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MAGAZINE

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR AND BOARD PRESIDENT

### DEAR NEIGHBORS,

It's been a full summer in West Park with action on all fronts! The WPKND team kicked off the summer with the return of The Hooley™ on a beautiful day in June — a joyful celebration of community with thousands of residents enjoying food from local businesses, live music from favorite Cleveland bands, and family-friendly activities hosted by our partners.

In addition to summer programming like Pop-Ups in the Parks and the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market, the WPKND team was busy completing a dozen senior home repair projects — helping residents with critical repairs through technical assistance and grants — along with hosting neighborhood clean-ups and piloting a traffic calming and community space project at the 5 Points intersection. Neighborhood businesses and institutions celebrated milestones this summer including the Congregation of St. Joseph, which honored its 150th Anniversary with an open house and ice cream social.

Major neighborhood projects including the renovation of the West Park Branch of Cleveland Public Library, the new West Park Animal Hospital building, and the redevelopment of the former Kmart into the West Park Shopping Center have made tremendous progress with the finish line in sight this fall and winter.

Neighborhood fun continues into the fall at the **Kamm's Corners Farmers Market — join us for St. Paddy's Day in September on the 18th along with Halloween at the Market on Sunday, October 16.** You can also join Councilman Slife and WPKND as we celebrate the newly renovated Drakefield Park playground with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Wednesday, September 14 at 6pm.

Cheers!

Rosemary Mudry | Executive Director

Susan P. Blankenship | Board President

## WEST PARK KAMM'S STAFF

ROSEMARY MUDRY  
Executive Director  
rosemary@westparkkamms.org | x1100

BEN CAMPBELL  
Director of Economic Development  
ben@westparkkamms.org | x1200

REBEKAH FERRO  
Neighborhood Engagement Coordinator;  
Kamm's Corners Farmers Market Manager  
rebekah@westparkkamms.org | x1000

MOLLY CRAWFORD  
Marketing and Development Manager  
molly@westparkkamms.org | x1500

CJ DEMCHAK  
Healthy Homes Initiative -  
Community Engagement Specialist  
cj@westparkkamms.org | x1300

JUAN COLLADO  
Neighbor to Neighbor Program -  
Community Engagement Specialist  
juan@westparkkamms.org | x1800

EMILY PIKTURNA  
Sustainability & Food Access -  
AmeriCorps VISTA  
emily@westparkkamms.org

HANNAH GALL  
Neighborhood Development Manager  
hannah@westparkkamms.org | x1700



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# All Roads Lead to 5 Points

by WPKND Staff



Kids yoga practice at 5 Points

Summer was an exciting time in the 5 points intersection. Two West Park businesses — Inward Compass Yoga and 5 Points Coffee & Tea — celebrated their anniversaries and West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development, in partnership with the City of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA), piloted a traffic calming and public space project.

## SURVEYING PARKS AND PUBLIC SPACE AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Over the last year, residents of Ward 17 have been asked to give their input on neighborhood parks and public spaces. Parks aren't just nice-to-haves, they are important social and physical infra-

structure. We appreciate everyone who took the time to complete a neighborhood park survey online or at one of our Pop-Ups in the Parks events. Later this year, we will share a report with the findings and will use this information as we continue to advocate for maintenance and improvements to our existing city park spaces.

According to the Trust for Public Land, about 20% of Cleveland residents live outside of a 10-minute walk to a park. Despite having eight city parks and bordering the Rocky River Reservation, West Park suffers from a lack of easy and walkable access to green space. West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development continues to inves-



West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development continues to investigate ways we can increase pedestrian access to our current parks and seek out opportunities to create new public spaces.

investigate ways we can increase pedestrian access to our current parks and seek out opportunities to create new public spaces.

For two weeks in July and August, we worked with the City of Cleveland

to pilot a temporary public space at 5 Points, the unique intersection of West Park Road, W. 159th Street, and Tuttle Avenue. While a small gathering space was created in the roadway, a traffic study was simultaneously conducted.

The area around 5 Points does not have a park within a 10-minute walking distance, so testing the impact of this new public space was an important part of the project. The space was beautified and outfitted with seating, planters, and painted motifs thanks to our partners and donors such as NOACA's Street Supplies program, E&H Ace Hardware, and Home Depot, as well as community volunteers. We're excited to share the results of the neighborhood-wide park survey along with what we learned from the 5 Points pilot project in the next issue. ■

— Hannah Gall

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# All Roads...



Left: 5 Points Coffee & Tea today; Above left: the property before redevelopment; Above: The fifth anniversary party.

## 5 POINTS COFFEE & TEA CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS IN BUSINESS

During the week of August 1, 2022, 5 Points Coffee & Tea celebrated its fifth birthday. Local West Park resident

Conor Boylan and his partners transformed a once vacant building into a beloved community gathering space where neighbors can casually catch up while fueling up with their caffeine of choice along with an array of Irish foods and other assorted treats.

Conor shares, "It's hard to believe that it's been five years at the 5 Points for our little shop! Our team remains grateful for the incredible support of the West Park community in making our dream a reality. In the coming months and years, we hope that 5 Points Coffee & Tea continues to be a neighborhood gathering place where community connections are forged. Thanks for five years of good craic!" Visit them at 3600 West Park Road or at [5pointscafe.com](http://5pointscafe.com). ■

— Rosemary Mudry



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# All Roads...

## INWARD COMPASS YOGA CELEBRATES TWO YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Inward Compass Yoga opened in August 2020 at 15903 West Park Road, near the 5 Points intersection, and recently marked its second year in business. The studio provides students with a calming, welcoming space. Classes are designed for a variety of levels, from beginners to more experienced practitioners, and cover traditional methods of yoga, and a wide spectrum of age groups from Kid's Yoga for boys and girls ages 5-11 to Gentle Yoga for Seniors. Tai Chi classes have also been added to the menu of options.

As part of their anniversary celebration, Inward Compass Yoga held a raffle with additional prizes donated by nearby businesses 5 Points Coffee & Tea and Salon Love. All proceeds from the raf-



file were donated to the World Central Kitchen to help the people of Ukraine. Inward Compass Yoga also helped to activate the 5 Points Pilot Project by hosting free public sessions of yoga for

kids and Tai Chi. For more information about Inward Compass Yoga or to sign up for classes, call 216-999-7466 or go to [inwardcompassyoga.com](http://inwardcompassyoga.com).

— Ben Campbell



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# Visiting the Farmers of KCFM

by Rebekah Ferro

The beautiful pasture and Guernsey cows of Farmer's Daughter produce cheese available at Kamm's Corners Farmers market



When I began my AmeriCorps VISTA service year in November of 2021, one of the first things Devon Chodzin, the previous

Neighborhood Engagement Coordinator and Kamm's Corners Farmers Market (KCFM) Manager, asked me to look at was a video of a CBC News story

about farmers markets in Canada. In the story, reporter Charlise Agro investigated how vendors at markets across Ontario were misleading customers. Her main focus was on farmers who resold produce at the market that was bought from wholesale auctions, even though they claimed to grow that produce themselves. The news team then visited California and talked to a professional farm auditor. In California, it is illegal to sell produce at a farmers market that you claim to grow yourself but actually bought at an auction. The auditor explained the rigorous process that each vendor at a farmers market must go through in order to sell their produce. This news story inspired West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development (WPKND) to develop a farm visit program for our own Kamm's Corners

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The Kamm's Corners Farmers Market strives to be a producers-only market. That means the produce sold at the market has been either grown by the vendor or by a farmer with whom the vendor has entered into a partnership.

Farmers Market.

The Kamm's Corners Farmers Market strives to be a producers-only market. That means the produce sold at the market has been either grown by the vendor or by a farmer with whom the

vendor has entered into a partnership. This ensures that the produce at KCFM is locally grown and produced, is high in quality, and supports local Northeast Ohio farmers. Having a site visit program also provides the opportunity

to showcase the market's farmers and educate residents about the local food system. WPKND features these vendors and farms in our newsletters to highlight the wide range of products grown and produced in our region.

WPKND developed an efficient and effective farm visit program after conducting extensive research on how to design successful farm visits. The program begins with a random selection of one or two vendors on any given market day. The team visits each stand, explains the program, and takes inventory of everything being sold that day

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May's Produce popcorn and kettle corn



at the stand. Then, we schedule a site visit to the vendor's farm for later in the week. During the site visit, the farmer gives us a tour of their operations; the WPKND team surveys the plants being grown, ask questions, and compares lists to ensure that what is seen at the farm matches what was at the market. After the visit, staff determines if what we saw matched our 80% produced threshold.

The program began at the end of June, and we have seen some amazing farms so far! Personally, I've sampled raw milk from a cold storage container, observed irrigation systems to combat a lack of rain, traversed a hydroponic greenhouse, and visited rural, urban, and suburban farms across all of Northeast Ohio. It has been an enriching experience, and the entire KCFM team has learned so much.

The opportunity to meet the farmers where they are has been the highlight of these visits. Hearing farmers tell the amazing stories of all the work and effort that goes into farming and producing what you see at the market while you are there provides a new perspective. Getting to meet the Guernsey cows that make the cheese sold at Farmer's Daughter's stand, seeing the popcorn stalks that produce the kettle corn at May's Produce's stand, and strolling through the orchards of apple trees at Jose Quiroz's farm have all deepened my love for the market, my understanding of where the produce comes from, and my commitment to making sure that the produce shoppers buy at KCFM is local and from trusted farmers.



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The chance to visit these farms has also taught the team about growing seasons. With a greater understanding on how a wide range of fruits, vegetables, and herbs grow, our team is better prepared to answer market customers' questions. Specifically, if a customer says, "I saw X, Y, and Z at the market last week. Why isn't it here this week?" we can tell them that X, Y, and Z are probably out of season. By educating customers about the growing seasons of Ohio produce, we can encourage the community to think about where the food they buy comes from. Knowing the growing seasons and shopping accordingly can lead to more sustainable eating habits along with tastier and fresher food in the refrigerator.

As the 16th season of the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market wraps up, West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development will continue to ensure that future markets provide quality produce from outstanding local farmers. We hope to see you at the market! ■



Jose Quiroz's stand offers orchard-fresh produce; Below: working the orchard at Jose Quiroz's farm; wildflower bunches for sale at the market.



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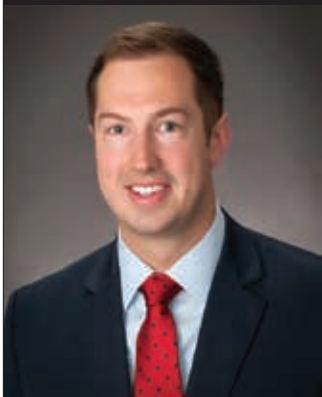
# Gino of Gino's Shoe Repair Plans to Retire By Ben Campbell



**E**ugene “Gino” Nardo has owned and operated Gino’s Shoe Repair at 17116 Lorain Avenue since 1966. Since opening, Gino has offered his craftsmanship to repair shoes and boots, handbags, briefcases, belts, leather coats, and zippers. He considers himself fortunate to have loyal customers who travel from as far away as Cleveland’s east side, Sandusky, and Brunswick. He attributes his success to “always using top-quality materials and giving his customers 100% effort.”

Gino has deep roots in the industry because both his father and grandfather worked in it. Gino got his start at his family’s business when it was located at East 98th and Euclid Avenue. From there he worked at Sears & Roebuck at West 110th and Lorain Avenue and a shop in Medina before acquiring his current business. He said the West Park Kamm’s neighborhood is “one of the better locations in Cleveland.”

At some point in the future, he plans to sell the business and settle into the next chapter of his life. So, if you have repairs to be done, or want to congratulate Gino on his well-earned retirement, call 216- 671-0660 or stop in soon to see Gino! Store hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ■



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# Teaching Residents How to Tuckpoint *By CJ Demchak*

The beautiful, unique heritage homes and fantastic brickwork are some of the treasured highlights in the West Park Kamm's neighborhood. However, as many people know, maintaining masonry details can be tough – and tuckpointing is the best way to keep up with it. WPKND partnered with the Home Repair Resource Center to bring an instructional, interactive, tuckpointing workshop to residents to help homeowners learn more about maintaining a brick home. This hands-on workshop, held in July at the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market, helped to identify best practices, tips, and the tools needed to stay ahead of the curve. The session began with a demonstration by Dave Brock of the Home Repair Resource Center, followed by the opportunity for attendees to try their hand at tuckpointing on a small brick wall. Keep an eye on our social media and upcoming newsletters for details on future home repair workshops! ■



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## Christine Champion: Putting the Child First *By Rebekah Ferro*

As the new school year begins, it comes with new challenges, new adventures, new ideas, and new changes. For Newton D. Baker School of Arts (NDBSOA), it will be the first year in 30 years that Christine “Chris” Champion will not be there as a teacher. Chris has been promoted to the position of Director of External Arts Partnerships in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, where she will continue her work promoting arts education in schools on a district-wide scale. She has become a fixture in West Park for many of its residents and families. Lisa Hirzel, a long-time West Park resident, said “Christine Champion was the heart and soul of Newton D. Baker since before my children attended there (starting in 2001 and ending in 2014). She was a neighborhood friend who encouraged me to take a chance on a CMSD ‘hidden gem’ and we were very



Christine Champion

happy there. She went out of her way to do extra projects, trips, and experiences for students, including feeding them and making sure they got home. She arranged for my son to meet and work with a stone relief carver outside of class time because he had expressed interest in it. Chris saw each student as an individual and then worked to meet each of their needs. She has been an exemplary CMSD teacher, and I am looking forward to what she will do for more students in her new role as an arts administrator.”

Chris Champion has been a resident of West Park since 1985. She loves the sense of community in West Park. She loves knowing the names of her neighbors and their dogs. She lives with her husband, Douglass, and their chocolate lab Vito. Her two daughters, Emily and Elizabeth, were both raised in West Park.

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Teaching is Christine's second career, having started as a retail buyer and manager of a store for 10 years. She found her love of teaching from a desire to help people grow and made the brave move to go back to school while she was pregnant with her first child. Christine completed her studies at Cleveland State University, had her second child during her time student teaching, and finished her degree. She began teaching at Newton D. Baker School of Arts in 1993. What she loves most about NDBSOA is their model that every child can be taught through the arts, and that arts and academics can be taught in tandem. For her and for NDBSOA, the arts are not an extracurricular activity, the arts and academics enrich each other. She points to the Kennedy Model and the research done by Professor James Catterall as proof that the arts help students succeed. This model is not just theory, Christine has seen this in action in her own classes and in her own life. She considers herself lucky

to have grown up in the 1960s when the model of infusing the arts and academics was being used in her schooling. The hands-on approach helped her learn, and she's not sure how she would have learned as well as she did without it. She can point to many moments in her own classes where students have gained a better understanding of math and science through music and art.

She has also found that the hands-on learning that arts education provides has helped with the challenges that the past two years of the COVID-19 pandemic have brought. With most schools going entirely online or using a hybrid model during the height of the pandemic, Christine has seen a negative impact on students' social and emotional development. She hopes that in her new position, she can help students across the Cleveland Metropolitan School District thrive and grow through arts education, just as she's done at Newton D. Baker School of Arts.

Christine's philosophy for teaching is:

"I am looking forward to what she will do for more students in her new role as an arts administrator."

— Lisa Hirzel, West Park resident

In everything you do, ask yourself how it will affect the children. She believes putting the students and their needs first will create success in learning. Her advice for students for the upcoming school year is to come in fresh, ask lots of questions, and to challenge respectfully.

In her new role as Director of External Arts Partnerships, Christine will continue to bring arts into the classroom by bringing outside partnerships and programs to schools that need the arts. She hopes that in this new role, she'll be able to impact the lives of more students across Cleveland and bring arts education to schools across the district. We would like to thank her for her 30 years of commitment to West Park students and families, and we wish her well in her new position. ■



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# WPKND and Horizon Education Centers Awarded 21st Century Community Learning Grants By Rosemary Mudry

**W**est Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development (WPKND) and Horizon Education Centers were awarded a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant to establish and support afterschool and summer programs at Clara E. Westropp Elementary for the next five years. Together, WPKND and Horizon look forward to using this grant as an opportunity to build partnerships with other West Park institutions and businesses to create vibrant and innovative programming for West Park families at a school that supports some of the community's most vulnerable students. These programs will launch in Fall 2022.

In addition to the grant with WPKND, Horizon received a second grant in partnership with Constellation Schools to launch afterschool programming at



West Park Community School.

Horizon Education Centers is a non-profit, high-quality early care, pre-school, and before and after school care provider for families across Western Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties. Horizon currently operates 13 centers and 10 school-based sites serving children from six weeks to 12 years of age, includ-



ing the Triskett Station Center in West Park. Stay tuned for updates regarding the program after it has launched.

For more information about the 21st CCLC program visit: <https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Federal-Programs/Programs/21st-Century> ■

**GET OUT AND ABOUT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD WITH US AND  
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**September 14 | Neighborhood Dog Walk**  
6:30 pm at Drakefield Park  
*Medium Impact*

**September 28 | Puritas Springs History Walk**  
7:30 am at Puritas Nursery  
*Easy Impact*

**October 12 | Walk in Nature**  
7:30 am at South Mastick Picnic Area  
*Medium Impact*

**October 26 | Spooky Walk**  
6:30 pm at Alger Cemetery  
*Easy Impact*  
**All walks last an hour.**

**JOIN THE FUN!**



**CONTACT REBEKAH FERRO FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
[rebekah@westparkkamms.org](mailto:rebekah@westparkkamms.org) | 216-252-6559 x1000

# Taking Steps Toward Universal Design Support

by Hannah Gall

For the second year in a row, West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development directed a portion of our Senior Home Repair grant to assist homeowners in need of front step repair. Because of the various housing styles prevalent in West Park, there is no shortage of worn-out brick, concrete blocks, and wooden steps. A small repair, if left alone, can quickly turn into a much larger problem that not only affects the aesthetics of the house but also poses a serious safety hazard to residents and guests.

Six West Park residents applied for the grant this year and received partial financial support to complete their projects. The work ranged from simple tuckpointing jobs to much larger rebuilds that included replacing all of the bricks and installing handrails. WPKND contracted Extreme Masonry & Roofing to complete all the projects. This helped to keep the costs down by managing a group of jobs rather than one at a time, saving close to 20% over the costs of individual contracts with nearly 30 years in the business, Extreme Masonry & Roofing and their sister home remodeling company, Lagambina Construction have extensive experience and regularly work with senior and veteran homeowners to whom they offer a generous discount.

The homeowners who took part were pleased with the results. Tess on Flamingo Avenue said Extreme Masonry were "great workers and great work performed," while Mark on W. 158th Street said the project management was "well organized and addressed any questions or concerns." Six projects in total were completed, including work on three brick porches, two concrete block front steps, and one concrete walkway and wooden step repair.

The McGregor Foundation, a grant-



A step repair before and after

making foundation that supports seniors and those who support them, is a major funder of the Senior Home Repair program. With their sponsorship, WPKND has been able to increase the

number of projects that we can fund and manage. While we could only complete five to ten home repair projects a few years ago, our capacity has now grown to 30 projects annually. With Mc-

Gregor's help and increased capacity, WPKND has been able to explore universal design projects to further assist seniors who want to age-in-place.

Aging-in-place refers to staying in the home and community of your choice as you get older. Universal design is a set of design principles that emphasizes accessibility for all. Many aging adults prefer to remain in their longtime home and neighborhood, but many houses are not outfitted or updated to support a senior's needs and lifestyle, and making those changes can be costly. Creating a zero-threshold entryway – one that does not have steps or gives a secondary alternative to only steps - is one of those universal design strategies which increases accessibility to a home for everyone regardless of mobility level.

WPKND is also piloting a program to alter entryways with universal design principles in mind to create aesthetically pleasing, zero-threshold home entries as an extension of our prioritized front step repairs for seniors in the neighbor-



hood. In contrast to temporary options, like an aluminum ramp, reconfiguring steps into a zero-threshold solution can provide a longer-term solution that appeals to many homeowners and not just seniors. A more permanent accessible entrance can benefit a young parent with frequent stroller outings, wheel-

chair or walker-users of all ages, as well as an older homeowner with changing mobility needs. To learn more about aging-in-place resources, including WPKND's Senior Home Repair program and zero-threshold grant email CJ Demchak at [CJ@westparkkams.org](mailto:CJ@westparkkams.org) or call him at 216-252-6559 ext. 1300. ■

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**New Facility Rendering**

# West Park Ward 17 Homeowner Resources

Need assistance with the expenses of homeownership or are looking to make home improvements? Reach out to WPKND. We can help!

**Contact Healthy Homes Specialist: CJ Demchak, 216-252-6559 x 1300 or [CJ@westparkkamms.org](mailto:CJ@westparkkamms.org)**

**For Senior Home Repair grants, contact: Hannah Gall, 216-252-6559 x 1700 or [hannah@westparkkamms.org](mailto:hannah@westparkkamms.org)**

Visit [westparkkamms.org/live/maintain-a-home](http://westparkkamms.org/live/maintain-a-home). \* indicates income qualifying programs

<b>Homestead Water/ Sewer Discount*</b>	Secure a lower fixed charge and consumption rate for seniors and/or permanent disabled individuals.
<b>Senior Service Program (Ward 16 &amp; 17)*</b>	Schedule services such as gutter cleaning and lawn care for senior and disabled residents.
<b>Water Affordability Program*</b>	Offers a 40% discount on all standard water charges.
<b>Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)*</b>	HEAP assists eligible low-income residents with their winter home heating costs using natural gas, electric, oil, kerosene, or wood.
<b>Lead Hazard Control Program (LHC)</b>	Provides lead risk assessments, identifies lead-based paint and provides grants to control lead-based paint hazards.
<b>Delinquent Tax Payment Plan</b>	Payment plans are available for homeowners who live in their homes. Landlords may be eligible for installment plans (up to 24 months).
<b>Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP)*</b>	Offers energy efficient measures designed to decrease utility bills & improve energy deficiencies.



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Secure, ADA Accessible Entrances	Eligibility Based on Income	Wooded Views

## SMOKE ALARMS

Be sure your home is safe with smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. The Cleveland Division of Fire has teamed up with the Red Cross Operation Save-A-Life Program to offer smoke detectors and fire safety information.

**Contact 216-361-5535  
for assistance**





<b>Cleveland 50/50 Sidewalk Residential Replacement</b>	Partnership between the city and residents. Eligible repairs include sidewalks, driveway aprons, & curbs at the end of driveways.
<b>Cleveland Restoration Society (CRS)</b>	A low-interest (under 2%), fixed-rate, equity-based loan for maintaining & improving homes 50+ years. Interior & exterior projects qualify. Plus, free technical assistance on questions related to home conditions or repair.
<b>Housing Enhancement Loan Program (HELP)</b>	Provides home improvement loans, at 3% points below normal bank rates, for homeowners. No restrictions on a borrower's income and few limitations on what improvements can be made to a property.
<b>West Park Sherwin-Williams Paint Program</b>	Discounts on paint and painting supplies. All those living in Ward 17 are eligible. Limit one per household.
<b>Senior Home Repair*</b>	Small exterior repair grants of up to \$500 for seniors and adults with disabilities. Grants and grant size are income-qualifying.
<b>CHN Energy Efficiency Services*</b>	Services include insulation, LED bulb installation, and Energy Star refrigeration replacement.
<b>Contractor List</b>	Looking for help with a project at home? WPKND has a list of local contractors and tips for hiring one.
<b>Cleveland Exterior Paint Program*</b>	Provides free vouchers for paint and supplies to Cleveland homeowner-occupants and renters to paint the exterior of their house.
<b>Senior Homeowner Assistance Program (SHAP)*</b>	Grant available to low-income senior/disabled homeowners with houses in need of health, safety, and maintenance repairs such as roofs, porches, ramps, electrical or plumbing work.
<b>Age-Friendly Home Improvement Program (AFHIP)*</b>	Program for seniors/disabled homeowners to address critical home repair or maintenance projects.

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

**All Emergencies: 911**

Cleveland Police, District 1 Office: 216-623-5100

**Cleveland Police, Non-emergency: 216-621-1234**

Cleveland Fire, Non-emergency HQ: 216-664-6800

**Cleveland Fire, Smoke Alarms: 216-361-5535**

Cleveland Refuse: 216-664-3717

**Cleveland Animal Control: 216-664-3069**

Councilman Charles Slife's Office: 216-664-4239

**Cleveland Water Department: 216-664-3130**

Cleveland Department of Aging: 216-664-2833

**Gunning Recreation Center: 216-420-7900**

Cuyahoga County Auditor Call Center: 216-443-7452

**Cuyahoga County Real Property Office: 216-443-7010**

Social Service Referral: 211



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## Constellation Schools:

**Puritas Community Elementary & Middle** | **Westpark Community Elementary & Middle**

K-8 located at 17720 Puritas Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44135

216.688.0680

K-8 located at 16210 Lorain Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44111

216.688.0271

Kindergarten ~ 8th Grade

# What New Congressional Districts Mean for Your Ballot

by Councilman Slife



COUNCIL MEMBER  
**Charles Slife**  
WARD 17

Our democracy relies on an active electorate that regularly exercises the right to vote. Cleveland's Ward 17 is a leader in voter engagement by consistently ranking #1 in citywide turnout. Staying engaged requires keeping up with election cycles as well as with changes to legislative maps. This is particularly true now, due to significant changes in legislative boundaries as a result of the 2020 Census.

Since 2013, the Ward 17 neighborhood has been a part of Ohio's Ninth U.S. Congressional District, which stretches from the west side of Cleveland to Toledo. However, this is in the process of changing. Redistricting has folded all of Cleveland into Ohio's 11th U.S. Congressional District, which extends eastward into East Side suburbs.

Similarly, redistricting is changing legislative districts for the Ohio General Assembly — the Ohio Senate and Ohio House of Representatives. Currently, all of Ward 17 is represented in Columbus by one senator and one representative. Now, the redistricting process has divided Ward 17 into two Ohio Senate districts (23 & 24) and three Ohio House districts (13, 14, & 17).

The result of all of this is that, though polling locations remain the same, ballots will vary across the neighborhood. Prior to the November midterm, be sure to visit the website of the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections, which has detailed maps showing new Congressional and Statehouse districts. The Board's website is [boe.cuyahogacounty.gov](http://boe.cuyahogacounty.gov).

Keeping up on different candidates and ballot issues is no small task either. However, there are various non-partisan resources online that can be used to learn about who is running for office and the effects of voting for or against an issue. One online resource is [vote411.org](http://vote411.org).

If you have any questions concerning changes to legislative districts or how to register to vote and are not sure where to go, please do not hesitate to contact my office. ■

## REGISTER TO VOTE!

Visit [olvr.ohiosos.gov](http://olvr.ohiosos.gov)  
to register to vote by October 11!



Jesse Gutnick, MD

## Still struggling to lose weight? Improve your health with bariatric surgery.

**O**besity puts you at risk for heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, diabetes, and even certain types of cancer.

If you've tried unsuccessfully to lose weight by changing your eating habits, increasing physical activity or taking medications, you may want to consider bariatric surgery.

"You may be a candidate if you have a body mass index (BMI) between 35 and 40 or more, as well as high blood pressure, diabetes or another condition that may improve with weight loss," says Jesse Gutnick, MD, a bariatric surgeon at Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital. Dr. Gutnick also sees weight loss patients at Richard E. Jacobs Health Center at Richard E. Jacobs Campus in Avon.

Bariatric surgery typically helps patients lose two-thirds or more of their extra weight.

The level of support provided at Cleveland Clinic's Bariatric & Metabolic Institute is unparalleled. Patients have access to a comprehensive and multidisciplinary program, not just a surgical procedure, which improves patient outcomes and long-term success. Patient navigators offer encouragement and support throughout your weight loss journey.

Fairview Hospital offers surgical weight loss procedures, and Richard E. Jacobs Health Center in Avon offers pre-op evaluation, post-op follow-up and other weight loss support services.

*Learn more about surgical weight loss procedures. Visit [ClevelandClinic.org/Bariatrics](https://www.clevelandclinic.org/Bariatrics) or call Cleveland Clinic's Bariatric and Metabolic Institute at 800.339.9829.*

## BREAKTHROUGH THERAPIES IN PROSTATE CANCER.



Robert Abouassaly, MD

One in nine men will receive a prostate cancer diagnosis during his lifetime. Fortunately, early detection and treatment often lead to a positive outcome.

"Prostate biopsy is the only way to diagnose prostate cancer," says Robert Abouassaly, MD, at Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital. "Our patients may benefit from a new highly-precise technique, called transperineal biopsy, which goes through your skin, instead of your rectum. There is less pain and a lower risk of infection."

When it comes to treatment, Cleveland Clinic offers these breakthrough therapies:

**Focal One® high-intensity focused ultrasound** uses sound waves to destroy a cancer tumor.

**Prostate-Specific Membrane Antigen (PSMA) targeted therapy** uses a radioactive tracer to locate and attach to PSMA proteins, making prostate cancer visible through PET (positron emission tomography) imaging. This approach can help physicians accurately stage a patient's extent of disease.

**Outpatient prostate removal.** Cleveland Clinic was the first in the U.S. to remove a patient's prostate robotically through a single incision.

**Partial prostate removal surgery** removes only the part of the prostate that has the cancer tumor, often resulting in fewer urinary and sexual symptoms.

Call 216.445.6246 to schedule an appointment with one of Ohio's top urology experts.

Visit [ClevelandClinic.org/ProstateCancerCare](https://www.ClevelandClinic.org/ProstateCancerCare) to learn more.

## Stores Taking Shape at West Park Shopping Center

by Rosemary Mudry



Construction is well underway in the redevelopment of the West Park Shopping Center. Ross, Burlington, and Big Lots, located in the former Kmart building, plan to open by the end of the year if all goes smoothly. The construction of the new Starbucks is also scheduled for completion around the same time. Work has begun on the new ALDI grocery store, which is slated for completion sometime in 2023. ■

## Drakefield Park's New Playground Begins Construction

by Molly Crawford



Drakefield's new firefighter themed playground is under construction. Dedicated to late West Park resident, Lt. Richard Petras, the new playset will include an ADA-accessible "fire tower" set that will include multiple slides, monkey bars, and other climbing pieces. A smaller "fire engine" set is catered towards younger kids. Join us for the official ribbon cutting on September 14 at 6 pm! ■

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## INTERESTED IN HELPING IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

WPKND has various volunteer positions available for individuals, families, or groups.

Please fill out the form at [westparkkamms.org/about-wpknd/volunteer-with-us](https://westparkkamms.org/about-wpknd/volunteer-with-us) or call Rebekah at 216- 252-6559 x1000 or email [rebekah@westparkkamms.org](mailto:rebekah@westparkkamms.org).

**VOLUNTEER WITH US!**



# West Park Library Branch Re-Opening Soon

by Molly Crawford

Renovations of the West Park Branch of the Cleveland Public Library are nearing completion after over a year of construction. The project includes a complete renovation of the original library building, which was designed by the renowned architecture firm Walker and Weeks. The original vaulted ceilings have been restored and an elevator added to ensure everyone has access to the lower level of the library. The back addition to the building, added in the 1970s, has been demolished and reconstructed in a more aesthetically pleasing manner to improve the visibility of the building from the street. The West Park Library is expected to reopen early this winter. Details on reopening plans will be announced soon. ■



# ZOMBIEPALOOZA

Present by  & 

Sign up for the Zombie Walk      **Sept 17, 2022**      Make Some Zombie Art

Take a Selfie with your Zombie friends      10am to 5pm      Enter the Zombie look Alike Contest

Shop Odd Mall Vendors      **Way More Than Can Be Listed**

We need volunteer walkers for the week of 9/12 to carry signs and pass out fliers in full make-up. Call to sign up. Remember it is more fun with a friend.

To join the horde visit [YoungsArtCenter.com](http://YoungsArtCenter.com) for a schedule of events

22084 Lorain Rd Fairview Park Oh 44126  
216 370 2414

# New Restaurant to Open in Kamm's Corners

by Ben Campbell

**T**utti Frutti Mix plans to open a new restaurant in the vacant storefront at 17109 Lorain Avenue. The menu is based on the owners' food truck of the same name, and it combines Middle Eastern and American cuisine. Here is where the "Mix" comes in: falafel, chicken shawarma, gyros, burgers, cheese-steak sandwiches, homemade waffles and crepes, Mitchell's ice cream, and Turkish Coffee. Like many of the businesses in the neighborhood, Tutti Frutti Mix is locally owned by Ayman Othman and Najwa Abdelsamad, who live in West Park Kamm's.

The restaurant will primarily offer carry-out but will also have a few tables inside, and will offer DoorDash and Uber Eats delivery. The owners are exploring plans to add a patio next year. It is too early to say when the restaurant will open, but the owners hope to open sometime this fall. Hours



of operation are under consideration, but they could open as early as lunch and plan to remain open until the evening hours to serve customers of the

Kamm's Corners retail and entertainment district. For more information and to stay up to date, visit Tutti Frutti Mix's Facebook page. ■



**Cleveland Public Library is offering a new, free service to deliver books, movies, and reading materials to the homes of adult Cleveland residents, Words on Wheels.**

- Sign up for a library card if you don't have one.
- Call a neighborhood branch or the Main Library to request materials. See list above.
- Materials will be shipped to your house.
- When done, return items to any Cleveland Public Library location book drop or any CLEVNET member library.

**RE-OPENING SOON! >>**

**West Park Branch:**  
3805 West 157 Street  
216-623-7102

**Eastman Branch:**  
11602 Lorain Avenue  
216-623-6955

**Rockport Branch:**  
4421 West 140 Street  
216-623-7053

Cleveland Public Library provides the Homebound Service for those who are unable to return items on their own because of disability or age.

# FRIENDS OF WPKND

*Thank you for being a friend of WPKND this past year!*

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Abigail Coleman  
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William Whitney  
Mary Winchester  
Pauline Yee

## Show your love for West Park Kamm's by supporting WPKND in our annual Friends Campaign!



With you, WPKND can continue to strengthen our neighborhood, carrying on the strong history of residents and businesses coming together to see their neighborhood prosper. For more than 40 years, WPKND has been serving our residents and our community.

Your tax-deductible donation helps continue programming and events like the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market, Lawn Chair Cinema, The Hooley™, and Explore West Park Walks. Together we can support our most vulnerable residents by assisting seniors in our community through the senior home repair program and connecting those in need to the resources essential to their well-being. By helping existing businesses to thrive and fostering new business growth, we can ensure our commercial corridors have a vibrant future.

On behalf of the staff and board of West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development, we are thankful for your contribution! You can donate online at [bit.ly/loveWPKND](https://bit.ly/loveWPKND), QR code above, or mail back the form below!

**Every dollar of your donation will support WPKND's mission and is a 100% tax-deductible gift!**

Thank you for all you do for our community. Enclosed is my donation of: \$10  \$25  \$50  \$100  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_



Make checks payable to: West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development  
Mail to: 17407 Lorain Avenue Suite 200, Cleveland, Ohio, 44111



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