

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation conducts annual meeting

by Robyn Sandys
robyns@oldbrooklyn.com

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) is 38 years old having incorporated in 1975. On October 24th the organization celebrated by holding an annual meeting for members and the general public.

The agenda included opening remarks by Board president Jeff Kipp. He reviewed highlights from the past year while Robyn Sandys, the executive director, went into more detail regarding program accomplishments.

Councilman Tony Brancatelli was also present and complimented OBCDC on their programs and services. He also mentioned that for the past several years OBCDC has scored high by the City of Cleveland in terms of accomplishments and quality of operations for funding received through the City's Community Development Block Grant contract.

Robyn Sandys thanked the staff, Board and City Council as well as all other supporters for their dedication and hard work. She also discussed how the organization reached approximately 7,000 people throughout the year through events, meetings and assistance around housing, commercial development and safety issues.

A major program of OBCDC is housing and commercial code compliance. OBCDC is responsible for surveying every building in its service area for potential code viola-

tions in cooperation with the City's Building and Housing Department. Over 3,000 housing and 107 commercial buildings were surveyed this past year.

Ms. Sandys went on to explain that the goal of this program is to help owners avoid housing court by having OBCDC work with them to repair their code issues. This is accomplished through referring people to various loan and grant programs the City of Cleveland has available as well as to other local agencies.

The Housing Team at OBCDC takes it over from there and walks the owners through the process of how to gain financial assistance to repair a home. Ms. Sandys also highlighted OBCDC's outreach program around neighborhood safety through the many block groups and special programs the Crime Watch program delivers each year. The other programs she highlighted were:

Vacant housing purchase, rehab and sell whereby the CDC purchases homes, rehabs them and sells them to mainly local residents at an affordable price. Seven homes were completed or are in process since the end of the fiscal year.

There were 17 new businesses which started along the Pearl, Broadview, Memphis and Fulton corridors this past year. This is a major record for Old Brooklyn. The CDC staff work hard to attract new business and often provided the technical assistance needed to start or expand a business in Old Brooklyn. There are several food establishments: **Drink, bar & grill**, The

Shack, China Wok, Monkey Bar & Grill; Suzies Restaurant and Gelato Star.

Other new establishments are:

Food Peddler Farm Market; Sassy Silhouette (a plus-size consignment shoppe); Autos Direct Online; My Familyography; Certified Laptop Repair; Five Feathers; The Cleveland Shaolin Kung Fu Academy; Magic, the Gathering; and

Rising Harvest Farm, a program of Kononia group homes.

A few more businesses will be opening soon: **The Coney Company**, a family place for hot dogs and more; **Buckeye Dental Clinic**; and **Cake Royale** (a bakery).

For the sixth year in a row, the Ben Franklin Community Garden received a blue ribbon in the Best Community Garden category at the Cuyahoga County Fair in August.

Old Brooklyn Wi-Fi is going strong with over 20,000 people at day connecting to Old Brooklyn Connected through the use of the Wi-Fi. This past summer and fall the



Photo by Sheila Quealy Walter

Jeff Kipp, Board president, Robyn Sandys, OBCDC Executive Director; Tony Brancatelli, Ward 12 Councilman

CDC also participated in RET3, a nonprofit which provides very inexpensive refurbished laptop and desktop computers to residents who had school age children or were seniors over 65. To date over 110 have been distributed. For further information about this ongoing program is ongoing, call Jayme or Dave at 216-459-1000.

For the past two years OBCDC has distributed dictionaries for elementary age children to all third graders in its service area through a grant from Neighborhood Connections in association with the *Old Brooklyn Buzz*.

See Annual Meeting page 2

Art House to host second annual "Short and Sweet Holiday Shop"

by Gloria Ferris
Brooklyn Centre Naturalists

Once again, Brooklyn Centre Naturalists will partner with Art House and a committee of local residents to transform the Art House studio into a pop-up store called "The Short and Sweet Holiday Shop".

This special and unique holiday shop will "pop-up" in the blink of an eye on Friday, December 6th. It will be here for two week-ends and then it will disappear on Sunday, December 15. The shop days will be Friday, December 6th; Saturday, December 7th; and Sunday, December 8th; and



Picture courtesy of Gloria Ferris

Friday December 13th, Saturday, December 14th and Sunday, December 15th. The shop hours on Fridays will be from 4 to 8 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Art House studio, 3119 Denison Ave., will again be transformed into a "shop" by a committee of local residents who

See *Holiday Shop* page 4

St. Augustine Church's Thanksgiving meal also to be served at Mary Queen of Peace

by Fr. Doug Brown, Pastor
Mary Queen of Peace Parish

St. Augustine Church in Tremont has long been known as a place at which anyone can receive a hot, nutritious meal. With food provided daily for the needy, the caring staff and volunteers of St. Augustine provide a necessary service to Cleveland's hungry.

On Thanksgiving Day, an American holiday dedicated to giving thanks and sharing a meal, St. Augustine Hunger Center has expanded their outreach to numerous meal sites throughout Northeast Ohio.

And this year, St. Augustine's Thanksgiving meal will be coming to Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Parish (MQP), 4423 Pearl Rd. Mary Queen of Peace is the parish which was formed from the merger of the former Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Thanks to the generosity of St. Augustine benefactors, from 11 am until 1 pm on Thanksgiving (Thursday, November 28th), a traditional turkey dinner will be provided to anyone who wants to partake of it. The meal will be served in the upper hall of MQP's Parish Center; use the front doors to access it. MQP volunteers will serve the meal and help with set-up and clean-up.

Enjoy a turkey dinner and fellowship within the neighborhood! For more information about the St. Augustine Thanksgiving Day meal at Mary Queen of Peace, call 216-749-2323.

Mary Queen of Peace Parish offers its own "Community Meal" on the third Sunday of every month, when a hot meal is served to approximately 100-125 people. The volunteers who assist with MQP's monthly Community Meal felt that it was important to offer a meal on Thanksgiving Day, and that's how Old Brooklyn became one of the neighborhoods in which St. Augustine's Thanksgiving dinners are being served.

Don't Forget
Cookies and Cocoa with Santa
Coming in December

MetroHealth's Old Brooklyn Health Center
4229 Pearl Rd.
at Devonshire

See next month's *Old Brooklyn News* for more information

4th Annual
Pop UP Pearl
& Bicentennial Celebration
Saturday, May 17, 2014

Help us make our Bicentennial Celebration Great! We are putting together a planning committee. All are welcome to join.

When: Monday, Nov 18 at 5:30PM
Where: 2339 Broadview Road

What: Help us plan the 2014 Pop UP Pearl & Bicentennial Celebration

216.459.1000

VOTE ON ELECTION DAY
Tues. Nov. 5th

The polls will be open for voting from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Bring identification:
A valid, state issued photo ID card, driver's license or military identification. A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name & current address.

INSIDE THE OBN

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From the desk of the executive director

by Robyn Sandys
robyns@oldbrooklyn.com

November is here which means Thanksgiving and the holiday season close behind. It is always hard to believe how fast time flies. Each time I write these columns it seems like only a few weeks since I wrote the one for the month before.

In October the Old Brooklyn Collaborators in partnership with OBCDC held another successful *Fall-O-Ween* event at MetroHealth's Old Brooklyn Campus. Unfortunately the weather didn't cooperate but that didn't stop over 500 young people from enjoying a great day of fun, food and music indoors instead of outside.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who made the event possible, especially Art House, a gem of a nonprofit located in Brooklyn Centre on Denison Ave. They provided a lot of assistance on the art projects as they have each year.

Coming up in December is *Cookies and Cocoa with Santa* also to be held at MetroHealth. Please check the December issue of the *Old Brooklyn News* or our Facebook page for the date and details. This is another Collaborators event that is so much fun

for the entire family with photos with Santa and much more!

OBCDC held its annual meeting October 24th with about 40 people attending. On the front page of the paper there is an extensive article covering what was discussed at the meeting.

We have another wonderful home for sale at 4107 W. 48th St. It is a great family home that has three good-size bedrooms and one-and-a-half bathrooms. All has been updated with wood floors in the dining room and ceramic tile in the kitchen. The half-bath is downstairs on the main level and the full bath is upstairs. It looks and feels just like a brand new fresh home. The garage is a one-car garage with an extra storage area attached. Even the garage was updated with a new roof and door. A really nice deck can be reached from the dining room through new sliding glass doors. This is a must see home in a great neighborhood just two blocks from Brookside Reservation and the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Plus there is easy access to I-71 about a half mile away. For more information call either Robyn or Jayme at 459-1000 or email at robyns@oldbrooklyn.com. The asking price is \$89,500.



Timothy Januska

Owner of Old Brooklyn Flooring Co.

Although he has only been in his storefront location for one year, Timothy/Tim Januska, owner of Old Brooklyn Flooring Co., 2147 Broadview Rd., has been selling flooring in Old Brooklyn for 28 years. He operated a home-based business owner before that. Tim grew up in Old Brooklyn and he and his wife Dana still live in the neighborhood. Their children are Kyle and Heather; they also have a four year old grandson Michael.

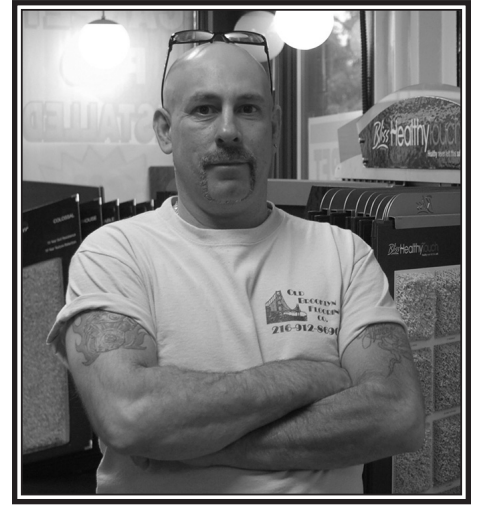
Having a storefront has given Old Brooklyn Flooring Co. more exposure and more opportunities to interact with the community. When considering different locations, Tim knew that he wanted to stay in Old Brooklyn. "I have been here my whole life and definitely wanted to keep my business here. Old Brooklyn is accessible to everywhere and has wonderful people. It's just home."

Tim grew up on Galion Ave. and attended Benjamin Franklin Elementary School, Charles A. Mooney Elementary School, and James Ford Rhodes High School. He personally does installations, and is a Certified Flooring Installer (certification through The International Certified Flooring Installers Association). He is an annual sponsor of OBALL (Old Brooklyn Area Little League) teams.

(Tim remembers when his current storefront at 2147 Broadview Rd. was Busch's Drug Store, equipped with a traditional soda fountain. The building was actually a drug store for many decades, including

being a *Scott's Broadview Pharmacy* in the 1940s.)

One of the biggest challenges of running a home-based flooring business is the difficulty of traveling with a variety of options. Tim strongly feels he can offer his customers even better products and service in his new storefront. He adds that Old Brooklyn



Timothy Januska
Photo and article by Jayme Lucas-Bukszar

Flooring Co. is truly a family affair because his wife Dana works at the store on Saturdays while he is out installing flooring. In addition to Tim and Dana, there are employees Dave, Jimmy, and Josh. Dave is the sales person during the week.

Old Brooklyn Flooring Co. sells a variety of carpets, tile, laminate and hardwood flooring at a range of prices. Their current special is carpet and pad installed for \$10.88 per yard, or \$1.21 sq. ft. They also sell area rugs and remnants. Their hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday; they are closed on Sunday and Wednesday. Old Brooklyn Flooring Co. can be reached at 216-912-8690.

Annual Meeting from front page

Salad for Seniors was a new program this past year through which about 75 seniors received a lettuce seeds and tomato and pepper plants for container gardens. This was also accomplished through a grant from Neighborhood Connections in association with the *Old Brooklyn Buzz*.

OBCDC received a grant from RTA to refurbish the bus stop at the corner of Pearl and Broadview roads in front of the Family Dollar store. One unique aspect of the stop are two specially made zoo animals which were made to be bike racks by a local company called Rustbelt Designs. This site also includes a kiosk where there will soon be a map and information about Old Brooklyn and OBCDC. A flyer was distributed at the meeting which was a smaller version of the new kiosk information.

OBCDC sponsored many special events this past year, some in partnership with the Old Brooklyn Collaborators. The second annual *Wings and Things* was held in June,

with this year's winner being Bella Pizza's garlic wings. The third annual *Pop UP Pearl*, held in July, was again a success. *Bridging the Distance* 5K run was held in August.

Each year the Old Brooklyn Collaborators do a wonderful job with two events — *Fall-O-Ween* and *Cookies and Cocoa with Santa*. These are both done in partnership with the MetroHealth System and OBCDC as well as several other local businesses and institutions.

There are new *Welcome to Old Brooklyn* signs at the seven major entry points in Old Brooklyn thanks to Tax Increment Funds (TIF) which OBCDC receives through the City's Economic Development Department. This same funding provided for two years in a row the *Clean and Safe* program whereby the streets in the downtown area were kept tidy during the summer and early fall both years.

The TIF funds were also used for OBCDC's first business plan contest. There were nearly how many eighteen very good entries. The winner, Auto Direct Online,

received a grant for \$25,000 to help with starting of an auto repair division.

A colorful mural was designed and painted on the Cleveland Maennerchor building, 4515 State Rd., thanks to a special program called *Mural My Cleveland* which OBCDC applied for this past year.

OBCDC received a record \$14,000 in local sponsorships for community events. Leading the way was MetroHeath. Also providing significant funds were Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and Autos Direct Online.

Finally, 2014 will be Old Brooklyn's 200th birthday. Several events are being planned for the celebration, culminating during the weekend of *Pedal for Prizes* and *Pop UP Pearl* the third weekend in May.

The main item that members voted on at the meeting was the election of new board members, renewal of terms and/or a change in current members' status on the Board. Newly elected Board members are: Frank Dzik in the at-large category, Vince Hugo in the commercial category representing Autos Direct Online, and Kathleen Jackson in the institutional category representing Senior Citizen Resources, Inc. Re-elected were: Sue Allen in

the institutional category representing the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and Larry Avila in the at-large category. Jeff Kipp's status on the Board was changed from institutional to residential.

Other important remarks at the meeting included the treasurer's report. This past fiscal year which ended June 30th showed unaudited revenue of \$774,834, an increase of \$17,514 from last year; expenses were \$767,848. This year's unaudited net surplus was \$6,986. Of the total revenue, 65% came from Community Development Block Grant funds through the City of Cleveland; 13% were other contracts for home repair and weatherization programs; earned income was 16%; and private grants and fundraising was 6%. On the expense side, 85% went towards OBCDC's programs, 9% towards operations, and 6% toward publications.

For further information about the 2013 annual meeting, see the new annual report, which was also distributed at the annual meeting, www.oldbrooklynconnected.com. Or stop by the office at 2339 Broadview Rd. for a copy. If you are a member of OBCDC you will soon receive a copy in the mail.

OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

The Old Brooklyn News
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Tuesday, December 3rd, 2013

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Submission Deadlines

Display Ads Fri., Nov. 22nd
Classified Ads Fri., Nov. 22nd
News Releases Fri., Nov. 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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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

Jeff Kipp, President John Jenkins, Vice President
Theresa B. Martin, Secretary Book Chrobak, Treasurer

Robyn Sandys, Executive Director

Cynthia Cejka, Office Manager

Tom Collins, Commercial Manager

Jayme Lucas-Bukszar, Residential Marketing Manager

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

Dave Goldense, Americorps VISTA

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 Filipis -- Copy Editor

This month's OBN writers - Fr. Doug Brown, Gloria Ferris, Lynette Filipis, Dave Goldense, Kim Repinski, and OBCDC staff

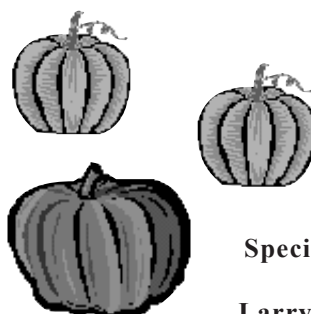
OBCDC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) that serves the communities of Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn-
For more information regarding services and projects call 216-459-1000.

HONEY HUT ICE CREAM

CLOSED FOR SEASON:
THE

November 24, 2013, 8 p.m.

To all our loyal customers: Thank You for the business in 2013!



Special thanks to our fellow beekeepers in the
Old Brooklyn neighborhood:
Larry, Dave, Brenda, John, David, Pat and Rick
Thanks for helping to pollinate our local gardens.

4674 State Rd.

Cleveland made since 1974

NEWS & EVENTS

Cemetery Decoration Removal
Lutheran Cemetery, 4566 Pearl Rd. Removal of all summer/holiday flowers/decorations begins Tues., Nov. 5th. Winter decorations can be placed Fri., Nov. 15th.

**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. (Unless otherwise noted, registration is required.)

Mon., Nov. 4th - Developing a Career Action Plan; 6:30 pm.

Mon., Nov. 11th & 25th - Parma Snow Saves Coupon Club; 6:30 - 8:30 pm; 2nd Mon. each month.

Mon., Nov. 18th - Book Discussions; 7 pm & **Thurs., Nov. 21st,** 11 am.

Wed., Nov. 20th - Taking Care of You; 2 pm.

Beginning Monday, November 4th
Schools as Neighborhood Resources (SNR)
(SNR) program will start Mon. Nov. 4th. James Ford Rhodes High School, 5100 Biddulph Rd. Class days & times are 6 - 8:30 pm. Mon., Wed. & Thurs. Sign up anytime, through April. Both children & adults can participate for free. If the Cleveland Municipal School District (CMSD) is closed on a Mon., Wed. or Thurs., either for a scheduled holiday or because of inclement weather, the evening classes at Rhodes will not be in session (even though these classes are not taught by CMSD personnel). Call 216-812-8700 or website: www.neighborhoodleadership.org/programs/snr for more info.

Monday, November 4th
Cuyahoga Valley Genealogy Society
Independence Civic Center, Willow Room, 6363 Selig Blvd., 7:30 pm. Speaker: Cynthia

Turk. Program: "Forensic Genealogy & 21st Century Research". Contact CVGS president Mary Boehnlein, 440-736 7180, or via www.cuyahogagenealogy.org, for more info.

Now - January 2014
World Premiere Exhibition
Traitor - Spies, Lies and Justice Denied: The Dreyfus Affair

Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, 2929 Richmond Rd., Beachwood. Exhibition developed exclusively for Maltz Museum. Free with general museum admission; to schedule guided-tour for groups of 10 or more, call 216-593-0575.

Saturday, November 9th
America Recycles Day
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, 10 am - 4 pm. One free admission with bag of aluminum cans or an old cell phone & purchase of 1 regular admission. In addition to aluminum cans, cell phones & accessories, also recycle newspaper, catalogs, junk mail, magazines, ink jet & toner print cartridges, household plastics with recycle symbol & # 1 - 7. Follow signs to parking lot behind RainForest. Some restrictions may apply. Call 216-661-6500 or visit clemet-zoo.com for more info.

Wednesday, November 13th
Westside Basket Guild
St. James Lutheran Church, 4771 Broadview Rd., downstairs in fellowship hall. Class starts at 5 pm; come any time up to 6:30 to start weaving. Meets on second Wed. every month. **Nov. 13th, Christmas mail basket;** red & green reed & measures, 5"x8"x8" high. Cost - \$12. **Dec. 11th, Winter snowflake basket;** natural reed with blue & a snowflake accent. 4x6x5" high. Cost - \$13. Supplies to bring when weaving -- old towel, bucket, clothes pins, ruler, pencil, scissors. Call Connie, 216-749-7912, to RSVP.

Friday & Saturday, November 15th & 16th
Seventh Annual Arts at the Center
St. Michael's Woodside, 5025 East Mill Rd., Broadview Heights. Juried arts & fine crafts

festival sponsored by Parma Hosp. Auxiliary. Local artists with one-of-a-kind pieces -- handmade jewelry, pottery & photography, enamels, metal & wood pieces.

Masquerade Party, Fri., 6:30 - 9:30 pm. Preview & shop with cocktails, exquisite cuisine & music by Akin for Jazz. Casual attire; guests encouraged to wear masks. Tickets for Fri. -- \$60 per person; call 440-743-4138.

Health Screenings Saturday; blood pressure, blood glucose & bone density; influenza & pneumonia vaccinations. Open to public 9 am - 4 pm. Free admission; non-perishable donations for the Parma Hunger Center welcome.

Thursday, November 14th
Reverse Raffle - Senior Citizen Resources
St. Mary's Crystal Chalet, 3600 Biddulph Ave. Doors open -- 6 pm. Buffet -- 7 pm. Live music by Victor Samalot. Bring own beer, wine or liquor; wash provided. Sideboards, bingo, raffle baskets. Tickets: \$35 per person; can be purchased at Senior Citizen Resources, 3100 Devonshire Rd. or online at www.seniorcitizenresources.org/august-2013. Call 216-749-5367 for more info.

Thursday, November 14th
Antique Collectors Club
Busch Community Meeting Rm., 7501 Ridge Rd., 7 pm. Speaker: Bernard Benewiat, member of The Buckeye Searchers of Northeast Ohio. Program: The Art & Skill of Metal Detecting. Call Robert Murdoch, Publicity Chairman, 440-845-7046, for more info.

Saturday, November 16th, Friday, December 13th & Saturday, December 21st
Jim Ptacek Trunk Sale
Ameriflag Inc., 3307 Broadview Rd.; 10 am - 2 pm. Local artist Jim Ptacek selling/signing new collection of 2013 Wendell August Forge Christmas ornaments. Ornaments from 2012 & 2011, as well as prints, Christmas cards & post-cards also available. Call 216-661-2608, see the Ameriflag ad on page 6 of this issue, or visit Ameriflag.com for more info.

Thursday - Saturday November 21st - 23rd
27th Annual Christmas Sale
Second Mile Shop, 398 W. Bagley Rd., Suite #7. Thurs. & Fri., 9 am - 5 pm; Sat., 9 am - 3 pm. Unique holiday merchandise. Contact Makari. 440-826-4531, for additional info.

Saturday November 30th
C.P.A.'S Annual Turkey Trot
St. John Byzantine Upper Hall, 1900 Carlton Rd., south of Snow Rd, off Broadview Rd.; accessible by elevator or stairs. Doors open 6 pm; live polka music 7 - 11 pm by Polka Family Band from PA. Donation - \$13; 18 & under free. No b.y.o.b.; beverages available; Snacks OK. Public welcome. Call 216-228-1134 for large table reservations or more info.

No Health Coverage?
MetroHealth Care Plus is new program offering free medical care to low-income uninsured Cuyahoga County residents age 19 to 64 years. Coverage includes doctor visits, medications, hospitalization, dental care, mental health service, medical equipment. Call 216-957-2325 or visit metrohealth.org/careplus for more info.

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KIWANIS CLUB OF BROOKLYN, INC.

47th Annual AUCTION

ALL NEW ITEMS, INCLUDING: sporting goods, jewelry, games holiday items, sports events, yard tools, toys and much more

Sunday — Nov. 24, 2013 — 1:00 p.m.

Doors open at 12:00 noon at the
Brooklyn Senior Citizen Center — 7727 Memphis Avenue

DOOR PRIZES — FREE ADMISSION

Proceeds are used to fund community service projects
(Now accepting cash, check, credit cards)

Auctioneer: EDDIE PFISTER, III — 32 years experience

Do you make amazing chili? Do you like eating prize-winning chili?

Old Brooklyn Neighborhood Chili Cook-Off!

November 23rd 3 - 5 p.m.
Grace Church 2503 Broadview Rd.

Bring a pot of your favorite recipe to share with the community and see how it compares with your neighbors'. Even if you don't cook, come out and try them all! Vote for your favorite: prizes will be awarded for the top 3 finisher's by popular vote.

Prizes have been generously donated by local businesses Dina's Pizza & Pub, Drink. bar & grill and Bella Pizza. The cook-off is free to enter and free to taste.

All are welcome!

For more information and to sign up, go to the Facebook group "2013 Old Brooklyn Neighborhood Chili Cook-Off" or email oldbrooklynchili@gmail.com
RSVP by November 16th

Sponsored by: Old Brooklyn Buzz
with help from Old Brooklyn CDC



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216-459-9265

13-AE-1419

Holiday safety tips

by Barbara Spaan
barbaras@oldbrooklyn.com

Criminals love the Holidays as much as everyone else does. We just celebrated Halloween and this year the retailers and thieves will be officially starting the season on Thanksgiving night. Our stores are already geared up for the buying to begin and the burglars, muggers and pickpockets are just waiting for us!

If you'll be traveling...

- Set automatic timer for your lights.
- Ask your neighbor or family member to watch your home, shovel the walk, pick up newspapers and mail, and park in your driveway from time to time.
- Be sure to hide any gifts or expensive items left in the house while you're gone.

If you'll be home...

- Turn on outside lights to deter burglars.
- Lock car doors and when possible put cars in the yard and in the garage.
- Make sure the insurance on both your car and your house is up-to-date; inventory your property.
- Don't overload electrical outlets; check the decoration wires.
- Use the new flameless, rather than flamed, candles.
- Stay Alert report any suspicious behavior to police or local community watch groups.

If a stranger comes to your door....

- Many con artists take advantage of Holiday generosity by going door to door. Ask for ID and get specifics as to how and where the donation will be spent.
- Always stay alert; watch for the suspicious person/ persons on your street. Call the police.
- Always answer the door, but if you're not interested, say "No thanks" and close the door. Watch for the solicitors to leave your property.

If you'll be out for the evening....

- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it appears that someone is home.
- Lock all doors and windows while you're out, even if you'll be gone for just a few minutes
- Do not place packages or gifts near windows or in other highly-visible sites.

If you'll be shopping....

- Don't let your guard down just because you're rushing.
- Stay alert and be aware of everything around you at all times.
- Park in well-lit spaces and as close to the store as possible, lock your car doors and place packages in the truck or under cover, and don't leave anything of value in sight which might encourage someone to break in and take it.
- Do not carry large amounts of cash; pay with a check or credit card if possible.
- Make more than one trip to the car with packages; don't carry all the packages at the same time; keep things manageable.
- Carry your purse close to your body, not dangling by the strap. Put your wallet in an inside coat or front pocket.
- If you take children shopping, teach them to go to a police officer or a store security guard if they get separated or lost.

If you'll be shopping online...

- Shop with companies you know; anyone can set up an online shop under almost any name.
- Be sure to determine a company's return/refund policies before making a purchase.
- Never give your password to anyone. Avoid using a birthday or a portion of your Social Security number. Use a combination of letters and numbers.
- Use a secure browser. It should comply with all industry security standards. Most computers have a browser installed.
- Pay by credit card; your transaction will be protected by the Fair Credit Billing Act.
- Do not give out your Social Security number, e-mail address, telephone number or address unless you know who is collecting the information.
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Please share this information with family and friends. Enjoy the Holidays and take



Have a safe Holiday season and continue to support your Cleveland police.



CRIME WATCH

Growing season over at Ben Franklin Garden

by Kim Repinski
BIG Operating Committee Chairman

The Ben Franklin Community Garden is closed for the season. All gardeners cleared their plots of inorganic materials, cut down plant debris and filled out a checkout form. On October 19th the Garden's gates were officially closed.

In the week that followed, workers ran a brush hog thru the garden, cutting down all vegetation. Next, a plow turned all the vegetation back into the soil where it will break down and act as a soil enhancer for the next season.

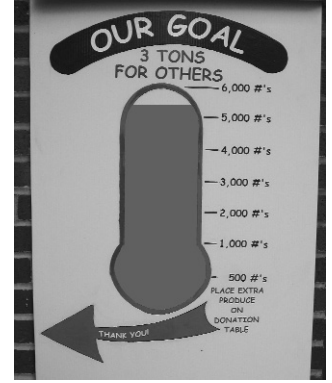
The Garden does have one remaining crop growing – garlic. Garlic is unusual in that it is planted in October, grown over the winter and harvested in July. About 30 gardeners have planted garlic cloves in several garlic patches scattered around the Garden.

Throughout the year the Garden was the recipient of many volunteer hours from both individuals and groups that helped keep the five acre plot running smoothly.

On September 28th over thirty Wooster College alumni, family and friends volunteered at the Garden.

The Garden was also the destination for the Cleveland chapter of the annual "Scots in Service" day. The volunteers painted picnic tables, weeded, removed debris, reclaimed overgrown pathways and hauled dirt and mulch. After four hours of hard work the volunteers fired up the grill and relaxed over a pot luck lunch. The guests had great things to say about the Garden and expressed their desire to return next year.

The exact amount of produce donated to area hunger kitchens is still being tabulated but to date is about 5,500 pounds. While this may fall shy of the lofty goal of 6,000 pounds, consider that an average dinner salad (lettuce, tomato, cucumber, radishes, carrots, peppers) served at a restaurant weighs less than two pounds.



The end of the growing season does not mean inactivity for the Operating Committee. After performing a physical inventory of the garden tools the Projects sub-committee will purchase any replacements they deem necessary. The Governance sub-committee will review the current *Rules & Regulations* and if they suggest any changes, the full committee will vote on them before the Garden applications are mailed in March. The Finance sub-committee will begin to plan the Garden fundraising activities.

There will probably be more Garden updates during the winter.

Holiday Shop from front page

are busily working to finalize plans for this year. These neighbors and friends come together to create a unique opportunity for the artists and artisans who live in their midst. The Shop showcases the art and crafts made by these talented artists and artisans. With the support of Stockyard, Clark Fulton and Brooklyn Centre CDO, space at the Art House Studio and 24 participating vendors, the group is working hard to build on last year's success.

This pop-up shop is excitingly different from similar events as it is completely organized and maintained by volunteers. Residents, the SCFBC staff, Art House staff and board members and the contributing artists will be the volunteers who run the shop.

This year, we have many returning artists and artisans because last year they enjoyed working at the shop, mingling with the community and sharing how they create their art. Our artists have shared "The Short and Sweet Holiday Shop" story with other artists and have been a valuable source for expanding the number of artists for this year's Holiday Shop.

Merchandise this year will include ceramics, stained glass, prints and cards, photos, knitted hats and scarves, crocheted cell

phone covers, purses, books, pyrography (wood burning), leather bookmarks, jams and jellies, cookies, handmade chocolates, jewelry, and more. The variety must be seen to be appreciated.

Friday, December 6th will feature an Artist Reception. Many of the artists will be on hand from 6 to 8 pm to visit with our shoppers as well as to answer questions. Throughout the two weekends, artists will be on hand to have conversations with shoppers about technique or other aspects of their art.

The Shop's goal is to offer locally hand-crafted gifts to customers who are shopping for the holidays. One father's comment at last year's shop says it all "who knew when I stopped in with my daughters that I would leave with all my shopping finished for my wife, their mother." Please stop by and support local art!

Check out the Short and Sweet Holiday shop page on www.arthouseinc.org and the "artist of the day" posts at www.brooklyncentrenaturalists.net for more information. If you would like to volunteer, have items to sell or just have more questions please contact gloria.ferris@gmail.com or call her at 216-351-0254.

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Autumn's a beautiful time of year, but also a sad one, as we witness summer's bounty being nipped to death by overnight frosts. Almost all the colorful flowers and greenery at the Ben Franklin Community Garden are gone, but at least the vegetation has been ground and plowed back into the soil to nourish it. The cycle of life will continue in the spring.

Due to other 'must include' articles, recent *Town Crier* columns have been shorter than usual. Last month I had hoped to include all of last summer's scholarship recipients from **Mary Queen of Peace (MQP) School**, but I ran out of space after mentioning just the students who received Parent Teacher Club scholarships, a **Ladies Auxiliary of the Polish Legion of American Veterans (PLAV)** essay award and a **Catholic Daughters of the Americas** photography award which one of the PTC recipients, **Jessica Wrenn**, received.

As I return to the list which Mary Queen of Peace School sent me, I see that Jessica, now a freshman at **St. Joseph Academy (SJA)**, also received a \$5000 scholarship from the Academy; it carries with it the possibility of being renewed every year.

Actually, SJA awards ten of these **Geis Scholars Academic Scholarships** annually, and with continued "sustained excellence in faith, academics, community service and positive peer relationships" Jessica, along with the other nine recipients, will have the \$5000 quadrupled over the next four years..

In addition, Jessica was awarded one of MQP's two \$250 **scholarships in memory of Darlene Brezovsky**. That recognition was based on an essay written on the topic "The person who I admire most in the world". (It was not allowed to write about a relative.)

Erica Nicc, another freshman at St. Joseph Academy, was the recipient of MQP's other \$250 **scholarship in memory of Darlene Brezovsky**.

Erica also received \$500 toward her SJA tuition thanks to a new scholarship at Mary Queen of Peace -- the **Paul Armbruster Memorial Scholarship**. It's a one-time grant given to a MQP eighth-grader who plans to attend a Catholic high school. (Paul Armbruster was a member of Mary Queen of Peace Church and a Catholic School educator. He had worked in the classroom as well as in school administration.)

Finally, Erica was listed fourth locally in the **Ladies Auxiliary of the Polish Legion of**

American Veterans essay contest. The topic for the competition was -- "Patriotism -- Does It Still Exist?"

Two other MQP eighth-graders are now at St. Joseph Academy and also received awards in the **PLAV** contest. **Alexandria Sly** placed second locally and **Danielle Lamboy** placed third locally.

The final two MQP scholarship recipients for 2013 received one-time stipends given annually in memory of Brian Himes, an Our Lady of Good Counsel student who died prematurely of a brain aneurysm. The students are chosen based on how they treat others, their extra-curricular activities and living as a Catholic student should. In addition, they must be going on to a Catholic high school.

MQP's 2013 recipients of the \$500 **Brian Himes Scholarships** are **Dario Meza**, who is now at Benedictine High School, and **Samantha Reynolds**, who is now at St. Joseph Academy.

That's all the news from **Mary Queen of Peace School** but before I 'leave the property' totally this month, I do want to mention that there's a new person on the parish staff on the weekends. His name is **Scott Goodfellow**, and he's a **fifth-year theology student at St. Mary Seminary**. He was ordained a temporary deacon on October 26th, and if all goes according to plan, he'll be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Cleveland in May.

Scott is from Avon Lake. He was educated in Avon Lake's public schools and belongs to St. Joseph's Parish in Avon Lake.

A major personnel changes is underway at **St. Leo the Great Church, 4940 Broadview Rd.** Last month the pastor, **Fr. Russ Lowe**, announced that he has accepted a new position as pastor of **Our Lady of Angels Church (OLA)** on Rocky River Dr. in the Westpark neighborhood of Cleveland. The assignment is effective November 1st, but for the month of November, Fr. Russ will still be the pastor of St. Leo's, too (because the search for a new pastor is still in progress; priests who are interested were invited to apply last month).

Fr. Russ had been pastor at St. Leo's since June 30, 2004. The following year (on November 11, 2005), he was also named pastor of **Corpus Christi Church** on Pearl Rd. His dual pastor role lasted until April 17, 2010, when Corpus Christi closed and was merged into Mary Queen of Peace Church.

Fr. Russ is replacing current OLA pastor Fr. Jerry Duke, who is retiring. Since it is a very Irish parish in a very Irish neighborhood, and Fr. Russ is a very Irish priest who even has an Irish wolfhound dog, we expect that he will feel very comfortable there.

A new pastor has also been named from among the **Apostles of Jesus priests** who purchased and reside in the former **Corpus Christi rectory on Northeliff Ave.**. Most often these priests serve as chaplains at hospitals and

nursing homes, and just occasionally do they go into parish work.

However, effective September 1, 2013, Cleveland Roman Catholic Bishop Richard Lennon named one of them, **Fr. Caroli Shao, A.J.**, to the dual role of Parochial Vicar of **St. Colman Church**, 2027 W. 65th St., and Pastor of **St. Stephen Church**, 1930 W. 54th St. When St. Colman pastor Fr. Bob Begin retires

on September 1, 2014, Fr. Caroli will become Pastor of St. Colman as well.

I have more church news but it will have to wait until next month. By then, we ought to know who the new St. Leo's new pastor, too. In the meantime, email whatever news you have to share (church-related or otherwise) to Lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com or by regular mail to Lynette Filipps, 2339 Broadview Rd., 44109.

Crime Watch coordinator thanks sponsors

by Barb Spaan
barbs@oldbrooklyn.com

Old Brooklyn's *Crime Watch* program has had its third fundraising event, "Safeties Wacky Racers", on Saturday, September 28th, at Mary Queen of Peace Church. The successful event featured great food, beautiful gift baskets, 50/50 raffles, four races and a DJ. Without donations from the community and continued support, the program would not have a lap top computer donated by RET3 and projector to do ALICE & CPTED presentations and monthly mailings to communicate to the neighborhood.

Special thanks to my hard working committee — Rose Roy, Greg McGraw, Rob Grodeck, Linda Sevcik, Melody Halsey, Kent Cecirchi and A-5 Auxiliary members; our host at Mary Queen of Peace, Father Doug Brown; and cooks and kitchen staff Roger and Theresa Matthes.

The gift certificates and gift baskets were donated by Councilman Brancatelli, Schwarz Uniform, The Handle Company, Hansa Imports, Dave & Busters, Mooches, the Cleveland Cavaliers, Dina's, the Cleveland Indians, Carmino's and our friends from Fred's Breads.

The wacky racers were sponsored by Lt. Mark Ketterer from the Second District, Linda Sevcik, Ameriflag, Inc., the Cleveland Police Auxiliary, John Jenkins, the Handel Company, Rose Roy, Theresa Martin, Robyn Sandys, John Young, Bill Welsh and Councilman Kevin Kelley.



Barb Spaan, Lt. Mark Ketterer and Dan Ezra

I also want to thank Pipes & Drums, the Cleveland policemen, Tom Collins, Linda Dlugo, Daniel Holmes and Cindy Flanagan who donated even though they were unable to attend.

You have all heard me say that this community is what we make it. Fundraisers like this prove what a caring neighborhood and people we are.

Thanks for your support and I hope that everyone who attended had fun.



On Saturday, September 28th the Crime Watch had its third annual fundraiser with food, prizes, raffles and plenty of gift baskets. (Photos by Sandy Worona)

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by Tom Collins
tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

Ready or Not, Here They Come

Finish the Halloween candy because the Holiday Season is upon us, that time of year when the national retailers promote debt and consumption as the American way of life. Marketing people are not content to let people enjoy a family day with a walk in the park, a shared meal, an afternoon of watching sports or an evening of conversation and games. If you are not in a chain store purchasing something you really cannot enjoy the holidays.

Now don't get this wrong; gift-giving is a wonderful thing, a truly wonderful thing, which expresses love, affection or friendship. Associating gifts with holidays is a custom which preceded Thanksgiving or even the Christian holiday of Christmas. It should not go away but the attitude of "I Must Buy: I Must Give" creates stress and too often debt, and that just ruins the holiday season. When I hear people say "I can't wait for the holidays to be over" it makes me think they have surrendered control to the marketers.

If you have not thought of shopping locally, meaning locally-owned and managed stores, then put that first on your shopping list. For every dollar spent in a small, locally-owned retail shop, \$.45 is again spent in the local community. There is a wide range of products and services that can be purchased throughout northeast Ohio without having to enter the canned music malls. Who knows more about the products for sale in a small business than the shop owner?

Where to start? Well, you probably know shops in your neighborhood and those special shops outside the neighborhood you have been patronizing for years. Expand those selection options by first using the Internet. Cool Cleveland, www.coolcleveland.com, is the dynamic web site about all things Cleveland. They have a "Shop LOCAL" menu which features all kinds of shops including those seasonal Pop Up Shops. It also posts a list of craft shows and gallery presentations which are ideal shopping places for original gifts. Twenty minutes on this site and you can map a pleasant journey of unique shopping with some local restaurants, taverns, bakeries and coffee shops. Venture throughout Cleveland and enjoy offerings in the many neighborhoods and first-ring suburbs.

"Independent We Stand is a movement of locally-owned businesses and people across the country dedicated to educating their communities about the importance – and strong economic benefits – of buying

local". The website address is www.independentwestand.org. It has a search page allowing the visitor to the web site to enter a zip code and product category that returns a list of matching shops in a ten mile radius. This site also briefly outlines the reasons for shopping locally.

Did you know that small businesses employ 77 million people in this country? Residential property values increase if they are close to non-mall neighborhood shopping districts. And it is small local businesses that fund those many non-profit activities essential to the neighborhood quality of life; community celebrations, little league, scouting programs, senior centers and the list goes on. Shopping locally increases investment in the community.

Be creative in finding gifts. For many people who have accumulated much over the years, a gift of time is what is most welcome. Think about taking that special relative, friend or neighbor out for lunch or a movie in January or February. Present the gift as a nice note in a card purchased in a local gift shop. A gift certificate for a service is something that can be appreciated after the holiday season has past. Identify a barber or beauty salon the gift recipient patronizes and give a gift certificate. Local

shop owners will provide a gift certificate without fees or diminishing value. Most men have a local hardware store they prefer for those never ending small purchases necessary for auto and home maintenance. A gift of a new hose, paint brushes, even a can of compressed air may be more welcome than another shirt.

What is your bottom line for the holiday? If it is driven by the expectations of others, it will spoil the holidays. Calculate your budget. Prune the recipient list where possible. Look for local shops on line before running to the mall. If you still want that mall experience, shop at a locally-owned small business for at least some of your gifts.

Happy Thanksgiving.

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**“Your home;
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OBCDC coming to your neighborhood soon

by Dave Goldense
davidg@oldbrooklyn.com

Beginning in November, the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) will begin a new outreach initiative to further connect with residents and local business owners. The purpose of this program is to provide information about the CDC and the community as a whole and also to become more engaged with the neighborhoods of Old Brooklyn.

Community input is extremely important to OBCDC, and these meetings will be a place where residents can have their voices heard. Questions ranging from code enforcement and property management to economic development to public health initiatives will be discussed. Multiple OBCDC

employees will be in attendance to explain upcoming programs and projects and keep the community updated about new and helpful information.

The purpose of initiating these meetings is to provide another opportunity for residents to become aware of all the services which are available. Among the activities the CDC is engaged in and will share with those attending the meetings are Old Brooklyn Connected Wi-Fi; discounted computer offers for families and seniors; low-interest loans for home repair; City Fresh produce; nutrition workshops; and homes which are being rehabbed for sale.

Old Brooklyn is also a community with resources beyond what OBCDC offers — quality public, charter and private schools; parks and a number of locally owned businesses. In addition to the information conveyed at its monthly crime watch/public safety meetings, OBCDC would like to raise awareness about upcoming events and programs through these newly-initiated neighborhood meetings.

The first meeting will be held on November 12th at Pearl Road United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. Each meeting will last ninety minutes. Meetings will continue about once every six to eight weeks at various locations throughout OBCDC's service area. Councilman Kevin Kelley will try to attend most — if not all — of the meetings.

OBCDC looks forward to seeing you there! For more information, contact Dave at 459-1000.

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CityLIFT down payment assistance available on November 18th

Most information from www.nhscleveland.org

Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland will have new funding for the CityLIFT down payment assistance starting on November 18, 2013 on a first come, first served basis. Interested homebuyers must have an executed sales agreement and a pre-approval from an approved lender. The list of approved lenders can be found online at www.nhscleveland.org. There are income restrictions; total household income cannot exceed 120% of the Area Median Income (AMI) when the first mortgage is a conventional loan and cannot exceed 115% of AMI when the first mortgage is an FHA loan. 115% of the Area Median Income for a 2 person household is \$58,500 and 125% is \$60,900.

CityLIFT is a Down Payment Assistance (DPA) program funded by a Wells Fargo Bank and Wells Fargo Foundation in partnership with NeighborWorks® America. CityLIFT provides \$15,000 in down payment assistance

to eligible homebuyers who are purchasing a home within the city limits of Cleveland. The CityLIFT down payment assistance funds will be disbursed at closing. These funds will be in the form of a mortgage secured by the property being purchased. CityLIFT is a 0% interest grant and if its conditions are satisfied it will be forgiven at 20% each year for five years. The grant will cease and the prorated balance will become due, payable upon demand, if the property is sold, refinanced, transfer of title, foreclosure or other default occurs within the first 5 years.

The first step is completing an online eligibility quiz at <http://www.nhscleveland.org/buy-a-home/citylift/>. Home buyers who are eligible will make an appointment with a Housing Specialist at Neighborhood Housing Services. More information can be found online at <http://www.nhscleveland.org/buy-a-home/citylift/> or by calling Jayme Lucas-Bukszar at 216-459-1000.

Cash Mob at Food Peddler!

What: Join us at Food Peddler with at least \$10 to spend!

The goal of "cash mobs" is to bolster locally owned businesses. There will be more Old Brooklyn cash mobs in the future. If you want to help plan the next one, please join us at the next "old Brooklyn Buzz" Committee meeting.

**When: Saturday, November 9, 2013
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Where: Food Peddler, 4250 Fulton Road



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Early Cleveland settlers had more primitive religious experiences than today's

by Lynette Filips
lynetef@oldbrooklyn.com

Because November's the month during which Thanksgiving is celebrated, concentrating on living with an 'attitude of gratitude' is often extended throughout the whole month. Al-anon, for instance, the organization for families of alcoholics, sponsors an annual Gratitude Night in November and many churches and charitable organizations have already started their holiday appeals for gifts and meals for the less fortunate.

While the economy still isn't the best, and some of our longtime neighborhood churches have either closed or are concerned that they will soon have to close, the reality is that despite the numbers, compared to what Cleveland's early settlers experienced, we are blessed with a multitude of economic resources and religious options.

In the earliest years of the settlement of Brooklyn Township, for example, there was a public servant position called Overseer of the Poor. That official's job, however, was not to help the poor in a way which we'd consider helping, but rather to help get the undesirable person out of town. Households were focused on the survival of their own families in terms of having enough food and avoiding sickness and diseases. So the Overseer of the Poor made certain that folks who couldn't support themselves moved on, lest they be a drain on the others.

Social services like orphanages, poorhouses, hospitals, etc. came after the advent of religious institutions and much more organized governments. Early on, the settlers experienced the presence of 'men of the cloth' only infrequently, and government was quite unstructured compared to today's standards.

Probably the first clerics to pass through the territory which became Cleveland were Roman Catholic missionary priests who accompanied the French fur traders and explorers in their travels around the Great Lakes.

No clergy were with Moses Cleaveland and the first surveying party from the Connecticut Land Company when their boat reached the mouth of the Cuyahoga River on July 22, 1796 and Cleaveland had declared that this point would be the capital of New Connecticut and a thriving metropolis one day.

The following year, the Connecticut Land Company sent a second surveying party to Cleveland, and it was headed by the Rev. Seth Hart, an Episcopal minister. Rev. Hart came not as a minister, however, but as the leader of the men who were to finish marking the boundaries of the townships.

As fate would have it, however, on June 4, 1797 Rev. Hart conducted the first formal religious ceremony in Cleveland; unfortunately, it was a funeral service for one of the men in his party who had drowned while trying to cross the Grand River on horseback.

Although the first settlers were from New England, their interest in religion was not commensurate with that of their Pilgrim and Puritan ancestors who had come to this country seeking religious freedom. The settlers came to the Western Reserve in the hope of making their fortunes in a new and potentially rich part of America. Early missionaries noted their lack of interest in religion.

Whatever early interest there was in religion in the Western Reserve was Protestant, as that had been the settlers' tradition in New England. In 1807, two little groups, the Congregationalists and the Presbyterians joined forces and established a church in Euclid, the first church in this part of the Western Reserve.

Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church (BMUMC), 2705 Archwood Ave., was the first church organized in Brooklyn Township and is also recognized as the oldest Methodist congregation in the Cleveland area. An entry detailing its



history in the *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History* records in the paragraph about its early years --

Methodist classes in the Brooklyn area began meeting as early as 1814 in members' homes. A Methodist society was recognized in 1818, with the name Brooklyn Methodist Episcopal Church. A log building was erected at the northeast corner of Denison and Pearl streets, and a frame addition was made in 1827. A new frame church was built on the same site in 1849 and was later moved to a lot on Greenwood (Archwood) Ave., west of Pearl (W. 25th St.) A brick Gothic building was dedicated on the Archwood site in 1882. A change in name was effected in 1896, making the church Brooklyn Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church.

(The congregation was termed Methodist Episcopal (ME) because in the early years, Methodists were part of the Episcopal Church.) Unfortunately, Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church closed after its 2010 Christmas Eve service. Its most recent Gothic Revival-style church (now home to a different religious denomination) was dedicated in 1914.

The people who left Brooklyn Methodist Episcopal Church to organize today's **Pearl Road United Methodist Church**, 4200 Pearl Rd., (south of the Big Creek Valley), did it so that the churchgoers would not have to negotiate the steep descent into and ascent out from the Valley in icy or rainy conditions. The congregation was called **Brighton Methodist Episcopal Church** when it was formed in 1832.

The Brighton Methodist Episcopal Church's first meeting place was a building which housed the short-lived Brighton Academy on the upper floor, and a wagon and paint shop as well as a meeting room for the Village Council at the other end. Until 1875, the same pastor served both Methodist congregations.

Brighton Methodist Episcopal Church was renamed **Pearl Road Methodist Episcopal Church** sometime between 1905 and 1909. The building which houses the upper sanctuary where members of Pearl Road United Methodist worship today was originally built as the religious education annex, behind the church.

Unfortunately, in 1925 just three months after the combined church and school were dedicated, the church was destroyed in a fire, so the worship space was moved into the education building and grass was eventually planted where the church had stood.

In November, 1816, a group of Episcopalians met in the log home of Phineas Shepard at what is now W. 25th St. and Detroit Ave. to organize what was to become the first Episcopal congregation in Cleveland, **Trinity Church**. For the first thirteen years, members met in private homes for their worship services.

Then in 1825, eastside members moved Trinity Church from Ohio City to the southeast corner of what is now W. 3rd St. and St. Clair Ave., and in 1829 Cleveland had its first church building - Trinity Episcopal Church, the forerunner of today's **Trinity Cathedral**, the seat of the Episcopal Diocese of Cleveland.

The westside members of Trinity Church remained in Ohio City and renamed their new parish **St. John's Episcopal Church**. In 1836 they laid the cornerstone for what is now the oldest religious structure in Cleveland. It is located at 2600 Church St., just a bit southwest of the intersection of today's Detroit Ave. and W. 25th St. (Another of its claims to fame is having been a stop on the Underground Railroad.)

Archwood United Church of Christ, 2800 Archwood Ave., is also a neighborhood church with very old roots. Before the denominational mergers which created the United Church of Christ, it was a Congregational church, but when it was first organized in 1819, it was under a Presbyterian Confession of Faith.



Then in 1867 the Archwood Church associated itself with the Cleveland Congregational Conference (which had been established in 1853), and became **Archwood Congregational Church**. Today's Archwood United Church of Christ is considered to be Cleveland's first Congregational church. The current New England-style structure was dedicated in 1928.

According to the *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History* --

In the town's early years, Congregationalists vied with Presbyterians to establish churches. Under an agreement known as the Plan of Union, Presbyterians and Congregationalists had agreed to unite to evangelize the West. Most



of the churches under the plan, after brief attempts to combine Presbyterian and Congregationalist organizational forms, chose one or the other... Plan of Union churches in the city tended to be Presbyterian. Those outside the town were more likely to be Congregational... 'the milk from Congregational cows was being turned into Presbyterian butter.' (a quote from Plan of Union historian William S. Kennedy).

Because of the Irish immigrants who came to Cleveland in the 1820s to help dig the Ohio and Erie Canal, Roman Catholicism is also part of Cleveland's earliest religious history. The heavy influx of German immigrants in the decades which followed added to the story.

Next month I'll talk about early Catholicism in the Western Reserve, and Mary Queen of Peace Parish (and the congregation which would have been celebrating its 140th anniversary this year, if it hadn't been closed and merged into a new parish).

Kim's Catering Services

By Jayme Lucas-Bukszar
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

Kim Vitko has been a caterer in Old Brooklyn for 29 years. Her first location was at 4348 Pearl Rd., at the corner of Brooklyn Ave.; her restaurant there was called Dreams Café. She was there for over 20 years, and used to regularly host supper clubs and other events. Approximately twenty years ago, the Historical Society of Old Brooklyn sponsored a Vintage Fashion Show at Dreams Café, and Kim prepared the meal.

Kim's Catering Services has been at 6020 Memphis Ave. since February, 2012. Kim will cater an intimate dinner for two, a party for 6,000, and everything in between. She personally meets with every client and proudly, "does business the old-fashioned way". Kim's Catering does corporate catering five days a week and caters all types of parties and events.

Kim recently purchased the neighboring building (6024 Memphis Ave.) and plans to make it a community education and event center. Kim's mother, Mary Lou Vitko, sells Avon products out of the 6024 Memphis location. Cindy Wessel has worked with Kim in the catering business since day one, and is her "right hand woman".

Kim grew up in Old Brooklyn. She graduated from Corpus Christi Elementary School and James Ford Rhodes High School (1974). She was a bookkeeper by trade and worked for Greyhound Lines until Greyhound moved its administrative offices to Iowa. Shortly after getting laid off by Greyhound, she received a call for help with catering and was hooked. Kim's grandmother, Mary Sper, had been a caterer and Kim had all her grandmother's equipment, which made the decision even easier. Her grandmother also taught Kim the art of baking, which was put to good use when Kim sold pastries at various craft shows. Mary Sper was Czechoslovakian and made traditional pastries including strudel.

Kim specializes in German, Slovak, and high-end food. She studies with local, national and master chefs and she also studies wine. (Kim noted that every state has its own distinct



Kim Vitko
Kim's Catering Services

wines; Ohio wines tend to be sweet.) She is a member of the American Culinary Foundation.

Kim says that the new food trend is getting back to the basics, and adds that Swedish meatballs are in vogue now.

When asked why she decided to keep her business in Old Brooklyn, Kim said, "Old Brooklyn is a great neighborhood with great people. I live here and I love it here."

Kim's Catering Services is open to the public by appointment; they can be reached at 216-459-1109.

Onion Soufflé Recipe

Ingredients

5 lbs. Vidalia onions, coarsely chopped
2 quarts Hellman's mayonnaise
3 cups grated Parmesan cheese
(can also use Swiss cheese)

Instructions

Mix all ingredients well with hands.
Put mixture in two 8 X 10 pans.
Bake at 350 degrees for one hour, or until bubbly on top.

Serve with bread or crackers.

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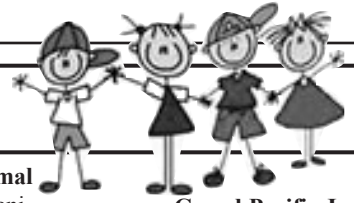
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Children's Museum of Cleveland
10730 Euclid Ave. 216-791-7114
www.clevelandchildrensmuseum.org
Hours: Mon. - Sun., 10 am - 5 pm. Exhibit areas close 15 min. prior to Museum closing. Cost - \$7, children age 1 - 12; \$6, adults & children 13 & over; free, under 11 months.

Pioneer Day - Nov. 17th, 11 am - 3 pm. Live demonstrations, interactive crafts & story time. See how butter was made, decide what to pack for trip west & make candle to take home.



Cleveland Metroparks - CanalWay Center
E. 49th St. bet. Grant Ave & Canal Rd.
216-206-1000 or clevelandmetroparks.com
Family Movie Night - Thurs., Nov. 16th, 7-8:30 pm; *Over the Hedge*.

Tellebration! 2013 - Nov. 16th, 7:30 - 9 pm. Evening of storytelling. Stories travel westward around world thru 24 hours - adults & children 8 years & older. RSVP - Call 440-734-6660 or email jpr@clevelandmetroparks.com.

Kids Day at CanalWay - Fri., Nov. 29th, 10 am - 3 pm. Ages 6 - 12 years. Hike, do crafts, play games & watch a movie. Pack lunch, bring water bottle & dress for weather. Registration required. Fee - \$20.

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

Tobogganing - Season kicks-off with special hours - Fri., Nov. 23rd, noon - 10:30 pm. Open thru mid-March -- Thurs., 6 - 10 pm; Fri., 6 - 10:30 pm; Sat., noon - 10:30 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. Cost - 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. Discount on season passes if purchased before Dec. 24th. Call for holiday hours.



Cleveland Metroparks - Garfield Park Nature Center
11350 Broadway Ave. 216-341-3152
Homemade Bird Feed - Tues., Nov. 20th, 3 - 4:30 pm. Learn easy, inexpensive way to make bird feed cakes. Bring 12-cup large-well muffin tin. Ingredients provided. Locate wintering species on brief hike while treats cool.

Leaf Litter - Sat., Nov. 24th, 10:30 - 11:30 am. Search for leaves in all shapes & sizes; learn meaning behind colors. Bring leaves back to nature center to make prints to take home.

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

First People Festival - Sat., Nov. 23rd, 2 pm. Watch primitive skills demonstrations, learn about Indian tribes who lived here, take a hike to search for natural foods & tools of indigenous people & make a craft.



Cleveland Metroparks West Creek Reservation
2277 W. Ridgewood Dr. 440-887-1968
Friday Film - Fri., Nov. 22nd, 7 - 8:45 pm; *Waterlife*; free. An eye-opening immersion into the Great Lakes & Canadian New Media Award winner inspired by classic short film, *Paddle to the Sea*.

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

Reduced Winter Admission - Nov. 1st - Mar. 31st; both Zoo & RainForest. Adult admission, \$8.25; children 2 - 11, \$5.25; under two & Zoo members, free. Complimentary heated transportation; free parking. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm.

America Recycles Day - Sat., Nov. 9th. Activities: 10 am - 4 pm. Contact Nancy Hughes, 216-661-6500, ext. 4508, for more info.

Thanksgiving Day - Thurs., Nov. 28th, 10 am - 5 pm, free admission to Zoo & RainForest. Special animal enrichment demonstrations & complimentary heated transportation.



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

Hours: Mon. - Sat., 10 am - 5 pm; Wed., 10 am - 10 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. Adults, 19 & up, \$12; \$6 after 5 pm on Wed.; Youths, 3 - 18, \$10; College students with ID, \$10; Seniors 60 & up or with a Golden Buckeye card, \$10; toddlers, 2 & under, free.

Smead Discovery Center Program -- Animal Babies - Now - Sat., Feb. 1st. Match baby animals to their names in a family-friendly activity. Learn about favorite & unusual animal babies. Free with Museum admission.

Cuyahoga County Public Library Parma-Snow Branch
216-661-4240; www.cuyahogalibrary.org
9 am - 9 pm, Mon - Thur.; 9 am - 5:30 pm, Fri. & Sat.; 1 - 5 pm, Sun.

Children's Fall Storytimes - Tues., 10:30 am, Toddler - Wed. 10 am., Preschool - 3 - 5 years Wed., 7 pm or Thurs., 10 am. Call for details.

Teen Programs - TAG Team Sat., Nov. 2nd, 1:30 - 2:15 pm, grades 6 - 12 & Board Game Day & Wii Play, 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
Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR), Rockside Station, 7900 Old Rockside Rd.
800-468-4070
www.cvsr.com



A Christmas-Time Excursion & Adventure - Sat. & Sun., Nov. 24th, 25th & Dec. 1st & 2nd, 10 am; Depart Rockside Station, Independence for Akron. Trolley will take participants to Lock 3 for ice skating & shopping at outdoor German Village. Visit local restaurant for lunch (not included). Trolley takes people back to train station. Back on board, a visit from Santa. Excursion - \$22, adults; \$12, children (3 - 12). Adventure - \$26, adults; \$12, children.

Mr. Jingeling & Friends Holiday Express - Nov. 24th & 25th & Dec., 1st & 2nd. Mr. Jingeling on board, singing a song, telling a story & handing out magical keys. Santa will visit too Depart Akron Northside at 11:35 am; return to Akron 2:50 pm. \$22, adults; \$12, children (3 - 12). No layovers or deboarding!

Grand Pacific Junction
Mill St & Columbia Rd., Olmsted Falls
440-235-0623
www.grandpacificjunction.com

Christmas Open House - "The Sounds of Christmas" - Sat., Dec. 7th; 9 - 4:30 pm. Free refreshments; special holiday sales in GPJ stores. **Horse drawn rides**, 12 - 2 pm., tickets: \$5, adults; \$3, children. **Stories with Santa & Mrs. Claus in the Caboose**; 1 - 3 pm - \$5. **Christmas Carolers - OFMS Choir** - 12 - 2 pm; **Sleigh / Wagon Rides** - 12 - 2 pm. **12 Days of Christmas special sale & more Dec. 8th - 19th.**

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. Admission: \$19.95, adults; \$17.95, seniors (60 & older) & military; \$13.95, children ages 2-12; free under 2. Parking - \$3, Mon. - Fri.; \$5, Sat. & Sun.

Hale Farm & Village
2686 Oak Hill Rd., Bath
330-666-3711 halereservations@wrhs.org
Fun on the Farm; each one hour program consists of craft, story, rhyme or song, snack & visit to museum site. Reservations required. Programs start at 10:30 am. **Abraham Lincoln & the Thanksgiving Story** - Sat., Nov. 16th; 10:30 am. Members: \$8 per child; 1 adult free. Non-members: \$10 per child; 1 adult free. Additional adults: \$5 each.

Thanksgiving Dinner with Abe Lincoln - Sat., Nov 16th; 3:30 - 6 pm. Adult member-\$30; non-member - \$40. Child (both member & non-member) - \$15.

Home Depot
homeimproverclub.com/kdsworkshops
Tabletop Ship! - Sat., Nov. 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.

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum
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Beck Center of the Arts
17801 Detroit Ave. Lakewood
216-521-2540 www.beckcenter.org
"33 Variations"
Now - Sun., Nov. 17th, Regional Premiere in Studio Theater. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$12 - \$29.

"The Pied Piper of Hamelin"
Fri., Nov. 7th. - Sun., Nov. 10th in Mackey Main Stage. Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm & Sun, 3pm. Student matinee Thurs., Nov. 7th., 10 am. Tickets: \$10 - \$12.

Brecksville Theater -Old Town Hall
49 Public Square (intersection Rts. 82 & 21)
440-526-6436 brecksvillelittletheatre.org
"Disney's Aladdin Junior"
Fri., Sat., Sun., Nov. 8th - 24th; Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Tickets: \$14.

Cassidy Theatre
6200 Pearl Rd. 440-842-4600
cassidytheatre.com
"The World Goes 'Round"
Fri., Nov. 22nd - Sun., Dec. 8th. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm & Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$20, adult; \$15, students/seniors.

Cleveland Public Theatre (CPT)
6415 Detroit Ave. 216-631-2727 ext 205
www.cptonline.org
Gordon Square Theatre
"The Loush Sisters DO The Nutcracker"
Fri., Nov. 29th - Sat., Dec. 21st; Thurs., Fri., Sat. & Sun., 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$18 - \$36.

Storefront Studio
"Doug is a D-Bag"
Fri., Nov. 29th - Sat., Dec. 14th; 7pm. Tickets: \$12 - \$18. \$12 Mon. & Thurs. performances - Free beer Fri. - Mingle with artists after show while enjoying a free drink.

Near West Theatre
St. Pat's Club Building,
W. 38th & Bridge 216-961-6391
www.nearwesttheatre.org
A Christmas Story the Musical
Fri., Nov. 15th - Sun., Dec. 8th
Thurs., Fri., Sat., 7:30 pm & Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$10, adults; \$8, ages 12 & under.

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

Cleveland Play House at The Allen Theatre's Second Stage
"Venus in Fur"
Fri., Nov. 1st - Sun., Nov. 24th. Times vary check website. Tickets: \$45 - \$72.

"A Christmas Story"
Tues. - Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 2:30 pm. Tickets: \$55 - \$72.

Great Lakes Theater at The Ohio Theatre
"A Christmas Carol"
Sat., Nov. 30th - Sun., Dec. 22nd. Wed., Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$28 - \$60.

KeyBank Broadway Series at The Palace Theatre
"Once"
Tues., Nov. 12th - Sun., Nov. 24th. Tues., Wed., Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1 & 7:30 pm; Sun. 1 & 6:30 pm. Tickets: \$10 - \$85.

CSU's Helen Rosenfeld Lewis Bialosky Lab Theatre (at Playhouse Square)
"Cabaret"
Thurs., Nov. 14th - Sun., Nov. 24th. Thurs., Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 pm. Tickets: \$5 - \$10.

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School registration information

Mary Queen of Peace School
 Preschool - grade 8. 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 mqp-school.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; regis-

tration 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)
 Enrolling for Early Childhood Education. Early Head Start, Head Start & Universal Pre-Kindergarten for children ages birth - age 5. Offers home-based program to meet needs of area families. Free services to eligible families; also accepts county vouchers. comprehensive services to meet educational, health, dental, nutritional, social, mental health & any special needs of children. Several program options & locations. Contact recruitment hotline, 216-961-2997, for more info.

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COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Brooklyn Genealogy Club meeting, Sun., Nov. 17th, 2 pm, Brooklyn Fire Station, 8400 Memphis Ave., Community Meeting Room; park in rear of building. Contact president Ann Woznicki at wozannron@gmail.com for more info.

Historical Society of Old Brooklyn meeting and dinner out. Friday, Nov. 8th, 6 pm. Cleveland Maennerchor, 4515 State Rd. Pay for own dinner on own; then a presentation about the history of the German men's choir. Call president Constance Ewazen, 216-398-8969 for more info.

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation board meeting, 6 pm, fourth Tues. of 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., Nov. 12th (& every second Tues.), 7 pm, Applewood Center, 3518 W. 25th St.

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

Ward 13 Republican meeting, Thurs., Nov. 14th (& every second Thurs.), 7 pm, Calvary Chapel Church, 6770 Brookpark Rd.

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

Remember

★ **Veterans Day** ★

Monday, November 11th

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Photo by Sheila Quealy Walter

On Saturday, October 19th, approximately 500 children and adults showed up for our neighborhood *Fall-o-ween Festival*. Because it was a cold, rainy day, festivities were held inside at MetroHealth and Deaconess-Krafft. Activities at the event, sponsored by Old Brooklyn Collaborators, included entertainment, pumpkin decorating, games, food and live music.

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Vote for JOE GIGANTE
CITY COUNCIL WARD 13
Tuesday, November 5th

I'd like to share a funny story about my Dad.

One evening while Dad was out giving estimates, he stopped at a red light, as he looked at his notes his foot slipped off the brake, he bumped into the car in front of him. He immediately put his pickup truck into park, got out of the truck and approached the car in front of him. The man sitting in the driver's seat had his hands on the steering wheel he had yellow goo coming from the top his head and dripping down his face. My dad thought he had hit the man harder than he first realized, that the man hit his head on the steering wheel and his head must have exploded, with his brains coming out of his head. My dad had never seen such a thing before, and was ready to find a phone to call an ambulance. Dad looked over at the man's wife, she was sitting there with her eyes tearing up, and then she began to laugh hysterically. Dad was so confused, after a few seconds, she explained that her husband was ok. They had just come from Honey Hut and her husband was ready to take a drink of his banana milk shake at the same time my dad bumped into him. The driver just sat there with the milkshake running down the top of his head down his face, to angry to move or yell.

As I tell this story, I begin to miss my dad even more. He was not only my dad but my partner in business. When he died he left a hole in me. I know nothing will ever fill that hole but the peace of God to endure, the grace of God to move forward. I wish He were here to vote for me. I know he would be proud.

As your City Councilman, this is just a few of the things I would like to do:

- As city councilman I will aggressively pursue the crime watch program with a leadership role with Auxiliary and the Cleveland Police Department. To communicate with the neighbors on how we can participate in a very effective crime watch program.
- have "town hall meetings" where we can have an open dialog at least twice a year to discuss issues in our neighborhood that our important to you our citizens.
- actively involve and promote the youth athletic programs, to ensure the parks are safe places for children to play in.
- am sensitive to the needs and concerns of the seniors and the burdens they have to carry today. I will be looking into leaf pickup and snow removal, and problems with the garbage cans.

Joe Gigante Ph. 216-351-7777 www.joegigante.com

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Joe Gigante. Denise Mckenzie, Treasurer