

31 YEARS OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY

OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

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Wards 12 and 14 City Council candidate interviews

by Robyn Sandys
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This article focuses on the City Council races in Wards 12 and 14 only. In the past, the CDC was served by two wards, starting in January it will be represented by four wards, 3, 12, 13 and 14.

In the new service area for OBCDC there are only two Council races because the other two Councilmen, Kevin Kelley (new Ward 13, old Ward 16) and Joe Cimperman (new Ward 3, old Ward 13) are unopposed in this year's election. In Ward 12 Councilman Tony Brancatelli is running against Olga

Sarbinowska and in Ward 14 Councilman Brian Cummins is running against Rick Nagin.

But, before we get into the two council races here is a quick review of the new ward boundary changes. Ward 13 was Ward 16

with the boundaries changed some by stretching north to cover the zoo and surrounding areas. Councilman Kelley is and will continue being the Councilman for this ward.

See *candidate interviews* page 4



Anthony Brancatelli

Age: 51
Marital Status: Married to Gail; one son, Jack
Occupation: Councilman, Ward 12, City of Cleveland
Educational background: Graduate of Cleveland Public Schools, (Cleveland South High), Political Science Degree from Cleveland State University



Olga T Sarbinowska

Age: 53
Marital Status: Single; one son, Cyril
Occupation: Fashion designer, mom
Education: Master of Arts Painting, Associate Degree Fashion Design



Brian Cummins

Age: 49
Marital Status: Married to Gayle; two daughters, Addy & Tatum
Occupation: Cleveland City Councilman, Ward 15, 2006 – current
Education: Bachelors of Business Administration, Finance, Cleveland State University



Rick Nagin

Age: 67
Marital Status: Married to Ann; two daughters, Molly and Rachel
Occupation: Writer
Education: BA Harvard, PhD, The Rockefeller University

St. Barbara's gets temporary reprieve

by Lynette Filips

When approximately a dozen of the Roman Catholic parishes instructed to merge or close last spring appealed to the Vatican to have the decisions reversed, none was overly optimistic that their requests would be granted, or even considered. But they proceeded anyway, motivated by the need to do all they could to prevent the suppression of their viable parish communities.

A week and a half ago, a number of those communities, including our own St. Barbara's,

1505 Denison Ave., received letters which made them very happy that they'd put forth the effort involved in appealing. They received form letters from the Congregation for the Clergy notifying them that the Vatican will consider the merit of their cases.

While receiving such a letter does not indicate anything definitive, to receive such a letter is extremely rare; it indicates that the Vatican considers something troubling. Other Cleveland parishes which received the letters are: Historic St. Peter's (Superior Ave.); St. Patrick's (Westpark); St. Wendelin's

(Columbus Ave.), St. Emeric (behind the West Side Market) and St. Adalbert (E. 83rd St.). Perhaps more parishes will also be lucky.

In other St. Barbara news, thanks to the efforts of Ward 15 Councilman Brian Cummins, at the end of the summer the City of Cleveland gave local landmark designation to the parish's church building, convent and rectory. That designation places restrictions on what anyone is now permitted to do to the exteriors of the buildings.

The *Old Brooklyn News* will continue its coverage of the closings next month.

Old Brooklyn Community Fall-O-Ween Festival

October 24, 2009

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
RAIN or SHINE



On Devonshire Rd. - (located on the main entrance of The Senior Health & Wellness Center) Pearl Rd.

Trick or Treat bags & refreshments for the first 300 children that sign in!

Entertainment!
Games **50/50** Raffle
Elvis



Loads of Family Fun
Pumpkin Decorating
Zoo Animals

Best Costume Contest! All ages welcome!

Call OBCDC @ 216-459-1000 for more information

Sponsored By:
The Senior Health & Wellness Center MetroHealth Old Brooklyn Campus
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Deaconess-Krafft Center
Deaconess-Zane Center
Concordia Care
Visiting Nurse Association of Ohio
Senior Citizen Resources
Old Brooklyn Merchants



Food & Beverages available for purchase



Old Brooklyn CDC Annual Meeting

The CDC's Annual Meeting is fast approaching and will be held on Tuesday, October 20th. It will be held at Knights of Columbus Hall, 4730 Broadview from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

The main items on the agenda are the election of new board members and a few additions and a minor change to the Code of Regulations. The additions include adding two standing committees to the Board: Green Space and Natural Resources and Real Estate Development. The minor change relates to notifications of annual meetings each year.

The main other item on the agenda will be a discussion of the recently completed organizational strategic plan which provides a road map for the CDC's goals and objectives over the next three years. Board, staff and community members participated in a six month process to develop this plan which was adopted by the Board of Directors this past summer. A copy of the plan can be viewed on the CDC's web site at www.oldbrooklyn.com.

All members will be sent a packet with the ballot for board members and the changes to the Code in early October. Hope to see members of the CDC and the community at this event.



Photo by Sheila Quealy Walter

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“Visions Business Center”

by Donald Heckmoser
dohnh@oldbrooklyn.com

Vision Business Center, 4770 Broadview Rd., on the corner of Oak Park Ave., is one of the newest small businesses in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood. It's geared towards new and old small businesses that are looking for a professional services provider to help them excel.

Lyle Ellison and Vanessa Scott are the co-owners of the business. Lyle has been living in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood for about five years and thought it would be the perfect spot to open a new business. He's been wanting to open a small business that helped small businesses.

Vision Business Center offers a variety of products and services to its customers, including basic copying, printing, faxing and digital media, at a reasonable cost. They charge the following rates:

Answering service starts at \$50 per month. Digital picture printing is \$.25 per 4x6 print, \$.70 per 5x7 print and \$3.99 per 8 x10 prints. Fax service is \$2.00 for up to 6 pages and \$.25 for each additional page. Graphic design services start at \$25 per design.

Mail service starts at \$15.00 per month. Online shopping services are \$3.00 per transaction. Printing and copying charges are \$.10 per black and white print and \$.75 per color print (prices vary for specialty paper and paper sizes).

Shredder services are charged at \$2.00 for up to 6 pages with per pound pricing available. Toll free 800# services can be purchased at \$10 per month and \$.10 per minute. Virtual office space packages start at \$300 per month.

Greeting cards are \$3.00 per card with volume discounts available. Customers will also be able to create their own greeting cards, personalized exactly the way they want them, for any occasion.

In addition, Vision's customers will be able to package the following services or choose them "a la carte" -- live answering services from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and 24-hour message

service that can be forwarded or picked up in person, as well as computer rental services and paperwork consulting.

Vision Business Center will also offer online shopping services to small businesses or individuals who want the peace of mind of buying products online without having to give any vital credit information.

Customers who choose to package up a virtual office space will be impressed by the amenities Vision Business Center offers. Customers will be able to choose from a private office space or individual desk to complete their work. This virtual office space will have internet access, printing, copying and faxing capabilities, an answering service, a voice-mail and secure bill pay.

Vision Business Center will also offer graphic design capabilities -- logos, business cards, flyers, etc. Along with this type of service, they will be happy to consult with any new business or start up on best practices, financial literacy and credit repair issues.

Vision Business Center also has the goal of providing both free and fee-based seminars and classes for individual and businesses looking to learn more about what it takes to be a successful small business in this day and age.

Vision Business Center is currently in its "phase one"; the grand opening was held on September 30th.

Lyle is looking forward to the phase two grand opening in January when the Center will offer food for the clients and customers who come in to use the onsite facilities. The cafe will be a one-stop shop for small businesses wanting to keep that edge above the rest.

Lyle and Vanessa invite you to stop by and see for yourself, or to visit their website at www.visionbusinesscenteronline.com

From the desk of the executive director

by Robyn Sandys
robysn@oldbrooklyn.com



Fall has arrived on this cool windy day in late September. The leaves are gradually losing their green hue and adding tints of yellow, orange and red. With the change in seasons brings all sorts of changes.

As you will read on the front page, we have a new season of candidates running for office under a new framework of City Council Districts. The CDC will move from two Councilpersons representing the service area to four. What exactly that will mean for the area is still unclear, but we are lucky in that those running are committed, thoughtful, intelligent and dynamic individuals who care very much for our neighborhoods. We still won't know for sure who our four representatives will be until after the November issue of the OBN is published, so in the December issue I will let you know more about the vision for our service area of the four Councilpersons who will represent us all.

September has been a month of planning and continuing our service to the community. We held a staff/board retreat that focused on the outcomes in a recently completed strategic plan for the organization. A copy of that plan can be found on the CDC's web site at www.oldbrooklyn.com. You will also learn more about it at our Annual Meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 20th from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 4730 Broadview Rd. We hope to see all of you there.

At the Annual Meeting we will also provide a new Annual Report, which will review all of the CDC's accomplishments during this past fiscal year. The report should be on-line soon after the Annual Meeting so if you don't get to the meeting, feel free to check it out on the web site.

We have also been working hard to keep the community informed of our activities by putting program updates and information on our Facebook page. If you have not become a fan of the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation on Facebook, please check us out! We have some great before and after photos of homes that have been painted and rehabbed. You can also learn about community events in and around Cleveland.

As I have often mentioned in this article, we are always looking for volunteer writers from the community to write about activities, special people and block clubs, or whatever you deem important in your neighborhood that you would like to share. We are also interested in photos that depict a new great landscaping project, garden, home remodeling or other types of personal or community accomplishments.

Again, hope to see you on October 20th. Feel free to call or email me with any ideas, concerns or information you may want to share — robysn@oldbrooklyn.com.

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists initiate program for school age children

by Gloria Ferris

The Brooklyn Centre Naturalists (BCN) had a busy September.

The group held its first-ever native plant sale at the Archwood Street Sale on the Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day weekend. Many area gardeners stopped by to purchase native plants on consignment from Ohio Prairie Nursery. People also offered good suggestions for additional native plants to sell at future sales, as well as where to advertise next year's sale (in June).

Residents who took advantage of the free tire disposal weekend sponsored by the

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists and Councilman Brian Cummins office were very happy to have a convenient way to dispose of any old tires they had laying around. The event was successful enough to prompt the BCN to consider holding another one sometime in the spring.

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists' next project will be "Building Community Thru Nature". A group of members had gotten together over dinner to discuss starting an educational program. Out of the brainstorming session came a middle school program designed to foster an appreciation of nature and to show how the health of the community depends upon the health of the environment.

BCN will be holding its new program every Saturday, beginning October 3rd, 2009 from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at the center in Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church (BMUMC), 2607 Archwood Ave. Each week the children will explore nature

through art, music and science. Activities will include nature walks, building bird feeders and houses, painting and drawing, making rain sticks and drums, and much more. They will also be gardening with an emphasis on how gardens can feed people and wildlife.

The program is geared toward children age 10 and older. Parents are invited to attend with their children. Lunch will be provided by Pastor Pam and volunteers from BMUMC. Activities will be coordinated by Brooklyn Centre Naturalists. BCN would like to have more Brooklyn Centre/Old Brooklyn residents involved with the program.

If you or any one you know likes this kind of activity, consider joining BCN's volunteer corps. Because time is a precious commodity, think about how much and when you could be involved. To sign up as a volunteer or to attend the Saturday programs, call 216-351-0254 or email bcnaturalists@gmail.com.

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For Information call 216-459-0135
E-mail: sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com
FAX NUMBER 216-459-1741

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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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- Barb Spaan, Outreach Manager
- Sandy Worona, Community Outreach Coordinator/OBNA Advertising & Sales Manager

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation Board Meetings, are every fourth 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; Lynette Filips -- Copy Editor; George Shuba -- Photographer
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This month's OBN writers -- Gloria Ferris, Lynette Filips, Dana Korosi, Jennie Shantery & 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.

Retain Councilman Brancatelli for Ward 12 on November 3rd



- Honesty
- Commitment
- Experience
- Knowledge

"I am dedicated to serving ALL of Ward 12."

For a yard sign or to volunteer for the campaign, please call 216-390-3154.

Endorsed by: Cleveland Teachers Union, North Shore AFL-CIO Federation of Labor, Fraternal Order of Police, The Stonewall Democrats, Call & Post, Ward 12 Democratic Club

Paid for by Friends for Brancatelli, Clark Broida, Treasurer
6927 Indiana Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44105

NEWS & EVENTS

Friday & Saturday, October 2nd & 3rd
Rummage & Bake Sale

Pearl Rd. United Methodist Church, 4200 Pearl Rd. (off Memphis Ave), Fri., 10 am - 8 pm & Sat., 9 am - 1 pm. \$3 per bag sale. Pearl's Kitchen lunch Fri. only; soup, hot dog, beverage & dessert, \$4. Bakery for sale.

Saturday, October 3rd

Fur Ball "Cold Noses, Warm Hearts" Annual Gala Fundraiser

InterContinental Hotel Cleveland, 9801 Carnegie Ave.; hosted by the Cleveland Animal Protective League & by Q104's Rebecca Wild. Proceeds benefit APL's Second Chance Fund. Silent & live auctions, dinner & video presentation featuring stories about animals who've benefited from Cleve. APL's Second Chance Fund. Auction items include multi-course catered dinner for 12, a week's stay at a home in Hilton Head, SC & having your pet photographed for the cover of the 2011 Cleveland APL calendar. Individual tickets, corporate & private tables for 10 available. Call 216-771-8823 or visit www.ClevelandAPL.org for more info.

Saturdays, October 3rd & 10th

Escape On The Underground Railroad

Bedford Reservation, Hemlock Creek Picnic area, off Button Rd. east of Dunham Rd. in Walton Hills; 7 - 9:30 pm. Adults & children 15 - 17 years old with an adult. Experience escaping on the Underground Railroad. Space limited; registration required - 216-341-3152.

Sunday, October 4th

Cleveland Metroparks Rangers Community Open House

Ranger Headquarters, 4600 Valley Pkwy. in Rocky River Reservation, Fairview Park; noon - 4 pm. See demos by the K-9 Unit, hear about care & training given to the horses in Mounted Unit, get bicycle safety tips from Bike Patrol Rangers. Nationally-certified car seat technicians available to inspect installation of car seats. Tours of Headquarters facility; history hall displaying vintage police-related equipment & photographs. Call Ranger Headquarters at 440-331-5530 for more info.

Mondays, October 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th
Salsa Dancing

Brooklyn Branch, Cleveland Public Library, 3706 Pearl Rd., 6:30 pm. Viva Dance Company leading & teaching as part of the library's "Fit For Life" program. All ages welcome -- adults, families & seniors. Call 216-623-6920 for more info.

Monday, October 5th

Greater Cleveland Wetland Tours

Sponsored by Friends of Big Creek. One hour tours with representatives of five different types of urban wetland projects, one potential restoration area & one high quality rural wetland. Free & open to the public (children accompanied by an adult). Rain or shine; dress for inclement weather. Tour begins at 6:30 pm. **West Creek Reservation**, created wetland. Entrance off Ridgewood Dr. between Broadview & State Rds. in Parma. Visit: www.friendsofbigcreek.org or call Bob Gardin, 216-269-6472 for questions or more info.

Monday, October 5th

Cuyahoga Valley Genealogy Society

Independence Civic Center, White Oak Room, 6363 Selig Blvd., 7:30 pm. "Internet/ID Safety" with Officer Joe Vanecek, a 31-year veteran of the Independence Police & the Dept's Firearms & Self-Defense Training Instructor. All welcome; coffee & refreshments. Call president John Stoika, 216-524-3472, for more info.

Tuesdays, October 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th
Free Workshop on Alcoholism/Addiction

St. Malachi Church Hall, W. 25th & Detroit Ave., 6 - 8:30 pm. Topics include: Addiction as a brain disease; Effects of drinkin/using on others; Treatment & assessment tools; 12-Step programs to recovery; Resources in the community. Sponsored by The Samaritan Ministry Program. Call Lori Zehe, 440-888-4947, or email lzche@sbcglobal.net to reserve a seat or for more info.

Thursday, October 8th

Antique Collectors Club Meeting

Busch Funeral meeting room, 7501 Ridge Rd., 7 pm. Jill Keppler speaking about "Tombstones"; guests welcome.

Saturday, October 10th

Disabilities Workshop

Trinity Cathedral & Commons, E. 22nd St. & Euclid Ave., 9 am - 3:30 pm. A day of intentional conversation among persons with disabilities & persons of many faith traditions regarding the full inclusion of all person's gifts & abilities within faith communities. Dr. Valentino Lassiter, Professor of Religious Studies at John Carroll University & author of *Martin Luther King in the African American Preaching Tradition*, is the keynote speaker. Event includes roundtable discussions & workshops. Call 216-696-2716, ext. 114 or 106, to register. Registration fee, \$10, includes breakfast & lunch. Scholarships available. Free parking.

Sunday, October 11th

Second annual "Meet the Neighbors" Living History Tour

Ohio City's Monroe Street Cemetery, 3207 Monroe St. (between W. 25th St. & Fulton Rd.), 2 pm. Tickets, \$15, either at Cemetery on day of event or purchased in advance by sending \$15 check to "Friends of Monroe Cemetery," 3302 Hancock St., Cleveland, 44113. Tickets fully tax deductible. Call Linda Litto, president of Monroe Street Cemetery Foundation, 216-961-0563, for more info.

Wednesday - Saturday, October 14th - 17th
12th Genealogical/Cultural Conference

Holiday Inn Cleveland South, 6001 Rockside Rd (I-77 & Rockside), Independence. Visit www.cgsi.org for more info.

Saturday, October 17th

CityMusic Cleveland

Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus, 3649 E 65th St, Slavic Village. 7:30 pm. World premiere of *Book I: Redemption* by Canadian composer Christos Hatzis (written for chamber orchestra & string quartet). Pacifica Quartet is the evening's soloists. For additional dates & locations, visit www.citymusiccleveland.org.

Tuesdays, thru October 20th

Tremont Farmers Market

Lincoln Park, 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Fruits, vegetables, eggs, cheese, honey, bread & more. Music, chef demos, nutrition info., local artisans.

Thursday, October 22

2009 Candidate's Night

Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church, 2607 Archwood Ave., 6 - 8 pm. Professionally moderated public event to provide elected officials or candidates for office an opportunity to present campaign platforms & respond to questions/concerns of area residents. Invitees include candidates for the Office of Cleveland Mayor, Cleveland City Council - Ward 14 & the Cuyahoga County Reform ballot initiative. Several hundred residents expected. For confirmation of attendees & additional event details, visit www.brooklyncentre.org or email bcca07@yahoo.com.

Every Saturday

Brooklyn Centre Farmers Market

Convenient Food Mart, 3720 Denison Ave., 10 am - 1pm. Cleveland Corner Store Project sells fruits & vegetables from local farmers.

Sundays thru October 25th

Kamm's Corners Farmers Market

Kamm's Corners Farmers Market, municipal parking lot, W. 168th St. (off Lorain Ave.), Sun., 10 am - 2 pm. Locally grown produce, breads & baked goods, cheese, honey, jams & jellies, herbs & flowering plants; changes as seasons' bounty comes in from area farms & kitchens. Weekly demos from local & regional chefs, cooking school gurus & neighborhood gourmet cooks, usually at 12:30 pm. Health education & wellness programs (yoga, chair massage, book signings or health screenings) most Sundays. Call 216-429-8200 for more info.

Saturday, October 31st

Financial Literacy Seminar

"How To Assess & Properly Budget Your Finances" Steel Valley Federal Credit Union, 3840 Pearl Rd, 10 am. Spend 90 minutes with a financial counselor learning to effectively identify spending patterns, eliminate or reduce certain items & create an effective budget geared to your goals & objectives. Worksheets & tools available for those in attendance. For more info-call, 216-741-9430 to RSVP or email dkorosi@steelvalleyfcu.org

Sunday, November 1st

Annual Card Party

Parma Memorial Hall, Ridge Rd., 1 - 4 pm. Sponsored by Catholic Daughters of America. Price - \$6. Call 216-749-5888 for more info.

Saturday November 7th

Ashley's Hope Annual Children's Resale

Grace Church, 7393 Pearl Rd., Middleburg Hts. Early bird preview, 8:30 - 9:30 am, \$2 admission. General admission, 9:30 am - 1 pm, \$1. Basket raffles & food. Call Jennie or Donna at 216-661-6585 or email ashleyshope@sbcglobal.net or volunteers@ashleyshope.org to purchase a table, donate an item for the raffle, or for more info.

Join the Old Brooklyn Browns Backers
Cleats, 3995 Jennings Rd., Enjoy Cleveland Browns games with Old Brooklyn's own Browns Backer Chapter. Contact the Old Brooklyn Browns Backers, 216-536-6496, for more info.

First Friday of Every Month
Free Hot Meal

St. Boniface Campus School Hall, 3555 W. 54th St. (enter from the side parking lot on W. 52nd St.) Doors open 4 pm; dinner served 5 - 6 pm. Sponsored by St. Boniface Church & St. Rocco Church.

City of Cleveland, Division of Police,
Citizen On-line Reporting System

As of July 7th, file your own police report on-line for the following types of incidents/crimes -- lost property; damage to property; criminal damaging; petty theft/theft from a motor vehicle; supplemental reports. These types of reports may be made only if there is no suspect, suspect vehicle, or serial number information. To make an on-line report go to www.city.cleveland.oh.us/police & click on the crime reporting link. You must be 18 years old & have an e-mail address.

Corpus Christi Class of 1968 & 1969 Reunion
Planning a reunion before the parish closes. Contact Janice (Gulan) Havasi "68" at 216-267-3812.

Volunteers Needed for

Mentoring and Tutoring Program

Denison Elementary School, 3799 Denison Ave. Volunteer mentors & tutors needed for the upcoming school year. The Experience Corps tutoring & mentoring programs provide a great benefit to participating children & schools, as well as to the volunteers giving of their time & experience once or twice a week. Call Carol Hasek, Mentoring Coordinator, 216-391-9500, ext. 125, for more info.

WSEM Food Center

WSEM Food Center at Brookside, 3784 Pearl Rd., 216-749-4295. Food service available Monday - Friday, 10 am - 2 pm. Resale shoppe open Mon, Wed. & Fri., 9:30 am - 2:30 pm. Call 216-749-4295 for appointment for help with completing food stamp applications or walk-in & ask to speak to an outreach advocate. Applications will be completed & delivered to Dept. of Jobs & Family Services. Other outreach services available; call for details.

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Candidate interviews from front page

Ward 15 was eliminated and consolidated to Ward 14. Areas covered by this ward include the old Clark Metro area and parts of Brooklyn Centre. Ward 12 stays the same in name but the boundaries now cross over to OBCDC's service area to include the South Hills neighborhood and some surrounding areas. The other Ward that will be in the CDC's area is Ward 3 which will represent parts of Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn. That was the old Ward 13 represented by Councilman Joe Cimperman.

We asked the four people running to provide a brief biography and to answer a few questions. Below are their responses. You can access more information on each candidate by going to: Councilman Brian Cummins at <http://briancummins.us>; Rick Nagin at <http://www.naginforcouncil.com>; Councilman Tony Brancatelli, <http://www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/Home/CouncilMembers/Ward12AnthonyBrancatelli/tabid/86/Default.aspx>

Olga Sarbinowska does not have a web link.

Anthony Brancatelli

Biography

Councilman Anthony Brancatelli was appointed to Cleveland City Council to represent the Slavic Village Broadway neighborhood and the surrounding areas in Cleveland's Ward 12 in 2005. As a lifelong resident of the Slavic Village area, Councilman Brancatelli has devoted his professional life to the revitalization of his community.

He works daily to eradicate the root causes of vacant and abandoned properties and to redevelop those areas that have been hit by the foreclosure epidemic. Additionally, Councilman Brancatelli has fought against predatory lenders by working to bring them to justice. He was instrumental in the conviction of Raymond Delacruz. This was the first real estate flipping conviction in Ohio.

Before serving on Cleveland City Council, Councilman Brancatelli served as executive director of the Slavic Village Development Corporation for seventeen years. As director he was instrumental in projects such as the Millcreek Park and housing development, the Bessemer Avenue Extension and

the MetroHealth Broadway Complex.

Councilman Brancatelli is currently Chair of the Community and Economic Development Committee, and also serves on various other committees including: Finance; Employment; Public Park, Recreation, and Properties. He also has been appointed to The Board of Directors for the Cuyahoga County Land Bank, Neighborhood Progress Inc, Northeast Ohio Area wide Coordinating Agency (NOACCA), and Cleveland Citywide Development Corporation (CCDC).

What are your unique qualifications that you bring to the position?

I have been in public service for over 20 years, previously serving as Executive Director of Slavic Village Development for 17 years and now as Councilman for the past 4 years. I have an understanding of our community needs and also have worked on city-wide issues that will help our city grow and prosper. As a Board member of city-wide agencies such as NOACCA, CCDC and the newly created County Land Bank I have been able to bring a local perspective to a broader audience. I am also a member of numerous social and civic organizations such as the Society of Poles, The First Tee Golf and the Southeast Kiwanis. As the only candidate that lives in Ward 12, I understand the needs of the community and will use my years of experience in moving forward with a positive agenda.

If elected, what would you hope to accomplish in your first year?

I will continue to work with Block Clubs, Social and Civic Organizations as well as with the local community development corporations in moving forward with an agenda that not only looks at sustaining and improving the most stable parts of our community such as the South Hills area but also re-visioning parts of the community that have been under severe distress.

We will continue to use code enforcement as a key tool along with providing the best possible City services. I will continue to look at opportunities for job creation, land development and other means to improve the tax base of our city and will work to resolve

the long-standing problems around the Bradley Landfill. I also will continue to focus on making our communities more active and vibrant through park and recreational opportunities such as working with the Ohio Canal Corridor organization.

Olga T. Sarbinowska

Biography

Ms. Sarbinowska was born in Gdynia, Poland, the middle child of a sea captain. After earning her degree in Fine Arts, Olga immigrated to the United States in 1981. Residing in Slavic Village she studied fashion design and opened a studio in Little Italy. She became a US citizen in 1991.

Olga founded the Polish School in Slavic Village, now The I. Paderewski School at St. Peter and Paul Church. In addition, in 2003 Olga founded the International Multicultural Center.

In 2005 Olga ran for Cleveland City Council in Ward 12 and garnered 30% of the vote. She later was president of the S.E. Kiwanis, served as board member of Cleveland Partners in Education and worked for the Kucinich for President Campaign. Olga is running as an independent. The heart of her campaign is "Keep it Safe" Olga lives with her 14-year-old son Cyril (father deceased).

What are your unique qualifications that you bring to the position?

Olga is a concerned citizen, not a career politician. She puts the interests of her constituents first. Like the original residents of Slavic Village, Olga has the perspective of those who moved here looking to be God-fearing American citizens and enjoy the blessing of democracy.

Olga is an entrepreneurial individual who had the vision to create schools, groups and foundations that improved the quality of life in the Ward 12 community.

During the Solidarity movement in Poland, Olga witnessed oppression. She witnessed social change firsthand — the peoples' sense of desperation turn to the belief that positive change can be a reality, not a political slogan.

Olga had the courage to start a new life in America. She brings the spunk, resolve, vision

and fearless determination to bring long overdue change to help her constituents.

If elected, what would you hope to accomplish in your first year?

Old Brooklyn and Slavic Village present unique challenges because of the differences in the neighborhoods. Olga realizes this. Her goal is to establish a sense of service for residents. The people need to know they can call her and she will respond to their needs. She is determined to establish safety. She will also do the following in Old Brooklyn and Slavic Village:

- Have an office accessible to both segments.
- Assess the concerns of the residents.
- Respond with action.
- Work with police to reduce crime.
- Meet with every business owner.
- Attend neighborhood association meetings.
- Meet with every principal of every school.

Brian Cummins

Biography

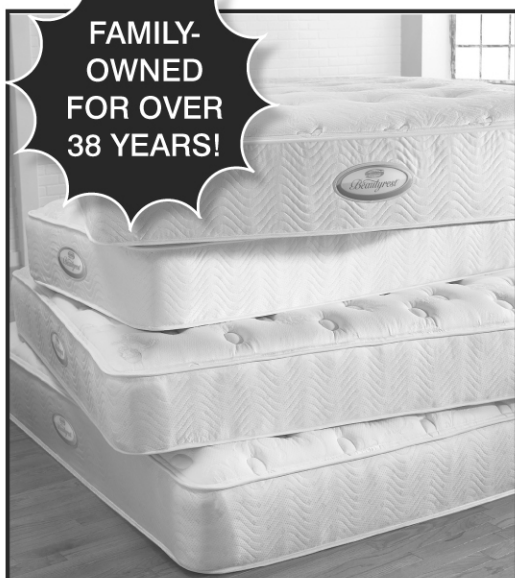
In 2005, Ward 15 Councilman Brian Cummins was elected to serve the communities of Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn.

As Councilman, he has focused on developing stronger community representation through street, block and civic groups. He is a strong advocate for supporting a mixed-use, urban community, pursuing economic development, environmental and trail and green space projects to improve quality of life.

Councilman Cummins brings more than 25 years of private and public sector professional and community development experience to Cleveland City Council. Councilman Cummins began his career in banking with National City Bank and later served as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer and Community Development Training Consultant, working in the Micro-Enterprise, Small Business and Agribusiness Programs. Councilman Cummins has worked in the Dominican Republic, Latvia and served as Associate Director for the Peace Corps in Russia Far East and Chisinau, Moldova.

See *Candidate interviews* page 12

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The shorter days and cooler nights are a sure sign that soon it will be time to put in the storm windows, tune up — and turn on — the heating system, and clean out the vegetable garden. In spite of the unpleasant anticipation of another winter which is associated with performing these tasks, autumn is still waiting to “wow” us with its beauty. With that in mind, let’s get rolling with this month’s old and new business —

In recent issues of the *Old Brooklyn News*, we’ve devoted space in this column to additions and/or changes in books and newspapers. In September, one of the papers about which we wrote was the neighborhood weekly which the *Sun Newspapers* put out.

In response to that article — and my casually having mentioned in it that the *Plain Dealer* now owns the *Sun Newspapers* — I received the following email from **Linda Kinsey, Executive Editor of the *Sun News*** —

I read with interest your column for September in which you recount what is going on with Sun and its coverage of the Brooklyn/Old Brooklyn areas. You were accurate on all counts except for one: You said the Plain Dealer owns Sun Newspapers. That is a myth I spend a great deal of time trying to dispel. Sun News, the Plain Dealer and Cleveland.com are all owned by Advance Publications (the Newhouse family). So, in essence, we are sister publications.

The Newhouses purchased Sun Newspapers in 1998. It’s only been in the last two or three years, however, that we have formed a business relationship with the PD to sell ads, distribute our papers and print them. Our editorial departments remain separate operations...

Here’s the correction you requested, Linda. Thanks for noticing our article, and sorry for helping to circulate the misinformation.

While I was in contact with Linda, I also asked her to clarify something in the same article which another *OBN* reader had challenged. Based on what I had read in the *Sun*, I’d stated that the *Brooklyn Sun* had been serving Old Brooklyn and Brooklyn since 1920. The reader maintained that an entry in the *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History* states that the *Sun* was founded in 1946 and therefore what I said had to be wrong.

In response to that question, Linda Kinsey wrote,

...we base the age of the paper on the time the paper was founded — not when it became a Sun paper. It’s hard to pinpoint an exact date of when Sun was founded. Many, if not most, of our papers were once independent weeklies that later became Sun papers at various times. For instance, we say the Parma Sun Post is 61 years old, based on when it was founded. It didn’t become a Sun paper until sometime in the 1960s ...

Now here’s some news about another addition to the neighborhood — Just as we were going to print last month we learned that **Beth Kelley**, wife of **Ward 16 Councilman Kevin Kelley**, had given birth to an eight-pound baby girl whom they’ve named **Erin Rose**. Erin made her entrance to this world on Monday, August 24th at Fairview Hospital. Anxiously awaiting her arrival were the four other lasses in the Kelley household — Grace, Maeve, Margaret and Nora.

There’s been a new arrival in our neighboring community of Parma, too. At a ceremony on Saturday, September 19th, marker signs were unveiled for “**Ukrainian Village**” (this area’s version of Little Italy or Slavic Village!). One of the signs is an artistic representation of **St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral** and the other is of **St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral**.

Because so many Ukrainian immigrants have settled in Parma and established businesses along State Rd., that thoroughfare was chosen for the designation. The northern end of the new “Village” is Tuxedo Ave. and the southern terminus is Grantwood Dr.

Seemingly every Ukrainian in Greater Cleveland, as well as a good percentage of the population of Parma, was present at the all-day event, and the weather was perfect. The festivities began with a morning religious ceremony at St. Vladimir’s, continued with a parade to St. Josaphat’s, climaxed with an hour-long dedication program of ethnic music, song and dance (and speeches, including one by Congressman Dennis Kucinich) on the front lawn of St. Josaphat’s, and then turned into almost eleven hours of people enjoying homemade Ukrainian food, more ethnic performances and dancing at St. Josaphat’s Astrodome.

An article in the Thursday, Sept 24th, *Plain Dealer* made us aware of some recent excitement at **James Ford Rhodes High School**. On that day the paper reported that the Cleveland Orchestra was to put on a short concert at the school. The day before, the orchestra had played the same “Meet the Orchestra” pieces at John Hay High School; these were the first times that the Cleveland Orchestra has performed in a Cleveland School since 1921.

Perhaps you remember the fun photo of Rhodes administrators holding musical instruments which appeared in last month’s paper?

Had we known about last week’s concert in advance, we could have had George Shuba photograph the Cleveland Orchestra making some real music for this month’s issue.

We’re still gathering information about new churches in the neighborhood.

As requested last month, please send whatever information you have about that or any other appropriate community news to: Lynette Filips, The Town Crier, c/o the *Old Brooklyn News*, 3344 Broadview Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44109.

Visitor from Switzerland staying in Old Brooklyn

by **Lynette Filips**
lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com

After he become a cabinetmaker, Eduard also took classes which gave him the credentials to operate a cabinetmaking business if he so desires.

A house on South Hills Dr. has become “home-away-from-home” for a Swiss citizen this autumn. Eduard Ettlin arrived in Cleveland on Sunday, September 6th; hailing from the German-speaking region of Switzerland, he will be here until Tuesday, November 24th.

Eduard is here as a tourist, but he’s already been involved with more than sight-seeing. Every morning, for instance, he spends four hours at ELS Language Center at Case-Western Reserve University studying English as a second-language. Twelve other students (mostly from Arabic countries, though a few of his fellow students are Oriental and one is from Spain) are in the class. On some weekends, he visits with distant cousins and relatives who live in the area.

Phyllis Matlak a relative through marriage on his mother’s side of the family, is “hosting” him.

(Other family names, for genealogists who might be reading this article, include Janka, Schwarz, Schwob, Schmucki and Walauta.)

Back in Stans, Switzerland (a small village about 10 miles from Lucerne), Eduard is a cabinetmaker. Both his grandfather and his father practiced the same craft, and after Eduard completed ten years (including kindergarten) of school, he spent four years in an apprenticeship to learn everything he needed to know about woodworking. Eduard has worked at cabinetmaking for over twenty years.



Photo by Sandy Werona

Eduard Ettlin, from Stans, Switzerland, will be here until November 24th.

Back in his village of approximately 8000 people, Eduard is a volunteer firefighter; he also writes articles for the *Swiss Firefighters Journal*.

This isn’t Eduard’s first visit to the United States or Cleveland, but it is the first time he’s been to America in ten years. The last time he was in Cleveland was fourteen years ago, though, and it was just for a few days. So this time Eduard is really intent on taking in all the museums and culture Cleveland has to offer.

Photography is probably Eduard’s main hobby and that’s how we became aware that he was in town — when we saw him standing on the Brooklyn-Brighton Bridge taking photos of the Big Creek Valley, looking west toward where the new Fulton Road Bridge is being constructed.

Eduard would be pleased to converse in English with more people than just his family members and classmates.

Contact him at ettli-edi@bluewin.ch if you’d like to invite him to a meeting of your community or church group.

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by Tom Collins
tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

Signs of Aging

As you age you are sometimes inflicted with a new ache or pain that just arrives without notice. It is not debilitating and maybe not even bothersome. Its presence is just something you adjust to and keep on going. Maybe it will go away or maybe it is a forecast of what is to come.

In the aging commercial corridors of Cleveland things appear over a long period of time which are similar to aches and pains. They detract from the healthy body without really changing any function. We learn to live with them because trying to figure out what to do about them is often more taxing than just accepting their presence.

Signage is the visible change along the busy commercial streets in Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn. If all the signs had audio voices, the roar would be deafening. Try counting all the signs you can view on both sides of the street in one commercial block. Count all the signs: traffic signs, street signs,

store name signs, product signs, homemade signs posted to poles, tent signs in the sidewalk, signs on parked cars and trucks, bill boards, signs proclaiming road construction, crosswalks, bus stops, school zones, bike lanes and whatever piece of essential information someone believes the public must read.

Every sign contains something that is expected to be important to people who pass by. The collective result of all this signage is a competitive battle among the signors to make sure their specific message is the dominant message communicated. So, the signs employ bright color, neon lights or images that have little to do with the message and much to do with capturing attention.

Do we recognize the slow change that occurs as we continue to add new signs? Do we say "Stop" because it has become so oppressive that people do not want to look at the shops or neighborhood? Do old signs ever get removed? Do we think it can be changed?

As the outer suburbs manage development, they enact strict signage regulations that inhibit visual pollution. Sign size, height and location must be approved in advance and meet specific guidelines. The result is that the sign is more accurate in presenting its message and more appealing in appearance.

Cleveland has specific sign regulations but they are generally specific to property parcels so there is no control on the cumulative volume of signs. Signs in the public right of way (streets and sidewalks) generally are not subject to review.

Outdoor advertising (billboards) are subject to a separate set of regulations all of which fail to address the critical issue associated with billboards. By their very nature they are excessively large in order to dominate the site where they are located. The intention is to be so large

as to demand visual attention. Perhaps they should be called "bully boards".

Cleveland neighborhoods can live with the aches and pains of sign pollution. The problem is that it contributes to urban decay and does not attract new commercial investment. To be sure, there are factors other than signage that inhibits new business development in older neighborhoods, but signage is the most visible item on the list.

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Variations on a Season – Fall Decorating

Fifteen businesses accepted the invitation from Speed Exterminating and Ameriflag to decorate their storefronts with straw and chrysanthemums. It is a grassroots, merchants' effort to identify the many independent shops and businesses throughout Old Brooklyn. Many of the participants have added pumpkins and cornstalks to this attractive and low-cost autumn theme. If you like what you see, please stop in and tell the proprietors that you like it. Appreciation and encouragement will help grow this effort.

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For more information contact Tom Collins, OBCDC Commercial Program Manager 216-459-1000

tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

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OBN receives response to St. Procop article

by Lynette Filips and Jennie Shantery

After our article about the closing of St. Procop Church on W. 41st St. appeared in last month's Old Brooklyn News, I received the following email letter from Old Brooklyn resident Jennie Shantery. Whether due to my inferior subtraction or typing skills, Jennie's math was better than mine. I had stated the correct founding year – 1872 – in the article, but subtracting that from 2009 comes to 137 years, not the 117 years I had erroneously stated. St. Procop's deserves credit for every year it served the neighborhood!

The article in the Universe Bulletin (the newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland) stated that many St. Procop parishioners had decided to affiliate with "nearby" Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. At E. 55th St. and Hamm (near Broadway) Ave., Our Lady of Lourdes is almost six miles away from St. Procop's – hardly "nearby". But like St. Procop, the church had been founded by Bohemian immigrants, so many of St. Procop's parishioners felt an affinity with it.

Jennie's mention of police protection at a church closing is not unique to St. Procop's. Last Sunday, for instance, I attended the closing Mass of St. Ladislaus in Lorain (one of three parish closings at which Bishop Lennon officiated that weekend), and three police cars were there, too.

We appreciate hearing responses about articles from our readers. Jennie's email follows –

St. Procop Church was in existence for 137 years, not 117 years as indicated in the September OBN.

St. Procop did have a high school with the class of 1965 being its last graduating class. It also had an elementary school thereby allowing families to send their children to St. Procop

School for twelve years. I am a 1957 graduate and my sister was a 1964 graduate; both of us were taught by Franciscan nuns all through our twelve years in the school.

St. Augustine's on W. 14th St. will indeed take responsibility of the hunger meal program and will do an excellent job as they have done for years. It's unfortunate though, that there was not a closer church that could have, and perhaps should have, come to the aid of those served by St. Procop. Getting to St. Augustine's will, I'm sure, present a hardship to many, as will attending Mass at other churches such as St. Stephen's, St. Colman's, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and La Sagrada Familia.

After moving out of the area in 1979, I only went back occasionally. Perhaps if more of us who moved away continued supporting the parish we wouldn't be talking about a church now closed. Yes, there were areas in need of repair but that was overshadowed by the beauty of the church. The neighborhood, however, presents another problem as it is a neighborhood that has seen better days.

The liturgy at that closing Mass was one of exuberance, not despair; even though many felt it was as if someone dear had died.

Bishop Lennon is not the most popular individual in the city these days, but his title calls for respect; the fact that it was necessary to provide police protection makes me wonder about the actions of some. While many of the churches closed and those scheduled for closure do indeed have excellent outreach programs, one has to remember it takes money to sustain those churches, not to mention priests to serve them.

We all need to remember that we – not the buildings – are the Church. Memories can't be shut out of our lives once those doors are locked. Memories – good and bad – live with a person forever.

Community Toolbox

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



First annual Old Brooklyn community "Fall-O-Ween" festival Saturday, October 24

by Lori Peterson
lorip@oldbrooklyn.com

"Trick or treat smell my feet, give me something good to eat," is the familiar phrase heard throughout neighborhoods on October 31st; however this phrase can be heard in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood on **October 24th** at the First Annual Old Brooklyn Community "Fall-O-Ween" festival.

As a result of the MetroHealth Senior Health and Wellness Center and Case Weatherhead School of Management sponsored Appreciative Inquiry Summit in August, the idea of a collaborative community event was born and a committee was formed.

Kiwanis Club of Brooklyn-Cleveland and Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation have partnered for over 30 years on an annual Halloween party. Since this Halloween party had always attracted a lot of children, the committee decided that joining forces with an already successful event would be a good way to develop a new and bigger festival.

Thus the **Old Brooklyn Community "Fall-O-Ween" Festival** came into being. Join the festivities on Saturday, October 24, 2009 on Devonshire Ave. (off Pearl Rd.) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Old Brooklyn Community "Fall-O-Ween" Festival is a joint effort between The Senior Health and Wellness Center, Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, Kiwanis Club of Brooklyn-Cleveland, Deaconess-Krafft Center, Deaconess-Zane Center, Concordia Care, Visiting Nurse Association of Ohio, Senior Citizen Resources, Ameriflag, Gavin Lee Party

Center and Speed Exterminating. This combined effort lends itself to a skilled and passionate committee dedicated to making this event a success. It's designed to appeal to both the young and the elderly.

The day's event will begin with the first 300 children receiving a Trick or Treat bag and refreshments. A variety of performances and activities throughout the day will take place between Deaconess-Krafft and the Senior Health and Wellness Center. Some of the day's activities are a puppet show, costume contest, pumpkin decorating and carnival games.

At **noon** a puppet show will be on stage. Become a kid again and dress up in costume. At **1 pm**, a **costume contest** will be held for all age groups with prizes going to the winners. The ages groups are: 5 and under; 6-10; 11-14; 15-18; 19-49; 50 and over. Immediately following the costume contest, judging for the pumpkins will commence.

Prepare yourself for a rocking afternoon with an **Elvis impersonator**, beginning at **2 p.m.** This is a crowd pleaser for every age. If Elvis doesn't bring the animal out in you, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo is bringing an assortment of animals to learn about and pet.

Try your hand at some carnival games while partaking in some cotton candy, popcorn or a grilled hotdog. (The food is for purchase.) The City of Cleveland's Fire Department will sponsor a hands-on display. Then stick around for the 50/50 raffle drawing.

If you would like to be a part of this event or have any questions, call Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation at 216-459-1000 and ask for Sandy or Lori.

Know a senior who needs help with gutters and trees?

by Lori Peterson
lorip@oldbrooklyn.com

If you are a senior (60 years or older and income-qualified) assistance is available from two new programs that are being initiated in Cleveland: Cleveland Gutter Assistance Program (CGAPS) and Cleveland Tree Assistance Program for Senior (CTAPS).

The Cleveland Department of Aging, in partnership with the City of Cleveland's Department of Community Development, has a new short-term program to help income-eligible seniors with cleaning their gutters. After an application is completed the Department of Aging will schedule a home visit to assess the gutters.

The Cleveland Department of Aging and Department of Parks, Recreation and Properties and the Department of Community Development are working in partnership to help income-eligible seniors with hazardous tree and branch removal. A home visit will be scheduled to assess problem trees.

In order to qualify for these programs the

applicants must meet the following income guidelines:

Must be a senior (60 or over) homeowner or an adult 18-59 with a disability;
Must reside in and own a single or two-family home;

For the tree assistance program the tree of concern must be on the applicant's property.

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•Must be a senior (60 or over) homeowner or an adult 18-59 with a disability;

•Must reside in and own a single or two-family home;

•For the tree assistance program the tree of concern must be on the applicant's property

If you would like an application for either of these programs, call 216-459-1000 and ask for Lori or Donn.

How your college kid uses credit cards

by Dana Korosi
Steel Valley Federal Credit Union

Your kids have gone off to college, some for the first time, others as upperclassmen. And it's likely that the credit card will become a widely used vehicle in their daily lives. Under the new Credit Card Accountability Disclosure Act of 2009 (Card Act), a young adult under the age of 21 cannot obtain a credit card without an adult co-signer unless the card applicant can prove means to repay the debt.

According to Sallie Mae's 2009 National Study of Usage Rates and Trends, in this time of economic downturn, college students are turning to credit cards more than ever before. Here are some of the results from the study:

- * Undergraduates are carrying record-high balances - an average of \$3,173. Seniors graduate with an average balance of \$4,100
- * Eighty-four percent had at least one credit card, and half the students have four or more
- * Less than one out of five students pay off balances each month
- * Ninety-two percent of students charge textbooks, school supplies or other education expenses
- * Food (84%), clothing (70%) and cosmetics (69%) are also frequently purchased on credit.

Despite high credit card usage, more than

one-third of respondents have never or only rarely discussed credit card use with their parents. These same students were also more likely to charge tuition or be surprised at a high balance. A large majority of those surveyed expressed interest in more financial literacy education.

If your student does use a credit card, stress the dangers of piling on too much debt. Put the real price tag into perspective; calculate with them how much interest adds to the price of that new pair of jeans if they do not pay their balances off each month.

Also, remind them to keep their credit scores clean by carrying a low balance relative to their available balance, paying all bills on time, and regularly checking accounts for unusual activity.

Parents should begin offering guidance throughout middle and high school to help better prepare students to manage money in college. Start with the basics by focusing on the importance of saving and responsible spending. Encourage them to use direct deposit for their pay checks. Steel Valley offers several account options for teens and college students, including savings accounts, checking accounts, debit cards and credit cards. Money management is important at all of life's stages. See how the professionals at Steel Valley Federal Credit Union can help by stopping by or calling 216-741-9430.

Inspiring woman gives home a facelift

by Sheila Quealy-Walter
sheilaw@oldbrooklyn.com

In my job as code-enforcer for Ward 16, I most often run across individuals who aren't up to par in terms of maintaining their properties. But, of course, there are many Clevelanders who do care about their neighborhood and take pride in their homes.

It's not often, however, that I've run across a 62-year-old lady siding a house, but then, I hadn't met Joyce Breckenrich. When Joyce told me what she was doing, I went right over to get a picture. When I arrived I found her measuring, cutting, hauling and attaching vinyl siding to the 1850+ square foot Cecilia Ave. duplex she co-owns with Ed Gundich. She worked non-stop with the siding contractor until the job was completed.

When I asked Joyce for some of her thoughts about the house, she replied, "More people should get their priorities straightened out. I wish people would take pride in their homes. It's heartbreaking because this is a nice neighborhood and affordable."

Joyce went on to say that residents should "make the best of the situations they have and utilize all the help that is out there. Take advantage of all of the programs available."

In the six years that they have owned this duplex, Joyce and Ed have: replaced all of the windows, both furnaces, both central air-conditioning systems, the roof and both the first and second floor back porches; removed all of the carpeting and refinished the floors; installed glass block windows in the basement; and, of course, re-sided the house.



Photo by Sheila Quealy-Walter

With one hand on the ladder and the other hand carrying a piece of siding, Joyce Breckenrich climbs the ladder to help the contractor side her home.

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October designated "Italian Heritage Month" in Cleveland

by Lynette Filips
lynetfef@oldbrooklyn.com

Again this year October is **Italian Heritage Month** in our city. That's no doubt because Columbus Day is Monday, October 12th, and Christopher Columbus, although he had his travels financed by Spain, was Italian.

And so this month the *Old Brooklyn News* will continue to publicize upcoming Italian-inspired festivities and cultural events, and hopefully making readers smile with more "You're so Italian if..." observations.

In addition to the whole month being dedicated to Italians, Monday, October 5th, has been singled out as **Italian Heritage Day**. On that date, before the Cleveland City Council meeting, members of the Italian community who have made significant contributions to the city will be recognized.

That evening a pictorial exhibit about the Italian Cultural Garden on East Blvd. will also open in the rotunda of Cleveland City Hall. The exhibit will include photos of the Garden at the time that it was being developed in the 1930s as well as of the \$750,000 Renaissance Restoration it is currently undergoing.

City Hall is open every day until 5:30 p.m., and the photos will be on display until the end of the month.

In last month's issue we noted that the fourth **Cleveland Italian Film Festival** would take place at the Cedar Lee Theater on three consecutive Thursday evenings. It began on September 24th, so two showings (*La finestra di fronte/Facing Windows* and *For Roseanna*) have already past, but on October 8th, *Miracolo a Sant'Anna/Miracle at Santa Anna* is still to be screened.

The Cedar Lee is located at 2163 Lee Rd. in Cleveland Hts. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. Tickets to each show are \$10 and must be purchased in advance; call 440-527-0644 to reserve seats.

There's also a pre-film dinner from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Jimmy O'Neill's each week. It's served buffet style and the menu includes baked salmon, roasted pork tenderloin, crab cakes - w/horseradish sauce w/apple brandy, pecan-crusted chicken, spinach tart w/goat

cheese & sun dried tomatoes, garlic mashed potatoes, wild and brown rice, mesclun salad w/ strawberries, whipped cream/beet cake and non-alcoholic beverages. (Beer and wine are available for an additional fee.) The price is \$15 and again, advance reservations must be made by calling 440-527-0644.

Cleveland's annual **Columbus Day Celebration** on Monday, October 12th, will begin with a 10 a.m. Mass at Holy Rosary Church, 12021 Mayfield Rd. The Mass will be concelebrated by a number of priests of Italian ancestry.

The **Columbus Day Parade** will take place at noon. Approximately 100 units, including Grand Marshall Sam Rutigliano, former coach of the Cleveland Browns; Mary Colonna, the Italian Mother of the year; Slider; eleven high school marching bands; and numerous political figures will queue-up on Murray Hill Rd. and Cornell Rd.

The parade will proceed east on Fairview Court/E. 125th St. to the top of Mayfield Rd., and then travel back down Mayfield to the reviewing stand in front of Holy Rosary. Sports Caster Tony Rizzo will be emceeing the parade, which has been in Little Italy, rather than downtown Cleveland, for six years now.

The Italian community is also participating in an exhibit at the **Maltz Jewish Museum**, 2929 Richmond Rd. The exhibit is called *Cleveland - A Cultural Celebration* and it will be on display there the entire month of October. (Admission applies.)

And now we return to more observations dealing with what it means to have Italian blood flowing in your veins —

"You're so Italian if..."

- (girls only) your brothers would take care of any guy who moved too fast with you on a date;

- you served traditional wedding soup (chicken broth with meatballs, spinach/escarole and pasta) as the first course at your wedding reception; you handed out colorful, candy-coated Jordan almonds as favors; your guests joined you in the Tarantella Italian folk dance later in the evening;

- not only have you been to the Italian Cultural Gardens and know about the famous people who are memorialized in it, you also know people who have had their wedding photos taken there;

- you wear an Italian horn, a "cornicello", around your neck to ward off the "malocchio", i.e., the evil eye; (The superstition among Mediterranean peoples (e.g., Sicilians) is that a person who praises you, your children, your livestock or your fruit trees, but is really envious of you or them can cause your/their life-giving fluids to dry up. The horn is made of gold, silver or red coral. Some Italians hang red coral horns in their cars. They look like chili peppers, but that is not what they are!)

- after you receive a compliment, you always say "God bless you" as another precaution to guard against the possibility of the person being jealous and transmitting the malocchio sickness to you;

- you had to see *The Godfather*, the second most popular movie of all time, but organized crime, the Mafia, Cosa Nostra, gangsters and racketeering have no part in your own life;

- *La Strada* and *La Dolce Vita* (Federico Fellini's masterpieces) are two of your favorite art films;

- when you attended Tony 'n' Tina's Wedding, at least one of the cast members reminded you of someone in your family;

- your family played bocce ball before it became a trendy thing to do;

- black is one of your favorite colors, for a car, a man's shirt or a woman's dress;

- you know the legend of Befana, an old woman, aka a good witch, who brings gifts to good children on the eve of the Epiphany;

- Leo Buscaglia (*Papa My Father* and many more books dealing with love and relationships), and Tomie dePaola (originator of *Strega Non*, "Grandma Witch", and the writer and/or illustrator of over 200 children's books) are among your favorite contemporary authors;

- you read *La Gazzetta Italiana*, the monthly newspaper for Italian-Americans living in Cleveland, which began publication in May of 1992;

- you regularly tune into Cleveland's Italian radio shows — "Memories from Italy" on WJCU (88.7FM) on Sundays from 10 a.m. to noon; "Touch of Italy with Carmelina" on WELW (1330 AM) on Sundays from noon to 1 p.m.; and "Radio Italia of Cleveland" on WRUW (91.1 FM) on Saturdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m.;

- you have a special place in your heart for the "Italian crooners" and, in addition to their stage names, know their birth names, too —

Tony Bennett (Anthony Dominick Benedetto)
Russ Columbo (Ruggiero Eugenio di Rodolpho Columbo)
Perry Como (Pierino Como)
Don Cornell (Luigi Francisco Variaro)
Alan Dale (Aldo Sigismondi)
Vic Damone (Vito Rocco Farinola)
Bobby Darin (Walden Robert Cassotto)
Johnny Desmond (Giovanni Desimone)
Sergio Franchi (Francesco Benenato)
Buddy Greco (Armando Greco)
Frankie Laine (Francesco Paolo LoVecchio)
Dean Martin (Dino Paul Crocetti)
Lou Martin (Louis Scaglione)
Mario Lanza (Alfred Arnold Cocozza)
Julius LaRosa (you will never forget how Arthur Godfrey fired him right on the air!)
Al Martino (Alfred Cini)
Louis Prima
Jimmy Roselli
Frank Sinatra (Francis Albert Sinatra)
Jerry Vale (Genaro Vitaliano)

- over the decades you've been fond of many other performers of Italian descent, too — Anna Maria Alberghetti, Andrea Bocelli, Enrico Caruso, Dominick "Dom" DeLuise, Robert De Niro, Danny DeVito, James Francis "Jimmy" Durante, Leonardo di Caprio, Annette Funicello, Gina Lollobrigida, Gaetano Alberto "Guy" Lombardo, Sophia Loren, Al Pacino, Luciano Pavarotti, John Travolta, Rudolph Valentino;

- the men, as well as the women, in your family like to cultivate vegetable gardens in summer; must-have plantings include tomatoes, garlic, onions, flat Italian parsley, basil, oregano, fennel, eggplant, zucchini, Italian bush beans, red peppers, and leafy greens like escarole, endive, spinach, radicchio and arugula;

What would Italian be if it weren't also associated with cooking and eating extraordinary food? That's what the last of our "You're so Italian if..." observations will cover next month.

Remember the Tradition...

of yesterday's cemetery with its individual above-ground monuments and magnificent landscaping. The peace and solitude of such a setting was always comforting and reassuring.

There is still such a place with ample space

Riverside Cemetery is now in its second century of serving Cleveland area residents of all faiths. Choice selections are available in either our traditional sections where personal planting and above-ground memorials are permitted... as well as our flat head stones memorial park sections.

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As I see it...

by
Pastor Jerry



"For everything there is a season..."
Ecclesiastes 3

At this time of year as summer ends and autumn arrives, I always feel a bit nostalgic. The colorful beauty of the season means time has moved forward and another year nears ending. It prompts us to recall the past, yet ponder what lies ahead. So we move forward, welcoming each new day and grasping the sometimes hidden opportunities of the future.

Contemplate this message* from a greeting card, which illustrates the essence of time in a thought-provoking way:

"Time. It can fly. It can drag. 40-is-the-new-30. Middle age now runs from 20-when we no longer depend on our parents, to 70-when we start to depend on our kids. And then there's Tony Bennett, who launched his AARP-sponsored concert tour, 'The Best is Yet to Come,' at 80."

Are you making the best of the time granted to you?

*©"Meanings of Life, a Cardthartic Experience." Used by permission.

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

THEATER NOTES



Beck Center of the Arts

17801 Detroit Ave. 216-521-2540
www.beckcenter.org

"Fiddler on the Roof"

Now thru Sun., Oct. 18th; Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$28, adults; \$25, seniors; \$17, students; (includes \$2 service fee). Reservations encouraged; box office extension is 10. Visa & Mastercard accepted.

Cassidy Theatre of Greenbriar Commons

6200 Pearl Rd. 440-842-4600

"Knowing Then, Knowing Now"

Fri., Oct. 9th - Sun., Oct. 25th. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm.

"The Rocky Horror Show"

Fri., Oct. 30th & Sat., Oct. 31st; 9 pm & midnight. Tickets: \$20, adults; \$15, students/seniors.

Cleveland Public Theatre

6415 Detroit Ave. 216-631-2727
www.cptonline.org

"The Alice Seed"

James Levin Theatre - Thurs., Oct. 8th - Sat., Oct. 24th.

"No Child" (left behind)

CPT Storefront Studio - Thurs., Oct. 8th - Sat., Oct. 24th
Both shows -- Preview performances, Oct. 8th & 9th; Opening Night, Sat., Oct. 10th; Thur., Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., Oct. 18th, 3 pm; Mon., Oct. 19th, 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$21, general admission; \$19, advance online purchase; \$2 discount for students & seniors; \$10, all Mon. & Thurs. performances.

Great Lakes Theater Festival

Hanna Theatre, Playhouse Square
2067 E. 14th St. bet. Euclid & Prospect
216-241-6000 www.greatlakestheater.org

"The Mystery of Edwin Drood"

Now thru Sun. matinee, Nov. 1st.

"Twelfth Night"

Now thru Sat. matinee, Oct. 31st.
Both shows presented in rotating repertory, Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$15 - \$49. (\$11 for students with I.D.)

Liminis Theatre

2438 Scranton Rd. 216-687-0074
(one block west of Lincoln Park in the historic Tremont neighborhood)

"Finn in the Underworld"

Sept. 18th - Oct. 17th; Thurs, Fri. & Sat., 8 pm. Tickets: \$15, adults; \$12, seniors & students.

Playhouse Square Center

1501 Euclid Ave.
216-241-6000 www.playhousesquare.com

"Dixie's Tupperware Party"

14th Street Theatre, now until Sun., Oct 18th. Wed, Thurs, & Fri, 8 pm; Sat, 5 & 9 pm; Sun, 2 pm. Tickets: \$10 - \$35.

Also too many other touring shows to list; visit Playhouse Square website for dates & times. Also look for "Smart Seat" icons; some shows have limited number of high balcony seats for \$10 each (plus handling charge).

FAMILY FUN!



Art House
3119 Denison Ave., 216-398-8556
www.arthouseinc.org

All Ages Family Open Studios - 3rd Sat of every month; 1- 3 pm. Sept. 1, Oct. 17 (clay day); free. Make individual pieces or family art works. Each month has a theme; Art House provides the materials. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Visit website for more info or other programs.

Capitol Theatre, Gordon Square Arts District, 1390 W. 65th St.
Opening Week Events
Plain Dealer Free Family Matinees - First-come, first-served seating. Door open 9:30 am, Sat., Oct. 3rd. 10 am movie, *Monsters vs. Aliens*; Sat., Oct. 10th, 10 am movie, *Hotel for Dogs*.
1921 Sunday, Oct 4th; doors open at 11 am; free movie at noon -- Charlie Chaplin's *The Kid*. Limited seating. Receive free Baby Ruth candy bar & 21 cent fountain drinks all day.
Bargain Monday, Oct. 5th; \$5 admission. 3D films, concession specials, \$1 fountain drinks & candies, plus discount combo deals.
Free Popcorn Tuesday, Oct. 6th; free 32 oz. popcorn with each paid admission.
Metromix Happy Hour - Wed., Oct. 7th, 4 - 8 pm. Half-priced beer & wine, free appetizers in upper lobby & chance to win great prizes.
Resident Appreciation Day - Oct. 9th, 10th & 11th; Capitol Theatre will donate 20% of concession sales to area non-profit organizations.

Children's Museum of Cleveland
10730 Euclid Ave. 216-791-5437
www.clevelandchildrensmuseum.org

Hours: Mon. - Sun.; 10 am - 5 pm. Exhibit areas close 15 min. prior to Museum closing. Cost - \$7, children ages 1 - 12; \$6, adults & children 13 & over; free, under 11 months.
Cooking with Kids Family Workshop - Sat., Oct. 10th, 12:30 - 1:30 pm.
Spooktacular VIII Fun Fest Weekend - Fri. & Sat., Oct. 30th & 31st. Bring your costume & play Halloween games.

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

Apple Cider Making & Tasting - Hershey Garden, Sat. & Sun., Oct. 3rd, 4th, 10th, 11th, 17th, 18th, 24th, 25th & 31st; 1-3 pm. Free w/admission.
Scarecrow Family Picnic - Sat., Oct. 10th. On the Geis Terrace, noon - 2 pm. Fee- \$6/scarecrow. Make a garden scarecrow, all trimmings provided. Register in advance; supplies limited. Picnic lunch available from Garden Cafe.
BOO-tanical Bash - Hershey Children's Garden, Sat., Oct. 24th, 5:30 - 8:30 pm. Cost - \$10, member/child; \$13, non-member/child; \$7.50, member/adult; \$10, non-member/adult. Dress in your best costume, trick-or-treat, play games, create crafts & dance. Advanced registration required.

Cleveland Metroparks
Walking Works Program
Thru October, hike at least 8 of 13 designated trails on your own. After completing each, date Walking Works form. Complete 8 walks & return form to Cleveland Metroparks to receive this year's Walking Works shield. Display shield on your own walking stick or purchase a Walking Works walking stick at any EarthWords Nature Shop. Also naturalist-led hikes along some designated trails August through October. Register to receive monthly Walking Works E-letter with walking tips & special EarthWords Nature Shop offers. Call 216-635-3204 with name, address & email address or email walkingworks@clevelandmetroparks.com.

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

Special Horse-Drawn Hayrides - Sat, Oct. 17th, 2-5 pm, & Sun., Oct. 25th, 4:30 - 7:30 pm., \$12 per person; reservation only. Limited space; includes 1/2-hour leisurely ride, hot cider/hot chocolate, snack & kids' goody bag (for ages 11 & under with paid ticket). Reservations necessary for horse-drawn & private hayrides.
Tractor-drawn Fall Hayrides & Square Dancing - Oct. Sat. evenings, 6 - 10 pm; Sun. afternoons, noon - 4 pm. Cost - general public hayrides, \$7.50, adults; \$5.50, children, 3 - 11; free, for children 2 & under (must sit on an adult lap).

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

Family Fun Day: Pumpkins & Scarecrows - Sat., Oct. 24th; every half hour, 10 am - 3 pm. Make a jack-o-lantern, painted pumpkin or scarecrow. Bring a pumpkin & old clothes; leaves for stuffing, patterns, paints & safety knives provided. Samples of pumpkin snacks. Registration required.

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
3900 Wildlife Way
216-661-6500 clemetzoo.com

Boo at the Zoo - Thurs, Fri., Sat. & Sun., Oct. 15th - 18th & 22nd - 25th; 6 - 9 pm. Purchase tickets at Zoo Box Office or online at clemetzoo.com. Children under 2 free; \$8 per person.
Wolf Awareness Day - Sat., Oct. 10th, 10 am - 3 pm. Special wolf-themed games & activities. See the Zoo's six Mexican wolves.

Rocky River Nature Center/Frostville Museum
Rocky River Reservation 24000 Valley Pkwy., North Olmsted 440-734-6660

Briggs Haunted Trail - Oct. 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd, 24th, 30th, 31st; 7:30 - 11 pm. Cost - \$10 per person or \$8 per person for groups of 20 or more.
Halloween Hoopla - Sat. Oct. 31st. Wear costume & come for fun activities. Stories, live animals & scavenger hunts; 1 - 4 pm. Ages up to 12 with an adult.

Cleveland Museum of Art
11150 East Blvd. 216-421-7340

Hours: Tues, Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10 am. - 5 pm. Wed. & Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. Closed Mon. New East Wing is now open.

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. \$9, adults; \$7, ages 7-18, college students with IDs & seniors 60 yrs. or older; \$6, children ages 3-6; free for age 2 & under. Wed. evening admission, \$5 after 5 pm; Tues. & Thurs., 3-5 pm, children 12 & under admitted free. (Check out the new, life-sized cast of a T. Rex dinosaur skeleton while there!)

Planetarium Program: The Telescope's Top 10 First ever International Year of Astronomy, celebrating 4 centuries of telescope observing & top 10 discoveries made with every make & design of telescope. Oct.: Mon - Fri, 2:30 pm; Wed, 8 pm; Sat, 10:30 am, 12:30, 2 & 4 pm; Sun, 12:30, 2 & 4 pm. Members, free; non-members, \$4.

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

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

Preschool Storytime - Every Tues., 10:30 - 11 am. Interactive stories, rhymes, songs & other activities for children ages 3-5. Call to register.
Play and Learn - Every Thurs., 11- 12 pm. Join other caregivers & toddlers. Have fun with a variety of books & learning toys & make new friends. Call to register.
Celebrate National Chemistry Week. Mon., Oct. 19th, 6 - 7:30 pm. Children of all ages learn chemistry with NASA's hands-on demos & activities. Solve a mystery involving elements. Call 216-623-7067 to register.
Adult reading club - starting Oct. 6th, 2 pm. First book -- *Crooked River Burning* by Mark Winegardner. Come in or call 216-623-7067 to place a hold on this title.

Estabrook Recreation Center
4125 Fulton Rd.
216-664-4149

Mon. - Sat. Pool, gym, outdoor sports. Pick up schedule at desk in front of Rec Center.

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

Harvest Festival - Sat. & Sun, Oct 3rd & 4th. Arts & Craft booth, harvest produce, family entertainment. Art on the bridge -- Berea Fine Arts Club -- on Sat.; free.

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

Steamship William G. Mather Museum - Working Great Lakes freighter; built 1925. Restored stem to stern -- huge cargo holds, brass & oak pilot house, elegant guest quarters & 4-story engine room. Hours: Oct. - Fri, Sat. & Sun., 10 am - 5 pm.

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

Fun on the Farm Programs:
Bubble, Bubble, Dirt is Trouble; Oct. 3rd, 11 am & 1 pm.
An Apple a Day - Oct. 9th & 10th; 11 am & 1 pm..
Harvest Festival - Oct., 10th & 11th; Sat., 11 am - 5 pm; Sun., 11 am - 5 pm. Pumpkin carving, hay rides, apple butter, cider & more. Regular admission. No reservations necessary.
Oats, Peas, Beans - Oct. 16th & 17th, 11 am & 1 pm.
Little Red Hen - Oct. 23rd & 24th, 11 am & 1 pm..
Boom, Broom - Oct., 30 & 31. 11 am. & 1 pm. Bring your family to the farm for a craft, story & visit to a farm site. Adults admitted only when accompanied by a child. Member: \$10/adult; children free; Non-Member: \$10/adult; \$5/child; Group rates available. Members—Book 3 programs, get 1 free! Reservations required.

Hegge's House of Horror
Fri., Oct. 30th, at dusk till late evening, Sat., Oct. 31st; 1608 Merl Ave. Seventeenth year of animated Halloween displays in Frank Smith's side & front yards; free.

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

Fall Family Hayride Night - Costumed trick or treat parade through the Wildlife Gardens. Take-home Halloween craft, pizza dinner, hayrides, viewing of autumn sky & animated Halloween laser lights in Schuele Planetarium. Pre-registration required.

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

Treasure Hunt Adventure - (GPS for beginners of all ages) Thurs., Oct. 15, & Fri., Oct. 30; 2 pm. Fri., Oct. 16 & 29, & Sat., Oct. 31, 9:30 am or 1 pm. Registration required.
Treasure Hunt Adventure 2 - (Intermediate Geocaching) Thurs., Oct. 29 - Sat., Oct. 31, 9 am - 5 pm. Registration required.
"10-Year Anniversary Celebration" of CanalWay Center & Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation, Sat., Oct. 17, 1 - 4 pm. Cart tours along the Towpath Trail, crafts & exhibits inc. the "Interpreters Wall of Fame," a giant notepad to jot down memories, on-going video of the natural history programs over the 10 yrs, children's games, cake & punch & more.

Optimus Prime
Now through Nov. 8th, 4807 Wichita Ave. Fifteenth year of giant, Transformer-like Halloween figures (made from wood & foam) display in Pete Marin's front yard.

Birthday Tribute to Girl Scout Founder
Juliette Gordon Low
Sat., Oct. 24th, St. Charles Borromeo church, Monaghan Hall, 11 am - 2 pm. Festive masquerade party presented by Girl Scout Service Unit # 723 & Girl Scout Troop 1499. Purchase tickets by Oct. 15th; \$8 each, includes brunch, the day's activities, a party favor including a patch with the winning design. Arts & crafts, games & singing.
Girls encouraged to bake & decorate cakes for a cake walk. (Cakes can be "baked" out of recycled materials, paper, clay, Styrofoam, flour, or any other creative ingredients.)
In lieu of a gift exchange, unwrapped gifts with at least a \$5 value can be brought for a donation to the USMC Toys for Tots. Troop scan add to the party decorations by making poster - board sized birthday cards. The girls also able to make birthday cards for deployed soldiers.

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Back row L -R: Anthony & Uncle George

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1 BDRM. UP - Old Brooklyn, W. 42nd, \$395 + security deposit. (Appliances included in both)
2 BDRM. UP - Old Brooklyn, W. 49th, \$495 + security deposit. Call 216-398-4100.

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COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Brooklyn Centre Community Association meeting, Oct. 22nd (& every fourth Thurs.), 6:30 pm, Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church, 2607 Archwood Ave. (corner of Archwood and Pearl)

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists meeting, Sat., Oct. 3rd, 2:30 pm, Cleveland Public Library, 3706 Pearl Rd. Contact Brooklyn Centre Naturalists, bcnaturalists@gmail.com, for more info.

Brooklyn Genealogy Club - Brooklyn Branch Cuyahoga County Public Library, 4480 Ridge Rd., Sat. Oct. 10th, 2 - 4 pm. Topic: The Naturalization Process and Test; Speaker-Don Koslowski.

Brooklyn Historical Society monthly meeting at the museum, 4442 Ridge Rd., Wed., Oct. 28th, 7 pm. Louise Leek displaying & discussing a large collection of older paper dolls, some from the late 1800s; also celebrity cut-outs. Program followed by refreshments; all welcome. Call Barb, 216-941-0160, for more info.

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation board meeting, Oct. 27th (& every fourth Tues.), 7:30 pm, OBCDC meeting room (3344 Broadview Rd., upstairs). 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., Oct. 13th (& 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., Oct. 27th (& every fourth Tues.), 6:30 pm, Estabrook Recreation Center, 4125 Fulton Rd.

Ward 16 Democratic Club meeting Tues., Oct. 20th (& every third Tues.), 7 pm, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 5801 Memphis Ave.

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Candidate interviews from page 12

Returning to Ohio, Councilman Cummins worked as the CFO for the Community Shelter Board in Columbus. He was then selected to be Executive Director of the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) as well as Publisher and Editor of the Old Brooklyn News for which he received numerous awards.

Councilman Cummins has continued his involvement in many local associations and block club groups throughout Brooklyn Centre.

1. What are your unique qualifications that you bring to the position?

The last eight years, serving four on Council in Ward 15, and four as Executive Director for the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, have taught me a lot about how to organize and get things done within the community. I've learned how to develop partnerships with businesses and City Departments along with other governmental and non-governmental organizations. I've researched and applied for outside funding that can be used for projects that benefit our neighborhoods.

My nine years of diverse experience in the Peace Corps, and six years with National City Bank, have shaped the way I approach problems and work through solutions - collaboratively and with a team approach. Because of my Peace Corps experience, I have a great deal of respect for cultural diversity. I speak several languages (including Spanish) and view diversity as a great strength of the new Ward. In summary, I have demonstrated experience working with diverse groups, developing consensus and completing projects that directly benefit our neighborhoods.

2. If elected, what would you hope to accomplish in your first year?

To provide leadership and community development services that build trust, collaboration and strengthen local neighborhood group activities. Priority activities would center around quality of life issues, including — improving safety; services for seniors and

youth; managing the challenges of vacant and abandoned properties; strong and fair code enforcement; beautifying the neighborhood and commercial corridors; and, developing a matching grant program, up to \$2,000, for residents and neighborhood businesses.

I would also work within the first year to ensure the success of projects currently funded and planned, including — Denison Ave. resurfacing, Scranton and Monroe Street Cemetery improvements, Mercedarian Plaza Apartments (senior housing by St. Rocco's on Fulton) and other projects that some of our most important community organizations and institutions such as MetroHealth and the Spanish American Committee are carrying out.

Rick Nagin

Biography

Since receiving my degree I have worked continuously as a writer for the People's Weekly World, while also serving as a community and labor organizer and bookstore manager. After helping to elect the first Hispanic to Cleveland City Council I served as his Executive Assistant for over seven years. I was on the AFL-CIO staff during the Labor 2006 campaign, served as Labor Coordinator for Congressman Kucinich's 2008 primary campaign and was a full-time volunteer for the AFL-CIO Labor 2008 campaign on behalf of Barack Obama.

What are your unique qualifications that you bring to the position?

I have lived and worked in the new Ward 14 for over 25 years. I know the entire ward, not just one part. In Council, I dealt with constituents' concerns on a daily basis, handling some 40,000 requests for service, working with block clubs, service agencies and CDCs. I have worked for decades with the Hispanic community, which is close to half the population. I am an active trade unionist and delegate to the Cleveland AFL-CIO. I am not part of any Council faction and can work with the entire Council. I have close ties to Congressman Kucinich and officials at other levels of government who can help with issues and projects in Ward 14. I am honest, hard-working and accessible.



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If elected, what would you hope to accomplish in your first year?

To re-establish a strong, viable Community Development Corporation to promote commercial development, foster an active network of block clubs, strengthen code enforcement and delivery of city services, develop partnerships with area institutions, including MetroHealth, the Zoo, the libraries, the Hispanic organizations, to assist the public schools and enrich the health and cultural life of the community. To aggressively address the plague of vacant houses through receivership, demolition, rehab and jobs programs.



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