



PHOTO BY DEBBIE SADLON
Friday, September 6, 2013; Great Lakes Brewery 25th Anniversary Block Party, Market Street: Glass Bubble Project of 2421 Bridge Avenue displays their glassware.

FREE

Vol. 40, No. 10 October 2013

Plain Press

Cleveland's Near Westside Newspaper

The Great Lake Erie Boat Float helps to raise awareness of plastic pollution in the Great Lakes

by Chuck Hoven

In an effort highlighting the importance of recycling and problems created for the Great Lakes by plastic pollution, the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, the Cleveland Metroparks and Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization sponsored,

"The Great Lake Erie Boat Float," held on Saturday, September 7th at Edgewater Beach.

A Metroparks' release on the event describes the problem presented by plastics: "Plastic debris is a problem for aquatic habitats. Large pieces of plastic litter such as bottles and six-pack soda rings, break down

into fragments or microplastics and threaten animal species that mistake the bits of plastic for food. Recent studies have found that Lake Erie has a high concentration of microplastics."

In the fifth year of this competition, teams made boats made post consumer and construction waste materials and competed in four categories: Best Use of Recyclable Materials, Fastest Boat, Most Artistic Style and Li'l Sailors.

The Best Use of Recyclable Materials Award went to Anne Sanford and Linda Spurlock and their craft, "May the Buoyant Force Be With You". The judges were impressed with the 100% use of post consumer waste to construct the craft. Sanford and Spurlock used plastic kitty litter and laundry detergent containers to make the boat. The Shaker Heights team had their own cheering section – with their neighbors, including 5-year-old, Montse Mireles, cheering them on.

The Fastest Boat winner was the ProMar 200, constructed by a team representing the U.S. Green Building Council using ProMar 200 paint buckets, PVC scrap and 2 x 4's. Team members consisted of Tyler Slentz, Brian Brainard and Soren Engbert, mechanical engineers, who all work at Osborn

continued on page 6



PHOTO BY DEBBIE SADLON

Saturday, September 7, 2013; Great Lake Erie Boat Float, Edgewater Beach: Jinan Berard, age 4 1/2, plays in the sand, while adult teams prepare for the race. Jinan and her brother Arman each built a boat of recycled materials to enter in the Li'l Sailors competition. They shared the winning prize in the competition.

Campaign to focus on improving attendance at Luis Munoz Marin and Walton Schools

by Chuck Hoven

In an effort to increase levels of academic success, The Cleveland Campaign for Grade Level Reading (CCGLR) is targeting four of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District's "Investment Schools" and plans to focus on three key factors: attendance, summer learning loss, and school readiness for students entering kindergarten. Two of the schools targeted are in the Plain Press service area – Luis Munoz Marin and Walton Elementary Schools.

Tracy Glenn, Project Director for CCGLR, says the initial focus of the campaign will be on improving attendance and reducing tardiness at the target schools. The Campaign, which is a collaborative project between The Literacy Cooperative, United Way of Greater Cleveland,

Cleveland Metropolitan School District and a number of community based organizations, hosted a phone bank calling session on September 12. Volunteers used the United Way phone bank to call parents in the targeted schools. Callers stressed the importance of their children being at school on time and every day.

Glenn says Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) CEO Eric Gordon asked CCGLR to begin by focusing on attendance, noting that the district can't teach students who are not there.

Using raw attendance data provided by the CMSD for last school year at Luis Munoz Marin and Walton Elementary Schools, Glenn said last school year the

continued on page 5

scheduled for the purpose of providing environmental information as well as detailing health and safety measures put in place for the protection of those living near or in close proximity of the construction site.

Prior to releasing the Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) report findings, Great Lakes

Construction Company Safety Director, William J. Hocevar, opened the discussions by giving a brief synopsis of the project which included outlining the main components scheduled to take place over the next two years: (1) digging up, relocating and laying a

continued on page 6



PHOTO BY CHUCK HOVEN
Saturday, September 7, 2013; Beach Cleanup, Edgewater Beach: Giulia Clark and Kevin Lockett, 8th Grade students at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, came to help with the beach cleanup. They joined with Plain Press Editor Debbie Sadlon on a cleanup team.

Work begins on West 73rd Street underpass to Edgewater Park

by Jerleen Justus

On September 11, 2013, Detroit Shoreway residents gathered at Our Lady of Mount Carmel at 6928 Detroit Avenue, for the review of plans and up-coming activities in connection to the West 73rd Street Extension/Vehicular Underpass Link to Edgewater Park Project.

This particular meeting was



PHOTO BY DEBBIE SADLON
Saturday, September 7, 2013; Great Lake Erie Boat Float, Edgewater Beach: The U.S. Green Building Council team of Tyler Slentz, Brian Brainard, Soren Engbert and Dari Solomon propelling their ProMar 200 boat through the Lake Erie surf. The team won the competition for the Fastest Boat. The Great Lake Erie Boat Float helps to raise awareness about plastic pollution in the Great Lakes in a competition of boats made from recycled materials.



PHOTO BY ED TISHEL

Monday, September 2, 2013; 99th Annual Grease Pole Climbing Contest, St. Rocco Festival, 3205 Fulton Road: Tyler Donley, age 18, a member of the winning Team Ross. Donley who attended James Ford Rhodes High School now works in catering at the Wolstein Center at Cleveland State University. Members of the winning team were: Scott Ross (Captain), Tyler Donley, Sean Gesing, Michael Nahra and Kevin Galaida.

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Community Meal:

4th Tuesday of the Month at 6 PM

Services: Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Tuesday: 7 p.m.

EDUCATION

CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE. An advisor can assist you in completing a college application, determining whether you qualify for financial aid, and learning about certificate and degree programs. All services are FREE to Cuyahoga County residents ages 19 or older. Located in the school building at St. Colman at 2001 West 65th Street every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. To schedule an appointment, call Stephanie at (216) 987-4962 or walk in.

NEAR WEST CLEVELAND SCHOOL FAIR for education available to children Pre-K to High School. Saturday, October 5th from 10am-12pm at Saint Ignatius High School in the Atrium, West 29th and Lorain Ave. Learn more about the private, charter, public and parochial schools in Ohio City, Detroit Shoreway, Tremont, and other near west neighborhoods! Representatives from the schools will be available to provide information and answer your questions. Children welcome to attend. If you have questions, email Norma at nboyd@nearwestfamilynetwork.org

THE HATHAWAY BROWN "INKED" WRITING CONTEST FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. Ninth through twelfth grade student writers and school writing groups in the North East Ohio area are encouraged to apply for the October 26th event being held at the Hathaway Brown School from 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Applications are being accepted online at hp.edu/inked through midnight, October 4th. The Contest was designed as a way to give high school level students additional writing experience, which can be used to boost college application writing portfolios and resumes. Sponsored by The Plain Dealer and Epiphany Management Group.

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helpline, call 216/391-4357 or visit www.dvcac.org

FOR THE ELDER ABUSE HOTLINE, call 216/420-6700 or visit www.cuyahogacounty.us **FOR THE CLEVELAND RAPE CRISIS CENTER,** call 216/619-6192 or visit www.clevelandrapecrisis.org

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ENRICHMENT

TREMONT ARTWALK. Friday, October 11, 2013.

FALL COLOR AT EDGEWATER. Thursday, October 10 • 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Edgewater Park Perkins parking area Lakefront Reservation. Join this after-work one mile hike on the beach ridge trail. Take in the fall colors of Edgewater Park, see migrant birds, identify wildflowers and enjoy one of the best views of Cleveland. For

more information, call 216-206-1000 or visit clevelandmetroparks.com.

ENTERTAINMENT

ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2013 sponsored by Stockyard, Clark-Fulton, Brooklyn Centre Community Development will be on Thursday, October 3 from 6-8 p.m. at the Family Ministry Center, 3381 Fulton Rd. Please RSVP by Monday, September 30 to Nanci McCormack at 961-9073, ext 201, or nmccormack@dscdo.org.

CELEBRACIÓN ANUAL 2013. LA OFICINA DE DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO DE LAS

continued on page 7

Plain Press

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Halloween Art Show

Sat., October 26, 2013, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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www.maryellensalo.com

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Anyone who brings a donation of food will get to choose a free wind chime as long as they last. Any leftover food will be donated.

Stockyard, Clark-Fulton

& Brooklyn Centre

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*A Night at the
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Made possible with generous grant support from Neighborhood Connections and City Works. Additional support provided by Cleveland Public Theatre, Detroit Shoreway Community Development Corporation, and the residents and businesses of Detroit Shoreway.



OCTOBER 4&5
6:00-9:30 PM



Resolution found for Second District Crime Stat controversy

by Chuck Hoven

Following the publication of the September issue of the *Plain Press*, Second District Commander Keith Sulzer contacted the *Plain Press* about crime data published in a campaign ad in the August issue of the *Plain Press* and referenced in a Ward 3 candidate survey published in the September issue. Commander Sulzer objected to the statements by the Carrie Kurutz for Council Campaign that claimed that this year's crime in the Second District was outpacing all of last year, saying the data was wrong.

Sulzer emphasized he wasn't

taking sides in the City Council Campaigns, he just wants the readers to know the crime data published is incorrect. He said he believes what happened is the Kurutz Campaign mistakenly used Year To Date (YTD) crime date rather than Year End crime data when referring to 2012. (The Police Department crime reports generally offer crime statistics for the year up to the current date and compare them to the same date last year.) Sulzer said he doesn't care how the mistakes were made; he just wants *Plain Press* readers to have the correct information.

The *Plain Press* asked both Commander Sulzer and the Kurutz Campaign to share their sources. Commander Sulzer provided the *Plain Press* with Year to Date data for 2012 and 2013 up to September 3, 2013. He also provided year-end data for 2011 and 2012. The Commander even provided a break out of Year To Date crime in the current Ward 3, which extends beyond the bounds of the Second District. The data provided by Commander Sulzer confirmed that year-end crime data for 2012 was higher than the numbers presented

continued on page 4

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Second District Commander seeks to correct crime stats in Campaign Ad and Council Survey

To the editor:

The *Plain Press* has been running articles and campaign ads disseminating incorrect crime statistics for the Second District and for Ward 3. Ward 3 Council Candidate Kurutz states in the September edition of the *Plain Press* that: "It's unthinkable that in the first half of 2013, rape, felonious assault, vehicle theft, and arson occurred more frequently than all of 2012 (in the 2nd District). When violent crime is declining in other cities across the country, it is shameful that in Ward 3 it's on the increase."

I believe it is important for your readers and the voters in Ward 3 to know the true statistics. Here are the statistics for rape, felonious assault, vehicle theft, and arson for the 2nd District, which is comprised of five Council Wards:

• Rape YTD (Through August 2013 Year-To-Date) there have been 91 rapes in the 2nd District; YTD For 2012 (thru August) there were 88

rapes -- up 3%, however, way under the end of year number of 141 rapes for 2012.

• Felonious Assault YTD 2013 there have been 299; 2012 YTD there were 262, up 14% from 2012, however, well under the 382 Felonious Assaults for 2012.

• There have been 549 Vehicle thefts YTD 2013; there were 474 thefts YTD 2012, up 15%, however, well below the 2012 End Of Year number of 814.

• There were 54 Arsons YTD 2013; and 39 YTD 2012, well below the 2012 End of Year Number of 64.

As for the Ward 3 Crime Statistics, rapes are down YTD from last year, vehicle thefts are down from 2012, as are other violent crimes. Year-To-Date statistics show in 2013 that total crime in Ward 3 is down 7% from 2012.

What is not included in the *Plain Press* article, or ad, is that YTD 2013, the 2nd District had 4 homicides, down from 11 a year ago (a drop

Reader weighs in on campaign to raise wages for fast food workers

To the editor:

This letter is a response to "Fast Food Forward" campaign that is seeking to increase the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour at restaurants such as McDonalds, Burger King and Wendy's.

I recall when I was in high school that it was time to seek my first job opportunity and so, following in the footsteps of my brother and sisters, I decided to apply at McDonalds. The first time I applied the store manager asked me the proverbial question, "Why should I hire you?" My response: "because I need the money." Wrong answer. The following year I applied to the same place and this time when asked the same question, I answered "because I can get the job done." Result: hired.

I only worked for that particular franchise for one summer because another store, closer to home, was opening and the franchise owners had employed my siblings. With the small amount of experience I had attained at the previous store, I was actually able to take charge of the rookie grill team and pull order out of chaos. This eventually resulted in my promotion to "swing" manager when I transitioned from high school to college {1981}.

A "swing" manager is essentially someone who will manage any shift {often times with little or no notice}. Exploitation of my services was the furthest thing from my mind as the goal was to earn enough money to pay for college. My coworkers were all my age with the exception of the "day ladies" who worked the morning shift. The commonly accepted idea was that this was a temporary stepping-stone to better career opportunities once you graduated from college.

I would certainly agree however that my experience at McDonalds allowed me to utilize some of the talents and abilities I possessed by exercising various skills in particular situations. In other words; it wasn't all just about "flipping hamburgers." One time the owner of the franchise put his hands on my shoulders {while I was seated} and stated "I want this man paid \$4.00 per hour." It never happened and I spent the remainder of my time there earning just a smidgen above what the crew earned.

Today we recognize the dramatic demographic changes that have occurred in the fast-food industry {over the last 30 years} with most positions being filled by adults rather than their teen-age counterparts. Consequently the industry has transformed from being a "temporary stepping stone" to a fulltime career opportunity that still pays very little relative to the profits posted by McDonalds, Burger King and Wendy's {now comically referred to

continued on page 7



PHOTO BY DEBBIE SADLON

Friday, September 6, 2013; Great Lakes Brewery 25th Anniversary Block Party, Market Street: Melanie Simon, of Monroe Ave, wears a Brewery apron and holds a photo of herself when she worked at the micro-brewery from 1988 – 1990.

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FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE (FOP) ENDORSES CARRIE J. KURUTZ For CITY COUNCIL WARD 3

I am deeply grateful to the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), Cleveland, Lodge 8, for their important endorsement of my candidacy for Cleveland City Council for the new Ward 3.

It is an honor to receive the FOP endorsement, and I strongly believe the endorsement will benefit our entire Community. I have worked closely with all areas of law enforcement as a 23-year resident of Ward 3, through the closing of the Jay Hotel, MODA, and acts of crime against our citizens, and will continue to work hard for the safety of our Community.

I am an advocate for transparency and increased funding for more neighborhood police. Each member of City Council receives more than \$400,000 in Community Development Block Grant money. I will use part of that money to prevent acts of crime against our citizens. My opponent NEVER mentions safety as a priority, yet safety is the number one issue according to a recent survey of our Community.

I believe in Safety First and Public Service. Not self-service and hidden decisions that our Community too often finds out about after the fact. It's time for a change. I humbly ask for your vote on November 5.

— Carrie

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SECOND DISTRICT CRIME STATISTICS

continued from page 3

by the Kurutz campaign, which appears to have used Year to Date data from sometime in the middle of the year.

Speaking on behalf of the Kurutz Campaign, former Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar said she had talked to the Commander and agreed the campaign would not use the crime data any more, so

as to avoid any further confusion. Oakar said the Kurutz campaign would continue to discuss safety in the neighborhood, which Oakar said surveys and conversations with residents have pointed to as the number one area of concern by residents.

Oakar said one positive development from the controversy over the crime data is that Commander Sulzer has now placed

the Year to Date crime stats on a website so residents can view them.

Editor's Note: Commander Sulzer placed Second District Year to Date Crime Statistics through the end of August for 2012 and 2013 on the Second District Police Community Relations Committee Facebook Page. On the site Commander Sulzer promises to post new crime statistics on a monthly basis.



PHOTO BY CHUCK HOVEN

Saturday, August 24, 2013; Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO) 40th Birthday Celebration, Zone Recreation Center, W. 65th & Lorain Avenue: Former DSCDO Board President, Joe Tegreene; DSCDO Executive Director, Jeff Ramsey; and Ward 15 Councilman, Matt Zone join with neighborhood residents, and current and former volunteers and other stakeholders in celebrating the 40th anniversary of the signing of the articles of incorporation for DSCDO.

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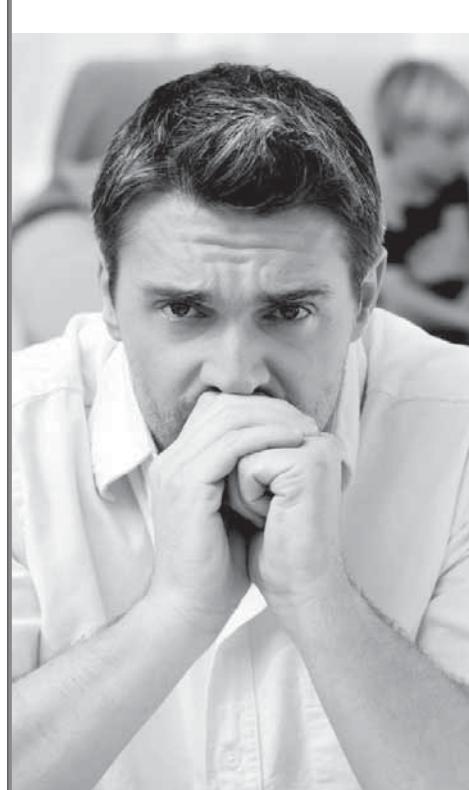


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Cleveland Kids in Need Resource Center offers free school supplies to teachers serving low-income students

Teachers from schools throughout Cuyahoga County that serve low-income students will be able to take advantage of more than \$2 million in free school supplies, books and art materials brought to Cleveland by the Kids in Need Resource Center (CKIN).

The Center, located at 3631 Perkins Avenue allows teachers to make appointments twice a year to "shop" for free supplies for their needy students.

ATTENDANCE

continued from page one

Average Daily Attendance (ADA) at Luis Munoz Marin was 90.51% and the ADA at Walton School was 92.51%. Using the CMDS's Target 11 numbers for students with 11 or more days of excused or unexcused absences, Glenn said 56.7% of Luis Munoz Marin school students missed 11 days or more of school last year and 52.2% of Walton school students missed 11 days or more of school last year. On a third measure, that of chronic tardiness, Glenn said 11.43% of Luis Munoz Marin students were chronically tardy, while 22.25% of Walton students were chronically tardy.

According to Glenn, CCGLR is looking at some of the factors that keep students from coming to school such as lacking a school uniform, transportation issues, and the need for basic services such as food and shelter. She says the campaign will make available to parents fliers with tips to help parents and with district phone numbers that can help access resources to help to address these problems. In conversations with teachers at the target schools, Glenn says that attendance often dips when the cold weather hits in mid November. She said accessing resources such as Coats for Kids, may help to address this problem.

CCGLR has called upon the community to assist with the effort to improve attendance. She hopes community organizations will help with a "Walk Your Child to School Day" planned for early October.

Glenn mentioned a number of community organizations that are collaborating with the Campaign already including Esperanza, Tremont West Development

A recent survey of teachers visiting the Center says access to supplies provided by CKIN has a high impact on not only students' readiness to learn, but also on their motivation, creativity and self-esteem.

Teachers schedule their own appointments by going online at clevelandkidsinneed.org. Appointments can be scheduled for 3:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. on

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, most days that school is in session, and at 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on the 1st Saturday of each month. There is a limit of 20 teachers at each appointment time.

Editor's Note: The Cleveland Kids in Need Resource Center is a nonprofit organization that benefits from the national Kids in Need Foundation.

Corporation, the Boys and Girls Club, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Cleveland.

She notes that Esperanza is providing translation services and helping with activities at the school such as a community outreach picnic at Luis Muniz Marin on September 27th. CCGLR will provide Walton and Marin Schools with banners in English and Spanish to promote school attendance. Glenn says CCGLR has also produced and distributed over 1,000 refrigerator magnets with its logo "In School, On Time, Every Day!"

Glenn says the CMSD is currently reviewing proposals from lead agencies in the community that will hire and supervise site coordinators for each of the investment schools. Glenn hopes that once the site coordinators are in place, they will be able to help convene different community partners in each neighborhood and help focus resources where they are needed and devise a strategy to bring resources to students in need.

A statement by CCGLR says its focus is on "the most important predictor of school success and high school graduation – grade level reading by the end of third grade." The three obstacles to that achievement that CCGLR has chosen to focus on – which are mentioned above, school readiness, summer learning loss and chronic absence -- are factors that interfere with achieving grade level reading by the end of third grade.

CCGLR in its initial focus on attendance is tackling one of those factors. A statement by CCGLR indicates "Research shows that one in ten kindergarten and first grade students misses nearly one month of school each year. Chronic absences in the early years rob

students of the time they need to develop literacy skills. Two-third of U.S. fourth graders are not proficient readers, according to national reading assessment data. This disturbing statistic is made even worse by the fact that more than four out of every five low-income students miss this critical milestone."

A look at the Ohio School Report Cards website shows that at Luis Munoz Marin school last year only 44.8 percent of fourth grade students passed the State of Ohio proficiency test in reading. At Walton school 76.7% of fourth graders passed the 4th Grade Ohio Reading Proficiency Test.

Glenn suspects that a language barrier may be one factor contributing to the low passage rate at Luis Munoz Marin. She says the CMSD is making the school a Dual Language school (English and Spanish) this year. Near-by Buhler Elementary is a citywide dual language school. Last year the Ohio School Report Cards website shows 86.7% of Buhler's fourth graders passing the reading proficiency test last year.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WEST SIDE COMMUNITY HOUSE
Saturday, August 24, 2013; United Against Violence Youth Concert, West Side Community House, 9300 Lorain Avenue: Audience members dance to the music. Five hundred people attended a four-hour concert that featured musical, dance and rap performances by many of the area's talented young artists.

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PHOTO BY DEBBIE SADLON

Saturday, September 7, 2013; Great Lake Erie Boat Float, Edgewater Beach: Helen Kopp and Ray Stewart struggle to reach shore after a grilling race in their craft, the Green Lake Erie Monster. The Great Lake Erie Boat Float helps to raise awareness about plastic pollution in the Great Lakes.

BOAT FLOAT

continued from page one

Engineering; and RTA employee, Dari Solomon.

The award for Most Artistic Style went to the "Green Lake Erie Monster". Helen Kopp and Ray Stewart of the Ohio Wetlands Association constructed the craft using plastic Teat Dip Concentrate containers (used by the dairy industry to sanitize utters) and other plastic materials. Kopp says the use of the word "green" is a reference to keeping the environment clean. She says the monster refers to plastic being a "monstrous problem" in the Great Lakes.

The contest Judges, Cleveland's Chief of Sustainability Jenita McGowan; and Cleveland City Councilmen, Matt Zone and Jay Westbrook; judged the Li'l Sailors

competition to be a tie between Arman Berard, age 8, and Jinan Berard, age 4 1/2. Upon receiving the award, Jinan gave her brother a big hug. The Li'l Sailors each built a small boat of recycled materials. The boats were on display on shore and did not compete with the larger crafts in the race in the lake. Instead, Jinan spent the time making a sand castle with a young friend, Maya Katz, age 5.

Cleveland's Chief of Sustainability Jenita McGowan said, "Everyone who made a boat is a winner." She thanked all those who had taken time out from their lives to build a boat and participate in the Great Lake Erie Boat Float.

Among the other teams participating in the contest were Valerie Sweeney, Patty Terstenyak, Kath Burn and Jacob Hill (age 11) and their craft, Catamaran, made of Kitty Litter buckets, and propelled

I AM LATINO. I AM AMERICAN. I UNDERSTAND.

by Juan Caminero

I wonder what a chief of the Taino tribe would say if he could see his people now. Would he recognize me as one of his own? Would his tribal tongue make sense of my broken Spanish? What if he could follow me around for an entire day? I imagine him standing behind me in class while I place a check next to a box that reads "Other". I picture us walking home from school and the look on his face when he sees that my village is made up of concrete and brick. I like to pretend that at the end of that day he would break the language barrier; that he would put one hand on his chest, one hand on mine, and say, "Boricua".

I am a Latino who was born and raised on the mainland United States. As a Latino in America, there is a certain pride and spirituality that you carry with you. This same pride is what keeps tradition alive. It's the reason my Abuela's house smells like spices from Goya. It's the reason there are festivals in the streets and flags hanging from windows. It lives in the mind of a child who doesn't know what it tastes like to speak



PHOTO COURTESY OF ESPERANZA

Saturday, August 17, 2013, Essay Contest, MetroHealth Medical Center Scott Auditorium: Juan Caminero, the first place winner in the essay contest. Writers of the three top essays will read their compositions at Convención Hispana 2013 on October 19th at St. Ignatius High School.

Spanish but is hungry to know.

We might live in a new land but there's a reason flags from the old one wave here. It's not political or rebellious, but what I like to call a cultural understanding. I can see it

when I pass another Latino in the street and he gives me quick nod. He doesn't say a word but he doesn't have to. It's our way of telling each other, "I understand". America is a land of struggle, victory, and the journey in between. For a young Latino, that journey means knowing where you come from and taking control of where you are going. It means living in a melting pot of cultures and still holding on to the traditions that were passed on by yours. That's what it means to be a Latino in America.

Editor's Note: Juan Caminero is the first place winner in an essay contest "I am Latino. I am American" sponsored by the Hispanic Round Table and Esperanza. Contestants (high school seniors or undergraduate college students) were asked to write a 300-word essay on the topic, "What does it mean to be a Latino in America?" Caminero was awarded the first place prize of \$1,000. The top three finalists in the essay contest will read their essays at the Convención Hispana 2013 on October 19th at St. Ignatius High School.

UNDERPASS

continued from page one

new sewer system, (2) temporarily moving the Norfolk and Southern railroad tracks approximately 30 feet to the South, (3) building a bridge, (4) re-aligning the train tracks and then (5) tunneling under the new construction.

by paddles made from mop sticks and plastic serving platters.

A team representing the Cuyahoga County Board of Health also launched a craft called: All-A-Board of Health. Team members included Hannah McMonagle, April Vince, Suzanne Krippel, Matt Johnson, Meiring Borchards and Toni Waltman.

The event attracted a number of spectators including Michael Buescher, Kari Elsila, Maple Buescher (age 10) and Laurel Buescher (Age 7). They have made the event a family outing for the past four years.

Speaker, Cathi Lehn, program manager for the Cuyahoga River Community Planning Organization, said in addition to the slogan "reduce, reuse, recycle" she would add "re-think" asking consumers to not buy products that contribute to plastic pollution.

Mike Dungan of RES Polyflow offered to process and recycle all the boats participating in the Boat Float. The company manufactures renewable energy systems that convert mixed plastics into fuel.

All those participating in the Great Lake Erie Boat Float were invited to participate in a beach cleanup coordinated by the Cuyahoga County Board of Health and Drink Local/Drink Tap. Erin Huber, Executive Director of Drink Local/Drink Tap, urged those present to sign up for a beach cleanup team. She said materials gathered by the teams would be given to the Alliance for the Great Lakes, which is gathering data for analysis to help make policy for cleaning up the

Hocevar stated that although environmental testing and ground samples revealed the presence of volatile contaminant vapors lingering beneath the ground, there is no threat to the residents nor their homes. He further stated that businesses would not be affected and seismographs measuring vibrations would insure no damage to buildings.

Great Lakes. Huber held up a bucket with over 200 plastic cigar tips that had been collected along the lake shore, noting that cigar tips were a major pollution problem in the lake.

A number of people in attendance at the Great Lakes Boat Float came specifically to help with the beach cleanup. Giulia Clark and Kevin Lockett, 8th Grade students at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, came to help with the beach cleanup. Clark says they were inspired to help with the cleanup by Erin Huber of Drink Local/Drink Tap who came to their school to speak about plastic pollution in the lake. They joined with Plain Press Editor Debbie Sadlon on a cleanup team, picking up a large number of small plastic items from the beach including remnants of plastic utensils, food packaging materials and cigar tips.

In addition to analysis of the materials on the beach to help with developing policy positions to help restore the Great Lakes, the Alliance for the Great Lakes is working on a number of local initiatives. One involves urging people not to feed the birds at the beach. With the cooperation of the Cleveland Metroparks, they have posted signs letting people know it is illegal to feed the birds. Hyle Lowry of the Alliance for the Great Lakes noted that the overpopulation of birds has affected the overall health of the beach environment.

The group also plans to work with students from Rhodes High School to replace invasive plant species in a retention pond at Edgewater Beach with native plants.

According to Hocevar, ODOT officials and other project representatives the vaporous compound waste substances left behind on the Battery Park industrial site consist of semi-volatiles and metals.

It is expected that weather conditions, breezes off Lake Erie and evaporation will assist in dissipating the vapors that do escape. Dust control could be maintained with water, as well as with crews working through the winter months while the ground is frozen.

Assurances were given to those in attendance that any and all safety measures would be practiced and that the people would come first. Along with on-site air testers and sealed soil containers, alternating on-site workers will be provided masks, gear and good ventilation.

It was also stated that the entire construction site will be properly posted as a secured hazardous construction zone completely enclosed by a locked chain link fence and no one without clearance will be admitted. Trucks hauling dirt and debris off the site will be sealed as well as cleaned before departing. Soil leaving the site will be hauled away and disposed of in an approved landfill.

Other issues addressed by Councilman Matt Zone, ODOT and The Great Lakes Construction Company representatives were resident concerns about signage, speeding and heavy truck traffic for the duration of the construction period.

Plans call for the entire project to be finished in the fall of 2015. This includes the rebuilding of West 73rd Street and the new underpass. Phase I, rehabilitation of the pedestrian tunnels at Lake Avenue and West 76th Street, has been completed, and construction now is rapidly moving into the next stage.

In order for work to begin on Phase II of the linkage to Edgewater, Father Caruso Drive between West 69th and 73rd Streets was closed in early August. The section between West 70th and West 73rd will remain closed permanently. Estimated cost of bridging the gap from West 73rd Street to the sandy beaches of Lake Erie is in upwards of \$35 million dollars.

Councilman Zone stated that resident homeowners and other stakeholders would be notified of future meetings as the development progressed.

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COMMUNITY BOARD

continued from page 2

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TRICK OR TREAT ALONG CLARK AVENUE sponsored by The Clark Avenue Merchants Group will be held on Thursday, October 31st from 4-6 p.m. at 3167 Fulton Road. For more information call Rosanna Santos, Hispanic Business Center at 281-4422. **TRICK OR TREAT EN LA AVENIDA CLARK**, Jueves, 21 de Octubre, 4- 6 p.m., 3167 Fulton Road.

HEALTH CARE

ARTHRITIS EXPO. Learn what's new in total hip replacement and emerging strategies for shoulder and knee replacement at the free Cuyahoga County Arthritis Expo, which will be held Tuesday, October 15, 2013 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at LaCentre, 25777 Detroit Road, Westlake, Ohio 44145. Other topics include "Understanding Rheumatoid Arthritis and Osteoarthritis," "The Benefits of Acupuncture for Arthritis," and exercise for arthritis. Pre-registration by October 8 is required. Call the Arthritis Foundation at 216-831-7000 ext. 6420 or 800-245-2275, ext. 6420 or go online at <http://www.FallCuyahogaExpo.kintera.org/>

FLU AND YOU COMMUNITY FLU CLINIC. October 1, 2013. 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Cudell Recreation Center, 1910 West Blvd., Cleveland. RSVP: 216-664-6152 (please leave a message with number of attendees). Flu vaccines are a covered Medicare Part B benefit, with no copay. Please bring your Medicare, ID card or insurance card to the event to receive your flu vaccination. Sponsored by the City of Cleveland Departments of Aging and Public Health and the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging.

OHIO PATIENTS RIGHTS is sponsoring a discussion about "Cleveland law needed to stop hospitals from sometimes banning patients for complaints" discussion October 14, Monday 5:00 p.m. Room 218, downtown Cleveland Public Library, 325 Superior Avenue. For details call 216-221-2724.

LEGAL ADVICE

FREE LEGAL ADVICE CLINICS sponsored by Cleveland Legal Aid. A free first come, first served clinic for low-income individuals with civil legal issues. Please bring all relevant paperwork with you. Cleveland Public Library, Lorain Branch. October 19, 2013. 9:30 am – 11:30 am. 8216 Lorain Ave. Phone: 216/623-7011. El Barrio. October 22, 2013. 5:30 pm- 7:00 pm. 5209 Detroit Ave. Phone: 216/961-2995. Staffed by volunteer attorneys from the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts.

NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING **MCDONALD'S** request for a waiver for a McDonalds double drive thru at Fulton and Lorain is the topic for a planning committee hearing on Friday, Oct. 4th, 9 AM at City Hall. Car pooling is available. Please contact Debbie Webb at webbdeb123@yahoo.com or 216-961-4816 for more information.

SAFETY

SECOND DISTRICT OKTOBER SAFETY FEST. Residents are invited to meet their safety forces, talk

about safety issues, and gain valuable information for an opportunity for a safer neighborhood! Thursday, October 3rd from 6pm-8pm at the West Side Market parking lot. For more information, contact ward3service@gmail.com.

SMALL BUSINESS

SEMINAR ON GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES: Small business owners can discover how they can sell their product or service to the federal government by attending a **free** U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) seminar on **Friday, October 11, 2013**. The seminar will be held at SBA's Cleveland District Office, Suite 211, 1350 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, from **10:00 am to 12:00 noon**. Please register for this seminar online at <http://events.sba.gov/eventmanagement/EventListing.aspx?state=OH>. Seating is limited; please register as soon as possible.

VOLUNTEERS

CLEANUP DAY: Clark Avenue Merchants – Be a part of our community cleanup day on Clark Avenue from Fulton to W. 25th Street on Saturday, October 26 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. We are in need of materials such as brooms, garbage bags, shovels, rakes, refreshments, and many helping hands. Your donations are tax deductible. Come and Volunteer. Volunteers will meet at the Hispanic Business Center, 2511 Clark Avenue. For more information on how to get involved contact Rosanna Santos, Hispanic Business Center at 216-281-4422 or info@hbcenter.org.

FAST FOOD

continued from page 3

as the new "Big Three".

One could argue that there is very little opportunity in our economy for someone with a high school diploma (or perhaps no diploma at all). It could be further argued that economic opportunity has been so slimmed down that these types of retail jobs are the only ones available and it will (in all likelihood) be that way for a long time to come. In the meantime people employed by these companies still qualify for public assistance because of the low pay and lack of medical benefits.

LETTER

We also read daily of the failure to teach people to read and write upon graduating college not to mention high school. If this whole situation doesn't smack of a deliberate and carefully planned booby-trap then I don't know what does. Accordingly I am in favor of increasing the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour at restaurants such as McDonalds, Burger King and Wendy's as well as the provision of medical benefits. There is no evidence that doing so will cripple these major chains in any form whatsoever. It may reduce the amount of money flowing into the top of these companies but it is doubtful that it would alter their lifestyles.

Of course there are those who will argue that the price of the food served will increase and result in less business and therefore less employment. But this is the accepted thinking of a outdated paradigm. Even Henry Ford was wise enough to pay his workers more so they could afford to buy his cars although (in this case) a diet consisting primarily of fast food has been proven to be unhealthy. No, the major chains can "afford" to increase the pay of their employees, without having to increase the price of their food. So let this be written so let this be done.

Joe Bialek, Cleveland, OH



PHOTO BY JOE NARKIN

Sunday, September 15, 2013; The EcoVillage Rain Garden Project, W. 58th & Pear Avenue: Community volunteers begin the work of installing a rain garden in EcoVillage that is designed to divert rainwater from the sewer system. The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District sponsored the project. Participants: (L to R): Julie Lindstrom, Stephen Schnell, John Igrec, Angela Compton, Dolores Warson, Drew Ullman, Jorge Torres, Brad Steiner, and Anna Jurs.

Primary Election final results for Ward 3 and Ward 14

Non Partisan Primary Elections were held on September 10, 2013 for Cleveland Council Wards with 3 or more candidates.

The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections reported election results for two wards in the *Plain Press* service area where primaries were

held. The top two vote getters will compete in the General Election in November.

In Ward 3, Joe Cimperman received 649 votes; Carrie J. Kurutz received 246 votes; and Jeff Mixon received 108 votes. Cimperman and Kurutz will advance to the General

Election.

In Ward 14, Brian Cummins received 326 votes; Brian Kazy received 277 votes; Janet Garcia received 269 votes; and Nelson Cintron, Jr. received 201 votes. Cummins and Kazy will advance to the General Election.

Care Alliance reopens renovated clinic at Riverview Tower

On September 12, Care Alliance reopened its newly renovated Riverview Tower Clinic. The clinic, located on the 2nd Floor at Riverview Tower, 1795 W. 25th Street, will serve homeless, public housing residents in need of primary medical care, dental care and supportive services.

United States Government capital grants, received in 2012, helped to fund the renovation. More information about Care Alliance can be found at www.carealliance.org.

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