

Old BROOKLYN NEWS

CLEVELAND MADE

Serving the Community Since 1978

February 2013 Volume 34 Number 12

www.oldbrooklynconnected.com

Results of last December's Old Brooklyn Community Survey



The above graphic is a visual representation of responses to the question -- "What do you like best about Old Brooklyn?"

by Jayme Lucas Bukszar
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

The Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) launched a survey on November 1, 2012 using the online tool Survey Monkey; it was advertised via facebook, Constant Contact, the OBCDC website and the *Old Brooklyn News*. MetroHealth also helped advertise it.

OBCDC's goals for the survey were to get a snapshot of how residents and employees see Old Brooklyn; to assess residents' engagement with each other and the community; and to get feedback about recent marketing efforts (e.g., OBCDC's new logo and the commercial district).

As of January 15th, there were 276 survey responses. OBCDC staff compiled a report of survey findings based on these 276 responses.

Approximately 80 of the respondents stated that they work in Old Brooklyn but live elsewhere. Many of them are MetroHealth Old Brooklyn Health Center employees.

In general, people who live, work and play in Old Brooklyn are positive about the neighborhood. They especially like the accessibility of Old Brooklyn. 98% of respondents think that there is good access to highways and major roads, 77% think that Old Brooklyn is a walkable neighborhood, and 74% believe that access to parks and recreation is good. In addition, 64% of respondents think that Old Brooklyn is attractive and clean.

Survey respondents agreed on a variety of issues including:

- 85% view Old Brooklyn as affordable;
- 65% believe there are good housing options in our community;
- 88% think it was a good idea to attract more trades to Old Brooklyn;
- 80% think Old Brooklyn is an authentic and culturally diverse neighborhood;
- 55% would like better dining options; and
- 49% would like better grocery store options.

OBCDC received many helpful suggestions regarding events and marketing strategies that will be put to good use -- finding more venues to publicize events like *Pop UP Pearl* and *Wings & Things Cookoff* and more public education about commercial marketing strategies.

Survey respondents had several opportunities to leave comments and suggestions, and two such comments are included here in italic type --

"My neighborhood has that 60's feel to it. You know your neighbors, you know the kids, and people sit on their porches. Only thing missing is the smell of pies baking."

"What I love about Old Brooklyn is the family atmosphere. Our neighbors all watch out for each other the way it was when I was growing up, and I've developed good friendships with folks that will last a lifetime."

A full report is available online at www.oldbrooklynconnected.com. The survey is still open and anyone can provide OBCDC with invaluable feedback at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XTY2NK9>.

For more information, contact Jayme Lucas-Bukszar at jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com or 216-459-1000.

b. a. Sweeties gears up for Valentine's Day

by Robyn Sandys
robyns@oldbrooklyn.com

When people think about bucket loads of candy, especially the kinds they reminisce about from when they were kids, they might consider heading to b.a. Sweetie Candy Company, Inc. at 7480 Brookpark Rd. in Brooklyn. Nostalgic candy like Sugar Daddy, Slo Poke, Bonomo's Taffy, Razzles, Clark Bars and Mallo Cups are all available at this long-standing (63 years) candy superstore. The 21,000 square foot store has been located next to Value City Furniture since 1997.

Valentine's Day is not b.a. Sweetie's largest selling holiday (It comes in fourth behind Easter, Christmas and Halloween), but people from all around the region stop in to buy their best-selling Conversation Hearts. Sweetie's expects that they will sell over a million of them during this 2013 season. They also have lots more to offer that 'Someone Special', from bulk and boxed chocolates to every kind of candy imaginable.

One of Sweetie's owner Tom Scheiman's favorite Valentine's stories was when he observed a little boy and his sister shopping with their dad for a special Valentine's gift for their mom. They knew that Sweeties would be the only store that would have her favorite. They told Mr. Scheiman that they did not want to get those chocolates from the drug store because they were not distinctive. They wanted a whole box of Reese's Peanut Butter Cups in white chocolate. While the kids were telling this to Mr. Scheiman, their dad's face glowed with pride because his children wanted to do something very special for their mother.

b. a. Sweetie started back in 1950 as Bag-A-Sweet Candy on Brookpark Rd. in Parma. Founded by Albert Tokar and his

brother-in-law Frank Stasny, Bag-A-Sweet was primarily a re-bagger of bulk candy which was sold to local grocery, convenience and drug stores. The bagged candy, which sold for 19¢ to 59¢ each, was delivered to the stores by a network of eight independent distributors.

During the late 1970s Bag-A-Sweet serviced over 250 stores from the original little two-story garage. As the business climate changed in the early 1980s, a lot of the independent stores to whom they sold the candy closed. Interest rates to borrow money were close to 20%, the customer base was shrinking, Frank had already retired and Al was getting older.



Photo by Robyn Sandys

The b. a. Sweetie Candy Company, Inc. is ready for Valentine's Day.

In 1982 the Tokar family decided to sell Bag-A-Sweet to current owner Tom Scheiman. Mr. Scheiman had known Mr. Tokar since he got into the wholesale candy business in 1970.

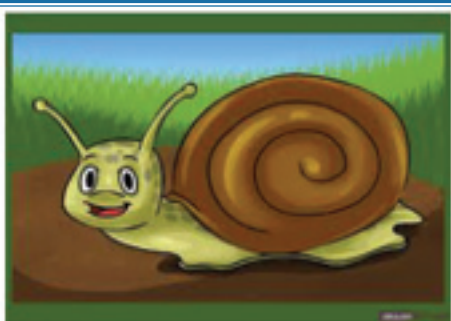
In order to survive, the decision was made to leave the 1,200 foot garage and move to a larger facility that was more assessable to traffic volumes and open the candy warehouse to the public. The company prospered for the next ten years, also opening up ten additional retail stores in malls across northeast Ohio named "Joey's Candies" (after his son Joey).

During the early 1990's, Bag-A-Sweet closed all of the retail stores and went back to the basics of wholesaling, but still staying open to the public.

The company's corporate name changed to b. a. Sweetie Candy Company, Inc. in 1993 with the introduction of the new

See *Valentine's Day* page 8

Join us for a night of great food, snail racing and fun!
A benefit for Old Brooklyn Community Development Corp.



What:

- A "Night at the Races" with animated snails —the first race of its kind in Northeast Ohio!
- Italian chicken & pasta dinner; veggies, salad & garlic stix.
- Draft beer & pop included. Bring your own liquor & munchies/ snacks if you like.

When: Friday, March 22nd, 6 p.m. -10 p.m.

Where: Ampol Hall, 4737 Pearl Rd.

Tickets: \$15 for members in advance, \$20 for non-members and at the door.

More info: jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com or 216-459-1000.



2013/14 Old Brooklyn - Brooklyn Centre & City of Brooklyn BUSINESS DIRECTORY & Service Guide

If you're a business owner and would like to be listed or run an ad in the OBCDC 2013/14 Business Directory, please call Sandy at 216-459-1000.



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

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John Rakauskas, Old Brooklyn architect and resident

Old Brooklyn resident and architect John Rakauskas has made his mark on the neighborhood's character over the past thirty-five years. After falling in love with the setting of Pensacola Ave. and making a point of driving by regularly, he noticed a home for sale in 1978. He quickly purchased it and moved to Old Brooklyn from Cleveland Heights.

John met his future wife, Mary Ellen Stasek, who also lived on Pensacola Ave., shortly after he moved there. (Mary Ellen is a dedicated Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation volunteer, the current chairperson of Friends of Big Creek and a Ben Franklin gardener and committee person.) They both still live on Pensacola Ave. in the house which John bought all those years ago -- and has since added on to.

After working for downtown firms for many years, John set off in 1990 and started his own firm, Rakauskas Architecture, originally on the second floor of the Greenline Building on the northwest corner of Memphis Ave. and Pearl Rd.

In 2010, John moved his offices to Suite C on the second floor of 4352 Pearl Rd., on the southwest corner of Brooklyn Ave. (The office is also home to the Friends of Big Creek, a non-profit group which serves the Big Creek Watershed.)

The first project in Old Brooklyn on which John worked was the Community United Head Start and Daycare inside Pearl Road United Methodist Church. Many other projects followed, including one opportunity to work on the same building twice -- the renovation of Burt's Service at 5701 Memphis Ave., and then converting the gas station into Dina's Pizza & Pub.

One of John's firm's significant clients is Constellation Schools. That association began in Old Brooklyn, starting with transforming three classrooms in St. Luke's United Church of Christ into the original Old Brooklyn Montessori School (OBMS). John also worked on OBMS' move to the former drug store in the bank building on the northeast corner of Pearl and Broadview Rds., and ultimately to the former Dawning

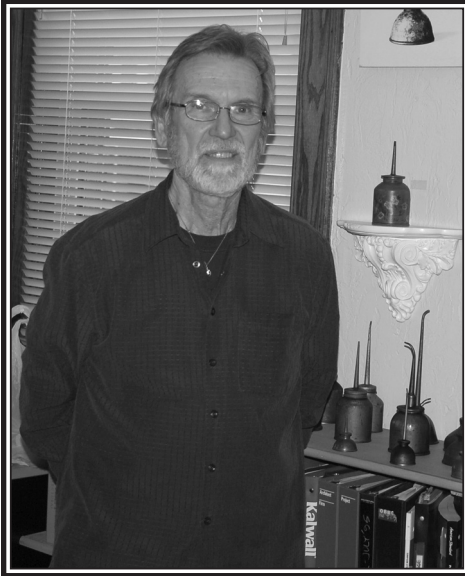


Photo by Jayme Lucas-Bukszar
John Rakauskas, local architect

School on State Rd. (OBMS eventually gave up the Montessori approach and became a Constellation - charter - School.)

John's largest project in Old Brooklyn was the free-standing office building at 4650 State Rd. (formerly Federal Graphics and MK2 Technologies).

Other notable projects include the Memphis Bakery addition; a single family home on Mayview Ave; The Shack on Pearl Rd.; and an addition and renovation at the former Memphis Plaza Lounge, aka, the Warsaw Tavern in the Drew Carey Show. "Drink", a bar located in the former Theo's building on Pearl Rd. next to CVS, will be opening soon.

John describes Rakauskas Architecture, with its staff of three, as a small, hands-on firm that largely focuses on institutional and commercial work. The smaller amount of residential work that they do is from contractors who need assistance and commercial clients building a home.

Reach John by phone at 216-741-5757, or via email at john@rakarch.com. His website can be viewed at www.rakarch.com. (Jayme Lucas Bukszar, Christopher Lohr and Lynette Filips collaborated on this article).

From the desk of the executive director

by Robyn Sandys
robyns@oldbrooklyn.com



February, the month of love for your loved ones, friends and your community, has arrived. All of us at Old Brooklyn CDC love this neighborhood. Three of our staff members live in Old Brooklyn; one lives a stone's throw away. The others of us who don't live here are just as committed to making this community the best it can be.

All of our board members either live in Old Brooklyn or have a business in the neighborhood. Our new Board President, Jeff Kipp, not only lives in Old Brooklyn, but he is also the executive director of LiveCleveland, a nonprofit committed to marketing the many strengths of all of Cleveland's neighborhoods.

We always love to hear your opinions and thoughts about the neighborhood. The front page story that reviews the results of our recent community survey will give you an idea of what over 275 people think about living or working here. Let us know if you agree or disagree or have other opinions from what they are saying. Drop me an email anytime at robyns@oldbrooklyn.com. The full results of the survey are available at www.oldbrooklynconnected.com.

We are gradually getting up more of the new *Welcome to Old Brooklyn* signs. The other six should be up within the next few weeks. This spring we will be working on a new look for the RTA transit stop in front of the Family Dollar Store on Pearl Rd.

OBCDC received a grant from RTA to do this along with matching funds from Councilman Kevin Kelley.

The goal is to complete the project by the end of June. We are moving Pop UP Pearl to July 15th this year because of the construction that will be taking place at that site.

Our really fun March fundraiser that we had last year, the duck races, will now be snail races (not real snails, of course) and will be held on Friday, March 22nd, at Ampol Hall. Tickets once again will be \$15 for OBCDC members and \$20 for non members. There is more information on page 1 of this issue. All who attended last year had a great time betting and being with friends and neighbors.

The home OBCDC rehabbed on Roanoke is still for sale. What an amazing deal, a practically brand new home on a nice street for under \$60,000! A great starter home for a couple or small family, it has three bedrooms plus a small bonus room upstairs and an unfinished attic that would make a great extra room someday. The first floor has a large dining room, all new kitchen and a new half bathroom. The basement is dry and a good size as well. The one-car garage is in great shape, plus there is a really nice deck in the back. For pictures go to our web site -- www.oldbrooklynconnected.com. To view the home please call either me or Jayme at 216-459-1000, or David Fox, the realtor, at 216-789-6890.

LENTEN FISH FRIES

Brooklyn Heights UCC, 2005 W. Schaaf Rd., Fri., Feb. 15th & 22nd - Mar. 1st, 18th & 15th, 5:30 - 7 pm. Fish, fries, coleslaw, rolls, dessert, beverage - \$7.50. Pierogis available additional amount.

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

Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church, 4470 Ridge Rd., Brooklyn. Fri., Feb. 15th & 22nd - Mar. 1st, 18th & 15th; 4:30 - 7 pm. Walleye, cod, shrimp, pierogi, cabbage & noodles & more. Take out available. Call 216-749-5585 for more info. Handicap accessible.

Mary Queen of Peace Church, 4427 Pearl Rd., Parish Hall. Fri., Feb. 15th & 22nd -

Mar. 1st, 18th & 15th. 4:30 - 7 pm. Call for dinner prices. Breaded baked fish, non-breaded fish, homemade pierogi, battered shrimp with choice of two sides. Eat in or take out.

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, 5720 State Rd. Fridays. Feb. 15th - Mar. 15th. 4 - 7:30 pm. Salmon, baked or fried cod, or shrimp dinner with a choice of potato pierogi, homemade potato pancakes, fries or cabbage-and-noodles. All meals include coffee, soft drink, bread, bakery & choice of coleslaw, tossed salad or applesauce. Borscht & other items available a la carte. Children's meals and takeout available. 440-886-2108.

St. Mary's Polish National Catholic Church, 4600 State Rd., 4 - 7 pm. Breaded walleye or battered cod. All dinners include choice of home made pierogi or french fries, coleslaw, dessert & coffee. Call 216-661-9246 for dates & more info.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Brooklyn Genealogy Club, Sun., Feb. 17th, 2 pm, Brooklyn Fire Station, 8400 Memphis Ave. at Radoan. Prospective members welcome.

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation board meeting, 6 pm. Meetings are fourth Tues. of the month; OBCDC meeting room, 2339 Broadview Rd. Meetings open to public for review & comments, but Board reserves right to close portions of meetings from public. Call 216-459-1000 to confirm.

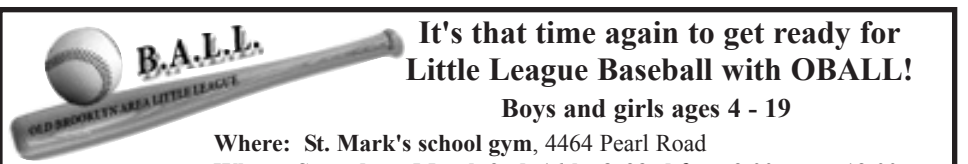
Second District Police Community Relations meeting, Tues., Feb. 12th (& every

second Tues.), 7 pm, Applewood Center, 3518 W. 25th St.

Southwest Citizens Area Council meeting, Thurs., Feb. 7th & every first Thurs., 7 pm, Gino's, 1314 Denison Ave.

Ward 13 Democratic Club meeting, Tues., Feb. 19th (& every third Tues.), 7 pm, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 5801 Memphis Ave.

Ward 13 Republican Club meeting, Tues., Feb. 12th (& every second Tues.), 7 pm, Brooklyn Heights Church meeting room, 2005 W. Schaaf Rd. (near Broadview Rd.)



It's that time again to get ready for
Little League Baseball with OBALL!

Boys and girls ages 4 - 19

Where: St. Mark's school gym, 4464 Pearl Road

When: Saturdays, March 2nd, 16th, & 23rd from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Where: Tremont Location - PLAV Post 30, 1041 Starkweather Ave, across from Lincoln Park.
When: Saturdays, March 2nd, 23rd, & 30th from 3:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.

Cost: T-Ball \$50.00, PeeWee, Little F, Big F \$60.00 (family discount offered for more than one child)
Bring: 2 wallet size pictures & a copy of your birth certificate.

To save time, go to our website and fill out the registration form and bring it in or register on line at www.oball.org - **If you have a parent or relative interested in coaching**, a coaching form can be printed off the website or filled out on registration day.

One free Lake County Captains ticket for each child registered for OBALL Day at Classic Park (scheduled for July 21st). Children must be accompanied by parent, guardian, or authorized responsible adult. Additional tickets for family and friends priced at only \$10.00. Look for more details at registration and on line.

Get ready for Little League Baseball with OBALL! www.oball.org

OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

The Old Brooklyn News
will publish its
March, 2013 issue on
Friday, March 1st, 2013

website: www.oldbrooklyn.com



Submission Deadlines

Display Ads Fri., Feb. 22nd
Classified Ads Fri., Feb. 22nd
News Releases Fri., Feb. 22nd
For information call 216-459-0135
E-mail: sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com

The Old Brooklyn News (OBN) is a monthly publication of the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) and is available free of charge within the community boundaries of Brooklyn Centre, Old Brooklyn & City of Brooklyn. The views expressed in the OBN are not necessarily those of its publisher, editor, staff, or of the board of trustees, officers, or commercial, residential, institutional or associate members of OBCDC.

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Circulation 12,000 Published Monthly

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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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Theresa B. Martin, Secretary Book Chrobak, Treasurer

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Sheila Quealy-Walter, Residential Code Manager
Barb Spaan, Outreach Manager

David Waldman, Program Service Assistant (P/T)
Sandy Worona, Community Outreach Coordinator/OBN Advertising & Sales Manager

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation Board Meetings, are every fourth Tues. of the month, 6 - 7:30 pm. OBCDC office (2339 Broadview Rd.). 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

This month's OBN writers -- Gloria Ferris, Lynette Filips, Ken Kalynchuk, Susan Martin, Kim Repinski 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 - Thursday, February 14th, 2013

Tying the Knot:

Cleveland Wedding Fashions, 1830-1980

Western Reserve Historical Society History Center, 10825 East Blvd. Wedding gowns & trousseaus of those who wore them. Exhibit draws exclusively from extensive WRHS Costume & Textile Collection; highlights wedding attire worn by Cleveland brides over 150 years & other wardrobe items ("trousseau") of dresses & lingerie brides brought to marriages.

Monday, February 4th

Cuyahoga Valley Genealogy Society

Independence Civic Center, Willow Room, 6363 Selig Blvd., 7:30 pm. Phil Williamson as 'Honest Abe' sharing the "Wit and Wisdom of Abraham Lincoln". Contact president Ron Kraine, 440-838-5743, or via www.cuyahogagenealogy.org for more info.

Tuesday, February 5th

Polish Genealogical Society of Greater Cleve. St. Mary's Polish National Catholic Church, 5375 Broadview Rd., 7:30 pm. Mr. Ted Minier, Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) past president, speaking about how OGS's Bellville facility can help genealogists search for long-lost ancestors. Contact John Szuch, 330-769-4603, for more info.

Tuesday, February 5th

Repaving of Denison Ave. Meeting

Metro Catholic School, W. 53rd St. north of Denison Ave.; 5:30 pm. City representatives will discuss plans (starts this year; goes through 2014); time provided for community input.

Wednesday, February 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

Fibromyalgia Support Group Meetings

Get Going Even with Fibromyalgia

Estabrook Recreation Center, 4125 Fulton Rd. just north of Memphis Ave., 1:30 - 3 pm. For persons with fibromyalgia, family & friends to learn new coping skills and meet folks who understand. (An online group may be established.) Call Estabrook, 216-664-4149, for directions, or Eileen, 216-398-4880, for more info. But no need to call; just show up.

Saturday, February 9th

Mardi Gras Night at the Races

St. Mary Byzantine's Crystal Chalet, 3600 Biddulph Rd. Doors open 6 pm; post time, 8 pm. Tickets: \$20/person; includes 10 races, food, beer, wine, non-alcoholic beverages. No carry-in-alcohol permitted. Must be at least 18 years old to attend. Wear beads & masks; best dressed table wins a horse. Tickets available at school office or call Margaret, 216-496-2699.

Wednesday, February 13th

Westside Basket Guild

St. James Lutheran Church, 4771 Broadview Rd., upstairs Gathering Room, 5 pm. Meets on second Wed. every month. In February, weave small wall basket with wire heart hanger to hang by phone for paper & pencil. Cost - \$11; due night of class. Call Connie, 216-749-7912, or sign up on bulletin board by Feb. 6th. In March, weave bread basket measuring 15" long x 4" wide x 4" high, with stoneware embellishment. Cost - \$25. Sign up by Mar. 6th (only 16 spots available for this class). Supplies to bring when weaving -- old towel, bucket, clothes pins, ruler, pencil, scissors.

Thursday, February 14th

Antique Collectors Club Meeting

Busch Community Meeting Room, 7501 Ridge Rd.; 7 pm. Program: Members 'Show and Tell'. Also a quilt auction drawing. Call Robert L. Murdoch, Publicity Chairman, 440-845-7046 for more info.

Sunday, February 17th

Cleveland Polka Association's

President's Day Dance

St. John Byzantine Cathedral, Upper Hall

(accessible by elevator or stairs), 1900 Carlton Rd. (off Broadview Rd. just south of Snow Rd.) Doors open 2 pm; music by Tony Blazonczyk's New Phaze from Chicago, 3 - 7 pm. NO byob; food & beverages available. Donation - \$13; 18 & under free. Call Sylvia or Paul, 216-228-1134, for large table reservations or more info. Everyone welcome.

Thursday, February 21st

Theology on Tap

Love of God and Love of Neighbor: the Voices of Cleveland's Martyrs in Latin America

The Winking Lizard, 14018 Detroit Ave., Lakewood. Presenters -- Brian Stefan-Szittai, Inter-Religious Task Force on Central America Program Coordinator, and Megan Wilson Reitz, IRTF member and Old Brooklyn resident. Social -- 6 to 7 pm, followed by presentation. \$5 admission includes complimentary appetizers. (cash bar) Walk-ins OK but RSVPs preferred -- Lynette at 216-334-1261, ext. 10, or George at theotap-cle@hotmail.com.

Monday, February 25th

Monday Night at the Movies "Dirt! The Movie"

River's Edge, 3430 Rocky River Dr. This year's second movie of a thought-provoking series, 7 pm. No specific charge, but free will offerings accepted. Optional discussion following. Register at www.riversedgecleveland.com.

Cuyahoga County Public Library Brooklyn Branch

4480 Ridge Rd. 216-398-4600

Tips on managing your family's digital photos & videos. Mon., Feb. 25th; 7 pm. Registration required. Call or visit cuyahogalibrary.org.

Cuyahoga County Public Library Parma-Snow Branch

Temporary location 1700 Snow Rd.

(in Midtown Shopping Center, next to Marc's) 216-661-4240; www.cuyahogalibrary.org 9 am - 9 pm, Mon - Thur.; 9 am - 5:30 pm, Fri. & Sat.; 1 - 5 pm, Sun.

Free GED Preparatory Classes

Winter classes are in session; check back later for spring classes & orientation. For more info, contact the Parma City Schools ABLE at 440-885-8797 or www.able.parma-oh.com/GED.htm

Adult Programs this month -- (Unless otherwise noted, registration required.)

It's Tax Time - Mon., Feb. 4th, 7 pm.

ACT Prep - Sat., Feb. 9th, 2 - 3:30 pm.

Parma Snow Saves Coupon Club, Mon., Feb. 11th, 6:30 - 8:30 pm; 2nd Mon. each month.

Menopause: What's Hot, What's Not, Tues., Feb. 12th, 7 pm.

Book Discussions - Mon., Feb. 18th, 7 pm. *In the Garden of Beasts* by Erik Larson; **Thurs., Feb. 28th**, 11 a.m. *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand.

Is Your House Overweight? Mon., Feb. 25th, 7 pm.

Look & Feel Your Best - Tues., Feb. 26th, 7 pm.

Friday, March 1st

15th Annual Benefit

Wine & Beer Tasting & Silent Auction

Historic Grand Pacific Hotel, 8112 Columbia Rd., Olmsted Falls. All proceeds benefit Heritage Days & Olmsted Community Center. Doors open 6 pm. Tickets - \$30; available at Olde Wine Cellar, Olmsted Community Center, Shamrock & Rose Creations & online at www.olmstedcc.com. Call 440-235-0613, 440-235-9277 or 440-427-1599 for more info.

Saturdays, March 2nd, 16th, 23rd, St. Mark's Saturdays, March 2nd, 23rd, 30th Tremont OBALL Sign Ups

St. Mark's school gym, 4464 Pearl Rd.; 9 am - 12 pm.

Tremont: - PLAV Post 30, 1041 Starkweather Ave., across from Lincoln Park; 3 pm - 5 pm. Cost: T-ball \$50; PeeWee, Little F, Big F - \$60 (family discount offered for more than one child. Bring 2 wallet size pictures & a copy of your birth certificate. To save time go to website & fill out the registration form & bring it in or register on line at www.oball.org. See display ad on page 2 for more info.

Free Preparation of Your 2012 Income Tax Return

Cuyahoga County Free Tax Preparation Sites: For an appointment call 211. **Westshore Neighborhood Family Service Center**, 9830 Lorain Ave., Career Center. Tues. & Fri. 5:30 - 7 pm. & Sat. 9 am - 12 noon.

Southgate Neighborhood Family Service Center, 5398 1/2 Northfield Rd. Maple Heights, Career Center. Wed. 5:30 - 8 pm & Sat. 9:30 am - 1pm. **Bring with you:**

- IRS 2012 W2s & 1099s
- Social Security Cards for all family members
- Government issued photo of each person signing the return.
- Child Care expense statement including provider Tax I.D. number.
- Bank account & routing numbers for direct deposit of refund.
- Form 1099-INT for any checking or savings interest.

www.employment.cuyahogacounty.us

Free After School Meals

Estabrook Recreation Center, 4125 Fulton Rd. For City of Cleveland youth grades K - 12. Mon. - Fri., 3:30 & 4:30 pm. Meat, vegetable &/or fruit, bread, milk. Call 216-664-2570 or online www.cleveland-oh.gov for locations or more info.

Tax Volunteer Help Wanted

Become a volunteer tax preparer & donate your time to actively participate to improve our local neighborhoods. An hour of your time could be worth \$5,600 to a low-income family & bring millions back to the local economy. Call Kathy Matthews, Program Director, 216-631-0280, ext. 4124, or email kmatthews@enterprisecommunity.org. www.refundohio.org

Pedal for Prizes committee looking for...

...destinations for *Pedal 2013*. If you are a merchant or know of a point of interest which would be a good destination for this bicycling event, please send your ideas to john@speedexterminating.com. Help make *Pedal 2013* an outstanding event.

Parma Community General Hospital New Outpatient Center

Outpatient Center, 6305 Powers Blvd., located between the main Hospital building & the Parma Justice Center; close parking & convenient scheduling. Open Mon. - Fri.; 6:30 am - 6:30 pm, Sat., 6:30 am - 3 pm for radiology, lab, pre-admission testing & a variety of services including: diagnostic radiology, digital & 3D tomosynthesis mammography, dexta bone densitometry, ultrasound, CT scan, PET/CT, outpatient lab, the spine/pain program. Call 440-743-3000 for more info.

Volunteer Drivers & Runners needed for Meals on Wheels

Senior Citizen Resources. Deliver Mon. - Fri. to Old Brooklyn residents. Only one hour of time needed between 10:45 & 11:45 am. All routes originate from 3100 Devonshire. Call Rosemary, 216-749-5367, to help or for more info.

Report Air Quality Complaints

Call anytime to report odors, smoke, open burning, or fumes from anywhere in Cuyahoga County. To report facility malfunctions, obtain information regarding air quality index, or

take part in citizens air monitoring program (CAMP), call 216-664-7442 or visit www.clevelandhealth.org. City of Cleveland Division of Air Quality has worked to protect Greater Cleveland's air since 1882.

Ozanam Food Pantry

2145 Broadview Rd. (Broadview Rd. & Searsdale Ave.), Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 10 am - 1 pm. Bring photo ID & current piece of mail with correct address. Food & clothing available; no charge for either.

Mary Queen of Peace School

Preschool - grade 8. Register current or new student for 2013-14 school year before Mar. 18th & get 1/2 off registration & 2 chances to win an iPad & \$25 gift card. Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring vouchers accepted for K - 8. Applications in school office. Student Shadow days welcome! County vouchers OK for Preschool. Stop by for a tour or call 216-741-3685 Mon. - Fri., 7:30 - 3:30. Visit mqpschool.com or school's Facebook page for more info.

Ready, Set, Grow Preschool

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

St. Leo the Great Preschool Registration

Preschool located at 4940 Broadview Rd. on second floor of St. Leo's Community Center. Licensed by the Ohio Department of Education & operated according to mandated rules & regulations. Part-time am & pm classes & full-day program with option for extended care for 3 & 4 year olds. To be eligible for enrollment, child must be 3 by September 30th. Bring child's birth certificate & \$50 registration fee; registration continues till all classes fill. Contact school's director Lisa Mersek, 216-661-5330, to schedule appointment or for more info.

St. Leo the Great School Registration

St. Leo the Great School, 4900 Broadview Rd, grades K - 8. Children must be 5 years of age on or before Sept. 30th to be eligible for all-day kindergarten. \$50 non-refundable registration fee required along with birth & baptismal certificate. Pick up registration forms from school or rectory office. For new students grades 1-8, copy of most recent report card also required. Applications for Cleveland Scholarship Voucher Program available. Call 216-661-2120 with questions or to schedule tour of school.

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; also daycare when school's not in session, (inc. summer). FREE tuition possible for every family through Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring Program. School program includes technology instruction in new computer lab, enhanced learning through use of interactive Smart Boards, instrumental music & art instruction, CYO athletic options, & much more. Call 216-749-7980 or visit www.smbyz.org for more info.

West Side Ecumenical Ministry (WSEM)

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Ornamental Products Tool & Supply a neighborhood fixture for over 85 years

by David Waldman
davidw@oldbrooklyn.com

Ornamental Products Tool and Supply, 5105 Pearl Rd. (just north of Brookpark Rd.), celebrated its 85th anniversary last year. The company sells industrial machinery, hand tools and parts to both individuals and companies.

The business was started in Cleveland by Carl Pratt in 1927 and was originally located downtown at 1289 E. 9th St. They moved to their current location on Pearl Rd. in 1963 and have been there ever since.

Unfortunately, Carl died when he was only in his 30s and the business was taken over by his wife Elsie. Elsie worked there until she was well into her 80s. The couple's son, Richard, took over the business after he returned from World War II.

Currently Carl and Elsie's grandson, Greg Pratt, owns and runs the family business. Including Greg there are three employees, all of whom are family members. Ornamental Products Tool and Supply specialize in hard-to-find parts; they can service products dating back as far as the 1930s.

Asked why people should come to their store versus big-box stores Greg said, "We provide a personalized service and will help with any issue." Greg and the company are believers in American-made products and proudly supply them. Walk-ins are welcome



Photo by David Waldman

Ornamental Products Tool and Supply, 5105 Pearl Rd.

to the store and the staff is happy to help with customers' needs.

A variety of vocational and industrial art programs in the Greater Cleveland area are Ornamental Products Tool and Supply customers, and for the last seventeen years, Ornamental Products Tool and Supply has given the machinery that was used for the

Skills USA contest locally. They supply products for a variety of corporations — Ford, GM, Vitamix — as well, and work with the City of Cleveland and Cleveland Hopkins Municipal Airport.

Anyone who needs help fixing a machine or is looking for a part should consider visiting this local, family-owned business. Their hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The phone number is 216-749-5050.

What kind of year will 2013 be for YOUR street?

by Barbara Spaan
barbaras@oldbrooklyn.com



Zero tolerance is up to each one of us. Keep your eyes and ears open, and report any problems — e.g., loud noise, kids on the street after hours, the house with mail piling up on the porch — no matter how small it might seem.

Get involved with Crime Watch. Attend meetings and talk with neighbors; map out your street ID (each address); start an e-mail contact list or phone tree.

Lock up things at home and leave lights on inside and out. Do a property inventory and put cash in the bank and items of greater value in a safe deposit box. Put computer games and/or Xboxes away and out of sight. NEVER leave a house or car unlocked. Close garage doors and yard gates at all times. The harder it is to get in, the more likely the burglar will move on.

Check the doors, storm doors and entrance; can a good boot let an intruder in? Then replace or secure them. Can windows be opened from outside? If so, cut a piece of wood and place it in the ledge or drive a nail in to stop the window from being lifted.

Is the address visible from the street? If not, help the police and EMS by displaying it, because their being able to see it could make the difference between life and death for someone in that house.

Can a person see in the garage windows? If the answer is 'yes', cover the windows or

paint them from the inside so that no one can tell whether or not a car is there. Place the lawn mower, snow blower and other tools toward the front of the garage. Cover and lock up expensive items and pull the car in front of these items to make it harder for a thief to get them out.

With the warmer weather days approaching, check out yard and outside lights. Pick up unwanted flyers left on the porch. Cut shrubs back and down so that windows and doors are clear.

Pay more attention on the way to and from home, such as a car sitting in the same place for weeks or strangers hanging around the street.

If broken windows or graffiti on commercial properties has caught your eye, call the Cleveland Police at 216-621-1234 or me, Barbara Spaan, at 216-459-1000.

We work hard every day to enjoy life and our families; don't give that away to anyone. Our streets and our homes are what we let them be. By working together we can all make a difference and Old Brooklyn can remain the safest neighborhood in Cleveland to live, work and raise a family.

Ben Franklin Gardeners still busy in off-season

by Kim Repinski
BFG Operating Committee Chairman

The snow may be blanketing the Ben Franklin Community Garden, but the Garden Operating Committee is busy making plans to ensure that the 2013 growing season is a success for all. High on the committee's agenda is the Annual Fundraiser to be held Saturday, April 13th, from 6 to 8 p.m. The event will be at Cleats Restaurant (3995 Jennings Rd.). Tickets cost \$20 in advance (\$25 at the door) and include all-you-can-eat pizza, wings, pasta and desserts, along with beer, well drinks and soft drinks. Activities include a 50/50 raffle, Chinese Basket raffle, sideboards and door prizes. Contact Jeff Kostura (216-351-5092) to purchase tickets or to make a donation.

I am proud and excited to be spear-heading the Operating Committee this year. As chairman, I oversee the sub-committees and ensure that plans are made, deadlines are met, and everyone stays focused on their tasks. John Jenkins is the vice-chairman. John, who was the committee chairman since its inception in 2007, is stepping down from the day-to-day operations, but he will continue to provide guidance to the committee.

Lisa Young is the secretary for the Committee. Along with keeping minutes from the meetings, maintaining records and dealing with correspondence, Lisa is the chairman of the Communications Committee. She and fellow members Kim Hageman, Jan Papez and Mary Ellen Stasek are tasked with promoting the Garden's story and getting the word out about various events.

Mary Ellen also heads the Governance Committee. This Committee has already met to discuss the 2013 Rules and Regulations, and throughout the year, it will review the committee by-laws and procedures the Garden has adopted. Jan, John, Mike Theus and Jeff Kostura also sit on this sub-committee.

Jeff serves as Committee treasurer and heads the Finance Committee. Jeff keeps an eye on the Garden accounts, approves purchases and is the driving force behind the annual fundraiser. John and Kim assist him on this sub-committee.

Mary Ellen also heads the Preservation Committee. The Ben Franklin Community Garden is Cleveland Landmark #257. We are determined to safeguard the future of the Garden, and the Preservation Committee ensures that we work toward that goal.

Mark Tapajna is chairman of the Projects Committee. Also on the committee are Mike Theus, Mike Kelly and Dave Kuebler. This sub-committee is responsible for making all upgrades and improvements. They take the initial idea, work out the details and see it through to completion. Throughout the year they are assisted by other members of the committee and take advantage of volunteer gardeners as well.

The Nominations & Elections Committee is presided over by legal advisor (and gardener) Phyllis Crespo. She ensures the integrity of the annual election of committee members. Phyllis does not sit on the committee but is available to us on an ad hoc basis.

The committee looks forward to support from the community at the April 13th fundraiser.

Federal benefit checks switching to electronic payments by March 1, 2013

by Jayme Lucas Bukszar
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

Everyone who receives federal benefit payments by paper check is required by the U.S. Department of the Treasury to switch to an electronic payment option by March 1, 2013. There are two options — recipients can have their money sent directly to their bank or credit union account on payment day, or they can have the funds deposited to a "Direct Express Debit MasterCard" (a prepaid debit card).

To have payments deposited into a bank or credit union account, go online at www.GoDirect.org or call by phone at 1-800-333-1795. When calling, please have the following information on hand:

- 12 digit federal benefit check number
- Amount of most recent federal benefit check
- Financial institution's routing transit number
- Account number and type of account (i.e., checking or savings)

Anyone who does not arrange to have payments sent to his/her personal account will be issued a Direct Express® prepaid debit card. Direct Express® cardholders can make purchases, pay bills and get cash back at thousands of locations nationwide. No bank account or credit check is required to enroll. There are no sign-up fees or monthly account fees. You can also sign up for the Direct Express® card for federal benefit payments today by calling 1-800-333-1795.

The Treasury Department will grant exceptions to the rule only in rare circumstances. Automatic waivers are granted to people born on or before May 1, 1921. Check recipients living in remote areas without sufficient banking infrastructure may apply for a waiver, as well as check recipients for whom electronic payments would impose a hardship due to a mental impairment. Waiver applications can be requested by calling 1-800-333-1795.

Source: www.godirect.org

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What do people like best about the month of February?

For many, it's no doubt Valentine's Day, but other people may not like February for exactly the same reason...

I like February because it's the shortest month of winter; the daylight hours are becoming noticeably longer; the snow drops bloom; the birthstone (amethyst) and flower (purple violet) are among my favorites; and spring begins the next month.

In the United States and Canada, February is also Black History Month. Interestingly, its origin was at **Kent State University**, with leaders of the Black United Students in February, 1969. The first celebration of Black History Month was at Kent the following year. During 1976, the year of the United States bicentennial, Black History Month was recognized by the United States government.

(Before Black History Month, though, all the way back in 1926, the second week of February was recognized by the United States government as Negro History Week.)

After these kinds of introductory paragraphs, I often start this column with follow-ups from articles/photos in previous issues, and that's the case this month, too.

On the front page of last month's paper we ran a photo of one of the houses on **Southfield Ave.**, the street which won the holiday lighting contest which OBCDC sponsored. **Cleveland Carriage Company** had offered a sleigh ride or carriage ride (depending on conditions) to the winning street.

In case you've been wondering, the ride hasn't happened yet. Apparently there was a "based on availability" clause in the offer, and the folks with the carriage say that they've been busy.

On the back page of last month's paper, we ran another slightly snowy, definitely cold-looking photo of the new urban 'farm' which has been coming to life on the former **Memphis School** site.

Imagine my surprise a couple of weeks ago when *Old Brooklyn Directory* ad salesman Tom Sargent came into the office with a dozen brown eggs which he had purchased there! I thought that it had been far too cold for the chickens to be laying - or even surviv-

ing -- but apparently not.

Tom was quite pleased with the quality of the eggs -- can't get them much fresher! -- so when he returned to buy more, I asked him to get some information for me to share --

Rising Harvest Farms now has twenty-two Golden Buff red hens in the smallest of their three hoopouses (aka, a 'hoop coop'). The large brown eggs from these rated 'excellent' layers sell for \$3 a dozen.

In addition, fifty Black Australorp cold-hardy large hens are growing to laying size. Eventually there will be 125 of them on site.

Michael Bartunek is the Farm Manager and **Andrea Heim** is the Farm Supervisor. A sign on the fence on the east side of the property indicates when it's open, usually Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; call 216-965-8957 or email Michael.Bartunek@RisingHarvestFarms.org for more information.

Moving on to some completely fresh news, two Old Brooklyn college juniors, both of whom were graduates of **Old Brooklyn Montessori School** (now **Old Brooklyn Community School**), have been/are involved in interesting international academic experiences.

I asked one of them, **Ken Kalynchuk**, to share his experiences with *Old Brooklyn News* readers, and he graciously consented. And so on page 8 of this month's issue you will find the first segment of a series about his studies/travels last semester.

After Old Brooklyn Montessori, Ken went on to graduate from St. Ignatius High School and is now at Cornell University in upstate New York. He's pursuing a degree in Urban & Regional Studies, and expects to graduate in May, 2014.

During the fall, 2012 semester, Ken participated in International Honors Program's *Cities in the 21st Century Comparative Study Abroad Program*. A group of thirty-five students and four faculty members traveled to different continents looking into urban issues and similarities among countries and cultures.

The group spent two weeks in New Orleans, Louisiana; five weeks in Brazil (four in Sao Paulo and one in Curitiba); four weeks in Cape Town, South Africa; five weeks in Hanoi, Vietnam; (and one week on fall break).

This semester Ken is studying at Cornell's campus in Rome, and that's the location from where he'll be writing and sending us these articles. (I love the possibilities which the Internet provides!)

After Old Brooklyn Montessori, **Terri Slivka**, the other college junior with 'traveling pants', went on to St. Joseph Academy. After graduating from there, she enrolled at Case Western Reserve University and took up

a double major, Spanish and Psychology.

This semester Terri is studying at the University of Seville ('Sevilla'), Spain. She's taking three courses for foreigners ('cursos para extranjeros') -- Spanish grammar; translation; and photography. She's also taking one psychology class.

Terri is not part of a college-sponsored group. The program in which she's participating is sponsored by a non-profit organization,

CIEE. She lives with a host family and confers with students from various universities. She'll be doing that until June. Visit www.ciee.org/home/about/about-ciee.aspx or <http://www.us.es/eng> for more information about the program.

As always, we welcome your suggestions for this column. Email to lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com or snail mail Lynette Filips, c/o OBCDC, 2339 Broadview Rd., Cleve. 44109

South Brooklyn Library makes some changes

by Susan Martin
Branch Manager

Old Brooklyn residents who haven't been to the South Brooklyn Branch of the Cleveland Public Library recently might be surprised by what they find --

■ This past summer, new computers were installed, all of which have the latest updates, including Office 2010; the total number of computers is now twenty. Patrons can surf the Internet, access email, apply for jobs, research and write reports.

■ The Library also has a new copy machine which has the ability not only to copy in color, but also to scan and fax.

■ Since it's 'that time of year', starting in February,

AARP volunteers are back on Thursday afternoons from noon until 3 p.m. to help complete federal and state tax returns. This service is free, but people who want to take advantage of it must call the library to make an appointment.

■ CCA (Central Collection Agency) representatives will help prepare city income tax returns. Call for dates.

■ Free GED classes, sponsored by the Parma

City Schools, are held from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday.

■ Beginning February 7th and continuing until March 28th, *Growing Readers*, a story time series for ages 3-5, will be held on Thursdays at 11a.m.

■ There will be a special program for school-age children on Wednesday, February 13th, celebrating African-American History Month, entitled *Art on My Block*.

■ The adult book discussion group meets on the third Thursday of each month. Call for more info, & join in the conversation.

■ The Library, as always, maintains a great selection of adult and children's books, in addition to their well-stocked shelves of CDs and DVDs.



Photo by Susan Martin

Since it was installed last summer, the new computer section at the South Brooklyn Branch of the Cleveland Public Library is almost always utilized.

Anyone with questions about any of these programs or activities should call the Library at 216-623-7067 or stop in at 4303 Pearl Rd. (across from Walgreen's) and see what's new.

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by Tom Collins
tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

The Target: Cleveland Small Businesses

The Goldman Sachs Foundation is investing in nine cities around the country, and Cleveland is one of the beneficiaries of this investment. Working with Cuyahoga Community College, the Foundation is sponsoring a four-part practical business education program designed for small businesses seeking growth and/or expansion opportunities. Interested businesses can find the application at www.tri-c.edu/10ksb.

There is no monetary cost for the program, but it does require an investment of time by the owner or chief operating officer of the company. That time investment amounts to approximately 100 hours, including eleven full days (one day every other week and some seminars) at a corporate college campus. The course work is tailored to the business using the real facts and figures from the business. Analyzing actual opportunities and problems will produce the plan for

growth or expansion. If a need to secure more capital (read that as a loan) is identified, the program will look at local banks and lending institutions as well as the Goldman Sachs Foundation.

The program administrators will meet with anyone who is interested in more information without their having any obligation to apply. The above website has all of their contact information, or call Jay Fernandez at Cuyahoga Community College, 216-987-3616.

Time to Take Stock in Your Business

It is February again, the month that is well suited for business planning. It is time to prepare the year end financial statements. And it is also tax preparation time as well as time to take physical inventory of stock. It is also a good time to assess the value of your business and property to determine if it makes sense for new investment in your building.

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

As the winter heating bills arrive it is also a good idea to get an energy audit and make some changes to conserve energy and reduce operating costs. Contact your electric

provider for more details about getting that done.

Sometimes you just have to invest in a renovation to make your building competitive, to keep existing tenants and 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 it is difficult to recapture.

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 which recognize that restored buildings have a more welcom-

ing presence than buildings which 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 which may be applicable. Of course there is some paperwork involved which I complete with the owner.

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 February as your planning month. Call me to see if this program meets your needs or if there are other financial or technical assistance tools available which can help commercial property owners improve their property and improve the bottom line.

Column disclosure: Portions of this column appeared in the February 2012 edition of the Old Brooklyn News.

Old Brooklyn Buzz Meeting
Tuesday, February 12th
6:30 p.m.
Wexler's Tavern & Eatery
4555 State Rd.
Call Jayme at 216-459-1000 for more info.

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Cleveland Foodbank Help Center opens

The Cleveland Foodbank Help Center opened this past autumn. The Foodbank has four new full time staff members dedicated to answering phones, completing applications and helping community members access a variety of nutrition-based and other programs.

With just one quick phone call, anyone in the six county (Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga, Ashtabula, Richland and Ashland) service territory can access the services of the pantry, receive a hot meal, or be directed to the produce distribution site that is closest to his/her home.

A person is also able to complete applications for benefits like Food Assistance (Food Stamps), Cash Assistance (Welfare), Medical, Utility, and other programs available through the Ohio Benefit Bank over the phone.

The Help Center is the first location in Northeast Ohio to be able to connect people to the aforementioned program applications over the phone. They have trained Benefit Counselors who can help walk a client through the whole process and understand and navigate the 'system'.

The Cleveland Foodbank Help Center takes calls Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. They can be reached at 216-738-2067 or (toll free) at 1-855-738-2067.

Special program may help with furnace repair

by Jayme Lucas-Bukszar
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

It's winter time in Cleveland again and many will want to stay inside and crank up the heat on their furnace. What do you do, though, if your furnace breaks and you don't have the funds to fix it?

Community Housing Solutions offers a furnace repair program for qualifying individuals to have their furnace repaired free of charge. The program repairs furnaces, but does not replace it with a new one.

The requirements for the program are that the applicant must be the homeowner and have lived there for at least two years. The maximum income to qualify is dependent on the number of individuals living in the household.

You will also need to include documentation about homeownership as well as documentation for income and assets. This is not an "emergency" program so there may be a wait before your application is processed.

Call 216-651-0077 to receive an application or visit their office at 1967 W. 45th St.

2013 Housewarming Program

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation and Cleveland Housing Network are offering free home insulation as well as furnace and water heater work for income-qualified Old Brooklyn residents. The Housewarming Program is available to residents in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood who are Dominion East Ohio customers. Homeowners and renters are both eligible. Qualifications are based on income and household size. The guidelines are:

1 person up to \$22,340	5 people up to \$54,020
2 people up to \$30,260	6 people up to \$61,940
3 people up to \$38,180	7 people up to \$69,860
4 people up to \$46,100	8 people up to \$77,780

To receive an application or for more information call David at 216-459-1000 or email davidw@oldbrooklyn.com.

Free tax return preparation help offered at South Brooklyn branch of public library

by Jayme Lucas-Bukszar
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) will be offering FREE federal and state tax preparation services at the South Brooklyn Branch of the Cleveland Public Library, 4303 Pearl Rd. (corner of State Rd. & Pearl Rd.), on Thursdays from Feb 7th, 2013 through April 11th, 2012; the times are noon to 3 p.m. Appointments are required and can be made by calling the Library at 216-623-7067.

South Brooklyn is also offering free municipal tax preparation help on four Tuesdays -- March 19th, March 26th, April 2nd and April 9th -- from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The municipal tax preparation services are walk-in only (no appointments).

Everyone can receive free tax return preparation regardless of age. Seniors do not need to be members of AARP to qualify. For more information, call the Library at 216-623-7067.



City of Cleveland details its snow plan

From: Office of the Mayor

The Division of Streets will continue to focus on clearing the City of Cleveland's main streets. Once the main streets are in fair to good condition, crews will transition into the residential streets. As always, the goal is to have all streets serviced within 24 to 36 hours from when snow stops falling, depending on the actual amount of snow fall. Work will be ongoing until main thoroughfares are clear & residential streets are serviced.

Parking bans are designated on streets that are identified as necessary thoroughfares for

the transportation of food, fuel supplies, medical care, health emergencies and fire and police protection.



CITY OF CLEVELAND
Mayor Frank G. Jackson

The City of Cleveland encourages residents to:

- Park off-street whenever possible to give snow plows the ability to plow streets curb-to-curb.
- Stay off the streets as much as possible for their own personal safety and to allow snow plows greater access to the city's roadways.
- If you must travel, use caution and remember not to "block the box" at intersections.
- Residents with snow removal concerns should call 216-664-2510.



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: **2.3%**

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or visit www.cashcleveland.org

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SleepSourceUSA.com

Old Brooklyn Junior at Cornell spends fall 2012 semester traveling the world - part I

by Ken Kalynchuk

Last semester I had an amazing opportunity to travel around the globe to study urban issues in a comparative program that looked into everything from housing, to mega-event planning, to community organization, to transportation, to non-profits to economic development, to sustainability... and every 'urban' issue in between.

Something I learned early on in school is that every issue facing humanity this century can take place anywhere, but the battleground is staked mostly in cities. On this journey I tried to soak up cultures and urban environments to the best of my ability and was able to pull out a lot of insights and ideas for what I can bring back to Old Brooklyn and Greater Cleveland one day to improve our neighborhood and region.

Over the semester we took courses in the culture and society of world cities; urban planning and sustainable environments; politics and development; and contemporary urban issues. We also met with speakers from different areas of urban life, went on dozens of site visits and did a lot of debriefing and exercises to connect and compare our experiences. I would like to share some of the experiences I had, as well as the lessons I took away from the trip.

We started off in New Orleans, Louisiana, a city looking forward with optimism towards the future, carrying on with its consistently wacky charm and character.

We arrived there in late August and stayed

for two weeks. Living and studying out of a hostel and the nearby Kingsley House, we focused our studies on the city's topography, infrastructure, history and culture, learning about the strong cultural mix of the city that resembles gumbo... and has a vibe unlike anywhere else in the country, which brings together and melds Cajun, French, African and American cultural influences.

We then looked at Hurricane Katrina and how neighborhoods have changed in its aftermath, before boarding up our hostel and weathering a hurricane ourselves.

We left New Orleans on schedule right after Hurricane Isaac swept through and knocked out the city's power grid. We struggled with this and our program's ability to place us in a hotel with electricity for the last two nights in the city as we left for Sao Paulo, Brazil.

From New Orleans I learned that the city is worth preserving, especially because the disaster of Katrina was a man-made one (The Army Core of Engineers built the levees poor-

ly) and half the city, including the historic French Quarter, is in fact above sea level.

New Orleans also showed me the perils of relying on tourism and consumerism as main industries. If a disaster (man-made or natural) impacts that sector, and the economy is not

diversified, everyone in the city is affected.

New Orleans also has a public education system based mostly on neighborhood charter schools sponsored by corporations. The model is unique, and with some research similar techniques could be used by other cities.

From New Orleans I also learned that in a world focusing on globalization and building fancy skyscrapers that look alike, allowing Starbucks and Whole Foods into a city in the hopes of urban renewal, a city learns its character. A city will

only attract new investment, residents and visitors if it displays a personality unlike any other city in the United States and world.

If Cleveland can find a way to amplify its full personality and charms, and continue to stave off chain stores and 'globalized' neighborhoods, we will find a way into being the most vibrant city we can be.

The most fascinating aspect of New Orleans to me was the strength and character of its neighborhoods. Each neighborhood had strong cultural groups, a sense of identity, a collective history, and celebrated the differences in distinct ways that contributed to a strong city character when combined.

Experiencing New Orleans' neighborhoods inspired me to focus my international research on questions relating to neighborhood identity. What contributed to neighborhood identity in cities around the globe? How are these identities strengthened and preserved? I'll speak more about this in a future article.

Many cities around the world still waited for me to encounter them. Next month I will share my impressions of Brazil - Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Curitiba.

In the meantime, if you'd like more information about the program in which I was involved visit their website, (http://www.sit.edu/studyabroad/ssa_cta.cfm).



Obviously it's not 'all work and no play' in the international program. Ken and a friend have some fun posing with one of the art pieces at an art gallery in the French Quarter. Their classes were held there after Hurricane Isaac hit New Orleans while they were in the city.

Valentine's Day from front page

retail store, Sweeties Candy. In 1997 the company moved to a 6,000 square foot location on Brookpark Rd. in Brooklyn. Over the past 16 years the company has more than doubled its size to currently having over 21,000 square feet.

Sweeties carries the largest variety of candy available anywhere. The average inventory level is in excess of 400,000 pounds valued at almost \$2,000,000.00. They can provide 1,000 pounds of tootsie rolls for a parade, or any type of special event, or a half a pound for your belly.

Today, b. a. Sweetie's is selling candy quite differently from how they did in 1950. They are one of the largest volume retail candy websites in the entire United States. Their web address is GroovyCandies.com and they ship over 1,000 packages per week out of their Brookpark Rd. location.

Although they still sell to the public, the majority of b.a. Sweetie's business is supplying retail to over 125 stores in Ohio,

including Dave's Supermarkets, Heinen's Fine Foods, Pat Catans Craft Centers, and numerous local small grocers.

Tom Scheiman and his wife, Judi are constantly looking for ways to improve and expand. Last summer they opened Sweeties Golfland at 6770 Brookpark Rd. at the site of the former Brookpark Fun and Games Emporium.

In a few years, Sweetie's plans on building a new candy superstore (35,000 sq. ft.) on the same property. (It's next to h.h. Gregg and is in Old Brooklyn.) They also have a new location in Phoenix, Arizona.

If you grew up in the Cleveland area you probably know about b.a. Sweeties. If you have never been to their store, it is a potpourri of goodies. You can't help but feel like a little kid no matter what age you are, once you step foot inside and see the colorful rows and rows of bulk and packaged candy! For more information contact Sweeties at 216-739-2244 or visit www.sweetiescandy.com.

BCN offers tips for bird-feeding this winter

by Gloria Ferris
Brooklyn Centre Naturalists

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists suggests feeding our fine feathered friends in Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn when the winter winds blow snow and ice our way. Prolonged days and nights of seeds and berries covered in heavy snow and ice make it difficult for birds to find food. Supplementing what they can find on their own with a birdfeeder that they know will be filled when it's empty makes life in the cold and damp much more tolerable.

Although birds in their warm feathered suits are probably as warm as we are in our centrally-heated homes, it is also a good idea to continue providing sheltered windbreaks.

Winter is a great time to start bird watching from the comfort of your own home. Strategically place your favorite chair near a window that looks out on your bird feeder. A good field guide such as Peterson's or the National Audubon's will make identification of unknown species easier and more accurate.

Binoculars are nice, but not a necessity. Juncos, Golden-crowned Kinglets and Wrens may overwinter near your feeders and knowing these birds that are not permanent residents makes bird watching more enjoyable.

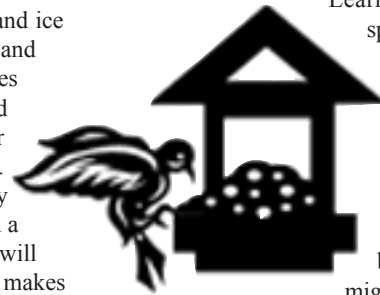
Learning to identify year round species such as Woodpeckers, Finches, Chickadees, Nuthatches, Sparrows, Jays, Cedar Waxwings and our beautiful state bird, the Northern Cardinal will get you in shape for Spring when our neighborhoods become a resting stop on the migratory flyway as unfamiliar birds wind their way North.

Suet will attract insect eaters such as Chickadees, Nuthatches, Woodpeckers as well as Jays and Starlings to your yard. Sparrows, Cardinals and Grosbeaks will eat sunflower seed, canary, millet, cracked corn and chick-feed. Both kinds of birds will eagerly eat unroasted peanuts and nuts.

Be sure to include a water stop with your feeding station. Enjoy watching the interaction between the different kinds of birds as well as the squirrels that regularly stop by your backyard feeding station.

If you put out a few ears of corn for the squirrels, it may cut down on their raids of your bird feeders, but don't count on it. The acrobatic creatures are adept at finding ways to overcome obstacles, squirrel-proof feeders, and the like. BCN would love to hear your tips about how to cut down on these pirates!

Please email bcnaturalists@gmail.com or call Gloria at 216-351-0254 to find out how to make your property a National Wildlife Federation Backyard Retreat.



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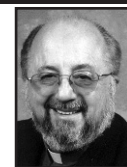
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www.BrooklynHeightsCemetery.com

As I see it...

by
Pastor Jerry



The evening before bass season opened, Jimmy and his father were fishing on the lake. No sooner had Jimmy's lure hit the water than his pole doubled over. He knew immediately that he had something huge on the line. In the moonlight, Jimmy reeled in what he realized was the biggest fish he had ever seen - but it was a bass!

Jimmy's dad lit a match to look at his watch: it was 10 p.m., two hours before bass season opened. "You'll have to put it back, son," the father said. "But dad, there will never be another fish this big!" Jimmy protested. He looked around the lake and saw no other fishermen or boats, yet he knew by the tone of his father's voice that there would be no discussion. He carefully worked the hook from the lip of the bass and lowered it back into the water.

Jimmy was right. He now takes his own children to that lake and in the past 34 years he has never seen a bass that big. But he readily admits that any time he faces a question on ethics, he sees that fish again and has to smile.

A decision to do the right thing always lives fresh and sweet in the memory and encourages us to do right over and over.

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

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

All Ages Family Open Studios - 3rd Sat. of every month. Make individual pieces or family art works. Each month has different theme; Art House provides materials. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No pre-registration required. *Visit website for other programs or more info.*

Brecksville Nature Center / Reservation
(off Chippewa Creek Dr, off Route 82)
440-526-1012

Hand Feed a Chickadee - Sat. & Sun., Feb. 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd & 24th; 10 am - noon. Experience thrill of feeding free-flying bird that lands in your hand. Handful of sunflower seeds/instructions provided.

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

Hours: Mon. - Sun., 10 am - 5 pm. Exhibit areas close 15 min. prior to Museum closing. Cost - \$7, children age 1 - 12; \$6, adults & children 13 & over; free, under 11 months.

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

Nature Tales Story Time - Thurs., Feb. 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th; 11 am. Youngest Garden guests with an accompanying adult enjoy nature stories, songs & fingerplays followed by hands-on activity in Eleanor Squire Library. This month's theme-- winter. Free

with Garden admission; no registration req'd.

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.

Cleveland Metroparks - CanalWay Center
E. 49th St. bet. Grant Ave & Canal Rd.
216-206-1000 or clevelandmetroparks.com

Fight the Frost Festival - Sun., Feb. 17th; noon - 4 pm. Puppet show, crafts & activities with a frosty theme. Winter hikes, weather demonstrations, carpet skating, snowshoeing (if enough snow), sno cones, hot chocolate, bird hikes, puppet shows, cornhole, frosty crafts, cookies, marshmallows over a fire. Call for more info.

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

Tobogganing - Open thru mid-March. Thurs., 6 - 10 pm; Fri., 6 - 10:30 pm; Sat., noon - 10:30 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. **Sun., Feb. 3rd --** wear a team jersey/shirt & save \$2; **Special holiday hours: Mon., Feb. 18th Noon - 5 p.m. Thurs., Feb. 28th --** student I.D. night; all students \$5 with a valid I.D. Regular cost of admission - adults, \$10; children ages 11 & under, \$8. One time ride tickets, \$4. Thurs.: school & college ID night, \$5 with ID. Season passes -- adults, \$40; children 11 & under,

\$30. Family pass (up to four) available.

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

Reduced Winter Admission - Now thru Mar. 31st; both Zoo & RainForest. Adult admission, \$8.25; children 2 - 11, \$5.25; under two & Zoo members, free.

Fairytales & Frogs - The RainForest, Mon., Feb. 18th (Presidents' Day); 10 am - 1 pm. Kids 11 & younger get free admission to Zoo & Rainforest. Dress as a princess, prince or frog; learn about environmental importance of frogs & their role in fairy tales/stories through history. Meet Zoo's frog mascots & princesses. Get Close encounters, learn to separate amphibian fact from fiction from animal keepers, party with Radio Disney Road Crew, listen to fairytales, play games & make a frog craft.

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

Planetarium Children's Programs:

Frosty the Sundog - Sat. & Sun. in Feb.; Sat., 1 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Snow & ice crystals in upper atmosphere can make beautiful glowing patterns, day & night. Enjoy the wonder of glowing arcs, lunar halos & colorful patches called sundogs. Members: free; nonmembers: \$4, with general admission.

One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure Now through Apr.; Sat., 11 am & 3 pm; Sun., 1 pm. Children interact as they watch, drawing constellations & counting time it takes sun to set. Show aims to nurture child's natural sense of wonder about night sky. Members: free; nonmembers: \$4, with general admission.

Cuyahoga County Public Library
Parma-Snow Branch

Temporary location 1700 Snow Rd. (in Midtown Shopping Center, next to Marc's)
216-661-4240; www.cuyahogalibrary.org
9 am - 9 pm, Mon - Thur.; 9 am - 5:30 pm, Fri. & Sat.; 1 - 5 pm, Sun.
Programs this month -- (Unless otherwise noted, registration required.)

Children's Storytimes began Jan. 8th. **Baby & Me -Tues.,** 10:30 am; **Toddler - Wed.,** 10 am; **Preschool - Wed.,** 6:45 pm; **Thurs.,** 10 am.

Heartbeat Afrika - Sat., Feb. 2nd; 2 pm.

Snuggle Up Storytime - Thurs., Feb. 14th; 7 pm. No registration required.

St. Ignatius High School Circus Company - Sat., Feb. 16th; 2 pm.

Teen Programs - TAG Team (Sat., Feb. 23rd; 1:30 - 2:15 pm, grades 6 - 12) & **Board Game Day & Wii Play (Sat., Feb. 23rd;** 2:30 - 4:30 pm, ages 10-18).

Cuyahoga Valley National Park
Happy Days Lodge
500 West Streetsboro Rd (SR 303)
Peninsula 330-657-2909 ext. 119

Year round, daily, 10 am - 4 pm; free. Some park areas close at dusk; remaining areas open 24 hours.

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad
Peninsula Explorer Ride - **Rockside Station**
800-468-4070 visit www.CVSR.com

CVSR - Sat. & Sun. - Feb. 24th; 11 am; \$12. Ride the rails, hike Towpath Trail & lunch or shop in historic Village of Peninsula. For more details & to register call or visit www.CVSR.com.

Greater Cleveland Aquarium

(located in the Powerhouse, west bank of the Flats)
2000 Sycamore St. 216 862-8803
greaterclevelandaquarium.com
Open daily 10 am - 5 pm; closed Thanksgiving & Christmas. Admission: \$19.95, adults;

\$17.95, seniors (60 & older) & military; \$13.95, children ages 2-12; free, under 2. Annual passes & family passes available. Avoid lines by purchasing tickets from Aquarium's Web site & printing them out. Parking - \$3, Mon. - Fri.; \$5, Sat. & Sun.

Home Depot

homeimproverclub.com/kidsworkshops
Build a Valentine Card Holder - Sat., Feb. 2nd. Workshops offered 1st Sat. of every month, 9 am - noon. Free hands-on workshops designed for kids ages 5 - 12 at all Home Depot stores.

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

The "Nature" of Experiments - Thurs., Feb. 21st, 6 - 8 pm; all ages. Fee: \$7/person; \$35/family of 5 or more. Fun-filled show of experiments that light up, change color & explode. After show, explore Center & try experiments. Get tickets early; registration closes Feb. 19th.

Tails and Scales - Sat., Feb. 23rd; 3 pm. All ages. Fee: \$5/person or child; 1 & under, free. "Travel" to Africa & Asia, look & learn about two very different lizards - Sudan Plated Lizard & Leopard Gecko. Touch them & hear about these reptiles' unique defenses & habits.

Mainly Mammals - 11:30 am - live, 25-minute animal encounter for all ages. Tickets: \$2/person.

Noon Stellar Stars - star show that's best for kids 3 - 7 years old. Tickets: \$2/person.

Reptile Revue - 12:30 pm. Live, 25-minute animal encounter for all ages. Tickets: \$2/person.

Monthly SkyQuest - 1 pm; most in-depth star show. Adults & older children can learn about solar eclipses. Tickets: \$3/person.

Animals, Animals - 2 pm. Live, 40-minute animal encounter for all ages. Tickets: \$3/person. Tickets available on first-come, first-served basis on day of show.

Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage
2929 Richmond Rd Beachwood
216-593-0575 www.maltzmuseum.org

Presidents' Day - Mon., Feb. 18th; 11 am - 5 pm. Special program at 2 pm inc. with Museum admission -- Six of America's most fascinating presidents speak in first person about their lives, times & relationships with Jewish people. Have a picture taken with one or all of them & enjoy some of their favorite desserts. No reservations required.

Free Tours of Playhouse Square
1501 Euclid Ave. 216-640-8531
www.playhousesquare.org

Feb. 2nd & every first Sat.; 10 - 11:30 am. Depart every 15 min. from State Theatre lobby. Last approx. 1-1/2 hours.

Quicken Loans Arena, 1 Center Court
1-888-894-9424 www.theQarena.com

Monster Jam - Fri., Feb. 15th, 7:30 pm; **Sat., Feb. 16th,** 2 & 7:30 pm; **Sun., Feb. 17th,** 2 pm. Tickets: starting at \$20; kids 12 & under, \$10. Tickets available at Quicken Loans Arena box office, online at theQarena.com & at all Northeast Ohio Discount Drug Mart stores. Tickets cost \$2 more day of show.

University Circle

216-791-3900 www.universitycircle.org
The Rink at Wade Oval - Open now - Feb. 18th; Fri. & Sat., noon - 7 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. Open President's Day, Feb. 18th, noon - 5 pm. Rink hours subject to change. Bring own skates or rent for \$3; hot chocolate & coffee available. Call 216-707-5033 for daily info.

THEATER NOTES



Beck Center of the Arts
17801 Detroit Ave. Lakewood
216-521-2540 www.beckcenter.org
"Avenue Q School The Musical"
(The school edition)

Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm; student matinee Thurs., Feb. 14th, 10 am. Tickets: \$10 - \$12..

Cassidy Theatre of Greenbriar Commons
6200 Pearl Rd. 440-842-4600
www.cassidytheatre.com
"Funny Girl"

Fri., Feb. 8th - Sun., 24th. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm. Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$20 adult; \$15 students/seniors.

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

Now - Sat., Mar. 9th; 7 pm. Tickets: \$15.

Great Lakes Theater
(at 21 venues in northeast Ohio)

World premiere of **"Double Heart: The Courtship of Beatrice & Benedick"** by David Hansen, Feb. 12th - March 7th. Touring production is prelude to *Much Ado About Nothing*, which opens at the Hanna Theatre in March. **"Double Heart..."** is free, lasts one-hour & is appropriate for all ages.

Feb. 12th, 8 pm, **The Alcazar,** 2450 Derbyshire Rd., Cleveland Hts., 216-321-5400.

Feb. 15th, 6:30 pm. **East Park Retirement Community,** 6360 Elmdale Rd., Brook Park, 216-267-7067.

Feb. 17th, 2 pm, Clague Playhouse, 1371 Clague Rd., Westlake, 440-331-0403.

Feb. 19th, 7 pm, **Lakewood Public Library,** 15425 Detroit Rd., Lakewood; 216-226-8275.

Feb. 24th, 2 pm, **Cleveland Hts./University Hts. Library,** 2345 Lee Rd.; 216-932-3600.

Feb. 26th, 7 pm. **Fairview Park Public Library,** 21255 Lorain Rd., 440-333-4700. Visit www.greatlakes theater.org/education/outreach-tour for more locations or info.

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

Great Lakes Theater at
The Hanna Theatre
"Blithe Spirit"

Fri., Feb. 22nd - Sun., Mar. 10th; 7:30 pm.

Also matinees two Sat. at 1:30 pm & all Sun. at 3 pm. Tickets: \$15 - \$70.

The Hanna Theatre

"Spank! The Fifty Shades Parody"
Thurs., Jan. 17th - Sun., Jan. 20th; Thurs. & Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 4 & 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$10 - \$45

Kennedy's Theatre
"Flanagan's Wake"

Now - Sat., Apr. 27th; Fri. & Sat., 8 pm. Tickets: \$25.

The Cleveland Play House at
The Allen Theatre
"The Devil's Music"

(the music of Blues singer Bessie Smith)
Fri., Feb. 15th - Sun., Mar. 10th; most evening performances at 7:30 pm; also many matinees at 2:30 pm & 1:30 pm. Tickets: \$49 - \$69.

14th Street Theatre

2037 E. 14th St. between Euclid & Prospect
"Last Call Cleveland"
Now - Sat., Mar. 23rd; 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$15 - \$18.

"Joshua Seth's Beyond Belief"

Fri., Feb. 22nd - Sat., Mar. 2nd; 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$20.

"You Say Tomato, I Say Shut Up"

Tues., Feb. 5th - Sun., Feb. 17th. Tues. - Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 5 & 8:30 pm; Sun., 2 & 6 pm. Tickets: \$20 - \$35.

Palace Theatre
"Les Miserables"

Tues., Feb. 5th - Sun., Feb. 17th; Tues. - Fri. 7:30 pm., Sat., 1:30 - 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 & 6 pm. Tickets: \$10 - \$95.

"Blue Man Group"

Tues., Feb. 12th - Sun., Feb. 17th; Tues. - Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 - 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 & 6:30 pm. Tickets: \$10 - \$70.

State Theatre

"Sesame Street Live: Elmo Makes Music"
Thurs., Feb. 28th - Sun. Mar. 3rd. Tickets: \$10 - \$70. Thurs., 7 pm; Fri., 10:30 am & 7 pm; Sat., 10:30 am, 2 pm & 5:30 pm; Sun., 1 & 4:30 pm.

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

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SENIOR NOTES

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

Mondays:

Ez-Exercise - 9 am; Chair Bowling- 10 am;
Wii -11 am; Canasta - 12:30 am.

Tuesdays:

Crafts - 9:30 am, Crochet Group - 9:30 am,
Table Bowling - 10:30 am, Pinochle - 12:15 pm,
Bocce Ball - 12:30 pm; Line Dancing- 1 pm.

Wednesdays:

Ez-Exercise - 9 am; Chair Bowling- 9:30 am;
Chair Volleyball - 10:15 am., Fruit Bingo -
10:30 am, Canasta - 12:30 pm.

Thursdays:

Crafts - 9:30 am, Chair Volleyball - 10 am,
Trivia - 10 am; Horse Racing - 10:30 am;
Bingo - 12:30 pm.

Fridays:

Ez-Exercise - 9:15 am; Crochet Group - 9:30
am, Chair Exercise - 9:30 am; Current
Events - 10 am, Corn Hole - 10:30 am, Wii -
11 am; Pinochle - 12:30 pm.

LITE and EZ exercise classes

Metro Health Senior Advantage sponsors
LITE and EZ exercise classes for people 55
years of age and older. They are one-hour,
strengthening and balance classes, 75% sitting
and 25% standing. (The entire program can be
done sitting.)

Class size averages 15 to 20 folks who
meet at Estabrook Rec. Center on Mon., Wed.
and Fri. mornings, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. There is
a \$2 fee per class or \$20 pass for 15 classes.

It is a very supportive and non-competi-
tive group. Each participant is encouraged to
work at his/her own pace

A doctors release form can be picked up at
MetroHealth Wellness Center or by stopping by
the class at Estabrook. Observe a class at the
same time.

CHURCH NOTES

Brooklyn Hts., United Church of Christ
2005 W. Schaaf Rd. 216-741-2280

Pancake & Sausage Breakfast - Sun., Feb.
10th; 11 am; \$6.

Social Rooms for Rent for Business
Meetings; rental fees negotiable depending on
group size & facilities needed. Call Mon. -
Thurs., 8:30 am - 2 pm.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
5801 Memphis Ave.
216-741-8230

Journey to Joy - Each Wed. starting Feb.
20th; 6 pm. Preceded by a soup supper, 5 pm.
Handicap accessible. Email gloriadeicleve-
land@yahoo.com for more info.

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
8235 Memphis Ave.
www.goodshepherdelca.org
Community meal - last Tues. of each month,
6 pm. All welcome.

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

Men's Prayer Group - Sat., Feb. 2nd & 16th,
8:30 am; Parish Center.

Prayer Vigil - Sat., Feb. 2nd, 8:30 am;
Cleveland Surgi-Center.

Mardi Gras Dance - Sat., Feb. 9th; 6 pm;
Parish Center. Sponsored by MQP Boy Scouts
and Girl Scouts. Call rectory for tickets;
advance price - \$25, person; \$40, couple; \$5
more at door.

Ash Wednesday Masses - 8 am (school mass),
noon & 7 pm; upper church.

Mary Queen of Peace Seniors Meeting &
Luncheon - Wed., Feb. 13th, 11 am; Marian
Lounge.

Stations of the Cross - Fri., Feb. 15th, 22nd;
Mar. 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th; 7 pm; upper
church.

Blue Army Holy Hour - Sun., Feb. 17th, 2
pm; lower chapel & Marian Lounge.

Free Community Meal - Sun., Feb. 17th, 1
pm; Parish Center cafeteria.

Diocesan Celebration of Sacrament of
Penance - Wed., Feb. 20th, 5 - 8 pm. (Every
church in Diocese will be open for confessions
during these hours.)

Ladies Lenten Day of Reflection - Sat., Feb.
23th, 9 am - 2 pm; lower chapel/Marian
Lounge. Free; call to reserve a place.

"How To Hear God's Voice & Discern His
Will"- Mon., Feb. 25th - Mon., Mar. 25th; 7
pm. Price: \$35, single; \$60, married couple.
to register send check to "JPII Apostolate, PO
Box 32186, Euclid, Ohio 44132 or visit
JPIIA.org.

Men's Lenten Retreat Day - Sat., Mar. 2nd,
8:30 am - 2:30 pm; lower chapel/Marian
Lounge. Free; call to reserve a place.

Pearl Road United Methodist Church
4200 Pearl Rd. 216-661-5642
Ash Wed. Dinner & Service - Wed., Feb.
13th; 6:30 pm.; dinner, Fellowship Hall. 7:45
service, Sanctuary. \$3.50 donation for dinner.

Contemporary Worship Service - Sun., Feb.
17th; 11:45 am.

Lenten Dinner with Devotions & Hymn Sing
- Wed., Feb. 20th & 27th; 6:30 pm. dinner;
Fellowship Hall. \$3.50 donation.

Potluck Dinner & Movie Night - Fri., Feb.
22nd.; 6 pm. "Simon Birch". Bring a dish to
share, all welcome.

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

Sundays in February - Sunday School begins
9 am, upstairs in the Gathering Room, with
free breakfast for children; adults, \$2. Classes
9:30 - 10:15 am. Children 3 years old through
8th grade invited to come & learn more about
Jesus. Call to enroll or for more info.

Wed., Feb. 6th & 20th - St. James Fifty Plus
Group, upstairs in the Gathering Room; noon.
Feb. 6th - bring own bag lunch; soup provid-
ed; game day. Feb. 20th - hot lunch served; a
discussion of current events; free will offering.

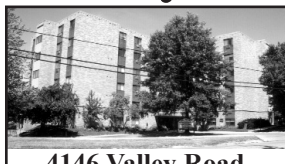
Wed., Feb. 13th - Two services Ash Wed.,
10:30 am. & 7 pm. Both services will have the
Rite of Imposition of the Ashes. Lenten serv-
ices will continue for five more weeks on Wed.
both 10:30 am. & 7 pm. until March.

Beginning Wed., Feb. 13th - Lenten lunch-
eons, 11:15 am. For six weeks following
morning Lenten service; different casseroles
with salads & desserts. Freewill offering taken
each week.

Lenten soup dinners, 6 pm in upstairs
Gathering Room before evening services. Free
will offering taken.

Mon., Feb. 25th - Widows, Widowers &
Singles, upstairs in Gathering Room; noon for
lunch, fellowship, encouragement & devotion.
Menu: Italian meatloaf, Potatoes O'Brien, sal-
ads & desserts. Cost - \$3; bring a friend.

Valley Road Villa Senior Citizens Apartment



4146 Valley Road

55 & older
1 Bedroom \$494 - \$560
2 Bedrooms \$608 - \$689

Call (216) 398-4430 TTY 800-750-7300
for more information

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BAPTIST

Bethel Free Will Baptist Church

3354 Fulton Rd., 216-631-9199 Rev.
Freddie Ray, 216-355-2137. Sun. Schl: 10 am.
Ser: 10:30 am, Sun. eve. serv: 6 pm. Thurs.
eve. Bible Study, 7 pm. Good gospel singing
& preaching Free bread give-away, 2nd &
4th Sat. of the month, 10 - 11 am.

Harmony Baptist Church

4020 Ridge Rd., Brooklyn, Pastor: David
Wojnarowski. Phone. 216-351-3740
Sunday Worship: 11 am & 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,
10 am; Holy days, 9 am. Crystal Chalet
Phone: 216-749-4504
School #: 216-749-7980 Pre-School #: 216-351-8121

CHARISMATIC

Good News Ministries 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.197.
Fri. 6:30 pm, Ch 21 Time Warner Channel.

EVANGELICAL

Grace Church

2503 Broadview Rd. & W. 28th St.; 216-661-8210
Pastor: Charlie Collier
Sunday: Bible Study 9 am. Sun. Worship 10 am.
Wednesday: Dinner 6:30 pm., Kid's Church &
Adult classes 7 - 8 pm.
Thursday: Youth Night 7 - 8:30 pm.
Website: graceoldbrooklyn.org

Gospel Christians Church

4780 W. 11th St.; 216 459-2855
Pastor: Will Rothenbusch
Sunday School: 10 am
Worship Service Sundays 11 am.

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 Bernhardt & Jon Paulus. Sunday
Worship 10 am. gloriadeicleveland.org email:
gloriadeicleveland@yahoo.com

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd ELCA

8235 Memphis Ave. 216-661-9818. James D.
Eckert, Pastor. Sun., Worship Sun: 10:15 am;
Sun. Schl. 9 am. www.goodshepherdelca.org

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.

Unity Lutheran Church

4542 Pearl Rd. 216-741-2085. Rev. Peeter
Pirm SundayWorship: 9:30 am. & 7 pm.
Sunday School & Adult Bible Study: 11am.
www.unity-lutheran.org
www.twitter.com/@unitycleveland

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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!

POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC

St. Mary's Church

5375 Broadview Rd at Wexford, Parma
Pastor: Rev. Stanley Bilinski
Phone: 216-741-8154 Sunday Masses: 9 am
English, 11 am Polish/English Holydays: 10 am
Sunday School: 10 am www.stmaryspncc.com

ROMAN CATHOLIC

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. Barbara Church

1505 Denison Ave. Phone: 216-661-1191
Masses: Sat., Vigil 4:30 pm. Sun., 9 am
English, 11:30 am Polish. confessions: Sat.,
3:45 - 4:15 pm. Weekday Mon. - Fri. 7:30 am.

St. Leo The Great

4940 Broadview Rd. Phone: 216-661-1006
Pastor: Fr. Russell P. Lowe
Masses: Sat., 4 pm. Sun., 8 & 10 am & 12 noon,
Children's Liturgy of the Word, Sun. 10 am.
Mon - Thurs 7:30 am, Fri. 8:30 am, confessions
2:45 - 3:30 pm Sat. www.saintleoschurch.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: Mon. thru Fri; 7 & 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

SWEDENBORGIAN

Swedenborg Chapel

4815 Broadview Rd, Phone: 216-351-8093
Pastor: Rev. Nadine Cotton
Sun. Worship: 11am, adult class Sun., 10 am
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Rev. Sara Ross Pastor
Sunday: 11 am (ASL Interpreted)
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Sunday School 10 am. Multicultural Open &
Affirming. www.archwooducc.org

Brooklyn Heights U.C.C.

Pastor: Rev. Kenneth Morris
2005 W. Schaaf Rd. Phone: 216-741-2280
Nursery with adult supervision
Sunday Worship & Church School: 10 am
Preschool: 3 yr. olds, Tues. & Thurs., 4 yr
olds, Mon. Wed., & Fri.

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 meals 1st & 2nd Thurs., 6 pm &
last two Sun., 5 pm.
http://www.gbgm-umc.org/pearl-road-umc

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JAZZERCISE FITNESS CLASSES - ONE MONTH FREE with purchase of 2 months = \$40 savings. **Brooklyn Hts. Community Ctr.** AM/PM classes; loispowers@hotmail.com or call 330-468-6637. **Brooklyn Rec. Ctr.** PM/week-end classes; marisajazz@yahoo.com or call 216-408-2969. New students only.

HOME IMPROVEMENT
JOE GIGANTE & SONS - driveways, waterproofing, basement remodeling, masonry, garages, room additions, total home renovation, light demolition, emergency sewer repair. Residential/Commercial. Free estimates, senior discounts. Licensed, Bonded, Insured. Call 216-351-0000.

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 Share bathroom & kitchen. \$340 mn. + security deposit. Call 216-299-5527 or 216-280-7484.

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FOR SALE
TWO CEMETERY PLOTS - Located in Sunset Memorial Park, No. Olmsted. If interested call Maryann at 216-398-4586. Will give more details at time of call.

WANTED
ELECTRICAL TOY TRAINS & ACCESSORIES WANTED - Any make or age. Cash paid for trains, accessories or parts. Lionel, American Flyer, Ives, Marx, LGB, "Also buying Boy Scout Items"; call 216-375-4426.

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— Senior (62+) \$10	— Senior Couple \$20												
— Students \$10													
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— NonProfit/Church \$25	— Small Business/Professional \$50								
— Business > 20 employees \$100									
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OBCDC answers WiFi Question of the Month

Question: (from Tabitha on Wichita.)

I am able to connect to the Wi-Fi network outside of my house. Connection is good both on my porch and in the yard. However I am not able to connect inside my home. I understand that an antenna may help me connect inside. How can I test one of the recommended boosting antennas without buying one first, to see if that helps?

Answer:

This is a great question. Since the

beginning of the Wi-Fi project, OBCDC has offered what we call the "Lending Library". Residents are able to borrow one of the antennas for one or two weeks from this Lending Library. They are required to leave a refundable deposit, ranging from \$40 to \$80 depending on the antenna, at the time that they pick up the antenna.

Contact Christopher at the OBCDC office 216-459-1000 or Ed on the support line 440-941-3705 for more details.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN COMMUNITY GARDEN 4TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

April 13TH, 6 - 8 pm

Cleats Club Seat Grille
3995 Jennings Road, Cleveland, Ohio

Tickets - \$20.00 in advance
\$25.00 at the door

- Wings, pizza, pasta & cupcakes
- Beer, well drinks, & soft drinks
- Chinese raffle, side boards, 50/50 raffle, door prizes

Join your friends and fellow gardeners and have a great time, and help support Old Brooklyn's "community" garden.

For tickets or to donate to the raffle, contact Jeff Kostura - 216.218.4095



Fred's Breads Cash Mob!

What: Bring & spend at least \$10!

When: Saturday, February 16th - Noon

Where: Fred's Breads, 2330 Broadview Rd.

For more info contact Jayme @ 216-459-1000 or jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

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