambulances lasted from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m.

MetroHealth Skilled Nursing Services is dedicated to providing high-quality nursing care and rehabilitation services for the most complex cases. Rehabilitation services include physical, occupational, speech and recreational therapies. Subacute care is available in wound care, rehabilitation and respiratory care. Other services include antibiotics, tube feeding, geriatric care, a secured unit for the cognitively impaired, complex medical care, intravenous therapy, total parenteral nutrition, hospice and respite care.

A number of additional amenities and services are provided for patients, such as spiritual and social events and services.

Individuals are admitted to the program from other local hospitals and health-care facilities. Methods of payment include Medicare, Managed Care, Insurance,

Private Pay and Medicaid.

To learn more about MetroHealth Skilled Nursing Services, call 216-957-3689.

Concordia Care

May 1st was the opening day of the new Concordia Care location at the Senior Health & Wellness Center on the MetroHealth's Old Brooklyn Campus. The new Old Brooklyn location is Concordia's second in northeast Ohio. Their original facility, which is still in use, is at 2373 Euclid Heights Blvd. in Cleveland Heights.

One of four local organizations at the Center specializing in health care of older adults, Concordia Care is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1996 to establish PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) programs in northeast Ohio. Concordia Care implements one of only two PACE programs in Ohio.

The PACE program is based on the belief that it is better for seniors with chronic care needs to be served within the community whenever possible. The program is focused on care and services for the frail elderly while helping to maintain their independence as an alternative to living in nursing homes.

Services provided by Concordia Care include medical care, home care, transportation, medications, incontinence supplies, meals, therapy, psychosocial support, activities, preventative care, chore services, nutritional supplements, X-rays, lab services

and medical specialists.

In addition, a number of services that aren't available in traditional fee-for-service Medicare systems are offered, including eyeglasses, dentures, hearing aids, durable medical equipment and palliative, hospital and/or nursing home care.

An adult day health center is one of the most remarkable services which Concordia Care offers. Located on the Terrace Level of the Health & Wellness Center, it's a God-send to employed care-givers who are also responsible for elderly relatives.

At this point, fifty seniors are already enrolled in the day care program at MetroHealth South (some transferred from Concordia's other location), but there's room for more. Fitness activities, arts and crafts, games, horticultural therapy and special events fill the participants' days there.

To qualify for the PACE program, a person must be a resident of Cuyahoga County; 55 years of age or older; living safely in the community at enrollment time; and certified by the State of Ohio as needing a nursing home level of care.

There is no charge for Concordia Care's services for participants who are on Medicaid. Financial help is available for participants who are on Medicare. Depending upon other participants' monthly incomes, there may be a co-pay.

For more information about Concordia Care, call 216-791-3580 or email Joe Bandiera at jbandiera@metrohealth.org.



The Senior Health & Wellness Center is located at 4229 Pearl Rd. in the former Deaconess Hospital complex. It opened last October as the first center of its kind in the United States.

In addition to Concordia Care, the Health & Wellness Center is a collaborative effort between The MetroHealth System, The Visiting Nurse Association Hospice and Palliative Care Partners of Ohio and the Benjamin Rose Institute.
(Lynette Filips contributed to this article.)

New Medical Home Program at NFP

Neighborhood Family Practice (NFP), 3569 Ridge Rd. at Denison Ave., recently initiated a new program for mothers and young children called the Medical Home Program.

Medical Home means taking one's child to the doctor for regular checkups throughout the year; having the child's health records in one place; knowing and trusting the faces one sees; being confident that the child is receiving preventive healthcare; and feeling comfortable asking questions and getting them answered clearly.

Open to pregnant women in their third trimester and infants under four months of age, the Medical Home Program includes meeting with the patient advocate at each well-child check-up to express feelings, questions and/or concerns about the child's development and healthcare.

There are several incentives to participating in the program. In addition to access to the patient advocate and information regarding community resources and child development, participants who fill out the surveys will receive two \$25 gift cards and various baby supplies (e.g., bath kits, health and grooming kits, onesies, bottles, etc.) at each well-child visit following the initial enrollment.

Call Neighborhood Family Practice's patient advocate, Alison Tomazic, at 216-281-8945, ext. 283 for more information.



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by Donald Heckelmoser
donaldh@oldbrooklyn.com

GG's Barber Shop opens on Broadview Rd.

Gary "GG" Keslar is the owner of GG's Barber Shop, one of the newest businesses in the Old Brooklyn/Brooklyn Centre neighborhood. It's located at 4482 Broadview Rd., a few doors south of Michael's Bakery.

looking forward to becoming bigger and better. He won't be satisfied until he has cut the hair of everyone in the neighborhood, and, more importantly, is friends with everyone in the neighborhood. He wants residents to



Photo by Donald Heckelmoser

(Left - right) Customers John Russo and Rusty Tollard and owner Gary Keslar pose outside Gary's new barbershop.

Gary is from Cleveland's "Little Italy" neighborhood. He grew up in a traditional Italian family and always dreamed of owning his own business in a neighborhood like Old Brooklyn or Brooklyn Centre.

Previously, Gary was the part-owner of two barbershops. When the opportunity to open his own place presented itself, he jumped at the chance. He opened the doors to GG's Barber Shop on April 14th, and has had steady business ever since.

Gary's first big move was to buy out Dan's Broadview Barber Shop on the corner of Oak Park Ave. and Broadview Rd.; on August 1, he will merge the two businesses into one. On that date, Dan (Plescia) will begin working at GG's Barber Shop.

Gary is giving GG's Barber Shop a modern storefront look with an old-time feel inside. He has already made improvements to the front of the exterior of the building and is continuing to make renovations to the interior. At GG's Barber Shop a man can get a quality inexpensive haircut, a hot razor shave and a shoe shine all in the same place.

As does every business owner, Gary is

know that when they come to his shop and mention this "Old Brooklyn News article and Little Italy", he will give them a haircut for two dollars less than the regular price.

Gary is also planning to initiate a monthly drawing for free haircuts. He will start drawing the cards for the haircuts as soon as this promotion is publicized. To be included in the drawing, patrons can either leave their business cards or, for patrons without business cards, leave their names and phone numbers on the back of Gary's cards.

Gary is willing to make house calls for those in the neighborhood who may be sick or disabled and can not make it to his shop. He is a "different kind of barber" and is looking to give back to the community as much as he can.

Because being a part of the community is second only to word of mouth in terms of being a successful local business, Gary hopes to do a lot of charity and volunteer work in the neighborhood. He invites all organizations and churches to call him to discuss ideas where his services could be useful.

GG's Barber Shop is open Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 7 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. (He's scheduled his hours so that a working man can get a haircut without feeling rushed.) He charges \$10 for an adult cut, \$9 for children under the age of 12, and \$8 for senior citizens. On Tuesdays, though, customers who are hungry can opt to get a haircut and a medium pizza (from nearby Gentile's) for \$12.

Gary is looking forward to becoming a neighborhood staple. He knows that it's going to be hard work, and he's willing to put in the effort.

New location for Cleveland Police Auxiliary Adam 5 Base

In last month's edition of the *Old Brooklyn News*, Officer Barb Spaan, #9284, Cleveland Police Auxiliary Adam 5 Base, had advertised for a free space in Old Brooklyn/Brooklyn Centre for the seven-person civilian volunteer team to use.

Barb is grateful to have received a total of seven offers, six from businesses



and churches and one from a resident. As of June 24, the base has settled on a room in the former Corpus Christi School on Pearl Rd. between Northcliff and Archmere Avenues. (The mailing address is 5204 Northcliff Ave.) Thank you to Corpus Christi /St. Leo pastor Fr.

Russ Lowe for the generous offer. Contact Barb via OBCDC, 216-459-1000.

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

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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; Cynthia Cejka & Keane Southard -- this month's Assistant Copy Editors
This month's OBN writers -- Paul Ciupa, Lynette Filips, Merle Gordon, Lucille Johnson, Tom Sargent, Keane Southard & 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.

From the desk of the executive director

by Robyn Sandys
robysn@oldbrooklyn.com



July is All Access Housing Fair month for the CDC and the neighborhoods of Old Brooklyn and Brooklyn Centre, "Premier Neighborhoods that offer Access!" Saturday, July 26th is the day.

Our goal is to get as many people who live outside of our area to consider moving to the area because of our incredible access to major highways, top quality health care, schools, shopping, parks, recreational tow-paths and the zoo. And of course very good housing that is affordable. The day will include tours of beautiful homes which reflect the charm and convenience of Old Brooklyn and Brooklyn Centre. There will be home tours on Polly the Trolley as well as workshops on buying and maintaining your home.

More details on the front page. We are also looking for sponsors for this event. This will be a great way to promote your business, school, organization or program to potential new residents. Just call us for details at 459-1000, or go to our web site at www.oldbrooklyn.com where you will find all of the information you need about the event itself and how to be a sponsor.

The CDC's board is also in the process of recruiting new board members. If you are interested in serving on the board please send a letter or email telling us why you would like to participate and if you have a resume, please include that as well. If you wish to email your information, please forward to cynthiac@oldbrooklyn.com. You can mail it to 3344 Broadview, Cleveland, OH 44109, or fax to 216-459-1741. The deadline for getting your information to us is fast approaching, so please do so by July 21st. The best way to learn about all of our programs is to go on our web site. The Annual Reports from previous years is on the site as well, www.oldbrooklyn.com.

The CDC is starting a new fiscal year on July 1. Some of our goals for this coming year include the revamping of our Code of Regulations. We are in the process of review-

ing our Code through a board/community committee who has been working on this for the past few months. We will be sharing the proposed new Code at our October Annual meeting. Date for that meeting will be announced next month. Some of the other CDC programs for the coming year include:

- ☐ Lead Abatement for families who meet income guidelines and have children 6 years and under in their home (more info page 7)
- ☐ Emergency Home Repair for income eligible homes and rental units
- ☐ Assistance on residential repair loan programs
- ☐ Commercial and residential code enforcement of structures
- ☐ Paint rebate program that provides resources to paint the outside of your home
- ☐ Neighborhood Clean-ups
- ☐ Master planning project, where we will provide comprehensive recommendations on the revitalization of many areas of Wards 15 and 16 relating to commercial and residential districts.
- ☐ Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative, where we will be assessing the walking, biking and overall livability of the W. 25th/Pearl corridor from Lorain Avenue to Brookpark Road. (more info on page 4)

The master planning and transportation projects are community initiatives that require your input. Open meetings have been held for both efforts and will continue over the coming year. Both projects also have community advisory committees consisting of residents and businesses from our area.

Hope you have a great summer and always feel free to contact me or any of our staff if you have any questions or concerns.

Selena Benz wins national WNBA award

by Lucille Johnson

Old Brooklyn resident Selena Benz was proclaimed a national champion in the Junior Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) Skills Challenge on May 16. She was judged best in her class of eleven to twelve year old girls.

Selena, 12, is a student at Charles Mooney Middle School and a parishioner at Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) Church. She's played on OLGC's CYO basketball team for two years.

"We are proud of her for doing such a great job," said her father, Joseph, who also coaches the team.



Photo courtesy of the Benz family

"She is a good student in school which is most important to us. I know that she loves the game and loves competing."

The National Finals were held in Orlando, Florida. Hosted by NBA legend Bob Lanier, the competition consisted of a series of timed fundamental basketball skills tests including passing, dribbling and shooting.

Selena's participation in this event was determined by local and regional competitions that narrowed the field to three finalists in each class.

"I felt great when I won the competition," said Selena. "It was good competing against the other top girls. The competition got harder with each level so at the finals in Orlando, I was nervous. I could not believe that I made it this far, but I wanted to win. After the competition I had fun. We got to meet NBA players and go to Universal Studios."

The Junior NBA/WNBA skills Challenge is a free program for boys and girls ages seven to fourteen in whom such competition helps promote an active lifestyle. Now Selena would like to play in the WNBA one day. "I hope to go to Tennessee and play for Pat Summit," she stated. "I think that she is a great coach."

OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

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NEWS & EVENTS

Monday, July 7th

Old Brooklyn Comanche Youth Football
Lowe Park, Oak Park Ave. between State Rd. & Broadview Rd., 5 pm. Looking for cheerleaders, football players & coaches. Ages 6 - 8, 9-11, 12-13, 14 - 15. Coaches 18 yrs. & older. Registration, 12 - 3 pm every Sat. at Lowe Park. Children do not have to live in Old Brooklyn to play for the Old Brooklyn Comanches. Any child who wants to play is welcome here! Call 216-254-9671 for more info.

Thursday, July 10th

Spring Hill Villa Yard Sale
Spring Hill Villa, 4330 Jennings Rd., 10 am - 4 pm. Yard sale, bake sale inside & hot dogs.

**Thursday, July 10th
Internet Crimes Meeting**

St. Mark's Church, 4464 Pearl Rd., 7 pm, "Internet Crimes" presented by Prosecutor Brendon Sheehan. Have your concerns addressed by a professional. Refreshments. Prosecutor Brendon Sheehan.

**Thursday, July 10th
Theology on Tap**

West Side Irish American Club, 8559 Jennings Rd., (west of Rt. 303), Olmsted Township, 6:30 pm. Fr. Bill Bouhal, pastor of St. Thomas More Church, speaking about *Lectio Divina*, "Listening to God in Scripture". \$3 admission includes appetizers. RSVP to Celeste Cappotto, 216-696-6525, ext. 1049, or ccappotto@dioceseofcleveland.org. (Fr. Bill has a double neighborhood connection; he also attended Corpus Christi School.)

**Thursday, July 10th
Antique Collectors Club**

(Celebrating our 40th year, 1968-2008)
Busch Funeral Home meeting room, 7501 Ridge Rd., 7:30 pm. Jo'Anna Thompson, D.A.R. Regent, speaking about history & current activity. Guests welcome.

**Saturday, July 19th
Street Sale**

Sheryl Dr. street sale. (Off W. 11th St. & W. Schaaf Rd.), 9 am - 4 pm.

**Saturday, July 19th
REIKI I Training**

MetroHealth Medical Center, 2500 MetroHealth Dr., 8 am - 4 pm. Class size maximum - 12 participants. Bring a pillow & blanket. Cost - \$80, includes "Reiki: The Healing Touch" First & Second Degree Manual. Contact hours, 6.5. Contact Rosanne Radziewicz at Radziewicz@metrohealth.org or 216-778-4120 with questions or to register.

Sunday, July 20th

6th Annual Taste of Tremont
Street fair will be held in the heart of Tremont's "restaurant district" & showcase the best of Tremont's food, art & entertainment. Professor St. will be blocked off, inclusive of commercial areas, of Literary, College & Jefferson. Free admission.

Tuesday July 22nd

Film "Mittal Steel Clean Up for Real"
Cleveland Public Library, South Brooklyn Branch, 4303 Pearl Rd., upstairs meeting room, 6:30 pm. Presented by Ohio Citizen Action. Call 216-623-7067 for more info.

Saturday, August 9th

Reunion "TGIF/Right on Friday"
For those who attended the "TGIF/Right on Friday" Game Night Program at Faith United Methodist Church (W. 41 St. & Daisy Ave.) from the late 1960s - 1981. Family welcome;

come 'catch up' with your childhood friends! Reunion at North Olmsted Community Cabin, 28114 Lorain Rd. Main meal/beverages will be provided; bring a side dish or dessert. RSVP to Wilma 440-842-5162 or via email: tgif_rof@cox.net

Saturday, August 23rd

**Car Show & Automotive Swap Meet
Cruisin' To Memphis**

American Greetings parking lot 1 American Rd. Brooklyn. (off Tiedeman Rd.), 8 am - 5 pm. Admission, \$5 (under 12 free). Auto swap meet, car show, food concessions, 50/50 raffle, door prizes, face painting, car cruise, music by Eddie & the Edsels. Sponsored by Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce & MAXX Performance, Inc. Contact Mike Kissel, 440-781-4495, for pre-sale or more info.

Sunday, August 31st

Furry Friends Festival & Pledge Walk
Brooklyn Memorial Park, 7619 Memphis Ave., 10 am - 4 pm. A day of family fun to help homeless animals. Vendors, adoptions, raffles, food, music by Gypsy, dog licenses, rabies shots, microchipping & more! Hosted by Brooklyn Animal Shelter, www.brooklynshelter.org.

**Choir Alumni of Our Lady
of Good Counsel Church**

Looking for past members OLCG adult, children and resurrection choirs! Joining the current choirs for the parish's 135th anniversary celebration in Sept. General practice will take place in Aug. for the event. Call 216-749-2323 & leave message for David Krizan.

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.

**W.S.E.M. 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 the age of 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 is located inside the elementary school & requires a \$50 non-refundable deposit at the time of registration. Preschool program for 3 & 4 year old children provides the opportunity to enhance developmental & readiness skills in preparation for kindergarten. Many different enrollment options are available. New this year is the option to extend the day until 6pm. Cuyahoga County Vouchers are welcome. We have a few spaces available for kindergarten through grade 8. As part of our excellent academic programs, we offer a sacramental program (weekly Mass), all day kindergarten, tutoring program, student council, computer classes, Spanish, music, hot lunch program, & physical education. Having a supportive PTU also provides many additional

opportunities throughout the year. Our before & after care program (BASE) is also available. Registration packets for preschool or K-8 are available in the school office. Vouchers are accepted. For more info. or to schedule a tour, call 216-741-3685. During July messages will be picked up periodically or you can contact Beverly in the Parish office at 216-749-2323. The school office will re-open on August 4th.

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 and Full Day Preschool Registration for 2008-09

St. Leo the Great Preschool will open a full-day 8 am - 2:30 pm, Mon - Fri preschool program for 3 & 4 year olds in addition to their regular half-day classes! Students must have reached 3 or 4 yrs of age by Sept. 30, 2008 to be eligible for preschool. A \$50 non-refundable fee & a copy of the child's birth certificate are required at the time of registration. Contact Mrs. Jeanne Sabol, 216-661-5330, for more info.

Kindergarten & grades 1-8. Registration forms may be picked up in the school office from 9 am - 3:30 pm weekdays. For Kindergarten registration, children must be 5 yrs of age on or before Sept. 30th to be eligible for registration. Bring your child's birth & baptismal certificates along with a \$50 non-refundable registration fee. "We participate in the Cleveland Scholarship and Tutoring Program. Please call 216-661-2120 for more information."

St. Mark Lutheran School Registration

St. Mark Lutheran School, 4464 Pearl Rd. Applications accepted throughout the school year for kindergarten - 8th grade. Participates in the 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 the school office, 216-749-3545, or visit www.orgsites.com/oh/stmarklutheran.

St. Mary Byzantine School Registration

St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Elementary School, 4600 State Rd., is now accepting applications. Enrollment is open for students in preschool - Grade 8. Before/after school services are available, as well as daycare throughout the summer. Local tuition assistance is available to all families, & our school participates in the Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring Program. The school program includes updated computer lab, interactive Smart Boards in all classroom, instrumental music & art instructor, athletics, & more. Call to visit, 216-749-7980 or www.smbyz.org. Register for kindergarten.

CCC Western Campus Summer Camps

Cuyahoga Community College Western Campus Recreation Dept., 11000 Pleasant Valley Rd., Parma. Summer 2008 sports, science & arts camps for girls & boys of all ages.

Soccer Camp

Boys & girls ages 3 - 14 learn about throw-ins, small sided games, corner kicks, goal keeping, ball juggling, penalty kicks & team concept. Camp runs 6 - 8 pm **Aug. 11-15**. Cost - \$75. Registration deadline - **August 6**.

Middle School Performing Arts

Boys & girls in grades 5-9 learn acting, singing, dancing & playwriting skills. Camp runs 8:30 am - 3 pm **July 14 - 25** & 9 am - 5 pm **July 26**. Cost - \$275. Call for deadline.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Brooklyn Centre Community Association meeting, Thurs., July 24th & (every fourth Thurs., 6:30 pm, Archwood United Church of Christ, 2800 Archwood Ave.

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation board meeting every third Tues. of the month, 6-7:30 pm, OBCDC meeting room (3344 Broadview Rd., upstairs). Meetings open to the public for review & comments, but the board reserves the right to close portions of meetings from the public. Call 216-459-1000 to confirm date.

Second District Police Community Relations meeting, Tues., July 8th (& every second Tues.), 7 pm, Applewood Center, 3518 W. 25th St.

Southwest Citizens Area Council meeting, Thurs., July 3rd (every first Thurs.), 7 pm, Gino's, 1314 Denison Ave.

Ward 15 Democratic Club meeting, Tues., July 22nd (& every fourth Tues.), 6:30 pm, Estabrook Recreation Center, 4125 Fulton Rd.

Ward 16 Democratic Club meeting Tues., July 15th. (& every third Tues.), 7 pm. Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 5801 Memphis Ave.



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Background about Treadway Creek Trail

by former Ward 15 Councilwoman
Merle Gordon

I was honored and excited to be invited to the ribbon cutting of the Treadway Creek Greenway and Trail in May. I was overwhelmed by the turnout, especially by the people who were involved in the project from inception to completion who helped turn this forgotten area into the gem that it is today.

Old Brooklyn is rich with historians and memory keepers who tell stories of the ponds down in the ravines where they used to swim and play as children. Over the years these ravines turned into illegal dumping grounds and often it was easier to look the other way. It took a lot of education and vision-building to appreciate the asset that these ravines could become. I'd like to share the story of how this whole Greenway and Trail began...

In the early spring of 1997, just after I was appointed to serve Ward 15, I received a call from Connie Dzurko who lived at Crestview, the apartment building on Crestline. She was active in her building and also with Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA). She told me that the sale of about four acres of land off Crestline was on CMHA's agenda and asked me if I knew anything about it. I had no idea. Connie was persistent, and we didn't have much time before CMHA would vote on this sale.

I started inquiring and found out that a Mr. Bradbury owned about three acres of land right off the park, at the entrance of the current trail. He needed the CMHA land to access his property and turn all seven+ acres of the ravine into a landfill. I knew the problems associated with the other landfills in Ward 15 and wasn't going to allow a new one to open under my watch, plus we had enough grief with another landfill which Mr. Bradbury already owned in the Ward.

CMHA, after long deliberations and negotiations, agreed not to sell him the property - a significant triumph, because Mr. Bradbury's land was thus still 'land-locked'. But he subsequently tried to purchase other lots to get to his property and he also threatened legal action.

After a couple of years, when Mr. Bradbury realized that the Treadway Creek ravine would never be a landfill, he finally relented and negotiated the land back to us for the project. (A poignant aside is that he came to my office a couple of months before he passed away. Knowing that he was dying and wanting to make amends with me, he told me how he really admired our tenacity and our plans for the community asset we were creating. He asked for my forgiveness for fighting me for so long over this land. I think that if he were still alive, he would have attended the ribbon cutting.)

The first ravine clean-up was on a hot, miserable day in the summer of 1998. Jan Rybka, Lucy Miller, Lynea Reindel, a number of high school students and I spent hours cleaning up the then hillside just off the park. Afterwards we sat in the shade and talked about what we had done. We collectively thought about how we needed to build something that people would be proud of and would own so that they would never allow the type of dumping and trashing that had taken place. The questions from those students motivated us to create a vision and work towards it.

Over the years, we had numerous ravine clean-ups, often filling up multiple City garbage trucks. The clean-ups attracted more and more neighbors, residents from surrounding communities and people who cared about the environment. The Boy Scouts were always there to help and we even sponsored an Eagle Scout project! This trail became part of the annual River Sweep and we always, unfortunately, had plenty of trash for the volunteers to clean up.

The project wasn't just about clean-ups, though; it also took money and support. In the beginning there was a small group of advocates from the City, Ohio Canal Corridor and the MetroParks. As momentum for it grew, so did the friends and supporters of the project. It was a huge team effort and they all deserve our deep gratitude.

Eleven years later, it now warms my heart (and quite honestly brought me to tears) to see this community gem off Harmody (formerly Plymouth) Park, and, more importantly, to see people using it. I loved hearing people tell me how they walk or ride bikes with their children and their grandchildren on the Trail. It's great that people have an option to be healthy and active in their own neighborhood and can safely access the Tow Path Trail. (I'm excited for Gloria's hip to heal so she and Dave can take a walk together on the trail.)

Congratulations, Old Brooklyn!

Transportation for Livable Communities (TLCI) meeting held at Zoo auditorium

by Paul Ciupa, OBCDC board member

Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative (TLCI) Grants help communities in Northeast Ohio obtain federal funding and technical assistance for planning transportation projects that strengthen community livability. On the evening of Monday, June 2nd, the first of three public meetings concerning the TLCI Grant which affects the Brooklyn Centre/Old Brooklyn neighborhood was held at the Cleveland Metro Parks Zoo auditorium.

Matt Schmidt of City Architecture and Donald Heckelmoser, Jr. of the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) facilitated the meeting. Approximately twenty people attended the two-hour session.

A TLCI grant of \$75,000 (the maximum amount) was awarded to Old Brooklyn Neighborhood Services (OBNS) in 2006. (An additional \$15,000 was provided by Ward 16 Councilman Kevin Kelley.) Following the OBNS consolidation with the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, OBCDC has become the grant's sponsor; the City of Cleveland remains the grant's co-sponsor.

The purpose of the TLCI grant is to study the Pearl Rd./West 25th St. (US Rt. 42) Corridor between Lorain Ave. and Brookpark Rd. in terms of potential transit service improvements, transit waiting environment beautification, bicycle travel improvements, traffic calming, and pedestrian and streetscape enhancements. (Many such changes have already been made on West 25th St. between Lorain Ave. and Detroit Rd. in those areas as well as commercial/retail revitalization.)

The Ohio City Rapid Transit Station at West 25th St. and Lorain Ave. was chosen as the north limit for the project since the enhancements could promote greater use of the rapid transit line. By improving the connection from that station to the Pearl Rd./West 25th St. Corridor, people from all over Greater Cleveland will more easily be able to visit, travel, shop and dine along the entire corridor without an automobile.

Another subject which interested the audience was the use of streetcars for transportation on Pearl Rd./West 25th St. While installing streetcar tracks on the Corridor is unlikely due to high costs, perhaps trolley-style buses like those in downtown Cleveland could be employed. People might use the public transportation system more if there

were a vehicle on the corridor that made more frequent runs.

More pleasant transit waiting environments were also discussed. Some of the busier bus stops were small and crowded, yet in some other cities, transit waiting areas are surrounded by outdoor cafes, newsstands and coffee shops.

Many in attendance thought that the revitalization of the corridor would be improved if the areas where people gathered were enhanced and made safer through pedestrian, bicycle and streetscape upgrades.

The 2005 NOACA/OBCDC Pearl Rd. Corridor Study will be included in the current TLCI Study. It proposed a lane reduction in the segment of Pearl Rd. from the Brooklyn-Brighton Bridge to the Pearl Rd./State Rd. split. That would enable sidewalk widening, bicycle lanes and areas where restaurants could safely offer outdoor dining.

An interesting observation by Matt Schmidt was that there are five bridges - almost one-fifth of the corridor's length - along this segment of Pearl Rd./West 25th St. They pass over the Rapid Transit/railroad tracks, I-90, I-71, the Big Creek Valley (the Brooklyn/Brighton Bridge) and I-480. The Rapid Transit/railroad track and I-71 bridges can be difficult for bicycles to cross, especially northbound at the points where Columbus Rd. veers to the right at the end of the Rapid Transit/Railroad Track bridge, and where Scranton Rd. veers to the right at the end of the I-71 bridge.

All of these bridges tend to separate neighborhoods and only serve to convey vehicular traffic from one end to the other, but there are bridge designs that help to alleviate the feeling of separation. Even though they are costly, whenever one of these bridges is replaced in the future, that type of design will be recommended.

Two more public meetings, one at the end of August and the other late in September or early in October, will further discuss the TLCI Study. The date, time and location of each meeting will be in the *Old Brooklyn News*, on the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation website (www.oldbrooklyn.com) and on flyers in businesses, churches and libraries throughout Ward 15 and Ward 16.

The TLCI Grant program is administered by the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA), the agency responsible for carrying out transportation and environmental planning in this area.

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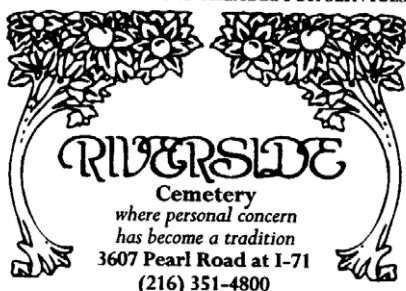
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Old Brooklyn CDC
3344 Broadview Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44109

Attention: Lynea M. Reindel

You may fax the information to 216-459-1741 or email cynthiac@oldbrooklyn.com. There are 3 categories: residential, commercial and institutional.

For further information about the CDC, please go to www.oldbrooklyn.com. The Board of Directors link includes a copy of the CDC's Code of Regulations which describes the criteria for each category. Additional information will also be posted in upcoming editions of the *Old Brooklyn News*.

You must also be a member in good standing, which means your membership dues are up to date. Membership information is also available on the web site.



Already it's July, and in this column, that means church personnel changes and student awards. Assuredly there are clergy changes to report, but they'll have to wait till next time; this month, it's "junior achievement".

Let's get started with **Samantha Musser** of W. Schaaf Rd., who's had a very exciting few months. Last month Samantha graduated from St. Martin de Porres High School (at E. 61st St. and St. Clair Ave.); she was the valedictorian of her class.

In May Samantha had spent three weeks volunteering at AIDS orphanages, schools and clinics in the Republic of Malawi, a country in southeast Africa. The "immersion trip", a life-changing experience, was funded by a Pepper Pike based organization called *Help Malawi Children*. Two of her classmates as well as one additional student received the same scholarship opportunity.

When the school year starts up again, Samantha will be at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She plans to major in anthropology.

The **Brooklyn - Cleveland Kiwanis Club** recently presented \$1000 checks to four seniors from neighborhood schools, two from **James Ford Rhodes High School (Kayla Giannetti and Marko Iskander)** and two from **Brooklyn High School (Kevin Lachowski and Kristylen Tomcik)**. Three of the students are pictured in the photo below.

Kayla, a National Honor Society member who will be attending Baldwin-Wallace College (B-W), was involved in student government, served as editor of the yearbook, took part in a photo project with Cleveland State University and volunteered with the American Red Cross. She is planning a career in forensic pathology.

Marko, too, will be attending B-W. He will pursue computer science, and wants to earn a Ph.D. in computer networking. Marko was a National Honor Society member, too, and in addition, he earned a Phi Beta Kappa key. He also applied for a National Institute of Health grant to help fund a Cleveland State University bio-laboratory.

Kevin is headed for the University of Akron; his field of choice is emergency management. He, too, was a member of the National Honor Society, was involved with many sports, and has done community service.

Kristylen will be continuing her studies at

Case Western Reserve University as a biology major. She hopes to become a Doctor of Orthopedic Sports Medicine. She was involved in various high school sports and enjoys photography and helping in the community.

Nineteen Rhodes seniors and twelve Brooklyn seniors had applied for the Kiwanis scholarships.

"All the world's a stage..." William Shakespeare stated in at least one of his plays, but a number of neighborhood students are regularly on a real stage.

Chris Bizub of Brooklyn, for instance, a theater major at Baldwin-Wallace, is the Player King in The Cleveland Shakespeare's Festival's (CSF's) rendition of *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead*.

The show, named after two minor characters in *Hamlet* (and being presented in repertory with *Hamlet*), can be seen at six locations throughout northeast Ohio this summer.

Two of the performance locations are close to our neighborhood, but one of them, the outdoor amphitheater at Cuyahoga Community College's Western Campus, is already over.

The other location, in Tremont's Lincoln Park, is still coming up on Sunday, August 3. (See *Theater Notes* for more details about the CSF's professionally-done, free productions.)

A group of **Old Brooklyn Community School** students are regularly on **Near West Theatre's** (NWT) stage, though none of them will be among the thespians in the upcoming teen theater production of "West Side Story".

Several younger students were in last month's NWT youth theater production of "Seussical Jr.", though. **Ben Schumann** had one of the two leads -- Horton (the elephant who heard a Who). **Hayden Neidhardt** was Mayzie LaBird and **Laura Kalynchuk** was Mrs. Mayor (of Whoville). **Maggie Halm** was one of the Bird Girls and **Andy Schumann** played multiple roles --- circus animal, citizen of Whoville and jungle citizen.

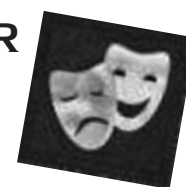
Although we have lots of newsy tidbits waiting to be reported, that's all that space will permit us to share this month.

If you have something you'd like us to include in a future column, send it to: Lynette Filipis, The Town Crier, c/o the *Old Brooklyn*

News, 3344 Broadview Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44109

(Acknowledgments: I am very grateful to Lucille Johnson for the information she gathered about the Kiwanis scholarship winners from Brooklyn and Rhodes High Schools.)

THEATER NOTES



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

Fri., July 11th - Sun., July 27th; Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets -- adults, \$20; students & seniors, \$15.

Estabrook Recreation Center
4125 Fulton Rd. 216-664-4149
Cleveland Public Theatre Student Theatre Enrichment Program ("STEP '08")
Fri., Aug. 8, 6 pm; free.

Near West Theatre
St. Patrick's Club Building
3606 Bridge Ave. 216-961-9750
www.nearwesttheatre.org
"West Side Story"

Fri., July 18 - Sun., Aug. 3. Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets -- \$6. Free parking. Ticket reservation voicemail up to one hour before curtain time -- 216-961-6391.

"Arts in August" at **Tremont's Lincoln Park**
Cleveland Public Theatre Student Theatre Enrichment Program ("STEP '08")
Fri., Aug 1, 7 pm; free.

Cleveland Shakespeare Festival's "Hamlet"
Sat., Aug 2, 7 pm; free.

"Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead"
Sun., Aug. 3, 7 pm; free.

(No seating provided; bring lawn chairs or blankets. In the case of the Shakespeare Festival, "the show will go on", rain or shine; a rain location within walking distance of the park will be announced, if necessary.)



Photo by George Shuba

(Left - right) Donald Hagen, Kevin Lachowski, Kayla Giannetti, Kristylen Tomcik and George Jicha are all smiles over the \$1000 checks which Brooklyn Kiwanis awarded.

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by Tom Collins
tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

What a difference a fence makes

A few blocks along Pearl Rd. will soon be receiving a highly visible makeover. Riverside Cemetery is replacing its aged, deteriorating wrought iron fence with a new fence. While not an exact replica, the design of the new fence will be very similar to the design of the former fence. The single section of old fence to remain is the pedestrian gate, which will be restored. The stone pillars, too, will be repaired, not replaced.

That fence has visibly defined Riverside Cemetery to thousands of people who travel Pearl Rd. regularly. Bill Halley, the cemetery's general manager, could not say exactly when the old fence was installed, but he believes that it was sometime in the early 1900s. Including the gate, the fence is approximately 900 feet long. It consists of 120 sections.

Inside the fence are arguably the prettiest grounds in Brooklyn Centre. The park-like setting has a variety of mature trees, seasonal

flowering plants and interesting monuments and mausoleums. The new fence will not only enhance the beauty of the cemetery but will also remove what was taking on the appearance of blight. It would be nice if other nearby properties could work the same fence design into their landscaping.

I understand that the fence contractor, Borchert Fence Company of Cleveland, has the salvage rights to the old fence.

Mixing business and art

What started out as a "What if?" conversation between John Young of Speed Exterminating and Don Workman of Ameriflag is growing into a project with Art House. Art House is the art studio and education center at 3219 Denison Ave. in Brooklyn Centre.

"What if the vacant storefronts or other store windows in Old Brooklyn could display art work?" said one business owner to the other. Neither individual recalls who said what when, but both know that it came from a casual discussion about how window displays attract people.

People enjoy looking at window displays. There are over 700 employees at the MetroHealth's Senior Health & Wellness Center at Pearl Rd. and Memphis Ave. and in nice weather, they like to walk the commercial streets during lunch hours and breaks. Thus far, the merchants along the way have not done much to capture these potential customers with interesting, welcoming window displays.

Art House's Executive Director Amy Craft and Program/Volunteer Coordinator Becky Cummings were looking for opportunities to display a wide range of art and promote the many programs that Art House offers.

(www.arthouseinc.org)

When demand meets supply, good things happen. This foursome met on June 20th for a walking talking tour of the area around Pearl Rd. and Broadview Rd.

Since then, window measurements are being recorded and the art work inventory is being reviewed. Other building owners whose windows are empty vessels are being contacted to see if they will make space available.

The window art will be a cross section of mediums and artists. Students, amateurs and professional artists will rotate displays. Signs will identify the artist, name of the piece and Art House contact information, should someone want to know more about the art work.

This will be a low-cost means to improve the appearance of the commercial district, invite people to walk the business neighborhood, and perhaps start a conversation about how a particular piece is perceived. Just like the new fence at Riverside Cemetery, small changes can make big differences.

Another difference

I'd like to thank the volunteers from the South Cuyahoga Sportsman Association. Like the Minutemen of the 1770s, they responded

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Ben Franklin Gardeners of the month

by Tom Sargent

With this issue of the newspaper, and continuing through the gardening season, the Old Brooklyn News will be reviving the practice of designating a "Gardener of the Month" at the Benjamin Franklin Community Garden. The gardeners will be chosen based on their tenure in the Garden, their support of the Garden and its activities and the quality of their gardening efforts. The selections will be

made by the Chairman of the Garden Committee and the Chief Garden Attendant.

For the inaugural revived "Gardener(s) of the Month" feature, the husband/wife duo of Galen and Debbie (Debbie) Alexander are being recognized. In the opinion of "Benji's" Chief Garden Attendant,

no gardeners have contributed more of their time, resources and energy than have Galen and Debbie. Most often, these contributions have been made with no fanfare and without them even being asked for the help. They simply see a need and do it. Space constraints prohibit trying to list their contributions to the Garden, so it must suffice to say that they have been many and varied.

Debbie and Galen have been twenty-eight years married, and have lived in Old Brooklyn most of that time. They are the parents of two sons, Joshua and Aaron. Joshua is 27 and lives with his family in Southern Illinois. Aaron, 21, is a student at Cuyahoga Community College, and has recently received certifications in both Fire Fighting and as an EMT. He is now enrolled in Paramedic training. He also worked three summers as a Garden Attendant.

Galen was born in Southwestern PA and grew up in a gardening and farming culture. His family migrated to Cleveland's Slavic Village in 1958. He served six years in the

to a call for quick assistance! The help was needed to place the American flags on the utility poles along Pearl Rd. and Broadview Rd. a few days before Memorial Day.

Arriving on short notice, Harry Arnold, Gordon Weber and Ken Kraus placed the flags and then departed, their mission accomplished. When you see the flags, please remember that the donation of the flags, mounting them to the flag poles and placing them on the utility poles was all a volunteer effort. Their removal and storage later this summer will be a similar effort.

The man behind the scenes for this annual event is Don Workman. He will chastise me for calling attention to him because he believes duty is duty, period. I believe that, too, but I also believe in saying thanks when thanks is due.

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Coast Guard, mostly aboard an ice breaker, where he made many trips to both the North and South Poles. In addition, he also served a tour in Search and Rescue in San Pedro, California. He has been employed for many years as a construction mechanic, charged with the maintenance of the equipment, large and small, used by his company.

Galen is known throughout the Garden as the "Pepper Man", so called because of his cultivation of hot, exotic peppers. Late in



Photo by Tom Sargent
Debbie, Galen, Jr. (the scarecrow) and Galen Alexander enjoy the time they spend in their garden at Benjamin Franklin Community Garden.

the summer, his garden is a source of much interest by other gardeners. He shares generously with other gardeners the products of his efforts and also his knowledge and information of hot peppers.

Debbie, born in Cleveland, had no gardening experience until she began, about twenty years ago, gardening with her son Josh at "Benji." She and Galen again began gardening together about eight years ago. She has been a Diagnostic Medical Ultrasonographer (ultrasound) for twenty five years and is employed at Fairview Park Hospital. She has a ready smile and an infectious laugh, almost always in good humor. She is continually looking for and finding ways to help with the Garden and its operation.

Galen and Debbie both state that the reason that they enjoy the Garden so much is its value in stress relief. They also appreciate the socialization that transpires with other gardeners. Galen, especially, enjoys learning about plants and their cultivation. Individually and as a pair, they are deserving of the title "Gardener(s) of the Month".

Community Toolbox

"It's about your home; it's about your neighborhood."



OBCDC participates in lead abatement

by Donald Heckmoser
donnaldh@oldbrooklyn.com

Lead Hazard Control Program

Lead has been causing problems in cities with old housing stock for many years. The City of Cleveland's Department of Public Health recently gave the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) the opportunity to abate the nuisance of lead in twenty-one housing units in OBCDC's service area.

Everyone in the Brooklyn Centre/Old Brooklyn neighborhood who has ever had a concern that they or their family members might be at risk for elevated blood lead levels should read the following information carefully to decide if they want to take the first steps to remediate the current risk they could be facing.

1. Lead Hazard Control Program - Guidelines for residents

The strategy has several major elements:

- A. To reduce lead hazards in the homes of low-income lead-poisoned children;
- B. To reduce lead hazards in the homes of low-income families with young children, particularly in targeted high-risk neighborhoods, before children become poisoned;
- C. To educate and inform the general public and target area residents in order to prevent or control lead hazards and prevent the occurrence of childhood lead poisoning;

2. Profile of Eligibility

All City of Cleveland residents are eligible for this program if they meet the income guidelines and have a child under age 6 residing in or regularly visiting (more than 20 hours per week) the home.

Landlords who rent to income-eligible families are eligible regardless of residency. However, the Lead Hazard Control Program will examine investor property owners' financial status to assure that the property owner is not gaining an extreme advantage by using HUD funds.

The Lead Hazard Control Program uses a prioritization process that empirically scores the applicant. An applicant must score above a 20 on the prioritization to qualify for the program. The Lead Hazard Control Program undertakes the highest scores first.

3. Programs Available

The LSP version (Local Service Project)

This portion of the program limits lead hazard control efforts to units owned by low and very-low income persons, who cannot obtain conventional financing to repair their homes and cannot afford to repay even no-interest loans. Funding for lead hazard control for owner-occupied property will be in the form of grants with a minor contribution by the homeowner in the form of non-lead based repairs completed by the home owner. Each LSP project has a minimum of \$560 in match. Eligible owner specified work must be completed prior to the lead hazard control work commencing. Match funding will be collected in advance of the project work.

The FALRI version (Full Assessment Limited Reduction Initiative)

This portion of the program will focus on enticing rental property owners to participate in the remediation of lead hazards by offering grant opportunities. This program will offer you the property owner, up to \$5,000 in grant funds per unit. Remaining costs for the lead hazard control will be the responsibility of you, the property owner, and will be considered "matching contribution". This match must equal \$1,100 at a minimum per unit.

All the funding allocations for this Cleveland Department of Public Health (CDPH) Program contain a maintenance contract with requirements to annually inspect the property.

The results of those inspections for a period of three years will be contained in the project files. Should the client, fail to comply with the contract; the CDPH in conjunction

with the Cleveland Law Department will pursue civil litigation to recover the grant funds. Should the Lead Hazard Control Program discover a violation of the agreement to offer and rent to low income families with young children, it will pursue legal options through the Cleveland Law Department.

Participating owners give their signed consent that the units will remain affordable to low- and very-low income families for at least three years; agree to not raise rents for at least three years unless economic circumstances are necessary to maintain solvency (e.g., increased fuel, water or property tax costs); and agree to give priority in renting units to families with children under the age of six for at least three years.

Each FALRI project has a minimum of \$1,100 in match. Eligible owner specified work must be completed prior to the lead hazard control work commencing. Match funding will be collected from you in advance of the project work.

4. Match Requirements

Homeowner required repairs

For the CDPH Program your home or units will receive a dual inspection:

a home inspection that examines all systems within a home; A PIRA, Paint Inspection Risk Assessment.

Based on the home inspection, the property owner will be responsible for the correc-

tion of non-lead potential hazards. Our experience has found several common environmental problems with older homes in high risk areas, including inoperable or missing smoke detectors, inoperable or missing ground fault interrupted circuit outlets, leaking exhaust pipes from furnaces and water tanks, leaking plumbing fixtures, and holes in walls that cause exposure to asbestos-bearing plaster.

The property owner is responsible for the correction of these conditions. The Lead Hazard Control Program will provide, the owner with specifications and prices for the non-lead repairs.

When the work is complete, the unit is re-inspected and, if the repairs are satisfactorily completed, the project continues and the specifications completed that affect the lead hazard control work become a privately-funded match. Most of these necessary repairs are within the ability of the home owner to complete.

5. Weatherization

All homes and units enrolled in the Lead Hazard Control Program are automatically referred to a weatherization program. Most qualify for the weatherization if it has not been previously completed. This usually amounts to \$1,000 in weatherization costs. These weatherization projects are tracked and invoices retained in the project file.

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Independence Day in bygone times, Part IV-- the *Festival of Freedom* during World War II

by Lynette Filips
lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com

Call it Fourth of July, or call it Independence Day; the holiday we celebrate this month has come to be the central celebration of many people's summer. The way that Clevelanders have marked the day, though, has changed a lot over the city's two hundred-plus years.

This is actually the fourth time that we've looked at how the observance of the day has changed. It's gone from being primarily a man's holiday with the discharging of firearms and excessive drinking, to being an occasion for women to promote temperance activities, to a day for feeling patriotic, to a time for family picnics and fireworks displays.

Whether because of flotillas on Lake Erie or hot air balloon ascents above it, for the majority of the time, downtown Cleveland has been the place to be on July 4th.

We ended last year's history article with the earliest years of Cleveland's *Festival of Freedom* (a tradition which began in 1939) and a promise to continue the *Festival of Freedom* story during the era that Americans were involved in World War II. And so without further ado...

The United States entered World War II in December of 1941, after the invasion of Pearl Harbor. Thus Cleveland's first *Festival of Freedom* during the War was in 1942. It took place in the stadium and was again the largest Fourth of July celebration in the nation. The people who filled the old stadium to capacity were there to see all the military units/military-related organizations represented in the 1942 *Pageant of Flags* --

The Cleveland Grays (Cleveland's own military company, 151 years old at that time); the Veterans of Foreign Wars; the American Legion; the U.S. Army, Marine Corps and Coast Guard contingents, as well as inductees into these same branches of the "service". A one hundred and one year old veteran of the

Civil War from Cleveland was one of the guests, too.

Prior to Independence Day in 1942, the *Cleveland News* (a now defunct Cleveland "daily") had conducted a campaign to buy a bomber for General Douglas MacArthur. Clevelanders responded by purchasing \$325,000 worth of War Bonds and stamps. As a result, the war plane the *Spirit of Cleveland* was christened on that July 4.

In 1943, for the fifth consecutive year, Cleveland's *Festival of Freedom* was again the largest Fourth of July celebration in the United States. (Eighty thousand people were present.)

This year, too, the *Festival* took place in the old stadium, but in '43 it had a feminist theme -- *Women at War*. WAACS (Women's Army Air Corps); WAVES (the U. S. Navy's "Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service"); SPARS (the U. S. Coast Guard's Women's Reserve, the name having been derived from the Coast Guard motto, "Semper Paratus"/Always Ready);

The USO (United States Overseas); Gold Star Mothers (who have had a child die in the line of duty with the US armed forces); Blue Star Mothers (who have or have had a child serving in the US armed forces); forty-eight Daughters of the American Revolution, each representing one of the 48 states; the American Red Cross; the Civil Air Patrol; women of volunteer services; and women factory workers were all featured.

Music and drama were also a big part of the *Festival*. In 1943, the Cleveland Grays Band, a special *Festival of Freedom* orchestra, the Akron Chorus and a soloist performed. The singing of patriotic songs filled the stadium!

Recognizing the diverse ethnic background of Cleveland's population was again part of the *Festival* program, this year via a "picturesque pageant". Fireworks were on the agenda, too.

We'll continue this patriotic saga at this time next year with 1944 and beyond. In the meanwhile, stay safe this Fourth of July.

H SOB decides against storefront museum

by Lynette Filips
lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com

Approximately half the members of the Historical Society of Old Brooklyn (HSOB) met at a special meeting on Friday, June 6th, to further discuss and vote on a motion made at a previous meeting. The topic in question was whether or not the Society should rent a small storefront at 3432 Memphis Ave. The purpose would have been to open a "mini-museum" to house and showcase the HSOB's artifacts and papers related to the Old Brooklyn neighborhood.

After approximately one hour of financial projections delivered by HSOB treasurer Alan Hafley and animated discussion about the opportunity/potential problem, the proposal was defeated. The result of the ballots cast by those at the meeting was thirteen "against" to eleven "in favor of". (Another tally which included absentee ballots distributed to a few of the members was seventeen against to eleven in favor.)

Earlier this year HSOB member Constance (Connie) Ewazen had purchased three buildings (two commercial; one residential) on Memphis Ave. immediately west of Pearl Rd. When she learned that the business owner in the smallest storefront wanted to move into the residential property, the thought occurred to her that his soon-to-be-vacated location would be a good place for a little museum. She and a number of other HSOB members have long had the dream of becoming more visible to the community via such a venue. In addition, the Society is celebrating its twenty-fifth year of existence, so the timing seemed right.

Since the organization only meets every other month, Connie subsequently consulted with some of her fellow members to see if there was interest. One of them was Ward 15 Councilman Brian Cummins, who, with his wife and two daughters, has regularly attended HSOB meetings from the time he became OBCDC's executive director seven years ago.

The possibility was first proposed to the HSOB membership as a whole at the March meeting. At that time a committee was formed to further investigate the feasibility of the idea. When Councilman Cummins offered to ask for the City's approval to use a small amount of his Ward funds for two years to get the project going, cautious optimism reigned among some of the members; even with just a little seed money, Connie was offering such a deal on the

rent that the project seemed to be "do-able".

A computer-savvy group on the committee put together a Powerpoint presentation which they delivered at the May HSOB meeting, but voting did not take place that evening. HSOB President Louise Evans decided that a separate meeting to vote via a secret ballot would be better. Thus an extra meeting was scheduled in June.

Fear of taking a chance, risking the hard-earned money in their treasury and not having enough able-bodied members to take on the responsibility of a museum seem to be the reasons that the idea was defeated.

While proponents of the museum had the same concerns, they also felt that taking a chance was necessary for the organization to grow -- maybe even to survive -- and hoped that a little museum, open for just a few hours a couple of times a month, would foster enough community interest to boost their membership. Some wanted to explore creative fund-raising ideas and one member suggested getting business or corporate sponsors to help back the museum.

After the vote, Connie quickly found someone to rent the storefront in question. But if the HSOB members were ever to vote again, and if a majority of them were to agree to opening a museum, *and if another affordable or -- better yet -- donated storefront were to become available*, Councilman Cummins would again be willing to partially fund the effort.

With the passing of the decades, recognizing an area's collective past has become more and more important. Because it was a stop on the stage coach route (now Pearl Rd./U.S. Route 42), which linked Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, Old Brooklyn has a longer, richer history than most Cleveland neighborhoods do.

The subject of a museum/accessible archives will no doubt be raised at the HSOB's next meeting on Friday, September 12th. As has been the case for many years, the meeting will be held at Pearl Road United Methodist Church, 4200 Pearl Rd. As is the case for regularly scheduled meetings, there will be a speaker as well as a business meeting.

The September issue of this publication will have information about the program that evening. Anyone who considers the possibility of having an archive of neighborhood historical information to be of interest and value is encouraged to attend and/or join the group.

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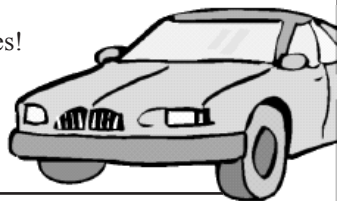
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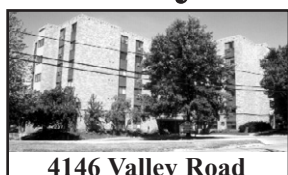


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Art House,
3119 Denison Ave., 216-398-8556
Family Open Studio - Third Sat. of the month, 1 - 3 pm; \$5 per person; \$18 family of four; children 3 & under, free. Family members & above cost per visit: \$5 per adult, free for 2 children, \$3 for each 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.

Cleveland Metroparks New Walking Works Program
August through October, hike at least eight of 13 designated trails on your own - any time - it's fun & easy. After completing each walk, date your Walking Works form. Complete eight walks & return your form to Cleveland Metroparks to receive this year's Walking Works shield. Display your shield on your own walking stick or purchase a Walking Works walking stick at any EarthWords Nature Shop. Want to walk with others while learning about the natural features of the trails? Naturalist-led hikes along some of the designated trails will be available in August through October. Register to receive a monthly Walking Works E-letter with walking tips & special EarthWords Nature Shop offers. Email walkingworks@cleveland-metroparks.com or call 216-635-3204 with your name, address & email address.

Cleveland Metropark Brookside Reservation Brookside Valley Event Site
216-206-1000
Brookstock - A Celebration of Music & Nature, Sat., July 12th, 4 - 10:30 pm, free. Live music on two stages. Features arts & crafts, games & activities, hikes (4:30, 6, 7:30, & 9 pm), live animals & more. "BrookStock" showcases seven bands -- blues, country, bluegrass, boogie-woogie, folke. Main stage, 9 pm, The Alan Greene Band.

CanalWay Center, E. 49th St between Grant Ave & Canal Rd
216-206-1000
Saturday Morning Superheroes: Batman Sat., July 19. 10 am. Batman dresses like a bat to look scary. What super powers do bats have, & how do these special abilities help them survive. Learn more about bats super powers through games & activities.

Children's Museum of Cleveland
10730 Euclid Ave. 216-791-5437
<http://www.clevelandchildrensmuseum.org>
Abracadabra Everyday Magic - Now thru August 10th. Calling all magicians! As families experience this exhibit together, both children & adults will come to understand how what may appear to be magic can be explained through principles of math or science. The main exhibit components, or stations, include: Perform magic. Become a math magician. Experiment with magic. Decipher magic. Magical movement.

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

Lunch Time Craziess: Wacky Wednesdays in July: birds, deer, butterflies & raccoons. Stop by Garfield Park Nature Center's Front Porch to discover the wackiness of every Wed. thru - Aug. 27th 11:30 am - 12:30 pm. Different subject every week. Stay for five minutes or the entire time. Rain location --

inside the Nature Center. Call 216-341-3152 for more info.

Cleveland Metroparks Hinkley Reservation Ledge Pool & Recreation Area
1151 Ledge Rd. between State & Kellogg Rds.
440-331-8111
www.clevelandmetroparks.com

Season Passes - \$70, for individuals, \$105, families in the tax district; \$135, non-tax district families. Unlimited use of the pool for the season.

Pool Hours - 11 am - 7 pm, May 24th - Aug. 17th. Fees -- adults, 12 & over, \$4.50; children 6-11, \$3.50; 5 & under free; seniors 62 & over, free.

Pool party packages - special reserved area with picnic tables for up to 3 hrs; Parties must have at least 10 people. Call 440-572-9990 to schedule a party & request pricing on food packages.

Dive-In Movie: Fri., July 18. Bring something to sit on & enjoy the movie from a spot on the lawn or while relaxing in an inner tube in Ledge Pool. (Inner tubes available by reservation only; \$4 for single & \$6 for double.) Doors open at 8 pm; cartoons start at 8:30 pm. Feature movie "Home Alone" begins at 8:45 pm. Visitors must be 8 or older to use the pool & rent an inner tube. Refreshments available. For more info or to reserve a tube call 330-239-2911. (Also a movie on Fri., Aug., 8th.)

Cleveland Metropark Huntington Beach Huntington Reservation, Bay Village
216-635-3200.

Summer Beach Party - Sat., July 26th, 5 - 11 pm, free. Variety of games & activities including t-shirt relays, shake-n-bake contest, scavenger hunt, beach blanket bingo, Simon Says, limbo contest & water balloon contest. Day of registration only to participate in the games; space limited in each. Prizes awarded to the winners. Other activities 5 - 8 pm, inc. sand sculptor Suzanne Altamare & castle-building area for visitors to try their hand at it, king of the beach volleyball, a fishing demonstration area with Cleveland Metroparks staff, a kayak demonstration area with 41° North Coastal Kayak Adventures, dive team exhibiting with Cleveland Metroparks Rangers & more. 8 pm, bonfire & entertainment with Musical Mark. 8:45 pm, 1988 movie "The Great Outdoors". Bring own beach blankets & beach chairs.

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
3900 Wildlife Way
216-661-6500 clemetzoo.com
Adult admission, \$10; children 2 - 11, \$6; (Admission always free for kids under two and Zoo members.)

ZooBlooms - Sun., July 13th. 10 am - 7 pm. Activity Schedule 10 am - 4 pm (unless otherwise noted) **ZooTram tours** - Welcome Plaza at 11 am & 4 pm; tour focusing on herbs & featuring many of the Zoo's 24 specialty gardens. **Noon** - annual ladybug release. **Family Activity Center** in Palava Hut Pavilion **Eco-Crafts.** Make eco-friendly seed bracelets, leaf etchings & learn how to re-pot plants using recycled paper. Also, to celebrate the Year of the Frog, **make toad abodes** (decorate & take home clay pots for use as shelters for toads in the garden). **Zoo Administration Building, Windows on the World Room,** 1 pm, Putting Modern Organics to Work in Your Garden; 2 pm, Cooking with Herbs; 3 pm, Ornamental uses for herbs.

Photo Safari - Now thru Labor Day. Photo Safari is open to amateur photographers & features awards in a variety of categories. Entry forms available in the Zoo's Exhibit Hall & online at clemetzoo.com

A-MAZE-ING Amphibians Maze, included with Zoo admission. In celebration of the Year of the Frog, an 1800 sq. ft. amphibian-themed maze has been constructed in African Savanna. Guests read panels that cover amphibian-themed questions. Their answers dictate which direction to take. Try to leap farther than a frog in the jumping area or glide like a tree frog on a zip line.

Australian Adventure, included with Zoo admission, 10 am - 5 pm daily. Get reacquainted with kangaroos, wallabies & wallaroos. Travel aboard the Boomerang Express or climb to the top of the Yagga Tree. See sheep, goats & donkeys in the animal barn.

Frogs, Hogs & Dogs, included with Zoo admission. New summer attraction thru Sun., Sept. 28th featuring endangered amphibians, red river hogs & New Guinea singing dogs.

Professor Wyld's Animal Show, included with Zoo admission, thru Sun., Sept. 28th. 11:30 am, 1:30 & 3:30 pm in the Zoo's Amphitheater.

TOUCH! Amazing Rays & Sharks, \$1 per person in addition to regular Zoo admission. Free for Zoo members & children under 2.

Butterfly Magic, included with Zoo admission Now thru Sun., Sept. 28th.

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; age 3-6, \$6.50; age 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 68-65 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., 11:30 am - 12:30 pm and Thurs., 10 - 11 am. Interactive stories, rhymes, songs & other activities for children 3-5 years. Call to register.

Toddler Time - Every Tues., 10:30 - 11:30 am. Interactive stories, rhymes, songs & other activities for children 1-2 years. 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.

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

What's the Buzz & Craft Show - Thurs. & Fri. July 17th & 18th, 10 am - 5 pm. Learn all about honey & honey bees.

Bee Beard demonstration, Sat., July 19th, 1 pm. Learn all about Honey & Honey Bees. Honey products, food arts & craft show, face painting & family activities. For more info contact Walt or Linda 440-235-5233

Great Lakes Science Center
601 Erieside Ave. 216-694-2000
www.GreatScience.com

Einstein: The Exhibition; Now thru Sun., Sept. 2nd, Mon. - Sun., 10 am - 5 pm. Fascinating exhibition explores Albert Einstein, not only as a scientific genius who reconfigured humanity's concepts of space & time, but also as a complex man actively engaged in the social & political issues of his day. Tickets - \$5.50 - \$17.95. Free admission for members.

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

Stellar Stars - Wed., 11 am & Sat., noon; \$2. Marvel at the night sky & enjoy the stars, watch lasers moving to music & learn fun facts about the solar system. Take home a planet picture to color & add a sticker to your passport.

Twinkle Tots - Thurs. & Sat., 11 am, \$1per person, including infants. See what's new in space, watch lights dance & see magic.

Center for Pastoral Leadership
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www.theFEST.us; 440-943-7662

The Fest - Sun., Aug. 3, starting at noon. Games for kids, vendors, informational booths, food. Live music, 3 - 8 pm (inc. Christian music idol Jeremy Camp). Sacrament of Reconciliation, 3 - 7 pm. Catholic Mass, 8 - 10 pm, followed by huge fireworks display. Free & open to all. Call for more info, or to be added to the mailing list, volunteer to help or learn about being a vendor/sponsor. Complete schedule of the day's events on the website. (Located on the grounds of the former Borromeo Seminary)

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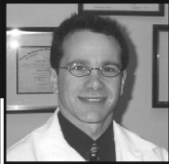
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Thomas J. DePolo,
D.P.M.*

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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TREE SERVICE. Cut down trees, stump removal. Free estimates. Richard's Landscaping, 216-661-7608.

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JOHN'S TV. 19" GE, \$50; 25" RCA, \$70; 46" Magnavox, \$500. Many more with warranties. Service all makes & models. Free estimates. Visa/Mastercard. 4529 Pearl Rd. 216-351-9100.

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.

THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE FAIR HOUSING LAWS
Federal and state laws state that no person shall be discriminated against while seeking to buy, lease or rent housing regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap or familial status. This newspaper will not accept any advertising for real estate which expresses a preference, limitation or discrimination. CLEVELAND TENANTS ORGANIZATION is a fair housing agency available to persons who believe they have been discriminated against. Cleveland Tenants Organization is located at 2530 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115 and may be reached at 363-5270 (discrimination complaint hotline) or 621-1571 (tenant/landlord helpline). All advertisements for the sale or rental of a dwelling published in The Old Brooklyn News are subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to express a preference, limitation or discrimination on account of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap or familial status. Readers and advertisers are hereby informed that all housing opportunities advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

FOR RENT
10 STORE STRIP - 4898 PEARL Rd & NORTH-CLIFF. 16 x 100 ft. Full basement, front & rear parking, air conditioned, drop ceiling, carpeted. \$985 month. Call 216-351-0998.

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FOR SALE - CLEAN LOT
4000 BIDDULPH AVE. Cleveland. 50 ft. x 150 ft. Lot is worth \$18,500. New low price \$13,500. Call Gil 1-440-354-2618.

HELP WANTED
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.

PART TIME DRIVERS - Local transportation company - Town car, limo, shuttle service seeking part-time drivers. No CDL required. Retirees OK. 216-661-9105

PART TIME HELP, Must know how to use Ebay & Pay Pal. Work on commission. Call George, 216-351-5080.

WANTED
OLD FISHING TACKLE of all kind. Rods, reels & lures, etc. Call Clarence, 749-1016 or 407-6329.

PRODUCERS MILK ITEMS WANTED
 Dinnerware, milk bottles, uniforms, photographs, pins, buttons or anything else. Call Don Workman, 216-661-2608.

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Safety Fair Is Fun for Young and Old

OBCDC and Community Relations, Second District, sponsored a Safety Fair & Community Service Expo from 10 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 31, at Estabrook Recreation Center. Approximately 200 people attended. It was the first time that Old Brooklyn, rather than Clark-Metro, has hosted the event in almost ten years. In the photo to the left, Julian and Leylah Hodge model some of the FBI's head work gear. On the right, a very happy Angelica Ortiz poses atop "Commander", the trusty steed of Officer Bradford Kelly of the Cleveland Mounted Police. (Cleveland's mounted police unit is one of the oldest in the United States.) In addition to the Mounted Police and the FBI, other "invited guests" at the event included the Cleveland Fire Department, Cleveland Public Utilities, Moms Against Drunk Driving, the American Red Cross, Police Dispatch and the Smoke House Fire Training Van, as well as other community organizations.



Safety Fair photos by George Shuba



**Riverside Cemetery
2008 Garden Tour**

Heavy rain put more than a slight "damper" on the Brooklyn Centre Community Association's Garden Tour on Sunday, June 22. The affair was scheduled to take place between 1 and 5 p.m. but due to the weather, attendance severely dropped after the first hour. Last year 300 people came out for the day; this year the number was closer to 75. The turn of events was disappointing to potential attendees, the committee and the actors alike, who had put major work into coordinating the affair. The committee is currently considering the possibility of staging an "encore" later this summer. Six of the seven neighborhood volunteers who portrayed Cleveland notables interred at Riverside are: (Top row, left to right) -- John Kirk/William Astrup; Rick Nicholson / Martin Ruetenik; Roger Bundy / John Ackley; (Bottom row, left to right) -- Tim Ferris / Avery Hopwood; Pastor Pam Buzalka/ Anna Coffinberry; and Dr. Paul Hornik/Claud Foster.

Photos by Sharon Martyn

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