

Big Creek Connects celebrates ten years of vision and stewardship

by **Bob Gardin**
Executive Director, Big Creek Connects

Big Creek Connects, formerly Friends of Big Creek, will soon be celebrating its 10-year anniversary. After a comprehensive land use study was developed for the lower Big Creek valley, Friends of Big Creek was organized in 2005 to support recommendations of the study that included the development of a greenway and trail through the valley. The organization also sought to carry that vision westward through the City of Brooklyn; and to act as the stewardship organization for the Big Creek watershed.

Big Creek drains approximately 39 square miles from all or part of seven communities, primarily Cleveland, Brooklyn, Parma, Parma Heights and Brook Park. These five communities are also part of the Big Creek Watershed Balanced Growth Partnership. The Partnership was established to develop a community-driven land suitability plan which will assist the communities in balancing economic growth with conservation of critical and valuable natural resources of the Big Creek Watershed.

The plan identifies priority conservation areas, priority development areas, and land use practices to help restore watershed function and address problems related to flooding, erosion and water quality. The five communities passed resolutions of support; State endorsement for the plan was received by the Ohio Lake Erie Commission in 2011. Big Creek Connects is the lead organization in terms of managing the implementation of the plan and communication among the Partnership communities and assisting agencies.

The Balanced Growth Plan also identified over 150 sites throughout the watershed where retrofits of large parking lots, storm sewer outfalls and detention basins could be developed. BCC received funding to further assess and prioritize the sites through addi-



Images from the "Big Creek/I-71 Relocation & Restoration Initiative" show (left) a current image of Big Creek at Brookside Park and (right) proposed improvements with a roadway and a paved path for pedestrians and bikers.

tional desktop analysis and performed field studies on the twenty highest-ranking sites.

Conceptual plans were developed for several of the most favorable sites including the Fern Hill Storm water Treatment Wetland Project. The project, located in the Fern Hill Picnic Area in the Big Creek Reservation, is designed to intercept a 36" storm water outlet to Big Creek which drains over 50 acres of residential neighborhoods. The storm water will be diverted into a created wetland which will capture, slow and infiltrate its flow and provide water quality treatment.

The City of Parma, in partnership with Big Creek Connects and Cleveland Metroparks, was awarded a \$150,000 State grant to construct the wetland. Cleveland Metroparks is managing the construction with a completion date scheduled for June 2015. BCC is also developing a number of

other types of these green infrastructure projects throughout the watershed; these will be reported in future articles.

Part of Big Creek Connects' vision is to see a 6-1/2 mile greenway/trail system run continuously from the Cuyahoga River and



Photos courtesy of Big Creek Connects

combine with I-71 in a "weave-free, braided-type interchange". In order to make room for this extensive infrastructure, the land above the natural meander of Big Creek was cut and leveled, the railroad line was moved southward, and Big Creek was placed in a concrete-lined channel parallel to it. A "drop structure" was constructed in Brookside Park to make up for the 26' elevation difference due to the loss of the stream's natural meander. The planned freeway alignment north to I-90 was eventually abandoned and left the Denison access ramps which remain to this day.

The study questions the value of this partial interchange. Instead, it proposes removing part of the ramps and opening up land which will allow the stream to be naturalized by re-routing it into much of its historic streambed, mitigating flooding and erosion, and allowing fish passage upstream into the Big Creek Reservation and other areas.

Concept plans were developed which propose the stream re-alignment along with expanded recreational space and a trail system which would connect Brookside Reservation and Big Creek Reservation to each other and to the surrounding communities.

Another concept plan adds a new I-71 interchange at Ridge Rd. to capitalize on its economic potential and its potential to divert truck traffic away from residential areas. It proposes that the interchange could help address issues related to urban sprawl and redirect investment into this urban core.

The study is scheduled for completion in late March. Earlier in the month, the City of Brooklyn, in partnership with the City of Cleveland and Big Creek Connects, applied for funding for further study which will solicit public input, assess economic impacts, perform traffic modeling, and develop a preferred plan with recommendations.

To learn more about these and other projects in which Big Creek Connects is involved, visit www.bigcreekconnects.org or contact Bob Gardin, Executive Director, at 216-269-6472 or bgardin@bigcreekconnects.org

Towpath Trail through the Zoo, Brookside and the City of Brooklyn to Brookpark Rd. and the Big Creek Reservation in Parma. To this end, BCC is taking a leadership role in the implementation of the Lower Big Creek (2008) and Brooklyn (2009) greenway plans. However, gaps in both the plans led to the development of BCC's Big Creek/I-71 Relocation & Restoration Initiative beginning in 2012.

The first phase of study for the initiative looks at a number of environmental, economic and community challenges and opportunities along the land area straddling the cities of Cleveland and Brooklyn. It seeks to address several deficiencies in the transportation infrastructure along a section of I-71 between the Fulton Rd. and Bellaire Rd. interchanges and their impacts both within and beyond the study area.

It looks at how the Creek running along the freeway could be returned to a more natural state. It also seeks to improve existing land uses adjacent to the area; increase their connectivity to the adjacent neighborhoods; and enhance the livability and economic vitality within the surrounding communities.

During I-71's construction in the 1960s, the "Parma Freeway" was planned to

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2015/16

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

INSIDE THE APRIL OB NEWS

Executive Director; Community Spotlight _____ **2**

News & Events _____ **3**

BFCG; BCN; SCR Volunteer _____ **4**

The Town Crier; St. Barbara; Oil & Gas _____ **5**

Memphis Baker; ECDI Deadline Graffiti _____ **6**

Tool Box _____ **7**

Civil War _____ **8**

Family Fun _____ **9**

Church & Senior Notes _____ **10**

Service Directory & Classified; Community Meetings _____ **11**

SCR/Blizzard _____ **12**



Amy & Scott Pickel

by Jason A. Powers
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Old Brooklyn is a community of many stories and Amy and Scott Pickel have one more to add. A life-long Clevelander, Scott was raised off Lorain Ave. near W. 117th St. but fondly remembers spending much of his childhood in Old Brooklyn at his grandmother's house.

A little farther out in the West Park neighborhood, Amy was growing up in her first of many homes as a child; over the years her family moved around a lot but Cleveland was always her home.

After attending school at Ohio University and completing her degree in communications at Cleveland State University, Amy worked in the events planning space at a catering company. One day Scott, who had previously spent several years at an event rental company, met her while dropping off equipment. Although the two shared smiles and had a good conversation this was a one-time meeting, or so they thought.

Years later the two met again when a mutual acquaintance brought them together for an evening out. The two recall spending the night together talking, but did not recall that they had met earlier.

This first date, however, was a milestone in their history for more reasons than one; the next day Scott would be buying his first tent to start his *Everything Tented* company. After several dates and the recollection of their first meeting, destiny took over and the two were in love. Their personal and business partnership had begun.

At his grandmother, Ann Kuchynka's home on Hillcrest Ave. Scott started the business with one 20' x20' tent and word of mouth advertising. By working one job during the week and setting up the tent at night and on weekends, the business started to grow. The couple recalls spreading out the tent on the driveway and hosing it down between events to clean it. Neighbors would holler at them to "Keep working hard!" and that it would "surely pay off!"

After their first year Scott wanted to expand, whereas Amy had them saving up for a vacation to Florida. Ever the supportive partner she

allowed Scott to buy their second tent in exchange for a contract promising that he would repay the debt at some point. The two act as a yin and yang, providing unique perspectives to a collective whole.

Soon the business had grown beyond what Scott's grandmother's home could support and they began to look for a home in Old Brooklyn. After arriving at one house, they both noted that it was small and uninspiring. Then they walked through the yard to find an enormous three-car



garage with double-deep bays. Turning to Scott Amy expressed her support for the home and her vision for their business in that location. The two moved in and began operating *Everything Tented* from their new home.

At this same time they grew their business to include rentals of chairs and tables, creating a one-stop shopping opportunity for customers. As such it was only months from the closing date before their new home was yet again too small. They made use of the space as best they could and continued to grow as a small business.

Amy recalls the generosity of the neighbors and friends who supported them: "We would host chair-cleaning parties -- We ordered pizza and drinks and our friends would come over and help clean the chairs and tables. Looking back through an interview like this, one remembers how great our friends really are."

And the support did not end there. One particularly late night, Scott recalls backing a large truck into their driveway only to produce a blaring beep with each foot of reverse driving. Mortified that he might be upsetting his neighbors, he performed his work as quickly as possible. Later that week neighbors told Amy and Scott that they had, indeed, heard the truck and they hoped the work was going well. Their friends and community cared, first and foremost, that they were successful.

Having outgrown their garage *Everything Tented* moved into a full size warehouse space

From the desk of the executive director

by Jeffrey T. Verespej
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off, and more.

These events evoke emotions of a neighborhood that cares for itself and cares for its neighbors. The events represent the best of what makes Old Brooklyn a great place to grow: small businesses, resident engagement, attractive and safe housing, recreational connectivity, and strong ties from person to person. In essence, they are great community builders.

Therefore, in 2015, OBCDC will support and grow the community through partnership with these events. This includes those listed above plus other programs including a family focused free and fun entertainment series featuring movies in the summer of 2015. Over the past few years, the Old Brooklyn Wings and Things competition has been hosted which was joined by a Burger Fest and Pierogi Fest last summer. Wings and Things will return for a fourth year, and Burger Fest for a second, joined by a Polka Fest in 2015. Although not organized by OBCDC, they will be hosted in partnership with North Coast Promotions, a locally owned business specializing in promotions.

More will be announced about these events over the coming weeks and months in Old Brooklyn. OBCDC is committed to supporting neighborhood partners and have strong building blocks of community. In addition, OBCDC strives to tell the story of Old Brooklyn locally and globally. To do so, we will evaluate the existing events and new ideas to identify a signature program or series that will attract guests from throughout Cuyahoga County and beyond in addition to from the streets of our neighborhood.

As the temperature rises in April, so does the level of activity and event planning throughout Old Brooklyn. We look forward to seeing you soon throughout the community.

Opening Day. A neighborhood block party. Food festivals. Graduations. A Cleveland Orchestra concert on Public Square.

Events stir emotions within each of us. The thought of them immediately generates a collection of images, sounds, and smells. They might recall the best or the worst of times. Whether causing sensory experiences good or bad, events are powerful, emotional, and physical signs of a community.

In addition to the community building through celebration or healing, events can also serve as opportunities to tell the story of that event and what it represents to a larger audience. An event – well executed or not – extends the brand of a team, community, culture, or object. It leaves an indelible mark on all those who attend. It can expose new customers to long time businesses and new homeowners to an attractive place.

From those perspectives and more, Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation takes seriously the business of special events. They are important to our neighborhood, our organizational strategy, and community pride. Events also demand a significant commitment of time and resources – both from our staff and neighborhood volunteers. For those reason, we have spent significant time over the last six months engaging members of the community to listen about what our neighborhood wants and needs from special events.

Old Brooklyn is blessed to have a cornucopia of programs for the neighborhood to enjoy. Our local churches, community groups, residents, and business community leaders host a variety of events throughout the year. Many of these are likely familiar to readers of the *Old Brooklyn News*: Easter Egg hunts, Pedal for Prizes, Fall-O-Ween, Cookies & Cocoa with Santa, Great Music in a Great Space at Mary Queen of Peace, the Old Brooklyn chili cook-

shortly thereafter and have been growing ever since. "We do small and large scale programs; we're right in the middle of everyone. What matters most, though, is safety. The company which provides tents and services to everything from small parties to the Cleveland MetroPark Zoo's major fundraiser has had to turn down business at times when clients were unwilling to accept all necessary safety precautions.

"Just last week we lost a bid to another company that simply wasn't going to do it right," remarked Scott. "Safety is essential, and we want to make sure we do everything we can to ensure these events operate safely."

Over the years the Pickel's family has grown to include four children: Lance (9), Lauren (8) and Lucas and Logan (6 year old twins). Though the family is a tight squeeze at their home on Henninger the question of their next move elicits strong emotions.

"A few years ago we started talking about where we would want to move to get a larger home and send our kids to school. We seriously considered various suburbs but have slowly realized how strongly rooted we are here."

The family sends their children to Old Brooklyn Community Elementary and Scott has just started coaching a team of family friends in OBALL. The couple remarked that over the years they've built more than just a business in Old Brooklyn; they've built a complete life.

One thing that's clear from conversations with families across the community is that Old Brooklyn is a place which makes people feel at home. Whenever they consider a larger space they have to think twice about what they'd leave behind: the neighborhood that they've built. From cleaning one tent in Scott's grandmother's driveway to their three-bay garage, chair cleaning parties and neighbors turning a deaf ear to the business' noise, the Pickel family has been surrounded by support. They are one of the many great stories in Old Brooklyn.

Scott explained, "We wondered if we want to be a part of the regrowth of Old Brooklyn or to be a "cog in the wheel" of some suburb? The longer we are here the more we realize what's important to you in life. It's the relationships; it's the people who mean the most to you, not the name of the neighborhood, but the people in it. I don't think I want to leave anymore."

OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

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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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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 - Bethany Hicks, Gloria Ferris, Lynette Filips, Mark Tapajna, George Mychkovsky 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.

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NEWS & EVENTS

Now - Thursday, November 19th

President James A. Garfield Memorial & Wade Memorial Chapel

Lake View Cemetery, 12316 Euclid Ave., 9 am - 4 pm, every day; free. Small gift shop sells relevant memorabilia, puzzles, post cards & books. Video tells story of the President/Memorial & history of Lake View. Trained interpretive guides can answer questions.

Monday, April 6th

Cuyahoga Valley Genealogy Society

Independence Civic Center, Willow Room, 6363 Selig Blvd., 7 pm. Speaker: Carla Cegielski asks "What Happens to Your Genealogical Estate?". Contact CVGS president Mary Boehnlein, 440-736-7180, or visit www.cuyahogagenealogy.org for more info.

Tuesday, April 7th

Polish Genealogical Society Meeting

St. Mary Polish National Catholic Church, 5375 Broadview Rd., Parma, 7:30 pm. Speaker: Jerry Brown, retired from Cleveland Police Department. Topic: "Museum in a Box (Cleveland Police Museum)" Call 440-838-5743 for more info.

Sunday, April 5th

Riverside Cemetery Easter Sunrise Service
William R. Halley Chapel, 3607 Pearl Rd.; 6:30 am. This year's guest pastor - Rev. Robert L. Prichard. Call 216-351-4800 for more info.

Wednesday, April 8th

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. **Apr. 8th - Classy Cover Up; \$16. May 13th - Waste paper basket.** Supplies to bring when weaving -- old towel, bucket, clothes pins, ruler, pencil, scissors. Call Connie, 216-749-7912, to RSVP.

Thursday, April 9th

Antique Collectors Club Meeting

Busch Community Meeting Room, 7501 Ridge Rd., 7 pm. History of crosses. Former Parma school teacher has a 45 yr. collection of crosses. Call Publicity Chairman Robert Murdoch, 440-845-7046 for more info.

Saturday, April 11th

BGSU Collegiate Chorale

Mary Queen of Peace Church, 4423 Pearl Rd. Works by Hassler, Stanford, Tallis & Hogan. Chorale will sing at 4:30 pm Mass; concert 5:45 pm. Free-will offering will be taken.

Saturday, April 11th

Man Cave Trash or Treasure

Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS) History Center, 10825 East Blvd, 10 am - 5 pm. Have any signed footballs, mechanical toys, World War II gear or comic books? Bring two, hand-carried items to Collector's Day at the History Center & find out if they're trash or treasure. Admission - \$10 general public; free for WRHS members. Up to 5 individual items can be appraised for \$5 each. Sets or collections appraised at \$25 per collection. Visit www.wrhs.org for more info.

Saturday, April 11th

Spaghetti Fundraiser Dinner to provide headstone for Roxanne Bajusz-Fitten.

Mary Queen of Peace Parish Center, 4423 Pearl Rd., (downstairs cafeteria), 5 - 8 pm. Dinner includes: spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, roll, beverage & cupcake. Couple, \$15; single, \$10; child, 6 - 12 years, \$5; under 5 free. Door prizes, basket raffles, 50/50, bake sale & face painting. Call Karen Webb, 216-258-5560 or email tkwebb6977.kw@gmail.com. for tickets or more info.

Monday, April 13th

Monday Night at the Movies "Two Sided Story"

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

Saturday, April 18th

Plant Potatoes

Garfield Park Center for Urban Agriculture, 11350 Broadway Ave., Garfield Hts., 1 - 3 pm. Growing potatoes at home can yield lots of food from small growing space. Learn about this staple crop, then plant some in their garden for hands-on tutorial re: how to grow them. Fee of \$5 includes one pound of seed potatoes to take home. Register online by Apr. 11th. Call 216-341-3152 for more info.

Sunday, April 19th

The American Red Cross Blood Drive

St. Leo's Lux Hall, 4940 Broadview Rd.; 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. Register @ redcrossblood.org. (Registering optional.)

Sunday, April 19th

Spring Is in the Air Dance

St. John Byzantine Cathedral Upper Hall, 1900 Carlton Rd. (off Broadview Rd, just south of Snow Rd.) (accessible by elevator or stairs), 3 - 7 pm Music by: Polka Family from Penn. Doors open - 2 pm. Donation - \$13 (18 & under free) NO byob; beverages available. Snacks welcome. Call Sylvia/Paul, 216-228-1134, or Jill, 440-319-1877, for large table reservations. Public welcome.

Tuesday, April 21st

Grindstone Knitters' Guild

Mahler Museum, 118 E. Bridge St., Berea. Monthly meetings 3rd Tues. of each month, 7 pm. Current project is mystery knit along. Call 440-821-8891 or 440- 826-1254 for more info.

Monday, April 23rd

Western Reserve Rose Society Meeting

North Royalton Public Library, 5071 Wallings Rd., 7 pm. Topic: Composting; Presenter: Kathy Rocco, Cuyahoga County Solid Waste Mgmt. District. Refreshments. All welcome.

Saturday, April 25th

Spring Style Show Luncheon

St. Thomas More Church, Utopia Hall, 4170 North Amber Dr. Luncheon at noon. Fashions by Dress Barn. Tickets: \$8. Call Marge, 216-351-7850, or Diane, 216-749-6332, by April 22nd.

Saturday & Sunday, May 2nd & 3rd

The Retro American Glass Show & Sale

St. Mary's Crystal Chalet, 3600 Biddulph Ave., Sat., 10 am - 5 pm; Sun., 11 am - 4 pm. Admission - \$5 (good both days); under 30, free. Free parking. Glass seminars, table displays of vintage glass, "Retro Glass Bingo" to win prizes as you shop. Free glass ID available. Go green, go vintage. Western Reserve American Glass Club meets first Mon. of month, except for July, Aug. & Sept., at Brooklyn Hts. United Church of Christ, 2005 Schaaf Rd., 7:30 pm. Dues: \$15 single & \$20 couple. All welcome. Call 440-439-5243 for more info.

South Brooklyn Library

4303 Pearl 216-623-7067

www.cpl.org

Saturdays, April 4th & 11th

FREE Tax Preparation Assistance - Sat., Apr. 4th & 11th; 11 am - 3 pm. Offered by volunteers from AARP tax programs. Taxpayers must bring the following documentation: current photo ID, social security cards for taxpayer & all dependents, last year's tax return, proof of current health insurance coverage & W-2 & 1099 forms for 2014 tax year. Appointment is required, call to schedule.

Ohio Library Day: Young Artists' Collection

- Display your talents. Submit your artwork to staff by 6 pm on Fri., Apr. 12th to be displayed at library on Tues., Apr. 14th.

Book Discussion - Thurs., Apr. 16th; 4 pm.

National book award finalist *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr.

Cuyahoga County Public Library

Snow Branch - 2121 Snow Rd.

216-661-4240 cuyahogalibrary.org

ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) - Mon., Wed., Fri. mornings, 9:30 am - noon.

Euclid Beach Park - Thurs., Apr. 9th; 7 pm.

James Seman, historian & former park employee, shares memories of the Park.

Rock & Roll History: A Musical Journey -

Thurs., Apr. 14th; 7 pm.

Zentangle Inspirations Club (adults) -

Thurs., Apr. 9th; 7 pm. Thurs. Apr. 16th, 7 pm. Easy-to-learn & relaxing method of creating beautiful images from repetitive patterns.

Adult Books Discussions - Mon., Apr. 20th, 7

pm - "The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion" by Fannie Flagg, **Thurs., Apr. 30th**, 11 am - "And the Mountains Echoed" by Khaled Hosseini.

Street Operations: Potholes

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

Free Preparation of 2014 Income Tax Return

Cuyahoga County Free Tax Preparation Sites: To schedule an appointment go online to www.211.org or call 211/United Way First Call for Help.

Westshore Neighborhood Family Service Center, 9830 Lorain Ave., Career Center. Mon. evenings & Sat.

Southgate Neighborhood Family Service Center, 5398 1/2 Northfield Rd., Maple

Heights, Career Center. Wed. 5:30 - 7 pm & Sat. 9 am - 2 pm. **Bring with you:**

- Current photo I.D
- IRS 2013 W2s & 1099s
- Social Security Cards for all family members
- Government issued photo of each person signing the return.
- Child Care expense statement including provider Tax I.D. number.
- Bank account & routing numbers for direct deposit of refund.
- Form 1099-INT for any checking or savings interest.
- If the taxpayer purchased health insurance under the Affordable Care Act, bring 1099 tax credit from health insurance company.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Broadway Slavic Village

Neighborhood Residency

Fri., Apr. 10th; 7:30 pm. Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 3395 E. 53rd St. **Sold Out**

Sun., Apr. 19th; noon - 3 pm, 'The Nash' - Slovenian National Hall, 3563 E. 80th St.

Mon., Apr. 20th; 9:30 am, Warner Girls Leadership Academy , 8315 Jeffries Ave.

Sun., Apr. 26th; noon, Elizabeth Baptist Church, 6114 Francis Ave.; Choral Celebration.

Fri., May 1st; 7 pm, Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland (Broadway Club), 6114 Broadway Ave. (Pre-concert activities begin at 6 pm.)

Sun., May 3rd, 11:30 am, Seven Roses Restaurant, 6301 Fleet Ave.

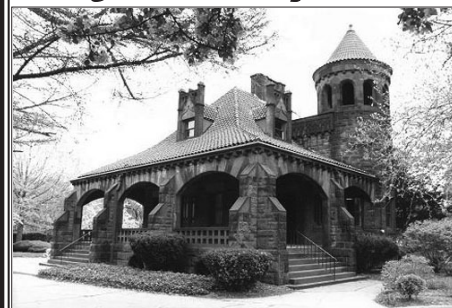
Free tickets for the Family Concert available beginning Apr. 17th at Broadway Club of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland, 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm; at University Settlement during school hours; & at Broadway School of Music & the Arts, Sat., Apr. 18th, 9 am - 1 pm. Visit www.clevelandorchestra.com/slavicvillage for details on how to pick up tickets at these locations.

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Compost renews soil at Ben Franklin Garden

by Mark Tapajna

Another planting season at the Ben Franklin Community Garden (BFCG) is approaching, and the Garden Committee is gearing up for the annual Garden Fund Raiser on April 18th. It will be held at the Local Tavern, 5513 Pearl Rd. Tickets for this event are available by calling Greg Noeth at 216-789-2986 or Sandra Worona at 459-1000, ext. 203.

The BFCG is also getting ready for the Garden Kick-Off Meeting on May 6th at the Brooklyn Senior Center at 7727 Memphis Ave. As the Committee prepares for these events, their thoughts also turn toward the hope of a bountiful garden of produce, flowers and friendships.

Ben Franklin has been in existence as a garden for about 90 years, and prior to that it was farmland. Clearly the land has been a source of nourishment to its caretakers for many years. It is important for Ben Franklin Gardeners, as the current stewards of the land, to consider ways to renew and revitalize it.

Exploring ways to renew the soil can lead to a more abundant harvest. Two important ways to improve the soil include an analysis of the soil to determine any nutrients which are lacking and/or deficient, and composting, an easy and accessible way to accomplish soil amendment.

While composting is probably the single most important way to improve the soil, in the end, nutrient-poor soil will produce nutrient-poor compost and some of the same deficiencies will still be present. So it's important to explore a balance of the two approaches for the best outcome in the long run.

When exploring what nutrients are needed to amend the soil, there are a couple of factors to keep in mind. First, there is a benefit to using natural soil amendments to chemical ones. While chemical amendments may be more economical in the short run, they are more easily leached from the

soil and must be reapplied each year. Chemical fertilizers also make plants more susceptible to insect pests than do more natural supplements. It is also important to realize that "more is not better." Excessive applications of a supplement are more harmful and can take years to correct.

Composting provides many benefits to the land. It is a soil conditioner, a fertilizer, an addition of vital humus or humic acids (which help produce beneficial microbes), and a natural pesticide. There are four important ingredients to a healthy compost pile: carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, and water. Carbon materials tend to be brown and dry (such as leaves); nitrogen materials tend to be green (such as grass, fruits and vegetables). Oxygen oxidizes the carbon to decompose the materials, and water maintains this process. The right balance of these materials will provide a rich and productive medium in which plants can grow.

This year the Ben Franklin Garden will analyze the nutrient content of the soil and explore what amendments might be helpful to the garden as a whole. The BFCG will also be promoting the benefits of each gardener returning his/her own organic material from the plants grown back into his/her own garden plots.

Ben Franklin will not be having a community compost pile in which to place garden weeds or garden plants this year. Instead, each gardener will be encouraged to compost any plant matter in his/her own individual plots. This can be done in a number of ways, but the easiest way is to pull young weeds and allow them to dry/wither in the Garden or to find a spot in the garden plot in which to bury weeds or withered plant material. At the end of the garden season it will also be most beneficial to reduce all remaining plant material (cut down to less than two feet) right on one's own garden plot so it can be tilled into the soil for the next planting season.

Good stewards will ensure that the Garden will be productive for generations to come.

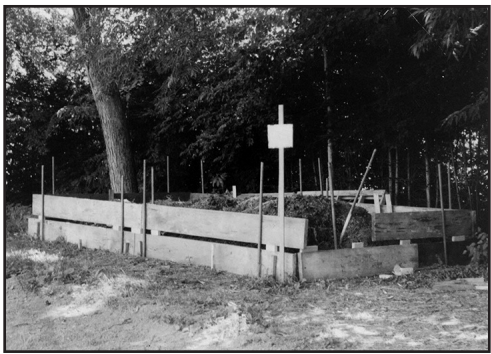


Photo courtesy of Ben Franklin Garden

Given the size of the garden, the Ben Franklin Community Garden compost bin is super-sized!

BCN considers pros and cons of April showers

by Gloria Ferris
Brooklyn Centre Naturalists

If the past two springs are any indication of the rains to come, there should be plenty of April showers coming this way this month. Because of these spring rains, flooding and overflowing storm drains become stories on the evening news and storm water management on a grand scale becomes something to be dealt with quickly.

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists (BCN) has some suggestions to help individuals do their small parts to divert water from the overloaded, outdated neighborhood system by adding a few tasks and changes to their spring cleaning lists.

Storing water in a rain barrel is a great way to divert storm water. Attend a rain barrel workshop to learn how to install one and begin saving money on water and sewer bills.

Many organizations include the rain barrel and the diverter system in the cost of the workshop. Adding a rain barrel to a drainage system is a very easy and effective way to begin using the water from the roof.

Cleaning gutters is always on the list of fall housekeeping tasks, but making sure that they are clean and free-flowing in the spring is important as well. It may be cost-effective to hire someone to clean the gutters and wash the windows so that one's free time can be used for fun things like gardening. (When possible, helping the local economy is always a good thing!)

Sweeping the street gutter and picking up the winter debris which accumulated in the catch basin is certainly not seen as a resident's job, but BCN asks that residents consider adding this public service to their "to do" lists. Clogged drains cause walkers to wade through flooded streets to bus stops and automobile commuters to drive through them not knowing what lays underneath the water.

If the debris does go down the catch basin, it can cause major problems downstream when it combines with other debris, resulting in more backups. Much of the debris eventually makes its way into area streams, rivers and Lake Erie, where wildlife can be threatened with injury and death from

it. Residents taking the extra time to sweep and pick up the section in front of their property can help to improve the situation.

Organic lawn care is beneficial to the health of both humans and pets. It is best to mow high and more often, leaving the clippings on the lawn. And leave the chemicals on the shelf; the bees and butterflies will thank you. There should be no need to water the lawn until late June. When there is no rain, water with about an inch (2.5 cm) of water a week.

When adding new plants to the landscape, choose native plants. These plants have deeper, longer root systems and retain water better than other ornamentals. They can also be more drought- and disease-resistant.

Planting the right plant in the right location will also cut down on garden diseases and pests, reducing the need for pesticides. If a garden pest invades, research home remedies and try one of them.

The hard winter took a toll on the mature trees in the neighborhood. So as not to lose the benefits which trees add to neighborhoods, it is necessary to replace those which died with new trees. An hour of research about the kind of tree to choose (e.g., eventual height, kind of leaf canopy and amount of light needed) will help in picking one with a good chance of survival. Buying a locally grown tree from a nursery will also up the chances of a new tree's survival, as will watering on a schedule, mulching, and planting the tree properly.

Covering the soil with mulch creates a protective layer which keeps the soil moist, offers better protection from extreme weather, and limits the growth of weeds. Mulch also prevents erosion, protects the trunks of trees and shrubs from lawnmower and trimmer damage, and can improve root volume by up to 400% (which will be a bonus for storm water management). Organic mulch will enrich the soil as it decomposes.

Adding these maintenance items to the spring cleaning and gardening list will benefit your garden and yourself all summer long. It will be very satisfying to curl up with a good book during an April shower knowing that you have done your part to help the environment by managing the storm water on your property as well as adding to the beauty of your garden.



Photo courtesy of Gloria Ferris

BCN has a woodland phlox butterfly garden at W. 36th St.

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SCR volunteer of the month: David Cisco

by Bethany Hicks

Senior Citizen Resources' (SCR) Volunteer of the Month for April is David Cisco. A three-year affiliate with SCR, David was first introduced to the *Meals on Wheels* program by Rev. Paul Hoffman, pastor of St. James Lutheran Church. He has delivered *Meals on Wheels* to Crestview, Valley Road Villa and Spring Hill Villa, and currently delivers thirty to forty meals every other week.

Originally from Cleveland, David moved to Connecticut with his family due to a job transfer in 1975; he worked as an owner and operator of a trucking company and drove the New England Coast. After hard times hit, he spared between three and four different trucking companies, just to make ends meet.

"Around Thanksgiving time, we were very low on food," David recalled, "and after getting turned down from other resources, we tried asking for help from a local church. We asked for a week's worth of food, and they gave us two weeks' worth. The following week, I got a full-time job. By delivering meals now, I am 'paying it forward'."

An eleven-year retiree, David enjoys relaxing, attending Bible class and church,

remodeling the house, and spending quality time with his wife, Jan. She serves as an inspiration to David, as she and Rev. Hoffman welcomed him to come to church for the first time. Jan was involved with *Cooking for Christ* at St. James, and asked me to join her. "She has put up with me for fifty-one years, and that is not easy to do," he added.

For a year and a half, David has been involved with "Saturday Night Youth" at Unity Lutheran Church as a door guard and attendance taker. This program allows local students from 1st grade through high school to enjoy games, snacks and Bible classes.

Each spring and summer, David and Jan take a "one tank trip" each month. "One tank can get you to Columbus, Toledo or Erie, Pennsylvania and back. There is always something new to see," the frequent traveler said. The couple have been through forty-eight states.

Volunteers are a vital component of Senior Citizen Resources organization, and SCR is thankful for them. SCR is in great need of additional *Meals on Wheels* volunteers. Anyone interested in making a difference in the community in this way should contact Kim Susak, 216-749-5367, ext. 1119.

Volunteer
Of the
Month



"Spring is Missing" the sign outside **Broadview & Schaaf Marathon** reads. As we continue to scrape frost from our windshields these past mornings, that sentence sure seems to be true. But the sounds of more birds singing are part of recent mornings, too. So we hang on for just a little longer till Mother Nature renews our seemingly dead landscapes and cold ground with greenery and color.

This year our April issue should be at our neighborhood drop-spots by Easter Sunday, and in addition to its religious association with new life, Easter also means spring to residents in the northern hemisphere.

Thoughts of spring also bring the **Ben Franklin Community Garden** to mind. The Garden is currently accepting applications for a garden plot *waiting list*. The fee is \$40 per 20 x 25 foot plot.

The plots will be tilled and a limited number of free vegetable plants (e.g., tomatoes, peppers, cabbage) and some vegetable seeds (e.g., beans, cucumbers, carrots, zucchini) will be provided. Ben Franklin also has rakes, shovels, hoes and other hand tools available for the gardeners' use.

This chance to join the largest community garden in the county will be on a first-come, first-served basis, after the current gardeners have confirmed that they are returning. Call Sandy at the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corp., 216-459-1000, or drop in at 2339 Broadview Rd. to be added to the waiting list. She'll just need to get your name, address and phone number.

The arrival of spring also means that graduations and our reporting of student news will be happening in the near future. It's also reminded me about college news from *last* year which I haven't yet written about --

Tiffin University in Tiffin, Ohio informed us that **Melissa Kusak** and **Jocelin Shomatta**, both of whom live in Old Brooklyn, were on their Dean's List a year ago.

In addition, **Ohio University (OU)** in Athens, Ohio informed us that **Justice Solgos** of Brooklyn and **Patrick Profancik**, **Julia Nebbia**, **Madison Miranda**, **Kellen Ford** and **Emily Delaney** of Old Brooklyn were on OU's Fall, 2014 semester Dean's List.

Finally, **Ohio Northern University** in Ada, Ohio informed us that **Tyler Calton** of Old Brooklyn was on their Deans' List for this past Fall semester, too.

Last August I reported that **Ken Kalynchuk** of Old Brooklyn had graduated on May 25th from **Cornell University's** College of Architecture, Art & Planning with a Bachelor of Science degree in Urban and Regional Studies and a minor in Business (Economic Development). Ken's name might be familiar to regular *Old Brooklyn News* readers because of the articles about his international studies which he wrote for us a couple of years ago, as well as the article about the house on Wichita Ave. with the Transformer decorations this past Halloween.

Ken is currently a graduate assistant in the Center for Economic Development (a research center for the mid-western United States) at Cleveland State University. While he works on a Master's degree in Urban Planning, Ken is doing housing and employment research. He started this past January, and expects to graduate in May of next year.

It's not student news, but we also have a recognition to report from **John Carroll University (JCU)** in University Heights. **James Burrows** of W. Schaaf Rd. works in JCU's Campus Mail Center, and at the beginning of this year, he received JCU's 2015 "**Staff Service Award**". A fellow employee nominated James for the annual recognition of a full-time employee who has "a positive impact on the community and represents a 'faith that does justice'."

Send your news to be considered for a future column to Lynettef@oldbrooklyn.com.

Oil and gas reserves have local history long before there was Brooklyn Township

by **George Mychkovsky**
Guest Writer

Greater Clevelanders are aware of the geological beauty bestowed upon the area, such as Lake Erie and the adjoining bluffs on its south shore, the Cuyahoga River and its many tributaries, the ridges and intervening valleys of southern and central Cuyahoga County, northeastern Medina County, and northwestern Summit County, and the cliffs at Nelson's Ledges and Hinckley. Not as well-known is the fact that geology played, and continues to play, an important role in the economy of Greater Cleveland.

Nevertheless, it must be recognized that the salt and gypsum extracted from Whiskey Island by Cargill, Inc., the sand and gravel deposits dredged near the southern shore of Lake Erie in Lake and Ashtabula Counties, the Berea Sandstone quarried in Middleburg Heights and in Lorain County, and the thousands of northeast Ohio oil and gas wells which have fueled Cleveland were essential to the area's growth, so much so that Cleveland was one of the world's industrial centers in the late nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries.

Keeping this in mind is necessary to maintain a balanced perspective when considering proposals from the mineral extraction industries in the context of environmental, health, and safety concerns, which are often justified, and which have certainly grabbed their share of headlines. However, learning from the good and the bad of the past, is critical in plotting a successful economic future for the community. *With significant reservoir depletion and considerable urbanization over the past one-hundred years, the role of the Cleveland Gas Field as a future energy source has greatly diminished. Therefore, currently the main focus is on establishing awareness of the potential hazards posed by unplugged or poorly plugged wells that are capable of seeping gas, oil, and brine to the surface. The location of many of these wells is imprecisely known, and these factors could lead to threats to the area's environment and safety of its citizens.*

Geology

Structural Geology: Cuyahoga County is located on the northwestern flank of the Appalachian Basin, the dominant structural feature in eastern Ohio. The bedrock units dip (descend) into the earth at a rate of about thirty-five feet per mile to the southeast. Note that there are no mapped faults (fracture in the bedrock, with rocks offset on opposite sides of this fracture) in Brooklyn Township.

Producing formations: Four formations have produced hydrocarbons economically in Brooklyn Township. (When referred to collectively, crude oil *and* natural gas are known as "hydrocarbons"; the formations that contain hydrocarbons in economic quantities are known as "reservoirs" or "pay zones") With increasing depth, these are the **Ohio Shale**, the **upper portion of the Big Lime**, the **Lockport** (aka "Newburg") **Dolomite**, and the **Clinton Sandstone**. Wells in the township range from six-hundred feet to three-thousand seventy-five feet deep, and tap reservoirs from the upper Devonian (three-hundred eighty million years ago) to the lower Silurian (four-hundred forty million years ago). The **Trenton Limestone** and **Trempealeau Dolomite** are potential future reservoirs; while they have not been productive in Brooklyn Township to-date, production has been obtained from both of these deeper reservoirs in adjacent counties.

Unconventional Sources: Oil and Gas Shales: For residents who look forward to, or conversely who fear, drilling by large oil companies for bonanza-level reserves in the Utica and/or Marcellus Shales, put your hopes and concerns, respectively, to rest. Brooklyn Township is considerably outside of the theatre of drilling operations for both of these unconventional but prolific reservoirs. The nearest Utica Shale production is at least thirty miles to the southeast, while the Marcellus Shale production is even more distant, being limited to a belt about thirty miles west of the Ohio River along the state's boundary with southwestern Pennsylvania and the northwestern West Virginia. Furthermore, the geochemical reservoir parameters required for economical concentrations of oil and gas from shale formations are lacking in the Cleveland area.

See *Oil & Gas* page 12

St. Barbara Church gets special illumination

(With very slight alterations, this article has been reprinted, with permission, from the Winter, 2014 edition of Facade, a publication of The Cleveland Restoration Society. It was written by Michael Fleenor.)

In October of this year, The Cleveland Restoration Society completed its twenty first steeple lighting through the Reinhold Erickson Fund of The Cleveland Foundation. The façade of St Barbara's Catholic Church is now beautifully illuminated at night. The church is located 1505 Denison Ave. in the Brooklyn Centre/Archwood-Denison neighborhood of Cleveland.

St. Barbara's Parish was founded in 1905 by a small group of Polish Catholics living in Cleveland's South Brooklyn neighborhood. The congregation initially celebrated Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church and later at the fire house at W. 23rd St. and Broadview Rd. The parish was able to construct a church building, hall and

rectory. This campus, however was short lived as the church was destroyed by fire in 1916. They soon built a wood frame church at the present location at W. 15th St. and Denison Ave. As St. Barbara's congregation grew, this building was converted into a parish hall and a combination church and school was built. The present brick building was completed in 1952.

St. Barbara's was one of the churches closed by the Diocese of Cleveland during a downsizing process initiated in 2009, only to be reopened two years later by order of The Vatican. We are very pleased to help make this lighting possible, to illuminate the presence of a growing parish working hard to revitalize their building and to be a beacon of hope in the neighborhood. This lighting, especially visible on the Jennings Freeway by Steelyard Commons, highlights repaired tower and cross, a statue of St. Barbara on the tower, and the front door of the church.



Photo by CRS-Gregory Hildebrandt Photography

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Ownership of Memphis Bakery seamlessly transfers to Chef Rochelle Courey

by Jason Powers
jasonp@oldbrooklyn.com

If you've stepped into Memphis Bakery in the last few weeks you may have noticed that something is different. The ceiling's a little higher and the walls greet you with bold black and red. But it's what is going on behind those walls that really matters.

New owner Chef Rochelle Courey has taken over the local establishment with respect to its history while putting some exciting new additions into place. During 45 years under the ownership of Tony and Debbie Didont, Memphis Bakery's breads, pastries and cassata cakes became local and regional favorite. Rochelle remembers enjoying their baked goods when she was a child.

Growing up in North Royalton, Rochelle was surrounded by food and family. With all four of her great-grandmothers around to instruct, she found herself in the kitchen armed with a rolling pin and appetite as early as the age of two. As part of a family with Hungarian and Lebanese roots, there were plenty of flavor to enjoy and recipes to learn.

Rochelle attended Johnson and Wales University in Charlotte, North Carolina where she earned degrees in Culinary and Pastry Arts as well as a bachelors in

Business. Upon graduating she opened her first business called: The Baker's Joint.

"Growing up my father used to say, 'Let's hit that pizza joint' (or some other 'joint'). It came to mean the best place for something to me and so I chose to use it for my first bakery," Rochelle commented.

After three years Rochelle felt that it was time to return to Cleveland and be with her family. She started working at local bakeries and inquiring about opportunities to take over ownership. Eventually she turned to Memphis Bakery and its owner, whom she lovingly calls "Uncle Tony".

Uncle Tony was not only a baker but also repaired, bought and sold bakery equipment. And it's obvious that he took good care of it all. The kitchen at Memphis Bakery has mixers and ovens which are older than the new chef but look brand new.

Tony sold and repaired high quality offerings. Rochelle recalls buying all of her major equipment for The Baker's Joint from "Uncle Tony" and driving it all the way down to North Carolina.

It's obvious from her history with the neighborhood and Memphis Bakery that Rochelle respects what has come before. The recipes will all stay the same on local favorites and you won't see too many changes in the store. Instead you'll see seasonal editions, more varieties of breads and cakes and some new offerings of

Mediterranean foods – a nod to her Lebanese roots.

"When I was in the South I was surprised that people hadn't heard of hummus or fatayer [Lebanese savory pies]. I started selling them and they were big hits," Rochelle shared. Other new items include baba ganoush, tabouli and various Lebanese pastries.

The store on Memphis Ave. will continue to serve local and regional patrons as Rochelle looks to expand the commercial side of the business. Currently, Memphis Bakery provides clients with breads and pizza dough and is quickly moving into selling desserts commercially as well.

Starting her day before 5 a.m. and "married to the store", there is only so much time in Rochelle's day to bake and build the business, but already things are going well. Armed with experience, an oven that can bake 300 loaves at once, and her mother and



Photo by Jason Powers

When customers visit Memphis Bakery, they can be sure that Lisa Courey (left) and Rochelle Courey (right) will have shelves full of tantalizing bread and bakery ready for them to take home.

grandmother in the kitchen, Chef Rochelle is ready to share her talent with Greater Cleveland and beyond.

Memphis Bakery is located at 6100 Memphis Ave. in Old Brooklyn. It's open from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

Applications due April 24th for Old Brooklyn business competition & entrepreneur training

by Rosemary Mudry
rosemarym@oldbrooklyn.com

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) in partnership with Huntington Bank and the Economic and Community Development Institute (ECDI) announced a small business grant competition and entrepreneur training program last month.

All entrepreneurs are encouraged to apply, both start-ups and expanding businesses. Eight to ten applicants will be selected to participate in a four - week entrepreneur training course offered by ECDI, culminating in a pitch competition. Winner(s) of the pitch competition will be awarded small grants and work with OBCDC on securing leasable space in the neighborhood.

Interested applicants should submit their complete application including a 500 - word business pitch and business model canvas by April 24th at 5 p.m. Visit oldbrooklyn.com for more information or to download application materials. Questions may be directed to businesscompetition@oldbrooklyn.com.

Graffiti is a form of vandalism

by Barb Spaan
barbaras@oldbrooklyn.com

Do you ever wonder what graffiti means and why someone would put it on someone else's property? Why don't they get caught or be seen by someone?

These are all good questions about a negative action which occurs in Old Brooklyn almost once a week.

Graffiti has become a way for some people to express themselves. It's a form of art to them, and gangs mark territory with it. It's not nice for the rest of us to look at, though, and most importantly, it's against the law.

People feel frightened, angry and/or sad when something is destroyed for no reason.

Schools, businesses and communities spend millions of dollars each year to clean up graffiti, repair buildings and replace vandalized equipment.

If you see any graffiti or know who is doing it, please contact Barb at 216-459-1000. The Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC) will document the graffiti with pictures and notify our graffiti volunteer of the location. He cleans or repaint jobs big and small.

OBCDC is looking for additional volunteers to help clean up a growing problem on our streets. If you would be interested in volunteering, contact Barb at the same phone number about that, too. Only together can we keep Old Brooklyn clear of graffiti.



Photo by Jason Powers

OBCDC executive director Jeff Verespej and OBCDC board president John Young remove new graffiti.

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**“Your home;
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Successfully setting up and maintaining a back yard garden

By Jayme Lucas-Bukszar
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

(Sources: John Jenkins, Tom Sargent, and David Kuebler)

Longtime Old Brooklyn resident **John Jenkins** has been gardening at Benjamin Franklin Community Garden for over 20 years and has been an active member of the Garden Committee since their founding in 2007. He was the Committee chairperson for six years and the vice chairperson for two years. These experiences have taught him a lot about gardening and he shared his knowledge about how to successfully set up and maintain a back yard garden.

Tom Sargent has been gardening at Benjamin Franklin Community Garden for over 20 years and was the Chief Coordinator at the Garden for ten years. He currently has four regular plots at Ben Franklin plus additional garlic plots. He also shared his wisdom and experiences about gardening.

David Kuebler also contributed to the article. He works with the Ohio State University Extension Service Master Gardener fourth grade kids program at the Ben Franklin Community Garden and has been a Master Gardener since 1999. He has been a gardener at Ben Franklin for many years.

Site Selection

Many vegetables and flowers need six to eight hours of full sun and ample spacing to grow properly. Garden layout is important too, so that the taller plants like tomatoes will not block sun from the smaller plants.

Soil Testing

In order to know what, if any, deficiencies your soil may have, it is recommended to have it tested. Soil tests check for the levels of nutrients needed for plants to grow including carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium and sulfur.

Soil in the Cleveland area is generally low in nitrogen and rich in potassium. Blood meal is an organic matter which increases nitrogen in soil. The PH level is also included in soil test results and self-test kits for PH levels are available at garden centers.

PH is measured on a 0-14 point scale; 0 is the most acidic and 14 is the most alkaline. Ideally, the soil should have a PH of 6 or 7. If the PH is less than 6, add lime, leaf mulch or soil comprised of worm castings. If the PH is more than 7, add pine needles.

Another important reason to get soil tested is to check for lead contamination; the report includes lead levels and recommendations on whether gardening in the soil is safe. Soil testing generally takes two to three weeks through the University of Massachusetts Amherst (UMASS) and costs about \$35. For more information about soil testing through UMASS, call 413-545-2311, or email soil-test@umass.edu.

Types of Soil

There are three basic types of soil — sand, clay and loam. Sandy soil has lower levels of nutrients and doesn't hold water. Clay soils can hold too much water and provide poor aeration for plants. Loam is the best type of soil for plants and is comprised of organic materials like compost, leaf mulch, etc. Clay is the most common type of soil in the Cleveland area. Amending clay soil can include adding some sand and organic materials.

Improving Soil

The recommended organic materials to improve soil include peat moss, compost, leaf mulch and aged manure. Manure should be aged or cured for at least a year before applying it to the garden; raw manure can contain too much nitrogen and “burn” or kill plants. The rule of thumb for applying organic materials is 25% per amount of soil. For example, for a bucket of soil, one quarter of a bucket of organic materials should be added. Materials should be mixed in well with a pitch fork or rake. Organic materials like compost or leaf mulch should be added every few years to the garden.

Organic and Inorganic Fertilizers

Organic fertilizers are comprised of plant and animal waste. Inorganic fertilizers are comprised of chemicals. Common inorganic fertilizers include Miracle Grow and Osmocote. Inorganic fertilizers can be very effective, but a downside is that the chemicals can drain into local waterways.

Preparing the Garden

Wait until the ground is dry enough and warm enough to dig; often conditions are suitable to dig starting in mid-April, depending on rain. If the garden site is covered with grass, remove the grass leaving one inch of soil on the roots. Try not to take more than an inch of grass, however. After the grass is removed, turn the soil approximately one foot deep using a shovel or tiller. Then dig in the needed nutrients and fertilizers and rake the area smooth for easier planting. In the Cleveland area, there is a risk of frost until May 15th, and frost will kill many plants. In addition, the soil needs to have warmed to 65-70 degrees for most seeds

to germinate. A regular thermometer can be used and garden centers also sell special thermometers to test the soil temperature.

To cut down on weeding, consider putting down a weed blocking material before planting. The weed blocker can be held down with mulch or special staples. Cut holes or slots and plant the seeds or plants according to direction.

Planting the Garden

Plants and seeds packs have directions regarding spacing on their packaging. The spacing is important so that the sun reaches the plants, weeding and picking of the vegetables. Tomatoes generally need to be planted two feet apart.

Watering

A garden will need a minimum of one inch of water per week, and the best time to water is in the early morning.

Words of Wisdom

At the end of the interview, John stated, “Mother Nature is pretty forgiving. If you don't do it perfectly, it will be OK. Just follow the basics and don't be intimidated. Gardener each have their own take on gardening. It's OK to make individual choices.”

Raised Bed and Container Gardening

Like back yard or plot gardening, good soil is essential for raised bed and container gardening. Container soil probably needs to be enhanced annually with fertilizer, especially

a nitrogen-rich fertilizer. Raised beds should be a minimum of twelve inches deep but can be deeper.

Tomatoes do well in containers which are at least three feet in diameter; they should be planted three feet apart in raised beds. Sweet and hot peppers need containers at least two feet in diameter.

Vining and bush cucumbers do well in containers. Tom Sargent prefers pickling varieties because they are not as big and heavy. However, pretty much any cucumber can be successfully grown in containers and raised beds.

For container gardening, the bottoms of containers should be perforated for drainage. Before watering container gardens, make sure it is necessary and water one to one half inches. Be careful not to over water containers, as over watering will damage the root system.

Due to the space these plants need to grow, green beans, potatoes and corn do not do well in containers. Using containers which provide the minimum space needed allows plants to grow properly and prevents roots from becoming pot-bound.

Plot Gardening

Tom agreed that great soil is key to successful gardening and that weeding is important; many plants do not compete well with weeds. There are plants which can tolerate cooler soil including peas, cabbages, radishes, lettuce and onions. These can be planted as soon as the soil can be worked.



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Brooklyn Township young men's (and other ancestors') lives impacted by Civil War, Part III

by Lynette Filips
lynetfef@oldbrooklyn.com

The 150th anniversary of the signing of the Confederates' surrender at Appomattox Court House in Virginia which officially ended the American Civil War will take place on April 9th, and major Civil War observances in Cleveland will take place this month, too. They are detailed in the *Lincoln at Cleveland 2015* box accompanying this article.

But since the *Old Brooklyn News'* sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War only began in February, we're still far from visiting the end of the War. Attempting to understand the effects which the Civil War had on our Cleveland ancestors, we're following the path of one of Cleveland's first — and most illustrious — regiments, the Seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry (7th OVI). And up to this point, they've still been drilling, and haven't reached a single battlefield yet.

A major reason that we're able to closely follow the activities of this regiment is what was recorded about it early on. The first book, published in 1865 by James Miller in New York, is called *The Seventh Regiment: A record*. It was written by George L. Wood (1837-1867), a member of the 7th OVI's Company D from Warren, Ohio. (Eventually he achieved the ranks of Captain and Major.)

Like other soldiers, Wood obviously kept a diary of the Regiment's activities which helped him put together the 304 page account. Among the items which an online search of his name reveals is a diary from February 16th to July 14th, 1862.

The Seventh Regiment: A record is available as a reference book at Cleveland Public Library's (CPL's) downtown location. It is also available online at <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/44783/44783-h/44783-h.htm>. In addition, it can be purchased for 99 cents from Kindle, or \$11.22 (current price) in paperback form through www.amazon.com.

The other history of the Seventh Regiment was written by Lawrence Wilson, another member of the 7th OVI. Published in 1907, it is called the *Itinerary of the 7th Ohio Volunteer Infantry*. Lawrence Wilson was also a member of Company D; eventually he became a First Sergeant.

Wilson's regimental history is available as a reference book at Cuyahoga County Public Library's Fairview Park location. The

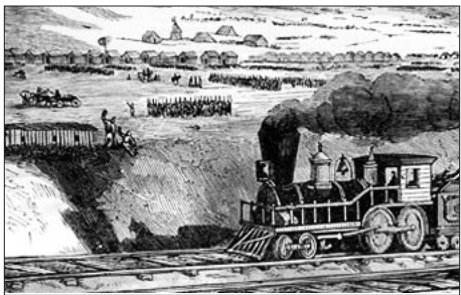
Cleveland Public Library also has a circulating softcover copy of the *Itinerary of the 7th Ohio Volunteer Infantry*. It was published in 2008. I have also heard that The Library of Congress has scanned the *Itinerary of the 7th Ohio*, and that the PDF file of that book can be downloaded at <https://archive.org/details/itinerary-of-seven00wils>.

The past two articles, (as are previous issues of the *Old Brooklyn News*, beginning in January, 2006) are available for reading at <http://oldbrooklyn.com/oldsite/OBN/>.

W 7 Ohio.
Francis J. Werz
Priv., Co. A., 7 Reg't Ohio Infantry.
Age 23 years.
Appears on
Company Muster-in Roll
of the organization named above. Roll dated
Camp Dennison, O. June 19, 1861.
Muster-in to date June 19, 1861.
Joined for duty and enrolled:
When June 19, 1861.
Where Camp Dennison, O.
Period 3 years.
Bounty paid \$ 100; due \$ 100
Remarks: Commenced service at Cleveland, Apr 22/61. Re-enlisted 7 Ohio Inf. (Bancroft) Co.
Next Roll On File Oct. 1861.
* * * Muster-in roll shows enrollment and muster-in of this company as of same date. See enrollment on subsequent card or cards.
Book mark:
Fairwell
(8566) Copyist.

Company Muster Roll at Camp Dennison

In a nutshell, Part I and Part II of this Civil War series told of the North's need to organize and train a militia after the Confederate bombing of Fort Sumter in April, 1861. In Northeast Ohio, that included the 7th OVI, mustered in at Camp Taylor in Cleveland, and then transported by rail south, via Camp Jackson in Columbus, to Camp Dennison, a former cornfield, in Germany, Ohio, seventeen miles north of Cincinnati. Last month we left them in the rain and muck/mud of the Camp on May 7th,



The Little Miami Railroad went through the center of Camp Dennison and the Little Miami River was on one side of it.

1861, shortly after they'd arrived there.

The heat in southern Ohio in early May was a far cry from what they would encounter on the southern battlefields, but already the young men were dropping in the field from sunstroke/ heat exhaustion when they were drilling/parading in the field at Camp Dennison. And after they built the barracks and fixed up the camp, many of their hours were spent in the sun. The regimental history speaks of 'dress parades', but also of still waiting for uniforms and of the men's civilian clothes getting ragged-looking. On May 15th, the soldiers finally did get muskets.

The heat and lack of uniforms weren't their only problems, however. All the men were exhausted, many were sick, and there was a very serious outbreak of measles. Spring rains continued, turning the field into ankle-deep mud, and the barracks leaked badly. One later report spoke of a storm with hail the size of marbles and wind which blew so hard that it moved the barracks from their foundations.

The On May 20th the first rumors of the 7th OVI being moved to Virginia were heard; in a May 29th letter to his new wife, Colonel William R. Creighton referred to himself as a fighting 'rooster', which is probably why the 7th OVI came to have the nickname the *Rooster Regiment* or simply the *Roosters*.

Since writing about — and including photos of — officers Tyler, Creighton and Crane in our February article, I've also learned that there were other officers I should have mentioned, because both the regiment, and each company in it, elected field officers.

So in May, 1861, in addition to Erastus B. Tyler from Ravenna as the 7th OVI's Colonel, and William R. Creighton from Cleveland as the 7th OVI's Lieutenant Colonel, the men had also elected John S. Casement from Painesville as their Major.

The aforementioned Orrin Crane had actually been elected the Captain of the 7th OVI's 'Cleveland-grown' *Company A*, not the whole Regiment. Albert C. Burgess was elected *Company A's* First Lieutenant, and Dudley A.



Kimball was elected *Company A's* Second Lieutenant.

Captain Crane had to return to Cleveland because his child was very sick. And looking to possible negative eventualities concerning another officer's child, the members of the Regiment voted to be the legal guardians of Colonel Tyler's daughter Mary until she reached legal age.

At the time, George McClellan was the Major-General of the Ohio militia, and in mid-June, he came to Camp Dennison to review the troops and get things moving for getting them in action.

At the beginning of June, the men had begun hearing rumors about being asked to re-enlist for three years, as opposed to the initial enlistment of three months. Not all the soldiers were quick to re-enlist for three years, but by mid-month, the majority of them had done so; on June 16th the Regiment was reorganized.

Many of the men/boys returned home on leave (furloughs) before being transported to the heart of the battle. Less than a month after arriving at Camp Dennison, three or four of them were already dead — one from drowning in the river and the others from inflammation of the lungs.

(Original recruits who did not re-enlist were mustered out on July 24th.)

On Thursday, June 25th, 1861, arms, uniforms and 'accoutrements' (military equipment other than uniforms and weapons) were issued to the men, and at 6 p.m. the next evening they boarded three trains — filling a total of forty-five cars, the report states — to put them on the course which would take them to the battlefields. This first leg of the journey, in reverse of the original trip south from Cleveland, was on the Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati Railroad. They reached Columbus at midnight.

The boys in the Seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry were on their way to rebel territory now. Their first experience of war will be in next month's article.

(Acknowledgments: I am grateful to Michael Russo, Ph.D., one of my distant cousins -- who, like me, is also interested in our common Civil War ancestor, Francis J. Werz -- for making me aware of the existence of the two Regimental histories referenced in this month's article. Mick actually owns an older hardcover copy of the 'Itinerary of the 7th Ohio'.)



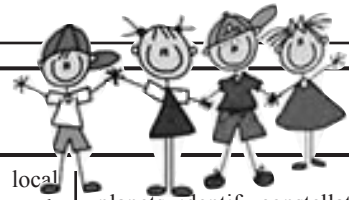
Badge of the 7th OVI

Lincoln at Cleveland 2015
Now until May 30th
Cleveland Public Library
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Wednesday, April 15th
Wreath Laying Ceremony at Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument; 12 noon.
Friday, April 17th
Special Address: Dr. Leonne Hudson at Old Stone Church (OSC); 7 - 9 pm.
Sunday, April 26th
Solemn Procession forming downtown at Mall A and continuing to OSC; 1 - 2:30 pm.
Sunday, April 26th
Historic Ecumenical Church Service at Old Stone Church (OSC); 3:30 - 5 pm.
Tuesday, April 28th
Ohio Historic Marker Dedication at Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument; 12 noon.
Any questions should be directed to:
Ohio Commandery of MOLLUS.
Email: ohiomollus@aol.com
330-855-4251 www.lincolnatcleveland.org

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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 Apr., 2015. Explore interactive hand-on exhibits after normal museum hours for free.

5th Annual Royal Ball - Sat, Apr. 18th, 6 - 8 pm. Dress as favorite prince or princess for this regal party. Free play in museum & opportunities to make fancy tiaras, bejeweled scepters & mini castles. Pose for photos during 'Meet & Greet' with FROZEN Princesses Elsa & Anna, Snow White, Princess Tiana, Rapunzel, Cinderella & Prince Charming. Light snacks & beverages provided. Pre-registration required. Tickets: \$20, members; \$25, non-members.



Racing Into Fun - Sat, Apr. 18th, 11am - 2 pm. Families design & build race tracks, tubes & mazes to test out throughout day. With team work & ingenuity, figure out 'What kind of track makes a ball go fastest?' 'How many wheels does a car really need?' 'How long can we make this track?' Bring imagination, ingenuity & building skills for fun day. Included with paid Museum admission or membership.

Cleveland Botanical Garden
11030 East Blvd.

216-721-1600 www.cbgs.org

Big Spring - Now - Sun., Apr. 26th; Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 10 am - 5pm; Wed., 10 am - 9 pm; Sun., noon - 5 pm; closed Mon. Cleveland's supersized, indoor & outdoor springtime celebration. Rain or shine. Imaginative tea party in enchanting woodland garden & fanciful indoor garden hedge maze. Dress up as bugs & strut their stuff at Toadstool Theatre. New activities abound outdoors, including Hershey Children's Garden. Reptiles & amphibians in Critter Corner; beetle babies at mealworm races. Tickets: \$12/non-member adult; \$8/non-member child (3 - 12). Free for children under 3 & Botanical Garden members.



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

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

Butterfly Release in Costa Rica Biome - Tues. - Sun., 2 pm (based upon availability of hatched chrysalids each day).

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

Cleveland Metroparks - CanalWay Center
E. 49th St. bet. Grant Ave & Canal Rd.
216-206-1000 or clevelandmetroparks.com
CanalWay Storytime at Night - Tues., Apr. 7th; 10:30 - 11:15 am. Spend evening reading,

singing & playing games related to reduce, reuse & recycle. Family-oriented.

Family Bike Ride in the Park - Sat., Apr. 11th; 10 am - noon. Doug Kusak will lead easy-going bike ride from CanalWay Center to Harvard Rd. & back. Helmet required.

Trains - Cars - Sun., Apr. 12th; 1 - 2 p.m. Rail cars come in variety of shapes & sizes. What are they hauling? Historical Interpreter Doug Kusak will help you connect train cars with their designed use.



Family Bike Ride - Sat., Apr. 25th; 1 - 4 pm. Start with bike inspection, then head out for ride along Towpath. Helmet required. Terrain: 1 hill, 6 - 8 miles. Register by phone or online.

Egg-speriment - Sun., Apr. 26th; 2 - 3 pm. Opportunity to play with food. Led by Naturalist Sarah Dudziak; learn about eggs then try amazing egg-speriments. For families. Fee: \$2 per team of 2. Register by phone or online.

Family Movie Night - "Charlotte's Web" - Fri., Apr. 17th; 7 - 8:30 pm. Watch spider who can spell words in her web. Snacks available for purchase or bring own. Call to register.

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

Jazz in the Park - Thurs., Apr. 16th; 7 - 9 pm. Evening of music by solo jazz guitarist Victor Samalot. Bring chair & snacks. In case of inclement weather, program will be held in Garfield Park Center.

Fun with Food - Sun., Apr. 26th., 2 - 3:30 pm. Every youngster will be "Prep Chef" for own portion of simple meal. Learn about the food that comes from earth. Fee: \$3. Call or go online to register.

Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
3900 Wildlife Way 216-635-3391

Overnight - Outback after dark - Penguins & Pajamas - Sat., Apr., 11th, 18th, 24th & 25th & May 1st & 2nd; 7 pm - 10 am. Cost: \$38; includes program curriculum & equipment, counselors who'll stay with group thru entire program. Sleep in one of Zoo's program locations (based on gender of groups registered), light eve. snack, secure sleeping arrangements, light breakfast, admission to Zoo & RainForest immediately following program. Must be at least 6 years old. Pre-registration required.



Party for the Planet - Sat., Apr. 25th; 10 am - 4 pm. Visit Zoo animals & exhibits, inc. new Penguin Shores touring exhibit in Northern Trek, preview summer live animal show with Professor Wylde & celebrate Year of Clean Water with educational activities focusing on keeping local water safe & drinkable. New -- theatrical performance by Arm of the Sea Theater Company, provided by Emerald Necklace Endowment Fund. Saugerties, NY - based group has been performing across U.S. for 20+ years & will adapt its popular show, "The Rejuvenary River Circus," to reflect Great Lakes & Cuyahoga River

Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds

EarthFest - Sun., Apr. 19th, 10 am - 5 pm. EarthFest will feature 270 exhibits in 10 sustainability areas including: Zero waste, advanced & renewable energy, local & sustainable food, clean transportation (with ride & drive), health & fitness, community works, environmental sciences, family fun, & green home & garden. Families will enjoy all day entertainment with eco-activities, biodiesel powered amusement park rides, all-day music, urban farm animals,

healthy food from local food trucks, local microbrews, chef demos, pony rides & much more. General admission: \$4 ages 2-11, \$8 ages 12 & over. Free admission: under age 2. Ride & park your bicycle in designated bicycle valet parking area ride RTA's Redline (regular fare) to Brookpark Rapid Station & take free EarthFest shuttle to Fairgrounds.

Home Depot

homeimproverclub.com/kdsworkshops
Learn to build bookends - Sat., Apr. 7th, 9 am - noon. 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.

International Exposition Center
1 I-X Center Drive

216-676-6000 www.ixcenter.com
I-X Indoor Amusement Park - Now - Sun., Apr. 19th; 3 - 10 pm. 20 acres of rides, inc. 443 foot Soaring Eagle Zipline; live family entertainment. Discount tickets at Marc's -- \$18.99 general admission; \$75 family fun pack (4 general admission tickets & parking pass). Tickets online \$20.99 over 48"; \$17.99 under 48". Tickets at Box office: \$21.99 & \$18.99. Children 3 & under free. Seniors 60+ with photo ID free Mon - Fri.; Sat. & Sun., \$9.99.

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center
28728 Wolf Rd.

440-871-2900 www.lensc.org
Open daily: 10 am - 5 pm; free admission
Full Dome Children's Feature Show: Rusty Rocket's Last Blast - Travel through Solar System with Rusty Rocket & his friends as they learn everything they need to know to become space rockets. This full dome "movie" is 32 minutes long. Recommended for children ages 4 - 12. Fee: \$5

Full Dome Feature Show: Space Aliens - Join alien "experts" Hopeful & Skeptical as they try to convince each other whether or not life exists beyond Earth. This full dome movie is 30 minutes long. Recommended for pre-teen through adults. Fee: \$5.

The You-niverse - For families with children of all ages. Mon. - Fri., 2 pm; Sat. & Sun., 1:30 & 2:30 pm; in StarLab. Locate moon, find

planets, identify constellations & find out how they got their names. Then go home & discover universe in own backyard. Fee: \$3/person.

Animals Alive - Sat. & Sun., 12 - 12:30 pm. Fee: \$3/person; all ages. Fun & informative animal show in Log Cabin. Each week focus is on different topic/animals. Collect stickers to earn fun Nature Center prize bag.

SkyQuest: What's so Super about a Supernova? Apr. 4th, 9th, 16th, 18th, 23rd & 30th; 7:30 pm. Discover what triggers energetic explosions known as Supernovae & how they hold key to uncovering mysteries about nature of cosmos. Approx. 45 minutes; Recommended for pre-teens through adults. Fee: \$5..

Cuyahoga County Public Library
Parma-Snow Branch

216-661-4240; www.cuyahogalibrary.org
9 am - 9 pm, Mon. - Thurs.; 9 am - 5:30 pm, Fri. & Sat.; 1 - 5 pm, Sun.

Puppet Show: The Pied Piper of Hamelin? featuring Rat-a-ma-taz Rats - Sat., Apr. 4th, 2 pm. Hand puppet show.

Wild Spring Break Improv Camp - Mon. - Wed., Apr. 6th - 8th; 1 - 4 pm. Ages 8 & up. Registration required

Teen Programs - Sat., Apr. 11th, TAG Team, 1:30 pm. Grades 6 - 12 & Board Game Day, 2:30 pm, ages 10 - 19.

Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage
2929 Richmond Rd.

216-593-0575 www.maltzmuseum.org
Chasing Dreams:

Baseball & Becoming American
Sun., Apr. 12th - Mon., Sept. 7th. Tues., Thurs., Fri. & Sun., 11 am - 5 pm; Wed., 11 am - 9 pm; Sat., noon - 5 pm.

Baseball's legends & myths, heroes & flops, struggles & moments of triumph tell our national story. Organized by National Museum of American Jewish History, exhibition explores central role our national pastime has played in identity of Jews & other minority communities. Admission : \$5 - \$12.



THEATER NOTES



Beck Center
Mackey Main Stage
17801 Detroit Ave.

216-521-2540 www.beckcenter.org

Mackey Main Stage
"Lend Me a Tenor"

Now - Sun., Apr. 26th. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$10 - \$29.

Cassidy Theatre of Greenbriar Commons
6200 Pearl Rd 440-842-4600

cassidytheatre.com
"Southern Hospitality"

Fri., Apr. 10th - Sun., Apr. 26th. Fri. & Sat, 8 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$15, adult; \$14, students/seniors.

Cleveland Public Theatre (CPT)
James Levin Theatre

6415 Detroit Ave. 216-631-2727 ext. 205

"In a Word"

Thurs., Apr. 16th - Sat., May 2nd. Thurs., Fri., Sat.; all performances 7 pm. Tickets: \$12 - \$28.

Near West Theatre

6702 Detroit Ave. 216-961-6391
www.nearwesttheatre.org

"Shrek"

Fri., Apr. 24th & 25th; Fri., 1st. - Sun. May 17th. Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: Star seat single; \$20, adult general; \$10, child, \$8.

Playhouse Square Center
1501 Euclid Ave. 216-241-6000

www.playhousesquare.org
Cleveland Play House at

the Allen Theatre

"Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike"
Fri., Apr. 3rd - Sun., Apr. 26th. Tues., 7 pm; Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat. & Sun., 2:30

& 7:30 pm; 1 Thurs. matinee performance, 1:30. Tickets: \$39 - \$79.

Baldwin Wallace University at
The Allen's Helen Rosenfeld Lewis

Bialosky Lab Theatre
"Saturday Night Fever"

Fri., May 1 - Sun., May 3rd. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 5 & 8:30 pm; Sun., 7 pm. Tickets: \$25.

Great Lakes Theater at the Hanna
"The Tempest"

Fri., Apr. 10th - Sun., Apr. 26th. Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat.; 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 3 pm. Tickets: \$15 - \$70.

Kennedy's Theatre

"Flanagan's Wake"

Now - Sat., May 2nd. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm. Tickets: \$25.

KeyBank Broadway Series at
the Connor Palace Theatre

"Kinky Boots"

Tues., Apr. 7th - Sun., Apr., 19th. Tues. - Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 & 6:30 pm. Tickets: \$30 - \$100.

The Connor Palace

"Disney's Beauty and the Beast"

Fri., Apr. 24th - Sun., Apr. 26th. Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 1:30 & 7:30 pm; Sun., 1 & 6:30 pm. Tickets: \$55 - \$90.

The State Theatre

"Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons"

Fri., May 1st, 8 pm. Tickets: \$45 - \$95.

The State Theatre

"Rain -- A Tribute to the Beatles"

Sun., May 3rd, 7 pm. Tickets: \$25 - \$59.

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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.

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.

Immaculate Conception Church 4129 Superior Ave., Cleveland

Mass Mob XII, Sunday, Apr. 26th, 10 am.

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

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion - Fri., Apr. 3rd, 3 pm; upper church.

Blessing of Food - Sat., Apr. 4th, 11 am & noon; upper church.

Easter Vigil Service & Mass - Sat., Apr. 4th, 8:30 pm; upper church.

Easter Sunday Masses - Sun., Apr. 5th, 6:45, 8:30 & 11 am; upper church.

Free Easter Sunday Meal (a meal site of St. Augustine Hunger Center) - Sun., Apr. 5th, 12:30 - 2:30 pm; Parish Center cafeteria.

Mary Queen of Peace Seniors - Wed., Apr. 8th; lunch at noon with meeting & social to follow; lower chapel.

Men's Prayer Group - Sun., Apr. 11th & 25th, 8:30 am; Parish Center.

Benefit Spaghetti Dinner for Roxanne Bajus-Fitten - Sat., Apr. 11th, 5 - 8 pm; Parish Center cafeteria.

Divine Mercy Holy Hour & Reception - Sun., Apr. 12th, 3 pm.; upper church.

"Five Steps To Winning the War Within" presented by John Wood - Tues., Apr. 14th, 6:30 pm; upper church.

Mobile Food Pantry (free produce offered by Cleveland Food Bank), Sat., Apr. 18th, 9 am - 11 am; upper level garages.

Free Community Meal - Sun., Apr. 19th, 1 pm; Parish Center cafeteria.

World Apostolate of Fatima Holy Hour - Sun., Apr. 19th, 2 pm; lower church.

Cornhole Tournament - Sat., Apr. 25th, 7 - 11 pm; Parish Center. Call 216-741-3685 to register a team.

Reverse Raffle - Sat., May 2nd., 6:30 pm. Parish Center. Call 216-741-2323 for tickets.

St. Barbara Church 1505 Denison Ave. 216-661-1191

Blessing of the first foods of Easter - Sat., 4th 1 pm. **Mass, Great Vigil of Easter** - 8:30 pm.

Easter Sunday Masses - Sun., Apr. 5th, 9 am/English; 11 am/Polish.

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

Sundays in April - Sunday School, 9 am; downstairs Stohs Hall. Children 3 years thru 8th grade invited to learn more about Jesus. Begin with breakfast & then go to classes. Call to enroll or for more info.

Two Good Friday Services - Fri., Apr. 3rd.; noon & 7:30 pm. Choir will sing at evening service; also Tenebrae service where we recount time Jesus was on the cross.

Easter Services - Sat., Apr. 4th; 5 pm; Sun., Apr. 5th; 8 & 10:30 am. Continental breakfast 9 - 10 am. Everyone will receive special memento of day. Everyone invited.

SENIOR NOTES

Senior Citizen Resources (SCR) Deaconess-Krafft 3100 Devonshire Ave. (Must be 60 and over) 216-749-5367 (Free van transportation, lunch & variety of activities)

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 & indi-

Fifty Plus Group - Wed., Apr. 15th, 11:30 am upstairs Gathering Room. - hot lunch for \$3. See travelogue about Rome. Anyone 50 years or older invited.

Movie Day / Night., Wed., Apr. 22nd; 1 & 7 pm. Movie **"Lukewarm,"** about Luke Rogers who started out on right path, but then loses his way. Free popcorn & tissues. Upstairs Gathering Room.

Widows & Widowers - Mon., Apr. 27th, noon; luncheon, weather permitting. Fellowship, encouragement & a topic. Menu includes Italian pot roast, mashed potatoes, salads & desserts. Cost: \$3. RSVP by contacting church office.

viduals 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.

Volunteer Drivers & Runners needed for Meals on Wheels

Senior Citizen Resources. We deliver Mon. - Fri. to Old Brooklyn residents. Call Kim Susak, 216-749-5367, with any questions.

Single Seniors Meetings

Zabor's Community Center, 5666 Pearl Rd.; 7 pm, 2nd & 4th Sun. of every month. Southwest widowed, divorced or separated Christian group. Make new friends. Call 440-888-3316 for more 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 Prime sponsors LITE and EZ exercise classes for people 55 years of age and older. They are one-hour, strengthening and balance classes, 75% sitting and 25% standing. (The entire program can be done sitting.)

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

It is a very supportive and non-competitive group. Each participant is encouraged to work at his/her own pace. A doctors release form can be picked up at MetroHealth Wellness Center or by stopping by the class at Estabrook. Observe a class at the same time.

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St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church

4600 State Rd. Phone: 216-741-7979
Deacon: Joseph Hnat, 216-233-4118.
Pastor: Fr. Marek Visnovsky
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

EVANGELICAL

Gateway Church Old Brooklyn

Rhodes High School, 5100 Biddulph Ave.
Pastor: Tony Loseto
Phone: 216-302-4409
Sun. mornings 10:30 am.
Community group meetings throughout the week. www.gatewaychurcholdbrooklyn.com

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.

LUTHERAN

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. stjamescleve.com

St. Mark EV 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
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5375 Broadview Rd at Wexford, Parma
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Phone: 216-661-9246 Sunday Masses: 9 am.
English, 11 am. Polish/English Holydays: 10 am.
Sunday School: 10 am. www.stmaryspncc.com

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Mary Queen of Peace

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

St. Barbara Church

1505 Denison Ave. Phone: 216-661-1191
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-barbaracleland

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.leotheadgreat.org

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
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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
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School registration information

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

Ready, Set, Grow Preschool
 Located in Brooklyn Heights United Church of Christ, 2005 W. Schaaf Rd. Ages 3 - 5. Learning & social skills for kindergarten readiness. Certified teachers. Registration fee, \$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.

City of Cleveland, Division of Police, Citizen On-line Reporting System

File your own police report on-line for the following types of incidents/crimes -- lost property; damage to property; criminal damaging; petty theft/theft from a motor vehicle; supplemental reports. These types of reports may be made only if there is no suspect, suspect vehicle, or serial number information. Make an on-line report at www.city.cleveland.oh.us/police & click on the crime reporting link. You must be 18 years old & have an e-mail address.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Brooklyn Centre Naturalists Garden Work Days - Sat. Apr. 11th, 9:30 am. - 12:30 pm. 3789 W. 39th St. & Sat., Apr. 18th; 9:30 am. - 12:30 pm.; 848 W. 36th St.

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

Brooklyn Genealogy Club meeting, Sun., Apr. 15th, Brooklyn Fire Station, 8400 Memphis Ave. at Roadoan). No word yet about speaker or topic. For information about the group contact Ann Wojtowicz, wojtowicz6809@roadrunner.com.

The Brooklyn Historical Society meeting, Wed., Apr. 29th, 7 pm; museum., 4442 Ridge Rd. Speaker: Ralph Pflingsten author of many books about West Park area, inc. the latest, *Rails Through West Park* about Linndale Railroad Complex. (Books will be for sale.) Refreshments after program. All welcome; call Barb, 216-941-0160, for more info.

Cleveland Republican Organization meeting, Tues., Apr. 14th (& every second Tues.); 7 pm, Brooklyn Hts. UCC, 2005 W. Schaaf Rd. Call 216-832-9195 for more info.

Laurel Garden Club - Mon., Apr. 13th; 7 pm. Brooklyn Fire Station Community Room, 8400 Memphis Ave. Group will be planning excursions to several sites during next few months. Refreshments; all welcome.

Old Brooklyn Crime Watch meeting. Call Barb Spaan, 216-459-1000, for more info.

Second District Police Community Relations meeting, Tues., Apr. 14th (& every second Tues.), 7 pm, Applewood Center, 3518 W. 25th St.

Southwest Citizens Area Council meeting, Thurs., Apr. 2nd, (& every first Thurs.), 7 pm, Gino's, 1314 Denison Ave.

Ward 13 Democratic Club meeting, Tues., Apr. 21st (& every third Tues.), 7 pm, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 5801 Memphis Ave.

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Blizzard brings out the best at SCR

by Jason Powers
jasonp@oldbrooklyn.com

Nearly one in six American seniors — or 8.8 million— may not know where their next meal is coming from. Locally, the nonprofit group Senior Citizens Resources, Inc. (SCR) works to provide meals to seniors every single day — rain, snow or shine.

In mid-February Cleveland experienced an overnight blizzard which brought more than ten inches of snow to the area; the massive precipitation coupled with limited plowing capacity made traveling nearly impossible. On a day when most businesses were closed and most people stayed home, SCR continued its programming, services and *Meals on Wheels* program.

As the morning went on, several of the volunteers called in reporting that they were unable to get out of their driveways. Two even described getting stuck on their way over. No matter their resolve, all but one of the corps of volunteers who spend time delivering meals were unable to show up.

Recognizing the dilemma, Kim Susak, SCR's Nutrition and Volunteer Manager, went to the organization's staff and explained that they would need to take on the day's routes. Each would be partnered with a van driver (SCR uses its van fleet to take seniors on errands and a variety of trips) and would go out to deliver roughly 100 meals that day.

The staff dropped their work and headed out to the streets of Old Brooklyn to make their routes. Encountering some of the worst conditions in years, one team's van was immediately stuck in the road. While the staff made every effort to deliver the local meals, the driver spent his time digging out the van. Over the course of the next hour, the workers made it through every home on their route and were even able to get home on time that night.

But it's what they found as they made their deliveries that made this so special. The gratitude of the homebound seniors was incredible.

"For many of them it's the only warm meal they get all day. They may not have other meals, or maybe just finish a sandwich," explained one of the drivers. The staff were humbled by the experience of reaching each home and handing out the single meal. They were welcomed with smiles, candy and even one woman who after thanking them added, "I was getting hungry!"

Making their way through the snow as an added challenge, the SCR staff went through a moving experience as they saw what their volunteers do every day. "Those are the real heroes," said one driver, "the people who do this each day for years on end. They're these seniors' angels."

That's more than rhetoric. The volunteers get to know the seniors and take notice when they don't answer the door at lunchtime. They take note, get a key from a neighbor or just make a call to the SCR office to have someone call the family. They look after the seniors, often bringing them treats on special occasions, learning their stories, and even coming into their homes and setting up the meals at their table for them.

"With one senior, I knew she had a pet," recalls one volunteer. "I wasn't sure how she was taking care of it so one day I brought along some pet food with the meal, just to help out." These volunteers work out of the kindness of their hearts. One woman slipped during her route and broke her arm, but finished her route before seeing the doctor. She returned the next week with a cast and a smile ready to take out more meals.

It's difficult, though, for SCR to find enough volunteers to take on the routes each day. Though it only requires a few hours once a week (volunteers are divided between runners and drivers and take on a single route together) it is hard for the organization to identify and recruit enough each week to get the meals out.

"It's such an important program," said Kim Susak. "The meals come in each day and we prepare the routes, but it's the volunteers who are the essential component." And they aren't just important because they deliver the food; they're important because of the relationships they build. They get to know the seniors and leave each day feeling that they've made a real difference in someone's life.

"You really get a good feeling about what you're doing," said Frank Anderson, a driver. "It seems like it's just a little thing, but to these seniors, that bit of conversation, interaction and the meal — it's everything."

Anyone who would like to become a part of 'making someone's day' each week should consider volunteering with SCR's *Meals on Wheels* program. Contact Kim at 216-749-5367 x1119 to give a few hours each week, make an impact on the people, and walk away feeling better for doing it.



Oil & Gas from page 5

Consequently, the multi-stage, high intensity fracking (highly controversial) involved in treating shale wells in order to produce hydrocarbons will not likely soon affect residents of our neighborhood.

Northeast Ohio: One of the Earliest Centers of the Oil and Gas Industry in the World

It is common knowledge that Cleveland's John D. Rockefeller, perhaps the wealthiest man who ever lived, with a net worth at its height estimated in excess of \$300 billion in today's value, played among the most important roles in the growth of America's oil and gas industry. However, Rockefeller's focus was on oil refining, which was ushered in by the need for an alternative to whale oil, which had become too expensive to serve as a lighting fuel for the masses. Since the wells in Greater Cleveland are overwhelmingly gas-bearing, they provided only insignificant quantities of crude oil for Cleveland's refineries. For the purposes of this article, the oil and gas industry is limited to drilling and production operations, and does not address refining, distribution, storage, or marketing.

"Pre-Record" Drilling of the Industry

Due to the lack of early drilling records and absence of regulation, much of the earliest drilling is unknown. The 1917 publication by G. Sherburne Rogers, cited in the References at the end of the article, refers to the start of the industry with the discovery of the Cleveland Gas Field in 1912. (This publication is the primary historical reference for the Cleveland Gas Field). This field was dominated by wells drilled to the Clinton Sandstone and Lockport Dolomite. However, the abundance of wells with depths ranging from six-hundred feet to one-thousand one-hundred eighty feet indicates that there was a prominent episode, albeit unrecorded, of very shallow drilling to units within the Ohio Shale.

With increasing urbanization, the need to properly plug these depleted wells became apparent, primarily to ensure that seeping natural gas would not lead to explosions, and secondarily to eliminate contaminant pathways

into the groundwater. Therefore, plugging of these "pre-record" wells started, with the first recorded plugging of a verified Ohio Shale well in 1954. Shale wells were probably plugged much earlier, but the manner typically involved merely pouring wellbore cuttings and maybe some fireclay back into the hole, with tree-branches ("brush plugs") to top it off. Note that the plugging of old Ohio Shale wells is an ongoing process, with the latest plugging of a "pre-record" well having taken place in 2006.

On a regional basis, shale wells along the south shore of Lake Erie were drilled from Lorain County eastward through the rest of Ohio, into northwestern Pennsylvania, and northwestern New York in the late 1800's. Most of these wells supplied natural gas to farms, greenhouses, small factories, and sometimes to public and/or private institutions such as schools, churches, and hospitals. Virtually none, however, were capable of providing natural gas to larger industrial complexes, much less to transmission lines for large-scale residential supply. Despite the fact that many of the shale wells were long-lived, exceeding forty years of production, they were incapable of providing adequate volume of gas at a sufficiently high pressure.

To be continued...

About the Author: Consulting geologist George Mychkovsky is a former resident of Old Brooklyn and graduate of James Ford Rhodes High School (class of 1973). He received his BS and MS degrees in Geology from Kent State in 1976 and 1979, respectively. He has over 34 years of experience in Ohio's oil & gas and coal mining industries, and would like to commemorate the bicentennial of Old Brooklyn and the centennial of the discovery of the Cleveland Gas Field with this article.

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The Old Brooklyn Families Group is a group for families who live in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood of Cleveland who want to improve the neighborhood and connect with other families.

We meet monthly at various locations in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood to discuss and plan events and activities.



We would love for your family to join us!

South Brooklyn Branch of Cleveland Public Library, 4303 Pearl Rd.
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