

## Jeffrey T. Verespej from Ohio City, Inc. selected as new OBCDC executive director

by Lynette Filips  
lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com

The Board of the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) has selected a new executive director for the organization, and the man they chose is someone with roots in this neighborhood. Jeffrey T. Verespej — pronounced 'VUR'- 'S'- 'P' — spent almost the first seven years of his life on South Ridge Dr. (in the Skyview Estates, just east of the current Spring Rd. exit on the Jennings Freeway). And even after his family moved to North Royalton, Jeff was back in Old Brooklyn every spring and summer, playing on one of the Old Brooklyn Youth League's teams until he was 17 years old. His father, Michael, was one of the coaches.

Jeff will assume the executive director position here on Monday, April 7th. He comes to Old Brooklyn from Ohio City Incorporated (OCI), formerly Ohio City Near West Development Corporation, where he served as their Director of Operations since 2010. At OCI Jeff was responsible for a broad spectrum of activities — large scale planning projects; community events; safety issues; outreach; the Near West Recreation League; attracting and retaining small businesses; and the passage and implementation of a special improvement district.

Reflecting on the four years when he was employed at Ohio City's development corporation, Jeff remarked, "During my time at Ohio City Incorporated I have been especially proud of the relationships that I have built across the neighborhood that have led to many critical initiatives. As a team we have successfully attracted over sixty new businesses; planned a complete and green future for Lorain Ave.; developed the Ohio City Farm; passed a special improvement district; and launched a recreation program to serve the growing number of families on the Near West Side."

One factor which may have helped Jeff secure his job at Ohio City Inc. is that for

seven months prior to that appointment he volunteered at Ohio City Near West Development Corporation. He was so enamored with the neighborhood that in 2009 he purchased a small, completely renovated 'worker's cottage', built in 1890 on the western end of Carroll Ave. (close to Fulton Rd.) Jeff still lives in Ohio City but when he married Sara Witt in 2012, they purchased a bigger, newer (1994), single-family home on Fulton Rd.

In addition to living in Ohio City, Old Brooklyn and North Royalton, Jeff has also lived in downtown Cleveland and Little Italy, and on campus at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). He received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science degree (with a double minor in Environmental Science and German) from CWRU in 2007 and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from CWRU's Weatherhead School of Management in 2011.

While earning his MBA degree, Jeff worked at the University by day and attended classes in the evening and on Saturday. His job title was Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions in the Division of Enrollment Management.

Jeff also has work experience in another section of University Circle — a one-year internship at University Circle Incorporated (UCI). At the time, Jeff was still an undergrad at CWRU and Chris Ronayne (formerly the City of Cleveland's Planning Director) had just become UCI's president. Chris and Jeff knew each other from a sophomore year City Politics class Jeff took; the project he'd been assigned to follow was the City's plans for the Lakefront.

It was also during this City Politics class that Jeff's passion for cities began to develop. Like many college students who choose to major in political science, he originally thought that he would go on to law school after he earned a bachelor's degree. But now the revitalization of Cleveland became his top priority.

Although Old Brooklyn can take some credit for Jeff's older siblings' schooling (his two brothers and one sister attended St. Leo the Great School) Jeff did not receive any of his lower-level education in our neighborhood. He started kindergarten at St. Francis de Sales School in Parma, and even after the family moved to North Royalton, his mom drove him back there every day until he finished sixth grade. He attended seventh grade at Incarnate Word Academy in Parma Hts., and after that he transferred to North Royalton's public schools. Jeff graduated from North Royalton High School in 2003.

In their free time, Jeff and Sara (who is an attorney) concentrate on taking in as much as possible that the City of Cleveland has to offer in the way of theater, restaurants, night life, the Metroparks and other opportunities to enjoy nature. They also enjoy bicycle riding, gardening in their double lot yard and walking to church at St. Patrick's on



Photo by Sandy Worona

Jeffrey T. Verespej, new OBCDC executive director, at Loew Field

Bridge Ave. They like the experience of both national and international travel, too.

Looking forward to his starting day, Jeff does not yet know which Old Brooklyn project he will tackle first, but he stated with certainty, "I will be very present to the neighborhood. I believe that it is integral for the Community Development Corporation to be out in the community, building relationships, listening, and providing consistent communication."

## Old Brooklyn looking to bicentennial - III

by Lynette Filips  
lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com

Every issue of the *Old Brooklyn News* this year brings us one month closer to Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation's (OBCDC's) Pop UP Pearl Complete Street Festival on Saturday, May 17th, and the historical activities related to our neighborhood's two hundred years of being settled by people of European descent.

Among the activities which we'll announce in this newspaper in May are an historically-themed art contest for school children in OBCDC's service area; a community photo contest; and the Historical Society of Old Brooklyn's release of a captioned book of old

See *Bicentennial - III* page 12



Join us at the 5th annual  
Ben Franklin Garden fundraiser

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN  
COMMUNITY GARDEN  
5TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER**  
Saturday, April 26, 2014  
6-9 pm

Wing Warehouse  
7979 Broadview Rd.  
Broadview Heights 44147  
(between Sprague & Wallings ample parking!)

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

- All-you-can-eat wings, pizza, salad, chips & salsa & desserts
- Beer, well drinks, & soft drinks
- Chinese raffle, side boards, 50/50 raffle, door prizes

Join friends to follow gardeners for a great time and support Old Brooklyn's community gardens.

For tickets or to donate to the raffle, contact Greg North 216.789.2086

**2014/15  
Old Brooklyn - Brooklyn  
Centre & City of Brooklyn  
BUSINESS DIRECTORY  
& Service Guide**

If you're a business owner and would like to be listed or run an ad in the OBCDC 2014/15 Business Directory, please call Sandy at 216-459-1000.



**Directories  
will be  
distributed  
FREE**

to all area residences and businesses in late Spring.

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Old Brooklyn  
Community  
Development  
Corporation

**Inside  
The  
OBN**

**HAPPY  
EASTER**

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## Timothy Yanko

by Jayme Lucas-Bukszar  
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

Old Brooklyn resident Timothy Yanko leads a full, fun-filled life. He and his partner Dwight Kaczmarek are co-owners of *All Things for You* boutique at 2020 W. Schaaf Rd.; he is a nationally-ranked competitive roller skater (because he's placed in national championships eight out of the last twelve years); and he is an event planner for such well-known venues as the Cleveland International Film Festival.

Tim has been a competitive roller skater since he was eight years old. He competes approximately five times a year, including national championships where he won two national titles in 2013: He and Dina Veder, his dance partner of 12 years, won national title for dancing on skates; he also placed first in "figure circles" (figure eights).

Tim also teaches competitive roller skating at Brookpark Skateland, 13445 Brookpark Rd., which according to its website offers Ohio's largest roller skating surface. Tim's students range in age from seven to eighty-one. Anyone interested in competitive roller skating lessons should call Brookpark Skateland at 216-433-7349.

Tim has been working with his coach, Judy Hild Smith, for over 46 years. He shared, "She has been like a second mother my whole life; we're very close. She has been teaching for 54 years and is still going strong."

Tim grew up in Parma Heights and went to high school at Valley Forge High School. He's skated almost every day his entire life. He believes that it keeps him healthy because it's great exercise mentally and physically. And he's convinced that roller skating helped prepare him to have a successful adult life --

"It has taught me many life lessons such as: discipline; you can't always win; working hard; sticking with something pays off; and in order to achieve your goals you have to be determined and work hard.

Tim and Dwight have lived in the South

Hills section of Old Brooklyn for fifteen years. Their *All Things for You* boutique will be celebrating its two-year anniversary on May 12th. Tim encourages everyone to look for anniversary specials throughout the month of May. *All Things for You* is a "Repurpose store" and Tim and Dwight offer interior design, home staging and estate sales services.



Tim Yanko and Dina Veder

Photo by: Michael Callam Photography

*All Things for You Boutique* also has a booth at the Cleveland Flea, where they showcase mid-century modern furniture. (The Cleveland Flea is a monthly venue located in the St. Clair Superior neighborhood; it features arts/craft items, repurposed items, etc. More information about the Cleveland Flea can be found online at [clevelandflea.com](http://clevelandflea.com).)

Tim has also been the event planner for the Cleveland International Film Festival for the past thirteen years. He plans the opening night cocktail party, parties throughout the festival, and the closing night party. His clients also include First Merit Bank. Tim also does personal and social event planning.

Tim is proud to be invested in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood both as a homeowner and a business owner. "We are pleased to support our neighborhood and we hope everyone will visit *All Things for You*. For more information, contact them at 216-401-9837 or [allthings.cle@gmail.com](mailto:allthings.cle@gmail.com).

## Update from Jeff Kipp, OBCDC board president

by Jeff Kipp

Spring is here Old Brooklyn! The change in season will bring us sunshine and warmer weather. And that's not all that is changing. As you read on the front page, the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) is very pleased to share the news that its new executive director has been hired. Jeff Verespej will join us this month and we are excited to start working with him.

This staffing change allows all of us - the Board, staff and community - to re-focus on the strengths and challenges of the neighborhood. We have the opportunity to share our thoughts and feelings about Old Brooklyn to a new director. But we also get to hear about his vision and gain insight into his perspective on the programs, services and agenda with which OBCDC will move forward.

I invite all of you to stay (or get) involved with OBCDC. It's an exciting time around here. Jeff eagerly joins the rest of our staff as we continue to keep our neighborhood



safe, strong and stable. It is also a time where we are concentrating efforts on the Pearl/Broadview intersection to bring back our downtown Old Brooklyn.

Before we know it, spring will turn into summer; festivals, t-ball and gardening will be in full swing. We'll be there and we'd love to talk about the neighborhood with you.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Kipp, president

## OBCDC Board president describes process of hiring new executive director

by Jeff Kipp,  
president, OBCDC Board of Directors

Within Cleveland's nationally renowned community development system, there are twenty-seven community development corporations. These organizations represent very specific neighborhoods within the city and provide a variety of programs and services for the direct benefit of the residents and stakeholders within the areas they serve. So whenever a new executive director is being hired, it's an exciting opportunity for the neighborhood.

The Board of Directors of the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) is very pleased and excited to name Jeffrey T. Verespej as OBCDC's next executive director. He stood out among a large field of very qualified candidates and demonstrated that he has the vision and skill set to lead this organization. We look forward to working with him, introducing him to the community and immediately addressing important issues for OBCDC and for the entire Old Brooklyn neighborhood.

We began our search process once we learned that OBCDC's previous director of nearly seven years was re-locating away from Cleveland. The following steps ensued:

- The Board of Directors assessed the situation and immediately formed an Executive Director Search Committee. This Search Committee, comprised of current and former Board members, was assigned the task of coordinating the entire search process and recommending a potential candidate to the full Board in a timely manner.

- A job description was finalized and the position was posted via all OBCDC communications outlets and through various community partners. While resumes were coming in, the Search Committee gathered valuable input about the vacant position from the Board, staff, Cleveland City Council members, CDC partners and the community.

- After the position posting closed, the Search Committee evaluated every resume and discussed the merits of each candidate.

- Multiple rounds of evaluations and interviews followed; invited candidates presented to the entire Search Committee and fielded a variety of questions related to vision, leadership, governance and experience within the community development field.

- Within three months, the large pool of candidates was narrowed down to Jeff Verespej. He was invited to meet the full Board of Directors and at the conclusion of this meeting, OBCDC's Search Committee formally recommended its preferred candidate to OBCDC's Board of Directors for approval.

The hiring of a new executive director is an important responsibility of a CDC's Board. We are confident that we conducted a thorough and transparent process which will immediately benefit our organization and positively impact the neighborhood we serve.

### Former OBCDC executive directors

#### Rev. Elam Wiest

August, 1976 through October, 1977

#### Paul Bar Hoover

November, 1977 through October, 1979

#### Laverne Maximuk

February, 1980 through October, 1987

#### Gerald Preseren

November, 1987 through April, 2001

#### Brian Cummins

May, 2001 through April, 2005

#### Tom Collins (interim)

May, 2005 into August, 2005

#### Jay Gardner

August, 2005 through March, 2007

#### Robyn Sandys

April, 2007 through November, 2013

## OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

The Old Brooklyn News  
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### Submission Deadlines

Display Ads . . . Fri., April 25th  
Classified Ads . . . Fri., April 25th  
News Releases . . Fri., April 25th  
For Information call 216-459-0135  
E-mail: [sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto: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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email: [sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com](mailto:sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com)

## 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  
Kathleen Jackson, Secretary Book Chrobak, Treasurer

Cynthia Cejka, Office Manager

Tom Collins, Commercial Manager

Jayme Lucas-Bukszar, Residential Marketing Manager

Sheila Quealy-Walter, Residential Code Manager

Barb Spaan, Outreach Manager

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 - Gloria Ferris, Lynette Filips, 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.

## LENTEN FISH FRIES

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

**Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church**, 4470 Ridge Rd., Brooklyn. Fri., Apr. 4th; 4:30 - 7 pm. Walleye, cod, shrimp, pierogi, cabbage & noodle dinners, \$5 - \$9. Sides, \$1.25 - \$4. Take out available. Call 216-749-5585 for more info.

**Mary Queen of Peace Church Parish Hall**, 4427 Pearl Rd., Fri., Apr. 4th & 11th, 4:30 - 7 pm. Breaded baked fish, non-breaded fish, homemade pierogi, battered shrimp with choice of two sides; \$8 adult; \$6 seniors. Sides also sold separately. Eat in or take out.

**St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral**, 5720 State Rd. Fri., Apr. 4th & 11th. 4 - 7:30 pm. Salmon, baked or fried cod, or shrimp dinner with a choice of potato pierogi, homemade

potato pancakes, fries or cabbage-and-noodles. All meals include coffee, soft drink, bread, bakery & choice of coleslaw, tossed salad or applesauce. Borscht & other items a la carte. Children's meals & takeout. 440-886-2108.

**St. Leo's Lux Hall**, 4900 Broadview Rd., Fri., Apr. 4th & 11th; 4:30 - 7 pm. Dine-in or take-out. Four dinner selections: baked seasoned fish, fried fish, shrimp & pierogi, \$8; combo dinner, \$10. Dinners include main entrée, choice of fries or baked potato, cole slaw, roll & butter. Also fish sandwich platters, kids meals, a la carte items including macaroni & cheese, pizza, cabbage & noodles & dessert. Call 216-661-1006 for more info.

**St. Rocco Parish Hall**, 3205 Fulton Rd, Fri., Apr. 4th & 11th, 5 - 8 pm. Baked cod, fried flounder, fried shrimp & pierogie dinners. Sides -- coleslaw, french fries or pierogies & dessert. Children's meals -- one fried fish or mac n' cheese, french fries or pierogies & dessert. Take out & a la carte. Call 216-961-8331 for pricing & more info.

NEWS & EVENTS

**Rising Harvest Farms**  
**2014 Market Basket Share Sign-Ups**  
 4103 Memphis Ave. Sign-up for 22 weeks of continuous local flavors starting May 31st. Go to "Market Basket" section of website rising-harvestfarms.org/marketplace/market-basket-shares for details. **Brown free-ranged eggs for sale** from Farm's free-range hens. Winter hours: Mon. - Fri., 8 am - 3 pm & 1st Sat. of month, 10 am - 1 pm.

**Friday, April 4th - Saturday, April 12th**  
**21st Annual Ukrainian Easter Bazaar**  
 Ukrainian Museum Archives, 1202 Kenilworth Ave.; Fri., 10 am - 8 pm; Sat., 10 am - 5 pm; Sun., noon - 4 pm; Mon. - Thurs., noon - 6 pm. **Ukrainian Easter Egg "Pysanky" Making Workshop** - Sat. & Sun., Apr. 4th & 5th; 11th & 12th. Fri., 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Sat., 10 am - 12 pm or 1 - 3 pm. Class size: 6 - 10 people. Ages 11 & up. Fee: \$20. Call 216-781-4329 or email: staff@umacleveland.org for more info. www.umacleveland.org to register.

**Saturday, April 5th**  
**11th Annual Family Day**  
 ATIKA Styles Beauty Salon, 4488 Pearl Rd.; 8 am - 4 pm. Save 10% off beauty services & beauty products. Call 216-459-9144 for more info.

**Sunday, April 6th**  
**Towpath Half Marathon**  
 Half marathon, E. 49th St./Grant Ave., 5-mile run, lower Harvard Ave. / Jennings Rd.; 8 am. Call 216-520-1825 or ohiocanal.org for more info.

**Monday, April 7th**  
**ATIKA Styles Beauty Salon Job Fair**  
 Cleveland Public Library, South Brooklyn Branch, 4303 Pearl Rd., 11 am - 2 pm & 3 - 6 pm. **For licensed professional hairstylists, manicurists & cosmetologists.** Bring resume & dress professionally. Individuals applying for manicurist position must have person on whom to demonstrate. Call 216-459-9144 for more info.

**Monday, April 7th**  
**Cuyahoga Valley Genealogy Society**  
 Independence Civic Center, Willow Room, 6363 Selig Blvd., 7:30 pm. Cynthia Smith, member of Brooklyn Genealogy Club, with presentation "A look at ways our ancestors spent their leisure time & experienced fun in the years 1850-1950". Contact CVGS president Mary Boehnlein, 440-736 7180, or visit www.cuyahogagenealogy.org, for more info.

**Wednesday, April 9th**  
**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. **Apr. 9th, Wine bottle basket/kitchen utensil basket; \$16. May 14th, Drilled base.** Supplies to bring when weaving -- old towel, bucket, clothes pins, ruler, pencil, scissors. Call Connie, 216-749-7912, to RSVP.

**Monday, April 14th**  
**Monday Night at the Movies**  
**"Bidder 70"**  
 River's Edge, 3430 Rocky River Dr.; 7 pm. Optional discussion following. Free but free will offerings accepted. Register at www.riversedgecleveland.com.

**Thursday, April 10th**  
**Antique Collectors Club Meeting**  
 Busch Community Meeting Room, 7501 Ridge Rd., 7 pm. Suzie Murcer, *Teaches & speaks about Ukrainian eggs.* Call Publicity Chairman Robert Murdoch, 440-845-7046, for more info.

**Saturday, April 12th**  
**Taste of Seven Hills**  
 Seven Hills Community recreation Center, 7777 Summitview Dr., 6 - 9 pm. Tickets: \$30. Includes food, beer, wine, beverages & entertainment by Victor Samalot. 21 years & over. Call 216-525-6227 for more info.

**Tuesday, April 22nd**  
**Rain Barrel Workshop**  
 Rocky River Nature Center, 24000 Valley Pkwy, North Olmsted; 6:30 - 8 pm. Make rain barrel to store rainwater that would otherwise be lost to runoff or diverted to storm drain. Use water collected on lawns & gardens. Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District's Jared Bartley guides you. \$60 fee includes instruction & all parts. Call 440-734-6660 to register.

**Tuesday, April 22nd**  
**Spring Style Show**  
 St. Thomas More Church, Utopia Hall, 4170 North Amber Dr. Luncheon at noon. Fashions by Dress Barn. Tickets: \$7. Call Marge, 216-351-7850, or Diane, 216-749-6332, by April 19th.

**Friday, April 25th**  
**Cultural Cleveland Tour Series:**  
**Slavic Village**  
 Historical interpreter Doug Kusak celebrates Polish heritage with history & hike, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. Visit St. Stanislaus Church, Polish American Cultural Center & Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. Bring own lunch money. Adults & children 10 years & over with adult. Fee: \$5. Call 216-206-1000 to register or visit clevelandmetroparks.com. Meeting location given after registration.

**Saturday, April 26th**  
**Annual Women's Reverse Raffle**  
 St. Leo the Great Church Lux Hall, 4900 Broadview Rd. Doors open 5:30 pm; dinner 6:30 pm. Cost: \$40 per regular ticket (includes catered dinner, open bar & chance at the grand prize) or \$25 per not attending ticket (grand prize drawing ticket only). Call 216-661-1006 for more info.

**Saturday, April 26th**  
**Planting Container Herb Gardens**  
 Garfield Park Reservation, 11350 Broadway Ave., Garfield Hts.; 1:30 - 3 pm. Folks with little to no area to garden learn how to grow

fresh, delicious herbs in small containers requiring little space. Participants go home with recycled container to start own gardens. Call 216-341-3152 to register.

**Sunday, April 27th**  
**Gardening in Small Spaces**  
 CanalWay Center, 4524 E. 49th St, 1 - 2:30 pm. Even folks with only a fence line or balcony can grow vegetables for their families. OSU Extension educator will share tips & techniques for small area & container gardening. Call 216-206-1000 to register.

**Sunday, April 27th**  
**CPA Spring Is In The Air**  
 St. John Byzantine Upper Hall (accessible by elevator or stairs), 1900 Carlton Rd.; 3 - 7 pm. (doors open 2 pm) Music by IPA Tribute Band from Chicago. Donation: \$13; 18 & under, free. No BYOB. Beverages available; snacks welcome. Call Sylvia or Paul, 216-228-1134, for large table reservations or more info. Or visit www.clevelandpolkaassociation.com or check them out on Facebook.

**Monday, April 28th**  
**Western Reserve Rose Society Meeting**  
 North Royalton Public Library, 7051 Wallings Rd., 7 pm. Program: "Managing Insect & Mite Pests of Ohio-Grown Roses". Presenter: Dr. David Shetlar (the BugDoc) OSU. Call Patti, 330-220-2213, or email her at webmaster@westernreserverosociety.org for more info.

**Saturday, May 3rd**  
**Kentucky Derby Party**  
 Great Lakes Brewing Company, Tasting Rm. 2516 Market Ave. 4 - 8 pm. Valet parking, hors d'oeuvres, Great Lakes beer, wine, one mint julep. Race, raffles, hat contest. Tickets: \$65. All proceeds benefit WSEM Food Centers. Call 216-325-9350 or TheCentersOhio.org for more info. RSVP by April 25th.

**Street Operations: Potholes**  
 Residents can report potholes to 216-664-2510 & they will be added to the schedule for repair. Individuals whose vehicles are damaged may file a claim by calling 216-664-2671, Department of Law, Moral Claims Division. Instructions & claim form are on website -- www.city.cleveland.oh.us

**Cleveland Police Department 2nd District contact information**

Contact Person	Phone Number	E-Mail
Commander	623-5205	
Community Service Unit	623-5220	fbolon@city.cleveland.oh.us aalvarado@city.cleveland.oh.us msheehan@city.cleveland.oh.us
Lt. Bolon/ Sgt. Alvarado/ Sgt. Sheehan		
Det. Bureau - Lt Plent Capt. Tube	623-5218	jplent@city.cleveland.oh.us ttube@city.cleveland.oh.us
Vice Unit - Lt. Mone Sgt. Coleman	6235213	wmone@city.cleveland.oh.us pcoleman@city.cleveland.oh.us
2nd District Lobby	623-5200	
Missing person Liason Det. Grabski	623-2703	jgrbski@city.cleveland.oh.us jplentjgrbski@city.cleveland.oh.us ttubejgrbski@city.cleveland.oh.us

**General police information**

Non-Emergency	621-1234
Emergency	911
Accident Records	623-5269
Impound Lot	623-5065
Sex Crimes	623-5007
Narcotics Unit	623-5474
Homicide Unit	623-5470
Traffic Unit	623-5182
Hit Skip Unit	623-5191

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- \*Speck Bacon
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## Benjamin Franklin Community Garden to hold Spring Fling #5 fundraiser

by Kim Repinski  
BFG Operating Committee Chairman

The Ben Franklin Community Garden will be sponsoring its Spring Fling #5 on Saturday, April 26th, from 6 to 9 p.m. For the first time the event will be held at Wing Warehouse, 7979 Broadview Rd. in Broadview Heights. The large restaurant, located just north of Wallings Rd., will provide ample space and parking for the size crowd which is expected.

The menu will consist of all-you-can-eat wings, pizza, salad, nachos & chips and desserts. "Well drinks" and soft drinks are also included in the price of admission.

The operating committee has been busy soliciting door prizes and items for the Chinese Basket raffle. A 50/50 raffle and sideboards will run throughout the night. This year there will also be a "second chance" 50/50 raffle which will allow participants another chance for non-winning tickets to win.

Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. To purchase tickets contact Greg Noeth at 216-789-2086.

The proceeds from this event will go toward the purchase of necessary supplies and for maintenance for the five-acre neighborhood Garden. Everyone is welcome to attend, even those without a green thumb.

## Ben Franklin Garden seeks new coordinator

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation is currently searching for a garden coordinator for the Ben Franklin Community Garden.

The coordinator is a part-time position which begins in May and ends in October. The applicant must be available to open the garden gates by 9 a.m. and close the gates at 8 p.m. The position averages 24 hours per week.

The job description is as follows:

- Coordinates and performs maintenance on the garden including such chores as grass cutting, pruning, and weed removal.
- Has experience with garden power tools such as riding mower, front and rear rotor tillers, wood chipper, composting leaf chipper, chain saw, weed whacker.
- Provides assistance and support to the Garden Operating Committee in association with OBCDC staff.
- Coordinates volunteer groups for various chores including but not limited to the collection and delivery of donated produce to local hunger centers, grounds maintenance and site improvement.

- Maintains garden facilities including rest rooms, buildings and various storage containers. Ensures that garden plots are properly utilized and maintained (such as weed control) before, during and after the planting season.

- Contacts gardeners who are not maintaining their garden plot in a satisfactory manner.

- Provides rules and regulations to garden participants and visitors as developed by the Garden Operating Committee and OBCDC.

- Coordinates the delivery and distribution of garden supplies including seeds and plants, mulch, manure, wood chips, etc.

- Purchases supplies as needed for the maintenance of machinery and tools, rest-room facilities and the care and safety of the gardeners.

- Supports the Garden Committee in the Garden application process, including the assigning of plots and new gardeners.

Interested parties should mail their resume or job history to OBCDC at 2339 Broadview Rd., Cleveland, 44109.

## Old Brooklyn salutes leader & friend -- CPD's Second District Commander

by Barbara Spaan  
barbaras@oldbrooklyn.com

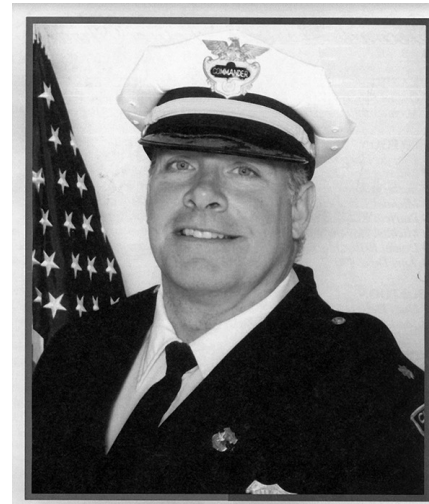
For seven years, our community has been under the leadership and watchful eye of the Cleveland Police Department's Commander Keith Sulzer. Now our hearts are saddened and many are wondering what would force a good man to step down? He has become a household name and been in many of our homes and businesses. It was never unusual to see him with a stopped car writing a ticket, on a bike at the Bike-a-thon, in the group pulling a plane, or on Night Out against Crime sitting in the dunk tank.

In July, 2007 Keith Sulzer came to a police district which was broken and not connected. Our neighborhood was still pretty safe, but also disconnected to safety services. As coordinator of our safety program I was looking for leadership that would care about us residents of Old Brooklyn as I have. Commanders had come and gone; that's nothing unusual in the Police Department and the City of Cleveland, but that special connection wasn't here with them.

Within the first month of Commander Sulzer's coming to the Second District, he was delivering services and handling the smaller problems with speed. Best of all, he began a camaraderie with the men and women at the District which I hadn't seen for quite some time. His open door policy and capital letter used on his e-mail set him up for success.

At public meetings Commander Sulzer was direct, informative, diverse and always ready to help. His work days were never ending, showing up somewhere on his way home or coming back to the area when needed. His professional dedication to our community made him a good friend and advisor.

Second District Community Relations is the best in the city. We started many firsts in this District because Commander Sulzer believed in his men and women at the District and in this community. He gave me a Commander's coin, one of his many ways to say thanks.



Commander Keith Sulzer

As a resident and the Safety Coordinator in Old Brooklyn, I want everyone to know how much Commander Sulzer will be missed. This community was honored to have him as its leader, friend and Commander.

### Tears of a Cop

I have been where you fear to be  
I have seen what you fear to see  
I have done what you fear to do  
All these things I've done for you.  
I am the one you lean upon  
The one you cast your scorn upon  
The one you bring your troubles to  
All these people I've been for you.  
The one you ask to stand apart  
The one you feel should have no heart  
The one you call the man in blue  
But I am human just like you  
And through the years I've come to see  
That I'm not what you ask of me  
So take this badge and take this gun  
Will you take it? Will anyone?  
And when you watch a person die  
And hear a battered baby cry  
Do you think that you can be  
All those things you ask of me?

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Good thing that Easter is on the calendar late this year (April 20th). Maybe by then some spring flowers -- other than crocus and snow drops -- will be blooming, and the little girls won't be shivering in their pretty, made-of-lightweight-fabrics Easter dresses.

Otherwise, as we get this issue of the newspaper ready for the printer, it seems as though the pendulum is swinging from one extreme to the other in our neighborhood.

On the one hand, there's new energy in the air as we look forward to welcoming OBCDC's new executive director, Jeffrey Verespej, on April 7th. Though I didn't mention it in the article on page one which I wrote about him, it was also exciting for me to learn that his father is a writer.

That excitement/positive energy, however, was soon tempered by another reality -- what seems to be the forced resignation of the Commander of the Cleveland Police Department's Second District, Keith Sulzer.

Because of her work with Crime Watch and the policemen who patrol our streets, OBCDC's Outreach Manager Barb Spaan knows Commander Sulzer better than any of the rest of us in the office, and she has written a touching article about him. It appears on page 2 of this issue.

Being as Easter is first and foremost a religious holiday, I've been saving some church news for this month's *Town Crier*.

Let's start with news from the former pastor of St. Luke's United Church of Christ, since the congregation held its last public worship service on Easter last year.

I have been wondering what "Pastor Jerry" Madasz had been doing this past year and was able to ask him directly when I saw him at Joe Cannon's 90th birthday party at Mary Queen of Peace Church last month. Pastor Jerry agreed to email me a little report, knowing that I wanted to share the information with *Old Brooklyn News* readers who knew him and/or read his column. Here's what he wrote:

*After being involved in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood for over 13 years as Pastor of St. Luke's United Church of Christ (UCC), I have been approached by a number of people asking what I am doing now. My reply is that I am not retired, just taking it a little easier at this point.*

*Having been in Christian ministry in various capacities for 27 years, I serve as needed.*

*I am in an interim ministry program, available to provide consistent pastoral leadership to a church as it begins the search for a new permanent pastor, a process that can take months to a year or more.*

*In addition, I respond to calls for pulpit supply, a service offered to pastors who need a Sunday or two off for emergencies or vacation.*

*On Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 p.m., I currently lead a weekly Bible study group of former St. Luke's members at Pearl Road United Methodist Church (entrance off Memphis at Pearl), a forum open to neighbors interested in increasing our understanding of lessons found in the Bible.*

*I still visit former St. Luke's parishioners in their homes who are unable to attend church, ministering and sharing the sacrament of Holy Communion as requested. When called by funeral homes, I also officiate at*

*funerals. As a member of the Elyria Magyar (Hungarian) UCC in Lorain County (in which I was confirmed many years ago), I serve there when called upon.*

*Indeed, I miss Old Brooklyn, but try to maintain some contact. Thanks to the many folks who continue to inquire about me and for your positive response to my columns in The Old Brooklyn News over the years. I send my love and blessings to you!*

I have Pastor Jerry's permission to share his cell phone number -- 216-408-3703 -- and email address -- pstrjer@aol.com -- with you, in case you would like to contact him.

Easter is as much about Holy Week and the Triduum (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) as it is about Sunday, and there will be services on those days throughout our neighborhood. I am confident that any congregation would be pleased to welcome guests.

For the third year in a row, Bishop Roger Gries, OSB, will be the presider at the Holy Thursday Mass and washing of feet at Mary Queen of Peace (formerly Our Lady of Good Counsel) Church. It will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 17th, and will proba-

bly last about an hour and a half.

Bishop Roger is officially retired now that the Vatican has accepted the letter he was required to submit when he turned 75 two years ago. But I don't notice any lessening of his presence at events in the Diocese. Last month, for instance, he was at St. Leo the Great Church to confer the sacrament of Confirmation on a few dozen young people there, and as has often been the case, he celebrated the St. Patrick's Day Mass at St. Patrick Church on Bridge Ave.

Other 'breaking' news from Mary Queen of Peace is that the principal of the school, Jennifer Berardinelli, will be leaving June 30th. It's a bittersweet move, as she has secured a noteworthy new position as a regional assistant superintendent for Catholic schools with the Diocese of Cleveland's Office of Catechetical Formation and Education. But because she was involved with events like Pop UP Pearl, OBCDC will miss having her in our neighborhood.

Other church (and student) news must wait till next month. Add yours to the list by emailing Lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

**Brooklyn Centre Naturalists meeting**, Sat., Apr. 12th, 10:30 am till noon, at Brooklyn Branch of Cleveland Public Library, 3706 Pearl Rd., to plan strategies for phragmites-free zones, education and clean-up efforts.

**Brooklyn Genealogy Club**, Usual meeting day/time (2 pm on third Sunday of month at Brooklyn Fire Station, 8400 Memphis Ave. at Roadoan) falls on Easter Sunday. For information about alternate arrangements & group in general email Ann Wojtowicz, wojtowicz6809@roadrunner.com.

**Brooklyn Historical Society**, Wed., Apr. 30th, 7 pm; museum, 4442 Ridge Rd. Emilie Illson will give entertaining & educational program about history of antique buttons. Talk features museum quality artifacts & buttons from 1840's to 1940's. Her museum quality bracelets also available for sale. Call Barb, 216-941-0160, for more info.

**Laurel Garden Club of Brooklyn** meeting, Tues., Apr. 8th; 7 pm, Brooklyn Fire Station, 8400 Memphis Ave., rear door. Speaker:

Michael Bartunek of Rising Harvest Farm. All welcome. Call Barb, 216-671-6777, 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.

**Old Brooklyn Crime Watch meeting** - No meeting in April. Call Barb Spaan at 216-459-1000 for more info.

**Second District Police Community Relations** meeting, Tues., April 8th (& every second Tues.), 7 pm, Applewood Center, 3518 W. 25th St. **Southwest Citizens Area Council** meeting, every first Thurs., 7 pm, Gino's, 1314 Denison Ave.

**Ward 13 Democratic Club** meeting, Tues., April 15th (& every third Tues.), 7 pm, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 5801 Memphis Ave.

Mass on Sunday, April 27th, at St. Barbara's to celebrate canonization of Pope John Paul II

Roman Catholic Pope Francis will canonize Blessed Pope John Paul II a saint on Sunday, April 27th in Rome. St. Barbara Church, 1505 Denison Ave., will take note of the event with a special bilingual Mass at 11 a.m. It will be concelebrated by St. Barbara's pastor, Fr. Joseph Hilinski, and the celebrant of St. Barbara's weekend Polish Masses, Fr. Andrzej Panek.

A procession with parishioners dressed in Polish costumes as well as prayers and presentations in both Polish and English will precede

the Mass. Immediately after the Mass a choir from Columbus will perform, followed by a reception and refreshments in the Parish Hall.

The Mass in honor of the canonization of Pope John Paul will also be promoted through social media as Cleveland's second *Mass Mob*. The first Cleveland *Mass Mob* (a take-off on the cash mobs which have been organized to support businesses and events) took place last month at St. Casimir Church on the east side of Cleveland near Rockefeller Park. The crowd was estimated at almost 800 people

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by Tom Collins  
tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

**Where Did You Come From?**

Heritage is like a shadow. You are not always aware of its presence but you cannot deny it is with you. So where did you come from? I mean were you born in the United States or did you emigrate from your birth land? And why are you in Greater Cleveland? If you are native-born, where did your ancestors come from and how long ago?

With the exception of Native Americans, everyone hales from somewhere else. The journey to Northeast Ohio began with someone (more likely, many some-ones) born in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Pacific Islands and/or Central and South America. There are many reasons for departing a birth land but chances are there were no options, and that stress forced the

move. Slavery, servitude, war, hunger, poverty, persecution and political exile were dominating factors for millions of immigrants who were finding their ways to America and eventually Cleveland.

After their arrival, for most immigrants the stress factors were converted to opportunities to improve their lives and raise families with hope and prosperity. What has changed today is that for highly skilled and educated people, emigration is a choice not a necessity. But for most people the same stress factors forcing people to emigrate exist today.

Immigration is the foundation of the American success story, and it is far from over for Cleveland. Global Cleveland, the non-profit corporation promoting population growth in Northeast Ohio, will soon launch an international campaign to recruit immigrants and transplants. Their stated goal is to attract 60,000 newcomers to Greater Cleveland by 2020.

Newcomers include immigrants, retaining graduates from area colleges, boomerangs (young people returning from elsewhere to the city of their upbringing), retirees seeking to be near their children, plus skilled and unskilled people who can

live well at less cost than they can in larger urban markets. This growing population will attract new investment and new jobs.

The Global Cleveland web site, [www.globalcleveland.org](http://www.globalcleveland.org), is the social media gateway to the Statue of Liberty. It is welcoming and easy to navigate. It posts and links to literally thousands of jobs in Northeast Ohio. It will match resumes to jobs and send employer information and updates to inquirers. It is open to all who live and work in the area as well as those interested in relocating. It provides links for all kinds of quality-of-life services including finding a home, locating places of worship, fraternal ethnic associations, education and training centers, neighborhood profiles and

the list goes on.

Perhaps most importantly, the web site is being structured as a multilingual portal which allows the user, at the click of a mouse or swipe of a finger, to translate the entire site into any of fifty-eight languages.

Imagine sitting in a village in a remote area of China, an island in the Indian Ocean, a school in Romania or a coffee shop in Argentina and learning about Cleveland in your native language. Imagine doing that with family or friends and then connecting with someone in Cleveland who is from your part of the world.

In the past that has not been part of the emigrants' preparation for departing for America. Global Cleveland is changing that and that will change Cleveland and Northeast Ohio for the better.

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## Fair housing know your rights & responsibilities

**Source: The Housing Research & Advocacy Center**  
<http://www.thehousingcenter.org/>

Housing discrimination continues in Northeast Ohio. People often don't report it because they don't know that fair housing is a civil right and that there is help available.

### Who is protected?

- Race/Color
- National Origin/Ancestry
- Sex
- Disability
- Religion
- Familial Status (the presence of children under the age of 18)
- Military Status

### The City of Cleveland also prohibits housing discrimination based on:

- Sexual Orientation
- Marital Status
- Creed
- Age
- Gender Identity

### What is prohibited?

These actions are illegal if they are done because a person belongs to a protected class:

### Rental and sale of housing:

- Refuse to rent or sell housing
- Refuse to negotiate for housing
- Make housing unavailable or otherwise restrict choice
- Set different terms, conditions or privileges for sale or rental of housing
- Provide different housing services or facilities
- Falsely deny that housing is available
- Persuade owners to sell or rent (blockbusting)
- Deny anyone access to or membership in a

facility or service related to the sale or rental of housing  
Retaliate against a person for making a fair housing complaint

### Mortgage lending and insurance:

- Refuse to make a mortgage loan or provide homeowners insurance.
- Refuse to provide information regarding loans or insurance.
- Impose different terms or conditions on a loan, such as different rates, or fees.
- Discriminate in appraising property.
- Refuse to purchase a loan.
- Set different terms or conditions to purchase a loan.

### Possible signs of discrimination

Comments like these can be signs of housing discrimination:  
“ Families with children can only live in the back of the complex.”  
“ I will have to charge you a pet deposit for your guide dog.”  
“You don't want to live in that neighborhood.”  
“We only rent to people who speak English.”

### Where to go for help:

If you think you have been a victim of housing discrimination because of your race, national origin, religion, sex, color, familial status, disability, military status, ancestry, or any other reason, please contact the Housing Research & Advocacy Center for assistance at 216-361-9240. You can also contact the Ohio Civil Rights Commission at 1-888-278-7101 or online at [www.crc.ohio.gov](http://www.crc.ohio.gov), or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at 1-800-669-9777 or online at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov). For the hearing impaired, call 1-800-927-9275. HUD also offers assistance with reading and completing HUD forms through interpreters, tapes, and Braille materials

## Free tax return preparation for qualifying taxpayers

**Source:**  
[www.irs.gov/Individuals/Free-Tax-Return-Preparation-for-You-by-Volunteers](http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Free-Tax-Return-Preparation-for-You-by-Volunteers)

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax help to people who generally make \$52,000 or less, persons with disabilities, the elderly and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals.

In addition to VITA, the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program offers free tax help for all taxpayers, particularly those who are 60 years of age and older, specializing in questions about pensions and retirement-related issues unique to seniors. The IRS-certified volunteers who provide tax counseling are often retired individuals associated with non-profit organizations that receive grants from the IRS.

**Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Sites:**  
**Lin Omni Center**, 3167 Fulton Rd, Ste 303, Cleveland, 216-961-9073, Spanish & English

Mon. & Wed., 5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Walk-ins available Mondays & Wednesdays, 5:30 — 7 p.m.

**Cuyahoga Parma-Ridge Library**, 6996 Powers Blvd, Parma; Sat., 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. No appointment needed

**Elderly Tax Counseling Sites:**  
**Parma Memorial Hall**, 6617 Ridge Rd, Parma, 440-891-1470, Handicap Accessible; Tues. & Weds., 9:30 a.m. - 3:30p.m. Make appointment at Parma Heights, Snow Rd., or Ridge Rd. libraries.  
Appointment required.

### Cuyahoga County Free Tax Preparation Sites:

To schedule appointment visit [www.211](http://www.211) or call 211 United Way First Call for Help.  
**Westshore Neighborhood Family Service Center**, 9830 Lorain Ave., Career Center; Tues. & Thurs., 5:30 – 7 p.m.; Sat 9 a.m.-noon.

Please note that other sites said that they were completely booked when we called to confirm availability.

Save the date!!

**Saturday, May 10th**  
A 2014 Neighborhood Leadership Institute team is hosting a community cleanup for Pop UP Pearl!  
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## May 24th final day for purchasing computers; also accepting computer equipment for recycling

by Dave Goldense  
daveg@oldbrooklyn.com

Since October, Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) has been partnering with RET3 Job Corporation of Cleveland to offer refurbished desktop computers (starting at \$50) and laptops (starting at \$75). It's not too late to take advantage of this program; the final distribution date will take place on Saturday, May 24th between 10 and 11:30 am at Estabrook Recreation Center (4125 Fulton Rd.) The only qualification to be eligible for this program is to be an Old Brooklyn resident. Any interested residents should stop by the (OBCDC) office at 2339 Broadview Rd. to pick up an order form. Or contact Dave at 216-459-1000, ext. 204, for further details.

In addition to selling computers and laptops, on this date OBCDC will also be offering residents the opportunity to recycle their unwanted computer equipment. Bring them to Estabrook's parking lot. RET3 will accept any computer and laptop materials

residents want to discard. If they are still functioning, RET3 is capable of refurbishing and reusing the equipment.

In addition to being a convenient way to recycle your old desktop and laptop computers and their parts, doing so is now more important than ever. According to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, refurbishing agencies like RET3 are able to reuse almost every single part of an old computer in the dismantling process. These parts can then be used in innovative ways to make new computers or laptops.

The Ohio EPA's website explains that when computer parts end up in land mines, they create "e-waste", an especially toxic form of waste which could release hazardous metals like lead and barium into the environment.

(<http://epa.ohio.gov/ocapp/p2/recyc/com-prc.aspx>)

Don't pass up this great opportunity to responsibly dispose of your old electronics and purchase a substantially discounted desktop or laptop computer on May 24th!

## Cleveland denies license to renew operations at Bradley Rd. landfill

by Tom Collins  
tomc@oldbrooklyn.com

In a letter dated March 18, 2014, the City of Cleveland informed attorneys for Landsong Environmental, Inc. that their application for renewal of a license to operate a Construction and Demolition Debris (C&DD) landfill was denied. Even though the landfill has not been active since 2006, there is a requirement to renew the license annually.

The 2013 renewal application was denied because the Cleveland Law Department determined that the owner had not complied with a 2006 federal court decree to make certain corrections to the site. It also ruled that the zoning variance which allowed C&DD had expired and that the site is *not grandfathered*. (Grandfathered means that pre-established use is allowed to continue.)

Landsong Environmental, Inc.'s response to this denial by is not known at this writing because word of the denial only became known to the *Old Brooklyn News* on March 26th, just as this April issue was going to print.

For a full reading of the letter, see the Bradley Landfill Information page on the Old Brooklyn web site, [www.oldbrooklyn.com](http://www.oldbrooklyn.com).

## The Coney Company plans to open soon

by Jayme Lucas-Bukszar  
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

Renovations are almost complete at the new *The Coney Company*, located in the former Arby's at 3330 Broadview Rd. Bekim Sylaj and his sister, Becky Holmes, are co-owners; their father, Peter Sylaj, is a consultant as well as their inspiration.

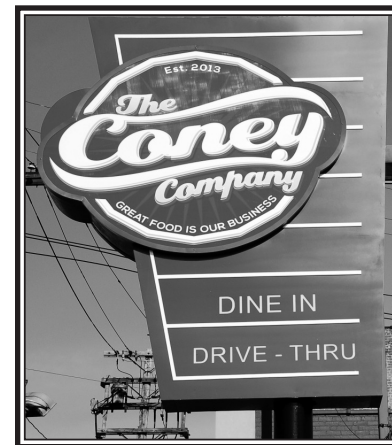
The Coney Company is based on the Coney Island concept which is big in Detroit, Michigan. The name refers to the birthplace of the hotdog (Coney Island, New York), but the Coney Dog itself was born in Detroit. The story is that over 70 years ago two brothers opened a Coney Island restaurant; they had had a falling-out and subsequently opened competing restaurants next door to each other.

Since then, over 500 Coney Island restaurants have opened throughout Metro Detroit and surrounding areas. The restaurants are independently owned and only loosely affiliated. Bekim explained what makes a Coney Island hot dog: "We use a Greek-style savory chili (no beans), hot dog with natural casing, and steamed buns." A true Coney Dog is topped with chili, yellow mustard and diced white onions.

But don't let the name fool you. The Coney Company will offer much more than great hot dogs. Their menu will also include a large selection of burgers, hand-cut fries, sandwiches and salads (just to name a few), as well as a large assortment of breakfast items.

The entire menu (including breakfast) will be available all day. You won't find any microwave ovens or heat lamps at The Coney Company because all items will be made fresh to order. For nights when you need to satisfy that 3 a.m. Polish Boy or Gyro fix, The Coney Company will have you covered because it plans to be open 24 hours. Some late nights will be drive-thru only, but the dining room will likely be open late on the weekends.

Detroit natives, the Sylaj family of six relocated to Cleveland in 1987 when Peter was transferred from the Chrysler plant in Detroit to the one in Twinsburg. Peter started the family on the Coney Company journey by opening a restaurant on the east side of Cleveland when Bekim and Becky were kids. They have been hooked ever since and have stayed in the restaurant business. Becky worked at the former John Q's Steakhouse and Bekim worked for the former Sammy's. Their dream was to open their own restaurant; when they found the



The former Arby's is The Coney Company

Broadview Rd. location, they thought it was a good fit.

Bekim is a graduate of Ohio State University. Upon returning home from Columbus, he was surprised at how Cleveland had changed while he was away. "There was a renaissance within Cleveland neighborhoods including Tremont, Ohio City and, of course, Old Brooklyn. It's great to see suburban folks starting to come back to the City," he said. And then he added, "People in this neighborhood are so friendly and welcoming!" Bekim lives in Parma and Becky lives in Parma Heights with her husband and two children age 2 and 5.

Bekim and Becky have been working on renovating the old Arby's location for the last few months and the interior has been completely transformed. The wood used for the front counter and menu board is actual reclaimed wood from the original Coney Island Boardwalk. They also have a wall displaying old and new Coney Island postcards, some dating back to the early 1900s. When there's a break in the weather they will be able to get to work on the exterior of the building, and putting in a patio, too.

If you pick up this April newspaper early and are looking for a job, on Monday, March 31st, The Coney Company will be conducting open interviews from noon to 3 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Positions are available for 1st, 2nd and 3rd shift wait/counter staff and line cooks.

The Coney Company hopes to be open for business in April or May. Bekim and Becky encourage everyone to watch for their grand opening specials.

## Presence of beneficial insects crucial to planet, ecology and humankind

by Gloria Ferris  
Brooklyn Centre Naturalists

Anyone interested in the environment has probably heard that bees are being devastated by the use of chemical pesticides on farmland; that one fourth of the fruit and vegetable plants need to be pollinated by bees and insects to bear fruit and vegetables; and that the monarch butterfly population is crashing because milkweed, the only food that their caterpillars eat, is no longer plentiful by our roadsides.

Mowing, herbicide use, and the growth of phragmites stands (which push out native species by taking the available sunlight, water and soil nutrients) are all reasons that bee and butterfly populations are becoming scarce in suburban and farmland areas.

Fortunately there is good news. It appears that bees and insects can flourish in urban areas. The damage done to pollinators by chemicals done in farming areas can be restored by planting native plants on corners of urban lots as well as by creating pocket parks in unlikely little places which act as sanctuaries for bees and other beneficial insects.

Recently when a group of Case Western Reserve University students were working on the Brooklyn Centre Naturalists "Forest Trail in the City" garden on W. 39th St. they found praying mantis cocoons attached to several branches — a sign that gardening on vacant lots creates a healthy environment for beneficial insects.

Seeding a vacant lot with clover, prairie dock (a yellow, daisy-like flower) or other ground cover which does not need to be mowed can add insects to the environment. The plants provide food for amphibians, birds and other wildlife and also aid in storm water management by allowing water to slowly dissipate.

Choosing native plants such as coneflowers, black-eyed Susans, daisies and other colorful flowers in a corner of an urban lot will attract bees and beneficial bug populations to residents' yards or on an unused corner along a roadside. Always consider adding milkweed to the mix.

Hoverflies will be one of the beneficial insects which make backyard retreats home. Aphids and other pests provide lunch for these flies and thus make them very beneficial to gardens.

Bumblebees love wildflowers and will pollinate tomatoes, beans, raspberries and blueberries and ensure bumper crops in urban gardens.

Turning the neighborhood into a National Wildlife Community, and therefore, creating a sanctuary for wildlife — a place where wildflowers, bees, butterflies and birds can all thrive — will help make everyone healthier and add to the beauty of Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn.

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists (BCN) are still working on getting Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn designated as a *Certified National Wildlife Community*. They need just 14 more 'backyard habitats' to put them over the top for certification by the National Wildlife Federation.

The names of everyone who joins now will be entered in a raffle to win a dragonfly sun catcher handcrafted by local artist Sharon Martyn and a copy of the BCN's *A Taste of All Seasons* cookbook.

Sign up at [www.nwf.org/create](http://www.nwf.org/create) or contact Brooklyn Centre Naturalists by email at [bcnaturalists@gmail.com](mailto:bcnaturalists@gmail.com) or by phone at 216-351-0254 (Gloria Ferris).

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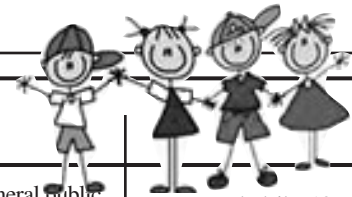
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www.arthouseinc.org

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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.

**Be the Dinosaur: Life in the Cretaceous Now** - May 4th. Find out what it was like to be a dinosaur through virtual technology. State-of-the-art simulator; become a dinosaur to experience their prehistoric world. Times vary. Call 216-231-4600 or www.cmnh.org for more info.

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

**Glasshouse Explorations** - Enjoy beauty & warmth of Eleanor Armstrong Smith Glasshouse while discovering more during these daily scheduled activities -

**Meet & Greet the Animals in the Madagascar Biome** - Tues - Sat., 11 am & 2:30 pm; Sun., 2:30 pm.

 **Butterfly Release in the Costa Rica Biome** -  
2 pm daily (based upon availability of hatched chrysalids each day).

**Glass House Tours** - Tues., Thurs., Fri.; Sat. & Sun., 1 pm; Wed., 1 pm & 7 pm. Free with admission; no registration required.

**Bradley Woods's Reservation**  
Codrington Picnic Shelter 440-734-6660  
**Frog Walk & Campfire** - Sat. Apr. 5th, 7 - 9 pm. Search for frogs singing their breeding songs. Then go to the shelter for campfire & toasted marshmallows. Rubber boots & flashlights recommended. 7- 9 pm. Ages: 7 years & over. Call to register.

**Cleveland Metroparks - Brookside Reservation**  
**Brookside Valley Event Site**  
**Pick-up Baseball Game** - Fri. Apr. 5th, 11 am - 1 pm. Celebrate Cleveland Indians opening weekend at site of historic Brookside Stadium. Learn about history of one of Cleveland's oldest baseball fields & play some pick-up baseball using rules from the Park's heyday. Bring own glove. (Under 16 must be accompanied by adult.)

**Cleveland Metroparks - Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation's CanalWay Center**  
E. 49th St. bet. Grant Ave & Canal Rd.  
216-206-1000 or clevelandmetroparks.com  
**Hunt of the Month** - Tues., Apr. 1st, Recycle Symbols. In celebration of Earth Day on Apr. 22nd there are 20 hidden recycle symbols throughout CanalWay Center. Stop by during the month to see how many you can find. Mon - Sat; 9 am - 5 pm; & Sun., noon - 5 pm.

**Sunday Funday** - Apr. 6th; 2 - 4 pm. Take a closer look at turtles in Center & hike down hill to see turtles in wetland.

**Family Movie Night** - Thurs., Apr. 17th; 7 - 8:30 pm. In celebration of Earth Day watch story of *The Lorax*.

**Make and Take** - Fri. Apr. 18th; 2 - 4 pm. Learn how plants grow & start your own to take home. Then go on a Signs of Spring scavenger hunt with your family.

**Bike the Canal** - Thurs. Apr. 24th, 6 - 8 pm. Bring family & friends to Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation for spring bike ride from Aqueduct to Overlook and back. Doug & Jill will stop along the way to point out history & nature of Canal. Terrain: all purpose trail, 5 miles Register beginning Apr.1; 216-206-1000 or cleveland-metroparks.com

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

**Egg Scavenger Hunt** - Month of April. Look at what birds of Ohio do during this time of year. Hunt in & around the Center for hidden eggs of all shapes, colors & sizes. Stop in any time during the hours of 9:30 am - 5 pm to find eggs & learn about birds that lay them.

**After School Movie** - Fri. Apr. 4th, 5 - 7 pm. Gather around big screen for fun cartoon movie that whole family can enjoy. Don't forget your popcorn.



**Cleveland Metroparks Mill Stream Run Reservation - Strongsville Park Operations**  
9485 Eastland Rd, off Valley Parkway, west of Pearl Rd/Rte. 42

**Breakfast in the Park** - Sun. Apr. 13th, 9 - 11 am. Hike along Rocky River. Return to hot breakfast prepared by volunteers. WJ Green Lodge. Terrain: moderate, 1 mile. Registration begins Apr. 1st.

**Fire Making - Flint and Steel** - Fri. Apr. 25th; 6:30 - 8 pm. 10 years & over with adult. Make fire without matches. Naturalist Sharon Hosko will demonstrate fire-making using flint & steel. Registration fee includes high output steel striker, piece of Ohio flint & enough jute to start 3 fires. Call to register. Fee: \$20 Registration begins Apr. 1st. Visit cleveland-metroparks.com for more info.

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

**Frog Talk and Walk** - Sat. Apr. 26th, 7:30 - 9 p.m. Frogs sing & salamanders dance for love every spring. Learn about these interesting creatures, then hike to search for their "love" pools. Explore etlands around Nature Center to listen & look for sounds of spring. Ages: adults, families with school age childre. Registration required -- 440-734-6660.



**Cleveland Metroparks Watershed Stewardship Center WestCreekReservation**  
2277 W. Ridgewood Dr. 440-887-1968

**Spring Scavenger Hunt** - Sat. Apr. 26th, 2 - 4 pm. Families, adults. Compete as a team or an individual to see how many signs of spring you can find at West Creek. Team that finds most in given time wins prize fit for coming summer.

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

Admission, Apr. 1st - Oct. 31st. Adult - age 12 & older, \$13. Junior - age 2 - 11, \$9. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm.

**Overnight - Outback** - Fri, Apr. 4th; 7 pm. - 10 am. Cost: \$38 per person. Includes: Program curriculum & equipment, counselors who stay with group through entire program. Sleep in one of Zoo's secure program locations (Sleep locations & arrangements based on gender of groups registered.) Light evening snack. Light breakfast. Admission to Zoo & The RainForest immediately following program.

**Breakfast with the Easter Bunny** - Sat., Apr. 19th. Breakfast, served 8 - 9:30 am; features animal encounter, egg hunt, face painting & opportunity to get picture with Easter Bunny. Adults, \$22.50; children, 3 - 11, \$18.50; under 2, free. For reservations call 216- 635-3306.



**Summer Day Camp** - Children ages 5 - 14, with special new half-day Nature Play Camp for kids ages 3 - 4. Summer Day Camp is June 9th - Aug. 15th in different week-long sessions, each with new theme. Sessions available in half-day (9 am - noon) & full-day (9 am - 4 pm) increments. Campers grouped according to age to provide safe & nurturing learning environment. Campers age 11 - 12 learn about wildlife biology while exploring Zoo & Brookside Reservation; teens age 13 - 14 do "Counselor-in-training" camp to develop leadership skills, working alongside Zoo's Day Camp staff, partnering with Zoo Crew teen volunteers & participating in team building activities. Registration begins Mar. 1st for Cleveland Zoological



Society members & Mar. 15th for general public. Limited space; register early to avoid being shut out. Registration available online at cleveland-metroparks.com/zoo or by calling 216-635-3391.

**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.; Youth 3 - 18, \$10; College students with ID, \$10; Seniors 60 & up or with a Golden Buckeye card, \$10; toddlers 2 & under, free.

**Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds EarthFest** - Sun., Apr. 13th, 10 am - 5 pm. EarthFest will feature 250 exhibits in 9 sustainability areas including: Zero waste, advanced & renewable energy, local & sustainable food, clean transportation (with ride & drive), health & fitness, community works, environmental sciences, family fun, & green home & garden. Families will enjoy all-day entertainment with eco-activities, biodiesel powered amusement park rides, all-day music, urban farm animals, healthy food from local food trucks, local microbrews, chef demos, pony rides & much more. General admission: \$4 ages 2-11, \$8 ages 12 & over. Free admission: under age 2. Ride & park your bicycle in designated bicycle valet parking area ride RTA's Redline (regular fare) to Brookpark Rapid Station & take free EarthFest shuttle to Fairgrounds.



**Cuyahoga County Public Library**  
Parma-Snow Branch  
2121 216-661-4240;

www.cuyahogalibrary.org  
9 am - 9 pm, Mon - Thur.; 9 am - 5:30 pm, Fri. & Sat.; 1 - 5 pm, Sun.  
**Teen Programs** - TAG Team (Sat., Apr. 5th, 1:30 - 2:15 pm. Grades 6 - 12) & Board Game Day & Wii Play (Sat., Apr. 5th, 2:30 - 4:30 pm. ages 10 -18)

**Let's Tangle: Fun With Zentangle** - Inspired Art. Sat., Apr. 5th, 11 am, adults & grades 4 & up.  
**Celebrating Me and Those Around Me.** Thurs., Apr. 24th, 7 pm., families with children ages 4 - 9.

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

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

**Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad Peninsula Explorer Ride - Rockside Station**  
800-468-4070 visit www.CVSR.com  
CVSR - Ride the rails, hike Towpath Trail & lunch or shop in historic Village of Peninsula. For more details & to register call or visit www.CVSR.com.

**Home Depot**  
homeimproverclub.com/kdsworkshops  
**Birdbath/Birdfeeder** - Sat., Apr. 5th. Workshops offered 1st Sat. of every month, 9 am - noon. Free hands-on workshops designed for kids ages 5 - 12 at all Home Depot stores.

**Lake Erie Nature & Science Center**  
28728 Wolf Rd.  
440-871-2900 www.lensc.org  
**The You-niverse** - For families with children of all ages. Sat. & Sun., 1:30, 2 & 2:30 pm; in StarLab. Locate moon, find planets, identify constellations & find out how they got their names. Then go home & discover the universe in your own backyard. Fee: \$3/person.

**Schools as Neighborhood Resources (SNR)**  
James Ford Rhodes High School, 5100 Biddulph Rd. Mon., Wed. & Thurs. 6 - 8:30 pm. Sign up anytime, through April. Both children & adults can participate for free. If the Cleveland Municipal School District is closed on a Mon., Wed. or Thurs., either for a scheduled holiday or because of inclement weather, the evening classes will not be in session. Call 216-812-8700 website:www.neighborhood-leadership.org/programs/snr for more info.

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THEATER NOTES



**Beck Center of the Arts**  
17801 Detroit Ave. Lakewood  
216-521-2540 www.beckcenter.org  
**Studio Theater**  
*'Night, Mother*  
Now - Sun., May 4th. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm; student matinee, No performances Apr. 18th - 20th. Tickets: \$12 - \$29.

**Cleveland Public Theatre (CPT)**  
6415 Detroit Ave. 216-631-2727 ext 205  
www.cptonline.org  
**James Levin Theatre**  
*A Killing Game*  
Thurs., Apr. 10th - Sat., Apr. 26th; Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 7 pm. Tickets: \$12 - \$28.

**Gordon Square Theatre**  
*Dance Works '14*  
Thurs., Apr. 17th - Fri., Tues., May 3rd. Thurs. Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$12 - \$28.

**Storefront Studio**  
*The Drowning Girls*  
Thurs., Apr. 17th - Sat., May 3rd. Thurs. Fri. & Sat., 7 pm. Tickets: \$12 - \$18. Mon. & Thurs. - \$12. Free beer on Friday.

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

**Cleveland Play House at the Allen Theatre**  
*Clybourne Park*  
Now - Sun., Apr. 13th. Tues., 7 pm; Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 2:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 2:30 pm. Tickets: \$45 - \$72.

**Second Stage Theatre**  
*Informed Consent*  
Fri., Apr. 25th - Sun., May 18th. Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 2:30 - 7:30 pm; Sun., 2:30 pm. Tickets: \$45 - \$72.. Check website for times..

**Kennedy's Theatre**  
*Flanagan's Wake*  
Now - Sat., Apr. 26th. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm. Tickets: \$25.

**KeyBank Broadway Series at the Palace Theatre**  
*Flashdance*  
Tues., Apr. 1st - Sun., Apr. 13th. Tues. - Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 & 6:30 pm. Tickets: \$10 - \$75.

**Palace Theatre**  
*Green Day's American Idiot*  
Fri, Apr. 25th - Sun., Apr. 27th. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 & 6:30 pm. Tickets: \$35 - \$70.

**Great Lakes Theater at the Hanna Theatre**  
*As You Like It*  
Fri., Apr. 4th - Sat., Apr. 19th. Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$15 - \$70.

**Near West Theatre**  
3606 Bridge Ave. 216-961-6391  
**Once On This Island Jr.**  
Thurs., Apr. 10th - Sun. Apr. 13th. Thurs., Fri., Sat. 7:30 pm. Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: Star seat single \$20, general \$10, child \$8.



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**ISH'S LAWN CARE** - Grass cutting, edging, weed trimming. Prices starting @ \$20. We also offer spring clean-up, senior & veteran discounts. Call Chris 440-667-5799.

**JOHN'S LAWN SERVICE.** Lawn mowing & trimming. General yard maintenance. No contracts necessary. Very reasonable rates with reliable service. Free estimates, senior discounts. Call John 440-888-4842.

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**GARDEN COORDINATOR** - Position approx. 20 hrs a wk. at Ben Franklin Garden. Maintain grounds, monitor plots, organize volunteers. Send resumes to Old Brooklyn CDC; 2339 BroadviewRd., Cleve. OH 44109.

**HELP WANTED**  
 Beauty salon located in the Old Brooklyn community now hiring beauty specialists with min. 1 year experience in manicuring and stylist. Licensed professionals send resume to: atikastylesjobs@yahoo.com

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

School registration information

Thursday, March 20th  
 Brooklyn City Schools

**Kindergarten & Preschool Registration**  
 Brooklyn Board of Education Office, 9200 Biddulph Rd., 10 am - 12 pm & 4 - 6 pm. Obtain registration packets at Board of Education office or download one at www.Brooklyn.k12.oh.us. Bring completed packet to registration student records - original birth certificate; social security card; immunization record; guardianship papers, if applicable; proof of residency - 2 current utility bills, homeowner - home deed or Truth-in-Lending (renter - lease/rental agreement). Call 216-485-8112 for more info.

**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 mqpschool.com or school's Facebook page for more info.

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

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

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

**St. Mary Byzantine School Registration**  
 St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Elementary School, 4600 State Rd., accepting applications for preschool - grade 8. Before/after school services available; also daycare when school's not in session, (inc. summer). FREE tuition possible for every family through Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring Program. School program includes technology instruction in new computer lab, enhanced learning through use of interactive Smart Boards, instrumental music & art instruction, CYO athletic options, & much more. Call 216-749-7980 or visit www.smbyz.org for more info.

**West Side Ecumenical Ministry (WSEM)**  
 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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Bicentennial - III from front page

neighborhood photos by Arcadia Publishing Company.

In the meantime, I've been checking out local history books. But perhaps the biggest danger for anyone writing about history (or doing genealogy) is the temptation to use previously published materials as one's source.

What's to say that the person who wrote the book or article did his/her 'homework' in terms of research? If they didn't, or even if they did, 'to err is human'. The result is that the misinformation is promulgated in subsequent books, and the truth is further and further buried.

Primary materials are the better source for

finding historical information, though old newspapers contain errors, too, as journalists often scurry to get their story together for daily publication. And even the *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*, as filled with facts as it is, had enough mistakes in it to publish an "Errata" list shortly after the first edition came out in 1987.

Nonetheless, when I'm writing an article, I like to refer to the *Encyclopedia* in my research. I find the maps of such topics as the ancient shorelines of Lake Erie; the annexation of different parts of the townships to the City of Cleveland; civil Subdivisions of Cuyahoga County; City of Cleveland wards in various decades; and a City of Cleveland ethnic settlement map circa 1923 to be especially helpful.

On the ethnic map, this neighborhood, as I already knew, was more German than anything, but it was also interesting to note the Jewish settlement off W. 25th St., just east of the Italian settlement around St. Rocco's on Fulton Rd. Given the Jewish cemeteries on Ridge Rd. just south of Denison Ave., that shouldn't have been surprising.

The annexation map shows the years that the areas we now call Old Brooklyn joined the City of Cleveland. The 1905 date refers to just the 'downtown' area of Old Brooklyn (aka, the Village of South Brooklyn). The majority of

the land was added in three separate annexations in 1915, 1916 and 1917.

The final annexation of what became Old Brooklyn was in 1927, when the part of Brooklyn Hts. around W. Schaaf Rd. voted to become part of the City of Cleveland.

Something I read in the *Brooklyn Beacon* published at the time of Brooklyn Centre's bicentennial two years ago stated that 1867 was the year that they were annexed to the City of Cleveland. But that wasn't primary material, so the search for truth continues...

**Garden Walk 2014 update**

The GardenWalk committee has again asked Old Brooklyn and Brooklyn Centre to participate in GardenWalk 2014 on Saturday July 12 and Sunday, July 13. Each neighborhood will be asked to have the participation of 15 gardeners and their gardens.

Contact Tamara Sims, Old Brooklyn Coordinator, by email at [trmsms@gmail.com](mailto:trmsms@gmail.com) or by phone at 216-394-4318 if you would like to enter your garden or if you would like to be one of the two garden finders needed.

Garden Finder/Coordinator Gloria Ferris for Brooklyn Centre is stepping down this year. Therefore, two positions are open for that neighborhood. If someone does not step up for Brooklyn Centre, the neighborhood will not be part of GardenWalk 2014. Please contact Gloria at 216-351-0254 or email [Gloria.ferris@gmail.com](mailto:Gloria.ferris@gmail.com).

**Saturday, May 17th**

**Loew Park**  
3121 Oak Park Ave.

**Register 11:00 a.m.**  
**Raffle drawing 3:30 p.m.**

**Pedal for Prizes**

Explore Cleveland's Old Brooklyn neighborhood by bicycle and experience some of the best of its local businesses and other points of interest.

Each destination you pedal to earns you a chance to win spectacular raffle prizes of your choice, including brand new bikes.

For more information please visit [pedalforprizes.org](http://pedalforprizes.org) or

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