

## BMUMC one of three churches closed

by Lynette Filips  
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The Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland is not the only religious organization in Greater Cleveland which has been finding it necessary to close churches. The United Methodist Church, experiencing declining membership and funding problems in some of its congregations here, closed three churches on the Sunday after Christmas. Unfortunately, Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church (BMUMC), 2607 Archwood Ave., was one of them.

BMUMC was organized in 1818 as Brooklyn Methodist Episcopal Church. It is considered to be the oldest Methodist congregation in the Cleveland area, as well as the first church established in all of Brooklyn Township.

The congregation originated from classes in "Methodism" held as early as 1814 in the homes of settlers here. Church founders included OZIAH SYLVANUS, SETH BRAINARD and EBENEZER FISH.

The congregation was termed Methodist Episcopal (ME) because in the early years, Methodists were part of the Episcopal Church.



Photo by Stanislav Zadnik

The first Methodist Episcopal worshipped in the Brooklyn Township Hall. In 1827 they erected a log building at the northeast corner of Denison and Pearl streets. The building had separate entrances for men and women.

A new frame church was built on the same site in 1849; it later moved to a lot on Greenwood (now Archwood) Ave., west of Pearl.

A brick Gothic building was dedicated on the Archwood site in 1882. In 1896 the church added *Memorial* to its name and became Brooklyn Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church.

Population growth in Brooklyn Centre contributed to increased membership in the church, even though Brighton Methodist Episcopal Church (now Pearl Road United Methodist Church, est. 1832) had severed connections with the mother church in Brooklyn Centre in 1875.

By 1911 Brooklyn Memorial ME Church had begun building a new sanctuary at 2607 Archwood Ave. Dedicated in 1914, the late Gothic Revival building features twin square towers, square projecting bays and a six-sided dome with arched windows. The interior See *Brooklyn Memorial page 8*

## Farewell to Bernadette; hello to Jay

by Lori Peterson  
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On behalf of the community, the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) would like to wish Bernadette Bulanda, former executive director of Senior Citizen Resources, Inc., (SCR) the best of luck in her new endeavors. She served the agency for over nineteen years, first as the finance manager and then as the director for the past four years. Bernadette left SCR at the end of November.

At the same time, OBCDC extends a warm welcome to SCR's new executive director, Jay Gardner. He may be a familiar face to some, as he was formerly OBCDC's executive director for close to two years (2005 to 2007).

Jay comes to Senior Citizen Resources, Inc. with a wealth of experience. He is a life-long community development professional with an extensive background in all phases of planning, new housing development, housing rehabilitation, economic development, fund development, grant-writing and non-profit agency management. He has performed this work in a variety of urban and suburban settings.

The bulk of Jay's urban work has been with Cleveland community development corporations; most recently with the Fairfax Renaissance Development Corporation. In this capacity he worked on housing for grandparents who were in custody of grandchildren, which equates to unique housing needs.

The grandparent project was originally conceived by the McGregor Foundation, who had become aware of the number of grandparent-headed households locally and nationwide, and that no housing programs existed in Ohio specific to the needs of this specialized demographic group.

This particular project's focus was to create living space specific to the needs of the old and young. Jay worked to create an overall environment that met the physical needs of multi-generational households that also



Photo by Lori Peterson

### New SCR Executive Director, Jay Gardner

incorporated sustainable design. Unfortunately, due to the economic turn-down, this project did not come to fruition.

Jay's experience also includes the start-up of Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation where he served as the executive director for thirteen years. His concern for senior citizens began with this agency when he realized that many senior citizens wanted to stay in their homes but needed some assistance with minor maintenance; thus he initiated the Senior Home Maintenance Program.

In 2009, Jay obtained a grant to study intergenerational programming in Japan for almost two weeks. When asked what he took away from that experience he stated,

"There is not nearly enough intergenerational programming here in the United States. It is a vitalizing experience for both kids and seniors and involves much more than simply passing on skills. In Japan these programs focus on how philosophies and world views are passed on from generation to generation."

Jay is looking forward to the 2012 National Senior Olympics which is going to be hosted in Cleveland. He is pleased that he can continue his work in assisting seniors to remaining active.

## Old Brooklyn Connected WiFi construction continues

by Christopher Lohr & David Waldman  
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As the winter continues, the construction team of the *Old Brooklyn Connected* WiFi network is working hard to complete the project infrastructure in early 2011. Hailed as "The Greatest Project in America" by Ward 13 Councilman Kevin Kelley, the project will provide free wireless internet to all residents, businesses and organizations in Ward 13, making it truly a connected community.

The response from Ward 13 residents has been overwhelmingly positive; many residents call in each week to say that they are "excited" and that they "can't wait" for the project to be completed. The excitement carries over into the *Old Brooklyn Connected* team as the new community portal website nears completion and launch.

The website, which will be the landing page for anyone accessing the *Old Brooklyn Connected* WiFi network, will be a truly community-driven site with information about local businesses, events and news. It will be a great resource for anyone living in Old Brooklyn & Brooklyn Centre to keep up with what is happening in their neighborhood. Old Brooklyn & Brooklyn Centre residents are encouraged to contact Christopher Lohr at 216-459-1000 or christopherl@oldbrooklyn.com and give him their feedback on what they would like to see in their community portal.

As the network nears completion, the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation will begin selling the standard home setup, CPE, in the coming weeks. It will cost approximately \$70. Call 216-459-1000 for information about availability.

This month's article will also showcase a few local computer repair and service companies. Anyone having computer problems should give these businesses a call!

### PC Medic

PC Medic is located at 4768 Broadview Rd. at the corner of Oak Park Ave. The store's hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. It has been owned and operated by Ramzi Harb for two years.

Ramzi holds two degrees in Network Management from DeVry University and is also one of three individuals in the Cleveland area who's a Mac-certified technician.

See *WiFi page 5*



Photos by George Shuba

The Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC), the OBCDC Board of Trustees and the Old Brooklyn Holiday Lighting Contest committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the holiday lighting contest. This year's winner is 4168 W. 56 St. The front, side and back yards were decorated. See photo of the business winner in next month's *Old Brooklyn News*.



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by Lori A. Peterson  
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Lois Moss

Brooklyn Centre resident Lois Moss, the founder of *Walk + Roll Cleveland*, will soon be rolling out west. Lois had worked closely with the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation for the past three years on the All Access Home and Bicycle tour. Last year, she assisted with opening streets for cyclists and determining a route for people to experience the scope of what Old Brooklyn has to offer. She also assisted with marketing the event and being a lead for novice bicyclists to become comfortable riding with traffic.

Lois founded *Walk+Roll Cleveland* in 2006. The idea was born out of a conversation about New York City's Central Park; within seven months, funding was secured from The Civic Innovation Lab and a full-fledged car-free event was created.

Lois did not start cycling until she was in her mid-20s and working abroad as an accountant. "I got up really early one morning and rode a bike in the English countryside and thought, "This is so cool. Right after that, I came back here and got into cycling."

Upon her return to the United States, Lois and a business partner opened a bicycle shop called *Century Cycles*. She also became involved in bicycle advocacy. Lois wrote letters to the editor, sent e-mail alerts when cycling issues came up, went to Washington, DC to ask Congress to support bicycle projects, sent press releases and, in a nutshell, 'got involved'.

The *Medina Century Cycles* was so successful that the partners opened three more shops — in Peninsula, Rocky River and Solon; they were repeatedly named one of the best bicycle retailers in the country.

Lois sold *Century Cycles* in 2005 and committed herself to making Cleveland a safer place to bike and allow people to experience parts of Cleveland with which they may not be familiar by founding *Walk+Roll*. The inaugural *Walk+Roll* in 2006 drew 10,000 people to Rockefeller Park over two Sundays. Lois said, "We weren't closing a park; we're using a park."

Opposition often comes with change. Lois has worked hard to convince City officials, State Representatives, members of Congress and the general public that sharing the road is a good thing. She believes that cars, bicyclists and pedestrians can harmoniously exist and be good for our community.

This past September Lois helped orchestrate communications and meetings which included national organizations such as *Bikes Belong*, *Alliance for Biking & Walking*, *League of American Bicyclists*, *National Complete Streets Coalition*, *Rail-to-Trails Conservancy* and *Transportation for America* to convince Congressman Steve LaTourette to sign onto the Complete Streets Act. This is a bill which will ensure that communities across America design, build and operate their roadways with all users in mind — motorists as well as bicyclists, public transit users and pedestrians.

Lois will continue advocating for bicyclists in Cleveland from her new home in Portland, Oregon. Slavic Village has a *Walk+Roll* scheduled for this summer and a national organization in DC is interested in possibly funding a *Walk+Roll* in Rockefeller Park and the Cleveland Cultural Gardens.

In addition, Lois is working with a small committee to create a website that will communicate all-things-bicycling in NE Ohio. The website will bring together maps, events calendars, contact information, public meetings and other bicycling information culled from websites of park districts, municipalities, non-profit organizations, schools, bike clubs, event promoters, hospitals, bike stores and businesses.

Commenting on her vision for the site, Lois said, "There are so many bicycle-related things happening that the general public doesn't know about. At the same time, the public is looking for information on where to ride and how to enjoy a great day out with their family. We are hoping this will be their go-to place that brings it all together."

For more information or to find out how to be involved, e-mail [lois@walkroll.com](mailto:lois@walkroll.com).

# From the desk of the executive director

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



Happy New Year to you all! Some people are superstitious about even number years and others about odd number years, but luck isn't always cracked up to what we think it is. We often do get lucky but I believe much of what we create in our lives comes from within or how you treat yourself and others in your life. So I think the beginning of each year is a great time to reflect on the past year and think about what you would like to improve on in the coming year in all aspects of your life.

We continue to strive to make the CDC a good place to work and a significant and useful organization for the people, families and businesses we serve. We had so many exciting and fun events this past year. The first-ever 5K run and walk sponsored by the CDC and many others over the Fulton Road Bridge, many movie nights throughout Old Brooklyn, the Home and Bicycle Tour, the Fall-O-Ween Party, Cookies and Cocoa with Santa, Holiday Light Decorating Contest, many different bicycle rides like the Poker Run. And we intend to do most, if not all, of these events and probably some more. If you have any ideas for events, please let me know.

We also rehabbed three homes that were abandoned in Old Brooklyn plus the CDC was involved in obtaining seven other others that were turned over to reputable contractors who completed homes that were also abandoned.

We have served thousands of residents with our residential services and many more with our commercial services for businesses in the area. For a complete review of accomplishments for OBCDC, see our Annual Report at <http://www.oldbrooklyn.com/AnnualReport2010.pdf>. Or feel free to come by our office to pick up a copy.

Remember, supporting OBCDC by joining as a member is a great way to give back to your community and it is very reasonable

between \$10 and \$25 a year for residents a little more for businesses! Plus you can get the *Old Brooklyn News* mailed to your home with your membership purchase. The membership form is on the web site at <http://www.oldbrooklyn.com/membership.htm> or call the office at 216-459-1000. And if you are really in a giving mood, we would be grateful for any donations.

The wireless program is going well, more information and an update is in the article on page one along with places you can go if you need a computer repaired.

Below is a photo of the home that the CDC bought and rehabbed. We are very proud of the work that was completed on this home. It really is like a brand new home with new windows, most of the roof, new furnace, and flooring, all freshly painted with new appliances, new kitchen and baths. Plus it has an oversized two-car garage that was rebuilt with a new roof, siding, and garage door. Most of the proceeds from the sale of this home go towards our completing more abandoned homes like this one in our area. So please tell your friends and co-workers about this wonderful deal in a great neighborhood.

For additional information, see the ad in the newspaper. Or contact Robyn Sandys 216-459-1000 or email her at [robyns@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:robyns@oldbrooklyn.com).



## Constellation Schools discuss academic strategies

The November *Old Brooklyn News* included a photo of four neighborhood principals whose schools received "excellent" ratings from the Ohio Department of Education. The principals were pictured at Cleveland City Hall with the councilmen who represent our area and the proclamations which these councilmen presented to them at the weekly Council meeting that evening.

The rating was based on the results of the Ohio Achievement Assessments (OAA) testing. The tests are administered every year to students in grades 3 to 8 to measure what they know and are able to do in various subjects.

We asked each of the school administrators to submit an article about what they believe their school did to merit receiving an excellent rating. In December we printed the response from Benjamin Franklin School, the first one we received. This month we move on to the second and third schools --

### Old Brooklyn Community Elementary Old Brooklyn Community Middle

Old Brooklyn Community Elementary School was established in 1998 to provide the families in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood of Cleveland with an outstanding educational alternative. Old Brooklyn Community Elementary (OBCE) currently serves approximately 300 students in grades K-4. OBCE is one of many successful schools that is operated by Constellation Schools LLC.

Since its humble beginning in St. Luke's United Church of Christ, the school has proven to be an outstanding educational program. It has been recognized for the fourth year in a row as an Excellent School by the Ohio Department of Education. Additionally, it has been recognized as a School of Promise for two years by the Ohio Department of Education.

Principal Cherie Kaiser attributes the school's success over the years to many factors. First, the school boasts small class sizes. Classes are limited to 22 students per class which allows the school to provide more focused and differentiated instruction to students.

Principal Kaiser also believes that the teaching staff at Old Brooklyn accounts for the success that the school is experiencing.

Old Brooklyn Community Elementary School is stellar!" reports Mrs. Kaiser. "They are truly dedicated to the

educational needs of the students, putting in long hours and going above and beyond what is necessary to make sure students are successful."

Also critical to the success of the school is the strong parental support that has played a role in the school's operation since the doors first opened.

"I remember when parents would come to our small classroom of 27 students to volunteer to escort students to the Zoo and the library. That same type of parental support that school was built upon still exists today."

Old Brooklyn Community Elementary is in its 13th year of operation. It continues to give children in Old Brooklyn an opportunity to succeed in their future endeavors.

Old Brooklyn Community Elementary is located on State Rd. in its newly renovated facility. The school building houses both Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Elementary and Constellation Schools: Old Brooklyn Community Middle. Old Brooklyn Community Middle educates students in grades 5-8 and is also rated Excellent by the Ohio Department of Education.

"The Right Choice for Parents and a Real Chance for Children"



Old Brooklyn Community Elementary School  
4430 State Rd.

## OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

The Old Brooklyn News will publish its February, 2011 issue on Friday, January 28th, 2011

website: [www.oldbrooklyn.com](http://www.oldbrooklyn.com)

email: [sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com)



### Submission Deadlines

Display Ads . . . . . Wed., Jan. 19th  
Classified Ads . . . . . Fri., Jan. 21st  
News Releases . . . . . Fri., Jan. 21st  
For Information call 216-459-0135  
E-mail: [sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto: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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| 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

This month's OBN writers -- former Attorney General Richard Cordray, Gloria Ferris, Lynette Filips, Christopher Lohr, David Waldman 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.



# NEWS & EVENTS

**Now thru Monday, January 17th**  
**“Treasures from Heaven: Saints, Relics and Devotion in Medieval Europe.”**  
 Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Blvd., regular museum hours. 135 pieces on display from CMA collection, church treasures, private collections & art museums across the US & Europe. Adult admission: \$12; seniors, \$10; CMA members, free. Visit [clevelandart.org](http://clevelandart.org) or call 216 421-7340 to reserve tickets.

**Thursday, January 6th and every 1st Thursday thru June**  
**Cleveland Astronomical Society Lectures**  
 Leonard Kreiger Canalway Center of Cleveland Metroparks, Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation, 4524 E. 49th St., 8 - 9 pm. Kelly Jons, library media specialist from Shaker Hts. High School, speaking about “Questar: The Timeless Telescope”. Call 216-206-1000 or visit [www.clevelandastronomicalsociety.org](http://www.clevelandastronomicalsociety.org) for more info. Free; open to the public

**Thursday, January 13th**  
**Urban Explorations Old Stone Church**  
 Join Metroparks Historical Interpreter Doug Kusak to explore Old Stone Church. Church docents lead a tour of Public Square landmark, 10 am. Call to register, 216-206-1000.

**Friday, January 14th**  
**Garden Fest with Ian Adams Award Winning Environmental & Nature Photographer**  
 Canalway Environmental Education Center, 4524 E. 49th St., Cuyahoga Heights. Doors open 11:30 am. Luncheon, noon. Presentation “Ohio’s Gardens & Arboretums” 1 - 2 pm. Travel with Ian to Ohio’s Gardens & Arboretums. Ohio is home to many beautiful public gardens as well as one of the largest arboretums in the country, Holden Arboretum. We will be visiting each one of them. Cost: \$17 - includes program & lunch. Reservation deadline is Jan. 8th. Make your check payable to: Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County. Mail to: Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County, P.O. Box 605472, Cleveland, OH 44105. Include name, address & phone #.

**Thursday, January 20th**  
**Urban Explorations Trinity Cathedral**  
 Join Metroparks Historical Interpreter Doug Kusak to explore the Cathedral & eco-friendly Trinity Commons, 10 am. Church docents lead a tour through the Cathedral & you can stay to shop in the Commons. Details will be sent when you call to register, 216-206-1000.

**Sunday, January 23rd**  
**Cleve. Carpatho-Rusyn Society Lecture**  
 Parma-Snow Library, 2121 Snow Rd., 2 - 4 pm. George Walko speaking about “Memories of a Company Coal Mine Town”. Also a pagach (meatless Slovak food of bread dough stuffed with cabbage, potatoes &/or cheese) party. Please bring pagach to share.

**Wednesday January 26th**  
**Utilities Assistance Training Workshop**  
 Old Brooklyn Neighborhood Family Service Center, 4261 Fulton Parkway, 1 - 4 pm. Free event will provide education & information on

utilities assistance programs such as Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), Percentage of Income Plus Program (PIPP Plus), Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) & Winter Crisis Program (WCP). For more info, visit [www.employment.cuyahogacounty.us](http://www.employment.cuyahogacounty.us) or call 216-987-7010. Hosted by Cuyahoga County Employment & Family Services & the Home Heating & Weatherization Task Force.

**Benefits QuickLINK**  
 Find programs that help save money on health care, medication, food, utilities, children’s health costs and more. It only takes 15 minutes. Visit [aarp.com/quicklink](http://aarp.com/quicklink)

**Cuyahoga County seeks tax preparation volunteers; training provided**  
 Cuyahoga Employment & Family Services will train individuals to prepare income tax returns for low to moderate-income working families. Training available throughout January at designated locations in Greater Cleveland and online on “Link & Learn Taxes” tutorial on IRS ([www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)) website. Begin preparing tax returns Feb. 1st at Westshore Neighborhood Family Service Center, 9800 Lorain Ave., or Merrick House, 3167 Fulton Rd., in Lin’s Omni Plaza, 2nd floor. If interested call 216-987-6620 or email [sullie01@odjfs.state.oh.us](mailto:sullie01@odjfs.state.oh.us).

**City of Cleveland, Division of Police, Citizen On-line Reporting System**  
 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. Make an on-line report at [www.city.cleveland.oh.us/police](http://www.city.cleveland.oh.us/police) & click on the crime reporting link. You must be 18 years old & have an e-mail address.

**Volunteer Drivers & Runners needed for Meals on Wheels**  
 Senior Citizen Resources. We deliver Mon. -Fri. to Old Brooklyn residents. Only one hour of your time is needed between the hours of 10:45 & 11:45 am. All routes originate from 3100 Devonshire. Please help with this worthwhile opportunity & call Rosemary at 216-749-5367 with any questions.

**Volunteers Needed at Manna from Heaven**  
 (Outreach ministry of Fruitful in a Desert Place Ministry), 4490 Pearl Rd. Individuals 16 years or older should stop by during outreach hours, Tues, & Thurs., 2 - 6 pm. Whether you are a senior in high school & need service hours for graduation or you just like to help, Manna from Heaven would like to meet you.

**West Side Ecumenical Ministry (WSEM)**  
 Enrolling for Early Childhood Education. Early Head Start, Head Start & Universal Pre-Kindergarten for children ages birth - age 5. Offers a home-based program to meet the needs of area families. Free services to eligible

families & also accepts county vouchers. Comprehensive services to meet educational, health, dental, nutritional, social, mental health & any special needs of children. Several program options & locations. Contact recruitment hotline, 216-961-2997, for more info.

**WSEM Food Center**  
 WSEM Food Center at Brookside, 3784 Pearl Rd., 216-749-4295. Food service available Mon. - Fri., 10 am - 2 pm. Resale shoppe open Mon, Wed. & Fri., 10 am - 2 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.

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

**Mary Queen of Peace School Registration for Preschool thru 8th Grade**  
 (Formerly Our Lady of Good Counsel.) Call for tour & registration packet. Kindergarten registrants must be 5 years old by Sept. 30th. Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring vouchers accepted; county vouchers OK for preschool & after care. Offers a curriculum to prepare 3 & 4 year-old children for kindergarten. Fulltime: 8 am - 2:30 pm with extended care; part-time: 8 am - 11 am. Call Ms. Patty, 216-741-3685, between 8:15 am & 3 pm for more info.

**St. Leo Preschool & School Registrations 2010-2011 School Year**  
 St. Leo Preschool, 4940 Broadview Rd., in Parish Community Center; accepting applications for 3 & 4 year-olds half-day & full-day programs. Call Lisa

Mersek, 216-661-5330, for more info. Also accepting students grades K-8. Part of the Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring voucher program. Vocal music & instrumental band program, visual & studio art program, physical education & sports; new PC computer lab. Before & after-school care available. Call Mrs. Eileen Breitmeyer to arrange a tour, 216-661-2120.

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

**Events for Martin Luther King Day**  
 See details on page 9 in Family Fun for information about MLK events at the following institutions --  
 Cleveland Botanical Garden  
 Children’s Museum of Cleveland  
 Cleveland Museum of Art  
 Lake Erie Nature & Science Center  
 University Circle - Martin Luther King Jr. Community Open House

**St. Vincent Depaul Society’s Ozanam Center, 2145 Broadview Rd.**  
*(in the former Sally Ann’s Deli)*  
 Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday  
 10 am - 1 pm  
 Provides 3-day emergency food supply & clothing for qualified residents in zip codes 44102, 44109 & 44144.  
 Kandice Jones, director - 216-644-7610

## COMMUNITY MEETINGS

**Brooklyn Centre Naturalists** - No meetings until April 2011.

**Brooklyn Genealogy Club**, Brooklyn Fire Station, 8400 Memphis Ave. at Roadoan. (Park behind bldg. to easily access Community Room.) Sunday, Jan. 16th, Tom Cirincione speaking about Italian genealogy.

**Historical Society of Old Brooklyn**, Friday, January 14th, Old Brooklyn resident and railroad enthusiast Stan Kosiba speaking about the passenger stations in Greater Cleveland from the early 1900s until the present day.

**Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation** board meeting, Tues., Jan. 25th, 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., Jan. 11th (& 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., Jan. 18th (& every third Tues.), 7 pm, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 5801 Memphis Ave.

**Ward 13 Republican Club** meeting, Tues., Jan. 11th (& every second Tues.), 7 pm, Calvary Chapel, 6770 Brookpark Rd.

## Seeking applicants for position

**Summary of Position** - To provide oversight for the Ben Franklin Community Garden which is a program of Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation. This includes the overall operations of the garden in cooperation with the Ben Franklin Garden Operating Committee.

**Position Responsibilities**  
 ■Coordinate the garden application process each year which includes the promotion of the plots, collection of fees, and assignment of spaces to all eligible persons.  
 ■Distribute all supplies and services provide by the Summer Sprout program and related programs as equally as possible to the gardeners.  
 ■Ensure that garden plots are properly utilized and maintained (such as weed control) before, during and after the planting season. Coordinate the maintenance of the entire garden area to ensure grassy areas are regularly cut; area is free of weeds, debris from fallen branches or other sources, and trash either through volunteer support or part-time staff assistance.  
 ■Keep all garden facilities such as rest rooms and other buildings neat and clean and well organized.

■Provide information on security, hours of operation and other rules and regulations to all users of the garden as developed by the operating committee or OBCDC.

■Provide assistance and support for the Garden Operating Committee in association with OBCDC staff.

■Other duties as assigned as they relate to the garden or gardening in general and related endeavors as a whole.

**Qualifications**  
 ■Graduation from high school or equivalent with at least 3 years of experience managing or operating a garden, farm or related type of space for growing plants or vegetables.  
 ■Expertise with gardening tools and power equipment  
 ■Excellent interpersonal and coordination skills and ability to work and communicate with gardeners, volunteers and others associated with gardening.

■Computer proficiency

Send or fax resume to:  
 OBCDC, Robyn Sandys  
 3341 Broadview Rd.  
 Cleveland, OH 44109  
 Fax: 216-459-1741  
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## Three former Deaconess chaplains pass away within less than a year of each other

by Lynette Filips  
lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com

During the decades of its existence in our neighborhood (1914-2003), Deaconess Hospital, 4229 Pearl Rd., was blessed with the ministries of many caring chaplains. Although it was a Protestant hospital (first, an outreach of the Evangelical Church, then of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and ultimately of the United Church of Christ/UCC), both Protestant and Catholic ministers/priests cared for the spiritual needs of the patients there.

For the Protestant chaplains, the position was a full-time job; for the Catholic chaplains, it was generally in combination with being an associate pastor at nearby Our Lady of Good Counsel Church (now the merged parish of Mary Queen of Peace).

### Rev. Herbert Reichert

Rev. Herbert F. Reichert passed away on October 29th, 2010 at St. Mary Medical Center in Long Beach, California. He was 90 years old, and had arrived in California several days earlier, with the intention of boarding a cruise ship to celebrate the 30th anniversary of marriage to his second wife, Joan, nee Dove. (Jean Espenlaub, Rev. Reichert's first wife — and the mother of his four children — had died from cancer in 1978.)



Ordained in the Evangelical and Reformed Church in 1946, Rev. Reichert was a native of Dyer, Indiana. He was the pastor of a congregation in Maywood, Illinois for ten years before moving his young family to Parma to accept the position of chaplain at Evangelical Deaconess Hospital in 1956. He was hired by the minister/hospital president whose name came to be almost synonymous with Deaconess — Armin Kitterer.

Rev. Reichert remained in that chaplain position at Deaconess Hospital for twenty-nine years, until his retirement in 1985. Although he never lived in Old Brooklyn, he was very involved with the community, both pre- and post-retirement.

When he was at Deaconess, Rev. Reichert interacted with ordained clergy from all religions. He initiated a monthly interfaith meeting of local chaplains, and began an interfaith chaplain's hour with visiting clergy, too.

The chaplain's hour was a ministry Rev. Reichert organized for the psychiatric patients in Deaconess' newly-opened Mental Health Unit on Tower 4. Mental illness had even more of a stigma attached to it in those days than it does today because it was not well understood. And so it was very helpful to these patients to participate in regular clergy-led discussions about the issues they were facing in their lives.

Rev. Reichert collaborated with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland in instituting a program at Deaconess Hospital which became a model nationwide. He arranged for the men studying to be priests at St. Mary's Seminary to receive practical experience on the

floors of Deaconess Hospital in terms of the "visiting the sick" aspect of their ministry.

Fr. Joseph Callahan, now the pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Slavic Village, was one of the seminarians who benefited from that training at Deaconess. Reflecting back on the experience, he stated, "In the early 80s when we were in the seminary, most of us took the Hospital Chaplain Field Education course offered at Deaconess. I remember the positive spirit of an ecumenical program which was tailored to our needs. Most of us had very little experience in the hospital and our mentors at Deaconess put us at ease. They were great with the 'what to do/say' and 'what not to do/say' and also with the whole experience of 'verbatim' — reflecting upon a specific visit and analyzing it from the pastoral, personal and spiritual perspective. This was all very helpful in our formation, and it was exciting to participate in an ecumenical program as well."

Rev. Reichert was on Deaconess Hospital's Board of Trustees, and was also a trustee of the "homes" which the Deaconess Foundation administers. He was a member of the Advisory Board of Senior Citizen Resources, Inc. for twenty to twenty-five years, too.

Because it is a service organization, Rev. Reichert joined Brooklyn Kiwanis in 1956. He attended their weekly meetings religiously, and was involved in many leadership positions, including serving as the group's president in 1963. He was one of Kiwanis' George F. Hixson Fellows (a recognition Kiwanis initiated in 1983 to honor the first Kiwanis International president).

Immediately after he retired, Rev. Reichert volunteered as a docent at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. He was assigned to the pachyderm building, and for ten years he took delight in explaining the habits of those massive mammals to groups of visiting school children.

While in Cleveland, Rev. Reichert also served as the interim pastor of numerous United Church of Christ congregations, most notably St. Peter UCC, 125 E. Ridgewood Dr., and Denison Avenue UCC, 9900 Denison Ave. But the church in which he raised his children, and continued to attend when he wasn't being in interim pastor, was in Parma - St. Paul Evangelical and Reformed Church/United Church of Christ, 7507 York Rd., just south of Pleasant Valley Rd.

Rev. Reichert's wake and funeral service for his Cleveland colleagues and friends were on November 4th at Middleburg Heights Community Church on Bagley Rd. at Big Creek Pkwy. The next day, Busch Funeral and Crematory Services drove his body to Zion United Church of Christ in Dyer, Indiana. On November 6th, his Cleveland family conducted a second wake and funeral service for their Indiana family and friends there.

Rev. Reichert was buried with his first wife — and over 40 other relatives — at Zion Church Cemetery in Dyer.

In lieu of flowers, Rev. Reichert's family requested memorials for either St. Paul UCC or for a scholarship which Brooklyn-Cleveland Kiwanis is establishing in his name. If interested in contributing to the latter, send the donation to Brooklyn Kiwanis Club, 910 W. Schaaf Rd., Cleveland 44109.

### Rev. John Bolan, C.P.P.S.

Fr. John Bolan passed away on October 22nd, 2010 at Holy Family Hospice in Parma. He was 83 years old, and had been a resident at Holy Family for several weeks before his death.

Ordained in 1953, Fr. Bolan was a native of New Jersey. Both parish and hospital ministries were among his priestly experiences. Before coming to Our Lady of Good Counsel Church and Deaconess Hospital in 1984, he had already labored for the Lord in numerous parishes, and in hospital ministry at St. Elizabeth's in Dayton and Timken Mercy in Canton.

In 1987, Fr. Bolan's hospital ministry moved from Deaconess Hospital to the Veterans' Administration (VA) Hospital, also in Cleveland. A recovering alcoholic himself, he was especially interested in helping vets who were suffering from the same disease. He worked at the VA until the time of his retirement.

A funeral Mass for Fr. Bolan was celebrated at St. Vincent de Paul Church on Lorain Ave. on October 28th. A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated for him at the Missionaries of the Precious Blood's chapel in St. Charles Center, Carthagen, Ohio, on October 29th. He was buried in the Community's cemetery there.

### Rev. Raymond Schultheis, C.P.P.S.

Fr. Raymond Schultheis passed away on December 5th, 2009, in the infirmary at St. Charles Center in Carthagen, Ohio. He was 80 years old, and had been in failing health for several weeks.

Ordained in 1956, Fr. Schultheis was a native of Verona, Pennsylvania. He spent most of his priestly life in parish ministry, including being assigned to the former St. Edward Church on Cleveland's east side (Woodland Ave.) twice. The other parishes at which he served were in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Fr. Schultheis came to Our Lady of Good Counsel and Deaconess Hospital in 1987, after Fr. Bolan moved on to the VA. It was his first experience as a hospital chaplain. Fr. Schultheis retired in 2001, when his own declining health prevented him from continuing at Deaconess. He lived the last years of his life at the C.P.P.S.'s St. Charles Center.

A memorial Mass for Fr. Schultheis was celebrated at the Missionaries of the Precious Blood's chapel in St. Charles Center in Carthagen on December 9th. A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated for him at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Verona, Pennsylvania on December 11th. He was buried in the parish cemetery in Verona.

## Brooklyn Centre Naturalists share 2011 goals/projects

by Gloria Ferris  
Brooklyn Centre Naturalists

Reflecting on the past year, Brooklyn Centre Naturalists (BCN) have noticed how many of their accomplishments relied upon/ were enhanced by collaborations with other Cleveland groups and individuals.

So first this month, BCN would like to thank those who picked up a shovel, donated a plant or time to their beautification efforts, and/or attended or volunteered for any of the many events in which they played a part.

BCN's wish for 2011 is that each of their supporters will find opportunities to again participate in the activities planned... and that they'll bring friends and neighbors to share the experience.

Second, the group intends to strengthen its collaborations with some of the 2010 partners, while working to forge new relationships which will help achieve their goals of preserving, enhancing and maintaining our unique ecosystem in 2011.

This winter, *Art House* and BCN will begin mapping the new sketching garden which will take shape during the summer months. Native plants used for dyes, as well as plants that attract butterflies, will be featured.

Thanks to another generous grant from *Neighborhood Connections*, an educational component that combines nature and the arts will also be included.

In the spring, *Friends of Big Creek* and BCN will again sponsor a symposium to explore the ways that individuals can protect the Big Creek Watershed.

*Cleveland Metroparks Zoo* has teamed with *Western Reserve Audubon Society* to form a bird trail along the ridge and in the Zoo. BCN will be one of the partners counting the

birds which use the bird trail for raising young during migration.

In late spring and early summer, work will begin on the pocket parks made possible by *ReImagining Cleveland* grants. More planting and a bit more physical labor will be needed to put these parks off Denison Ave. into maintenance mode.

BCN has also been invited to a meeting at which *Neighborhood Progress* will be sharing more opportunities and funding sources for future projects.

Our neighborhoods are blessed with a diverse and unique ecosystem which offers us a marketing opportunity for our neighborhood which BCN believes we should explore with residents and local businesses.

BCN intends to continue its partnerships with *Southwest Area Citizens Council*, *Brooklyn Centre Community Association* and *OBCDC Green Space Committee* to find ways to mesh our natural heritage with our built heritage, thereby creating a community of choice that is healthy and serene.

Certification by the *National Wildlife Federation* as a National Wildlife Community continues to be one of BCN's main objectives. Happily, "they are rounding third and heading home" in regards to this goal. They have achieved 2/3 of the 350 points needed for certification.

BCN needs 48 points for 44109 to become a National Wildlife Community. If 48 neighbors sign up as backyard habitats, each garden added will put BCN one point closer to being one of 47 communities in the nation to have this honor.

To become a member or find out more about any of the projects, contact BCN by email at [bcnaturalists@gmail.com](mailto:bcnaturalists@gmail.com) or by phone at 216-351-0254.

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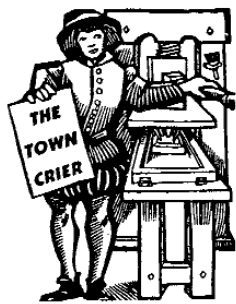
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One of the best things about this time of year in my opinion is that, in addition to the conviviality of the Christmas season, since December 20th, the daylight hours have been getting longer.

Of course, for some folks with Eastern European roots and whose religious observances still follow the Julian calendar (e.g., the Ukrainian Orthodox), another good thing is that the celebration of Christmas will come later this month.

January can also be an introspective time. Whenever Sandy and I are planning what to include in the next issue of the *Old Brooklyn News*, we look back at previous issues of the paper. Sometimes that means articles which ran in the last few months which need follow-ups, and sometimes that means topics we covered that month in the previous year or two.

Or, in the case of January, it might mean topics we covered in the entire preceding year.

So this month's column will return to some "old business" before we move on to new things. Unfortunately, I'm beginning with some sad news.

You may remember that the front page of our January, 2009, issue pictured a gorgeous Christmas tree in the rotunda of Cleveland City Hall which had been donated to the City after it outgrew the front yard of Hillcrest residents Bill and Maureen Wolohan.

Toward the end of last summer I received an email from Bill that Maureen had passed away on August 22nd, after just over a month's struggle with cancer. She was only 44 years old. I will always remember what a joy she was to interview for the article accompanying the photo of her tree, and how happy she was when the story appeared so prominently in our neighborhood paper.

The same position on the front page of the

January, 2008, *Old Brooklyn News* featured a photo and an article about the **American Indian Education Center (AIEC)** which, since 1992, has been located at 1314 Denison Ave. in Brooklyn Centre.

Thanks to funding from the federal government, the AIEC had been offering cultural, language preservation, historical and family life enrichment programs to anyone who wanted to attend them, even though people of Native American descent were the target audience.

I attended one of the series of Native American foods cooking classes which was offered then, and also a subsequent class which taught both children and adults how to make leather moccasins. (The AIEC even supplied the materials!) But even at that time, funding cuts were making it difficult for the organization to meet its expenses.

For one year, in fact, from October, 2009, to October 2010, the AIEC didn't have the funds to offer any programs at all. **Executive director Robert Roche** worked without a salary just to keep the doors open.

Now the federal grants are starting to come in again, including one which is currently helping female prison inmates with re-entry into society.

In addition, **Ward 14 Councilman Brian Cummins** has secured the house on Denison Ave. on the west side of Art House's parking lot. It's expected that before long, funds will be available for the AIEC, **Art House** and the **Brooklyn Centre Community Association** to begin renovating it so that they can all use it as a base for their service-oriented activities.

Even when funding was non-existent, though, the AIEC was helping needy folks with food. Income-qualified persons can stop by for assistance between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Readers who need assistance with food should also take note of the box on page 3 of this month's issue of the *OBN*. **The Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Ozanam Center** began relocating to a new "home" at 2145 Broadview Rd., just south of Searsdale Ave., last month; it will reopen there on Tuesday, January 4th.

A few months ago, at the food pantry's request, *The OBN* had printed a "m'aide/May Day" to help the Center find a building big

enough for their food supply and a parking lot big enough for all their clients' cars.

After the building owner dealt with some needed repairs and the City with some zoning issues, the spot on Broadview became a win-win situation for both the Center and the Old Brooklyn neighborhood (in terms of having all those vacant storefronts occupied again).

The Ozanam Center has had to move twice in the past few years, first from

Biddulph Plaza, and then from its most recent location on Ridge Rd. in Brooklyn because the building they rented is/was in foreclosure.

We didn't get to as much as I thought we would in the way of openings, re-openings and relocations this time, but there's always next month. Email your submissions to [lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com) or mail them to Lynette Filips, *The Town Crier*, c/o the *Old Brooklyn News*, 3344 Broadview Rd., Cleveland 44109.

**WiFi from front page**

PC Medic sells PC and Mac desktops and laptops; they try to keep six laptops and ten desktops in stock at any time. PC Medic has a variety of computers for different needs starting at \$200. They feature a complete stock of the latest computer accessories and hardware upgrades.

Custom computer building is also available and is usually completed within a week. The business provides home installation as well as website design, e-commerce, networking and virus removal. PC Medic will sell wireless routers as well as provide trouble shooting assistance. A free diagnostic check is available to anyone who wants a computer looked at.

PC Medic currently has two locations--the Broadview location and another at 6491 Pearl Rd. There are plans to expand to a third location next year in North Olmsted. At the Broadview store there are four customer service employees, twelve web designers and ten out call service employees. The Pearl store currently has twelve employees on staff.

For more information call 216-812-6300 for the Broadview store, 440-345-5399 for the Pearl store, or visit [www.pcmestic.com](http://www.pcmestic.com).

**Aries Computers**

Aries Computers is located at 4888 Pearl Rd. The store has been owned and operated by Eric Reiss for four years. Eric runs the business by himself, taking care of computer repairs. Aries Computers buys, sells and repairs used PC desktops and, occasionally, laptops. Aries Computers can also order many computer accessories for pick up at the store. They also provide instal-

lation of computer hardware and software.

Most of the repair and installation is done at the store between the hours of 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday through Sunday. Home service calls are available by appointment, but only in the evening or weekends. They will not have routers in stock, but can help residents set up their computers for the *Old Brooklyn Connected* WiFi network. For more information call 216-398-3112.

**Noosphere Limited**

Noosphere Limited is located at 5241 Broadview Rd. in Parma. Slava Kondratov has owned and operated this computer repair, service and sales business for fourteen years. Apple, PC and Linux are all serviced, and wireless routers are available. Noosphere Limited does all repairs and service in their store; service calls and remote access assistance are not currently available. For more information call 216-459-1994.

For anyone who doesn't have a computer or who would like to learn how to use one, the *Connect Your Community* program is a great opportunity. With free classes conveniently held at Estabrook Recreation Center and the South Brooklyn Branch of the Cleveland Public Library, the program teaches residents everything from how to use a computer to internet safety/security. Contact Ania Siuda at 216-459-1000 or [cyc.siuda@gmail.com](mailto:cyc.siuda@gmail.com) for more information. Updates about the *Old Brooklyn Connected* WiFi network will continue to be provided at [www.oldbrooklynconnected.com](http://www.oldbrooklynconnected.com) and in the *Old Brooklyn News*. Contact Christopher Lohr at 216-459-1000 or [christopherl@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:christopherl@oldbrooklyn.com) for more information.

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216-241-6000

[www.playhousesquare.com](http://www.playhousesquare.com)

**"Flanagan's Wake"**  
**Kennedy's Theatre**, 1501 Euclid Ave. - Fri., Jan. 7th - Sat., Apr. 30th; Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Tickets - \$20 - \$23.

**"Altar Boyz"**  
**Hanna Theatre**, 2067 East 14th St. - Thurs., Jan. 13th - Sun., Jan. 30th. Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 5 & 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Tickets, \$10 - \$39.50.

**"Last Call Cleveland"**  
**14th Street Theatre**, 2037 East 14th St. - Fri., Jan. 14th - Sat., Jan. 29th. Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm. Tickets - \$12 - \$15.

**"CATS"**  
**Palace Theatre**, 1615 Euclid Ave. - Fri., Jan. 21st - Sun., Jan. 23rd. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 & 6:30 pm. Tickets - \$10 - \$60.

**Cleveland Public Theatre**  
**Big [BOX] 2011**  
Big Box returns! Fri., Jan. 14th - Sun., Mar. 6th. Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3pm. Over a span of eight weekends, thirteen artists are given keys to the theatre and the freedom to transform the space for the presentation of their work. Tickets - \$15 general admission; \$2 discount for students & seniors.

**The Dark Room** - will return to CPT Tues., Jan. 11th. Stop into The Dark Room every month at CPT. It's a place where the writers take center stage & their work has a chance to grow. The Dark Room is a co-production of CPT & The Cleveland Theatre Collective & is an ongoing event held on the second Tues. of each month (subject to change) in The Storefront Studio (same entrance as the James Levin Theatre). Tickets -

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by Tom Collins  
tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

**Storefront Renovation Program**

January is the month for business planning. It is time to prepare the year end financial statements. It is tax preparation time. It is time to take the physical inventory of stock. It is also a good time to assess the value of your business and property to determine if it is time for new investment in your building.

If you own commercial property or operate a business in a building in need of renovation, January should be your planning month. It is a fine time to talk to contractors and architects. It is a fine time to look at materials and building trade shows. It is a fine time to ask yourself what can be done to make your building more attractive to business tenants, to rent the empty storefront or to increase customer visits to the store.

Sometimes you just have to invest in a renovation to make your building competitive, to keep existing tenants and to attract new tenants. The appearance of your building is the first impression customers and tenants receive. A poor impression is an invisible expense in lost opportunity and is difficult to erase.

The City of Cleveland has an incentive program to help commercial property owners renovate storefronts and thereby improve the appearance of the commercial corridors.

It is titled the Cleveland Storefront Renovation Program. It provides a 40 % rebate on the cost of exterior improvements to the fronts of eligible buildings. It can refund as much as \$28,000 to the building owner or building tenant, if they follow the program guidelines.

The intention is to restore the building to its original architectural integrity and make a visible improvement to the appearance of the neighborhood. It is not a program to make up for neglected maintenance. It is rather a restoration program that can provide new doors, windows, signage, lighting, structural repair, awnings, painting, masonry cleaning and new sidewalks. It is a face-lift for aging buildings in need of a makeover.

The owner manages the project following some basic guidelines that recognize that restored buildings have a more welcoming presence than buildings that cover up unique architectural features in an attempt to look modern.

The owner solicits bids from contractors who must be licensed to work in the city of Cleveland. There are some prevailing wage guidelines that may be applicable. Of course there is some paperwork involved. I assist the owner with that part of the project.

If the building is in need of major exterior renovations on the entire building (front, sides and rear) then a low-cost loan program is available. An owner can borrow up to \$100,000 for exterior renovations at below prime interest rates. It is a fixed rate loan amortized over fifteen years payable in ten years.

Calling me to learn if your building is eligible does not obligate you to anything. I would be happy to meet with interested owners, visit the building, discuss the process and submit a preliminary application. There are no upfront charges and no fees associated with the rebate program. The City has a very good tool available to assist commercial property owners.

Use January as your planning month.

Call me to see if this program meets your needs or if there are other financial tools available that will help commercial property owners improve their property and improve the bottom line.

**Vacant Building Initiative**

Many buildings need more than exterior renovation, especially if they have been vacant for several years. The city has a low cost loan program designed to bring buildings which have been empty or abandoned back to economic productivity. Buildings which have been at least 40% vacant for two years and are twenty years of age or older are eligible. The property owner must have a committed end user, be current on prop-

erty taxes and agree to bring the building up to building code standards.

The loans can be used for property acquisition, demolition, site preparation and new construction. The loan is a short term loan (one year) with a guaranteed loan buy-out by a bank or financial institution. The buyout incentive is that a portion of the loan is forgivable if energy conservation elements are part of the renovation. For more details please call or visit the web site: [www.cleveland.oh.us/government/departments/econdev/property.asp](http://www.cleveland.oh.us/government/departments/econdev/property.asp)

Column disclosure: Portions of this column appeared in the February 2010 edition of the *Old Brooklyn News*.

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Photo by Pauline Eskut

On Saturday, December 4th, Gesu Roman Catholic Church in University Heights put on a free *Breakfast with Santa* at Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church on Archwood Ave. It was the fourth time that they held this event for the community. Pancakes and sausage, juice, fruit, donuts, fellowship, music and free pictures with Santa were all part of the event.



John Jenkins, chair of the Benjamin Franklin Community Garden Operating Committee, confers with Tony Eshcuk the tractor driver in preparation for the fall plowing of the garden. The garden is put to bed for the winter, but members of the Garden Committee are hard at work preparing for the 2011 season. Activities include writing grant proposals, planning a fundraiser, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 26, 2011, writing a Procedures Manual for the operation of the garden and repairing and replacing tools and equipment.

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Old Brooklyn Homeowner





## OBCDC's foreclosure prevention program

by Donald Heckmoser  
donaldh@oldbrooklyn.com

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) has been engaged in a foreclosure prevention/awareness campaign for the last year and half. The Case Western Reserve University Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development began this endeavor through data collection a few years earlier.

Through the Mandel School's efforts, local community development corporations (CDCs) like Old Brooklyn CDC have been given the opportunity to reach out to local residents who are: at-risk for foreclosure, in an active foreclosure, and even those who have a Sheriff's Sale scheduled.

The data had formerly been provided to the CDCs on a quarterly basis but it is now updated every Tuesday through a newly formed Old Brooklyn/Brooklyn Centre Neighborhood Stabilization Team and its access to the expertly developed Neighborhood Stabilization Team (NST) web application.

The NST web application was developed through Case Western's partnership

with Neighborhood Progress, Inc. (NPI) and their Neighborhood Stabilization Team. NPI's NST was developed to work directly with neighborhoods which had NSP II target areas determined by HUD in an effort to engage in focused inspection, rehabilitation, code enforcement and outreach.

OBCDC has since begun its outreach to homeowners who have at-risk mortgages. At-risks mortgages, discussed in previous *Old Brooklyn News* articles in depth, are mortgages in which there are greater occurrences of default and foreclosure due to the underwriting, excessive points and fees, or high interest rates which are adjustable.

Since receiving the data from Case Western, Old Brooklyn CDC partnered with the Cuyahoga County Foreclosure Prevention Program to hold a mortgage education and outreach event at Estabrook Recreation Center.

Letters were sent to the more than one thousand residents within the Old Brooklyn and Brooklyn Centre neighborhoods with at-risk mortgages. Over 45 people participated and were able to receive counseling from a variety of Cleveland-area agencies and their foreclosure prevention counselors who partner with the Cuyahoga County Foreclosure Prevention Program.

This effort was followed up by letters directly from Old Brooklyn CDC. These letters, however, were sent more specifically to smaller subsets of residents.

First and foremost, Old Brooklyn sent letters to anyone with an active foreclosure. This was received with a good response but clearly was not able to reach everyone. Also, many letters came back as undeliverable or vacant. This gave OBCDC a unique opportunity to update the quarterly "vacant report" which it is required to complete.

The next three sets of letter were sent to residents who had adjustable rate mortgages, then high cost mortgages and then sub-prime mortgages (which can be considered, in this instance, a variety of other mortgages products that engaged in deceptive underwriting practices in some fashion).

Once again OBCDC considered the response rate pretty good; however, there are still a lot of people in our neighborhood who may be in danger of losing their homes because of one of these mortgages products.

Due to the fact that sending all of these

letters was an expensive and time-consuming endeavor, OBCDC is now sending out smaller batches of letters to two groups of people.

First, when foreclosure filings are initially registered, OBCDC can gather this data once per week and only send letters to that small group of people right at the outset of this problem.

Second, OBCDC can isolate people who have recently had a Sheriff's Sale scheduled, send a letter, and try to get them help at the very last stage of the foreclosure process.

Through all of these efforts combined, including utilizing the *Old Brooklyn News*, [www.oldbrooklyn.com](http://www.oldbrooklyn.com), their face book page and any other outreach source available, OBCDC hopes to reach the majority of residents who may be at-risk.

Anyone in need of foreclosure prevention assistance should contact OBCDC at 216-459-1000. Do NOT pay for foreclosure prevention assistance; the City of Cleveland's community development/non-profit world is a leader in foreclosure prevention techniques and outcomes.

## Earned Income Tax Credit

by David Waldman  
davidw@oldbrooklyn.com

Even though the New Year has just begun and thinking about filing income taxes certainly isn't the most pleasant thing, there is good news this year in the form of the Earned Income Tax Credit. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is for working people who can use a financial boost in this difficult economic climate.

With the EITC you could qualify to receive up to \$5,600. Many more people will qualify for the EITC this year because of changes in their income, marital status and number of children.

Many of those with qualifying children are eligible for the EITC and the Child Tax Credit (CTC). A qualifying child can be a son, daughter, grandchild, stepchild, adopted child, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister (and their descendants) and foster child placed with worker by a government or private agency. Children must be under age 19, or under 24 if full-time students, but any age if totally or permanently disabled.

Anyone who had less than \$48,000 in income from wages, self-employment or farming might qualify for the EITC. Sources of earned income include wages, salary, tips, earning from self-employment, union strike benefits, employer-paid disability and military combat pay.

EITC is a *refundable* tax credit, meaning people can get money back if the amount they owe is less than the tax credit or even if they owe no money at all.

For more information visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and search using the keyword EITC. Use the online EITC Assistant to determine eligibility and amount of tax credit and use the worksheet in the tax instruction package. To receive the tax credit a person *must* file a federal income tax return, even if he/she is not *required* to do so. One must specifically claim the credit in order to receive it.

Filing tax returns can be overwhelming, but free assistance is available. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) is available to help low to moderate income individuals prepare their tax returns. To locate the nearest VITA site, visit [www.refundohio.org](http://www.refundohio.org), call 216-436-2000 or dial 211 for a listing or information about tax centers and services in Ohio. Or call the IRS

hotline, 1-800-906-9887, for tax site information.

The IRS and AARP offer the Tax-Aide counseling program. Volunteer counselors have been trained to prepare tax returns with special attention to the needs of persons aged 60 and older. For more information about this program visit [http://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp\\_taxaide](http://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide).

Military personnel and their families can also receive free tax assistance through the Armed Forces Tax Council (AFTC) which are available at military personnel's installations.

To help accurately determine their EITC eligibility and prepare their returns, individuals should bring:

- \* Photo proof of identification;
- \* Social Security cards for themselves, their spouse and dependents or Social Security number verification letters issued by the Social Security Administration;
- \* Birth dates for all persons listed on the tax return;
- \* Wage and earning statement(s) Forms W-2, W-2G and 1099-R from all employers;
- \* Interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099);
- \* Copies of last year's federal and state returns, if available;
- \* Bank routing and account numbers for direct deposit of their refunds;
- \* Other relevant information about income and expenses; and
- \* Amounts paid for day care, if applicable, and the day care provider's identifying number.

To electronically file their returns and get the fastest refunds, both spouses must be present to sign joint returns.

A taxpayer's total earned income must be at least \$1 and both earned income and adjusted gross income (AGI) must be less than:

- \* \$13,440 (\$18,440 married filing jointly) if there is no qualifying child;
  - \* \$35,463 (\$40,463 married filing jointly) if there is one qualifying child;
  - \* \$40,295 (\$45,295 married filing jointly) if there are two qualifying children; and
  - \* \$43,279 (\$48,279 married filing jointly) if there are three or more qualifying children.
- \* Investment income can not be more than \$3,100.



For approximately ten years, Broadale Rd. resident Carol Lade has taken watercolor classes on Wednesday nights at the Parma Area Fine Arts Council in the Parma Senior Center behind Parma City Hall. And for the last few years she's been using one of her paintings on the front of her Christmas card. Again this year we are featuring Carol's Christmas card.



# From where we're standing, it looks a little crooked.

We can lend a helping hand. **CASH** is a local non-profit community development organization offering low interest rates to all Cleveland property owners and investors to renovate or remodel your home. Just fill out our simple online form to get started and we'll help with everything.

The current interest rate for home improvement loans is: **2.4%**

Call 216.621.7350 or visit [www.cashcleveland.org](http://www.cashcleveland.org)

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# While Christians looked to Christmas, Jewish congregations observed Chanukah last month

by Lynette Filips  
lynnetef@oldbrooklyn.com

In the May, 2010 issue of the *Old Brooklyn News*, we ran the first of a series of articles whose purpose is to explain the holy days and holidays which our Jewish brothers and sisters observe, and also present a variety of information about both the religious tenets and the culture of Judaism through a format I called "You're so Jewish if..."

The first article ran in May, to coincide with the Jewish feasts of Passover, which had occurred the preceding month, and the feast of Pentecost, which would occur in May.

Our second look at the Jewish culture and religion was in our September issue. September is the month of the High Holy Days. They begin with Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New Year and birthday of the universe) and end with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, the most solemn day on the Jewish calendar. The Days of Awe are the ten days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Their eight days of Chanukah (the Festival of Lights), like Passover, fall on different dates each year. In 2010, they began on December 1st, so they weren't quite as close to the Christian observance of Christmas as they usually are.

Chanukah commemorates the 165 B.C.E. victory of the Maccabees over Antiochus Epiphanes (c.215-164 B.C.E.) and the rededication of the Great Temple in Jerusalem.

The story of the Maccabees can also be found in Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox and some other versions of the Christian bibles. They were a family of Jewish patriots who were

active in the liberation of Judea from Syria. After the Jews were free and able to rebuild the Temple and rekindle the Eternal Light, the cruse of oil they found had only enough to last a day. But miraculously it burned for eight days, the time it took them to secure a fresh supply.

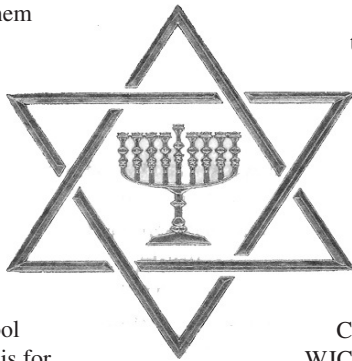
Today those eight days are commemorated by progressively lighting more candles on each of the eight nights of Chanukah. A ninth candle called a shamme is used to light the others.

A nine-hole candleholder called a menorah is the symbol of Chanukah; (the center slot is for the shamme); and not only are candles lit each night of the celebration; gifts are exchanged, too; and latkes (potato pancakes) have become a food especially associated with the feast.

And so this month we again we say that "You're so Jewish if..."

- you know that Chanukah can also be spelled Hanukah or Hanukkah, but that it's still pronounced the same way;
- you regularly visit the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage on Richmond Rd., and after viewing the exhibits, you go to lunch at the nearby *Jack's Deli & Restaurant* or *Corky and Lenny's* restaurant;
- you purchase religious goods at the two stores on S. Taylor Rd. -- Jacob's Judaic Book & Gift Center and Frank's Hebrew Book Store;
- you belong/contribute to one of the Jewish

organizations/societies of Greater Cleveland – The Jewish Community Center, Jewish Community Federation, Jewish Family Service Association, Jewish National Fund and National Council of Jewish Women.



- you personally know/knew the big Jewish names in Cleveland's business world – Julie Kravitz (Pick-n-Pay); the Ratners; the Halle Bros.; the Blacks (co-founders of the Bailey Company); and Sam Miller (Forest City Enterprises);
- you listen to Jewish Community Radio, 88.7 FM, WJCU, on Sunday from 7 to 8 a.m.

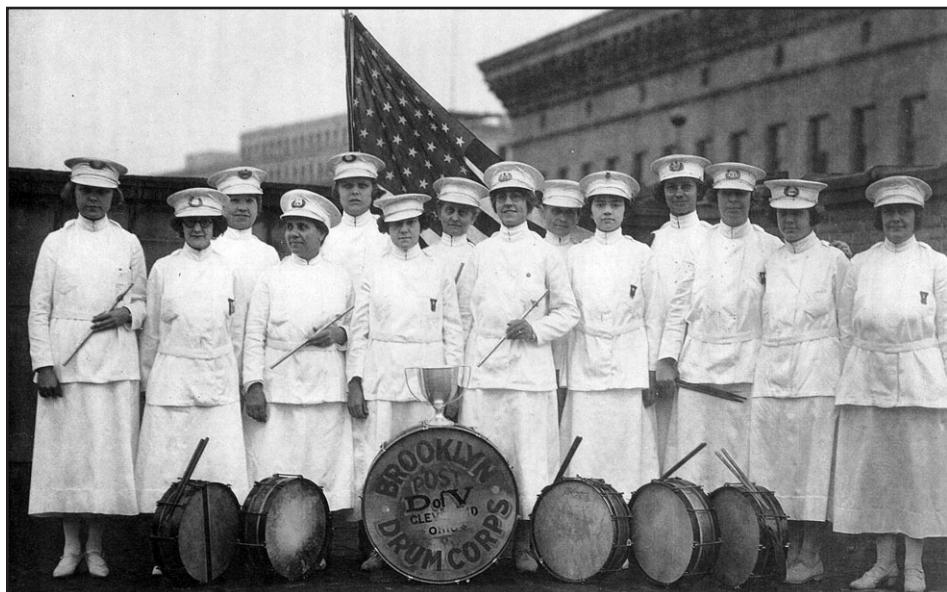
with Tzvi Turner and David Fant and to Jewish Oldies Radio on Friday from noon to 1 p.m. with David Fant;

- you know someone who builds a sukkah (hut or little house) in his/her backyard to celebrate the feast of Sukkoth (the autumn harvest festival);
- you've visited Israel and were especially moved at the Wailing Wall (the western wall of the Temple in Jerusalem);
- you have a seder plate which you use for the Passover meal, and you know the order of the meal (seder means order) without looking it up in any guidebook;
- you understood the meaning of the word "nosh" (a snack or light meal) before it entered the wider American vocabulary;
- your mother cooks chicken soup with matzah balls in it for you when you're sick, (and you know that more things can be made from matzah flour than just matzah ball soup!);
- you prefer potatoes or noodles over rice or pasta as the "starch" at a meal, and consider kugel (a baked pudding of potatoes or noodles with eggs and seasonings) to be a perfect part of a Shabbat (Sabbath) meal;
- you eat "kreplach", the Jewish version of ravioli or pierogi;
- when eating out for lunch, you like to order blintzes (thin pancakes, filled with sweet cheese or fruit, rolled like crepes and topped with sour cream);
- you regularly purchase Jewish rye bread, challah bread and pumpernickel bread, as well

- as bagels, at a Jewish bakery;
- you like to put cream cheese and lox (smoked salmon) with lots of chopped onion and tomatoes on your bagels;
- you love to cook/serve/eat beef brisket; you also like "corned" (seasoned and preserved in a salty brine) beef brisket, especially as corned beef on rye bread or in a Reuben sandwich (with the addition of sauerkraut, Swiss cheese and Thousand Island dressing), too;
- you know all the Jewish delis, butchers and bakeries in Laura Taxel's *Cleveland Ethnic Eats*, including the one in Old Brooklyn, Goodman's Sandwich Inn;
- you also know the best places to purchase the essentials of a good deli meal – rye bread, corned beef or pastrami, dill pickles, potato salad and cole slaw;
- you enjoy eating pickled foods; in addition to the obvious — dill pickles— you also like pickled peppers, tomatoes, herring and tongue;
- gefilte fish (finely chopped fish, mixed with crumbs, eggs and seasonings, formed into oval shapes, cooked in broth and usually served chilled) and chopped liver are your idea of tasty treats;
- you look for the word "parve" or "pareve" on food labels because you know its meaning — that the food item was prepared without meat, milk or their derivatives, and is therefore allowed to be eaten with both meat and dairy dishes according to Jewish dietary laws.
- you identify with what's written in the book, *Secrets of a Jewish Mother* (Dutton/Penguin Publishing Company) by mother and daughters team Jill Zarin, Gloria Kamen and Lisa Wexler;
- you frequently refer to the website, [www.jewishincleve.com](http://www.jewishincleve.com).

If you missed our previous two articles about Judaism in May and September, you can access them online at [www.oldbrooklyn.com](http://www.oldbrooklyn.com). The *Old Brooklyn News* link is on the left. Click on the year and month links, and you will find the articles. (The May paper was a 16-pager; the September issue had the usual 12 pages.)

Since I still haven't discussed all the major Jewish feasts or exhausted my list of "you're so Jewish if...", there will be one more article with this same theme some time in the future.



In addition to the photos from the Historical Society of Old Brooklyn which we've printed in past issues of the *Old Brooklyn News*, we also occasionally receive copies of photos from the Brooklyn Historical Society on Ridge Rd. in Brooklyn. Such is the case with this one of the ladies of the Brooklyn Drum Corps. Call president Barb Stepic at 216-941-0160, or email her at [groundhogsgarden@wowway.com](mailto:groundhogsgarden@wowway.com) if you know "Who, When or Where" they are.

**Brooklyn Memorial** from front page windows are fashioned from extraordinary stained and leaded glass. Like Pilgrim Church in Tremont, the interior design is in the "Akron-style" (with a balcony).

A service celebrating the Centenary of Cleveland Methodism was held in our Brooklyn Centre church in September, 1918. Former Ohio governor Frank B. Willis was one of the speakers at it.

In 1968 the name of Brooklyn Memorial ME Church changed to Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church. In recent years the congregation has made its facilities available to a variety of community programs; even now, it is hoping to be able to keep the building open for those kinds of ministries.

Rev. Pamela Buzalka, "Pastor Pam", was the part-time pastor at the time of BMUMC's closing. She had resided in the parsonage next to the church.

Pastor Pam has also been the part-time pastor of Hathaway United Methodist Church,

6060 Turney Rd. in Garfield Hts.; she continues to minister to that congregation, and has relocated to the east-side to be closer to it.

For approximately the past year, a new congregation, the Westside Anglican Fellowship, has been using the BMUMC sanctuary at 1 p.m. to conduct its Sunday worship services. Rev. David Smith, Jr. is the pastor. He can be reached at 216-502-2058.

The other Cleveland-area churches which the North Coast District of the United Methodist Church has deemed necessary to close are Broadway United Methodist Church, 5246 Broadway Ave. in Slavic Village, and Master's Church, 771 E. 260th St. in Euclid.

The prospect of another empty church building in our neighborhood is not a happy thought. We extend our sympathy to the members grieving the loss of their church congregation (which, in some cases, served generations of their families) and we hope that some organization can find a use for this sanctuary whose beauty must be seen to be appreciated.

## BROOKLYN HEIGHTS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

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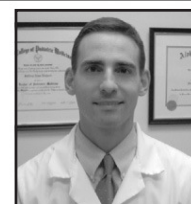
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# FAMILY FUN!

**Art House**

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

**All Ages Family Open Studios** - 3rd Sat. of every month; 1-3 pm. 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. **Jan. 22nd - Cleveland Artists Foundation**, 9 - 11:30 am. Each month Beck Center offers a free hands-on arts experience for children ages 10 & under. More dates listed below & will include special activities in collaboration with Beck's community partners.

**Feb. 19th, Cleveland Botanical Garden.** **March 19th**, Westfield Great Northern Mall. **April 9th**, Beck Center Visual Arts. **May 7 th**, Usbourne Books. Have fun, be creative, & nurture the artist in you & your family in the new year. Call to sign up for classes. Mon. - Thurs. 9 am - 8 pm. Fri & Sat. 9 am - 5 - pm. Sun. Closed.

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

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** Mon., Jan. 17th 10 am - 5pm. Half price admission all day.

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

**Recycled Bird Feeders** - Sat., Jan. 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th; 1-3 pm. Free with Garden admission. Make bird feeders from recycled materials to bring winter birds to your backyard.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration** - Mon., Jan. 17th; 1-4 pm. Free with Garden admission. Learn about plant/crop contributions of African-Americans to agriculture. Children make craft about these achievements.

**Cleveland Metroparks - Brecksville Reservation Plateau Picnic Area** - located off Chippewa Creek Dr, off Rt 82 440-526-1012

**Mutts by Moonlight** - Tues., Jan. 14th, 7 - 8:30 pm. Bring well-mannered mutts or pedigree pure-bred dogs on this naturalist-guided hike. Walkers without dogs also welcome. Call 440-526-1012 to register or for more info.

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

**Tobogganing** - now thru first weekend in March; Fri., 6 - 10:30 pm; Sat., noon - 10:30 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. Cost - adults, \$8; children ages 11 & under, \$6. One time ride tickets, \$3. Thurs.: school & college ID night, \$5 with ID. Season passes -- adults, \$35; children 11 & under, \$25. Family pass (up to four) available. **Student I.D. Night** - Thurs., Jan. 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th. All students with valid ID pay \$5. **Star Light, Star Bright** - Fri., Jan. 7th, free lighted necklace; **Aloha** - Sun, Jan. 9th, Wear a Hawaiian shirt & save \$2; **Dollar Dog Day** - Sun., Jan. 16th, \$1 hot dogs & \$1 sodas; **Free Winter Hat for Your Noggin** - Sun., Jan. 23rd.

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

**Winter Birds** - Sat., Jan. 22nd, 1 - 4 pm. Learn about backyard birds. Drop in anytime between the hours listed. Call 216-341-3152 for more info.

**Bird Sketching - Watercolor Techniques** - Sun., Jan. 23rd, 2 - 3:30 pm. Join Naturalist Beth Whiteley to experimenting with watercolor techniques to capture the beauty of feathered friends on paper. Recommended for adults & children 10 years & up with an adult. Registration required. Call 216-341-3152 for more info.

**Cleveland Metroparks Winter Recreation Fun**

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

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

**Full Moon Frolic** - Sun., Jan. 19th, 6:30 - 8 pm. Naturalist Bethany Majeski leads serene hike through winter woods of Rocky River Reservation; hot cocoa follows.

**Saturday "Souper Supper"** - Sat., Jan. 29th; 4 - 7 pm. While volunteer chefs cook, watch nature video followed by brisk walk, & then "souper supper". Bring own bowl & spoon. Registration necessary; begins Jan. 18th.

**Cleveland Metroparks Zoo**  
3900 Wildlife Way 216-661-6500  
clemet zoo.com

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

**Polar Bear Days** - Jan. 2nd - 31st, 10 am - 5 pm. Whenever high temperature for day is 32 degrees or below. *Polar Bear Day* declared at Zoo. Zoo visitors receive half-price admission on that day -- adults: \$3.50; children: \$2.50; kids under 2 & Zoo members: free. To confirm *Polar Bear Day* at Zoo, visit Zoo's home page or call 216-661-6500 or listen to V107.3, 6 - 10 am daily. *Polar Bear Days* also announced on Zoo's Facebook page & Twitter.

**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.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** - Mon, Jan. 17th, 1 - 4 pm. Art-making workshops, Art Cart with touchable objects, musical performances & panel discussion about pilgrimage & faith.

**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.

**Special Exhibit, "Disease Detectives"**, now thru Jan. 23rd. Includes 3 interactive mannequin patients w/ different illnesses; laboratory for analyzing test results; *Microbe Dance*; *Infectious Diseases in the News*; *Our Bodies Play Killer Defense*; *Infectious diseases Through Time*; exhibit's companion website is www.diseasedetectives.org. Exhibit developed by Science Museum of Minnesota. Included with regular Museum admission.

**Target Free First Thursdays** - Free admission first Thurs. of month thru Mar., 2011. Explore permanent exhibits & watch outdoor galleries where owls, bobcats, otters & more are busy all year. Free admission doesn't apply to school or other groups, other programs or special exhibits.

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

Start your visit to the Cuyahoga Valley National Park at one of these facilities. Meet staff, get questions answered. Learn about scheduled events & places to visit. Pick up relevant 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 & Riverview Rds, Brecksville. **Year-round:** Mon. through Fri., 8 am. - 4:30 pm.

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

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

Starting Jan. 8th. CVSR will be running weekends only through the end of May. 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 for only \$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.

**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** - experience Science Center over winter break...for Free! 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.

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

**Fun on the Farm**, one-hour, pre-school programs; ages 2 - 6; 10 am & 1 pm. Craft, story, snack & a visit to a farm site. Members: \$8 per child; 1 adult free. Non-members: \$10 per child; 1 adult free. Additional adults: \$5 each. Reservations required; call or email.

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

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day** - Mon., Jan. 17th, 10 - 11:30 am. Ages 1 - 5 with adult. Fee: \$5 per child. Learn a little about the holiday, meet an animal, make a craft, read a story & play. Pre-registration required.

**Animals A La Mode** - Sun., Jan. 23rd, 2 pm. Families with children of all ages. Live animals & some kids on stage in interactive & educational show. Different live creatures each time. Cap it off with serving of ice cream. Animal program lasts about 30 minutes. Instructor: Maggie Watson. Fee: \$5/person; children 1 & under free.

**University Circle**  
216-791-3900 www.universitycircle.org

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Open House** - Severance Hall, 11001 Euclid Ave. Mon, Jan. 17th, noon - 5 pm. Free performances by the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra and Cleveland Orchestra Youth Chorus

**The Rink at Wade Oval** - now thru Feb. 21st; Fri & Sat, noon - 7 pm; Sun. noon - 5 pm. Bring own skates or rent them for \$3; hot chocolate & coffee available. Call 216-707-5033 for daily info. Open Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Jan. 17th & President's Day, Feb. 21st, noon - 5 pm.

## Cookies and Cocoa with Santa

by Lori Peterson  
lorip@oldbrooklyn.com

"Hi Santa, I have a letter for you"; "Thank you so much. I didn't know how I was going to afford to take my kids to the mall to get their photos taken this year"; and "This was a wonderful event" were some of the comments overheard at the *Cookies and Cocoa with Santa* on December 11th at MetroHealth's Senior Health and Wellness Center, 4229 Pearl Rd.

The weather was welcoming, which allowed over 300 children to attend this event. All of the children received gift bags with coloring books and candy in them. There were three craft rooms in which the children wrote letters to Santa, created cards with holiday stamps and made countdown to Christmas chains.

In addition to doing craft the children also had their photos taken with Santa (for \$2.00) and were led by two delightful elves to sit and chat with dear Old St. Nick. Santa was given letters and some even provided HIM with gifts.

While waiting for their photos to print, the families were treated to cookies and cocoa in the cafeteria. Michael's Bakery, 4478 Broadview Rd., provided the colorful and delicious sugar cookies the children enjoyed.

This event was made possible through the

collaboration of various agencies and merchants. (See list of sponsors below.) Volunteers from Trinity High School, the Key Club from Brooklyn High School, Cleveland State University, Rhodes High School, Shiloh Middle School and the Senior Health and Wellness Center ensured that everything ran smoothly.

Anyone who would like to a part of the Old Brooklyn Collaboration or be on the email list to find out about upcoming event should call Lori Peterson at 216-459-1000 or email her at lorip@oldbrooklyn.com.

**A Warm Thank You to the Old Brooklyn Collaborators for making this event possible:**

- Kiwanis - Brooklyn-Cleveland
- Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation
- The Senior Health and Wellness Center
- Art House
- The Visiting Nurse Association of Ohio
- Deaconess Krafft
- Deaconess Zane
- Speed Exterminating
- Kehoe Brothers Printing
- Michael's Bakery
- US Bank
- Roger Bundy, Attorney at Law

Also see the *Cookies and Cocoa with Santa* photos on the back page.



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## SENIOR NOTES

Senior Citizen Resources (SCR)  
Deaconess-Krafft 3100 Devonshire Ave.  
(Must be 60 and over ) 216-749-5367

### Mondays:

Chair Bowling- 10 am. Wii -11 am. Canasta - 12:30 am

### Tuesdays:

Crafts - 9:30 am, Crochet Group - 9:30 am, Horse Racing - 10:30 am, Pinochle - 12:15 pm, Line Dancing- 1 pm.

### Wednesdays:

Trivia - 10 am., Bingo - 10:30 am, Canasta - 12:30 pm.

### Thursdays:

Crafts - 9:30 am, Chair Volleyball - 10 am, Arm Chair Exercises - 10:45 am.

### Fridays:

Current Events - 10 am, Corn Hole - 10:30 am, Wii - 11 am.

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

Blood Pressure Checks - Jan. 6th, 20th, 25th, 27th, 10:30 am.

Tues., Jan. 18th., 10:30 am. EMS here for blood pressure, glucose, & cholesterol screenings.

### Emergency Weather Information

In the event of severe weather during the winter the Center will be closed. Call before you leave home, if you do not get an answer at or after 8:30 the center is closed for the day. Also all TV stations will be notified.

### Volunteer Drivers & Runners needed for Meals on Wheels

Senior Citizen Resources. We deliver Mon. -Fri. to Old Brooklyn residents. Only one hour of your time is needed between the hours of 10:45 & 11:45 am. All routes originate from 3100 Devonshire. Please help with this worthwhile opportunity & call Rosemary at 216-749-5367 with any questions.

### Senior Living Guide

Provides professionals & consumers with comprehensive & current information about long term care resources & facilities. Distributed quarterly. For a free copy, stop in the office of Old Brooklyn CDC, 3344 Broadview Rd. or call 216-459-1000.

## CHURCH NOTES

Mary Queen of Peace Church  
4423 Pearl Rd. 216-749-2323

Fri., Jan. 7th - First Friday Mass & Eucharistic Adoration, 8 pm, Lower Chapel.

Sat., Jan. 8th - "New Year's in the Light", 1 - 4 pm. Adult dinner dance to "ring in" the New Year. Tickets: \$10 per person in advance or \$13 per person & \$25 per couple day of dance. Contact Parish Office, 216-749-2323.

Fri., Jan. 14th - Family Fridays - 6 pm. Lower Chapel & Marian Lounge. Special evening for homeschool families. Potluck, 6 pm; rosary, 7:30 pm; Mass, 8 pm.

Sun., Jan. 16th, Cabin Fever - 4 - 8 pm; potluck & family game night; Parish Center.

Sat., Jan. 22nd - Holy Hour for Life, 5:30 - 6:30 pm.

Sat., Jan. 30th - Fri., Feb. 4th - Catholic Schools Week.

Fri., Feb. 4th - First Friday Mass & Eucharistic Adoration, 8 pm, Lower Chapel.

St. James Lutheran Church  
4771 Broadview Rd. 216-351-6499

Wed., Jan. 5th & 19th - Fifty Plus Group meeting, in upstairs Gathering Room. Hot meal, freewill offering with discussion to follow & games afterward.

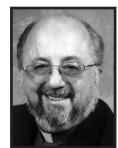
Sun., Jan. 9th - "Cookin for Christ" 11:30 am - 12:30 pm. Menu features beef stroganoff over noodles, vegetables parmesan, New Year's fruit salad & cherry rice pudding. Cost: \$7, adults; \$4, children under 10. Call church office, 216-351-6499, by Thurs., Jan. 6th, to RSVP.

For sale, Corpus Christi closing Mass on DVD; price, \$12. For a copy email Ryan Marconi at greatone117@aol.com.

St Wendelin's prayer vigils - Outside of the closed church, 2281 Columbus Rd., 9 am every Sunday. Dress for the weather.

Update on Roman Catholic Church closings/mergings -- There's not enough space for a church article this month, but lots is happening at Corpus Christi & Blessed Sacrament (& maybe other churches outside this neighborhood). The Apostles of Jesus, an order of priests from Africa who work here in hospital ministry, are in the process of purchasing Corpus Christi's rectory. Details next month.

As I see it...  
by  
Pastor Jerry



Dear Family and Friends:

A new year brings with it the hope of new beginnings. Resolutions express desires to avoid wrong directions of the past and fulfill dreams of the future. Just as the early church lived with a sense of urgency and hope for a time fulfilled by the Messiah's return, we also live with that hope. It's this sense of urgency that gives us momentum to pursue life anew.

Two directions for our journey remain constant, regardless of how people and the world change with time. First, fulfill God's will. Secondly, improve our talents. We do both of these through faithful, patient, hope while laboring with love. It is faith and hopeful, trusting patience that gives us the endurance to cope with life's circumstances long enough to see the will of God working out in them.

Here's to a wonderful New Year!

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

Share the Winter with Our Family This Year.

Our caring and dedicated staff not only provides quality care, but a warm and friendly atmosphere that you can call home for the winter months. Our facility is equipped with private suites, life enrichment programs and most importantly, a safe place surrounded by friends. This winter season, don't worry yourself over shoveling driveways, snowy roads and costly heating bills. Spend the season with Greenbrier Retirement Center!

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## Our Churches Welcome You

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### ANGLICAN

#### Westside Anglican Fellowship

2607 Archwood Ave. (Worship Brooklyn Memorial UMC) Father David Smith, Jr. Holy communion, Sun., 1 pm. Coffee fellowship following service. 440-871-6201 (St. Barnabas office) www.clevelandAnglican.com

### BAPTIST

#### Broadview Baptist Church

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

#### Bethel Free Will Baptist Church

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

#### Harmony Baptist Church

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

### BYZANTINE CATHOLIC

#### St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church

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

### CHARISMATIC

#### Good News Ministires Church

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

### EVANGELICAL

#### Grace Church

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

### LUTHERAN

#### Dr. Martin Luther Ev. Lutheran Church

4470 Ridge Rd. Phone: 216-749-5585 Pastor David W. Bennett. Sunday worship, Traditional service 9 am. Praise service 10:30 am. Sunday school, 10:30 am.  
www.LutheransOnline.com/DMLChurch.

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

5801 Memphis Ave. Phone: 216-741-8230  
Pastors Bela Berhardt & Jan Paulus. Sunday Worship 10 am.

#### Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

#### Parma Evangelical Lutheran Church

5280 Broadview Rd. (North & Tuxedo Ave.)  
Phone: 351-6376 Pastor: Donald E. Frantz II  
Sunday Worship 10:20 am Sat. 5:15 pm.  
Sunday School: 9 - 10 am. Coffee, 8:30

#### St. James Lutheran Church

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

#### St. Mark Lutheran Church

4464 Pearl Rd. Phone: 216-749-3545  
Pastor: Stephen Shrum. Sun. Worship: 10:15 am, Wed. 6 pm. Sun School & Adult Bible Study, 9 am.  
Elementary School: grades K - 8

#### Unity Lutheran Church

4542 Pearl Rd. 216-741-2085. Rev. Peeter Pirm  
Worship Service: 9:30 am. Sunday school & Adult study: 11am. www.unity-lutheran.org  
Preschool/Day Care - Headstart/Vouchers.

### NON-DENOMINATIONAL

#### Church of the Four Winds

4316 Pearl Rd. Pastor Leslie Elston, 216-659-9957. Worship service, (Sabbath) Sat., 12 noon. Every 3rd Fri.; 7pm.  
Shabbat. celebration, teaching, fellowship  
http://churchofthefourwinds.org

#### Institute Of Divine Metaphysical Research

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

#### The Great Commission Christian Church

3232 W. 25th St. Phone: 216-269-0223  
Pastors Lois & Kevin Wolf  
Sun. morning worship 10:30 am. Tues. bible study 7 pm. thurs. Ministry school 7 pm.

### ORTHODOX WESTERN RITE

#### St. Patrick of Ireland Church

4208 Newark Ave.(behind St. Brendan House)  
Phone: 216-939-9186 Pastor: Bishop Simeon Anderson. Divine Services : Sun. 9 am.Coffee & fellowship following service.  
Daily morning prayer 9 am., Evening 7 pm.

### POLISH NAT'L CATHOLIC

#### St. Mary's Church

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

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

#### Church of St. Leo The Great

4940 Broadview Rd. Phone: 216-661-1006  
Pastor: Fr. Russ Lowe  
Masses: Sat., 4 pm. Sun., 8 & 10 am & 12 noon, Mon - Thurs 7:30 am, Fri. 8:30 am, confessions 2:45 - 3:30 pm Sat. www.saintleoscchurch.org

#### Mary Queen of Peace

4423 Pearl Rd. Phone: 216-749-2323  
Pastor: Father Douglas Brown  
Masses: Sat., 4:30 pm. Sun., 8:30 & 11 am. & Children's Liturgy Sun.11am. Weekday Masses: Mon- Sat 8 am. mass. www.maryqop.org

#### St. Thomas More Church

4170 N. Amber Dr. Phone: 216-749-0414  
Pastor: Rev. William G. Bouhall.  
Masses: Sat., 4:30 pm. Sun., 8am, 10 am & 12 noon.  
Confessions: Sat. 3 - 4 pm.  
Weekday Masses: M, W & F 7 am, T & Th. 8:15 am

### PRESBYTERIAN

#### Brooklyn Presbyterian Church (USA)

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

### SWENDENBORGIAN

#### Swedenborg Chapel

4815 Broadview Rd, Phone: 216-351-8093  
Pastor: Rev. Ron Brugler  
Sun. Worship: 11am, adult class Sun., 10 am  
Weddings & Baptisms - 216-351-8093  
A place to find love and acceptance.

### UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

#### Archwood U.C.C.

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

#### Brooklyn Heights U.C.C.

Rev. Dr. Lee Holliday  
2005 W. Schaaf Rd. Phone: 216-741-2280  
Nursery with adult supervision  
Sunday Worship & Church School: 10 am

#### Brooklyn Trinity U.C.C.

8720 Memphis Ave: Phone: 216-661-0227  
Pastor: Sue Tamilio  
Sunday School & Worship: 10:30 am

#### St. Luke's U.C.C.

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

### UNITED METHODIST

#### Pearl Rd. United Methodist Church

4200 Pearl Rd. Phone: 216-661-5642  
Pastor: Rev. Paul Wilson  
Sunday Worship & Sunday School: 10 am  
Coffee Hour: 11 am. Wed. Bible Study: 9:30 am.  
Free hunger meal Thursdays: 6 pm  
http://www.gbmg-umc.org/pearl-road-umc



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**A1 WING RITE SERVICE.** Plumbing problems expertly repaired, water heaters, faucets, drains, leaks. Reasonable rates, 25 yrs. serving the Old Brooklyn community. 216-749-2054.

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

## IMPORTANT!

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

# CLASSIFIED

**FOR RENT**  
**QUALITY TENANT WANTED -** 2 bdrm down. Old Brooklyn area, 3109 Searsdale. Fresh, appliances, dry basement, off street parking. Background checks. \$575 mn. plus security. Call 440-670-6736.

**ROOMS FOR RENT (MEN & WOMEN)**  
 Share bathroom & kitchen. \$340 mn. + security deposit. Call 216-299-5527 or 216-280-7484.

**ONE, TWO & THREE BDRM. APT. FOR RENT -** from \$300 - \$600 mn. No pets. Call 216-905-6328.

**SINGLE COTTAGE HOUSE -** 2 Bdr., detached garage. By I-480 & Ridgepark Square. \$550 mn. Call 216-856-0608.

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

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## More Ohio Consumers Took Action in 2010

Consumer complaints to Attorney General topped 31,000, reaching all-time high

by Richard Cordray  
 Ohio Attorney General

(COLUMBUS, Ohio) – In 2010, more than 31,000 consumers filed complaints with Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray's office, topping last year's historic high of 30,259 complaints. The new numbers were released today in the office's 2010 Consumer Protection Annual Report.

"This year Ohioans sought help and reported problems more often than any other year on record," said Cordray. "My office responded by using all of the powers at our disposal to fight for their rights under the law. We filed 42 lawsuits against businesses that violated consumer laws and were awarded more than \$7.6 million in consumer restitution, civil penalties and other relief."

The year's top 10 complaints concerned:

1. Motorized vehicles
2. Collections, credit reporting or financial services
3. Internet or phone

4. Household goods or property improvement
5. Mortgage
6. Shopping, food or beverages
7. Professional services
8. Sweepstakes or prizes
9. Computers or electronics
10. Utilities

From year to year, the categories of complaints remain largely consistent. However, in 2010, complaints against mortgage companies surged, bumping it up to number five on the top 10 list.

Consumers who feel that they are victims of unfair or deceptive business practices should file complaints with Attorney General Cordray's office at [www.SpeakOutOhio.gov](http://www.SpeakOutOhio.gov) or (800) 282-0515. The office provides an informal dispute resolution program to help resolve consumer complaints.

To review the Consumer Protection section's annual report including a full listing of cases and 2010 statistics, visit [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/2010ConsumerAnnualReport](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/2010ConsumerAnnualReport).

## 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 **Wednesday, January 19th, from 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.

The Old Brooklyn News wants to enlarge its pool of writers.

If you are interested, send us your resume and three writing samples.

Old Brooklyn News  
 3344 Broadview Rd.  
 Cleveland, OH 44109

Call Old Brooklyn News for more info  
 216-459-1000

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 Cleveland, Ohio 44109

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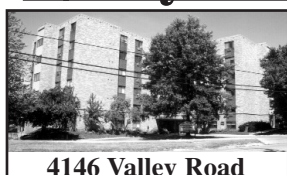
Contact the Old Brooklyn News to run your ad

and also receive rates for display ads.

Ph: 216-459-0135 Fax: 216-459-1741

e-mail: [sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com)

## Valley Road Villa Senior Citizens Apartment



4146 Valley Road

55 & older  
 1 Bedroom \$494 - \$560  
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**Totally Renovated Home in Cozy Old Brooklyn**  
 4365 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street

This completely renovated home is charming and well built and is almost brand new inside and out. It was purchased and renovated by Old Brooklyn CDC. This is a bungalow style home with a good size kitchen and all new appliances including a dishwasher, stove and refrigerator. The dining room is large and opens to a full size living room. The home has all new windows plus the inside and out is freshly painted. All of the flooring is brand new as well.

This home has 3 bedrooms, one smaller one downstairs and two upstairs. Plus the CDC added a full bathroom upstairs. The full bathroom downstairs has been updated. In addition, there is a full and very clean attic for storage.

The basement is totally dry and is partially finished with three separate rooms. All updated and clean as new.

There is an almost totally new oversized two car garage. The yard is a decent size and is fenced in.

The asking price is \$84,500. In 2002 this house sold for \$92,500 without any of the current upgrades and only one bathroom! This is a wonderful home on a great street close to shopping, schools, the library, highways and more.

For additional information, contact Robyn Sandys or any staff member at OBCDC at 216-459-1000.

**Cookies & Cocoa with Santa**

Photos by George Shuba

**The Senior Health & Wellness Center**  
 Saturday, December 11th

See Cookies & Cocoa with Santa on page 9

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