

**PHOTO BY CHUCK HOVEN**  
Saturday, July 18, 2015; Prayer Garden Groundbreaking and Blessing, St. Wendelin Parish, 2281 Columbus Road: St. Wendelin Pastor Rev. Robert J. Kropac says the new prayer garden, in front of the entrance to the rectory, is part of an effort to make the parish buildings more accessible for the parish as well as neighborhood groups like the Duck Island Block Club.

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# Plain Press

Cleveland's Near Westside Newspaper

## Boys and Girls Club at Walton School offers an answer to students' requests for their school

by Chuck Hoven

The Boys and Girls Club at Walton School, 3409 Walton, seems to offer the perfect answer to requests for improvements at the school made by Walton students in a meeting at

the school just over two years ago.

At the end of the 2012- 2013 school year, Walton K-8 School was one of 13 schools chosen by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District as Investment

Schools because of poor academic performance. To determine what changes members of the school community would like to see the next school year, a meeting was held at the school in May of 2013. As part of that meeting, about 25 students in the 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Walton School were asked what changes they would like to see at their school. A July 2013 *Plain Press* article, titled *Students have a wealth of ideas for Walton School*, describes some of the many suggestions Walton students offered for their school. The article notes students' preference for a longer school day rather than coming to school on Saturday or earlier in the morning. The article notes, "students had many ideas for additional classroom study and offered suggestions for over fifty extracurricular activities and clubs."

The next school year (2013-2014), the Boys and Girls Club started a pilot program at Walton School offering just what the students suggested – additional after school academic programs and extracurricular activities.

A tour of the Walton School Boys and Girls Club offered by Club Director Courtney Mickens continued on page 8



**PHOTO BY DEBBIE SADLON**

Tuesday, July 21, 2015; Boys and Girls Club Walton School Site, 3409 Walton Ave: Jineliz Claudio demonstrates a new guitar skill to her guitar teacher, Mike McNamara, and to her sister, jomaliz Soto, who is also taking lessons.



**PHOTO BY DEBBIE SADLON**

Tuesday, July 21, 2015; Boys and Girls Club Walton School Site, 3409 Walton Ave: Dortha Montgomery raises her hand, eager to answer a question from Instructor Shirlann Lawson about the meaning of a sentence.

## Meeting reveals City of Cleveland's plans for parking in the West Side Market District

by Chuck Hoven

Ohio City Incorporated held a Community Meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup> to address changes to the West Side Market's and Market District's parking. The meeting was the third attempt to hold a meeting on the topic; two previously scheduled meetings, widely publicized in the *Plain Dealer* and other media, had been cancelled. The July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting was publicized largely through Ohio City's email network and word of mouth. While a good number of people attended, the crowd did not reflect the broad regional nature of the issue at hand.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

At the meeting, held at Franklin Circle Church, a presentation from City of Cleveland Director of Capital Projects Matt Spronz revealed that most of the decisions about the future of the West Side Market parking lot had already been made. Spronz said design work on the project would be finished by mid August and the project would be placed out for bidding. He expected

final bids to be in by September or October. Plans call for the project to be worked on in three phases and be completed by January of 2017.

Spronz described a project that calls for the current West Side Market Parking Lot, part of W. 24<sup>th</sup> Street and the Hicks Lot just west of W. 24<sup>th</sup>, to be combined into one large parking area. Several small parcels, now owned by Cuyahoga County would be added to the parking area as well. In total, 121 spaces would be added to the current 498 parking spaces in the two parking lots to create a new total of 619 parking spaces in the new lot. The contract calls for building a parking gate where parking patrons would receive a ticket when they entered and pay when they leave.

There will be a number of changes in landscaping including the planting of 140 additional trees, creation of a bio swale to capture rainwater and pervious pavers will be used to cut down on the flow of storm water. Spronz noted that the United States

continued on page 3

## West Side Boys and Girls Club works to keep students on track to graduate from high school

by Chuck Hoven

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland held a graduation party for seniors who graduated from high school this past year. The West Side Boys and Girls Club, located on Trowbridge

in the Clark Fulton neighborhood, participated in the graduation party. According to Gaelen Bell, Vice President for Social Marketing and Public Relations for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, twenty-seven out of thirty high school

seniors that were members of the West Side Boys and Girls Club graduated this year for a 90% graduation rate.

One of the seniors, from the

continued on page 7



**PHOTO BY CORY MARKOWITZ**

Near West Theatre, 6702 Detroit Avenue: Cast members of Near West Theatre's production of *HAIR: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical* rehearse the opening scene of the play to the music of "Age of Aquarius." The musical, which runs until August 9<sup>th</sup>, closes Near West Theatres' first season in its new performance space.



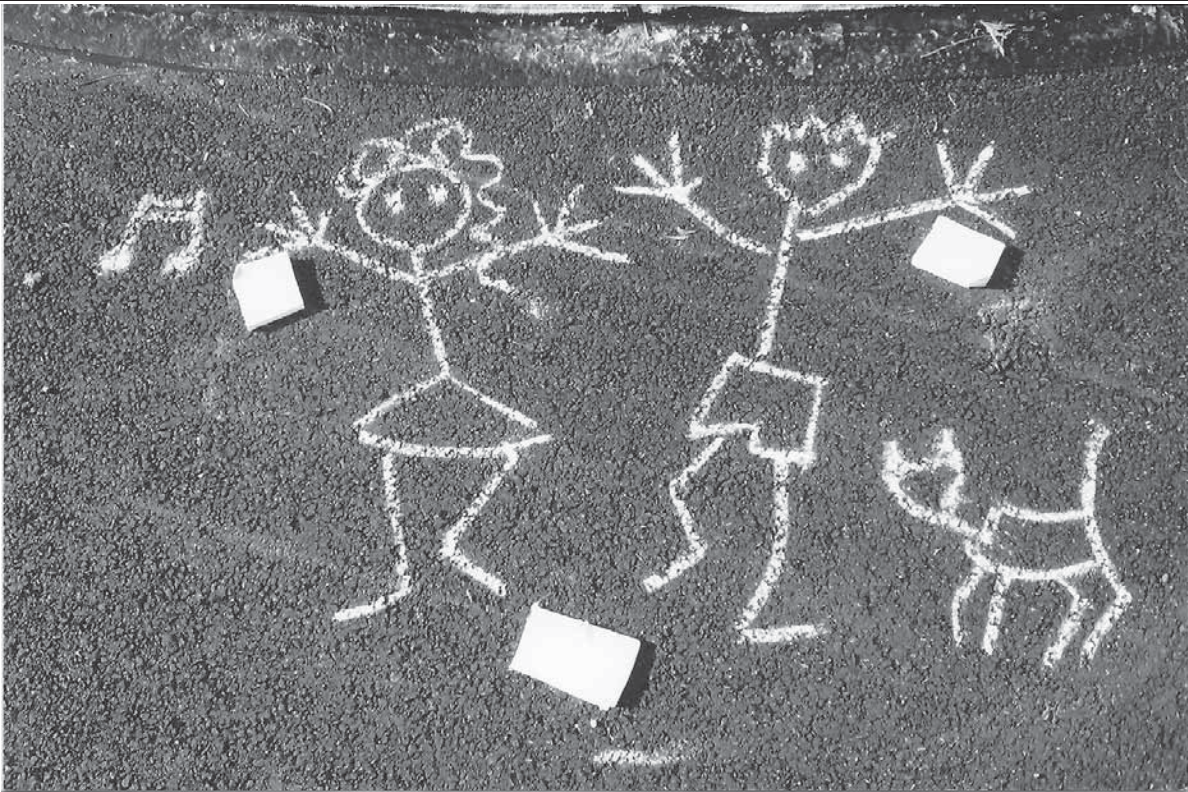


PHOTO BY BRIAN TAYLOR

October 2014, Sidewalk art using drywall as sidewalk chalk, corner of Belden & Triskett: Brian Taylor is a local painter who has used pieces of drywall as sidewalk chalk for a few decades and wants to share this idea.



The Plain Press Community Board is a listing of a variety of free activities and resources for neighborhoods served by the Plain Press. It is sponsored by Organize! Ohio through donations from readers and supporters.

**ANNIVERSARY**

**20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:** Bigelow Garden Site, Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> 2015, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., 3164 W. 82<sup>nd</sup> Street. Refreshments served. For more information call Jan Lascko at 216-225-9348.

**ARTS**

**AUDITIONS FOR AGES 7 AND UP FOR NEAR WEST THEATRE'S** production of Scrooge are on August 18, 19 & 20 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 1349 W. 78<sup>th</sup>. Ages 7-1 from 6- 7 p.m.; Ages 13 & up from 7-10 p.m. Arrive 15 minutes early to register. All roles open, no experience necessary. For more information

call Near West Theatre's Office at 216-961-9750.

**SPACES: Risa Puno: Exhaust** is a sensory installation that harnesses the evocative power of scent to address the ubiquitous topic of energy politics. Risa Puno is a Brooklyn-based interactive sculpture and installation artist. Opening reception: Friday, August 21 from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM. On view at SPACES: August 21 – October 16. For more information, email [contact@SPACESgallery.org](mailto:contact@SPACESgallery.org)

**BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS**  
**ESPERANZA INC. BACK-TO-SCHOOL CELEBRATION** is scheduled for August

8 from 10 AM to 2 PM at the US Bank Parking Lot at 3104 West 25. Both parents and children must be present to receive supplies. For more up-to-date information, visit the SCFBC Community Calendar at <http://tinyurl.com/lb29rnt>. **FAMILY MINISTRY CENTER BACK-TO-SCHOOL EVENT** will be on August 8 from 12 NOON to 4 PM at the Family Ministry Center at 3389 Fulton Rd. For more up-to-date information, visit the SCFBC Community Calendar at <http://tinyurl.com/lb29rnt>.

**W. 58<sup>TH</sup> STREET CHURCH OF GOD BACK-TO-SCHOOL GIVE AWAY** will be held on August 8 at 10 AM at 3150 West 58<sup>th</sup> St. Both parents and children must be present to receive supplies. For more up-to-date information, visit the SCFBC Community Calendar at <http://tinyurl.com/lb29rnt>.

**YOUTH SUMMIT AND CLEVELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR** is scheduled for August 1 at Public Auditorium at 500 Lakeside in Downtown Cleveland. Registration is from 8 AM to 9 AM, and the event runs from 9 AM to 1 PM. FREE parking at Willard Garage. Free return RTA tickets for those who arrive by bus only; arrival ticket must be presented (return tickets available while supplies last). Free school supplies available to parents and students who attend at least two workshops or events (while supplies last). Breakfast and lunches provided. Call 216/420-8087 or 216/838-FACE (3223).

**CLEVELAND PUBLIC THEATRE CPT'S STUDENT THEATRE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM (STEP)** will present free teen family shows: on August 4 at 7 PM at Herman Park at W 58<sup>th</sup> and Herman (rain location at Cleveland Public Theatre at 6415 Detroit Ave.), August 6 at 7 PM at Abbey Park at Abbey Ave. and W 19<sup>th</sup> (rain location at St. Wendelin Parish at 2281 Columbus Rd.), August 7 at 7 PM at Lincoln Park at W 14 and Starkweather Ave (rain location at Pilgrim Church at 2592 W 14<sup>th</sup>), August 11 at 1 PM at West Park-Fairview Family YMCA at 15501 Lorain Rd (rain location at YMCA Gym), August 12 at 7 PM at Denison Elementary School at 3799 W 33 and Denison Ave. (rain location at Gym), on August 13 at 12 NOON at Clark Recreation Center at 5706 Clark Ave. and W 58 (rain location at Gym), and on August 14 at 5 PM at St. John's Church at 2600 Church Ave. and W 26

## MetroHealth to give local students inside look at hospital careers

**CMSD NEWS BUREAU** The MetroHealth System will give 50 to 75 ninth-graders at two high schools an inside look at a large Cleveland hospital and career opportunities in health care.

The MetroHealth Scholars series, open to incoming ninth- graders at Lincoln-West and James Ford Rhodes high schools, will run from September through May. The students will spend one day each month at MetroHealth's main campus off West 25th Street.

The ninth-graders will examine topics that include how MetroHealth benefits the city and county, how the health system provides access to care, and how it addresses issues that affect health, such as poverty, access to care and the environment. They also will explore internship and career opportunities in a wide range of clinical and non-clinical areas ranging from the Emergency Department to the business office to food service.

"Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) is committed to ensuring college and career readiness for all students, and the MetroHealth Scholars program supports that goal in many

ways," District Chief Executive Officer Eric Gordon said. "This kind of real-life exploration of occupations that touch numerous areas of interest will enable our students, early on, to visualize a path to their future."

MetroHealth Scholars expands an already strong partnership with CMSD. That relationship includes a two-year mentoring and career exploration program for Lincoln-West students, beginning in their junior years, and health services in a number of schools that could grow as high as 22.

"Our children represent our future, and we are honored to play an ever-expanding role in their care and economic future," said Dr. Akram Boutros, MetroHealth's president and chief executive officer. "It is incumbent on all large businesses to develop paths that can help everyone succeed."

Students and families can learn more about the MetroHealth Scholars program during a meeting planned for 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 5 at MetroHealth's Old Brooklyn Health Center, 4229 Pearl Road.

(rain location at the Church). For more information and updates, visit [www.cptonline.org](http://www.cptonline.org).

**CUDELL RECREATION CENTER HOURS EXTENDED**

**Division of Recreation** has extended the hours of Cudell Recreation Center at 1910 West Blvd. to 11 pm on weekdays and on Saturdays. Security will be on duty until closing. Call the Division of Recreation at 216/664-2570 for further information.

**FOOD GRANTS**

**LOCAL FOOD/LOCAL PLACES GRANTS** helps communities create walkable, healthy, economically vibrant neighborhoods through the development of local food systems. Technical assistance grants are due on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Food Policy Coalition at [<CCCFoodPolicyCoalition@gmail.com>](mailto:CCCFoodPolicyCoalition@gmail.com)

**FREE LUNCHES**

**BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF CLEVELAND-WESTSIDE** will serve lunches through August 17 at 1 PM at 3340 Trowbridge Ave.

**CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY-FULTON BRANCH** will offer lunches through August 6 from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM at 3545 Fulton Rd.

**CITY OF CLEVELAND RECREATION CENTERS** serve lunch to youth ages 1-18 on a first come, first served basis. Meals must be consumed in the lunchroom. Through August 14 from 12 NOON to 1 PM at 3 locations: Clark Recreation Center (5706 Clark Ave.), Michael J. Zone Recreation Center (6301 Lorain Ave.) and Estabrook Recreation Center (4235 Fulton Rd.)

**FREE PRODUCE**

**PRODUCE GIVE AWAY** will be held on Friday, August 28 from 9 AM to 2 PM at the Salvation Army Cleveland West Park at 12645 Lorain Ave. Bring photo ID, proof of residency, proof of household members and your own bag. For more information, call 216/252-3593.

**HOMETODAY**

**FINANCIAL LITERACY SEMINARS SCHEDULED:** HomeToday is a comprehensive program that combines group educational sessions and personal counseling to teach the fundamental skills of good financial management and successful home ownership. As you complete each step in the HomeToday process, you will be one step closer to successful home ownership. There are two HomeToday educational sessions

offered in 2-four hour sessions. Individual counseling follows the completion of sessions. Complete the seminar requirements and Third Federal will give you \$2000 towards your down payment. Some restrictions apply. Contact Third Federal at 216/441-7345 to reserve your seat. Or contact Jan at 216/228-4383. Scheduled on Saturdays, August 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 am - 2:30 pm at the Eastman Library, 11602 Lorain Ave. Food provided.

**LAKEFRONT WEST**

**CLEVELAND LAKEFRONT WEST PROJECT**, which connects west side neighborhoods with the lakefront, has begun its \$41.5-million third phase. The temporary frustration of lane and ramp closures will yield a new boulevard that increases access to Lake Erie and improves green space, biking and pedestrian facilities. For more information including traffic impacts, visit [www.lakefrontwest.transportation.ohio.gov](http://www.lakefrontwest.transportation.ohio.gov), where you can sign up to receive e-mail updates.

**LINCOLN HIGH REUNION**

**LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL** (Cleveland) classes of June 1949 and January 1950 will celebrate their **66<sup>th</sup> CLASS REUNION** from 4- 10 PM on August 1st, 2015 at Sokolowski's University Inn (Tremont Area). For further info contact Mike Guzi (216) 524-4721) or email [chrisguzi@wowway.com](mailto:chrisguzi@wowway.com).

**PARTY IN THE PARK**

**FREE FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES** at Denison Elementary at 3799 West 33<sup>rd</sup> St on August 12<sup>th</sup> from 6 PM to 8:30 PM. Sponsored by Stockyard, Clark-Fulton, and Brooklyn Centre Community Development Office.

**RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS**

**IF YOU HAVE RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS** and want to make healthy changes in 2015, you can participate in a new research study that will teach you how

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<p><b>For tickets and show information, call 216-961-6391 or visit us at <a href="http://www.nearwesttheatre.org">www.nearwesttheatre.org</a></b></p>	

## Plain Press

**Phone: (216) 621-3060**

**2012 W. 25th STE 500**

**Cleveland, OH 44113**

**e-mail: [plainpress@gmail.com](mailto:plainpress@gmail.com)**

**Advertising e-mail:**

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**Editor:** Margie Bray Hoven;

**Advertising Sales:** Tom Sheehan;

**Graphic Artist:** David Myers;

**Distribution:** Ted Lobaugh &

Ahmed Morad

**Mailing:** Teresa Calvo;

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WEST SIDE MARKET PARKING

continued from page one

Environmental Protection Agency and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer Board contributed funds for these environmental improvements.

Spronz said the part of W. 24<sup>th</sup> that remains would be moved to better line up with the landscaping. Another feature of the parking area would be a bike lane that travels through the parking lot to Bridge Avenue. The parking plans also call for 100 bicycle racks to accommodate bicycle parking.

Plans also called for dumpsters to be moved to a confined space in the northeast corner of the parking area. This plan was strongly objected to by members of St. Emeric Parish – located to the rear of the parking area. They objected to the potential odor so close to their front door, and possibility of attracting rodents.

Members St. Emeric Parish also asked about their access to the parking lot, as required by the deed restrictions placed on the portion of the lot the church sold to the City of Cleveland in 1965 for use as West Side Market parking. St. Emeric Parishioners were assured the deed restrictions would be honored and that they would have their own entrance and egress to the parking area for their church services and events.

In answer to a question as to why the changes were being made at the West Side Market parking lot, Ward 3 Councilman Joe Cimperman said there was a constant crisis of not enough parking in the area. He said people that were not going to the West Side Market were parking in the lot. Cimperman said he had observed people parking in the lot and using it as a park-and-ride to go across the street to the rapid station.

Cimperman said to discourage this type of behavior, there would be a charge for parking in the lot. However, he said that there would be some free time. He said discussions on the amount of free time allowed before parkers would be charged talked about 30 minutes, 60 minutes, 90 minutes and two hours of free time. Cimperman said Mayor Frank Jackson had not yet made a decision as to how much free time to allow before charging.

Cimperman indicated that proceeds from the parking lot would go toward paying off the \$3 million the project would cost and also suggested that revenue from parking could be used to add lighting and security for those using the parking lot.

Councilman Cimperman then outlined some other initiatives to help control parking in the area. He mentioned several block club areas north of Lorain Avenue where the city is studying the possibility

of creating pedestrian permit only parking areas.

Cimperman also mentioned a proposal that he would offer to the Frank Jackson Administration, to permanently close Gehring to make 70 parking spaces for West Side Market merchants and employees. Cimperman noted that employees parking there would free up a number of spaces in the lot behind the West Side Market. He said that, on an average Saturday, each space turns over seven times – so it is important to merchants to free up those spaces.

Another effort Cimperman mentioned he would pursue would be to talk with new St. Ignatius High School Principal about the possibility of using St. Ignatius High Schools parking lots on the weekends.

A new program, offered by RTA to reduce the price of RTA monthly passes (now \$85 a month) to \$45 per month for employees of participating businesses in the West Side Market Area, was also introduced. Cimperman said RTA has offered to match a \$20 contribution per RTA pass by area businesses to help provide the discounted passes to employees of Market District businesses.

When asked to consider free parking for West Side Market shoppers during market hours, having merchants stamp tickets of shoppers, Cimperman said he did not want to pit the new businesses against the old. He stressed the importance of the new large restaurant bars as employment centers, noting one establishment that had over two hundred employees and another two establishments that each employed 150 people.

West Side Market Merchant Larry Schade of Kaufman Poultry stated that of the four different time periods mentioned for the amount of free time offered at the parking lot, 30 minutes and 60 minutes are not good for us; 90 minutes or two hours would be our preference, he said. Cimperman said the amount of free parking to be offered is still on the table, and he promised that, “West Side Market Merchants will have a place at that table.”



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PHOTO BY CHUCK HOVEN

Saturday, July 18, 2015; Vietnam War Commemorative Partner Ceremony, VFW 2850 Meeting Hall, 3296 W. 61<sup>st</sup> Street: VFW Post 2850 Commander Ray Diaz accepts a copy of a City Council Resolution from Ward 14 Councilman Brian Cummins. The ceremony honored those that served in Vietnam -- the living and the fallen -- fifty years after the beginning of the United State's involvement in the conflict.

Reader calls for a campaign to save West Side Market parking

**To the editor:**

This letter is in response to the article, “West Side Market threatened as customers from other businesses take over its traditional parking area”, written by Chuck Hoven.

**Letter**

Per the article: “In August of last year, the city of Cleveland failed to renew the West Side Market Tenant Association lease for the parking lot.”

Well, in the words of SNL’s Church Lady: “now isn’t that special.” Hmm, let’s see; what is more important, the unfettered access to a long-term grocery store, or the impingement upon that store by speakeasies and massage parlors? It appears to be a matter of priorities to which the West Side market vendors and the citizens of Cleveland get the shaft in favor of the frivolous activities offered by the aforementioned types of businesses.

Accordingly, the West Side Market Tenant Association needs

to coordinate the taking back of their lease in a two-pronged attack. First is by means of the courts whereby a lawsuit should be filed to review all the facts as to why the lease was not renewed. The second is the use of petition to garner the support of the surrounding residents and business owners in order to force this issue onto the ballot thus allowing the will of the people to decide how parking

will be divied up to benefit the West Side Market.

We need to get back to prioritizing what is truly important for the city of Cleveland residents and business owners, rather than just caving in to what amounts to nothing more than an extension of the entertainment industry.

Let the campaign begin!

*Joe Bialek, Cleveland, OH*



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PHOTO BY CHUCK HOVEN

Thursday, June 25, 2015; Templin-Bradley Co. Lofts ribbon cutting, dedication ceremony, and pubic art unveiling 5700 Detroit Avenue: Austin Poyer of Ohio History Connection unveils the Ohio Historical Marker which describes the history of the Templin-Bradley Company Penny Packet Seeds which it supplied to school gardening programs. The program began as a partnership with the Cleveland Public School's Horticultural Program and spread to student gardening groups in cities throughout the nation.

### Dream Neighborhood plans moving forward by Tony Bango

The Dream Neighborhood is a project spearheaded by Councilman Joe Cimperman in collaboration with Councilmen Matt Zone, Brian Cummins, and the Stockyard, Clark-Fulton & Brooklyn Centre Community Development Office. This project is geared towards providing safe and affordable housing, social support, and economic opportunities for new refugees entering the City of Cleveland. The Dream Neighborhood will be centered within 1/2 mile of the Thomas Jefferson Newcomers Academy (3145 W. 46<sup>th</sup> Street) because it already serves a large immigrant and refugee population, making it the perfect center for a diverse community that is new to Cleveland and the United States.

Within this area, there are 145 vacant and abandoned residential properties. This project will aim to achieve 57 demolitions through our partnership with the City of Cleveland.

In addition to this, we hope to rehabilitate a minimum 20 vacant properties to be used as housing opportunities for incoming refugees. Refugees will be provided opportunities for gardening and support services through a community center. Refugee resettlement

organizations will be invited and encouraged to participate with the program to ensure that wrap-around services are provided for the refugees through the community center.

As they transition into their new life in the U.S., refugees will also need employment opportunities. Local employers will be connected with refugees to ensure there are opportunities to develop skills for finding gainful employment. Vacant commercial space along Clark and Storer will also be targeted as spaces for start-up businesses for local residents and refugees alike.

In addition to this, this is also an opportunity to leverage these services and opportunities to support the community. Ultimately, this will become a community which welcomes and supports diverse populations adjusting to life in Cleveland. Both incoming refugees and existing residents will benefit from reducing the amount of vacant structures, creating economic opportunities, and improving the overall quality of life."

*Editor's Note: Tony Bango is the housing director for the Stockyard, Clark Fulton, Brooklyn Centre Community Development Office.*

## Adaptive reuse of Templin-Bradley building provides 30 units of mixed income housed to Detroit Shoreway neighborhood

At a June 25<sup>th</sup> Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held in a tent outside the Templin-Bradley Building at 5700 Detroit Avenue, Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO) Executive Director Jeff Ramsey announced the successful completion of an eight million dollar effort to convert the former corporate headquarters into "30-units of mixed-income rental housing geared toward providing creative living space for artists and families."

Ramsey said that half the units in the 45,000 square foot building will be affordable housing and half will be market rate. He noted four of the units are two story live-work spaces ranging in size from 1500 to 2000 square feet. Ramsey noted Cleveland artist Hector Vega would be renting one of the live-work units. The building also includes an indoor parking garage for use of tenants.

Ramsey thanked a staff member from Marous Construction for doing the historical research necessary to place the Templem-Bradley building on the National Register of Historic Places. Ramsey said the building was notable, not because of its architecture, but because of history

of the company it housed. He noted that the Templem-Bradley Company was once the largest distributor of seeds, plants and bulbs in the country. The company provided seeds to the Cleveland Public Schools' horticulture program and was instrumental in helping families plant Victory Gardens during World War II.

Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization Board of Trustees Chairman Joe Tegreene said the project fit with the mission of DSCDO of creating an open and welcoming neighborhood. He said despite the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood being one of the hottest areas for real estate sales in Northeast Ohio, DSCDO would continue its mission to be a mixed income neighborhood and not allow the area to gentrify.

City of Cleveland Assistant Director of the Department of Community Development Mike Cosgrove praised those involved in the project for "the tremendous work you have done." He noted the adaptive reuse of the building; the historic preservation and creation of mixed income housing reflected the values of the City of Cleveland

as well.

In addition to the ribbon cutting for the Templin-Bradley Co. Lofts building, the event included the unveiling of a historic marker and dedicated a public art project installed on the front lawn of the building.

Austin Poyer of the Ohio History Connection unveiled the historic marker which notes the involvement of the Templin-Bradley Company in working with the Cleveland Public School's horticultural program to provide the program with seeds, and how the Penny Seed Packets it developed with the Cleveland Public Schools were used to help develop student gardening groups throughout the nation.

Sarah Siebert, Project Manager of LAND Studio, described the community involvement in selecting Steve O'Hearn's *Garden Mirrors* as the public art piece for the site. The piece, which includes a garden surrounded by tiny plastic windmills and a large reflecting pole topped with a kinetic whirligig, honors the test garden that the Templin-Bradley Company once displayed in its front

continued on page 5



PHOTO BY CHUCK HOVEN

Thursday, June 25, 2015; Templin-Bradley Co. Lofts ribbon cutting, dedication ceremony, and pubic art unveiling 5700 Detroit Avenue: *Garden Mirrors*, a public art piece by artist Steve O' Hearn, is installed on the front lawn. The artist planned the piece to capture "the affection Cleveland residents and visitors once had for the test garden showcased on the front lawn of the Templin-Bradley building." The Templin Bradley Company, once the country's largest distributor of seeds, bulbs and plants, used its front lawn as a test garden.

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TEMPLIN-BRADLEY

continued from page 4

lawn to the delight of many visitors. Greg Baron, Director of Real Estate Development for the DSCDO, thanked the funders and guests. The Templin-Bradley Building is owned and developed by Detroit-Shoreway Community Development Organization. Funding for the adaptive reuse of the building

was provided by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency, Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing, Ohio Development Services Agency, Huntington National Bank, City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, the National Endowment for the Arts, Vintage Development and Marous Brothers Construction. Leasing is now open, contact Coral Management at 216-635-0130 for more information.



PHOTO BY CHUCK HOVEN

Thursday, June 25, 2015; Templin-Bradley Co. Lofts ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony, 5700 Detroit Avenue: The Templin-Bradley Building, once headquarters for the nation's largest distributor of seeds, plants and bulbs, will now serve as a 30 unit mixed income rental housing providing creative living space to artists and families.

Demolition of old Watterson Lake goes forward  
REMAINDER OF BUILDING OPEN FOR CLASSES THIS YEAR

CMSD NEWS BUREAU: The city of Cleveland is set to demolish the older, unoccupied section of Watterson-Lake School, but the work will be finished and the remainder of the building will be open when classes resume Aug. 17. A VIP tour of Watterson-Lake helped make the case for Issue 4, a

construction bond issue that voters approved last November. Using state and local funds, CMSD will build 20 to 22 schools and remodel 20 to 23. The first phase of the demolition consists of salvaging terra-cotta stone from the façade so it can be used in other building projects. After



PHOTO BY CHUCK HOVEN

Thursday, June 25, 2015; Templin-Bradley Co. Lofts ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony, 5700 Detroit Avenue: (L-R) Greg Baron, Director of Real Estate Development Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO); Albert (Chip) Marous, President, Marous Brothers Construction; Guy Ford, Director of Legislative Affairs, Ohio Housing Finance Agency; Jeff Ramsey, Executive Director Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO); Brian Langmeyer, Vice President Development, Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing; Michael Cosgrove, Assistant Director Community Development City of Cleveland; and Joe Tegreene, Chairman DSCDO Board of Trustees.

the section is down, workers will remove the debris and plant grass. The rest of Watterson-Lake, located at 1422 W. 74th St., will remain in operation. CMSD recently installed a playground for preschool classes that will be added this year. Students in kindergarten through fifth grade at Waverly School will occupy surplus space at Watterson-Lake during construction of their new building. Waverly's sixth through eighth grades will move to the Garrett Morgan School of Science, 4016 Woodbine Ave. The rest of Watterson-Lake will eventually be demolished and students from Watterson-Lake and Waverly will be consolidated in a single new building at the Waverly site.

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PHOTO BY DEBBIE SADLON  
Friday, June, 26, 2015; Max Hayes High School, 4600 Detroit Avenue: Max Hayes’ new principal, Kelly Wittman, stands in front of the dedication plaque for Max Hayes High School dedicated on October 29, 1957. Wittman hopes the plaque will be moved to the new Max Hayes at W. 65<sup>th</sup> and Walworth in time for the August 17<sup>th</sup> opening of the new school year.

## EcoVillage Gateway way station brightens lot near W. 65<sup>th</sup> Rapid Station

A two-year effort to transform a vacant lot into an attractive and environmentally friendly EcoVillage Gateway way station at 6009 Madison near the W. 65<sup>th</sup> Rapid Station, has reached it’s culmination. Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization (DSCDO) announced that it held a ribbon cutting on July 15<sup>th</sup>, attended by representatives of partners that worked with neighborhood residents on the project including: DSCDO, the City of Cleveland Community Development Department, Neighborhood Progress, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, and Councilman Matt Zone.

The new EcoVillage way station is located just east of the Father Begin (pedestrian) Bridge over the rail tracks.

“This is such an exciting project for the neighborhood,” says DSCDO Project Director, Nicholas Wikar. “With the help of our amazing partners, we were able to transform an underutilized parcel of land, restoring it with native trees and plants.”

The Ohio Department of Transportation is set to complete construction of the

Madison Avenue and W. 61<sup>st</sup> Street pedestrian bridges, while DSCDO is supporting residents in their ongoing efforts to restore the site to a native wildlife habitat. The ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony officially opened the EcoVillage Gateway and surrounding bridges for the public and native pollinators to take advantage of their new, vibrant way station.

The vision for a safe and inviting “welcome mat” for the neighborhood, first gained momentum in 2013 as a \$30,000 Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, Inc. Relmaging Cleveland 3.0 grant. In 2014, the project garnered an additional \$15,000 in financial support from the City of Cleveland Department of Community Development. Beyond dollars and cents, the new configuration, open sight lines, increased lighting and much more will have a priceless socioeconomic impact on the neighborhood for the foreseeable future.

Work has been completed with the help of numerous neighborhood organizations, block clubs and community organizations.

## Cleveland Leadership Development Program seeks applicants for 2015 class -- applications due Aug. 5

In 2006, the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation, along with former Cleveland Mayor Michael White, established a leadership-training program for neighborhood leaders. The Neighborhood Leadership Development Program is a free, 15 session community engagement training program for residents of Cleveland, and its inner ring suburbs, who are working on projects within the City of Cleveland and are determined to make a positive impact on their communities.

After the application process, 20 committed individuals are chosen for the program year. NLDP participants and graduates have many interests and are working on a wide variety of issues to improve life in their communities.

Gordon Martin, a Stockyard resident and a pastor, is one such graduate. He founded Prince of Peace Outreach and Deliverance Ministries, located at 48<sup>th</sup> Street and Denison. Prince of Peace houses clothing, furniture and appliance banks. It also has a computer lab to teach computer literacy and typing. They assist over 400 families by distributing over 15,000 pounds of vegetables every two weeks.

Martin says that his calling is

“about people.” “The purpose of establishing this church was to get people together and have them make decisions about their quality of life” he said.

Gardening is a major project for the church and community, as well as, creating a neighborhood space so inviting that people would enjoy just being there. That space is at Storer and West 55<sup>th</sup> Place. It is a colorful place where they gather for meetings, birthday parties and weddings. They also show summer movies for residents. The project has attracted volunteers from other areas such as Wickliffe, Cleveland Heights and Green Springs, Ohio.

Martin started his new ministry by himself but needed help. He says he came to NLDP for leadership training so that he could become a better leader as he founded his church and community programs.

“NLDP taught me to have courage and keep moving forward. It was very uplifting and gave me the extra confidence I needed. It showed me how to believe in myself,” said Martin. “Now, we are fulfilling our mission of bringing people together as a community.

Gordon has also found the NLDP graduate network to be helpful to his mission. He has partnered with NLDP

graduate, Diane Morgan, founder of Maggie’s Farm, also in the Stockyards neighborhood. The farm provides produce to a variety of programs in the community, including Martin’s program. Morgan has several properties with various projects. One such property on West 61<sup>st</sup> was acquired through the Land Bank. There, she is running a “Let’s Grow Summer Youth Program” with youth from Youth Opportunities Unlimited working with Maggie’s Farm, and loaned to this project.

The youth, along with receiving leadership training, will be putting in a pumpkin patch, native pollinators to attract bees and butterflies and benches and scarecrows. They will help build a plastic bottle greenhouse with 1500 bottles. The Jewish Volunteer Network brought in 25 to 40 families in July to help prep the greenhouse.

Morgan says, “The Neighborhood Leadership Development Program gave me the confidence to believe I could accomplish all of this; they taught me how to focus and prioritize things. I learned how to handle issues and conflict and a lot more about myself and what areas of leadership I needed to work on.”

The 15 sessions take place on Saturdays at Trinity Commons at 2230 Euclid Avenue beginning August 29. The deadline for applications is **AUGUST 5**. For more information and an application, visit [www.nldpcleveland.com](http://www.nldpcleveland.com) or call 216-776-6172.



PHOTO BY CHUCK HOVEN  
July 21, 2015; EcoVillage gateway way station, 6009 Madison Avenue: As the culmination of an effort by a number of partners, this wildflower and native plant garden now greets pedestrians on the east side of the Father Begin Bridge just north of the W. 65<sup>th</sup> Regional Transit Authority Station.

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WEST SIDE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

continued from page one

West Side Boys and Girls Club, was named the Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland 2015 Youth of the Year, Timmesha Jackson. Bell says Jackson is a graduate of the Cleveland School of the Arts and plans to attend the University of Akron. According to Bell, most of the other graduates from the West Side Boys and Girls Club plan to attend Cuyahoga Community College. She says, “They are looking at the economics of going to a two-year program and transferring to a four year school.”

According to Bell, 55 schools are represented in the membership of the West Side Boys and Girls Club. Schools represented include: Cleveland School of the Arts, John Hay, Lincoln West, James Ford Rhodes, East Tech, St. Joseph Academy, Scranton, Walton, Horizon Academy and many others.

Bell says Boys and Girls Clubs in Cleveland are much more than an after school hangout. “They are driven by the goal of keeping all Club members on track for graduation, all school year long,” she said. Bell noted that the effort is bucking the trend in Ohio where there is in an

increase in the number of schools that she called, “high school dropout factories.” (schools where 60% or fewer of the students graduate each year) “In 2002,” she said, “Ohio had 75 dropout factories; by 2012 that number had grown to 142: 2015 numbers will most likely show an increase,” she said.

In its 2014 annual report, the West Side Boys and Girls Club claimed a membership of 593 youths. Bell says on an average day at the club, 91 members are in attendance with almost fifty being teens. Out of the 593 members in 2014, 327 participated in the Academic Success programs, 561 participated in Good Character/ Citizenship Programs, and 472 participated in Healthy Lifestyle programming, according to the annual report.

Bell said, “Our students are actively engaged and this location is a center for dance, arts and baseball. During the summer, in all locations, we are providing academic success programming called Brain Gain, whose aim is to stem summer learning loss. There are daily project based learning activities for three different age groups, 6-9, 10 – 12 and teens.”

President of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland Ron Soeder says the Boys and Girls Clubs “provide a supportive, safe place to go, and give kids a chance to be kids.” Soeder says the activities of the clubs offer youths a chance to experience things they never would get a chance to otherwise.

Soeder said the clubs also provide some youths with employment opportunities. He says the clubs hire junior staff members that work eight to ten hours per week during the school year helping to staff the clubs. In addition, in the summer time some youths are hired through the Youth Opportunities Unlimited program and work from 10 to 20 hours per week.

The State of Ohio now uses a four-year and five-year graduation rate – counting the number of ninth grade students that graduate in four years or five years. Those numbers tend to be much lower than the number of seniors starting their senior year that graduate. For example, the State of Ohio lists Lincoln West High Schools’ four-year graduation rate at 49.8% and its five-year graduation rate is 50.6%.

Soeder says the Boys and Girls Club are only able to count graduates from among the current year’s seniors. He says the last time data was available from the Cleveland Metropolitan School District for the number of seniors that graduated in a given year was 2012. In that year, 81% of seniors starting the school year graduated. With their 90% graduation rate, the seniors at the West Side Boys and Girls Club best that mark.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA Timmesha Jackson (left) poses with her mother, Devona Moore. Jackson, a member of the West Side Boys and Girls Club is this year’s Cleveland Indians Charities’ Youth of the Year. A graduate of the Cleveland School of the Arts, Jackson is a Junior Staff member at the West Side Boys and Girls Club. She participated in Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland college guidance program, the Museum of Contemporary Art’s (MOCA’s) Arts and Culture Enterprise Program, and played both softball and volleyball. Timmesha plans to attend the University of Akron.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA Tuesday, June 30, 2015; Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland Graduation Party, 6114 Broadway: Members of the West Side Boys and Girls Club, all class of 2015 high school graduates, pose for a photo: (L-R): Antayvion Brown, John Hay High School; Daysha Miranda, Lincoln West High School; Kayla Del Valle, Lincoln West High School; Hector Vazquez, Lincoln West High School; Jennifer Diaz-Ramos, Saint Joseph Academy; and Angel Vega, James Ford Rhodes High School.

COMMUNITY BOARD

continued from page 2

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**SOCCER**  
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ideas. The application deadline for the first round of grants is August 31.

**WEST SIDE NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK NIGHT**

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## WALTON SCHOOL BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

continued from page one

on July 21<sup>st</sup> reveals club members participating in the club's summer program and fully engaged in activities.

In an art class, club members view on a screen an artwork by contemporary artist George Segal, *The Red Light*, and answer questions from Art Teacher Aisia Townes about the work.

In another room, club members, ages 6-9, are studying comparative sentences. They are actively engaged in answering questions about the sentences from instructor Shirann Lawson. Instructor Lawson offers candy as an incentive for students to come up with the correct answer to a difficult question.

Club Director Mickens says that the program they are participating in is called Summer Brain Gain. He noted research that shows that often children in high poverty urban neighborhood experience a summer brain drain – losing some of the knowledge that they gained in the previous school year. He said the students engaged in the Summer Brain Gain class are working as a team to understand comparative sentences, are using words they don't normally encounter and developing team-building skills. He said, "These kids here will probably do just fine next school year."

In a nearby classroom, sisters Jomaliz Soto and Jineliz Claudio are taking guitar lessons from teacher Mike McNamara. Over in the school gym, a number of members are engaged in a basketball game.

Club Director Mickens says the Boys and Girls Club Walton School site is open to youths, ages 6 through 18. He said in the summer months the site has been open from noon to 4 p.m. each day. During the school year the hours will be after school from 3:40 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. each school day. Mickens says during the summer the average daily attendance is about 40 members. During the school year, most of the members attending the Walton School Site are students from the school. Mickens says there are a higher percentage of teens attending in the summer months. Some teens, he says, come from the Walton Club's sister club, the West Side Boys and Girls Club on Trowbridge – the two clubs share some members who use both clubs.

The Boys and Girls Club at the Walton School Site was named the Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland School Site of the Year in its first full year of operation last year, said Mickens. One of the accomplishments that led to this award was increasing the average daily attendance at the club in the 2014-15 school year from an average of 25 students per day at the beginning of the year to 87 students per day by the end of the year, said Mickens. According to the national office of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the Walton club has over 240 members.

Mickens says the Boys and Girls Clubs programs focus on three areas: Academic Success, Good Character/Citizenship and Healthy Lifestyles. He says the Walton Site has three dedicated classrooms the Cleveland Metropolitan School District has given to the Boys and Girls Club for use at Walton School. In addition, he says the club shares a computer room and the gym with the school. He says in the summer youths participate in a co-ed basketball league. In the fall the Boys and Girls Club members can join flag football teams or in a girls' volleyball league.

In being named the School Site of the Year for the 2014-15 academic year, the Walton Site was measured against six Boys and Girls Clubs of

Cleveland school sites in the Greater Cleveland area. Four of those sites are in Cleveland Metropolitan School District Schools (Walton, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Michael R. White and Charles Elliot).

President of the Cleveland Boys and Girls Club Ron Soeder says in addition to average daily attendance and increased membership, school sites were judged by their fidelity to the program model, and the rate of participation by members in the programs offered.

Soeder said during the school year the Boys and Girls Clubs offer homework help and academic enrichment opportunities. The members can participate in sports and compete in an interclub league. He says the sports and healthy lifestyle programs of the Boys and Girls Club help to address what he termed an epidemic of obesity among young people in America. He said there is also an art program. He notes students in the art program visit the Cleveland Museum of Art and to view an individual artwork and then focus on the artwork in their classroom.

Gaelen Bell, Vice President of Social Marketing and Public Relations in the national office of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, says that one Walton School Club

of the Boys and Girls Club at Walton is to encourage regular school attendance by members. According to a report by the Walton Club made to the national office of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Walton Boys and Girls Club staff reported "We see better daily school attendance with club members and we see a very consistent attendance with members attending regularly – a key statistic that improves outcomes."

As far as academic improvement, the Walton club was actively engaged in helping members to meet the third grade reading guarantee. (Students must pass a reading test to graduate from the third grade). Statistics provided by the Boys and Girls Clubs of America office indicate that 6-9 year olds participating in the Boys and Girls Club academic programs at Walton saw an 18% increase in reading proficiency and a 15% improvement in math scores.

Soeder says the Walton School site is now a charter member of the Boys and Girls Club of America. He said it achieved that distinction by having 100 or more registered members, being open 20 hours per week and being open over 36 weeks during the year.

Club Director Courtney Mickens says the Walton Club has seven staff members. In addition to those staff mentioned above, staff include



PHOTO BY DEBBIE SADLON

Friday, June, 26, 2015; Max Hayes Career and Technical High School Summer Camp, 4600 Detroit Avenue: Students participating in the summer camp, eighth grade graduates entering the ninth grade, participated in a competition with the cars they designed and created in the summer camp. First place winners in the three categories of the completion are: (L-R) Angel Padilla for best design; Amanda Garcia for the car that traveled the farthest when sent down the racing ramp; and Ato Mungin for the fastest car.



PHOTO BY DEBBIE SADLON

Friday, June, 26, 2015; Max Hayes Career and Technical High School Summer Camp, 4600 Detroit Avenue: Judges determined that the Phoenix Flame, designed and built by Angel Padilla, was the best designed car in the summer camp competition. Each student, participating in the camp, designed and built their cars.

member participating in the after school art program, Blake Hines, a third grader at Walton, "painted a piece that was inspired by his desire to stop bullying. At an art show the piece was purchased by United Way and a 20% commission was shared with Blake."

The Walton School Boys and Girls Club started as a pilot program, during the 2013-14 school year, and became a full program at the start of the 2014-15 school year, said Soeder. The first two years at the Walton Site, he said, were funded as part of a \$600,000 grant from the Ohio Attorney General's Office that challenged the Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland to open new sites in Cleveland and inner ring suburbs.

Now, the Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland will have to sustain those new school sites, which Soeder says range in cost from \$160,000 to \$190,000 per year. Soeder says 90% of the budget of the Cleveland Boys and Girls Clubs is raised from donations. Soeder says the Cleveland Metropolitan School District offers the sites in Cleveland rent-free. In return the memberships are free to participants and the Boys and Girls Clubs provide programming and staffing.

Soeder says one of the challenges

Front Desk staff person Beverly Burgess; Samirah Ali, in charge of the Games Room; and Junior staff member Julio Arizmendi.

In addition to offering the

programs and activities mentioned above, the Walton School Boys and Girls Club serves as a hot meal site in partnership with the Cleveland Food Bank.

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