

33 YEARS OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY

OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

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Plans for Pop UP Pearl coming together

by Lori Peterson
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Imagine...Downtown Old Brooklyn as a vibrant exciting place to shop, eat, hang out and meet up with friends to go gallery-hopping. This is what is going to happen on May 21st, starting at noon. Old Brooklyn's Pop UP Pearl will transform this once-thriving community back to its heyday.

What's in a name? Pop UP Pearl's moniker is due to the fact for one day on Pearl Rd. there will be pop up gift shops, cafes, ethnic foods, art galleries, bands and other interesting entertainment.

Why do this? Old Brooklyn residents know the many attributes of the neighborhood but people from outside of the neighborhood do not. This is a great opportunity to market to potential investors on why they should do business in Old Brooklyn. It is about grassroots economic revitalization that is not willing to wait for somebody else "to take the helm".

in Dallas in 2010, which led to vacant storefronts being leased, increased foot traffic and job creation. If you are interested in seeing what they did in Dallas, visit www.betterblock.org.

Another element of Pop UP Pearl is the idea of creating "Complete Streets", which the City of Cleveland just passed an ordinance to support. Complete streets are those which accommodate all users whether they are old, young, disabled, transit users, automobile drivers, cyclists or pedestrians. The streets are made safer and more user-friendly to everyone. Bicycle lanes are added and streets are generally narrowed to allow pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles to coexist harmoniously.

Eclectic entertainment, international and local foods, crafters and art galleries are a few of the things you will see at Old Brooklyn's Pop UP Pearl. Follow the Middle Eastern music to find Shuvani Jezebel's Middle Eastern Belly Dance Troupe and try



Photo by Christina Szyowski

Josip Perkovic, a fifth grader at Mary Queen of Peace (MQP) School, is transforming a tin can into a flower pot in anticipation of MQP's storefront at "Pop UP Pearl".

Old Brooklyn's Pop UP Pearl is a joint effort with the "Old Brooklyn Collaborators" — Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, MetroHealth's Senior Health & Wellness Center, Art House, Visiting Nurse Association, Deaconess Krafft-Zane, Kehoe Brothers Printing, Brooklyn-Cleveland Kiwanis, Speed Exterminating, Ameriflag, Grace Church and residents. Other collaborators are NRP (Foster Pointe), Paran Management (Memphis Fulton Shopping Center) and Jack Amburgey.

Old Brooklyn's Pop UP Pearl will have the elements of a festival but it is much more than that; it is about the neighborhood living up to its potential. The inspiration comes from a Better Block project, first undertaken

your hand (or belly) at a dance or two. The smells of Jibaro and other ethnic food will be wafting through the air to entice you to try some international cuisine. Or have a seat at Grace Church's Barbeque and Blues tent.

If arts and crafts are what you are looking for, you will be pleased to find:

- * **Art House's** kids' art studio creating Zoo-themed projects;
- * **Plenty Underfoot**, which specializes in creating art from recycled materials;
- * **Images in Bloom**, which specializes in hand-painted silk scarves, jewelry and repurposed plastic shopping bags made into beautiful purses and totes;
- * **Tony Trunzo's Works of Art** of local Cleveland sketches;

See *Pop UP Pearl* page 12



Old Brooklyn Connected Wi-Fi almost here

by Christopher Lohr
christopherl@oldbrooklyn.com

Old Brooklyn Connected website up

The future is now with the introduction of the *Old Brooklyn Connected* website at www.oldbrooklynconnected.com. The website is managed by the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) and offers hyper-local news and events for the neighborhoods of Old Brooklyn & Brooklyn Centre, as well as information about services and programs OBCDC, the City of Cleveland and other local organizations offer.

Residents looking for more information about the *Old Brooklyn Connected* Wi-Fi in Ward 13 have come to the right place. The website features information about how to "get connected", frequently asked questions, and tips on how to stay safe while surfing the web.

Residents looking to get more involved in the community can register for a free account and join the discussion on local news and neighborhood. Residents who have a news article to submit can send it in to the editors of the *Old Brooklyn News*, with the new online form, and they will review and edit it for possible publication.

Good articles will be posted on the website, www.oldbrooklynconnected.com, as an additional "Old Brooklyn news". Great articles may even make it into the monthly print edition of the *Old Brooklyn News*, available for free at locations throughout the neighborhood.

Old Brooklyn Connected is also seeking organizations and institutions which would like to post news and events for review automatically. Any non-profit organization which is interested in this opportunity should contact Christopher Lohr at 216-459-1000 or at christopherl@oldbrooklyn.com.

Old Brooklyn Connected Wi-Fi to launch April 30th

Many residents have heard about the new *Old Brooklyn Connected* Wi-Fi coming

to Ward 13. Others had the opportunity to try it out during the test weekend over Presidents Day Weekend, giving the technicians valuable information to improve the network. Still others have come across the network at home and have tried it out since then.

On April 30th, the substantial completion of the network will mean that most Ward 13 residents will be "getting connected" on the *Old Brooklyn Connected* Wi-Fi. A launch party is being planned for the end of April. Call Christopher for more details and to learn more about what this network will mean to the neighborhood. Those who attend can also register to win a free desktop computer, provided by Connect Your Community, to get connected to the World Wide Web.

Leading up to the launch, the network is running as a hidden network; some residents will be able to get online on the network name (SSID) OldBrooklyn. For those using Windows 7 the network may also appear as Other Network. After April 30th, however, the network will be broadcast normally, not hidden, as OldBrooklyn.

The *Old Brooklyn Connected* Wi-Fi is more than a mechanism to deliver broadband to a community underrepresented by at-home internet service. It is an investment in the community and small businesses. More than that, it is an investment in the youth who require a stable home connection to the internet to excel in the classroom. The *Old Brooklyn Connected* Wi-Fi is fundamentally about access, information, knowledge and opportunity.

For more information, check out the new website, oldbrooklynconnected.com, or contact Christopher Lohr at 216-459-1000 or 216-459-1000.

Online safety tips & reminders

Staying safe online is very important, and a few helpful tips can help residents keep safe while browsing the web.

See *Old Brooklyn Connected* page 12

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation
2011 Neighborhood Safety Summit
 In Cooperation with Second District Police

Saturday, April 2nd
Estabrook Recreation Center, 4125 Fulton Road
10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

FREE EVENT Free door prize raffle!

Something for Everyone

- Demonstrations ● Information ● Safety
- Health ● Security ● Smoke House

GUN DROP OFF
 NO restrictions NO questions
 Just leave your unwanted firearm

Shred Truck on Site

For more info call Barb Spaan 216-459-1000

2011/12
Old Brooklyn - Brooklyn Centre & City of Brooklyn BUSINESS DIRECTORY & Service Guide

If you're a business owner and would like to be listed or run an ad in the OBCDC 2011/12 Business Directory, please call Sandy at 216-459-1000.
Last chance to be in this years publication!

Directories will be distributed **FREE** to all area residences and businesses in late Spring.

OLD BROOKLYN, BROOKLYN CENTRE & CITY OF BROOKLYN BUSINESS DIRECTORY & SERVICE GUIDE
 Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation

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Former pastor shares more BMUMC history

by Rev. Neal Wilds

The fall of a great institution sends shock waves down the spine and raises emotions too deep to share. Such are my feelings, and the feelings of many in our community, regarding the closing of Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church (BMUMC), 2607 Archwood Ave., at the end of last December.

In 1985 I was appointed to the Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church Society. The disheartened people at that time feared that BMUMC would close. A long record of service and mission would cease because the church was experiencing what we are seeing in many main-line, central-city congregations — people had begun to abandon the central city by moving to the less crowded suburbs.

At one time hundreds of people worshipped in the church filling it from wall to wall. But in the Fifties, people moved out into the suburbs and began transferring their church memberships out of the city. This is nothing new. Writers over three thousand years ago were bemoaning urban flight.

BMUMC was basically open one day a week for worship services for a congregation that mostly drove in from the suburbs. But Brooklyn Memorial still had a mission to perform.

We opened our doors to almost any group that needed a meeting place. We joined with other churches that worked with the Brookside Center in its neighborhood outreach and varied programs. We provided meals for the community that included many of the poor and homeless. We continued with others in distributing food.

We hosted a resale shop to provide clothing, and organized outreach services to the poor. We started an after-school program for children. We also provided financial help to an endless line of folk looking for a handout. It was not unusual for us to give away \$40,000 - \$50,000 a year.

The mission of Brooklyn Memorial went well beyond its own walls, and it had a long history of ministry. Several pastors went out from this congregation to minister to other churches. Some pastors from Brooklyn Memorial served as District Superintendents,

and several held District and Conference offices.

Because Brooklyn Memorial had a limited number of members when I began ministering, I was able to serve the neighborhood, the city and beyond. I served in the Cleveland District in several capacities. For several years I was a Chair of the District Council on Missions. We supported about 80 or 90 Mission projects, from neighborhood gardens, tutoring students, hunger programs to secretarial help for poor congregations. We helped direct almost \$750,000 to a great variety of programs.

For several years I served as Treasurer of the West Side Community House. This ministry is over 100 years old and continues its mission to help the poor, the needy and the elderly to have a fuller life.

I served on the boards of several Neighborhood Development Corporations such as Crossroads, Hands, Clark-Metro and the Cleveland Housing Network.

One of my most important services was in Faith Based Organizing. We were involved in many powerful movements from the Cleveland area to nationwide events.

It is very difficult to get Christians to move from being a church 'goer' to working in changing cities like Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit to do things that make a difference. Such things as changing the political structure, bringing power to bear on leaders in government, changing the financial structure of our cities and influencing organizations that bring about change, if done in an organized fashion, can be very powerful.

Brooklyn Memorial provided State and national leaders in this task. Being known as the 'Mother Church' of Methodism in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County gave us a responsibility far beyond ourselves.

Now Brooklyn Memorial Methodist Church has closed. Is this a failure? Only if you fail to count the untold thousands who were won to Christ, trained in discipleship and outreach, and now have disciples serving throughout the world to eternity.

What breaks my heart is the fact that as more and more mainline churches abandon the inner city, the poor and the homeless and the elderly (who have no opportunity to move to nicer homes) have less and less chance to experience a part of the good life.

As I look around my beloved city (and I chose to live in the city when I retired) what I see is more and more folks with problems receiving less and less help. I believe that the church, the government and people with resources need to step up and help the ailing cities.

From the desk of the executive director

by Robyn Sandys
robys@oldbrooklyn.com



Spring is trying to bloom; flowers are pushing through the earth even as I write this at 32 degrees outside in late March! April is a busy month with the most exciting news being the completion of the wireless or free Wi-Fi for all of Ward 13 in Old Brooklyn.

We want everyone interested in how this new initiative will work to attend an event on Saturday, April 30th, at Estabrook Recreation Center from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Councilman Kevin Kelley will be there as well as our staff to answer all of your questions about this quality free service.

And if you have not been on the new web site, www.oldbrooklynconnected.com, check it out today! Not only does it have a wealth of information on our community it also provides you as residents, business owners or employees to let us know about events, news, and people you want to highlight on this web site. There are simple ways to submit articles and events on the site. If you need help doing that contact Christopher Lohr at 216-459-1000 or clohr@oldbrooklyn.com

The CDC did sell the home we bought and rehabbed on W. 50th St. to a first time homebuyer moving up from another neighborhood in Cleveland. We will be starting to rehab another home we own on Denley Ave. It is a small but cute two bedroom bungalow. We will keep you posted on when that home will be ready for sale.

The Ben Franklin Community Garden is gearing up for starting in early May. Plots are being distributed in April. We have a new staff member who will be helping out at the garden, Carol Stadden. She has had a garden at Benji for several years and has a great deal of expertise in the gardening field. Tom Sargent retired his position at the garden, Carol will be replacing Tom.

Speaking of the Ben Franklin garden, the operating committee hosted a fun event at Cleats near the end of March. Plus it raised some funds that will be used to make the garden an even better natural oasis in the neighborhood.

Have a great April, let's hope there are more flowers than showers this month.

LENTEN FISH FRIES

Brooklyn Heights UCC, 2005 W. Schaaf Rd., Fri., until - April 15th, 5:30 - 7 pm. Fish, fries, coleslaw, rolls, dessert, beverage - \$7.

Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church, 4470 Ridge Rd., Brooklyn. Fri., Apr. 1st, 8th & 15th, 4 - 7 pm. Walleye, cod, shrimp, pierogi & more. Call 216-749-5585 for more info.

Mary Queen of Peace Church, 4427 Pearl Rd., Parish Hall. Fri., until Apr. 15th, 4:30 - 7 pm. Adult dinners - \$7; Seniors & children - \$5. Breaded baked fish, non-breaded fish, homemade pierogi, battered shrimp with choice of two sides. Eat in or take out.

St. Leo Church, 4940 Broadview Rd., Fri., April 1st, 8th, 15th, 4:30 - 7 pm. Adult dinners, \$8. Fish, shrimp, pierogi or combo dinners with choice of 1 side (fries or baked potato) & cole slaw or apple sauce, roll & butter. A la carte items - pierogis, pizza, macaroni & cheese, cabbage &

noodles, soup & dessert. Kids' meals, \$3.50. Carryouts available.

St. Boniface, 3555 W. 54th St., School hall, handicap accessible. Fri., April 1st, 8th, 15th. 4:30 - 6:30 pm. Dinners, fish, shrimp & pierogi, \$8 - \$9.50, senior special \$6, kids meal, \$5. Sides & deserts extra. Dine in or carry out.

St. Mary Catholic Byzantine School PTU, 4600 State Rd. Every Fri., until Apr. 15th, 6:30 pm. Dinners start at \$7 for battered cod, breaded shrimp, pierogis, cabbage & noodles, french fries, pizza. Items also available a la carte. Call school office, 216-749-7980, 9 am - 2 pm for more info.

Cleveland Maennerchor, 4515 State Rd., Fri. 5:30 - 8:30 pm. Fish, shrimp, scallops, schnitzel, bratwurst, pierogis, potato pancakes, German potato salad. All dinners include bread & butter & choice of potato salad or french fries & apple sauce, coleslaw or salad. Specials every Fri. Call 741-7728 for more info.

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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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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

This month's OBN writers -- Gloria Ferris, Lynette Filips, Hallie Forcinio, Jay Gardner, David Waldman, Rev. Neal Wilds and OBCDC staff

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



OLD BROOKLYN Pedal for Prizes

Saturday
May 21st, 2011

Loew Park
3121 Oak Park Ave.

Register at Noon
Raffle drawing 3:30 pm.

Ride your bicycle on your own or with a guided group to as many points of interest in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood as you wish, picking up raffle tickets at each destination.

Enter your tickets into a raffle to win one of two brand new bicycles and many other spectacular prizes.

This event is free and open to all. For more information and up-to-the-minute updates, please visit PedalForPrizes.com, like Pedal for Prizes on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter.

Good Luck - PedalForPrizes@gmail.com



Practice bicycle safety: Bring a lock, wear your helmet, follow traffic laws

Be sure to visit Pop UP Pearl happening in
Downtown Old Brooklyn during Pedal for Prizes.

BCN and FOBC host urban watershed seminar

by Gloria Ferris
Brooklyn Centre Naturalists

On Tuesday, March 22nd, The Cleveland Metroparks Zoo hosted the Friends of Big Creek/Brooklyn Centre Naturalists "Putting the 'U' in Urban Watershed Stewardship" mini-symposium series. This year's theme, "Low Maintenance, Low Impact Landscaping Trends for Homeowners", appealed to a wide range of folks -

The auditorium filled early with an enthusiastic crowd whose ages ranged from 8 years to 80 plus. They came from as far away as Mahoning County and as close as one street south of the Zoo. Seventy per cent of this year's attendees were new faces. Boy Scout Troop 319 from Brooklyn attended the event to learn about conservation as well as to have contact with people who can help them reach their badge goals in 2011.

The topics for the evening included why storm water management is a serious issue for homeowners in the Lake Erie Watershed. Tori Mills, director of Doan Brook Watershed Partnership, began the evening by discussing the ecological benefit of pursuing sustainable landscaping practices and how it leads to the health of the environment. Her slides of actual examples of how individual homeowners are positively impacting Doan Brook were inspiring to the audience. It provided a perfect introduction to the rest of the program.

The audience was fortunate that Kevin and Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells were comfortable with having their private residence on display. Having a real-life example and demonstration of best practices -- local folks who "walk the walk" -- was particularly effective. Enthusiastic participants were energized when they saw this example of how storm water management and an alternative landscape could work together in the design of a home.

Garrett Ormiston, Stewardship specialist at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History,

explained the difference between invasive, exotic and native plants before showing how to use native plants in landscapes choices. The power point presentation he used was beautiful to watch and his skill as a speaker connecting the "why to the how" of native plants was very informative.

When polled, less than a third of the audience had heard of the last topic on the agenda - Permaculture. Permaculture lays out principles and foundations for sustainable permanent agriculture and ecological design. It represents a shift, not merely in agricultural methods or philosophies of science, but also as an invitation for a radical shift of the entire social and political paradigm.

Ordinarily, this fact might have been a recipe for disaster, but Jonathan Hull, co-founder of The Green Triangle, was more than equal to the task of educating the audience about a concept which is relatively new in this part of the world. The content of his presentation and his method of delivery kept the audience engaged to the very end.

This year's event planners were joined with two new sponsors -- the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District and the Northeast Ohio Watershed Council -- as well as some well-known exhibitors, West Creek Preservation, the Cuyahoga County Soil and Water Conservation District and several local watershed groups.

Attacking the issue of storm water management from the homeowner's perspective with practical suggestions proved to be an innovative way for this year's coordinators to engage the general public. Power point presentations are available for viewing on www.friendsofbigcreek.org.

The wrap up of the event was greeted with people wanting more -- a welcome sight for the organizers. All in all, the event contained a diversity of people, topics, and exhibits which contributed to the evening's success.

Ben Franklin Garden welcomes new coordinator

by Hallie Forcinio

In preparation for the opening of the Benjamin Franklin Community Garden in May, Carol Stadden has been appointed Garden Coordinator and part-time member of the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corp. (OBCDC) staff. She will be introduced at the pre-season Gardeners' meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 5th at the City of Brooklyn Senior Center, 7727 Memphis Ave. Carol succeeds Tom Sargent, who retired at the end of last season after a decade of service to the Garden.

As Garden Coordinator, Carol serves as OBCDC's representative on the Garden Operating Committee and works closely with the Committee and OBCDC personnel to assign Garden plots, maintain the waiting list, stake the plots and host events such as the annual Ice Cream Social (July 14th this year) and Harvest Picnic (September 10th this year).

Later in the season, Carol will also be responsible for daily opening and closing of the Garden on week days, overseeing maintenance of common areas and delivery of donated produce to hunger centers, networking with the gardeners and monitoring the condition of Garden plots.

"I hope I can act as a resource for the gardeners, especially those who are new to gardening," Carol stated. "If there's interest, we will schedule informal classes on gardening topics," she added.

Carol is interested in all aspects of gardening including starting plants from seed, crop rotation, companion planting, compost production, organic practices, mulching, seed conservation and intensive, square-foot cultivation.

A long-time Old Brooklyn resident, Carol has gardened at Benji for four seasons and in her backyard for more than twenty years. In



Carol Stadden, Garden Coordinator

fact, her yard is a certified National Wildlife Habitat site, and she maintains a large vermicompost operation in her basement.

A Master Gardener and beekeeper, Carol has taken courses in Horticultural Botany at Cuyahoga Community College as well as the Market Gardener Training Course conducted by OSU Extension. She also completed a 14-week internship at Growing Power, an urban farm in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

As a Master Gardener, Carol answers questions submitted to its Horticulture Hotline and volunteers at Fairhill Intergenerational School in its Intergenerational Garden Program where she teaches fourth graders about the basics of gardening and related topics. Other volunteer activities include exotic plant management for the Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

As a professional baker for twenty years, Carol worked at the Portland Hilton and as a pastry chef at Oakwood Country Club and Oberlin College. She also spent several years at Michael's Bakery in Old Brooklyn.

An avid cyclist, Carol often rides her bike to the Garden. She and her husband have eight children and six grandchildren.

Senior Citizens Resource's "Citizen of the Month" is letter carrier Ron Richards

by Jay Gardner, Executive Director,
Senior Citizen Resources, Inc.

For April, in honor of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals "Prevention of Cruelty to Animals month", Senior Citizen Resources has decided to highlight a "Citizen rather than a Senior of the Month". The citizen is Ron Richards.

Residents might recognize Ron as the letter carrier at Deaconess-Krafft -- as well as throughout downtown Old Brooklyn -- but he is also a champion for neighborhood strays.

This is Ron's 25th year as a letter carrier. In the last 24 years on his route, he has seen only one stray dog but hundreds of stray cats.



Ron Richards

At one point, Ron performed a neighborhood "cat cleanup", adopting seven stray cats at once.

Ron currently has fifteen indoor cats and three outdoor cats, most of which were extremely injured and/or malnourished at the time he adopted them. One of his cats had such bad ear infections that she lost her ears and others had been bitten by dogs.

Ron wishes that residents would take the initiative to spay or neuter animals to control the population. Feeding strays is not enough. If they can't be taken in, have them spayed.

The Animal Protective League (APL) -- which is now "no-kill", by the way -- offers a low-cost spay/neuter service for outdoor cats. The fee is only \$10 for any outdoor cat in the city of Cleveland. It includes spaying/neutering, the rabies vaccine, FVRCP vaccine and ear

tipping. The APL even provides humane traps to help catch the cats.

After cats have been spayed, they can be let back out. The spaying will have helped to keep the population down and prevent needless kitten deaths from fleas and anemia.

Not a cat person? Neutering neighborhood strays will keep them from marking and spraying.

Ron has been married for over thirteen years. In addition to his love for animals, he is a musician and a passionate gardener. He built his own greenhouse at home circa seven or eight years ago.

Thank you, Ron, for being a great citizen as well as a hero to so many animals in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood.

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

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Expires 4-30-11 **\$3.00 OFF YOUR NEXT CAR WASH**

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists - No meeting this month, but BCN will have a table at EarthFest at the Zoo, April 17th.

Brooklyn Genealogy Club, Sun., Apr. 17th, 2 pm, Brooklyn Fire Station, 8400 Memphis Ave. at Roadoan. BGC vice president Cynthia Smith speaking about "Starting Your Research". Guests welcome. Business meeting & refreshments, too.

Brooklyn Historical Society, Wed., Apr. 17th, 7 pm, Brooklyn Historical Society Museum,

4442 Ridge Rd. Janet Barrett of "The Flower Child" consignment shop on Clifton Blvd., discussing actual mid-20th century modern items (30s to 70s) including a sampling of wares in her shop (e.g., vintage clothing & decor). Refreshments afterward. All welcome. Call Barb, 216-941-0160, for more info.

Historical Society of Old Brooklyn, Fri., Apr. 15th, 7 pm, Pearl Road United Methodist Church, 4200 Pearl Rd. (Use rear entrance off parking lot.) Zoo volunteer Barbara VonBenken speaking about small animals she brings along and African Elephant Crossing opening May 5th. Business meeting; refreshments. Call president Constance Ewazen, 216-398-8969, for more info.

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation board meeting, Tues., April 26th, 6 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.

Second District Police Community Relations meeting, Tues., April 12th (& 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 13 Democratic Club meeting, Tues., April 19th (& every third Tues.), 7 pm, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 5801 Memphis Ave.

Ward 13 Republican Club meeting, Tues., April 12th (& every second Tues.), 7 pm, Calvary Chapel, 6770 Brookpark Rd.

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*Special oil filter extra. Synthetic oil extra. Up to 5 qts. Environmental disposal fee will apply. Most vehicles. No other discounts apply. Expires 4/30/11

4941 Pearl Road at I-480 **216 - 741-1500** WWW.DONSBROOKLYN.COM



From my viewpoint, April has long been a month of both stressors – Tax Day for sure, and wondering if there'll be a last big snow of winter, as well as pleasures – April Fool's Day, spring flowers, Earth Day and most years, Holy Week and Easter (and for some, Passover).

For us at the *Old Brooklyn News*, for many years April was also the month we'd either attend or report about the annual **Neighborhood and Community Press Association (NCPA)** meeting and competition. (That was stressor and pleasure rolled into one!)

Perhaps you've noticed that we haven't announced any competition results about our articles, photographs, page layouts and issues in quite a while (since May, 2008, according to our best calculations). It's because the NCPA hasn't officially gotten together since the 2008 meeting.

The next year NCPA organizer/moderator, **Professor Leo Jeffries, Ph.D.**, was laid up due to heart surgery. Then he lightened his work load in the Communications (journalism) Department at Cleveland State, and none of the rest of us stepped in to keep the group going. But that's not to say that it couldn't be revived again.

In last month's front page article about St. Patrick's Day and being Irish, we mentioned the **Gaelic Imports** store in Old Brooklyn at 4882 Pearl Rd. When our March issue "hit the newsstands" on February 25th, the information we provided was correct for only a few days; we didn't realize that on March 1st, the business would be moving out of Old Brooklyn and into Parma. It is now located at 5633 Pearl

Rd. (on the opposite side of the street), between Ridge Rd. and Snow Rd.

Another one of the Old Brooklyn businesses about which we've recently written has also relocated to Parma. **PC Medic Sales & Service**, formerly at 4768 Broadview Rd. at Oakpark Ave., needed more room both inside and for parking. On March 14th they relocated to a facility twice the size at 5354 Broadview Rd. at Tuxedo Ave.

(PC Medic was one of the computer stores included in an article about the *Old Brooklyn Connected* Wi-Fi project on the front page of this year's January issue.)

The *Community Spotlight* in the March, 2008, *Old Brooklyn News* was a new pizzeria named **Joey Pepparoni**. Located at 4475 State Rd., on the southeast corner of Tampa Ave., Joe Ciacchi, III had just opened the business on February 23rd of that year. He had lots of plans for the site, and for a while things appeared to be going well. Then one day many months ago, a sign appeared on the door that they were closed and didn't know when they would reopen.

Good news! They have recently reopened! No doubt there is a story here, but we heard the news too close to deadline to get it for this month. For now just remember that if we want our storefronts to be occupied, we must patronize local businesses.

After I wrote about the now-finished touring exhibit at the **Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage** which interpreted the 1936 Berlin Olympics (in the February *Town Crier*) someone reminded me about the still alive and thriving "**Jesse Owens tree**" behind **James Ford Rhodes High School** at 5100 Biddulph Rd.

(For readers too young to recognize the name, Jesse Owens was a black athlete from the east side of Cleveland who won four gold medals in the Olympics that year.)

Since 2011 is the 75th anniversary of the Berlin Olympics, it will be a good time to do a history article about how and why and where these Olympic oak trees (then saplings!) were planted. Personal memories would add to the academic research I'll do, so feel free to contact me if you have a story to share.

In last month's *Town Crier* I stated that the current **chaplain at MetroHealth Medical Center** was retiring on March 1st, but that I did not yet know who would replace him. I have since heard from a couple of sources that **Fr. Justin Freeman, OdeM**, a Mercedarian priest, (the Italian "order" which serves St. Rocco Church on Fulton Rd. and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel – West Church on Detroit Ave.) has been appointed the new, full-time chaplain at MetroHealth. Fr. Freeman is living at **St. Rocco's**.

A former pastor of **St. Leo the Great Church** on Broadview Rd., **Fr. Ned Weist**, was actually "on the other side of the sheets" at MetroHealth Medical Center last month. As you may have read in the Metro section (page B-3) of the Sunday, March 6th *Plain Dealer*, he fell down a steep cliff and into a stream while he was checking out flood damage to the property of the parish at which he's currently stationed, **Mary, Help of Christians, in Litchfield**.

Having suffered a broken left femur (thigh bone) and wrist in the tumble, Fr. Weist would have very likely drowned from the fall, had not a parish worker heard his cries for help and scrambled down the side of the cliff to hold his head above the filthy water rushing by them until help arrived – a good 45 minutes.

The rescue squad took Fr. Weist to Medina Hospital, but when they assessed his condition, they knew that he needed a hospital with an emergency room equipped to handle serious traumas – our own **MetroHealth Medical Center**. The weather was too bad for Metro's Life Flight helicopter to transport him, but a long ride in an ambulance got him to where he needed to be.

By Wednesday, (less than four full days at Metro), Fr. Weist was well enough to begin extensive – at least three months, and possibly up to six months – rehab at a facility in Richfield called the **Regina Health Center** at 5232 Broadview Rd. For anyone who would like to send him a card, he's in room 225, and the zip code is 44286. (He's recovering well and in great spirits.)

And anyone who would like to read/view details of the accident and the res-

cue need only do an online search of "Fr. Ned Weist" to come up with dozens of accounts of the fantastic story and the progress he made at MetroHealth.

And while we're on the topic of St. Leo's, on Saturday, March 5th, members of **St. Leo the Great School's** team at St. Edward High School's 38th annual "**Win with Words**" **Spelling Tournament** collectively took first place. The four team members were rated individually to come up with that winning designation.

Eighth graders **Patrick McCarthy**, who took first place individually, and **Ryan Brown**, who took fifth place individually, were in the Excellence Division; eighth grader **Joey Murad**, who took third place individually, and seventh grader **John Ortega**, who took fourth place individually, were in the Championship Division.

St. Leo School also had a first-time entrant in the **Plain Dealer Cuyahoga County Scripps Spelling Bee**. Also conducted on Saturday, March 5th, it was held in the auditorium of Cuyahoga Community College's Metro Campus. St. Leo seventh grader **Emily Reeves** lasted to the 4th round, finishing up as number 16 of 60.

Students at **Mary Queen of Peace** (formerly Our Lady of Good Counsel) **School** on Pearl Rd. continue to use some of their artistic talent for the benefit of patients of the **MetroHealth Senior Health & Wellness Center** (formerly Deaconess Hospital). The focus of their attention has been the glass walls of the walkway which connects the parking garage with the second floor of the facility.

Over the winter months, many styles, sizes and colors of original paper snowflakes decorated the walkway windows; last month, the snowflakes were replaced with shamrocks and four-leaf clovers; now we're waiting to see what the theme of their Easter or spring decorations will be.

You can help us to continue to include a variety of topics in this column by mailing your bits of neighborhood news to: Lynette Filipis, *The Town Crier*, c/o the *Old Brooklyn News*, 3344 Broadview Rd, Cleveland, 44109 or emailing lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com.

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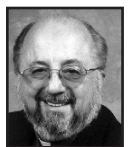
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As I see it...
by
Pastor Jerry



"If you believe in the Lord, He will do half the work - the last half. He helps those who help themselves."
-- Cyrus H. K. Curtis

There's an old story that clearly illustrates the well-known saying, "God helps those who help themselves."

A minister, walking into a dry, dusty rock-strewn desert, came upon a house with the most beautiful, lush garden he'd ever seen. Wanting to be sure the owner appreciated God's handiwork, he knocked on the door. "Brother," said the preacher, "what a miracle the Lord hath wrought!" He continued at length about the splendor of the garden.

"Thanks," said the man. "God indeed grants miracles. But you should have seen what God had done with this place before I got here!"

Now you may be thinking this saying isn't in the Holy Bible. True, but the Bible does say that faith without works is dead, so we're not off base in believing that God helps those who help themselves.

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

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by Tom Collins
tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

Energy Audit

Oh yeah, an energy audit. Guess I should get one.

This is like high school algebra. I know that I should understand it because some day I will need it, but why? Can't I just get by without it?

The Counsel on Smaller Enterprises, more commonly known as COSE, is focusing on the impact of Ohio Senate Bill 221 which

became law in 2008. The intent of this law is to reduce energy consumption in accordance with national goals to do the same. One of the means of reducing energy consumption is to assess additional fees for peak hour usage. This surcharge will be coming in the next 12-24 months. This is the thumb in your eye approach to getting your attention. If it costs more, you are more likely to pay attention and work toward reducing costs.

Small businesses consume large amounts of energy. If small businesses managed energy use the way they manage inventory, energy consumption would decrease, probably dramatically. COSE reports that energy costs for small businesses are the next largest costs after pay roll expenses. Managing that cost center is critical to the bottom line.

So the question for small businesses is how to understand the uses of energy in order to manage consumption. Again, using inventory as the management model, a small business owner can analyze all the material in inventory and determine what has to be in ready stock, what has to be in reserve stock and what can be ordered as needed. Idle inventory is an

expense so trimming inventory to meet actual demand is logical.

Energy consumption can also be analyzed to determine what is needed when, what can be rescheduled for off peak use (or reduced) and what is just waste.

That is where the audit is needed. It is not enough to know that you need electricity. You need to know what is using electricity and how much. How much power does the copier consume as a percentage of total consumption? How much power is being used to heat and cool a total building? Can parts of the building function adequately with reduced heat or air conditioning? If your business demands a high level of lighting can the lighting fixtures be changed to use more energy-efficient lighting? How is a small business operator going to measure energy consumption without a professional energy audit?

COSE is offering small businesses financial assistance in obtaining a professional energy audit. Energy audits are based upon the size of the building. A commercial building of less than 5,000 square feet costs \$500 which is

entirely covered by the grant. Buildings between 5,000 and 10,000 square feet cost ten cents per square foot. The \$500 grant can be applied to the total cost.

For larger buildings the cost ranges from ten to twelve cents per square foot and the grant can be applied to the total cost.

COSE will also have funds (\$3,000 per building) to assist 25 small businesses who agree to enact the recommendations of the audit with facility upgrades. Grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

The program will expire on June 15th, or earlier if the funds have all been allocated. Those who complete the energy audit can become eligible for a \$350 scholarship in the Green Plus (registered trademark) sustainability program. This program helps a business adopt reasonable energy conservation practices that are considered best sustainability practices. All of this improves the bottom line by reducing operating costs.

For specific program details call COSE at 216-592-2338 or visit the web site www.smallbizenergy.org.

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Happy 70th Birthday, Myron!

Photos by George Shuba



On St. Patrick's Day (Mar. 17th), the mood at Pearl Road Auto Wrecking, 5000 Pearl Rd., became even funkier than usual when owner Myron Kaplan's (above, left) family and co-workers put together a celebration in honor of his 70th birthday. In addition to a great deli lunch, a fine rock band performed in a section of one of the parts warehouses.

Community Toolbox

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



Earth Day should prompt renewed motivation to conserve everyday

by Lori Peterson
lorip@oldbrooklyn.com

Most people celebrate Earth Day around the time of the vernal equinox (March 20th or 21st). Others observe the occasion on April 22nd. The April 22nd Earth Day, founded by Senator Gaylord Nelson in 1970, is to promote ecology and respect for life on the planet as well as to encourage awareness of the growing problems of air, water and soil pollution.

The UN National Water Day on March 22nd is a lesser-known, internationally-observed day declared at the UN General Assembly in 1992. Water is a precious commodity that we often take for granted, especially here in northeast Ohio where we think it is so abundant. Did you know that one billion people lack access to safe drinking water?

In observance of Earth Day and World Water Day, here are some tips that can YOU do to help our environment and your pocket book at the same time:

1. Re-route your commute.

- Walk or bike to work and save money on gas and parking while improving your cardiovascular health and reducing your risk of obesity.
- If you live far from your office, investigate the option of telecommuting. Or move closer, even if it means paying more rent; it could save money in the long term.

2. Don't buy bottled water.

Instead, filter tap water for drinking. Not only is bottled water expensive, it also produces large amounts of container waste.

3. Cut back on the water you use for watering your lawn.

Millions of gallons of water are wasted every year on watering lawns.

- Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. Longer grass retains water better. *Water in the early morning, when temperatures are cooler, to minimize evaporation.
- Collect rain water with a rain barrel.

4. Buy used.

- Whether you've just moved to a new area or are looking to redecorate, consider a service like craigslist or FreeSharing to track down furniture, appliances and other items, rather than buying them new. Check out garage sales and thrift stores for clothing and other everyday items.
- Use your creativity in gift giving, including making homemade gifts, donating to a good cause or even re-gifting. (And gift green, in general.)

5. Buy local.

- Shop at your local farmers' market. Though the offerings can be more expensive, you can generally count on a higher quality product -- and the entire purchase price goes directly to the farmer. Buying any goods produced locally saves energy by reducing the fossil fuels needed to transport food and other items across the country and around the globe.

6. Compost your food scraps.

- Composting helps reduce the amount of

waste you send to the landfill. In the process, you create free, healthy fertilizer for your garden, your neighbor's (or the Benjamin Franklin Community Garden.)

- If you don't have a yard or space for a compost pile, try indoor 'vermiculture' (worm composting).

7. Adjust the thermostat setting and install energy-saving devices.

- Setting the thermostat a few degrees lower in winter and a few degrees higher in summer can translate to substantial savings on utility bills.
- Install low-flow showerheads and take shorter showers to save water and the energy used to heat it. Consider eventually installing a solar hot water heater on your property.
- Wash clothes in cold water whenever possible and use a drying rack or clothesline.
- When incandescent bulbs burn out, replace them with longer-lasting, low-energy compact fluorescent bulbs.

8. Make your own cleaning supplies.

- Using simple ingredients such as baking soda, soap and vinegar, you can make inexpensive, easy and non-toxic cleaning products that really work! Save money, time and the quality of indoor air.

Recycle your cell phone and support good causes at the same time! (Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, 3344 Broadview Rd., is a drop-off site for cell phones and printer cartridges.)

9. Add one meatless meal per week.

- While strict vegetarianism isn't for everyone, even the most devout carnivores can cut back on meat consumption without cramping their style -- and save money in the process. Industrial meat production requires huge energy inputs and creates noxious waste problems. The proliferation of factory farms is damaging the environment, and the global nature of the industry creates conditions that promote the spread of diseases such as avian flu, potentially costing society billions of dollars.

10. Use your local library and other public amenities.

- Borrowing from libraries, instead of buying personal books and movies, saves money and printing resources. Consider donating the money saved to your local library.
- Be an active civic participant and ensure that the public spaces and facilities in your town are well maintained. This will promote a healthy, sustainable community.

CSA = Community Supported Agriculture

by David Waldman
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April is not only the first full month of spring, but it is also the month for Earth Day, when ecology-minded individuals pause to promote leaving light footprints as humankind passes through its environment. Earth Day will observe its 41st year on April 22nd.

One of the most important parts of the environment, and one which affects human beings everyday, is food. There is currently a movement to provide access to locally-grown food to people in the community. One of the most popular methods for doing so is through *Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)*. The model works in this way —



The farmer sells shares to interested people in the local area which entitles them to a portion of the harvest the farmer grows. Many CSAs feature a weekly pick-up or delivery system to provide individuals with their food.

One of the benefits of CSA is that it creates a direct relationship between the farmer and the consumer, thereby allowing people to understand where their food comes from and appreciate the hard work that goes into growing quality food. There are currently a few options to obtain locally grown food through nearby CSAs.

City Fresh is a non-profit organization which has been around since 2005 and continues to build a sustainable local food system for Northeast Ohio. *City Fresh* contracts with several local farmers to give consumers who buy shares a diverse range of produce each week. *City Fresh* currently has nine stops located in the Cleveland area and features a variety of pickup dates. They use a truck that runs on vegetable oil to provide a sustainable transportation method for food delivery.



Shares can be purchased in two amounts — a \$28 share which gives enough food for three to four people and \$15 shares geared toward families with one or two individuals. Limited income priced shares are also available and the Ohio Direction Card is accepted. To assure that correct quantities of produce are available on pick-up days, payment does need to be sent in a week prior to pickup.

Unlike other CSAs which need to be purchased for an entire season, *City Fresh* features week-to-week shares (although it is also possible to purchase an entire season or a specific number of weeks). This gives consumers greater flexibility in terms of how much they want to buy. Any food which isn't picked up on the day it is ready will be donated, which is why it is a good idea to plan ahead or have other "*City Fresh* share friends" available to

pick it up if you can't. For more information and to sign up for the upcoming season, visit www.cityfresh.org.



Fresh Fork is another local CSA. It was founded in 2008 by students at Case Western Reserve University. They feature eleven stops — the closest being on Saturdays in Tremont — and also deliver outside of the Cleveland area including Hudson, Solon and Mentor. *Fresh Fork* provides a unique mix of produce and other food products and recipe suggestions for the month's items. *Fresh Fork* uses a custom-built web application called DirectAg Marketing Technologies which allows farmers to operate more efficiently and sell to customers.

Fresh Fork will also be offering hands-on workshops and online multimedia presentations about how to effectively utilize and preserve fresh food. Pricing is available from \$25 to \$50 a week, but in order to be apart of the program a person must sign-up for the entire season (although it may be canceled at anytime for a refund of unused credits). To reserve a spot, \$25 is required, but that money also doubles as the reusable bag deposit which will be refunded depending upon how many of the bags are returned. For more information and to sign up for this season, visit www.freshforkmarket.com.



Farm Share is a third option and was started in 2008 by local food advocate Kari Moore. *Farm Share* is geared towards working individuals and its pickup location is in Tower City on Thursday afternoon. The weekly bags also include a newsletter detailing the farmers, how the food was grown and recipe suggestions. The website also includes past recipes.

All of *Farm Share's* foods are locally grown within a 100-mile radius of Cleveland and delivered within 24-48 hours after harvest. Currently *Farm Share* has partnered with Forest City to provide shares for its employees, but individuals can sign up as well. Shares range from \$30 to \$40; participants can sign up for a full season, bi-weekly or by individual week. For more information and to sign up, visit www.farmshare.org.

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCCDC) is looking into the possibility of having a *City Fresh* stop in this area. Anyone who would be interested, please take a moment to fill out the online survey at www.oldbrooklynconnected.com or on OBCCDC's Facebook page.

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Four years after clustering was announced, many Cleveland Roman Catholics still unsettled

by Lynette Filips
lynetfef@oldbrooklyn.com

While looking through past April issues of the paper for annual story ideas to reuse this month, I came upon an article I'd been wanting to locate and reread -- the first story I'd written about the "clustering" process which the Roman Catholic Diocese had recently announced. It appeared in the April, 2007 issue of the *Old Brooklyn News*.

I wrote that article because I'd been instructed to do so by Jay Gardner, who was the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation's executive director at the time. (Jay is currently the executive director of Senior Citizen Resources, Inc.)

An "above the fold" article on the front page of a *Plain Dealer* during the first week of February of that year is what prompted Jay to give me the mandate. (It was probably the only time Jay ever told me what to write.) After reading the article in the *PD*, he felt certain that many Catholic churches would be shut down and because this would be big news for Cleveland, we should cover it for our readers.

On February 9th, 2007, the "above the fold" article on the front page of the *Catholic Universe Bulletin* (the Diocese's newspaper) also carried an article about the topic. The

headline was "Clusters announced; Bishop Lennon assigns parishes as ministry partners". Dennis Sadowski, who at the time was the *Universe Bulletin's* editor, wrote the article. I still have that issue of the *UB*, and there's no indication in the article of the trauma some parishes would experience in the four years which have passed since it ran.

Having once been a person who trusted the Church more than the often anti-Catholic secular press, I believed what the *Universe Bulletin* reported about clustering, and the article I wrote had a totally positive attitude about the process. But we didn't have room for it in our March issue, so that's why it didn't run until April.

In retrospect, I now find it both interesting and distressing to read what I wrote then. Since it's time to run another church closing news update, I decided to begin this month by reprinting my April, 2007 article. It was headlined --

Catholic parishes to be organized into "clusters"

Cooperation is a superior mode of operation in any organization, but rarely is it utilized to its maximum potential. Last month, Richard Lennon, the new Roman Catholic bishop of Cleveland, announced the results of a continuing plan for parishes around the diocese to work together in

"clusters". His decision will impact the five parishes serving Roman Catholics in Old Brooklyn, Brooklyn Centre and Brooklyn - Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Barbara, St. Leo the Great and St. Thomas More.

Sixty-nine clusters, ranging in size from two to seven parishes, will be definitively formalized in early May (to give the bishop time to address any concerns the parishes might have). Cluster size/configuration was based on geography, shared missions and their ability to serve sacramental and neighborhood needs.

Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Good Counsel and St. Leo's, all of which are located in Old Brooklyn, and St. Thomas More, which is located in Brooklyn but is attended by many Catholics who reside in Old Brooklyn, too, will be in a cluster which will also include St. Charles Borromeo in Parma (one of the largest parishes in the diocese).

St. Barbara Church in Brooklyn Centre has been matched with Blessed Sacrament, St. Boniface, St. Michael the Archangel and St. Rocco, all nearby parishes on the west side of Cleveland.

The clustering is part of the second phase of a "Vibrant Parish Life" initiative which the Diocese (under the leadership of Bishop Anthony Pilla) introduced six years ago. Early last autumn, parishes were required to turn in their own suggestions regarding parishes with whom they would like to work; a 30-member committee studied those submissions before making its own recommendations to the bishop. Bishop Lennon further adjusted the initial clusters before making his announcement. Reportedly each parish was paired with at least one of its requests.

Unlike what many people who read the *The Plain Dealer's* account of the bishop's action surmised, the new plan is not about closing parishes and sharing the collection in the offertory basket. It is, however, very much about sharing some of the parishes' non-financial resources with each other.

According to an article in the *Catholic Universe Bulletin*, the Diocese's official newspaper, "The clustering is being fueled by economic, social and demographic changes across the diocese as people move from urban to suburban and rural areas, as well as the declining number of active priests."

The shortage of priests, while of concern today, is expected to become even more alarming within the next ten years. Academic studies at Georgetown University

indicate that between 2015 and 2020, there will not be enough active diocesan priests here to even be able to assign one to each of the diocese's 231 parishes.

Working together on programs isn't likely to feel strange for our neighborhood Catholic churches, because it won't be a new experience for them. They've been holding joint Communal Penance Services during Lent and Advent for more than ten years, and working together with clergy and laity from both Protestant and other-rite Catholic churches in the Greater Brooklyn Ministerial Association since the mid-Seventies. St. Leo the Great and Corpus Christi have even shared a pastor for more than a year.

What a difference a few years have-made! Just over three years from that announcement, fifty parishes were closed or merged. Dozens of church properties are for sale or have already been sold. Fifteen parishes in the Diocese, seven in Cleveland proper, have appealed to the Congregation for the Clergy in Rome to remain open.

The unofficial word is that Cleveland's appeals are moving up in the "queue" and that, based on recent rulings in other diocese, Rome is looking more favorably on appeals from closed churches than it has in the past. In January it ruled that some suppressed parishes in Allentown, Pennsylvania could reopen their church buildings as worship sites, and in February it ruled the same for some suppressed parishes in Springfield, Massachusetts.

In March, some New York parishes (in Buffalo and Syracuse) received similar good news. Along with Cleveland, parishes in Boston and Worcester, Massachusetts and Scranton, Pennsylvania are reportedly also waiting to hear their fates.

Rulings from the Congregation for the Clergy aren't final, though. Both the closed churches and the diocese which closed them have the "Supreme Court" of the Roman Catholic Church as their final recourse. It's called the Apostolic Signatura.

Meanwhile, Cleveland's appealing parishes are hopeful as many of them continue with their prayerful protests each Sunday and support each other in their quest for justice. Last month, for instance, St. Patrick Church in West Park was joined by St. Casimir from Cleveland's east side, St. James in Lakewood and St. Wendelin in Ohio City in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Even Cleveland City Council has been supportive, but that's a story for another article, another month.

THEATER NOTES

Cleveland Public Theatre
6415 Detroit Ave.
216-631-2727, x501 cptonline.org


"Insomnia: The Waking of Herselves"
Thurs., Apr. 27th - Sat., May 7th; Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 7 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets -- \$10 on Thurs.; \$25 on Fri., Sat., Sun.

Dover Players Community Theater
North Olmsted Old Town Hall
5186 Dover Center Rd., south of Lorain
440-779-1284 www.doverplayers.com

"Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes"
Fri., Sat., Sun., Apr. 1st - 3rd, 8th - 10th, 15th - 17th; Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 6 pm. Free admission, if space is available; or reserve seats in advance for \$5 each.

Great Lakes Theater Festival
Hanna Theatre, 2067 E. 14th St.
216-241-5490 x317
www.greatlakestheater.org

"The Two Gentlemen of Verona"



Fri., Apr 1st - Sun., Apr. 27th; Thurs., Fri., Sat., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 pm & 7:30 pm. Sun., 3 pm. Tickets -- \$15 - \$70.

Playhouse Square Center
1501 Euclid Ave.
216-241-6000
www.playhousesquare.org

(Kennedy's Theatre, 1501 Euclid Ave.)
"Flanagan's Wake"
Now - Sat., Apr. 30th; Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; also Tickets - \$20 - \$23.

(Palace Theatre, 1501 Euclid Ave.)
"1964 The Beatles Tribute", Apr. 2nd;
"Les Miserables", Apr. 5th - Apr. 17th;
"An Evening with Lucille Ball: Thank You for Asking", Apr. 6th - Apr. 17th;
"Sesame Street Live", Apr. 14th - Apr. 17th;
and many other shows. Visit website listed above for times, pricing and to purchase tickets.

Save \$5.00 on a 7-pound or larger **Sheffler Ham**

Limit \$5.00 in savings with this coupon. Valid through April 23, 2011 or while supplies last.

Save \$1.00 on **Slow-Roasted Beef or Pork**

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Friday 9-6
Saturday 9-4

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HOLIDAY KIELBASI (H.K.)

This hand-crafted delicacy is smoked and fully-cooked. It is made primarily of beef with pork added as a natural tenderizer. It is seasoned with a splash of wine and a touch of garlic. HK can be eaten as is OR warmed in the microwave, on the grill, in the oven or on the stove.
Holiday Kielbasi was created by our founder, Hans Kirchberger, who produced HK for only two holidays a year. Holiday Kielbasi is now made for seven major holidays throughout the year. For the three summer holidays, Holiday Kielbasi is sold in links for easier grilling; there are five links to a pound. For the winter holidays, HK is rolled.

Available April 8th!

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Art House
3119 Denison Ave., 216-398-8556
www.arthouseinc.org
All Ages Family Open Studios - 3rd Sat. of every month; 1-3 pm. Make individual pieces of family art works. Each month has a theme; Art House provides materials. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Visit website for other programs or more info.

Beck Center of the Arts
17801 Detroit Ave. 216-521-2540
www.beckcenter.org
Super Saturdays at Beck Center - Sponsored by The Lakewood Arts Festival Association. Apr. 9th, Beck Center Visual Arts. May 7th, Usbourne Books. Have fun, be creative & nurture the artist in you & your family. Call to sign up for classes. Mon. - Thurs., 9 am - 8 pm; Fri & Sat., 9 am - 5 pm; Sun., closed.

CanalWay Center, E. 49th St.
between Grant Ave & Canal Rd.
216-206-1000
Bike the Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation - Doug Kusak & Jill Hauger lead 6 mile history/nature bike ride on northern part of Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation's all-purpose trail. Helmet required. 5:30 pm. Registration begins Apr. 1st.

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 age 1 - 12; \$6, adults & children 13 & over; free, under 11 months.

Cleveland Metroparks Day Camp
Registration begins Tuesday, April 12th
www.clevelandmetroparks.com
Hike in the woods, wade in a creek, create a craft, paddle a kayak, sketch an animal, or play a game. Registration beginning at 9:30 am, is required for all camps, only telephone registration will be permitted. Campers may register for one camp per telephone call. To register, call the appropriate phone number listed with each camp; phone numbers are on the website. Camp fees are non-refundable & non-transferable. Scholarship options may be available. For a more detailed descriptions of each camp experience, visit Cleveland Metroparks website.

Cleveland Metroparks Garfield Park Nature Center
11350 Broadway Ave.
216-341-3152
Egg Hunt Exhibit - Throughout Apr., 9:30 am - 5 pm, hunt in & around nature center for hidden eggs in all shapes, colors & sizes; learn about birds that lay these eggs; see what Ohio's birds are doing at this time of year.

Cleveland Metroparks Rocky River Nature Center/Frostville Museum, Rocky River Reservation
24000 Valley Pkwy., North Olmsted 440-734-6660
Animal Adventures - Sat., Apr. 23rd, 1 - 2:30 pm. Short hike with Naturalist Intern Dave Miller. Learn about animals in Rocky River Valley with activities & games. Ages 8 - 12 years with adult.

Cleveland Metroparks West Creek Reservation, 216-341-9225
Parma Prowl for Owls - 7:30 - 9:30 pm. Join

Naturalist Jen Brumfield in hope of hearing Eastern screech-owls in nighttime woodland haunts. Bring flashlight, binoculars & sturdy hiking boots. Adults & families welcome.

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
3900 Wildlife Way 216-661-6500
clemet zoo.com
Regular Zoo admission back in effect Apr. 1st -- \$11, adults; \$8, children 2 - 11. Free admission for children under 2 & Zoo members.

Australian Adventure now open. Kangaroos, wallabies & wallaroos back outside. Sheep, goats & donkeys back in Contact Yard. See New Guinea singing dogs; weather permitting, ride Boomerang Railway.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny - Sat., Apr. 16th & 23rd. Doors open, 8 am; breakfast, 8:30 - 9:30 am. In the Primate, Cat & Aquatics Building. Crafts, an animal encounter, egg hunt, face painting & pictures with the bunny. Call 216-635-3300 to RSVP. Tickets -- \$22.50, adults; \$18.50, children age 2 - 11.

EarthFest - Sun., Apr. 17th, 10 am - 5 pm. Sponsored by Earth Day Coalition & Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Longest-running Earth Day celebration in US. Live music & eco-family activities. All activities & 175 "go green" exhibits included with regular Zoo admission. (Free admission for riders on free RTA shuttle from Public Square & registered participants in "Walk or Bike for the Earth. Call 216-281-6468 to register to walk or bike.)

Amateur photographers - Apr. 1st - Nov. 1st Take your best shot on Zoo grounds & submit it on photographic paper by Nov. 1st. Categories include bird, mammal, plant/insect, amphibian/reptile/fish, friends/family & (new this year) African Elephant Crossing. Junior category for kids ages 2-11. Prizes awarded in each; "Best of Show" photo also chosen.

Cleveland Museum of Art
11150 East Blvd. 216-421-7340
www.clemusart.com
Hours: Tues, Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10 am - 5 pm. Wed. & Fri., 10 am - 9 pm. Closed Mon.; free.

Cleveland Museum of Natural History
1 Wade Oval Dr. 216-231-4600
www.cmnh.org
Museum - Mon. - Sat., 10 am - 5 pm; Wed. until 10 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. Adults, \$10; ages 7-18, college students with IDs & seniors 60 yrs. or older, \$8; children ages 3-6, \$7; age 2 & under, free. Wed. evening admission, \$6 after 5 pm; Tues. & Thurs., 3-5 pm, free for children 12 & under. Planetarium shows -- \$4 plus general admission.

Exhibit - Extreme Mammals: Biggest, smallest & most amazing mammals of all time. Now thru Sun., Apr. 17th; included with regular Museum admission.

Cleveland Public Library, Brooklyn
3706 Pearl Rd. 216-623-6920
Play and Learn! - Every Wed., 11 am. Join other caregivers & toddlers; have fun with books & learning toys.

Preschool Story Time - Every Wed., 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.

Cuyahoga Community College
Western Campus, 11000 Pleasant Valley Rd
Family Fun Day Sundays - Apr. 10th, noon - 4 pm. All families & ages invited to use Tri-C Western Campus pool & gym. Parents must accompany children at all times. \$10 per family, per visit. Parking available in designated visitor lots for \$1 for a two-hour time block, or hangtag permit can be purchased for 75 cents. Contact Rita Shearer, 216-987-5456 or rita.shearer@tri-c.edu, for more info.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park
Visitor Information 216-524-1497
www.nps.gov/CUVA

Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Meet staff, get questions answered. Learn about scheduled events & places to visit. Pick up brochures, maps & passport stamps.

Hours for these parks - daily 10 am - 4 pm:
Happy Days Lodge, 500 West Streetsboro Rd. (SR 303), Peninsula; 330-657-2909, ext. 119.
Boston Store Visitor Center - 1548 Boston Mills Rd, east of Riverview Rd, Peninsula.
Canal Visitor Center - 7104 Canal Rd, intersection of Canal & Hillside Rds., Valley View.
Frazee House - 7733 Canal Rd., 4 miles south of Rockside Rd, Valley View.
Hunt Farm Visitor Information Center - 2054 Bolanz Rd., between Riverview & Akron Peninsula Rds, Peninsula.

NPS Park Headquarters - 15610 Vaughn Rd., intersection of Vaughn Rd. & Riverview Rd., Brecksville. **Year-round:** Mon. through Fri., 8 am - 4:30 pm.

Peninsula Depot Visitor Center - 1630 Mill St., off Akron-Peninsula Rd, north of SR 303, Peninsula. **Mon. & Tues.**, 10 am - 4 pm; **Wed. - Sun.**, 9 am - 7 pm.

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR), 800-468-4070 www.cvsr.com
Now thru end of May, CVSR running week-ends only. All trips depart Canal Visitor Center at 10 am & 1:30 pm; Brecksville Station, 10:15 am & 1:45 pm; & Akron Northside Station, 11:35 am. Cabin fever pricing -- \$10 per person.

Grace Church
2503 Broadview Rd. 216-661-8210
Kidz Church, Wed., nights, 7 - 8 pm, ages 5 - 12. Bible stories, games, music, fun. Food, 6:30 pm; \$2 per person. Parents & grandparents welcome. Adult classes available.

Grand Pacific Junction
Mill St & Columbia Rd., Olmsted Falls
440-235-9277
Go Fly a Kite - Sat., Apr. 30th. Kite building takes place under Grand Pacific Junction Gazebo, 10 am - 2 pm, or until supplies run out. \$1 donation. Fun event teaches children how to build a kite from ordinary materials. Then they take them to the grassy area on the corner of Mill & Orchard St. Call 440-427-9773 for more info.

Great Lakes Science Center
601 Erieside Ave. 216-694-2000
www.GreatScience.com
NASA Glenn Visitor Center relocated to Great Lakes Science Center. Free general admission to NASA Glenn & Science Center on Tuesdays to youth 18 & under or any student up to the 12th grade accompanied by adult. Regular admission ranges from \$7.95 - \$9.95 a person. Free admission for members. Mon. - Sun., 10 am - 5 pm.

Free Tuesdays for Youth - On Tuesday, youth 18 & under admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Watch big science shows & discover legacy of space exploration with NASA Glenn Visitor Center. Offer does not include OMNIMAX Theater.

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Sign up for food stamps and other services

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, 3344 Broadview Rd., will be hosting The Empowerment Center of Greater Cleveland (ECGC) on **Tuesday, April 12th, 1 - 3 p.m.** The Center assists low-income individuals in Cuyahoga County with basic human needs. ECGC's goal is to empower, educate, advocate, and guide people to resources. ECGC offers utility assistance (CEI and First Energy ONLY). Qualified individuals can get FREE eye glasses with a prescription

These days it seems as though people have to do everything on line, even applying for employment. Have no fear; ECGC offers a free computer course (*Journey to Employment Pathways to Success*). Students receive classroom training, self-directed computer learning, job search/ job readiness training and computer literacy training. They also help people qualify receive discounts from AT & T's Lifeline Ohio; assist with Food Stamp applications; and advocate for clients having an issue with their caseworkers. Stop by to see if you qualify for these services. For elderly or disabled call 216-432-4770 for a home visit .

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A Special Move-In Offer

For a limited time, Greenbrier Retirement Center is offering to cover the cost of moving expenses **up to \$400** for those interested in joining our community.

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Metro seeking research study participants

by CWRU, University Hosp & MetroHealth

The removal of cataracts has well-known benefits for improving a person's vision and for reducing accidents and falls. Many times and for various reasons, those with dementia, Alzheimer's Disease and Alzheimer's related disorders (e.g., cognitive impairment, memory loss or confusion), their caregivers, their family members and/or their physicians are reluctant to proceed with cataract surgery. In addition, these patients may not even be aware that they have a vision problem, which may be one of the reasons they have difficulty performing daily life activities.

Researchers at University Hospitals Case Medical Center, MetroHealth Medical Center, and Case Western Reserve University are looking at an area of recent research which suggests that patients with Alzheimer's Disease have significant thinning of the retinal nerve layer fiber. The National Institute of Health is sponsoring the study.

As part of this study, photographs of the participants' retinas will be taken and analyzed to see if this thinning is actually occurring. This research could potentially lead to earlier treatment of Alzheimer's Disease, and hopefully even delay the onset of more serious symptoms.

Study Participants will be screened to determine if they are eligible and then randomly placed into one of two groups. Group

A, an immediate cataract surgery group, will have surgery within one month of enrollment; Group B, a delayed cataract surgery group, will be asked to delay surgery for approximately six months. This will allow the researchers to determine if there are any changes in the group that undergoes cataract surgery immediately, and if there are any differences between the two study groups.

Participants who have their own ophthalmologists will have their own physicians perform the cataract surgery and provide any pre- and post-operative clinical care visits. However, these participants will also be asked to complete several study-related eye exams with the study's ophthalmologists. These visits will be free of charge and participants will be compensated for these study visits.

To be eligible:

- A person must be at least 50 years old;
- A person must have a diagnosis of dementia, Alzheimer's Disease or a related disorder;
- A person must have cataracts in both eyes;
- A person must have a "study partner"; (A study partner is someone who knows the participant well enough to be able to answer some general questions about his/her health, well-being and ability to function in daily life.)

For further information contact: Alicia O'Brien at 216-778-2461 (MetroHealth Medical System) or Tatiana Reidel at 216-368-6465 (University Hospitals Case Medical Center System).



**The first of April, some do say,
Is set apart for All Fools' Day.
But why the people call it so,
Nor I, nor they themselves do know.
But on this day are people sent
On purpose for pure merriment.**

--Poor Robin's Almanac (1790)

Pop UP Pearl from front page

- * **Mary Queen of Peace Church/School** offering self portraits;
 - * **Keyhole Gallery** selling unique locally-made art and jewelry; and
 - * **Crafty Goodness** which markets 100% locally-made goods with items such as pottery, bath and body products and t-shirts. Old Brooklyn's very own:
 - * **Cathie Brenkus** specializing in crocheted kitchen towels and bracelets;
 - * **Zentangle workshop**- easy to learn art form that is appropriate for all ages, skill levels and abilities;
 - * **Knot Your Yarn** crocheted creations by Becky Derwiss;
 - * **Traditional Thai Yoga Massage** by Jackie Sliva
- Other unique shops:
* **Hot for Cleveland**- locally made and

- designed T-Shirts: Be the first to get your very own Old Brooklyn T-shirt!;
- * **Pop Up Sweet Shop**- local bakers with tasty sweets;
- * **Pop Up Pet Shop** on-site animal adoptions;
- * **Foodgazi**- cooking demonstrations and vegan food for purchase;
- * **The Cultural Freethinker's Social Hall** an organization dedicated to empowering all forms of creative expression and promoting healthy living.

These are just some of the entrepreneurs and activities you will see at Old Brooklyn's Pop UP Pearl event; musicians and other activities will happen throughout the day. If you are interested in volunteering on the day of the event or weeks leading up to it, call Lori at 216-459-1000. Keep up-to-date about new vendors, food vendors and performing acts by becoming an Old Brooklyn fan on Facebook.



Old Brooklyn Connected from front page

- Always keep Anti-Virus, Anti-Spyware, and Anti-Malware programs up to date.
- If an online offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is. (Hint: No one won a free iPod!)
- Double check the web address to make sure that the site is correct.
- if possible, use a VPN (Virtual Private Network) such as Hotspot Shield or Cyber Ghost or an anonymity network such as Tor which encrypts connections. Visit www.oldbrooklynconnected.com to learn more.
- Only input sensitive information such as social security numbers or credit card numbers on familiar sites that have a lock and/or begin with HTTPS://

- Never respond to an e-mail asking for username and password, even if it seems legitimate.
- Beware of ad-hoc networks and false access points. Only login to a familiar network, such as OldBrooklyn.
- Make sure that the firewall is activated. Go to www.oldbrooklynconnected.com to find out how.
- Choosing a safer browser can go a long way. Firefox and Chrome tends to be more secure than Internet Explorer.
- Use an UPDATED browser. The older the browser, the more susceptible it becomes.
- For more safe browsing tips go to www.onguardonline.gov or www.getnetwise.org

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