



Neighborhood Progress gives OBCDC \$30,000 grant for coffee house

by Jason A Powers
jasonp@oldbrooklyn.com

Residents of Old Brooklyn looking for a caffeine fix while picking up the latest best-seller won't have to wait much longer. Plans are in the works for a community café at the South Brooklyn branch of the Cleveland Public Library (CPL), 4303 Pearl Rd. at State Rd.

Long in demand, the future Community Café represents a joint vision between the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) and CPL. That vision got a huge boost last month when OBCDC won a \$30,000 Neighborhood Solutions Award from Cleveland Neighborhood Progress (CNP).

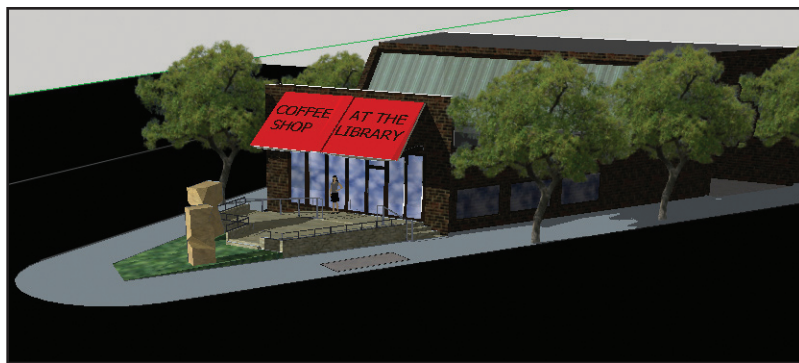
Eight finalist organizations presented their proposed projects to a panel of distinguished funders and economic development professionals who evaluated them as to how their neighbor-

hood solution featured innovation, impact, inclusion, collaboration and replication. OBCDC came in second out of thirteen applicants and won its first-ever Neighborhood Solutions Award.

OBCDC had met with the Director of CPL, Felton Thomas, in October to discuss the project. Noting the lack of a dedicated coffee house for a community of over 30,000 residents as well as the central location of the library, OBCDC promoted the idea as obvious opportunity to serve the public.

The Community Café at the South Branch will operate as an independent shop, complete with its own entrance and operating hours. A competitive grant is being prepared and a request for proposals will go out shortly to find an operator.

See *Coffee House* page 2



Architect John Rakauskas' rendering of what the future coffee house at the South Brooklyn Branch library might look like.

Jim Ptacek and Indiana Metal Craft design ornaments for Christmas 2014



Photo by Sandy Worona

by Lynette Filips
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The manufacturer is different and the medium is different, but the artist is the same. For the fourth consecutive holiday season, Old Brooklyn's Jim Ptacek has transferred some of his legendary Cleveland photographic images onto three collectable Christmas ornaments.

Jim is calling this year's offering the '2014 Cleveland Landmark Collection'. The

solid pewter ornaments have a laminated, sepia-toned image on the front. In addition, the manufacturer, Indiana Metal Craft of Bloomington, Indiana, cast the words *Cleveland, Ohio* on the front and Jim's signature and year on the back.

One of the ornaments -- the simplest design, actually -- is of the Terminal Tower.

Another ornament has five images of the eight Guardians of Traffic on the Hope Memorial (formerly the Lorain-Carnegie) Bridge.

See *Jim Ptacek* page 6

2014, Old Brooklyn's bicentennial year, draws to a close by spotlighting early settlers

by Lynette Filips
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The year 2014 -- the year attributed to the first settlement of what is now the Old Brooklyn neighborhood by people of European descent -- is drawing to a close, and so this is the last time that the *Welcome to Old Brooklyn* sign and an article about our neighborhood's early history will appear on the front page of the *Old Brooklyn News*.

When I wrote the first, rather lengthy, bicentennial article in our February issue, I began the last paragraph by saying -- *Isaac Hinckley bought land in the area which is now Schaaf Rd., and I assume that he is the settler whose arrival we will be celebrating this year.* And I promised to write more about him. Over the course of the year I have been in touch with one of Isaac's descendants through marriage, and she penned the following history for me --

Isaac Hinckley
by June Hartzell

(whose husband was a Hinckley)

Over 200 years have passed since a small band of settlers from Connecticut

made their way into the newly-opened territory of Cuyahoga County. Isaac Hinckley, Asa Brainard, Elijah Young, Stephen Brainard, Enos Brainard and Warren Brainard were all residents of Chatham, Connecticut who had traded their Chatham farm lands for land in Brooklyn Township.

The caravan of forty people -- comprised of six wagons, six oxen and ten horses -- took forty days to travel across the wilderness to the Cuyahoga River, arriving in early fall of 1814.

It was not an easy journey. When the Hinckleys set out from Connecticut, their family included: Emily, 14; Abel, 11; Ogden, 10; Lucy, 7; Cleantha, 5; Sarah, 3; and Oramill, about 6 months old.

The Hinckleys had two wagons, one packed with their household goods and a store of provisions which were to last the family until they could clear the land and produce crops.

The most precious items in that wagon were a spinning wheel and loom. They had also brought two team of oxen, two cows, a horse and a dog. On their way they had passed so close to Niagara Falls, that they

could hear the roar of the Falls, but they were so anxious to get to their destination that they did not stop to view it.

The Brainards settled in the area which is now Denison Ave., but Isaac purchased acres in the area which became Schaaf Rd. The Hinckley land was in the heart of a thick forest. Their first home was a log cabin with two rooms and a loft where the children slept; it was reached by a ladder. The roof of the loft was so 'open' that the children could count the stars through the cracks, and in the winter snow drifted in over the beds and floor. Isaac made the first table the family used from an ash tree on the property.

The first year was difficult. When the family first came, trees had to be cut down and the land had to be cleared, so crops could be planted. The story is told that one day when Isaac was chopping wood a black bear came into the clearing. He dashed into the house, grabbed his gun, ran out and shot the bear in the back yard where a Hinckley home still stands (939 W. Schaaf Rd.)

The Hinckley family lived on grain pounded into mush, supplemented by whatever wild game could be shot. Though Isaac owned 360 acres, he had no money to buy flour. So he walked five miles to the Newburgh grist mill, offering to mortgage some acreage for a barrel of flour, but the miller refused the offer. (At that time flour was more valuable than land.)

The two oldest girls, Emily and Lucy, taught in the first school on the south side of Cleveland, starting with four pupils. The nearest church was two miles away, and the children and others carried their shoes and socks. They put them on when they got in sight of the church, thus saving the wear and tear on the shoes -- but not their feet -- from walking on rough terrain.

Isaac was active in the activities of the slowly developing area, becoming a township trustee in 1817. Although Isaac conducted church services in a nearby home initially, in 1819 he and Sarah, along with several of the

See *Bicentennial* page 8



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Old Brooklyn
Community Collaborators

Cookies and Cocoa with Santa

Saturday, December 13th 12 - 3 p.m.

Presented by:

- Art House
- Speed Exterminating
- Keohoe Brothers Printing
- Senior Citizen Resources
- St. James Lutheran Church
- Cleveland Mediation Center
- Roger Bundy, Attorney at Law
- Deaconess-Krafft & Zane Centers
- Memphis Fulton Shopping Center
- Kiwanis Club of Brooklyn-Cleveland
- The MetroHealth's Old Brooklyn Health Center
- Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation



Refreshments
Cookies & Cocoa

Photo with Santa \$2

Goodie bag for the first 500 kids
(10 years and under)

Make a craft to take home

The Old Brooklyn Health Center
4229 Pearl Rd., at Devonshire
(Fee for parking in garage)

From the desk of the executive director

by Jeffrey T. Verespej
jeffv@oldbrooklyn.com

Holiday traditions are wonderful.

As a young boy at 405 South Ridge Dr., mine certainly were. I am positive that generations in Old Brooklyn could say the same, because at the core of these traditions is family.

Every year on Christmas Eve our family would get dressed up and begin the long trek out to Willowick where my father's parents lived. An evening of attending church, opening presents, playing with new toys and eating a traditional Slovak meal ensued.

It was a meal which would sound, smell and taste familiar to many in Old Brooklyn. But of equally importance, it was a meal which would be foreign to others who cherish different traditions with their loved ones and families. Perhaps not visible on the surface, both have the same ingredients.

Mine consisted of the food of my family's ancestors – mostly dough and sauerkraut! Course after course with some variations. Sometimes with honey, others with warm milk and poppy seed. Sour tasting soup and more sauerkraut.

Other cultural traditions at this time of the year might include seeing a play or a holiday light display. They could include the food from the hunt or the treasures of the forage. They are likely rooted in hope, joy and giving. They are experiences which connect us to each other and root us in our community.

Multiple conversations over the last few weeks have revolved around the topic of family roots in Old Brooklyn.

In one, it was a trio of brothers who grew up here and now all live on the same

street in the South Hills neighborhood. Another involved the purchase of the family home to continue the generations-long commitment to this neighborhood. Yet a third is on the same street, but on the other side of the roadway. Each of these stories are raising their new families, and blending their traditions both old and new.

Whatever experience your family's traditions may bring, let it be embraced. For in it are the values we hold dearly as a community, and the values that have stayed with Old Brooklyn over decades.

Which brings me back to the memories of those Christmas traditions, and how they live on today. Even with that bounty of food, as a boy all that I cared for were the cookies. But now those traditions are deeply important, and it is not about the food; it is about the family. For at that table and during the holidays we lived a great life in Old Brooklyn.

No longer does anyone from my family live on South Ridge Dr., nor are my grandparents still with us out in Willowick. As with the Slovak food, for a period in my life, I was not proud of where I hailed from or where I was at the moment. For a long while, I never knew that a connection with Old Brooklyn would be re-established.

I should have known better. Roots are too hard to pull up; our traditions with our families ensure that.



George Shuba

by Jason A Powers
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"I figured a gig's a gig!" That's what George "Shot-by" Shuba thought when he first got off the phone with a WHK rep asking him to come by and shoot beetles. "I turned to my partner and asked, 'Why are we shooting bugs?'" Shuba hadn't heard of the British Rock n' Roll band and had no idea that more than 10,000 screaming fans would soon be surrounding him as he photographed and experienced Beatlemania first hand.

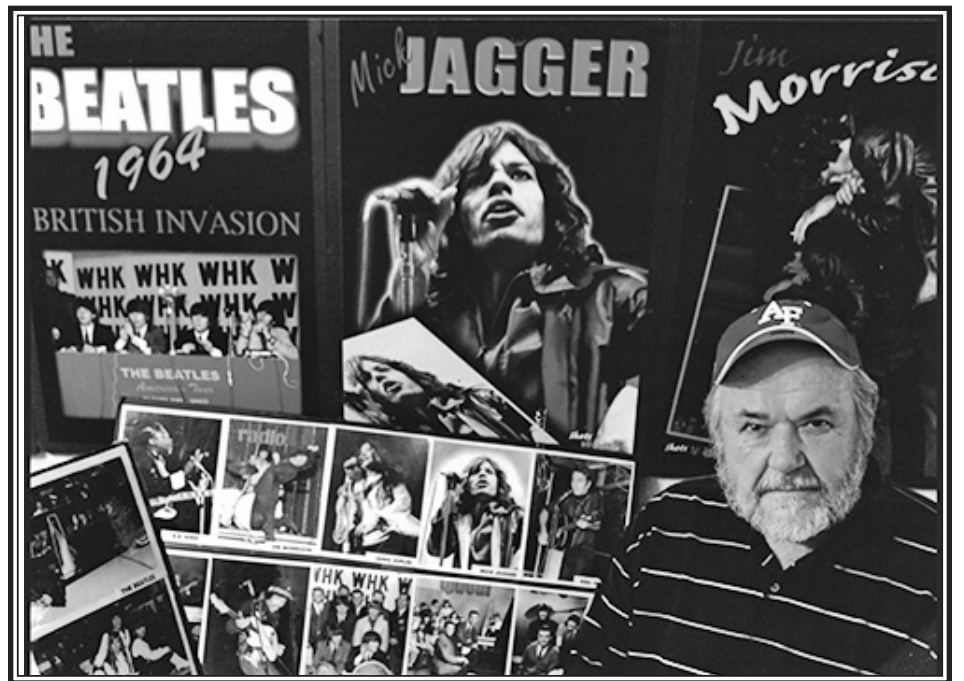


Photo courtesy of George Shuba

Born in Cleveland at City Hospital and raised in Old Brooklyn, George, a Rhodes High graduate and recent Hall of Fame inductee, is known as the Grandfather of Rock n' Roll photography. He recalls his earliest exposure to photography through a friend whose older brother shot for *Life* magazine.

Thumbing through the pages he was impressed by the impact photographs could have on a reader. After graduating from high school, George joined the Air Force Air National Guard of Ohio where he took courses on photography at Air University and learned the art of still photography. Stationed in Denver at the Lowry Air force Base, he continued to hone his skills and excelled, eventually attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant.

George returned to Cleveland after receiving an honorable medical discharge and started a career with the Cuyahoga County sheriff's office where he served as Captain in the Marine Patrol, but continued to practice the art of photography on the side. Shooting weddings and other local and personal events, George explained his knack for catching a moment, "You don't really have time to think; you advance the film, focus and wait. You need to shoot just

music. He covered a full spectrum of rock and roll legends such as James Brown, the Dave Clark Five, Neil Diamond, Aretha Franklin, Jimi Hendrix, Mick Jagger, the Rolling Stones, B.B. King, Jim Morrison, Simon and Garfunkle, Sonny & Cher, Stevie Wonder and many others. All told he estimates his archive as more than 12,000 images from his 50 years in the business.

George has also captured numerous other-then-rock celebrities on film, including Jack Benny, Ted Kennedy and Ronald Reagan to name just a few.

In 1975 George took his last concert assignment and covered the Rolling Stones at Cleveland Municipal Stadium. Since then his photographs have found their way into books on rock and roll, album covers and art and Cleveland's own Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. His work is everywhere; last year photos he took of Bette Midler and Barry Manilow were featured on ABC Nightly News with Katie Couric.

Reflecting on his work over the last half century, George describes coming down to his studio at night, turning on a single light and staring at the photos on his wall. "Who shot these?" he would wonder, and the answer comes back, "They were 'Shot by Shuba'".



The Board of Christian Education of Brooklyn Heights Church wants to take this opportunity to say thank you to the neighbors for their generosity for filling the bags that are handed out each year for non-perishables for Brookside Hunger Center.

The boys and girls go from door to door to deliver the bags along with a note. They then go back the next Sunday to pick up the donations. The neighbors are always generous but this year was a banner year. They even received a note saying how nice it is for the children to be conscious of the needs of others.

For Christmas the children will raffle off baskets with the proceeds going to Brookside Center. The baskets are well worth the \$1.00 tickets. Call 216-741-2280 to purchase your ticket.

If you have a child who has nothing to do on Sunday, we would invite them to join our boys & girls.

OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

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Submission Deadlines

Display Ads . . . Thurs., Dec. 18th
Classified Ads . . Thurs., Dec. 18th
News Releases . Thurs., Dec. 18th
For Information call 216-459-0135
E-mail: sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com

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Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation

MISSION STATEMENT: We are committed to uniting, engaging and empowering the community to improve the economic vitality and quality of life within the Old Brooklyn and Brooklyn Centre neighborhoods

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Christina DelNegro, Secretary Book Chrobak, Treasurer

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Jayne Lucas-Bukszar, Residential Real Estate Project Manager

Sandy Worona, Community Outreach Coordinator/OBN Advertising & Sales Manager

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation Board Meetings, are every fourth Tues. of the month, 6 - 7:30 pm. OBCDC office (2339 Broadview Rd.). Meetings open to the public but the board reserves the right to close portions of the meetings. To confirm call 216-459-1000.

Old Brooklyn News

Sandy Worona – Layout & Ad Manager; Lynette Filips – Copy Editor

This month's OBN writers - Phyllis Crespo, Gloria Ferris, Lynette Filips,

Bethany Hicks 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.

Coffee House from front page.

As a partnership with the library, the café will also be used to host programs and events. The hope is that it will energize the library and develop it to be more than just a place to pick up books and browse the internet.

CPL is interested in reinventing its branches as community centers where programs and meetings can take place. The old model of the local library branch, CPL recognizes, as a place where residents come and spend hours perusing books, is outdated. Today library visitors are using the library as a pick-up location to grab a book they ordered online.

"We are very happy to support the proposal for the creation of a community focused coffee shop within the South Brooklyn Branch," said Felton Thomas. "It will provide the neighborhood with a much

needed collaborative space and allow for us to meet the changing needs of the people we serve."

The Neighborhood Solutions Award was developed to support a project that is ready to launch but in need of additional financial resources. CNP looked for innovative and impactful ideas that would not only serve a particular community but could be replicated throughout Cleveland over time.

Joel Ratner, President CEO of Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, stated, "We asked our Community Development Corporation partners to push existing boundaries when working to solve some neighborhood challenges."

But a coffee house itself is not an innovative solution; the key to this project is the impact provided by partnering with the library.

NEWS & EVENTS

Now thru Sunday, December 21st

Festival of Trees

Allen Theatre Complex, 1407 Euclid Ave. Free & open to public. Family-friendly activities, behind scenes access, & special performance by The Singing Angels. Make Share-a-Memory paper ornament & write down favorite holiday memory to display on a Memory Tree. Weekdays, 5 - 9 pm; Sat., 11 am - 9 pm; Sun., 11 am - 6 pm. Special hours Dec. 23rd: noon - 9 pm; Dec. 24th: noon - 5 pm; Dec. 26th - 30th: noon - 9 pm. Closed Christmas Day. Visit www.clevelandplayhouse.com for more info.

Now - Monday, January 5th

GLOW at the Garden

Cleveland Botanical Garden, 11030 E. Blvd. Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 10 am - 5 pm; Wed. & Fri., 10 am - 9 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve, 10 am - 3 pm. Closed Christmas & New Year's Day. Tickets: \$12/non-member adult; \$8/non-member child; free for members & children under 3. Festive train ride, decorate your own gingerbread house, live performances of favorite holiday classics & much more. Call 216-721-1600 or www.cb garden.org for more info.

Monday, December 1st & January 5th

Cuyahoga Valley Genealogy Society

Independence Civic Center, Willow Room, 6363 Selig Blvd., 7:30 pm. "Questions, Questions, Questions? Answers, Answers, Answers!" Put on your thinking caps & bring your ideas to assist fellow members with their questions & brick walls.

Monday, January 5th - "Industrial History of Cleveland" -- David Bernatowicz, Associate Professor of History, Cuyahoga Community College, with narrative history of industries that developed in Cleveland area from 1940 to end of 20th century. Contact CVGS president Mary Boehlein, 440-736 7180, or visit www.cuyahogagenealogy.org, for more info.

Saturday & Sunday, December 6th & 7th

City Music Cleveland Concert

Sat., 6th, Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus, 3649 E. 65th St., 8 pm; Sun., Dec. 7th, 4:30 pm., Lakewood Congregational Church, 1375 W. Clifton, Lakewood. *Sarrier Sinfonia in D, Mozart Bassoon Concerto, Ramirez Misa Criolla*. Visit citymusiccleveland.org for more info.

Monday, December 8th

Monday Night at the Movies

"God Grew Tired of Us"

River's Edge, 3430 Rocky River Dr.; 7 pm. Optional discussion following. Free, but free will offerings accepted. Register at www.riversedgecleveland.com.

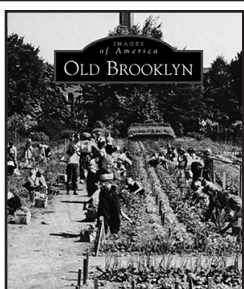
Tues., Dec. 9th, Wed. Dec. 10th & 17th

Green Cleaning Workshops - - Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District Workshops - Tues., Dec. 9th Garfield Heights; Wed., Dec. 10th Bay; & Wed., Dec. 17th Independence. Each runs 6:30 - 8 pm. Learn how to replace toxic cleaning & landscaping products with safe alternatives made from everyday household ingredients. Workshop free to attend but \$10 fee includes making two green cleaners to take home. Registration required; contact Amy Roskilly, 216-524-6580. www.cuyahogawcd.org.

Old Brooklyn "Images of America" book reg. \$21.99; on sale for the holidays \$20

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Wednesday, December 10th

Westside Basket Guild

St. James Lutheran Church, 4771 Broadview Rd., upstairs hall. Class starts at 5 pm; come any time up to 6:30 to start weaving. Meets on second Wed. every month. **Dec. 10th - Christmas decoration** that looks like a snowflake; \$4; RSVP by Dec. 7th. Potluck to follow. **Jan. 14th - Spring plant basket.** Supplies to bring when weaving -- old towel, bucket, clothes pins, ruler, pencil, scissors. Call Connie, 216-749-7912, to RSVP.

Friday, Dec. 5th & Saturday, Dec. 20th

Jim Ptacek Ornament Signing

Ameriflag Inc., 3307 Broadview Rd.; 10 am - 2 pm. Local artist Jim Ptacek selling/signing new collection of 2014 pewter holiday ornaments (& ornaments from previous 3 years). Prints, Christmas cards & postcards also available. Call 216-661-2608, see Ameriflag ad on page 12 of this issue, or visit Ameriflag.com for more info.

Tuesday, December 9th

Energy Techniques for Managing Your Weight During the Holidays

River's Edge, 3430 Rocky River Dr.; Mon., 6:45 - 8 pm. Fee: \$15. Facilitated by: Peggy Koelliker. Call 216-688-1111, ext. 251, or email: info@riversedgecleveland.com. No prerequisites required. Adults & children welcome.

Saturday, Dec.ember 13th

American Nationalities Movement Annual Christmas Party & Program

Wal-Tam's Grand Ballroom, 10808 Granger Rd. (former Knights of Columbus Hall), 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Free parking. Refreshments & appetizers at 11:30 am & lunch 12:30 pm. Donation: \$30 per person; includes luncheon, dessert & one complimentary drink. Music & prizes. RSVP by Wed., Dec. 10th. Send check made out to American Nationalities Movement, 3421 E. 49th St., Cleveland, OH 44127 or call 216-403-9897.

Saturday, December 14th

Tremont Holiday BrewHaHa/Santa Shuffle

www.tremontbrewhaha.com

Tremont BrewHaHa - Stop by about 2 pm. to begin enjoying specials from neighborhood bars, restaurants & retail shops. Race starts at 4PM followed by an after party at the Southside for all race participants. Post race party: The Southside, 2207 W. 11th St. Race day registration & packet pick up, Tremont Tap House, 2572 Scranton Rd; 2 - 4 pm.

Monday, December 22nd

Arts Renaissance Tremont Concert

Burning River Brass - Pilgrim Congregational Church, 2592 W. 14th St.; 7 pm. Admission: freewill donation.

Cuyahoga County Public Library Snow Branch - 2121 Snow Rd.

Holiday Celebration with Cheryl Fitiak - Wed., Dec. 10th, 7 pm.

Adult Zentangle® Inspirations Club. Thur., Dec. 11th, 7 pm.

Internet: Next Steps - Mon., Dec. 15th, 1 pm.

Email Essentials - Tues., Dec. 16th, 1 pm.

Computer Essentials Wed., Dec. 17th, 10 am.

Internet Essentials - Wed., Dec. 17th, 1 pm. **Registration required beginning one month before the class for all computer classes.**

Adult Book Discussions - Mon., Dec. 15th, 7 pm. - *Fall From Grace* by Richard North Patterson. **Thurs., Dec. 18th, 11 am.** - *Everybody's Got Something* by Robin Roberts

Saturday, December 20th

Christmas Polka Night

Durty Nelly's Pub, 1151 Pleasant Valley Rd; (in the shopping plaza @ Broadview & Pleasant Valley Rds.) With Koledy Music by: Honky Express, 7 - 11 pm. No cover charge. Great food, prices & wood dance floor. Call 440-845-1275 for more info.

Sunday, January 11th

Polka Event

Holiday Inn, 6001 Rockside Rd; 3 - 7 pm. Cleveland Polka Association Lounge party music/dancing by NuTones. Donation - \$8. Call Jill, 440-319-1877, for table reservations or more info.

Sunday, January 11th

The American Red Cross Blood Drive

St. Leos Lux Hall, 4940 Broadview Rd.; 8:30 am. - 12:30 pm. Register @ redcrossblood.org after you create a profile. Registering is optional; it just helps with the staffing. Stop by & donate!

Volunteer tax preparers are needed

Cuyahoga EITC Coalition, which provides free tax preparation services to 10,000+ community members annually, is looking for volunteers to help greet clients & prepare taxes at 25+ Cuyahoga County locations. Anyone can become a volunteer; no experience necessary. Just attend Coalition led training to become

IRS-certified volunteer tax preparer. Sign up today by visiting www.refundohio.org. Contact Keely Andrews, kandrews@enterprisecommunity.org, for more info.

Brooklyn High School 50th Reunion

1965 graduating class planning a 50 year reunion in 2015 & needs contact information for many. Members of that class should email: reunionbrooklyn65@gmail.com or visit Facebook page Brooklyn Reunion.

January 2015

impACT the 216

South Brooklyn Library, 4303 Pearl Rd., after-school session: Program designed to enhance math & reading proficiency, improve students' ACT scores & increase students' college & career readiness. Group meets 3:30 - 5:45, Mon. - Thurs. Twenty-five students accepted per site for each session. Professional advisors will deliver College Now's ACT Preparation Course. Additional perks: College visits \$100 stipend for each student at the end of each 8-week session. Possible internship opportunities for students who successfully complete program. Parent/family opportunities to meet staff & view students' projects. Call 216-241-5587 or email rockinthe216@collegenowgc.org for more info.

2015 Tremont Calendars

Tremont History Project selling calendars with photos of historical Tremont scenes. Price: \$10 each, plus postage (\$1 for one, \$2 for two & \$5 for three). Or purchase them at next Tremont History Project meeting & save on postage -- Sat., Dec. 20th, 10 am, at Jefferson Library, 850 Jefferson Ave. Call Eileen, 440-785-6315, to order or for more info.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists -- no meeting this month.

Brooklyn-Cleveland Kiwanis - every Tues., 12 - 1:30 pm; Golden Corral, 8676 Brookpark Rd.

Cleveland Republican Organization meeting, Tues., Dec. 9th (& every second Tues.); 7 pm, Brooklyn Hts., UCC, 2005 W. Schaaf Rd. Call 216-832-9195 for more info.

Laurel Garden Club of Brooklyn meeting, Mon., Dec. 29th; 7 pm, Brooklyn Fire Station, 8400 Memphis Ave., rear door. Speaker: Dreama from Dean's Greenhouse. Those who've pre-registered will make arrangements with her instructions. Those not making an arrangement will still learn valuable lessons on how to make one on their own. Members welcome to share Christmas cook-

ies & recipes. Beverages provided. Dues for 2015 can be paid at meeting. All welcome. Call Barb, 216-671-6777, for more info.

Old Brooklyn Crime Watch meeting, Wed. Dec. 3rd., 7 pm, Knights of Columbus Hall, 4730 Broadview Rd. Call Barb Spaan, 216-459-1000, for more info.

Second District Police Community Relations meeting, Tues., Dec. 9th (& every second Tues.), 7 pm, Applewood Center, 3518 W. 25th St.

Southwest Citizens Area Council meeting, Thurs., Dec. 4th & every first Thurs., 7 pm, Gino's, 1314 Denison Ave.

Ward 13 Democratic Club meeting, Tues., Dec. 16th (& every third Tues.), 7 pm, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 5801 Memphis Ave.

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Have a fire-free home for the holidays; Keep your yuletide blazes in check with these safety tips

by Robin Jones
Article from AAA Motorist Nov./Dec.

It was Christmas Day, and Judy Stock had just taken the turkey out of the oven when she smelled smoke. She looked around, trying to determine the source, when she saw her cat up on the counter. Earlier in the day, Stock had placed a Lit candle there for decoration. "The cat had backed into it, and his tail was on fire," she says.

Stock put the flames out quickly, before the cat got hurt -- or before it could start a bigger fire with a flick of its tail -- and she knows she was lucky. "If no one had been in that room, or if we'd forgotten the candle was burning, it could have been a different outcome," she says.

Every year, U.S. fire agencies respond to ISO blazes started by holiday decorations and another 250 fires involving Christmas trees, according to the National Fire Protection Association and the U.S. Fire Administration. These fires account for an average of 21 deaths and more than \$25 million in property damage annually.

Dealing with the devastation of a major fire will certainly ruin your holidays, but even the smallest fire can be disruptive and expensive. That might not destroy your holiday spirit, but it will take time and energy away from your seasonal plans. If you decorate your home this time of year, take the following precautions to protect yourself, your family, and your property --.

Trees: Before you buy a live tree, check it for freshness. First, pull the needles back from the branches; they shouldn't come off easily. Second, check the trunk

at the spot where the tree was cut; it should still be sticky with resin. Third, bounce the tree on the ground. If piles of needles fall off, the tree is too dry. Once the tree is in your house, keep it in a water-bearing stand, and check the water level every day.



Photo from the AAA Motorist

Seasonal Safety - Pets can be a problem around holiday decorations

Outdoor lights: Before you put up your holiday lights, check the box labels to make sure they've been certified for outdoor use. Then inspect each strand for cracked sockets and frayed wires, and throw away any light sets that show damage. Plug in lights with an extension cord that's designed for outdoor use, and don't connect more than three strands of lights together.

When you leave the house or go to bed at night, turn the lights off. They could short out and start a fire, and you don't want to be away or asleep if that should happen. And whether you put up outdoor or indoor lights, be careful not to overload power strips, which could cause them to overheat and possibly catch on fire.

Other decorations: If you use lit candles, place them far away from anything that might catch fire (including pets), and make sure they're in holders that are unlikely to be knocked down. (Better yet, use battery-powered candles.) Before you light your fireplace, clear all greenery and needles from the area, and don't use wrapping paper for kindling because it can cause a fire to get very big, very fast. Bigger fires send sparks and embers into the air and increase the chance of a chimney fire.



Holiday Fire Safety

Cake Royale set to open retail store this month

by Rosemary Mudry
rosemarym@oldbrooklyn.com

The much anticipated opening of Cake Royale's new kitchen and retail shop in a storefront at 4276 Pearl Rd. is almost here. The Old Brooklyn grand opening of Denise and Michel Kahwagi's business of twenty eight years will be on Tuesday, December 9th, from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The open house will feature samples of the store's pastries and desserts and give customers the chance to see the new space. Cake Royale will officially open the next morning, December 10th, at 7 a.m., and thereafter will be open Tuesdays through Fridays from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (These hours could change over time.)

While the family-owned and operated business has already begun baking for commercial clients and their West Side Market stand in the new facility, they have been waiting for their last piece of equipment to arrive from Mississippi before being able to open the retail side. With the final piece en route, the Kahwagi's are putting the finishing touches on an interior build-out which has taken more than a year to complete.

Denise and her team have carefully crafted cakes, macaroons and other confections for the storefront window display. The inside retail area is decorated with a large mural of Paris. It was handcrafted by a local Cleveland artist and took close to five months to complete.

Plush chairs and tables for meetings with clients complete the look, making the shop warm and inviting. Once inside, customers can choose from a selection of made-from-scratch cakes and pastries including their signature Monk's Hat, a combination of chocolate cake,



Photo by Jason A Powers

A sample of Cake Royale's pastries

chocolate mousse and fresh raspberries hand-rolled in a thin sheet of dark chocolate.

As the holidays approach, many folks are interested in placing special orders. One of Denise's favorites is the Christmas Log, or Bûche de Noël, a sheet cake rolled with fillings like chocolate or hazelnut, then iced in chocolate ganache and decorated with a Christmas theme.

Anyone wanting to place a holiday order should do so as soon as possible and no later than Saturday, December 20th. The best way to place an order is to call 216-351-3553 or to stop in to the new shop. Check out Cake Royale's Facebook page "Cake Royale West Side Market" for photos, holiday specials and updates.

Understand meaning of 'Snow Emergency' to avoid expense of ticket or tow this winter

from the City of Cleveland's 1996
Codified Ordinances (traffic code)

(a)Whenever, during any period of twenty-four hours or less, snow falls in the City or in a section thereof to a depth of two inches or more, an emergency is declared to exist in that such a heavy snow storm constitutes a serious public hazard impairing transportation, the movement of food and fuel supplies, medical care, fire, health and police protection and other vital facilities of the City. The emergency shall continue until an announcement by the Director of Public Safety that snow plowing operations have been completed, which announcement shall be made in the same manner as outlined in subsection (b) hereof.

(b)Whenever such an emergency exists the Director shall request the cooperation of the local press and radio and television stations to announce the emergency and the time that emergency parking regulations will become effective, which time shall be no sooner than one hour after the first announcement. Such announcement by two local radio stations or two local television stations or in a daily newspaper of general circulation published in The City shall constitute notice to the general public of the existence of the emergency. However, the owners and operators of motor vehicles

shall have full responsibility to determine existing weather conditions and to comply with the emergency parking regulations.

(c)During the period of the emergency, the Director may prohibit the parking of any vehicles upon any or all of the City Streets designated as a through Street or highway by Section 413.02, or as a snow emergency street in the regulations adopted pursuant to the authority of section 403.03. During the emergency no person shall park, or cause or permit to be parked or permit to remain parked or abandon or leave unattended any vehicle of any kind or description upon such specified streets. However, vehicles may be parked for a period of longer than three minutes for actual loading or unloading of passengers or thirty minutes for actual loading or unloading of property if no other ordinance restricting parking as to place or time is violated thereby.

(d) Any motor vehicle parked in violation of this prohibition may be impounded in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 405 at the cost and expense of the owner thereof. If the Director of Public Safety authorizes additional emergency equipment to be used, the fees to be charged for towing and storage by such authorized agents shall conform to the fees assessed by the City for the same service. (Ord. No. 1684-76. Passed 6-29-76, eff. 7-6-76)

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Writing this column for the December *Old Brooklyn News* always makes me feel pulled by three different holidays because we start working on the issue right around Halloween, and even though it's not Thanksgiving when we're sending it to the printer, it's really our Christmas issue.

And although **Halloween** is past history, there really is more Halloween to report.

For openers, I regret that we didn't publicize **Frank Smith's** Halloween display in our October issue. Frank, aka **Luther Huggs**, lives at 1608 Merl Ave., and he's repeatedly reminded me that we were the first publication to do a major article about his **Heggs House of Horror** decorations for Halloween.

In recent years, Frank has also repeatedly told me that he was giving away his Halloween displays to the neighbors and not doing it anymore. Unfortunately, I believed him.

On Halloween I heard that the decorations were up, so I drove over and saw one of his decorations in a neighbor's yard, and seemingly all the rest of them in motion, accompanied by appropriate sounds, in their usual places in his front and side yards and garage.

So my advice for readers is, "Next year, unless you hear otherwise, drive by. Or, if you want to be sure before you go, check the website, www.hegghouseofhorror.com.

Fortunately, we gave good coverage last month to **Pete Marin's Transformers** Halloween display at 4809 Wichita Ave., and because I'd heard that there was going to be some action there on Halloween, I asked **Ken Kalynchuk**, the author of that article, to do a little follow-up. Here's what he wrote:

Following last month's cover story on the Old Brooklyn Transformer House, a big surprise rolled onto Wichita Ave. the night of Halloween. Not just one surprise, but three large surprises pulled up to Pete and Sarah's house as the night carried on. Sarah had pulled together a surprise for Pete that included three vehicles with exteriors nearly identical to the Transformer's automobile forms from the movie series.

A semi-truck looking like Optimus Prime plowed down the street with loud honks, and parked itself in front of the house for the night. Moments later, replica vehicles of Bumblebee and a Decepticon pulled up, and according to Pete, "The place EXPLODED".

The Halloween event and a photo shoot

with all the vehicles at Edgewater Park the following weekend capped off a great autumn at the Transformer house.

Pete has big plans for next year's display. Although he cannot disclose which character he will build and unveil, he wants to share with fans that it will be a new big character for sure (in the likes of Optimus or Megatron, for knowledgeable fans). We eagerly await to see what Magic Pete and Sarah bring to Wichita next October.

I also talked with **OBCDC's Crime Watch Coordinator Barb Spaan** about the evening because she worked with the City through **Councilman Kevin Kelly's** office to get a permit to close Wichita between W. 45th St. and W. 49th St. from 6 to 10 p.m. that night. In spite of the rain, she estimated that 200 people showed up. **Four auxiliary police** were there for 'crowd control', if needed, and cars from the **Second District** drove by to check on things throughout the evening, too.

And while I'm talking about last month's paper, I must fix a typographical error we made in the **Ben Franklin Garden** article. We said that the gardeners donated 'almost 500 pounds of produce' last season; it should have read 'almost 5000 pounds of produce'. We're sorry that got documented incorrectly.

In the *News & Events* section of this month's *OBN* there's a listing for the 2015 calendars which the **Tremont History Project** is selling. I asked the person who sent me the information what buildings are featured and here's what she told me:

Interior of Union Gospel Press with workers, early 1920s; inside of Barber's grocery store, circa 1929 (now Edison's Pub); interior of Olney Art Gallery; early picture of St. Theodosius Cathedral; Lincoln Heights Savings & Loan, 1933 (now Dante's); Pilgrim Church preschool class; "Hepcats" in Lincoln Park, 1936; Rusyn violin class outside Holy Ghost Church; Tremont School; Civil War Encampment; St. George's Antiochan Orthodox Church, 1933; Lincoln Park Bandstand, 1947 (also on the front cover).

Re: one of the *Theater Notes* listings below, we're proud to announce that three of the forty-nine cast members in **Jesus Christ Superstar** have **Constellation Old Brooklyn Community Middle School** connections. Lawrence Young, the school's crossing guard, plays a priest, Jocelyn Perkins is one of the twelve apostles, and Rachel Johana is in the ensemble. (The girls are graduates of the school.)

The show is being performed at **West Side United Church of Christ** on Bridge Ave., while **Near West Theatre** is in between its former home at St. Pat's Community Center and its new home at Gordon Square. (Send news to: LynetteF@oldbrooklyn.com.)

Ben Franklin Garden teems with levels of life

by **Phyllis Crespo, Vice Chairman Ben Franklin Garden Committee**

Ben Franklin Community Garden is not only a place to grow delicious food and meet your neighbors; it is also a refuge for many of our neighbors in the animal kingdom.

The outer perimeter of Ben Franklin Garden is enclosed by many mature trees and wooded areas which provide a home for small animals such as squirrels, mice, chipmunks, voles and rabbits. These critters are generally unwelcome in the vegetable gardens because they enjoy eating the produce. Gardeners discourage these animals with soap, deterrent sprays and even sonic devices.

Larger animals such as woodchucks (ground hogs), raccoons, opossum, rats and skunks come looking for food as well. Gardeners are likewise vigilant to keep these animals out, as they can be quite destructive in a vegetable garden, and there is enough food to support them in their natural habitat.

Deer, probably from the Treadway Creek ravine, make cameo appearances in the Garden from time to time. Garter snakes and toads make their homes at the Garden, too. The presence of toads signals a healthy environment, so gardeners were pleased to see them this year.

Earthworms are another sign of a healthy environment, especially for growing food. Through composting, gardeners are increasing the earthworm population.

The Ben Franklin Garden is home to a full range of insects, both beneficial and pesky. There's an overabundance of certain unwelcome insects such as the cucumber beetle and the flea beetle (which loves to eat tender eggplant leaves).

One way to combat destructive insects is to grow vigorous plants which actually repel the insects. Select healthy plants at the nursery, and make sure that they are properly nourished throughout the season. One easy way to give plants the minerals they need to repel destructive insects is to feed the plants Epsom salt throughout the growing season. (Look on the internet or research at the library for specific advice on how to do this.)

The Ben Franklin Community Garden is proud to have been designated an official Monarch Waystation by an organization called Monarch Watch. Its goal is to preserve the habitats of the Monarch Butterfly which have been reduced by urban development and certain farming practices.

The migration of the monarch butterflies from the United States and Canada to Mexico and California where they overwinter each year is truly one of the greatest natural wonders of the world.

Ben Franklin gardeners are happy to play a part in this wonder. They grow zinnias and other flowers which Monarchs use for food. It is a joy to see the Monarchs each year as the growing season winds down in August and September.

Hawks fly over the Garden and occasionally spot a mouse on the ground. Birds such as cardinals, wrens, woodpeckers and robins also call Ben Franklin home. There has been a return of the blue jay as well, which had been harmed by the West Nile virus in recent years. These birds live in the more than sixty varieties of trees on the Ben Franklin Community Garden property.

A mature bald cypress tree on the right side of the drive greets visitors entering the Garden. It is a rare type of tree to encounter in Northeast Ohio, being as its natural range is southeastern North America, Texas, Mexico and Guatemala.

To the left of the drive is a very large pin oak tree, which is estimated to be 125-135 years old. The Garden Committee makes sure that it is regularly trimmed and shaped to extend its life even further. Many of the trees are labeled so people can learn their names as they tour the Garden.

Now that the cold weather is here, these animal neighbors are settling in for winter, whether they be in Mexico and California, like the Monarchs and migratory birds, or right here in the Garden.

The Garden has been settled in for winter as well. The fields have been plowed, and the tools cleaned and put away. But the gardeners will soon be busy with their seed catalogs, planning for next year's growing season.

THEATER NOTES



Beck Center
17801 Detroit Ave.
216-521-2540 www.beckcenter.org
Mackey Main Stage
"Mary Poppins"

Fri., Dec. 5th - Sun., Jan. 4th. Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2:30 pm. Also matinees at 2:30 pm, on Sat., Dec. 13th, 27th & Jan. 3rd; Tickets: \$10 - \$29.

Studio Theater
"Hillbilly Holiday"

Fri., Dec. 12th - Sun., Dec. 21st; 3 pm. Tickets: \$10 - \$12.

Cleveland Public Theatre (CPT)
6415 Detroit Ave. 216-631-2727 ext. 205
CPT's Gordon Square Theatre
"Conni's Avant Garde Restaurant"

Thurs., Dec. 4th - Sun., Dec. 21st; pre-show hors d'oeuvres & entertainment, 6:30 pm; show (inc. 5-course dinner & table wine), 7 pm. Tickets: \$50 - \$65.

CPT's James Levin Theatre
"American Falls"

Thurs., Dec. 4th - Sat., Dec. 20th; 7 pm. Tickets: \$12 - \$28.

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

Cleveland Play House at the Allen Theatre
"A Christmas Story"

now - Sun., Dec. 21st. Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sat. & Sun., 2:30 pm. Tickets: \$55 - \$75.

Great Lakes Theater
at the **Ohio Theatre**
"A Christmas Carol"

Now - Tues., Dec. 23rd. Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 & 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$15 - \$70.

Cleveland Public Theatre
at the **Allen Theatre's Outcalt Theatre**
"The Santaland Diaries"

Now - Sun., Dec. 21st. Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sun.; Times vary by performance; check website. Tickets: \$30.

KeyBank Broadway Series
at the **State Theatre**

"Irving Berlin's 'White Christmas'"
Tues., Dec. 2nd - Sun., Dec. 14th. Tues., Wed., Thurs. & Fri., 8 pm; Sat., 2 pm & 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm & 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$30 - \$115.

Near West Theatre

now at West Side United Church of Christ
3800 Bridge Ave. 216-961-6391
www.nearwesttheatre.org
"Jesus Christ Superstar"
Now - Sun., Dec. 7th. Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm. Sun, Dec. 7th; 3 pm. Tickets: \$10; \$8, 12 & under; \$20 - Star Seat.

The Liminis
2438 Scranton Rd in
216-687-0074
"Terminus"

Now - Sat. Dec. 20th. Thurs. - Sat.; 8 pm. Tickets: General admission - \$15, seniors - \$12, students - \$10.

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Brooklyn Centre Naturalists look at six years' progress & Short and Sweet Holiday Shop

by Gloria Ferris
Brooklyn Centre Naturalists

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists (BCN) held its strategic planning session on Saturday, November 8th, at the Young/Speed homestead on Valley Rd. in Old Brooklyn. Before the business meeting, fifteen members shared brunch provided by many of the attendees.

As always, facilitator Tom Romito started the meeting promptly to be able to accommodate the full agenda and the subsequent tour of the property. This year, BCN decided to look forward by first looking back at what they've accomplished over their first six years. (Their first meeting was in September, 2008.)

Some of the highlights which members related include --

- * Updating (in January, 2014), its mission statement to read - "To inspire and foster community commitment in preserving and restoring wildlife, plants and trees through example and education".

- * Deciding to register as a National Wildlife Community; (BCN was the first registered urban community. They are now only 18 points from qualifying as a certified community. Register your backyard as a certified backyard retreat at <http://www.nwf.org/How-to-Help/Garden-for-Wildlife/Create-a-Habitat.aspx> or call Gloria Ferris at gloria.ferris@gmail.com.)

- * Partnering with Friends of Big Creek (now Big Creek Connects!) and the Cleveland Zoo to hold a mini-symposium. (BCN decided to bring that back in 2015.)

- * Continuing to work to eradicate invasive species and promote native plantings through

out the area, and to advocate for trees/the tree canopy. (They hope to accomplish that via community outreach.)

At the conclusion of the meeting, John Young, Sr. took the group on a tour of his nature preserve which overlooks the Big Creek valley. After seeing the beautiful ravine and watching the deer walk the trails and the squirrels gathering nuts for the winter, BCN members walked away satisfied that they were striving for worthy goals.

In 2012, BCN collected recipes and published a cookbook. The few remaining copies will be for sale (\$10?) at the Short and Sweet Holiday Shop.

This year's Holiday Shop will open at 4 pm on Friday, December 5th, at 4 pm. There will be an artists' reception that day from 6 pm to 8 pm. Shoppers will be able to mingle with artists and ask questions about their crafts.

Holiday Shop hours on the remaining days will be: Friday, December 12th, from 4 to 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, December 6th and 7th, and 13th and 14th, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Holiday Shop is a good place to purchase unique handmade gifts from Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn artisans. Patrons will be supporting their local economy as well as Art House, our community arts center, will receive 20% of each sale. Check out their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/shortandsweetholidayshop.

More volunteers are still needed to staff this unique shop so anyone who would like to help should call Gloria Ferris at 216-351-0254.



Photo courtesy of Gloria Ferris

Jack Frost Donuts wins grand prize in Northeast Ohio competition

by Rosemary Mudry
rosemarym@oldbrooklyn.com

Longtime Old Brooklyn business Jack Frost Donuts, located at the southern end of the neighborhood at 4960 Pearl Rd., won Grand Prize in the 2014 Northeast Ohio Best Donut competition. Sponsored by the Plain Dealer, winners were announced November 3rd on Cleveland.com after several weeks of online voting narrowing the field to the top ten spots.

The newspaper's Joe Crea was the final judge, picking Jack Frost because the donuts were so good they made a person "want to brew a fresh pot of coffee, grab the Sunday paper, and curl up on the couch."

Jack Frost has been selling donuts for nearly 80 years, and while business is usually strong, owner Fred Borkey said that the shop has seen an uptick in sales since the win.

The increase in demand is perfectly timed as Borkey has just completed a total remodel of the kitchen. Workers are at the shop 24 hours per day and bakers spend all night preparing



Photo by Rosemary Mudry

Some of Jack Frost's 100+ donut varieties

donuts for the 6 a.m. opening. By 10 a.m., the kitchen has been spotlessly cleaned and a myriad of fresh, baked-from-scratch donut varieties await customers who come in steadily throughout the morning.

Jack Frost is open every day until 8 p.m. or until they sell out. Check out their Facebook page "Jack Frost Donuts" for pictures of their latest creations and updates if they run out of donuts.

Jim Ptacek from front page

The third ornament is a collage of nine local landmarks -- the Cleveland skyline, the Cleveland lighthouse, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, First Energy Football Stadium, Progressive Field, the statue of Moses Cleveland downtown, a Hope Memorial Bridge pylon, Rodin's *The Thinker*, and the Cleveland Museum of Art.

The ornaments are priced at \$18 each. As in the past, they are being sold at several retailers, including Ameriflag, Inc., 3307 Broadview Rd., which featured them in its *Old Brooklyn News* ads this month and last. (See actual photos in the Ameriflag ad below.)

Fred's Breads in Old Brooklyn, the Frame Shop in North Royalton, Stanton Jewelers in Westlake, True North in Sheffield and the Only Cleveland Store in Tower City also carry the ornaments.

Although Jim's three-year contract with Wendell August Forge has expired, some of the nine ornaments which they created from his prints are also still available at Ameriflag. The aluminum ones are priced at \$18 and the bronze ones at \$25. Wendell August Forge is also selling the ones they still have in stock on its website.

Jim found Indiana Metal Craft online, toured the plant, met the owner and employees, and chose them because he wanted an American company which would allow him more input into the design of the ornaments. But going this route is more work for him because he also had to design the package insert, and he and his wife Therese have to package the ornaments themselves.

Jim's upcoming signings at Ameriflag are listed in the Ameriflag ad and in this month's *News & Events*.



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(Left to right: Councilman Tony Brancatelli, Tiffany Sedlacek, Beth Loseto, Ricardo Rodriguez and Anna Maria Hamm) Old Brooklyn Buzz hosted its second annual *Chili Cook-off* at Grace Church on Saturday, November 15th. For the second year in a row, Beth Loseto won "Best Chili". Ricardo Rodriguez and Anna Maria Hamm tied for second place. It was a tough competition, with thirteen chili entries vying for first place. Approximately 60 to 70 'judges' samples the entries. Thank you to Grace Church for the use of the space, and to Cake Royale, The Sausage Shoppe and Dolce Sisters, LLC for donating the prizes for the winners as well as the door prizes.

Photo by Jayme Lucas Bukszar

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Demystifying the home mortgage process

By Jayme Lucas-Bukszar
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

Sources:

Ed Manning, Assistant Branch Manager and Paul Weston, Branch Manager at Charter One, 4221 Pearl Road.

<http://www.mtgprofessor.com/glossary.htm>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_Reinvestment_Act

We spoke with lending professionals at Charter One Bank to find out what lenders are looking for and what the process is for getting home repair loans. We hope this information helps “demystify” the home repair loan process and homeowners feel encouraged to access funds for needed home repairs. Below is a list of terminology commonly used by lenders concerning home repair loans.

Home Repair Loan Terminology

Loan to Value Ratio This represents the ratio of the mortgage lien as a percentage of the total value of a home. For instance, if someone owes \$130,000 on a house worth \$150,000, the LTV ratio is \$130,000 to \$150,000 or \$130,000/\$150,000, or 87%. The higher the LTV ratio, the riskier the loan is for a lender.

Debt to Income Ratio This ratio is the percentage of income that goes toward paying all recurring debt payments, including those covered by the first DTI, and other debts such as credit card payments, car loan payments, student loan payments, child support payments, alimony payments, and legal judgments.

Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) CRA is a United States federal law designed to encourage commercial banks and savings associations to help meet the needs of borrowers in all segments of their communities,

including low and moderate-income neighborhoods. Banks that receive Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance must meet CRA requirements. This means that FDIC insured banks have special lending programs including home repair loans.

The Basics

Ed Manning, Assistant Manager, and Paul Weston, Branch Manager, at the Charter One Bank located at 4221 Pearl Road both emphasized that the role of an experienced lending professional is to find the right option each client. There is no “one size fits all” for home rehab loans and if the lender should take the time to educate you about different loan products available and how the process works.

In general, lenders are looking at debt including home loans, car loans, student loans, credit cards, etc. For most products, you will need a credit score of 640 or higher. Charter One Bank has two CRA products where they will consider applicants with credit scores of 620 or higher. Interest rates will vary depending on credit score, debt to income, and the Loan to Value ratio.

CRA Lending Products

CRA loans are available to homeowners in eligible areas; homeowners in all of zip code 44109 and most of 44144 are eligible. Banks can meet CRA requirements with a variety of different loan products, so be sure to call several and see what they offer. Banks in Old Brooklyn with CRA products include Charter One, Key Bank, US Bank, and Dollar Bank. Nearby banks include Huntington Bank, PNC, Third Federal Savings & Loan, First Federal of Lakewood, etc.

For example, Charter One Bank does not look at Loan to Value ratio for CRA home repair loans so the home can be “under water”, or the mortgage exceeds the value of the home. With the Energy Efficiency Loan, you can borrow up to \$10,000 at 5% fixed interest and up to seven years. You can borrow up to \$10,000 at 6% fixed interest for up to five years with the “EZ Home

Improvement Loan”. You will need contractor estimates for the Energy Efficiency Loan.

Home Equity Loans

With home equity loans, your credit score and Loan to Value ratio go hand in hand. The better your credit and lower your Loan to Value ratio are, the more you can borrow and/or the better the interest rate. At Charter One Bank, your credit score needs to be a minimum of 640 and the maximum Loan to Value ratio is 85%. Other lenders have different standards, so be sure to call around.

General Requirements

When applying for a home repair loan you will need to provide two recent pay stubs (last 30 days), last year’s W2, and give permission to the lender to pull your credit report. When calculating debt to income, lenders will use the debt captured on the credit report. Expenses not on the credit report are not considered. Documents needed for retired persons are the most recent pension of Social Security statements indicating monthly income. Banks will not consider unemployment, unaccounted for rent, temporary worker’s compensation, or other non-permanent forms of income as true income.

Low interest home repair loans offered by non-profit and government agencies

Sources:

http://www.onelakewood.com/pdf/2010_CD_HELPInfo.pdf
www.nhsccleveland.org
http://www.heritagehomeprogram.org/loans/loans_qualify.php

There are low interest loans through nonprofit organizations such as **Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland (NHS)**.

NHS can help homeowners who have credit challenges. Home repair loans can range from \$1,000-\$60,000 and terms vary based on the loan size and what payments the homeowner can afford. NHS can also help with managing the construction, which can be helpful for homeowners not accustomed to hiring and overseeing contractors.

The loan to value ratio can be up to 110% of the value of the home and the max debt ratio is 45%. Loans are restricted to owner occupants.

Through the Cuyahoga County **Housing Enhancement Loan Program (HELP)**, the Cuyahoga County Treasurer subsidizes the interest rate by

This means that the homeowner will have a loan at three percentage points below the rate than he or she could otherwise get. Banks that participate in the HELP program include First Federal of Lakewood, Huntington National Bank, Key Bank, PNC Bank, and US Bank.

The minimum loan amount is \$3,000 and the maximum loan is \$200,000. The loan term is five years for \$12,500 and less and twelve years for more than \$12,500.

HELP loans are available for homeowners and investor owners and can be used for almost any type of home improvement. Single and two family homes must be valued less than \$250,000; there is no limit for three plus unit structures. The loan to value and debt to income ratios vary with lenders.

The Cleveland Restoration Society offers its **Heritage Home Neighborhood Historic Preservation Program (Heritage Program)** to homeowners throughout Cuyahoga County.

The minimum loan amount is \$3,000 and the maximum is \$250,000. Terms range from five to twelve years. To qualify, your home must be 50 years old or older.

If you are unsure of how old your home is, you can call Jayme Lucas-Bukszar at Old Brooklyn CDC at 216-459-1000 to find out.

The loan to value ratio is 80-90% for owner occupied homes and 70% for investor owned homes.

For more information about any of these programs, contact:

Jayme Lucas-Bukszar
216-459-1000
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

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Bicentennial from front page

founded what became Archwood Congregational Church (now United Church of Christ.)

When Isaac retired, the farm was split up between the three sons – Abel, Ogden and Oramel. Here is what became of each of his children:

- Emily married Myrick Gould of Newburgh in 1826 and had a daughter and two sons.
- Abel married Sarah Dennison, farmed his father's land, and had five children. After her death he married Sarah Foote.
- Ogden married Julia Ross, remained in the area and had four children.
- Lucy married Starkweather Branch in 1827 and tragically, died a few months later.
- Cleantha married Phineas Shepard and had three girls.
- Sarah married Clark Gates (from another well-known early settler family) and had four boys.
- Oramel married Ann Williams, moved to Clinton County, Iowa in 1844 and had sixteen children.

The Hinckley home at 945 W. Schaaf Rd. is still occupied by a Hinckley. Though descendants of Isaac Hinckley are now scattered across the country, the story of Isaac's pioneer days in this area remains a tribute to the courage, determination and resourcefulness of these early settlers.

(June noted that when she originally started her research on the Hinckleys, she wrote to her husband's relative, Howard Hinckley. He responded with a letter and a small family booklet which included a couple of charts and family stories of the early Hinckleys.)

As for the other settlers who came in the same caravan as Isaac Hinckley --

According to Crisfield Johnson, who in 1879 wrote the *History of Cuyahoga County*, "Asa Brainard located near the site of the infirmary", (now MetroHealth's main campus), "Stephen Brainard on a place adjoining Mr. Abel Hinckley's present residence in Brooklyn village, and, Enos and Warren Brainard near where the Wade House on Columbus street (i.e., Pearl Rd.) now stands." Crisfield Johnson did not mention where

Elijah Young's land was.

In the very next paragraph of the same book, Crisfield wrote, "The first settlers upon what is now known at the Brighton side of the creek (i.e., Big Creek) were also Brainards." He then proceeded to write about Amos, Jedediah, Jabin and Sylvanus Brainard. Amos, Jabin and Sylvanus' hundreds of acres were located about a mile south of Brighton Village (today's 'downtown' Old Brooklyn). He stated that these Brainards arrived in the summer of 1814.

If that date is correct, then they preceded the aforementioned Hinckleys, Brainards and Youngs who arrived here in the autumn of 1814.

Crisfield further wrote that Amos Brainard had three sons and a daughter (Amos B., William, Demas and Philena) and that Amos Brainard cultivated land for the Aikens "and on that farm, by Demas Brainard, the first ground was broken on the south side of the (Big) creek."

(George and Thomas Aikens were Mrs. Amos Brainard's brothers and although they had purchased land on the Brighton side of the Creek earlier, they didn't occupy it immediately.)

As for subsequent arrivals, Crisfield also mentioned Jeremiah Gates, who first came here in 1816 to check out the land and then returned for good with a wife and his brother, Nathaniel. He worked for another miller at first, and in 1820 bought a farm in present day Old Brooklyn where he resided until his death. The home still stands at 3506 W. 35th St. (at the corner of Memphis Ave., which was Mill street in former days).

Edwin Foote was one of Moses Cleaveland's surveyors. According to Crisfield Johnson, he

"settled on lot ninety, in the southeast corner of the township (E. Schaaf Rd today, in Brooklyn Hts.), and devoted himself to farming and gardening, in which latter occupation he was especially successful."

Before this saga of the earliest settlers ends, though, I must note that although the signs entering Old Brooklyn say "Since 1814" (based on the first sentence of the Brooklyn entry in *The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*), not everyone agrees with that date.



An artist's conception of a log cabin in the wilderness

Old Brooklyn New by Kathryn Gasior Wilmer, the book cited

in *The Encyclopedia...* as the information source for the Brooklyn entry, states that Old Brooklyn's first residents had the surname Fish and came here in 1812. I actually stated the same year in the history article I wrote for the April, 1990 *Old Brooklyn News*.

At different times, Kathryn and I had each interviewed Betty Ingham Christian, a descendant of the first Fishes, and that is what she told us. Betty, now deceased, lived in the former family homestead at the top of the hill on the west side of Jennings Rd. She claimed that the original Fish log cabin was under part of the framework of the long, rambling frame house, which was demolished to make way for the Jennings Freeway.

It is easy to ascertain that in 1812, James Fish became the first settler in what today is Brooklyn Centre. And when his cousin Ebenezer settled nearby a bit later, on land north of the trail which became Newburg street (today's Harvard Ave./Denison Ave.), it's clear that he was in today's Brooklyn Centre, too.

Ebenezer's brother Moses' land, not actually purchased until 1826, was south of the trail which led to Newburg Township. The point where "Old Harvard" (southwest of the Harvard-Denison high level Bridge) meets Jennings Rd. isn't very far from the Fish family homestead in which Betty Christian, her husband and their children resided. But according to old maps, it was in Original Lot 65 and did not extend into today's Old Brooklyn.

Old Brooklyn New also states that Betty's great-great grandfather, Daniel Fish, built the Jennings Rd. house in 1820, and an old map confirms that Daniel Fish originally owned the property where Betty resided. That was all in Original Lot 81 and wasn't actually purchased until 1829.

So maybe what both Kathryn Wilmer and I wrote about Betty's ancestors based on our conversations with her was not accurate... or maybe it was. A first settler is not the same as a first landowner.

Something else --

In 1996, Cleveland celebrated the bicentennial of Moses Cleaveland's landing here in 1796. Part of the festivities included placing a commemorative plaque somewhere in each of Cleveland's neighborhoods summarizing that neighborhood's history.

I wrote the text for the Old Brooklyn plaque which was placed on the front of the now vacant U.S. Bank building at the corner

of Pearl and Broadview Roads. The first two sentences are: *Old Brooklyn has its roots in the original Brooklyn Township, organized in 1818. The first settlers came from Connecticut in 1812.* The wording is nebulous, but in my mind the 1812 date applied to both Brooklyn Centre and Old Brooklyn because the data had come from a Fish descendant. That may not be totally accurate, either.

In an attempt to resolve this issue, I asked the Cuyahoga County Archives to look at their Brooklyn Township land records for the south side of Big Creek, but I have not yet gotten an answer from them.

Whatever the bottom line turns out to be regarding 1812 or 1814, do not presume that internet websites (e.g., Wikipedia) necessarily have correct information in terms of local history, either. Only recently have I realized the inaccuracies about Old Brooklyn's history on some of them. The data is only as accurate as the research done by the person who fed the words into the computer.

This is nothing new. Early on, *The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History* was found to contain quite a number of errors, and both Kathryn Wilmer's and Crisfield Johnson's books contain errors, too. It's one of the dangers of writing local history. Authors who don't check primary source material promulgate the fallacies in previously published material, and unfortunately, those errors are perpetuated as truths ad infinitum.

(Many thanks to local researcher Craig Bobby who checked old map records for me about the Fish properties.)

Virginia Arosion - Volunteer of the Month:

by Bethany Hicks

Senior Citizen Resources is honored to announce the Volunteer of the Month for November: Virginia Arosion! Throughout her twenty-three-year affiliation with SCR, she has kept track of the volunteer hour books and ran the consignment shop. She is most impressed on how the shop has grown since the craft class began a few years ago, and is thankful for the display case built to present the crafts.

"Before Betty McFadden came to SCR, it was only consignment. Since she's been here, we've been making nearly all homemade crafts to sell," Virginia said. Outside of the volunteer hours spent at SCR, Virginia enjoys baking bread each week and "doing a little bit of everything" for her church.

While she is not volunteering, Virginia can be found spending time with her family and gardening. Her specialties include growing tomatoes, peppers, beans, cucumbers, pears and grapes. She cans and freezes her home-grown produce and "makes the best jelly," Karen Kalas added. Virginia enjoys the tradition of getting together for the holidays with her family, specifically their annual

home-made Oktoberfest event, which they have been putting on for twenty-five years.

This event is pot-luck style, as everyone contributes spaetzle, sauerkraut, sausage and dessert and enjoys each other's company. She feels especially blessed that her family is close by, and holds pride in the fact that she has watched her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren grow up.

Virginia draws her inspiration from Senior Citizen Resources and those who are a part of it. "I don't know what I would do without this place, it's a second home to me," she said, explaining that she is a people person, and finds her purpose in helping others. She especially enjoys hearing the speakers hosted by SCR, the opportunities for socializing that we provide here, and the benefit of van transportation. Her secret to a long, happy life? "Eat right, live right, trust in the Lord."

Senior Citizen Resources is thankful for our volunteers. Please feel free to ask any member of the staff, or a current volunteer about our opportunities to make a difference for SCR and the community. Our volunteers are a vital component to this organization, and are appreciated greatly! Thank you, Virginia, for your support!



Virginia Arosion

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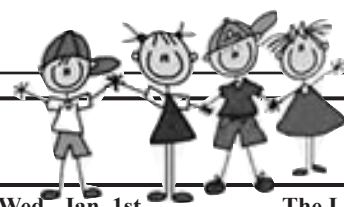
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3119 Denison Ave., 216-398-8556
www.arthouseinc.org
All Ages Family Open Studios - 3rd Sat. of every month; 1 - 3 pm. Class fee: Free. Each month has different theme; make individual pieces or family art works. Art House provides materials. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No pre-registration required. *Visit website for other programs or more info.*

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. **"Terrific Tuesdays"** - second Tues. eve. of month, 5 - 7:30 pm, through 2014. Admission free during this time.

Christmas Story House
3159 W. 11th St. 216-298-4919
www.AChristmasStoryHouse.com

Tours of *A Christmas Story House* every half hour beginning at 10:15 am. Last tour begins at 4:30 pm. Purchase tickets at gift shop, 3166 W. 11th St., across from house. Admission -- \$10, adults; \$8, seniors; \$6, children aged 7 - 12; free for children 6 & under. Price includes guided tour of house & yard & admittance to museum. Hours: Mon. - Sat., 10 am - 5 pm; Sun., 12 - 5 pm; year-round. Visit website for holiday hours & more info. Closed Christmas & New Years Day.



Cleveland Metroparks Winter Recreation Fun
Sledding, cross-country skiing, ice fishing & ice skating at various locations. Use caution & proper equipment; use area only when proper weather/snow/ice conditions exist. Call any Park District facility, 216-635-3200, or visit www.clevelandmetroparks.com for more info.

Cleveland Metroparks - Brecksville Nature Center Rt. 82 entrance 440-526-1012
Sunday in the Park Concert - Dec. 14th; 2 - 3 pm. Afternoon of classical & contemporary music with local duo, Sunday in the Park (Christopher & Karen Ellicott). Celebrate the season with music from around world & stories that go with them.

Drop-In Discovery programs: (Adventure Club kids bring passports; 10 am - noon.)

Nature Ornament - Sun., Dec. 21st. Make ornament from natural materials to take home.

Survival Bracelets - Sat., Dec. 27th; & Tues., 30th. Make your own survival bracelet. Fee: \$3.

Box Turtles - Sun., Dec. 28th. Learn about Eastern box turtles & meet BNC's box turtle.

A Day of Fun - Tues., Dec. 23rd; 1 - 4 pm. Hike, play games & make a craft. Dress to be outside. Adventure Club kids bring passports. For ages: 6 - 8. Terrain: hills, steps, 1 mile. Registration online begins Dec. 1st.

Cleveland Metroparks - CanalWay Center E. 49th St. bet. Grant Ave & Canal Rd. 216-206-1000 or clevelandmetroparks.com
Hunt of the Month: Evergreen Trees - through Dec. 31st; 9 am - 5 pm Mon. - Sat; noon - 5 pm, Sun. Twenty trees hidden in Center. Some colors changed to give them better camouflage.

CanalWay Nighttime Storytime - Wed., Dec. 3rd; 6:30 - 7:15 pm. Listen to seasonal stories inside, then explore Nature Center or take short, fast paced walk with naturalist outside.

Make and Take: Old-Fashioned Decorations - Sat. Dec. 6th; 10 - 11 am. Make simple holiday decorations like children did in the past. While you work, learn about holiday traditions long ago. Ages: 6 - 9 years. Fee: \$3. Register by phone or online.

Craft from the Past: Holiday Crackers - Sun., Dec. 7th; 1:30 - 2:30 pm. Make & take your own popping cracker filled with treats (old-fashioned party tradition). Ages 10 & over. Fee: \$3 Register by phone or online.

Family Movie Night - Fri., Dec. 12th; 7 - 8:30 pm. "Ice Age". Purchase snacks or bring your own. Register by phone or online.

Deer December - Sat., Dec. 13th; 2 - 3 pm. Learn about Ohio's white-tailed deer. See their fur, antlers & tracks. Make a deer craft to take home.

Sunday Funday - Sun., Dec. 14th; 3:30 - 4:30 pm. Bundle up for hike along Canal to look for birds that stay here through winter. Then make bird feeder to put in yard at home.

Winter Sleepover - Fri., Dec. 19th; 7 pm - Sat., 8:30 am. Spend time indoors & outdoors exploring & enjoying nature together. Campfire, walk & breakfast. Fee: \$5. Register online.

CanalWay Matinee - Happy Feet - Tues., Dec. 23rd; noon - 2 pm. Learn how penguins dance & sing. Bring pillow or blanket to relax during movie. Snacks available for purchase.

Snowball Fight - Tues., Dec. 30th; 3 - 4 pm. Snow or no snow. Bring your warmest weather gear in hopes of perfect outdoor conditions. If no natural snow, we will make some inside.



Cleveland Metroparks - Chalet
16200 Valley Parkway, Mill Stream Run Strongsville 440-572-9990

Tobogganing - Season kicks-off with special hours - Fri., Nov. 28th, noon - 10:30 pm. Open thru March 8th -- Fri., 6 - 10:30 pm; Sat., noon - 10:30 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. Cost - adults, \$12; children ages 11 & under, \$10. One time ride tickets, \$6. Season passes - adults, \$40; children 11 & under, \$30. Family pass (up to four) available, \$110. Receive gift pack with each season pass purchased thru Dec. 24th.

Breakfast with Santa at the Chalet - Sun. Dec. 14th; 8 - 9:30 am, breakfast; 8 - 11 am, breakfast with family & friends & visit from Santa. Make holiday craft, get face painted & visit photo booth. Fee: \$18; \$25, includes tobogganing. (Riders must be 42" or taller). Registration by phone required.

Kick Off the Holidays - Fri., Dec. 19th; 6 - 9 pm or until 10:30 pm. for tobogganing. Join Santa at the Chalet & help decorate the holiday tree. Bring non-perishable food item -- to be donated to local food bank or animal shelter -- & get \$1 off tobogganing admission. Receive additional chances at prizes & discounts with each additional non-perishable food item. Must be present to win.

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

Homemade Candy - Sun., Dec. 14th; 1:30 - 3 pm. Easy, no bake recipes fun for whole family to make. Mix, stir & twist our way to decorated popcorn balls & homemade peppermint. Fee: \$2. Register by Dec. 11th.

Recycled Ornaments - Sat., Dec. 20th; 10:30 - 11:30 am. Bring three or more metal bottle caps & transform them into cute snowmen ornaments. For all ages.



Winter Mini-Camp - Fri. & Sat. Dec. 26th & 27th; 1 - 4 pm. Ages 8 - 12. Fee: \$25. Snowy games, hot chocolate & crafts. Must register for both days.

Cleveland Metroparks Watershed Stewardship Center West Creek Reservation
2277 W. Ridgewood Dr. 440-887-1968

Snow Crystal Blast - Tues., Dec. 30th; 1 - 2:30 pm. With Naturalist Mark Warman. Learn about atmosphere & precipitation thru water crystals. Start experiment to visualize crystalline structures & take it home at end of this indoor program. Space limited.

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

December Days at the Zoo - Fri., Dec. 26th - Tues., 30th; 11 am. - 3 pm. Free with Zoo admission. Special seasonal activities including crafts, cookie decorating, live music in The RainForest & Wolf Wilderness & meet-the-keeper sessions.

Family Discoveries Click Click Click Click There Goes the Reindeer - Sun., Dec. 20th; 9 - 10:30 am. Bring entire family for special Zoo experience featuring hands-on activities & guided tours. Fee: \$15; \$10 Zoo member. Register at clevelandmetroparks.com /zoo/learn1.aspx or call 216-635-3391.

Zoo closed Wed., Dec. 25th & Wed., Jan. 1st

Noon Year's Eve - Wed., Dec. 31st. Family friendly event, 10 am - 1 pm, lets kids celebrate 12 hours early. activities include countdown to noon, music & dancing with Popfusion & ice sculpting demonstrations. Sponsored by UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital & Kohl's. Free with Zoo admission



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, \$14; \$7 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. **Planetarium tickets:** \$7 per ticket or \$5 with general. Members free.

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

Finger Knitting for Beginners. Sat. Dec. 6th, 2. Ages 9 & up. Using only your fingers, learn a special way to knit without needles. Hear a colorful story about knitting and see & touch several hand-knit items



Teen Programs - Sat., Dec. 13th, **TAG Team**, 1:30 pm. Grades 6 - 12 & **Board Game Day**, 2:30 pm, ages 10 - 18.

Estabrook Recreation Center
4125 Fulton Rd.

Winter Fest Festival - Sat., Dec. 13th; 2 - 4 pm. Free with gingerbread house building, corn hole, games, popcorn, & hot chocolate. All welcome. Sponsored by Gateway Church.

Grand Pacific Junction
Mill St & Columbia Rd., Olmsted Falls
440-235-623

www.grandpacificjunction.com
Christmas Open House - Sat., Dec. 6th; 9 - 4:30 pm. Free refreshments; special holiday sales in GPJ stores. **Snow Dogs:** 11 - 4 pm; **OFMS Choir Christmas Carolers:** 12 - 2 pm; **Wagon Rides:** 12 - 2 pm. Tickets: \$5, adults; \$3, children. **Stories with Santa:** 1 - 3:30 pm; each child receives gift. Tickets \$5; available at Dolls & Mini's.



Build a Snowman Word Scramble - Collect the snowflake letters at the participating shops, solve the word puzzle & enter the grand prize drawing for \$100.

Hale Farm & Village
2686 Oak Hill Rd., Bath
330-666-3711 halereservations@wrhs.org

Lantern Tours - Fri., Dec. 6th; Fri. - Sun., Dec. 12th - 14th; & Fri. - Tues., Dec. 19th - 23rd. 90-minute, lantern-lit journey. See, hear & smell holidays as experienced in 19th-century. Tours every 20 minutes, beginning at 6 pm (last tour, 8:20 pm). Indoor/outdoor activity; dress for weather. Reservations required. For ticket availability & reservations call 330-666-3711, ext. 1720. Admission: WRHS members - \$15; non-members - \$20. Group rates available for 15 or more. Reservations required.

Home Depot
homeimproverclub.com/kdsworkshops
How to Build Holiday Yard Stakes - Sat., Dec. 6th; 9 am - 12 pm. Workshops offered 1st Sat. of every month. Free hands-on workshops designed for kids ages 5 - 12 at all Home Depot stores. Children must be present at store to participate.



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

Open daily: 10 am - 5 pm; free admission

Holiday Night Tree Tradition - Fri., Dec. 5th, 6 - 8:30 pm. Fee: \$12, adults; \$8, child, ages 2 & up; free, 1 year & under. Crafts, animals, dinner & pictures with the big guy. Registration required.

Winter Solstice Celebration - Sun., Dec. 21st; 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Celebrate longest night of year with hike on candlelit trail, visit nighttime animals, learn about solstice in planetarium, warm up by fire & create family Yule Log. For all ages. Fee: \$7.

The Lantern Theatre at Canal Corners Farm & Market
7243 Canal Rd, Valley View

216-401-5131 www.lanterntheatreohio.com
The Cold, Cold Reading of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, - Sat., Dec. 20th, 6 pm. Presented by six brave actors & piano accompanist. Hot cocoa, cider & Christmas cheer followed by Christmas carols sung by all. Dress warmly; it's in a barn. Cost: adults, \$12; children 12 & under, \$8; no credit cards. Call or visit www.lanterntheatreohio.com for more info.



Schools as Neighborhood Resources (SNR)
James Ford Rhodes High School, 5100 Biddulph Rd., Mon., Wed. & Thurs., 6 - 8 pm. Sign up anytime through April. All activities free & open to public; participants typically range in age from elementary school children to senior citizens. If Cleveland Municipal School District is closed on Mon., Wed. or Thurs., either for scheduled holiday or due to inclement weather, evening classes will not be in session. Call 216-812-8700 or website: www.neighborhoodleadership.org/programs/snr for more info.

Tower City Center, 230 W. Huron Rd.
216-623-4750 www.towercitycenter.com

Grand Staircase - Level 1
Bruce the Talking Spruce - Dec. 1st; 4th - 8th; & 11th - 23rd; daily, 10 am - 8 pm; Sun., 11 am - 7 pm.



Holiday Express Train Ride - Sat. - Sun., Dec. 5th - 7th; 12th - 14th; 18th - 23rd. 10 am - 8 pm; Sun., 11 am - 7 pm. Mon. - Thurs., 3 - 8 pm. Admission: \$3. Children under 5 must be accompanied by adult. **Sandy, please check these dates & times; they don't jive. Also, something is screwed up with the spacing throughout.**

Toy Soldier & Fairy Godmother Holiday Show - Sat. & Sun., Dec. 6th & 7th, 13th & 14th, 20th & 21st; 1 & 3 pm. Music, dancing & storytelling with appearances from Rudolph, Frosty, Raggedy Ann & Andy & Princess & Martel. Lasts approx. 30 minutes; then "Meet & Greet" Toy Soldier, Fairy Godmother & friends. Bring camera.

Kringle's Inventionarium - Dec. 5th - 23rd; Mon. - Thurs, 3 - 8 pm; Fri. - Sat., 10 am - 8 pm; Sun., 11 am - 7 pm. A new twist on tradition of getting holiday photo with Santa in fully immersive "Kringle-ized" environment that stimulates imagination, encourages creative play & nurtures healthy family interaction. Admission: (standard)\$15 ages 3+; free under 3. (exclusive) \$20. Reservations req'd. Schedule online at MrKringle.com.

Kringle's QuickSnap - for families with infants & younger children, or those looking for brief visit & photo-only with Santa. Complimentary admission; photo packages available for purchase. Visit MrKringle.com.

Kringle's Toy Shoppe - themed retail space featuring unique toys, novelties, ornaments & furnishings in Inventionarium. Shop Kringle's toys, trinkets & trims online at MrKringle.com.

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

Holiday CircleFest - Sun., Dec. 7th, 12 - 7 pm. Over a dozen University Circle museums, gardens, galleries, churches & schools with free admission; activities, food, fun & shopping. Live musical performances, craft making, historic holiday toys displays, storytelling, live animals, gingerbread house competition & more. Free horse-drawn carriage rides & ice carving demos outside. Cleveland Museum of Art's *Winter Lights Lantern Procession* at end of day. Free skating at The Rink at Wade Oval; noon - 7 pm. skate rentals \$3.

The Rink at Wade Oval - Open now - Mar. 8th; Fri., noon - 9 pm; Sat., noon - 7 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm. **Skate with Santa** - Sun., Dec. 7th & 21st. **Open daily** Dec. 22nd - Jan. 2nd. Sun. - Thurs., noon - 5 pm; Wed., Dec. 3rd, 10th & 17th; 3 - 9 pm. Closed Christmas & New Year's Day. \$2 to skate, \$3 skate rentals. Hot chocolate & coffee available. Call 216-707-5033 for daily info.



CHURCH NOTES

Brooklyn Presbyterian Church
4308 Pearl Rd. 216-741-8331

Resale Shop - open to the public on 3rd. Sat. of month, 10 am - 2 pm. Used clothing all ages & sizes, household items & limited furniture. Affordable lunch & small food pantry for emergency provisions. To donate items, contact Rev. Sheryl Swan.

Music Program for families & adults; guest musicians & choirs throughout the year. Get more info online at www.brooklynpc.org.

Brooklyn Heights United Church of Christ
2005 West Schaaf Rd. 216-741-2280
Room for rent - for small events - Call to schedule.

Iglesia Filadelfia de Cleveland
3510 Broadview Rd. 440-941-1658
Fri., Dec 5th; free movie - *The War Within*.

The House of Glory
2337 Broadview Rd. 216-661-2080
Youth Bible Study - every 1st & 3rd Fri., 5 - 6:30 pm; free. Everyone age 13 - 23 welcome. Visit www.thehouseofglory.net for more info.

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

Avilas Holy Hour - Thurs., Dec. 4th, 8:30 am; lower chapel.

First Friday 'Low' Mass in Latin & Eucharistic Adoration - Fri., Dec. 5th, 8 pm; upper church.

Men's Prayer Group - Sat., Dec. 6th, 8:30 am; Parish Center.

Ladies Advent Day of Reflection - Sat., Dec. 6th, 9 am - 2 pm; lower church.

Concert by Notre Dame University (Ohio) - Sat., Dec. 6th, 5:30 pm; upper church.

Breakfast With St. Nicholas - Sun., Dec. 7th, 9:30 am - 1 pm; Parish Center cafeteria. Tickets: \$8, adult; \$5, 12 & under; free, 3 & under.

Advent Communal Penance Service - Sun., Dec. 7th, 2 pm; St. Thomas More Church.

Holy Day Masses for the Immaculate Conception - Mon., Dec. 8th, 8 am (school Mass); noon & 7 pm; upper church.

National Night of Prayer for Life - Mon., Dec. 8th, 8 pm - Tues., Dec. 9th, 1 am; upper church.

Mary Queen of Peace Seniors - Wed., Dec. 10th, 11 am; lunch at noon; meeting & social to follow, lower chapel.

World Apostolate of Fatima Advent Marian Retreat - Fri., Dec. 12th, & Sat. Dec. 13th; lower church. Cost: \$65/person. Sign up www.rsvpbook.com/bluearmy2014adventretreat.

Blessing of the Bambinelli (Blessing of Baby Jesus) - Sat., Dec. 13th, 4:30 pm Mass; Sun., Dec., 14th, 8:30 & 11 am Masses.

Adult Catholic Education - "Catholicism: The New Evangelization" - Sun., Dec. 14th., 9:30 am; parish office.

Mary Queen of Peace School Christmas Program - Wed., Dec. 17th, 1:45 & 6:30 pm; upper church.

Mobile Food Pantry - distribution of food from Cleveland Food Bank, Sat., Dec. 20th, 9 - 11 am; upper garages.

Quire Cleveland Christmas Concert (Charpentier's Midnight Mass for Christmas) - Sat., Dec. 20th, 7:30 pm; upper church. Tickets for sale at www.quirecleveland.org.

Free Community Meal - Sun., Dec. 21st, 1 pm; Parish Center cafeteria.

World Apostolate of Fatima Holy Hour - Sun., Dec. 21st, 2 pm; lower church.

Christmas Masses - Wed., Dec. 24th, 4:30 pm; Thurs., Dec. 25th, midnight, 8:30 am & 11 am; upper church.

New Year's Day Masses for the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God - Wed., Dec. 31st, 5:30 pm; Thurs., Jan. 1st, 8:30 am & 11 am.

St. Barbara Church
1505 Denison Ave.

Christmas Concert - Sun., Dec. 21st; 7 pm. Performed by the German Music Society.

Holiday Masses - Wed., Dec. 24th, Christmas Eve -- 4:30 pm. (English); 10 pm (bilingual - English/Polish); Thurs. Dec. 25th, Christmas Day, 9 am (English); 11 am (Polish); Wed., Dec. 31st, New Years Eve, 4:30 pm (English); Thurs., Jan. 1st, New Years Day, 9 am (English); 11 am (Polish)

St. James Lutheran Church

4771 Broadview Rd. 216-351-6499

Fifty Plus Group - Wed., Dec. 3rd & 17th; noon; upstairs Gathering Room. Dec. 3rd. Hot lunch, 11:30 am. Movie: "The Nativity Story". Cleveland EMS representative will give free blood pressure checks, glucose & cholesterol readings. Dec. 17th - bring own bag lunch, then play Fruit Bingo. Nov. 19th - Christmas party with hot luncheon, chicken, beef, mashed potatoes, vegetables & more. Sing carols together. Cost: \$3 for luncheon; call to RSVP. Anyone 50 years or older invited.

Widows & Widowers - Mon., Dec. 22nd, noon; luncheon & support. Menu includes chicken & rice, Christmas beans salads & desserts. Cost: \$3. RSVP by contacting church office.

Wed., Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve services - 3 & 7:30 pm. Both services feature a candle-light singing of Silent Night. All families attending the services will receive a special gift, thanks to Thrivent Financial. Special music to help us celebrate the birth of the Christ child. **Thurs., Dec. 25th - Christmas Day service** - 10 am. The theme is "Come See In the Manger" We will consider some people who may have seen Jesus in the manger. Be sure to attend!

Swedenborg Chapel

4815 Broadview Rd. 216-351-8093

Study Group of Exodus - Tues., mornings. Learn deeper meaning of this biblical story & how it relates to your own life. Using workbook called *The Journey: Realizing Spiritual Freedom* by Tom Kline. Call 216-351-8093 to register or for more info. Space limited.

SENIOR NOTES

Senior Citizen Resources (SCR)
Deaconess-Krafft 3100 Devonshire Ave.
(Must be 60 and over) 216-749-5367
Mondays: Ez-Exercise - 9 am; **Chair Bowling** - 10 am; **Wii** -11 am; **Canasta** - 12:30 am.

Tuesdays: Crafts - 9:30 am, **Crochet Group** - 9:30 am, **Chair Bowling** - 10:30 am, **Arm Chair Exercises** - 10:30 am; **Pinochle** - 12:15 pm, **Line Dancing** - 1 pm.

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

Thursdays: Crafts - 9:30 am, **Chair Volleyball** - 10 am, **Horse Racing** - 10:30 am.

Fridays: Ez-Exercise - 9 am; **Current Events** - 10 am, **Corn Hole** - 10:30 am, **Wii** - 11 am; **Pinochle** - 12:30 pm.

Free Groceries & Delivery for Low Income Seniors - Low income seniors over 60 & individuals with mobility challenges living in Old Brooklyn or Brooklyn Centre may qualify for monthly delivery of free groceries from All Faiths Pantry. Call 216-496-4329 for info.

Senior Living Guide

Provides professionals & consumers with comprehensive & current information about long term care resources & facilities. Distributed quarterly. To get a free copy, come to OBCDC office at 2339 Broadview Rd.

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.

Our Churches Welcome You

Sponsored by the GREATER BROOKLYN MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION. If your Church would like to be included in this ad or changes in this ad are desired, PLEASE CALL (440)845-5128

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC**St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church**

4600 State Rd. Phone: 216-741-7979
Father Deacon: Joseph Hnat, 216-233-4118.
Administrator: Rev. Marek Visknovsky
Divine Liturgies: Sat. Vigil, 4 pm.; Sunday, 10 am; Holy days, 9 am. Crystal Chalet
Phone: 216-749-4504

School #: 216-749-7980 Pre-School #: 216-351-8121

CHARISMATIC**Good News Ministries Church**

3705 West 36th. (W. 36th & Mapledale Ave.)
Phone: 216-398-4913 Pastor: Ernie Green.
Sunday Worship, 11 am.

TV - Tues., 6:30 pm. Ch.21 & 9 pm Ch.197.
Fri. 6:30 pm, Ch 21 Time Warner Channel.

EVANGELICAL**Grace Church**

2503 Broadview Rd. & W. 28th St.; 216-661-8210
Pastor: Charlie Collier

Sunday: Prayer 9 am. Sun. Worship 10 am.
Daily Lunch & Activities for Kids & Adults,
11:30 - 1:30 (Mon. - Fri.) June - Aug.
Wed. Family Night, dinner & classes resume
Sept. Website: graceoldbrooklyn.org

Gospel Christians Church

4780 W. 11th St.; 216 459-2855

Pastor: Will Rothenbusch

Sunday School: 10 am.

Worship Service Sundays 11 am.

HISPANIC PENTECOSTAL**Iglesia Filadelfia de Cleveland**

3510 Broadview Rd. Rev. Luis R Vizcarrondo
Phone: 440-941-1658 Website: www.ipmfobio.com
All services 7:30 pm. & are bilingual, except
Mon. **Mon.**, Discipleship classes, **Tues.**,
Prayer/Oración, **Thur./Jueves** - Bible Study
/Estudio Bíblico. **Sun./Domingo**; 10:30 am; Sun.
School/Escuela Dominical, 12 noon
Preaching/Mensaje.
Find us on Android & iTunes

LUTHERAN**Christ Lutheran Church**

Unity Lutheran Church, 4542 Pearl Rd. (temporary location) Phone: 216-961-6060. Every
Sunday Traditional Lutheran Service 11 am.
Must register for Holy Communion by Sat.
www.christlutherancleveland.org**Dr. Martin**

Luther Ev. Lutheran Church

4470 Ridge Rd. Phone: 216-749-5585 Pastor David
W. Bennett. Sunday worship, Traditional service 9
am. Praise service 11 am. Sunday school, 10:30 am.
www.LutheransOnline.com/DMLChurch.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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

Parma Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

St. James Lutheran Church

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

St. Mark Lutheran Church

4464 Pearl Rd. Phone: 216-749-3545
Pastor: Stephen Shrum. Sun. Worship: Traditional
10 am & Contemporary 11:30 am. & Wed., 6 pm.
Sun School & Adult Bible Study, 8:45 am.

Unity Lutheran Church

4542 Pearl Rd. 216-741-2085. Rev. Peeter
Pirn Sunday Worship: 9:30 am. & 7 pm.
Sunday School & Adult Bible Study: 11 am.
unity-lutheran.org twitter.com/@unitycleveland
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NON-DENOMINATIONAL**Institute Of Divine Metaphysical Research**

4150 Pearl Rd. Free Public Lectures.
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All invited & encouraged to attend!

NON-DENOMINATIONAL**New Beginning Ministries**

3106 W. 73rd. off Clark (Multicultural)
Pastors: Gregory & Teresa McCurry
Sun. Worship Celebration 10:45 am.
Tues. Prayer & Word Empowerment 6:30 pm.
Time Warner Channel 21 Tues., 1 pm.
216-916-9270 www.mynewbeginning.org

POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC**St. Mary's Church**

5375 Broadview Rd at Wexford, Parma
Pastor: Rev. Jason Soltysiak
Phone: 216-661-9246 Sunday Masses: 9 am.
English, 11 am. Polish/English Holydays: 10 am.
Sunday School: 10 am. www.stmaryspnc.com

ROMAN CATHOLIC**Mary Queen of Peace**

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

St. Barbara Church

1505 Denison Ave. Phone: 216-661-1191
Pastor: Fr. Joseph Hilinski. - Masses: Sat., Vigil
4:30 pm. Sun., 9 am English, 11 am. Polish.
Confessions: Sat., 3:45 - 4:15 pm. Weekday
Mon. - Fri. 7:30 am.
www.tinyurl.com/st-barbaracleve

St. Leo The Great

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

St. Thomas More Church

4170 N. Amber Dr. Phone: 216-749-0414
Pastor: Rev. William G. Bouhall. Masses:
Sat., 4:30 pm. Sun., 8 am., 10 am. & 12 noon.
Confessions: Sat. 3 - 4 pm.
Weekday Masses: Mon. thru Fri; 7 & 8:15 am.

PRESBYTERIAN**Brooklyn Presbyterian Church (USA)**

4308 Pearl Rd. at Spokane Ave.
Phone: 216-741-8331 - Rev. Sheryl Swan
Sun. Worship: 10:30 am. Sun. school 9:45 am.
Parking at Busch Funeral Home

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**Brooklyn Seventh-day Adventist Church**

4651 State Rd, Phone: 216-398-3844
Pastor: Laszlo Hangyas. Sat. Worship: 11:30
am., Sabbath school, 10 am. Radio, Wed. 8:30
- 9 pm. 1220 AM. brooklynhiosda.org

SWEDENBORGIAN**Swedenborg Chapel**

4815 Broadview Rd, Phone: 216-351-8093
Pastor: Rev. Nadine Cotton
Sun. Worship: 11am., adult class Sun., 10 am.
Weddings & Baptisms - 216-351-8093
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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**Brooklyn Heights U.C.C.**

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

Brooklyn Trinity U.C.C.

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

UNITED METHODIST**Pearl Rd. United Methodist Church**

4200 Pearl Rd. Phone: 216-661-5642
Pastor: Dr. Ivy Smith
Sunday Worship 10 am.
Free hunger meals 2nd Thurs., 6 pm.
& last two Sun., 5 pm.

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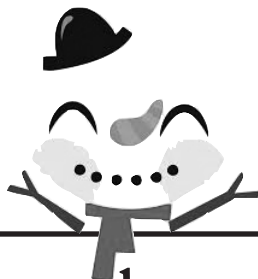
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CASH FOR HOUSES, Any condition, any location. Call 216-533-3181.

School registration information

Mary Queen of Peace School
 Preschool - grade 8. Cleveland Scholarship & Tutoring vouchers accepted for K - 8. Applications in school office. Student Shadow days welcome! County vouchers OK for Preschool. Stop by for a tour or call 216-741-3685 Mon. - Fri., 7:30 - 3:30. Visit mqp-school.com or school's Facebook page for more info.

Ready, Set, Grow Preschool
 Located in Brooklyn Heights United Church of Christ, 2005 W. Schaaf Rd. Ages 3 - 5. Learning & social skills for kindergarten readiness. Certified teachers. Registration fee, \$40. Class times, 9 - 11:15 am. Call 216-447-9145 for more info.

St. Leo Preschool & Open House Registration 2014-2015 School Year
 Preschool, 4940 Broadview Rd. 2nd flr of the St. Leo Parish Community Center. Open house & open enrollment, Aug. 10th; 11 am - 1 pm. Preschool is licensed by the Ohio Department of Education & is operated according to mandated rules & regulations. 3 & 4 yr old part-time am & pm classes as well as a full-day program with an option for extended care. To be eligible for enrollment, the child must be 3 yrs old by Sept. 30th. Bring the child's birth certificate & \$50 dollar registration fee. Registration continues until all classes are filled. Call 216 661-533 for more info or to schedule an appointment.

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.

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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Great Lakes Brewery's Fatty Wagon does one-day SCR Meals on Wheels run in autumn

by Bethany Hicks

On an unseasonably pleasant October morning, the route began on W. 21st St. in Old Brooklyn. Tree branches slapped the top of the "Fatty Wagon," the mode of transportation for delivering nearly forty-five Meals on Wheels lunches to the community's homebound senior citizens that day. Onlookers stared with confusion and smiles on their faces as they read the Great Lakes (GL) Brewery Fatty Wagon's logo on the side of the mini-bus: *GL Brewery is saving the world one French fry at a time.*

While the main purpose of this shuttle is to transport Brewery patrons from 2516 Market Ave. in Ohio City to downtown Indians and Cavaliers sports events, in this case it was utilized for a different mission.

"What's this all about? Do you deliver beer to peoples' houses now?" a resident asked as he approached the driver's side window. Lexi Lindway, Great Lakes Brewery's Volunteer Coordinator and today's Meals on Wheels deliverer, explained the purpose of the Fatty Wagon's tour through the quaint Old Brooklyn neighborhood.

On October 24th, SCR wished to honor its volunteers, many of whom deliver the daily Meals on Wheels, with a day off and a spaghetti luncheon. In order to ensure that those in need still received their noontime meal, Great Lakes Brewing Company stepped in to assist with the routes.

"That's a real nice thing you're doing," the inquirer replied with gratitude.

The beginning of GL Brewery's "Triple Bottom Line" philosophy of sustainability, community and economic focus began in the 1980s on the west side of Cleveland. "Ohio City wasn't the neighborhood it is now, and Great Lakes has been working to bring art and culture back to the community," added Lexi. "People deserve to be happy."

With community sustainability and the mission of peoples' happiness as the forefronts, Great Lakes is currently delving into a volunteer project each month. This month, GL plans to pack food at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. Past projects have included serving



Great Lakes Brewery's Fatty Wagon

Monday night meals at St. Malachi Church and participating in "paw painting" at the Sanctuary for Senior Dogs, an organization which encourages senior dog adoption.

The idea to assist local organizations in delivering Meals on Wheels specifically via the Fatty Wagon was conceived last May. "I knew I wanted to explore a Meals on Wheels program and began searching for local non-profits currently serving our area. After reading about Senior Citizen Resources, I knew it was a program with which we had to connect," Lexi said.

The Fatty Wagon was designed to help support — and be a component of — creating a zero waste organization when it hit the streets in the early 2000s. In order to serve the community and save the environment simultaneously, the design of the Fatty Wagon's fuel is both efficient for the company and non-harmful to the environment. Instead of gasoline or diesel fuel, the Fatty Wagon is powered by used vegetable oil from the company's Brew pub.

"It has virtually the same efficiency as diesel (same MPG), but it's environmentally preferred because it doesn't add additional carbon to the atmosphere; burning fossil fuels increases the amount of carbon in the atmos-

phere," explained Saul Kliorys, Sustainability Manager at Great Lakes. "Not a lot of other businesses nationwide are using straight vegetable oil for the purpose of sustainability as we do," Saul added, reminding Clevelanders of why the Fatty Wagon and GL Brewing Company are unique.

Because of its normal run, the Fatty Wagon is decorated to appeal to beer enthusiasts, and is the only shuttle in Cleveland of its kind. The interior is lined with pictures of what GL Brewing Company features, a display of the seasonably-famous Christmas Ale, Burning River and Conway's Irish Ale. A banner at the head of the bus reads, "Good Beer. Good Ride. Good Cheer."

With a mindset to better serve both the environment and the community, Great Lakes Brewing Company's future plans are filled with bright ideas for moving forward. All of their efforts, including the merchandise in the gift shop, are aimed at environmental support. This past year they introduced Great Lakes tote bags and messenger bags made from their own grain sacks.

With 2015 just one month away, Saul Kliorys revealed that Great Lakes' mission is to continue to "reduce water and energy usage in operations, create less waste, farm with local foods, and train staff and educate customers about the positive impacts they can have."

Senior Citizen Resources, Inc. (SCR) is a non-profit organization in Old Brooklyn, serving senior citizens sixty-years-old and over. With a mission of supporting and enhancing independent living for those qualifying within the community, in addition to Meals on Wheels for the homebound, SCR offers congregate lunches Monday through Friday, activities, opportunities to volunteer, social interaction and transportation to medical appointments.

(Lynette Filips contributed to this article.)

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Old Brooklyn Lighting/Decorations contest for residents and businesses.

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One winner in each category will receive \$50 in gift certificates from area merchants

To enter to have your home or business judged please complete the application below and get it to us no later than **Wednesday, December 17th.** Mail or drop it off to OBCDC at 2339 Broadview Rd., Cleveland, OH 44109, or send via fax at 216-459-1741 or email to sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com

Judging will take place by **Sunday, December 21st.** Winners' photos will be in the *Old Brooklyn News*.

OBCDC Holiday lighting contest entry form

Complete the application below and mail to: OBCDC, 2339 Broadview Rd., Cleveland, OH 44109, fax 216-459-1741 or email: sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com
 Submission must be returned by **Wednesday, December 17th, 5 p.m.**
 Judging will take place by Sunday, December 21st

Name: _____
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