

Councilman Cimperman & Southwest Citizens sponsor W. C. Reed Park meeting at St. Barbara's

by Robyn Sandys
robysn@oldbrooklyn.com

A meeting was held on August 26th at St. Barbara's Church as a follow up to the December 17th meeting regarding the closing of W.C. Reed Park, a 12.5-acre City of Cleveland park located at W. 15th St. and Denison Ave. Approximately 125 people attended. The meeting was initiated by Councilman Joseph Cimperman and Dane Reich, the president of the Southwest Citizens Council. Councilman Tony Brancatelli also attended because starting in January, he will be representing that portion of Brooklyn Centre.

Councilman Cimperman started the meeting by first informing the group that work to contain the industrial waste byproduct known as "polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons" or PAHs (a probable carcinogen) will not start until late spring, most likely when the 2014 school year comes to a close. He went on to say, "I am grateful that the work for the park and its environmental mitigation will not begin until next year. This gives us time to continue working with and informing each other of concerns we have."

Darnell Brown, Chief Operating Office, City of Cleveland, and the staff member responsible for all city parks gave an overview of the planning that has taken place since the last meeting. He said that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has stepped up to assist in the capping of the PAHs found on the park grounds.

The carcinogens were found in the summer of 2012 when planning started on the redevelopment of a portion of the park. Soil testing was done as part of the initial stages of the redevelopment.

Many of the residents speaking at the meeting had lived in the area for over 50 years. They knew the history of the site when there was some dumping of industrial debris as far back as possibly the 1930s to the 1950s. The area was originally a 70-80 foot ravine.

At the December meeting Mr. Michael Cox, the City's Director of Public Works, stated that the levels of PAHs were slightly elevated above EPA standards for a recreational area. At the meeting held on August 26th, James Justice, representing the EPA, said that they did further testing at 56 data points. Levels had a wide range; some were below recreational standard and others were far above that standard. They decided to utilize residential standards as opposed to recreational standards for this project which is more stringent.



Photo by Robyn Sandys

On Monday, August 26th, a meeting was held regarding the closing of W.C. Reed Park. James Justice from the EPA (left of map) is discussing remediation plans for the park.

Mr. Justice went on to explain the process they will be using to contain exposure of the contaminants. They will not be removing any soil from the site. Instead they will be placing a protective barrier on top of what is there now and then put two feet of clean fill (which will be tested before being placed). This barrier will allow water to drain through it, but not allow any contaminants to rise above it.

After that, soil and grass or other plantings will be placed. Mr. Justice stated that it will be the City Park District's responsibility to maintain the site and assure that none of the contaminants will come to the surface. He went on to say that this capping process should last indefinitely if properly maintained.

Mr. Justice assured those at the meeting that this solution has been used successfully where there have been similar situations around the United States. Several people in the audience questioned where this method has been used and if in Ohio and where residents could learn more. Mr. Justice was not aware of any similar projects in Ohio. The estimated cost for the remediation effort is approximately three million dollars.

A major concern of those attending was what would happen to the many 60-year old majestic trees on site at the park. Attending the program to help answer that question was Alan Siewert, Urban Forester with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry. He stated that their role is only advisory.

Mr. Siewert walked the entire site recently and marked which trees they could keep and which would have to be cut down. He explained that many trees were already a

danger to those visiting the park because they were diseased or partially dead. Others would die within several years after the two feet of soil was put on top of the roots of the trees. Mr. Siewert stated that they were recommending keeping about nine trees in the central area of the park near the path.

After much discussion around the issue of the trees, it was recommended by those attending that Mr. Siewert and others involved in the remediation visit the site with concerned residents to discuss which trees would have to be removed. The residents were also looking for other solutions besides demolishing the trees and creating a 'waste land'.

Mr. Justice told the audience that they would test the soil at the approximately 40 resident's homes next to the park. This service would be done voluntarily and within the

next few months. And if there were higher than the residential standard of contaminants found on their property they would cap their land using the same method at no cost to the residents.

Several residents expressed deep concern about their property values declining even further if PAHs were found on their land.

In addition, residents also pointed out that the ravine's water should be tested. There seem to be some flooding issues as well around the site as expressed by several home owners.

Mr. Justice explained that once the remediation project begins next year that they would do their best to limit the amount of truck traffic on neighborhood streets.

See WC Reed Park page 8

Roof and parking lot repairs underway at Estabrook Recreation Center

by Jayme Lucas-Bukszar
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

Last month the roof and parking lot of Estabrook Recreation Center, 4125 Fulton Rd., began receiving some needed repairs. Councilman Kevin Kelley had been working since 2010 to secure funding for this work. The City of Cleveland finally approved the repairs in its 2013 capital budget.

The work is being done in several phases in order to accommodate both the patrons and the roofing contractor, and Estabrook is remaining open throughout the repairs. The rear (east) portion of the lot is currently being demolished and re-paved with 2 1/2" of asphalt.

Then the contractor will demolish and re-pave the north parking area.

The roof will be a complete tear-off and rebuild. After the roofing contractor has completed his work, the paver will return to install the final asphalt overlay (1 1/2") on the entire lot and do the line striping.

Repairs will also be made to interior areas damaged by the leaking roof, including ceiling tiles, floor tiles and the ceiling of the women's locker room.

The City hopes that both projects will be completed by November 1, 2013, weather permitting.

SAVE THE DATE

2013 Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation
Annual Meeting to be held on
Thursday, October 24th,
Grace Church, 2503 Broadview Rd.,
6 p.m.

Only CDC Members in good standing of at least 45 days
(Sept. 1st) before Oct. 15th can vote.

All community members are welcome to attend.

3rd annual Old Brooklyn Crime Watch fundraiser

Saturday, September 28th

6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Mary Queen of Peace Parish Center
4423 Pearl Rd.

50/50 & Basket Raffles

Side Boards & Safety Wacky Races

(winner must be present to win; 21 years & over)

Tickets: \$15

Includes:
Dinner, soft drinks, dessert & music

Also a chance to win a **\$100 Shell gas card**

For tickets:
Contact: Barb Spaan at
barbaras@oldbrooklyn.com or
216-459-1000

All proceeds to benefit the Old Brooklyn Crime Watch Program

September

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Greg Kapcar

General Manager,
Riverside Cemetery Association

Since November 2012, Greg Kapcar has been the General Manager of Riverside Cemetery at 3607 Pearl Rd in Brooklyn Centre. He has been involved on some level with the Riverside Cemetery Association for over 25 years. He worked there in college as one of the grounds crew, cutting grass, setting headstones and helping with funerals. He was also on the Board of Trustees for twelve years.

Greg has a background in social services and child welfare and feels strongly that his work at Riverside Cemetery carries on his calling to serve families and to celebrate lives.

Both Greg and his wife Sally, who are celebrating their twentieth wedding anniversary this year, were born and raised in the Cleveland area. They lived and worked in Columbus for seven years, but moved back to Cleveland so Greg could take the helm at Riverside.

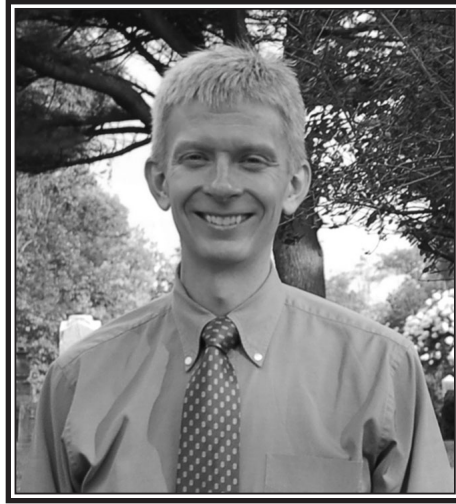
"Riverside Cemetery has had a special place in my heart ever since I worked the grounds in my college days. Life is abundant in the cemetery; it is an emerald jewel in the heart of Cleveland". For example, there is a family of deer that call the Cemetery home. There're "Momma", "George" and a few of George's siblings that were born and raised in the Cemetery.

Greg and the staff at Riverside have witnessed first-hand the calm and peace the deer's presence bring to a family grieving the loss of a loved one. The deer seem to show up at the right time and place to provide a level of comfort to visitors. Greg said it is very spiritual in nature and "the deer are part of our family."

Greg oversees the day-to-day operations at Riverside Cemetery with his staff of twelve people. The foreman of the grounds crew, Shirley Bill, has been working there since she was in high school.

Riverside Cemetery spans 93 acres and currently has over 55,000 interments. Greg emphasized that there is substantial space available and that the Cemetery will be serving the community for generations to come.

When asked about their community events, Greg said, "Cemeteries have historically been social gathering places; they are architecturally beautiful and peaceful. So we see having community events such as the annual *Jazz Fest* and Easter Sunrise Services



Greg Kapcar

Photo and article by Jayme Lucas-Bukszar

as a natural fit. We are celebrating culture, history, life, architecture and art in a special place in Brooklyn Centre."

Riverside Cemetery is not owned by a corporation or an individual, but rather by the people who purchase lots (grave spaces). A Board of Trustees serves on behalf of lot owners. The Cemetery is nondenominational, serving all faiths and religions. There are areas set aside for specific ethnic churches, including Estonian, Coptic, Belarusian and Latvian.

"All faiths are welcome and honored here," Greg confirmed. "There is a whole different feel throughout the cemetery and so many options."

Riverside's office hours are 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The gates are open seven days a week, 365 days a year from 7:30 a.m. until dusk. The Riverside Cemetery staff can be reached at 216-351-4800. They are also online at www.riverside-cemetery.cleveland.org.

When he's not at work, Greg enjoys biking and walking in the Cleveland Metroparks and landscaping. The couple's golden retriever, who has since passed away, was a certified therapy dog and visited patients at Metrohealth Medical Center who were recovering from strokes and brain injuries.

From the desk of the executive director

by Robyn Sandys
robyns@oldbrooklyn.com



Kids are back in school, traffic has picked up some on the highways, summer is coming to a close but that doesn't mean there are not still a lot of great things going on in Old Brooklyn!

First off on September 13th is our Community Picnic and Family Movie Night at Brookside Reservation starting at 5:30 p.m. Toy Story 3 will be the movie and that will start at dusk at around 8 p.m. We, the CDC, will be providing free hot dogs and hamburgers plus pop and water for all of those attending. The catch is you have to bring a side dish so we can have a fun community pot luck. Hope to see you there!

In October the CDC will be holding its annual meeting on Thursday, October 24th at Grace Church, at the corner of W. 28th and Broadview. That will start at 6 p.m. and is open to the public but only members of the organization can vote on CDC business. The meeting usually runs about an hour to ninety minutes. Light refreshments are offered.

Also in October is the Fall-O-Ween event produced by the Old Brooklyn Collaborators to be held on October 19th on Devonshire Rd. and at the MetroHealth campus.

Other news is spotlighted on the front page, with our AmeriCorps intern David Goldense working on a community health survey and nutrition and cooking classes. That is exciting for the neighborhood.

Also there is an update on the closing of W.C. Reed Park on Denison Ave. in Brooklyn Centre. It is expected that remediation will occur at the park in late spring 2014.

We are sad that one of our employees, Christopher Lohr, has left the CDC to pursue his PhD in Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University. We are excited that he is receiving a full scholarship and an assistantship at the Economic Development Institute at Cleveland State. His last day at the CDC was August 29th. We will miss him very much. *See photo on page 12.*

For assistance on Old Brooklyn's Wi-Fi program and lending library, residents may contact Ed Zubek who has been working behind the scenes on this program for the past few years. He has provided technical support for those having a hard time connecting. He will continue to do that and also manage the lending library.

To contact Ed you may call him at 440-941-3705, or email at edz@oldbrooklyn.com.

PICNIC

Old Brooklyn Community Potluck Picnic & Movie

Free Family Event

Friday, Sept 13th
5:30 - 10:00 pm

Brookside Reservation Event Site
(off Ridge Rd. on John Nagy Blvd.)

Art House will help your little one create a special take-home project.

Movie - "Toy Story 3" at Dusk

We will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, the fixings and drinks. You supply a side dish or dessert, as well as a chair.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 11th

216-459-1000 or email
cynthiac@oldbrooklyn.com

Old Brooklyn CDC now accepting nominations for the Board of Directors

The Old Brooklyn Community Development Board of Directors is now accepting nominations to fill seats that will be vacated by the Directors whose terms end this fall. Please submit your contact information (including email) and a biography of yourself to:

Old Brooklyn CDC
2339 Broadview Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44109
Attention: Robyn Sandys
You may fax the information to 216-459-1741 or email robyns@oldbrooklyn.com.

There are 3 categories: residential, commercial and institutional.

For further information about the CDC, go to www.oldbrooklynconnected.com. The Board of Directors link includes a copy of the CDC's Code of Regulations which describes the criteria for each category. The term will start after the October annual meeting.

You must also be a member in good standing, which means your membership dues are up to date. Membership information is also available on the web site.

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

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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 Filips -- Copy Editor

This month's OBN writers -- Katherine Bulava, Jeannie Chapman, Lynette Filips, Dave Goldense, Kim Repinski, Russ Sopko and OBCDC staff

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

OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

2339 Broadview Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio 44109
Phone: (216) 459-0135
Fax: (216) 459-1741
website: www.oldbrooklyn.com
email: sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com

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E-mail: sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com

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NEWS & EVENTS

Thursdays, Now thru Sept. 10th
The Sparx Summer Concert Series
 Thursday nights, 5 - 9 pm.
 Four locations. **East 4th St.** - live music & 'specials' on 'patios along street.
PlayhouseSquare - bars & restaurants offering happy hour specials, 5 - 7:30 pm on first Thurs. of every month -- Now - Sept.
West 6th St. - every other Thurs., 5 - 7 pm. Featuring Sparx performances, happy hour specials & live music.
West 9th St. - a cornhole tournament, live music & free movie projected onto large, inflatable screen. Bring lawn chairs! Find complete list of dates & musical performers at Sparx Concert Series webpage.

Now - September 12th
Historical Guided Walking Tours
 Take A Hike! **6 pm Tuesdays:** Playhouse Square -- meet at the State Theatre Lobby, 1519 Euclid Ave.; **6 pm Thursdays:** Historic Gateway Neighborhood, meet at the Arcade, 401 Euclid Ave. **10 am Saturdays:** Historic Warehouse District -- meet at Constantino's Market, 1278 W. 9th St. **10 am Sundays:** Canal Basin park, meet at Settler's Landing RTA Station, 1025 W. Superior Ave. **6 pm Wednesdays:** Civic Center Tour -- meet at Old Stone Church, 91 Public Square. Call 216-771-1994 or visit www.historicgateway.org. for more info. Sponsored by Dollar Bank.

Tuesdays, Now to October 1st
Tremont Farmer's Market
 Lincoln Park, 4 - 7 pm. Fruits, vegetables, eggs, cheese, honey, bread & more. Music, chef demos, nutrition information, local artisans, community groups, family fun. Call 216-575-0920 or visit www.tremontfarmersmarket.com for more info.

Now to October
Book Donations
 Cuyahoga County Public Library, Brooklyn Branch, 4480 Ridge Rd. Any & all donations welcome for book sale in October. Call 216-398-4600.

Sundays, Now thru October
Kamm's Corners Farmers Market
 Now thru Oct. Municipal lot behind Walgreens. Call Jenny Kelley, 216-252-6559, ext. 1400, or visit www.kamscornersfarmersmarket.com.

Now to Sunday, January 5th, 2014
Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition
 Great Lakes Science Center, 601 Erieside Ave. 250 authentic artifacts recovered from ocean floor & room re-creations & personal stories, each highlighting different chapter in story of Titanic's maiden voyage. Two ticket options -- **Option 1:** Buy advance tickets online, www.greatscience.com/nasa. All tickets are timed; limited space. **Option 2:** Buy same-day tickets at box office. Includes admission to Titanic plus general admission to Great Lakes Science Center & NASA Glenn Visitor Center. Non-members: adults - \$24; youth - \$22 (2 - 12 years); Members: adults - \$10; youth - \$10 (2 - 12 years). Call 216-621-2400 for more info.

Friday, August 30th - Monday, September 2nd
The Cleveland Labor Day Oktoberfest
 Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, 164 Eastland Rd., Berea. Fri., 5 - midnight; Sat. & Sun., noon - midnight; Mon., noon - 9 pm. Authentic German food, beer & entertainment; local & regional musicians & German dance groups.

Rain or shine. Admission: \$10 adults; children under 12 free. Free parking.
Monday, September 2nd
Cleveland Polka Association's "BYOE" Picnic
(bring your own everything)
 St. Sava's Picnic Grove, 2300 W. Ridgewood Dr. Gate opens 2 pm. Live polka music by The Dynasonics from Penn., 3 - 7 pm. Donation: \$11; 18 & under, free. Bring picnic baskets & coolers; public welcome. Call Jo, 216-587-2725, for large table reservations or more info.

Wednesday, September 4th
Open House
St. Augustine Child Enrichment Center
 St. Augustine Child Enrichment Center, 7801 Detroit Ave., 4 - 7 pm. Refreshments, tours, "make & take" projects; learn about curriculum. Center is for children 6 weeks to pre-school; features smaller classroom sizes & low teacher/child ratio. Fully-equipped Early Childhood Education Center; pre-school curriculum follows State & Head Start standards. Open Mon. - Fri., 6:30 am - 6 pm. Call 216-939-7681 or visit www.staugministries.org for more info.

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.)
Wed., Sept. 4th through Wed., Oct. 9th - Take Charge of Your Health; 2-4 pm (every Wed.) Cleveland Clinic health professionals explore various health & wellness topics (e.g., memory, exercise, stroke, blood pressure & stress). Free health screenings & giveaways.

Mon., Sept. 9th - Parma Snow Saves Coupon Club; 6:30 - 8:30 pm; 2nd Mon. each month.
Tues., Sept. 10th - Be Your Own Boss; 7 pm.
Mon., Sept. 23rd - Books Uncovered; Finding Money in Your Old Books; 7 pm.
Mon., Sept. 30th - Saving Money on Home Repairs; 7 pm.

Friday, September 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th
Microsoft Excel Classes I, II, III, IV
 South Brooklyn Branch Library, 4303 Pearl Rd., 11:15 - 12:45. To register call 216-623-2980 or visit TechCentral or any Cleveland Public Library branch.

Saturday, September 7th
Animal Blessing Service & Ice Cream Social
 Archwood United Church of Christ, 2800 Archwood Ave. (in courtyard); 1 pm. All well-behaved animals welcome, or bring a picture of the pet. If possible donate dog or cat food for needy pet owners. Call 216-351-1060 for more info.

Monday, September 9th
Cuyahoga Valley Genealogy Society
 Independence Civic Center, Willow Room, 6363 Selig Blvd., 7:30 pm. Program: *Using Family Search, including FamilySearch Trees, a Collaborative Worldwide Pedigree Chart* presented by Alan Rabe, LDS Area Family History Advisor for northern OH & western PA, with direct responsibility for the Family History Centers in Kirtland & Solon. Contact CVGS president Mary Boehnlein, 440-736 7180, or via www.cuyahogagenealogy.org, for more info.

Wednesday, September 11th
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.

Sept. 11th, candy dish made of round reed in two alternating colors with looped rim. Cost - \$8; call by Sept. 4th. **Oct. 9th, wool rinsing basket;** stands on four legs, measures approx. 8" high x 9" wide x 4" deep. . **Cost - \$18.** Supplies to bring when weaving -- old towel, bucket, clothes pins, ruler, pencil, scissors. Call Connie, 216-749-7912, to RSVP.

Thursday, September 12th
Antique Collectors Club
 Busch Community Meeting Room, 7501 Ridge Rd., 7 pm. Program: *The Rise & Fall of the Interurban Railway*, presented by John Dailey. Call Robert Murdoch, Publicity Chairman, 440-845-7046, for more info.

Saturday, September 14th
Koinonia's Run, Walk, D.R.E.A.M.
5k Run & 1 Mile Walk
 Palava Hut Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, 3900 Wildlife Way. Registration - 7 am, 5k run - 8 am; 1 mile walk - 9 am. All registrations include passes to Zoo & The RainForest on day of event. Online registration closes 9 am, Fri., Sept. 6th. Pre-Registration: \$25, ages 12 & above; \$13, ages 2-11; free under 2. Individual with I/ID & Caregiver, \$15. All mailed entries must be postmarked by Tues., Sept. 3rd. Make checks payable to Hermes & mail to: Hermes Sports & Events, 1624 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, 44114. Race Day registration: \$30, ages 12 & above; \$15, ages 2-11; free under 2. Individual with I/ID & Caregiver, \$15. Proceeds benefit Koinonia Homes' residential, employment & social programs to improve lives of adults with intellectual &/or developmental disabilities.

Sunday, September 15th
Emerald Necklace Road Rally
 CanalWay Center, Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation; 9:30 am - 5 pm. Scenic motorcycle ride through Emerald Necklace. Begin & end at Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation in Cuyahoga Heights. Ride will stop at four jewels of the Emerald Necklace throughout the county. Some additional gems will be noted on the map, where you might want to explore if you have time. Compete in a Cleveland Metroparks trivia contest, the answers will be found at the stops, for prize baskets. This is not a guided ride, you will be given turn by turn directions to follow. Registration begins - 9:30 am. Last vehicle out - 11 am. Must return to Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation by 5 pm. Registration by Sept. 10th - \$15 per person; \$20 per person day of event. Includes map, contest & picnic dinner (served 4- 6 pm). Call 216-206-1000 or clevelandmetroparks.com to register or for more info.

Saturday, September 21st
14th Annual Classic Car Show
 Mary Queen of Peace Parish, 4423 Pearl Rd. 9:30 am - 2:30 pm. **Rain date - Sept. 28th.** Pre-registration fees: Cars & trucks - \$8 (\$10 day of show). Bicycles & Pedal cars \$4 (\$6 day of show). Concession stand, 50/50 raffle, door prizes, 50's & 60's music by Al's Unique D.J. Hosted by parents of Boy Scout Troop 88 & Cub Scout Pack 45. Call 216-398-1682 for more info.

Saturday & Sunday, September 21st & 22nd
Tremont Arts & Cultural Festival
 Lincoln Park, 1208 Starkweather Ave.; Sat., 11 am - 6 pm; Sun., 12 pm - 5 pm. Multi-racial & multi-cultural festival, fine art, sculpture, jewelry, children's activities, programs, food booths, musicians & performers. Free admission.

Sat. & Sun., Sept. 21st & 22nd, 27th & 28th
City Repair Project Needs Volunteers
 Sponsored by Neighborhood Connections. If you need community service hours for church, work or school, join the fun. Brooklyn Centre Naturalists & SCFBC will be painting & constructing two projects. Call Gloria Ferris, 216-351-0254, for more info.

Sunday, September 22nd
Potluck in the Park
 Dunham Tavern Museum, 6709 Euclid Ave. , 4:30 - 7 pm. Share a favorite dish; bring a non-perishable food donation for Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland. To RSVP go to potluckinthepark2013.eventbrite.com or call 216-702-1423 for more info.

Saturday, September 28th
50's & 60's Sock Hop & Pot Luck Dinner
 American Legion Post 469, 4910 Memphis Ave. Serving: 5 - 7 pm; dancing: 7:30 pm - 12 am. Music by Johnny K. \$8.50 per person; cash bar. Call Colleen, 216-398-7434, for tickets.

Saturday, September 28th
Tremont History Project Church Tour
 Begin at St. Wendelin Church on Columbus Rd. at 12:15 pm; then visit St. Michael Church & Immanuel Lutheran Church on Scranton Rd. Last stop is St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church on W. 14th St. Refreshments at Prosperity Social Club on Starkweather afterward. Tour open to age 12 years & older; reservations required. Cost - \$20; includes refreshments. Call Dorothy, 440-617-0498, to RSVP.

Saturday & Sunday, September 28th & 29th
Annual "Shunpike Shoppe" Sale
 Brooklyn Historical Society annual sale at museum, 4442 Ridge Rd. Sat., 10 am - 3 pm & Sun., noon - 3 pm. (also day of quilt raffle drawing). Hand-Quilted patchwork "Sea Mist" patchwork quilt in gentle sea shades. Other items, herb & specialty breads, homemade bakery, Amish jams & jellies, hand-loomed rugs & purses, lace ruffle scarves, costume jewelry, dried wreaths, lavender & catnip bags, reusable cloth gift bags, houseplants, perennials & lots of white elephants. Ongoing quilting & rug loom demos, tours & continuous power point presentation of old area pictures. Call 216-941-0160 for more info.

Monday, September 30th
Western Reserve Rose Society Meeting
 North Royalton Public Library, 5071 Wallings Rd. (new location), 7 pm. Program: *"Single Petal Roses"* by Lori Hilfer. Call Patti, 330-220-2213, or email webmaster@westernreserverosesociety.org for more info.

Saturday, October 12th
Reggae For Food
 The Beachland Ballroom, 15711 Waterloo Rd.; 6:30 pm. Tickets: \$15 in advance at Beachland Ballroom, Root Cafe, 15118 Detroit Ave. or www.beachlandballroom.com. All ages \$20 at door. Five local reggae acts: Carlos Jones + the P.L.U.S. Band, Umojah Nation, Jah Messengers, Human Nature & Dub Flex. Door prizes, 50/50 raffle. All proceeds support All Faiths Pantry. Visit www.allfaithspantry.org for more info.

Saturday, October 19th
5th Annual Night at the Races
 Theodore Roosevelt American Legion Post #469, 4910 Memphis Ave. Post time, 7:30 pm. \$15 per person, includes beer, wash & snacks during races & buffet following races. BYOB. Call 216-741-1880 for tickets or more info.

Sunday, October 27th
St. Mary Byzantine 75th Anniversary
 St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, 4600 State Rd.; liturgy & dinner. Looking for current & previous parishioners to join in celebration. Also looking for pictures & memories to be part of commemorative book. Call JoAnn Hardony, 440-845-4392, or email jhardony@gmail.com, for 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.

Barb, Dusty, Jamie & John
 at
Valley West
HAIR DESIGN
 would like to extend this
Invitation to visit us at our
New Location
5349 Broadview Rd.
Parma, Ohio 44134
 (1/2 block south of Tuxedo)
 Please bring this invitation for an additional
\$5⁰⁰ OFF on any service
216-749-1191

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 216-398-7743
 LTeacherforlife@aol.com
 1607 Cook Avenue
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 Providing professional legal services in
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216-398-4100
 2424 Broadview Road
 jmhlaw@sbcglobal.net

A new blue ribbon for Ben Franklin Garden

by Kim Repinski
BFG Operating Committee Chairman

The Ben Franklin Community Garden is sporting another blue ribbon. The garden tied for the best Community Garden display at the Cuyahoga County Fair last month. This is the sixth blue ribbon the Garden has won.

The display included pictures of the Garden and featured produce grown by Ben Franklin gardeners.

Thank you to the gardeners who assisted in setting up the display as well as the following gardeners who donated produce: Hallie Forcinio, Jason Ghann, Stephanie Ghann, Kim Hageman, John Jenkins, Jeff Kostura, Greg Noeth, TJ Oryshkewych, Kim Repinski, Judy Routzon, Tom Sargent, Mary Ellen Stasek, Jen Terry, Bill Wallace and Lisa Young.



Photo by Kim Repinski

The theme of this year's blue ribbon entry was *Views of the Garden*. Along with the fresh veggies, the display included the Garden's landmark, sign, flagpole, arbor, t-shirt and, at the top, a 180-degree photo of the Garden.

Ben Franklin gardeners also did well in individual categories at the Fair, taking home first, second and third place ribbons in many categories.

Over the past summer, the Garden has also hosted representatives from several neighborhood communities who are interested in starting community gardens. As the largest community garden in Cuyahoga County, Ben Franklin is a great example of how to establish and operate a community garden.

Also visiting the Garden lately are Monarch Butterflies. The bright orange butterflies are a welcome sight as they migrate to a warmer climate.

The Garden is a designated waystation for the Monarchs, providing milkweed, a nectar source and shelter to them. The number appears to be less this year. This might be due to last year's drought.

As the summer progresses gardeners are being kept busy harvesting the long-awaited vegetables. Once again the gardeners are donating all excess produce to a "hunger table".

Garden volunteers are delivering the donations to area churches, senior centers and food kitchens. Over 900 pounds have already been delivered – well on the way to meeting the 6,000 pound goal the Garden has set. The final tally of donations will not be known for several months, but Ben Franklin gardeners have always proved to be up to the challenge.

As school bells ring, help keep students safe

by Barbara Spaan
barbaras@oldbrooklyn.com

Whether your loved one is 5 years or 16 years old, have you prepared them for the start of another school year? Too many parents can hardly wait to get them out the door and out of their hair.

How prepared are they? Moreover, how well are you prepared? You're not with them all day to watch over what is happening or to give advice.

Parents spend lots of money for uniforms, phones, computers, books, materials, special activities, preparing lunches or doling out lunch money. They want their children to have the best experiences and education.

But there is no amount of money to replace talking with children before, during and even at the end of every day about their activities and concerns. They will tell you if you ask.

How does your child travel to school? What route do they travel? Who do they travel with? When they left, what were they wearing and what did they take with them?

How much do you know about the school and teachers? Can you trust them with your loved ones' lives? What is the school security routine for fire, tornado and intruder alerts? How will they contact you if something happens during the school day or after special

events? Have you taken time to talk to your children about "What to do IF...?"

If you can't answer all these questions, you have not done your home work. You will have no one but yourself to blame if and when something happens to your children. It will take a little time to get the information/answers but it won't cost a penny.

Take time now to sit down and talk to them about their travel and personal and school safety. Spend the time each day to know what's going on and with whom they are friends.

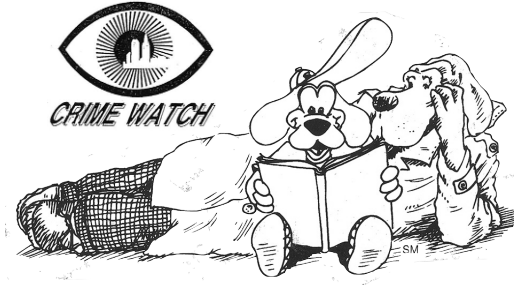
Encourage them to bring their friends home so you can meet them. Make sure your children can always reach you. Go to the school and ask questions.

You know your children. Do you see

sudden personality or physical changes? Ask questions now. If they won't tell you, is there anyone else they will talk to? Don't give in; keep an eye on them until they return to the child/children you knew.

Don't let them lock you out of their rooms. Place the computer in a location of common living area for all to see. If you need professional help, don't be afraid to get it.

Your children are not replaceable. They need you always and forever... They may not agree with that now, but remember that you're the parent -- older and wiser. They didn't come with an owner's manual, but all you really have to do is guide, care for and love them.



Second District Police initiates regular meetings with CDC Safety Coordinators

by Katherine Bulava,
Hatha Communications

On August 28th, Second District Commander Keith Sulzer joined representatives from Ohio City Inc. (OCI), Tremont West Development Corporation (TWDC), Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO), Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) and Stockyard, Clark Fulton & Brooklyn Centre Community Development Office at the third monthly Second District Safety Organizers meeting.

Commander Sulzer instituted these monthly meetings to give the Second District's community development corporations' (CDCs) key neighborhood safety people a venue to compare notes, share ideas, collectively come up with new ones and work together to prevent crime.

"More minds together often equal better solutions," said Commander Sulzer. "The information shared is stimulated through conversation so that we end up with a think tank that's not possible during one-to-one meetings."

The meetings, the Commander explained, are focused on future planning and crime prevention; he hopes that through improved communication they will generate long term solutions to problems such as car theft and home burglary which are prevalent throughout the Second District.

"I agree with Commander Sulzer that the better informed the community is, the less crime we will have," said Kerry McCormack, OCI Director of Community Affairs. "The safety directors are by no means a substitute for the police, but we can play a role in educating the community and bringing together people and resources to proactively stop crime."

After just three meetings, there are already positive results to working together. Each of the CDCs is in the process of distributing "We Support Our Second District Police Officers" signs which in addition to boosting the morale of the officers, have the potential to act as a crime deterrent.

"My officers really appreciate the show of support," said Commander Sulzer. "They come to work with more energy."

The signs, which were the brainchild of an OBCDC employee who lives in the community, have been a huge hit. OBCDC was the first neighborhood to distribute the signs.

"We distributed our first batch of signs in under an hour," said DSCDO Director of Community Involvement John Hausman. "We are in the process of printing more."

Another OBCDC crime prevention tool is also now being shared with the remaining Second District neighborhoods, thanks to the joint meetings. For years OBCDC Community Outreach Manager Barb Spaan has been printing safety tips in the *Old Brooklyn News* as a way to help residents and businesses keep from becoming crime victims. These articles are now being shared by multiple CDCs so that more people can benefit from the tips.

"Communication and education has a proven track record of keeping our neighborhood safe," Barb said.

TWDC started a "Put your Junk in your Trunk" campaign to help prevent car break-ins that Commander Sulzer credits for a 50% decrease in theft from vehicles. This campaign is now being implemented in other neighborhoods.

The CDCs are also pulling together the individual crime prevention information they all have in order to create a standard neighborhood watch training manual which each CDC will distribute. Though each neighborhood manual will place more emphasis on the issues most prevalent in that community, all of them will provide the same prevention information.

In addition to learning prevention techniques from one another, the meeting participants also discuss current crime issues and tactics to spot and catch those criminals. Working together on such issues can result in more closed cases.

"Crime doesn't understand neighborhood boundaries," said Adam Gifford, Stockyard Director of Community Involvement. "It's important for us to identify what we are seeing and compare that to what's in neighboring communities to see if there are patterns. There may be opportunities for residents to work together as well."

Commander Sulzer stressed that the CDCs are another resource for residents in addition to the police.

"We are all here and interconnected and talk to the police on a regular basis and the Commander is a big part of these meetings," said TWDC Neighborhood Safety Coordinator Andy Thomas. "If you have an issue, please call and tell us about it because we will address it either individually or at these meetings. Our goal is to make the neighborhood a safer place."

Contact Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation's Community Outreach Manager Barb Spaan, 216-459-1000, ext. 205, or barbaras@oldbrooklyn.com, with safety-related questions, information or concerns.

(Lynette Filipis contributed to this article.)

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Three out of four times there's a holiday coming up when we're getting our summer issues of the *Old Brooklyn News* ready for the printer. And it seems like there's always some 'not-to-be-missed' event going on the weekend before deadline, too.

When I was getting this issue together, for instance, it was the last weekend of the Tremont *Arts in August* program, and also the inaugural year of *One World Fest* (an expansion of the existing One World Day) at the Cleveland Cultural Gardens.

Tremont's *Arts in August* had an even fuller than usual line-up of entertainment this year, and the *One World Fest* certainly got off to a great start.

Although the traffic and parking were challenging at the *One World Fest*, the fact that so many thousands of people turned out speaks volumes about the city's renaissance and Clevelanders' desire to have this type of event to attend. Ethnic ties are strong here!

And it reminds me that the historical series about the Cultural Gardens which I started last summer still has a few more segments to be written. Another trip to the Gardens before winter is in my future.

I got a call from the **Broadview & Schaaf Marathon** station last week asking me to drop off more August newspapers.

What a smile came to my lips when I put them in their usual place on the counter. One of the owner's friends had tacked up an open issue of the August *Old Brooklyn News*. On the page with the picture of the Sinclair gas station (a neat-looking vintage building which preceded the building the Marathon is in) he'd written in big red letters "YOU ARE HERE".

Neighborhood history seems to be what gets the most attention, either in response to something I've written, or as an independent query. I'm still looking for (on behalf of one of

our readers) information about the **Walton School** which was included in last month's history article. And I'm very pleased about receiving the information in the unsolicited email about 'Greeny Pond' which made up this month's history article.

I've also received additional data about Schaaf Rd., the greenhouse industry and d.a. levy. It's all in the queue for a future story, but more information is always welcome.

Speaking of greenhouses, that's one of the the categories of photographs which the **Historical Society of Old Brooklyn (HSOB)** is looking for this month for their upcoming picture book about Old Brooklyn. Photographs of the Benjamin Franklin school gardens is this month's category, too. (But the group is also open to receiving historical pictures for other chapters of the book at any time.)

This book will be comprised of approximately 200 pictures about earlier times in this neighborhood. The pictures must be at least 50 years old, black and white, and originals (not copies). Each picture will have a caption of several sentences describing it. The photos will be scanned locally and then returned to the owners.

The HSOB received a grant from the Cuyahoga Arts & Culture organization, and the Arcadia Publishing picture book is one of the projects on which that money is being spent.

Call Constance Ewazen, 216-398-8969, or Lorene Bowles, 216-749-7416, if you have pictures you'd like to be considered for inclusion in the book.

The HSOB also still has ten copies of its previous publication, *Speaking of Old Brooklyn ... Oral Histories* book, (published in December of 2011) available.

One of the members of the HSOB has been seriously involved with books in a different way. **Richard L. Bowles** earned the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle (CLSC) Guild's "Centurion" designation and patch on August 8th at the CLSC annual graduation ceremony in Chautauqua, New York.

The CLSC is the oldest ongoing reading club in the country. (It began in 1874.) To graduate, a person must have been a member for at least four years and have read twelve books of his/her choice from the reading list.

After that, he/she becomes a member of

the alumni association, the Guild of the Seven Seals. After reading fourteen additional books, he/she receives a stole and the first patch. After reading another fourteen books, he/she gets a second patch. After reading another twenty-one books, he/she gets a third patch. After reading another forty-nine books, he/she gets the fourth and final patch and become a "Centurion" member of the Guild., That adds up to having read 110 books from the list (which includes history, science, poetry, biography, autobiography, religion, memoir, philosophy, psychology and historical and general fiction).

Some months ago I received a request for information from **Barbara Stepic**, the president of the **Brooklyn Historical Society**. She is looking for information about **Glenn Hall**, which was once the meeting place of our neighborhood's **International Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF)**.

The first IOOF building (frame) was at the southwest corner of Pearl Rd. and 'Short' Broadview Rd.; the second building (brick) is

still right behind where the earlier one was once located, and can be accessed from 'Short' Broadview.

About 30 years ago, someone donated a number of large group pictures to Brooklyn Historical Society, and they want to display them in their museum at 4442 Ridge Rd. But they need more information -- Are they actually pictures of an IOOF group, and who might these turn-of-the-last-century individuals be?

Barb would appreciate hearing from anyone with knowledge of the Odd Fellows or other fraternal groups from that era. Call 216-941-0160 or stop by the museum to see the pictures.

I thought that I would be passing along more church news this month, but obviously I did not get that far. Still, I am always happy to have people apprise me of what's going on in the neighborhood.

Send your news to Lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com, or Lynette Filips, 2339 Broadview Rd., Cleveland 44109. I will use it in this column eventually.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Brooklyn Genealogy - For information about the group contact president Ann Wojtowicz, wojtowicz6809@roadrunner.com.

Brooklyn Historical Society meeting, Wed., Sept. 25th, 7 pm, Museum, 4442 Ridge Rd. Speaker: Tony Monachino; Topic: Collecting Charles Schultz/Peanuts. Will have lots of memorabilia on display, inc. 3 of original strips. Refreshments will follow; all welcome. Call Barb, 216-941-0160, for more info.

Historical Society of Old Brooklyn meeting, 7 pm, Fri., Sept. 13th, Pearl Road United Methodist Church, 4200 Pearl Rd. (Use rear entrance off parking lot.) Speaker from Jack Frost donuts talking about the company's history in the neighborhood. Samples! 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.

Laurel Garden Club of Brooklyn meeting, Tues., Sept. 10th; 7 pm. Brooklyn Fire Station, 8400 Memphis Ave., rear door. Awards given to members for "Summer Harvest Show and Tell", best home-grown flowers, vegetables & herbs. Report on success of the Veggie-U project will be presented. Refreshments to follow, all welcome. Call Barb, 216-671-6777, for more info.

Second District Police Community Relations meeting, Tues., Sept. 10th (& every second Tues.), 7 pm, Applewood Center, 3518 W. 25th St.

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

Ward 13 Republican meeting, Thurs., Sept. 12th (& every second Thurs.), 7 pm, Calvary Chapel Church, 6770 Brookpark Rd.

Ward 13 Democratic Club meeting, Tues., Sept. 17th (& every third Tues.), 7 pm, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 5801 Memphis Ave.

OBCDC answers WiFi Question of the month

Question: (From Len on Pearl.)

I am unable to connect my gaming system to the Old Brooklyn network. What am I doing wrong?

Answer:

Thank you for your question, Len. You are not doing anything wrong. Our network forces a redirection and authentication when

users connect. Gaming systems such as XBOX, PlayStations, etc. are not compatible with that redirection, and unfortunately will not connect. We have not been able to resolve this issue so far.

If there are residents who have found a way around this, please contact Ed on the support line at 440-941-3705.

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by Tom Collins
tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

Regulatory Stress

"Regulatory Stress" is likely a condition not recognized by the American Medical Association but it does exist. Talk to the owner of a small business about regulatory requirements by government and government agencies and you will begin to understand the stress caused by compliance.

If you own and operate a business, large or small, you must spend considerable time reporting or documenting compliance with multiple regulations.

Businesses are regulated by municipalities (zoning, building codes, licensing), counties (real estate and/or personal property taxes), state (sales and corporate income taxes), regional tax collection agencies (employee income tax), sewer districts (storm and sanitary sewer fees), water districts (fresh water fees) and numerous agencies which levy special fees or assessments. And the federal government is yet another source of numerous regulations.

All regulations begin with some common sense need to protect employees, consumers, citizens or corporations from some defined danger or harm.

Some regulations are enacted to correct problems that occur in the absence of the regulation. And some regulations are created to reduce risk or spread liability amongst a larger group, like workers injury compensation.

No single regulatory authority or regulation is a significant compliance issue but collectively complying with all regulations is costly and inhibits economic growth.

Let this article focus on some of the basic City of Cleveland requirements for doing business in the city. Keep in mind that the City does provide services necessary for doing business. A city must recov-

er costs for maintenance of roads, bridges, utilities, along with trash removal and safety services.

A basic requirement is the Certificate of Occupancy (C of O). This is primarily a safety concern to ensure that the building in which a business is operating is structurally sound and equipped for the operation of the business. It is intended to make sure that the interior square footage is adequate for the number of employees or patrons, that there are adequate restrooms, exits and parking, and that the plumbing and electrical systems are adequate and safe.

If a business needs special ventilation or "burn time" because of the work of the business, then the C of O plans examiner will review for that. If floor bearing load levels are an issue or elevator capacity, then that will be reviewed. If the business centers on personal health services (doctor and dental offices), then the Department of Health is involved.

Zoning is also an important part of the C of O review. As an example, a meat rendering plant cannot be in residential district nor can major auto repair be in a local retail district.

In situations where the zoning ordinances prohibit a use that is in fact a reasonable use and good for the community a "variance" can be requested before the Board of Zoning Appeals. This is a good process to protect commercial corridors from undesirable businesses while allowing for exceptions which benefit the community.

Many businesses are in a Design and Review District. This is a defined geographic area within a community generally consisting of older commercial buildings with distinct architectural features.

In Old Brooklyn the Design and Review District is along Pearl Rd. from Wildlife Way to Leopold Ave., along State Rd. from Pearl Rd. to Leopold Ave. and along Broadview Rd. from Pearl Rd. to Mayview Ave. The intention is to protect the older commercial buildings from exterior changes that would visibly hurt the surrounding buildings.

Therefore, any exterior changes to the

building façade or landscaping, excluding routine maintenance, must be approved by the local Design and Review committee before a building permit can be issued. This prevents business owners from covering display windows with wood, covering wood or brick facades with vinyl siding or T 111 board, signs that are not proportionate to the building, and new curb cuts or attachments that would be inconsistent with the architectural character of the building.

It does not prohibit renovation or modernization; it just requires preliminary review so that no harm is introduced to the surrounding area. New signage, windows, doors, colors and materials are routinely approved by the Near West Design and Review Committee and there is no cost for the review. For more information please contact me at the telephone number or e-mail address below. Next month the column will provide more information about signage.

NO! NO! NO!

Recently the commercial portions of Pearl Rd., Broadview Rd., State Rd. and the Memphis Fulton area have been inundated with panhandlers.

They are not the nuisance semi-home-

less or intoxicated pan handlers found in other parts of the city. These are young women with babies and young children approaching people asking for \$2 - \$3 for bus fare or, worse yet, a ride to somewhere. You can be sure there is a young man nearby watching and occasionally pushing the stroller.

The Second District Police are working closely with the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation to warn the person and if repeated arrest the solicitor.

The women's story is always compelling and the first inclination is to help, but it is a well-rehearsed scam. Do not give any money or purchase food and never offer a ride.

If you are solicited, please call the non-emergency police dispatch telephone number, 216-621-1234, and report the time and location of the solicitation. Police will be dispatched as available and the report will serve to identify the pattern.

These people know each other and are thought to be related. They most often are with a baby and stroller carrying more stuff than the normal parent would attach to a stroller. Do not confront the panhandler; just state a firm NO and report the incident. Not reporting only enables the women to continue. They have been offered, and will continue to be offered, help prior to being cited.

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Mostly from NHS's website

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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.

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- Have a household income not to exceed 120%* of the Area Median Income for Cleveland when the first mortgage is a conventional loan, or
- Have a household income not to exceed 115%* of the Area Median Income for Cleveland when the first mortgage is an FHA loan.
- Completed an 8 hour NHSGC Homebuyer Education Course.
- Purchase a home within the city limits of Cleveland.
- Agree to maintain the home as a primary owner occupant residence for the five year period.

■ Obtain a first mortgage loan from an approved CityLIFT lender.

■ More details regarding the CityLIFT Cleveland program are available at www.nhscleveland.org or by calling Jayme Lucas Bukszar at 216-459-1000.

*115% of the Area Median Income for a 2 person household is \$58,500 and 125% is \$60,900. More detailed information is available online at www.nhscleveland.org.

CLEVELAND CityLIFT LAUNCH EVENT

When: Thursday, September 12, 2013: 10:00 am. to 7:00 pm. and Friday, September 13, 2013: 10:00 am. to 7:00 pm.

Where: Cleveland Convention Center, 1 St. Clair Avenue NE, Halls B & C, Cleveland, OH 44113

At the Launch Event you can:

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- Sign up for education programs that can prepare you for finding and financing a home and managing the financial responsibilities of homeownership.

More Information:

<http://www.nhscleveland.org/buy-a-home/citylift/#sthash.VmS9NCoa.dpuf> or you can call 1-866-802-0456, M-F, 8 am. to 5 pm. CT.

Sources:

<https://www.wfhmconsumerevents.com/asp/vents/brochure.aspx>
<http://www.nhscleveland.org/buy-a-home/citylift/>

Food For Thought: New nutrition classes to be offered starting Sept. 26th

by Dave Goldense
davidg@oldbrooklyn.com

If you are looking for ways to live and eat healthier, there is an unbelievably long list of sources you can turn to for advice. But how can we know which, if any, of these countless health claims is actually going to get results?

By no means am I an expert -- and I won't ever admit to being one -- but part of my job is to be constantly working to better inform myself and others about simple and straightforward steps to take to get healthy and stay healthy. So here's some food for thought --

First and foremost, only you yourself know what solutions for eating better and being more active can fit into your life's demands.

Second, eating nutritious foods does not always need to be a punishment and sacrifice that always involves eating less tasty foods. If you are looking in the right place, there are plenty of foods (e.g., avocados, blueberries, and almonds) that get the best of both worlds.

Also, never forget the age-old saying 'everything in moderation,' because it is true that enjoying your favorites from time to time isn't necessarily a bad thing.

What I want to emphasize is that there are small changes that can be made to our diets that can, without additional cost, make a big difference in our overall health and wellness.

These simple changes include adjustments like choosing red iceberg lettuce, which contains significantly higher levels of vitamins and cancer-fighting antioxidants than its green counterpart. (For more information and examples on choosing the best fruits and veggie options, take a look at Jo Robinson's new book *Eating on the Wild Side*).

There are a wealth of resources available online that can help you customize a healthy eating plan for you, starting with www.myplate.gov. Gone are the days of the

old and familiar 'Food Pyramid,' and in its place is the 'My Plate' web site. It places greater emphasis on lean sources of protein like turkey and fish along with higher amounts of fruits and vegetables in a recommended diet, which should comprise half of your diet.

For smart phone users, the 'Let's Move It' app from the Cleveland Clinic might be worth a look because of its personal and detailed approach to tracking your physical activity throughout a week.

Healthy food choice options are becoming more available and affordable in Cleveland thanks to our growing local food industry. By supporting local growers and sellers, you will not only be boosting the area's regional economy, but also taking advantage of high quality, locally grown foods.

Multiple studies have shown that local produce from smaller, family-operated farms can be more nutritious than grocery store produce because of its reduced dependence on pesticide applications.

The Union of Concerned Scientists recently published a report concluding that if Americans ate just one more serving of fruits and vegetables each day, we could save more than 30,000 lives, reduce heart disease, and save \$5 billion in medical expenses.

Investing more in local foods is a win-win situation for all of us and something that our city is ahead of the curve on, so be sure to ride this wave and take advantage!

When it comes to feeding your family healthy meals that they will also enjoy, you don't need to be a professional cook to be able to make great meals. All of this can even be



See *Food for Thought* page 11

Volunteers needed for City Fresh

by David Waldman
davidw@oldbrooklyn.com

City Fresh is looking for volunteers to help out Thursdays at Grace Church, 2503 Broadview Rd., at the Old Brooklyn Fresh Stop

City Fresh is a uniquely accessible Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program that seeks to address the limited access to fresh, local produce in our cities while providing more stable markets for local farmers. Its primary focus is to get as much healthy produce onto the kitchen tables of the most possible people regardless of income.

Volunteer hours at the stop are from 4:30 to 7 pm and consists of checking in sharehold-

ers, helping them pick out their share and cleaning up.

Volunteering at the Fresh Stop is a lot of fun and a great way to meet people in the community and share recipes. Volunteers are also entitled to **FREE** produce.

If you would like to help out on Thursdays at either of these times or want to learn more about City Fresh call David at 216-459-1000 or email him at davidw@oldbrooklyn.com.

The Old Brooklyn Fresh Stop takes place on Thursdays at Grace Church, 2503 Broadview Rd. from 5 to 7 p.m.

For more information visit www.cityfresh.org.



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Just north of Schaaf Rd., Greeny Pond provided diversions for boys in past decades

by Russ Sopko
retired Cleveland Public School
teacher from Tremont School

(Editor's note: Last month the Old Brooklyn News received an email from a man who'd lived on W. 10th St. from 1942 to 1963. He wanted our help in locating photos of a gully and 'Greeny Pond' which existed near his home in the 1950s and 1960s; he'd written 16 pages about this adventures there for his grandchildren, but needed photos to enrich the story. I excerpted some of his memories for the following article.)

Greeny Pond got its name from the green algae which completely covered the pond toward the end of August of each year. I estimate that it had a diameter of about 150 feet.

In spring the water in the pond was somewhat clear. My buddies and I would catch tadpoles during this time of the year.

During the hot summer months the pond turned a bright green color from the algae which invaded this somewhat stagnant pool. My friends and I would sometimes fish during the summer months, but caught nothing but goldfish and other varieties of carp.

By the end of summer, the pond literally looked like someone had laid a green carpet over its entire surface. Water snakes and garter snakes forged for food near and around it. A multitude of dragon flies and damsel flies hovered above the water, and a type of water spider seemed to skim on the surface of the pond, taking advantage of the water's surface tension.

In the winter we ice-skated on the Pond. Greeny Pond was filled by a stream which had its origin in the waste water from Boyerts' greenhouses, just about 100 yards from our home on W. 10th St. They kept the greenhouses warm during winter with heat from boilers, but I never understood why there was so much water

coming from the greenhouse. Boyerts' greenhouses and adjacent fields were situated behind the houses on the left side of W. 10th St. Their tomato and lettuce fields started from the sidewalk on Spring Rd. which ran east-west and went back to the beginning of the gully at the end of our formerly dead end street.

Where the Boyert acreage ended and the gully began, many discarded items (tires, car parts, broken toys, at push mower, etc.) were strewn along the incline to the gully floor some 70 feet below the level of the street.

I often thought of getting some of my friends together and having a trash-clearing party. But where would be put the discarded junk if we'd bring them up from the gully floor? I think that this was my first experience with littering, and it bothered me that people were so negligent and thoughtless, destroying the beauty of the gully.

I would walk along the top of the gully along a well-beaten path surrounded by oak, maple, walnut, hickory and buckeye trees. Finally there appeared a path that allowed people to walk down the steep sloop of the hill to the floor of the gully.

Kids accessed Greeny Pond itself by following a stream next to a path which ran parallel to the stream. We jumped over a diverted part of the main stream. If I didn't judge the jump over this marshy part of this branch in the stream, I would get a soaker when one of my tennis shoes landed in the swampy mire. Finally, after following the path along the stream for a quarter of a mile, we'd finally come into contact with the pond itself.

There was also an easier path to the Greeny Pond -- following a narrow peninsula of land at the end of the Boyerts' property. This peninsula extended above the stream of water that flowed from a drainpipe that was the source of the meandering creek in the gully.



In the spring of each year, large broadleaf plants on the marshy floor grew in profusion near the stream. We called these plants which carpeted this part of the gully 'skunk cabbage'. The smell they produced was my concept of a primordial rain forest. A pungent odor - a dark sewer-rotten foliage, thick green odor -- hovered above these plants.

(In retrospect, coming home from a day's trek in the woods, I must have smelled like sweat, grass and rotten stumps, mushrooms, ferns, branches, creek and pond water all rolled up into one young frame.)

Since it was very marshy in that area, no one could cross the stream that flowed in and around these plants. In the spring I would look for tadpoles in this stagnant pool of water, too. During the summer we could hear the constant croak of frogs once they matured. We could also hear the incessant drone of insects which sounded like a gigantic generator with its continual humming, guttural din.

I also noticed the uplifting sounds of the many varieties of birds chirping in the trees. I could hear the staccato sounds of the woodpeckers' beaks piercing the trunks and



branches of trees looking for insects. The creek meandering around the valley floor followed the contours of the gully and finally filled a large pond in the deepest bowl-like depression of the gully -- 'Greeny Pond'.

Why didn't I snap some photos of the gully when I was young? I must have thought that our beloved gully would last forever. Now I want to show my grandchildren pictures of the place where we found our own neighborhood Shangri-La.

If any readers possess such photos, I would pay for using them while I copy and enlarge. I would also send the enlarged photos to the person who has them with additional reimbursement.

I do have great photos of the Cuyahoga Valley from Van Epps Rd. where we crossed the wide pipe to the left of the railroad trestle. In the 1940s and 1950s, carrying a canoe on our shoulders, we would cross that pipe to the valley on the other end and row on the Ohio and Erie Canal and the Cuyahoga River.

I would be willing to share these 8 X 10 photos in exchange for photos of the gully and Greeny Pond. If you have photos of Greeny Pond or the gully, please contact me at 216-447-0806 or Russell3006@cox.net.

WC Reed Park from front page

There would also be constant testing of the air for contaminated particles as a result of the remediation. However, he clearly stated that no soil will be taken off site.

Councilman Cimperman and Mr. Justice stated that the remediation project would take about 180 days to complete.

Foster Pointe's Senior Housing on Denison
There were about ten residents from Foster Pointe which is right next to W. C. Reed Park and was also built on the landfill that produced the contaminants found at the park.

Mr. Michael Penny who lives at Foster Pointe informed the group that he has been getting "sick" from the sewer gas smells emanating from his apartment on site. He said that there were a number of other residents who have complained of the bad odor and have also not felt well. Chief Brown from the City stated that he would look into this problem immediately.


Councilman Cimperman and Mr. Justice stated that there will be several more opportunities for community input regarding this project before it starts next late spring.

For further information about PAHs check the web site http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polycyclic_aromatic_hydrocarbon.

Information will also be posted on www.oldbrooklynconnected.com regarding information shared at the August 26th meeting and future meetings.

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BBB MEMBER PRO

Monkey Bar & Grill opens on Memphis Ave.

by Jayme Lucas-Bukszar
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

The new Monkey Bar & Grill, 5517 Memphis Ave. (formerly Fat Guys Bar & Grill), offers a full menu with appetizers, fresh salads and wraps, pizza, sandwiches, and the great American classic, hot dogs. The owners, Jeremy Oravec and Tim McGreal, said they named the bar after Jeremy's young daughters who "climb all over me so we have called them monkeys for years", Jeremy laughs.

Tim and his wife Kim and their four year old daughter Katie live in the South Hills section of Old Brooklyn. He is a Marine Corp. veteran; he works at GE Lighting in addition to co-owning the new restaurant. Because he is from this area, Tim looked at many different locations before settling on the Memphis Ave. site. Tim grew up in Euclid and went to St. Joe's High School on E. 185th Street.

Jeremy and his wife Kristin and daughters Olivia and Riley live in nearby Sagamore Hills. Jeremy was raised in Lakewood and Kristin in Cuyahoga Falls. They lived in Phoenix, Arizona, for several years before relocating back to Cleveland.

Jeremy said, "We wanted to raise our family here; the Midwest has great values and down-to-earth people". Jeremy has been in the hospitality industry since 1996; he has been general manager of fine dining establishments, local bars, corporate chains, he has recently

sold his bar in Akron to take ownership of the Monkey Bar & Grill.

Tim and Jeremy have known each other for over ten years. Tim takes care of the construction and maintenance and Jeremy manages the business. Jeremy and Tim both agree that they "are excited to be part of this community and are looking forward to making a positive impact on the Old Brooklyn neighborhood".

Both are striving to create a fun, family-friendly (during dinner hours) atmosphere and are making "bar food" healthier and more interesting. They do not serve hamburgers.

When asked about their best sellers, Jeremy said, "The ladies like our Popeye wrap which has chicken, spinach, red onion, bacon, parmesan cheese and hot bacon dressing. Loaded nachos and our beer battered hot dogs are also a hit."

"We have specialty drinks too," Jeremy added. "The Tropical Monkey and the Crazy Monkey are very popular." The 'Tropical Monkey' has melon liquor, Malibu rum, cranberry juice and pineapple juice and the 'Crazy Monkey' is made with gin, Bacardi rum, Absolute vodka, Milagro tequila, Blue Curacao, sweet & sour and Seven Up.

The Monkey Bar & Grill also features a food challenge, i.e. the 'Triple Dog Dare You' which includes three ¼ pound foot-long hot dogs on a baguette bun topped with homemade chili, three different types of cheeses, bacon, and onions. Anyone who can eat this in five minutes will get his/her picture on the 'Wall of Fame', a t-shirt, and picture on Facebook. So far, twenty-five have tried the challenge and only four have succeeded. The "Triple Dog Dare You" costs \$10.99.

The new business also has monthly events. Upcoming events include a cornhole tournament on Saturday, September 14th. The cost is \$20 per team. It will be an all-day tournament with cash and other prizes. There will be a chili cook-off on Sunday, October 6th at 1 p.m. There is a \$10 entry fee and there will be cash prizes for winners. Finally there will be a costume party on Saturday, October 26th, with prizes and drink specials.

The Monkey Bar & Grill has Cleveland Browns game specials - \$1 hot dogs and \$1.50 bottles of domestic beer. Happy hour is Monday-Friday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at which time they are offering \$1.50 domestic beer and \$3.00 well drinks.

The Monkey Bar & Grill is open Mondays through Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 a.m.; and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 11 p.m. They will be open for lunch starting in mid-September; check their Facebook page or call 216-661-6555 for the exact date.



Tim McGreal and Jeremy Oravec

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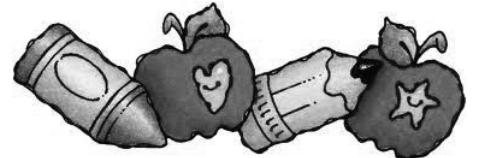
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Ready, Set, Grow Preschool
 Located in Brooklyn Heights United Church of Christ, 2005 W. Schaaf Rd. Ages 3 - 5. Learning & social skills for kindergarten readiness. Certified teachers. Registration fee, \$25. Class times, 9:20 - 11:20 am. Call 216-741-2280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

Food for Thought from page 7
 done on the tightest of budgets, and there are penny-pinching strategies and programs that make healthy living accessible to everyone. All you need is a positive attitude and a willingness to branch out and try new things. We now have ways to show you how!

An exciting opportunity is on the horizon which could be just what you're looking for. Lessons on stretching your dollar at the grocery store, preparing easy to make meals, better nourishing your children, and everyday nutrition are soon to be available at no cost to qualifying residents in our area.

Beginning with an information session and presentation on **Thursday, September 26th, at 5:30 pm at Grace Church,** the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation will be working with Ohio State University Extension of Cuyahoga County and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) to offer nutrition classes in the area.

This free workshop series with eight weekly classes will be offered at night or on weekends and includes cooking demonstrations, healthy food tastings and weekly giveaways of kitchen essentials. Fun activities pro-

moting physical activity and the basics of feeding your family a nutritious diet will also be featured.

If interested, contact Dave Goldense at 459-1000 for more information, to sign up for classes or the information session on the 26th.

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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-competitive 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.

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Sewer District to begin work on Spring Rd.

By Jeannie Chapman,
Public Information Specialist
Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS)

The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District will begin the second phase of a sewer improvement project to help reduce flooding. The contractor, Terrace Construction, will begin the project at the end of August/beginning of September.

Currently, the outlet from the Spring-Jennings automated regulator, which is located at the intersection of both roads, becomes overloaded during heavy rain events. As a result of this three-month construction project, sewage will be carried from West 10th Street and from residences on the north side of Spring Road to Jennings Road downstream of the automated regulator.

'The flooding in this area has been problematic for a while,' stated Spain James, Project Engineer for the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District. 'With the completion

of the second phase of the sewer improvement project, property owners, particularly those affected by flooding on W. 10th Street, will notice major improvements. As a result of the improvements, flooding events in the area will be reduced.'

As a result of construction, it will be necessary to redirect traffic. Initially, while construction takes place at Spring Road, Jennings Road southbound will be closed at Georgette Lane. Drivers will be redirected via Georgette Lane to W. 10th Street. After a portion of the construction is completed, Jennings Road will be reopened. However, W. 10th Street will be closed at Spring Road. Drivers will be redirected through Georgette Lane. Traffic signs will be posted accordingly.

In August 2009, the Sewer District completed the first phase of the Spring Road project, which included increasing the size of the pipe attached to the automated regulator. This project helped to reduce flooding, as well, near the area of Spring Road and W. 10th Street.



Photo by Robyn Sandys

Christopher Lohr's last day at Old Brooklyn CDC was August 29th. Christopher, his wife and two children, and some of his co-workers got together for a few hours at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo the preceding week. (left-right) Christopher and his son Merik, Lynette Filips, Cynthia Cejka and Sandy Worona were among those who enjoyed lunch and cake.



Photo by Sheila Quealy-Walter

On August 4th OBCDC sponsored its fourth annual *Bridging the Distance* race at the Zoo.

Old Brooklyn Community Fall-O-Ween Festival

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ELECT JOE GIGANTE FOR CLEVELAND CITY COUNCIL WARD 13

VOTE SEPTEMBER 10th PRIMARY ELECTION

Who is Joe Gigante?

Joe Gigante was born in Cleveland, Ohio, May 22, 1956 at Deaconess Hospital. He attended Our Lady of Good Counsel Elementary School (Now Mary Queen of Peace). Joe graduated from James Ford Rhodes High School in 1975 where he was captain of the football team. Within his peers Joe has always been a trend setter, in motivation in the classroom, and on the playing field.

In 1976, Joe bought a dump truck and he and his dad Joe Gigante Sr. went into business together forming Joe Gigante and Sons Construction.

In September of 1977 Joe went to International Bible College in San Antonio, TX. where he met his wife Debbie. They were married December 23, 1978. They have 3 beautiful children Joey, Mark and Andrea, and 4 wonderful grandchildren, Elijah, Lydia, Judah and Sadia, with a new grandson on the way.

Joe has a passion for the City of Cleveland. He is not a groomed politician, but a hardworking man who wants to see Cleveland develop into a thriving metropolitan area. Not just downtown but in our neighborhoods. Having grown up in Old Brooklyn with his business in Old Brooklyn, Joe wants to see this neighborhood revived and alive. He knows it is a great place to live and work.

Joe intends to deal with the crime situation by incorporating auxiliary police and crime watch programs, working with residents for a safe neighborhood. Joe wants safe parks for our children to play in. He would like to see roads that won't damage our cars as drive over them. We have seniors that need a lot of help as well. They need repair on their homes, but can't afford to repair them. Joe would like to set up a fund to help seniors get the help they so desperately need.

Joe will be a visible and reachable councilman. If you have questions please feel free to call or email.

Joe Gigante

Ph. 216-351-7777

www.joegigante.com

Elect Joe Gigante for Ward 13
Cleveland Council

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Joe Gigante