

# WEST PARK

MAGAZINE

WEST PARK KAMM'S NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT | SUMMER 2023



the  
hoooley

Inside, the  
14th annual!

KAMM'S CORNERS

June 10, 2023



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West Park Magazine is published quarterly by West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development for Ward 17. Special thank you to our advertisers for their support. Online version can be found at westparkkamms.org.

West Park Magazine is published by West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development, a non-profit, neighborhood-based planning and development organization serving the Kamm's Corners/West Park community of Cleveland, Ohio. West Park Magazine, West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development management and staff are not responsible for any representations and/or warranties, oral or written, made by its advertisers. It is our policy to neither endorse political candidates, nor take a stand on ballot issues. 17407 Lorain Avenue, Suite 200, Cleveland, Ohio 44111-5538 ©2021



## FROM THE DIRECTOR AND BOARD PRESIDENT

### DEAR NEIGHBORS,

**T**hank you for engaging! We loved meeting so many of you throughout the spring at the Town Hall, Community Meetings Tour, and Earth Day Clean-Up. We appreciate the honest conversations about neighborhood strengths as well as challenges and are energized to use them to shape our work to best support a vibrant future. If you could not make the meetings, find a recap on pages 28-31 along with a QR code to share input via a brief survey.

Our spring engagement work has us even more excited for summer than ever! Whether you join us for The Hooley on June 10, shop local at the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market, bring the kids to Pop-Ups in the Park, or sign up to volunteer, we hope to see you soon! Check out the great line-up of local musicians — some new and some long-time favorites — for The Hooley and Farmers Market on pages 14-16.

In addition to the always popular music at the market, join us in going green with our long-running Perennial Exchange tradition as well as Bike to the Market Day, and workshops related to sustainability throughout the summer and fall. The Green Team is always looking for more volunteers, and they have an exciting Pollinator Pathway project launching this summer. The Green team is coordinating with Friends of Impett Park as they also work on developing pollinator and native plant gardens to help beautify the park.

Help us continue to build an engaged community! Reach out to us to plan a block party, help organize a block-wide clean-up day, or host a conversation about the needs of your area. Contact Rebekah@westparkkamms.org or 216-252-6559 x 1000.

Cheers to a great summer!

Rosemary Mudry | Executive Director

Susan P. Blankenship | Board President

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# Charlie's Beverage Celebrates Their 30th Anniversary

By Ben Campbell

Charlie Eadeh opened Charlie's Beverage in May of 1993 in its current location at 15803 Lorain Avenue. He said he chose the storefront because he saw the value in the highly visible main street location that had off-street parking. Adding to his comfort with his decision was that he was familiar with the West Park community and knew it to be a strong one. Even though the storefront had housed a corner store for years, the inventory was sparse with a limited range of offerings. Right away, Charlie set out to make improvements to the store and add to its inventory. Initially leasing the space, he was so heartened by the neighborhood's reception to the store that he bought the building in 1998.

Michael Eadeh, Charlie's son, started working at the store when he was just 12 years old and was promoted to store manager when he was 18 years old. After graduating from Cleveland State University with a degree in International Business, Michael thought his career opportunities would be outside of Cleveland. However, he decided to stay and continue to work for the family business. He and his father now



The Eadeh family in front of Charlie's Beverage

co-manage the store and are there every day.

From day one, Charlie said he worked to establish relationships with mem-

bers of the community. Early on, Charlie helped solidify his reputation and trust in the neighborhood. One day, he made a sale to an adult that seemed off. After the man left the store, he had a feeling in his gut that the purchase was made on behalf of underage drinkers. Rather than close the register and move on, he locked up the store and followed the man down a driveway to a nearby apartment building. Sure enough, the man was handing off the liquor to teenagers, so he seized the liquor, gave the man his money back, told the man he was banned from the store, and alerted the teenagers' parents.

While the store continues to draw new customers, it has customers that have shopped there for years — some of whom are so loyal that they return to shop at Charlie's Beverage, even after they have moved out of the neighbor-

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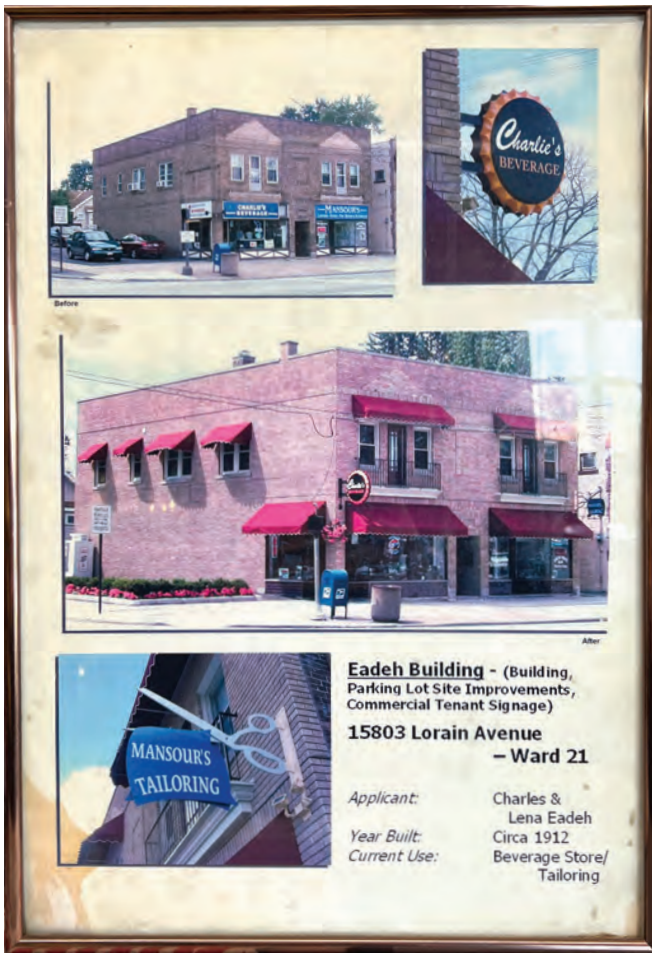
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While the store continues to draw new customers, it has customers that have shopped there for years — some of whom are so loyal that they return to shop at Charlie’s Beverage, even after they have moved out of the neighborhood.

Storefront Renovation Program plaque

hood. Michael said sometimes it feels more like a barbershop than a convenience store as customers do their shopping and then linger to share stories and chat about current events and local sports.

Over the years, efforts to improve the store and property have continued. A building renovation was completed through the Storefront Renovation Program and included storefront updates, new signage, awnings, and landscaping beds to add greenery on the West 158th side of the property. More recently, realizing the need to adapt and keep the business competitive, they purchased all new coolers to enhance the efficiency and capacity of the former outdated coolers. In addition to traditional beer mainstays, they now carry about 250 craft beer varieties and have added an international wine selection (USA and other countries) at different price levels. For convenience items, they offer a small grocery section with staples like milk, juice, butter, and packaged meats.

After all of these years, Charlie and Michael say they have so many stories to tell they could write a book. We will update you when that book comes out. ■



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# Spreading the Word About Gardens in West Park — David Horneck

By Rebekah Ferro

As spring turns into summer, and more plants and flowers are blooming, one resident has been hard at work for the last eight years making sure that Cleveland knows that some of the best gardens in the city are right here in West Park. That resident is David Horneck, a freelance artist, photographer, picture framer, small event planner and caterer, and an avid gardener who has been leading the charge for making sure West Park is a featured part of the Cleveland GardenWalk.

David bought his house on Chatfield Avenue in 2007. He chose West Park because he loves being close to the Metroparks, the friendly residents, the great location within the City of Cleveland, and the neighborhood feel that can be found in West Park. He also enjoys all the restaurants and small businesses that are close to home.



David Horneck in front of his 1960s style outdoor bar.

Since gardening is one of David's passions, having a large yard at his home appealed to him when he was looking

to purchase his house. He has dedicated many hours to turn his yard into a spectacular garden. One of the highlights of his garden is a small building that acts as storage in the winter but gets converted into a 1960s style outdoor bar in the summer! As part of his passion for gardening, David got involved in the annual Cleveland GardenWalk in 2015. He had attended the GardenWalk in Buffalo, New York, and was inspired to get involved in Cleveland's GardenWalk. David immediately took on a leadership role and became a garden finder for West Park, and has remained involved each year.

GardenWalk Cleveland was started in 2011 by Jan Kious and Bobbi Reichtell, who, like David, were inspired by the Buffalo Gard-

enWalk to bring a similar program and event to Cleveland to highlight the fantastic gardens and green spaces in the city. Since then, GardenWalk has grown to not only feature gardens but also the Cleveland neighborhoods and their gardeners. Last year, GardenWalk featured eleven neighborhoods of Cleveland, including West Park, Fairfax, Glenville, Ohio City, Old Brooklyn, Tremont, Collinwood, Little Italy, Broadway Slavic Village, the Clifton Baltic Neighborhood of Edgewater, and Detroit Shoreway, showcasing over 380 gardens.

David believes GardenWalk is important for Cleveland because it brings neighborhoods together and helps residents get to know their neighbors. GardenWalk also helps the environment by encouraging and inspiring residents to consider converting their lawns into

A photograph of a large, light blue planter box filled with various green plants, including ferns and leafy greens. A blue butterfly is perched on one of the plants. The background is a wooden fence. Text is overlaid on the image.

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Sat Jul 8, 2023: Fairfax, Glenville, Ohio City, Old Brooklyn, Tremont, West Park  
Sun Jul 9, 2023: Broadway Slavic Village, Clifton-Baltic, Collinwood, Detroit Shoreway, Little Italy



David's garden area



gardens. David's favorite part of GardenWalk is the weekend of the event. He appreciates all the hard work and pride that residents take in their gardens and loves the opportunity for the community to come together and admire

the beauty of their neighborhoods. He likes the feature of getting to meet the gardener(s) who spent so much time making their yard and gardens look the way they do. The sharing of ideas and stories that connect people through

this event is very inspiring for him. In the future, David hopes that GardenWalk Cleveland can grow to get more involved in the neighborhoods, offer classes on gardening, and even potentially offer scholarships to student gardeners. He also hopes more people will get involved and will add their gardens to the event. David now serves as the Co-Chair for the Marketing Committee of GardenWalk Cleveland.

When David isn't gardening or doing freelance work, he enjoys riding his bike, visiting the Metroparks, bird watching, kayaking, hosting dinner parties, and traveling. He also enjoys photography and even has pieces in some corporate buildings and hospitals around Cleveland. David has also volunteered for the Arthritis Foundation. When asked about what his perfect West Park would look like, David said he would love to have more bike lanes on the streets, more trees on the tree lawns, more public art in the neighbor-



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1960s style outdoor bar interior

David believes GardenWalk is important for Cleveland because it brings neighborhoods together and helps residents get to know their neighbors.

hood, and he would make Impett Park more of a destination in Cleveland with picnic tables and pavilions. He would also like to see a public art space in

the neighborhood. David is a friendly neighbor who cares deeply about the beauty and sustainability of West Park. We thank him for his many years of

dedication to GardenWalk Cleveland and look forward to seeing his garden this summer!

GardenWalk Cleveland 2023 will be on Saturday, July 8 and Sunday, July 9 from 10am-5pm. West Park gardens will participate on Saturday, July 8 from 10am-5pm. If you would like more information, would like to add your garden to GardenWalk Cleveland, or would like to volunteer, you can visit the Garden Walk Cleveland website at [gardenwalkcleveland.org](http://gardenwalkcleveland.org). ■





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# New Ceramic Studio Opens in Kamm's Corners *By Ben Campbell*

**D**anielle Dore recently opened The Mudroom Pottery Studio in a storefront at 16848 Lorain Avenue. She has family roots in the neighborhood and had been looking for space in Lakewood and West Park Kamm's before settling on her new location.

Her studio has three main functions. First, displaying and selling ceramics that she has made (in the future, she plans to expand her displays to include pieces by other artists and her students). Second, she offers classes to children, adults, and senior citizens at introductory and intermediate levels. Third, she uses it as a production facility for her and her students to create new works. In addition, she offers open studio time for experienced ceramic artists.

After receiving her Bachelor in Fine Arts from the Cleveland Institute of Art, she spent 16 years teaching art at Notre Dame College and then the Beck



Center where she also managed their pottery center.

Opening her own studio has had the



added benefit of reducing her travel time between teaching and studio time producing her own work. The studio offers her the opportunity to “focus more of my time on creating new work as well to share my experience and joy in creating ceramics with others.”

The storefront is open weekdays from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. and weekends by appointment only. For more information, call 216-379-4967 or go to [doreceramics.com](http://doreceramics.com) (there is a link on the website to The Mudroom Pottery Studio). ■

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# Volunteer with West Park Kamm's!

By WPKND Staff



2023 kick-off meeting

With all of the events and goings on in the neighborhood, the one group that helps WPKND make it all happen is our dedicated community of volunteers.

It would not be possible to carry out the wide range of services and projects we provide without the hard work and dedication of our many volunteers. From cleanups and events, to neighborhood projects and services, volunteers are out there doing the work to make West Park a better place for everyone. Last year we had 175 volunteers across 15 volunteer opportunities in the neighborhood. Of those volunteers, 124

helped with cleanups alone. Volunteers also support The Hooley, Kamm's Corners Farmers Market, MLK Day of Service, emergency snow removal services, the 5-Points Pilot Project, and more!

Volunteering provides not just service, but a sense of community. Connecting with neighbors to work towards a common goal brings the neighborhood together in amazing ways. WPKND is proud of our resident volunteers who

show up to improve their neighborhood, help make an event the best it can be, and lend a hand to their neighbors in need.

We also enjoy providing businesses, school groups, and organizations with the opportunity to give back to their communities through volunteering and days of service. Some of the groups we partnered with last year were Saint Joseph Academy, Douglass and Associ-





Volunteers at the Kamm's Corners Farmer's Market

ates, the Rocky River Watershed Council, Birchwood School of Hawken, and Saint Mark School.

West Park Kamm's is grateful for the time and dedication that our neighbors and friends put into helping make West Park a wonderful, clean, friendly, and fun neighborhood. Thank you — your care and commitment strengthen the community.

If you're looking to get more involved in the community, consider volunteering with WPKND! There are many opportunities to engage this summer:

**WEST PARK GREEN TEAM:** Are you interested in sustainability, green projects, and keeping our neighborhood clean? Consider joining the West Park Green Team! Participate in one of the

clean-ups planned for the summer or help with the Pollinator Project. Enjoy staying in the loop and contribute to our sustainability newsletter with all the latest green news from across Cleveland.

**EVENTS:** Do you love attending our summer events? Do you ever wish you could be more involved? Consider volunteering at The Hooley or Kamm's Corners Farmers Market. We could always use help with set up, tear down, or the many odd tasks during the event. Come celebrate the summer with us!

**NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT:** Have you ever wanted to help out your neighbors but didn't know where to start? Our neighborhood support projects provide a wide range of help to our residents throughout the year including emergency snow shoveling, leaf raking, and assisting a neighbor in need. ■

—Rebekah Ferro

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# Volunteer...

## VOLUNTEERS CELEBRATE EARTH DAY WITH TRASH CLEAN-UPS

West Park volunteers and the West Park Green Team honored Earth Day and helped keep the neighborhood beautiful with a trash clean-up. Despite a rainy and cold morning, 40 volunteers participated in a community clean-up across six locations. The students of Valley View Boys Leadership Academy and Douglas MacArthur Girls Leadership Academy showed their dedication to leadership and service by cleaning up around their school. Trash was also collected at Impett Park, Rainbow Park, the West Park Rapid Station, and on Old Lorain Rd. In total, 333 pounds of garbage was collected. It is heartening to see members of the community come together to make a positive impact on their surroundings.



Volunteers at the clean-up not only helped to beautify the local environment, but they also contributed to the larger goal of preserving our planet. With each piece of trash collected and properly disposed of, the volunteers helped prevent it from ending up in our oceans, harming wildlife, and polluting our natural resources. By taking part in this community event, the West Park Volunteers have set an example for others to follow, reminding us that we all have a role to play in protecting our

planet and bettering our community. Their actions demonstrate that many small efforts can make a big impact! ■

—Emily Pikturna



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# Volunteer...

## GREEN TEAM RECEIVES NEIGHBORUP ACTION GRANT FOR POLLINATOR GARDENS

Thanks to the work of wonderful volunteers, the West Park Green Team has recently received grant funds from the NeighborUp Action Grant to create pollinator gardens for residents throughout West Park! This initiative aims to enhance the community's beauty and to provide an essential habitat for pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and birds. Pollinators play a crucial role in preserving the ecosystem's health, and in urban areas where green spaces are scarce, pollinators often encounter difficulties in locating suitable habitats and food sources. Therefore, the creation of pollinator gardens in areas like West Park is vital to support pollinator populations and ensure their survival.

Traditional lawns require a lot of water, fertilizer, and pesticides, which can contribute to pollution and do not provide habitats for many pollinators. The goal of this project is to encourage residents to replace small areas of traditional monoculture lawns with productive and thriving pollinator gardens filled with native plants.

To bring this initiative to life, the West Park Green Team seeks the as-

sistance of volunteers who share their passion for sustainability and who are interested in pollinators and native plants. There will be two planting sessions, one in June and one in the fall. More details will be posted on WPKND social media. To apply for a free garden, or if you are interested in volunteering, email Emily Pikturna at [emily@westparkkamms.org](mailto:emily@westparkkamms.org).

—Emily Pikturna

### UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EVENTS

Pre-Hooley Cleanup of Lorain Road — Wednesday, June 7, 6-7:30pm  
*Help us prepare for the Hooley by cleaning up Lorain Ave.*

The Hooley — Saturday, June 10  
*Volunteers needed for set up and tear down.*

Kamm's Corners Farmers Market — Sundays, June 11-October 15  
*Volunteers needed for set up, tear down, and help on special event days.*

Clean-up — Thursday, July 27, 6-7:30pm, meet at WPKND offices  
*Volunteers needed for weeding and flower bed care.*

Clean-up — Thursday, August 24, 6-7:30pm, meet at WPKND offices  
*Volunteers needed for weeding and flower bed care.*

If you are interested in volunteering with WPKND, please contact Rebekah Ferro at [rebekah@westparkkamms.org](mailto:rebekah@westparkkamms.org), or call the office at (216) 252-6559 Ext 1000.

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Bus routes **22** and **86** have stops close to the festival.



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# MAIN STAGE

**NOON** Welcome to the Hooley

**12:15 PM** Cleveland Firefighters  
Memorial Pipes and Drums

**12:30 PM** LoConti Band

**2:30 PM** Danny Shipley Trio

**4:00 PM** Rubix Groove

**6:00 PM** Sunrise Jones

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# FAMILY STAGE

**12:30 PM** YMCA Zumba

**1:00 PM** Tower City Chorus

**2:00 PM** O'Malley Irish Dance School

**2:30 PM** Burke Irish Dance School

**3:00 PM** All-American Karate Studio

**3:30 PM** YMCA Line Dancing

**4:00 PM** Brady Campbell Irish Dance

**4:30 PM** Cannon Irish Dance

**5:00 PM** Fire on Fire

## THANK YOU





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# Join us at the Market!

## June 11-Oct. 15

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## Live Music Line-Up

- June 11 | *Cats on Holiday Duo*
- June 18 | *Victor Samalot*
- June 25 | *Apostle Jones Acoustic Trio*
- July 2 | *Savon's Entertainment Ensemble*
- July 9 | *John Lucic*
- July 16 | *Taylor Lamborn*
- July 23 | *Hip to That*
- Aug. 6 | *Brand New Hat*
- Aug. 13 | *Sully Solo Music*
- Aug. 20 | *Pete Lazard*
- Sept. 3 | *Moises Borges*
- Sept. 10 | *Victor Samalot Duo*
- Sept. 17 | *Andrew McManus*
- Oct. 1 | *John Lucic*
- Oct. 8 | *Cats on Holiday Duo*

## Special Events

- Bike to the Market | June 11**
- Perennial Exchange | June 18**
- Pride at the Market | June 25**
- Celebrate the Market | Aug. 6**  
*(National Farmers Market Week!)*
- St. Paddy's at the Market | Sept. 17**
- Perennial Exchange | Oct. 8**
- Halloween at the Market | Oct. 15**

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# FAMILY FUN all summer long!

## pop-ups IN THE PARKS

Join us and our neighborhood partners at your local neighborhood park for arts and culture activities, bounce houses, soccer clinics, dance classes, and more! **Plus, free ice cream for the kiddos!**

6:00–8:00 pm

June 29, 2023 – Davinwood Park  
19115 Davinwood Dr.

July 20, 2023 – Impett Park  
3207 W 153rd St.

August 10, 2023 – Gunning Park  
16700 Puritas Ave.



**GET OUT AND ABOUT IN  
THE NEIGHBORHOOD  
WITH US AND  
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SPOTS THROUGHOUT  
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**June 21 | Nature Walk and Cleanup**  
Meet at Memorial Fields

**August 16 | Dog Walk**  
Meet at Munn Park

**October 11 | Halloween Walk**  
Meet at Alger Cemetery

**All walks begin at 6:00 pm**

**CONTACT REBEKAH FERRO  
FOR MORE INFORMATION**

rebekah@westparkkamms.org | 216-252-6559 x1000

## JOIN THE WOW FUN!





## Meet your Neighbors: John Roche *By Molly Crawford*

If there was one word to describe John Roche it would be dependable. From helping set up and tear down the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market every Sunday, to joining neighborhood clean-ups and planting events, to fixing tents and broken appliances, you can count on John to show up and give his all.

John Roche grew up in Saint Clement Parish in Lakewood. He was the grandson of two sets of Irish immigrants who had gone on the perilous journey of coming to the United States. His dad's family had settled in Lakewood in St. James Parish, while his mother had grown up in St. Colman's Parish near West 65th Street and Madison Avenue. Growing up John was one of eight children, seven boys and one girl. He remembers his childhood as a boisterous one, "there were always basketballs bouncing everywhere, always something going on."



John attended St. Edward High School and then went on to study at John Carroll for a couple of years be-

fore dropping out and going to work for Schirmer Construction. Little did he know then that he would spend his whole 42-year career with Schirmer. "I had pretty much every job you could have," working his way up to co-owner before his retirement last year. He attributes his success to the company he worked for, "I had some good mentors."

Around the time he started working at Schirmer, he would meet his future wife, Kathy at a wedding. The couple went on to date for 10 years before getting married in 1988. "Her birthday is on Christmas, so every year everyone would ask when I was getting her a ring," John remembers. Even his own mother told her to dump him at one point because of his lack of commitment, "my mom was a hoot, she didn't try to be funny, she just was. It was ironic, because she used to tell us kids to break up with our girlfriends before

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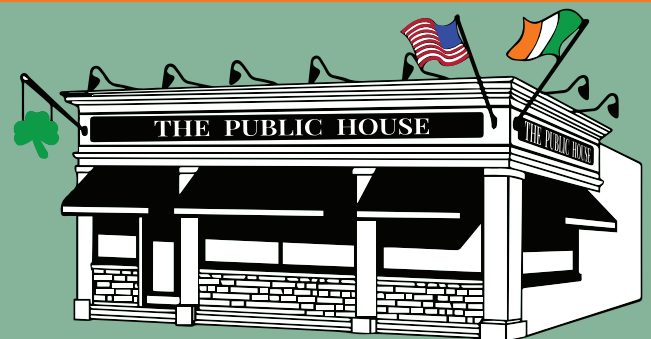
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Christmas so we wouldn't have to get them a gift, and then get back together with them after the New Year."

Regardless, the two got married and bought their home on Rockport Avenue in the Our Lady of Angels Parish in West Park; the couple has always been heavily involved in the parish. They went on to have two kids, Jack and Bridgit, who went to St. Edward High School and Saint Joseph Academy respectively. Both kids still live in West Park, and Jack even works for Schirmer Construction.

It was because of his background in construction that John became involved with WPKND. He was connected to the organization by then-Councilman, Martin Keane who is also a parishioner at Our Lady of Angels. He joined the board of WPKND in 2017 bringing with him expertise in construction. "I wanted to be involved to have a voice," John said of his motivations to join the board. It was after he joined that he became heavily involved in the Kamm's Corners Farmers Mar-

ket. "I really like the market, it helps the neighborhood a lot," John said. During the market season, John is one of the core volunteers, helping set up and tear down the market grounds every week, fixing broken tents and tables, hauling around large items with his truck, and pretty much anything else that needs to be done, "I prefer the hands-on stuff." In between doing all of that, John likes to shop the market as well, "I try to spread the wealth and go to different vendors each week." In addition to KCFM, John also likes to get involved with neighborhood clean-up projects, even braving the rain to attend our latest Earth Day cleanup. "I like doing that kind of stuff and when people see you doing stuff like that it helps them understand that someone is trying," he explained.

Now that he's retired, John spends most of his time golfing, fishing, biking, and doing handyman jobs for his large extended family. "I get calls all the time from cousins, aunts, nieces, nephews, saying this doesn't work, who should I call for this, and usually

its something so simple," he said. Most recently he helped some nuns fix their toilet. Aside from his golf league that plays at Hillard Lakes, John often goes on fishing trips, even going as far as Alaska. Most recently he went on a trip to Virginia to fish. Though he likes to travel, West Park will always be home to John, "I like this neighborhood a lot, especially the Rocky River Reservation, a lot of places don't have the luxury of having those kinds of amenities, plus the Lake, they're really good amenities to have."

John will be rolling off the WPKND Board of Directors at the end of his term in June. WPKND would like to extend our deepest gratitude to John for his years of service to the neighborhood and to the organization. We look forward to continuing to work with John in a volunteer capacity, without him our volunteer force would not be what it is. Despite leaving the Board, John will still be involved with Kamm's Corners Farmers Market, so if you see him at the market, say hi! ■



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# 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!**

Visit [westparkkamms.org/live/maintain-a-home](http://westparkkamms.org/live/maintain-a-home).

The **Healthy Homes Initiative** is a partnership between the City of Cleveland and community development corporations to improve the quality of life of residents and the city's housing stock. Through the program, West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development works closely with residents and landlords in Ward 17 to connect folks with resources, education, and training to help support safe and quality housing for all. *\*indicates income qualifying programs*

**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)

<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.



**PAINT DISCOUNT**  
WPKND has teamed with our local Sherwin-Williams store in Kamms Plaza to offer discounts on paint and painting supplies. All residents of Ward 17 are eligible for the discount. To receive a voucher, contact WPKND at 216-252-6559, limit one per household.

**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



# Senior Living: Investing in a Healthy Home and Healthy You

By Hannah Gall

**W**est Park is a great place to call home. At West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development, we dedicate a lot of time and effort to helping residents maintain, improve, and stay in their homes, and helping the next generation of homeowners put down roots in the community. In a neighborhood in which the fastest growing population groups are those 55 and older and, conversely, five and younger, much of our housing-related work focuses on supporting seniors age-in-place as well as improving our housing stock to appeal to and accommodate new residents and growing families.

The way we do this is three-fold. We connect as many current homeowners as possible to the programs and resources they may be eligible for to maintain and enhance their properties. Behind the scenes, we monitor and step in when necessary to address challenges with vacant, blighted, or investor-owned properties. Lastly, we partner with impactful organizations to support homeowners' needs beyond the physical property to ensure all West Parkers have a great quality of life at home.

On average, WPKND connects about 300 residents to various home repair programs annually, including our own Senior Home Repair grant. The work completed through these programs — from as simple as painting a porch to the more complex like installing a new roof or modernizing a bathroom — is especially impactful to senior homeowners on a fixed income. In the last year, WPKND helped funnel over \$100,000 of investment in home repairs. Not only do these improvements maintain the home for the benefit of the current owner, but they also have a positive ripple effect on neighborhood curb appeal and increased property val-



ues. And particularly for senior homeowners who desire to age-in-place, we are always pursuing opportunities to help complete accessibility-minded home modifications. This year we are excited to work closely with the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging to increase our impact. See pages 23 and 24 for more information on this and other home repair resources and programs.

When the time comes to sell, well-maintained homes are better positioned to sell to the next owner-occupant. Conversely, we see time and time again that dated homes with deferred maintenance — often previously owned by a senior or lower-income family who may have been eligible for repair assistance — are likely candidates for investor buyers. While not all investors are nefarious, WPKND has been tracking an increase in investor purchases, some

of which are used as rental properties rather than remaining an affordable opportunity for homeownership. Another concerning trend is the uptick of solicitations from investor buyers or scams offering to help with repairs, most often sent to homes owned by seniors or with exterior deferred maintenance issues. Consider WPKND a trusted source of information and feel free to come to us to verify offers you may be receiving or to get recommendations for resources and introductions to quality realtors or other professionals.

While the care and keeping of a house and property are important, the safety, health, and happiness of the people inside it are even more so. WPKND helps to connect senior residents with additional types of help, such as yard care and snow removal, utility payment programs, and food and transportation as-

sistance. Additionally, this year we are thrilled to receive support for our Senior Home Repair grant from Dedicated Senior Medical Center and look forward to connecting more West Parkers to their services. As part of this partnership, WPKND and Dedicated will host a lunch and learn series to educate, empower, and provide tangible resources to seniors to improve their current and future housing needs, as well as maintain mental, social, and physical health and well-being.

Whether you're looking to downsize, grow, or age-in-place in West Park, WPKND is here to help make sure your house is a happy, healthy, and safe home. As we swing into another summer season, our Healthy Homes property surveys (be sure to say "hello!" to our Healthy Homes Specialist if you see him on your block) and outreach will ramp up and we hope you'll engage with us on any housing concerns and needs. A list of common housing resources, programs, and contact information can be found on pages 20 and 21. ■

## NEW PROGRAM AVAILABLE THROUGH WPKND PARTNERSHIP WITH WESTERN RESERVE AREA AGENCY ON AGING – WRAAA WORKS!

**WRAAA Works!** is for seniors who own and live in their homes and need modifications to stay safe and healthy. This program provides urgent home repairs and modifications to prevent low-income seniors and adults with disabilities from suffering injuries and falls or having to move out of their homes into assisted living. Types of modifications available include:

- Grab bars
- Toilet rails
- ADA toilets
- Disability accommodating showers
- Wheelchair and walker ramps
- Stair safety rails (indoor and outdoor)
- Easy to open windows

**Projects are limited by material and contractor availability. Reach out to learn more and see if you are eligible, while funding lasts: Hannah Gall, [hannah@westparkkamms.org](mailto:hannah@westparkkamms.org), 216-252-6559 x 1700.**



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# Healthy Living for Seniors

Enhancing your Home, Wellbeing, Finances, and Relationships as an Older Adult.



There's no question that older adults are faced with many challenges and important decision-making related to aging-in-place, quality of life, and estate planning. Additionally, the last few years have had a profound impact on the way seniors think about health, money, and social interactions. Join WPKND and Dedicated Senior Medical Center at an upcoming Healthy Living for Seniors lunch & learn to explore ways to navigate these changes and challenges. These seminars will educate, empower, and provide tangible resources to seniors to improve their current and future housing needs through topics about home repair and modifications as well as important financial and asset planning. Senior health resources will be provided by Dedicated Senior Medical Center. Participants will discover the unique ways Dedicated Senior Medical Center helps you maintain mental, social, and physical health, so that you can continue living healthy, happy, and at home. Lunch provided! RSVP to Hannah Gall, 216-252-6559 x 1700 or [hannah@westparkkamms.org](mailto:hannah@westparkkamms.org).



**Dedicated Senior**  
Medical Center  
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## DATES & LOCATIONS:

**Thursday, August 3, 11:30am-1pm:**

St. Mark's Church,  
15800 Montrose Avenue

**Wednesday, September 20, 11:30am-1pm:**

West Park YMCA,  
15501 Lorain Avenue

**Wednesday, October 18, 11:30am-1pm:**

Gunning Rec Center,  
16700 Puritas Avenue

# BECOME A FRIEND!

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

**FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS**, WPKND has been serving our residents and community. With your support, WPKND can continue to strengthen our neighborhood, with residents and businesses working together to help our neighborhood prosper.



The WPKND housing team connects with more than 300 residents per year to provide resources and support related to repair and utility assistance programs, sharing renovation financing tools, leading DIY workshops to teach residents how to fix their homes, and support aging in place. Through our Senior Home

Repair Program, which provides technical assistance, project and contractor management, and funding to seniors, we invested more than \$17,000 in 28 projects and hundreds of hours of staff time.



We are lucky to be home to more than 200 businesses in the West Park Kamm's area. Owning a business is hard work, and WPKND provides soup-to-nuts assistance for both existing businesses and those looking to make our neighborhood home. WPKND also focuses our work on guiding and supporting large-scale real estate

development and facilitating neighborhood infrastructure and planning projects that create better public spaces like the Old Lorain Connector Project. In 2022, WPKND was able to secure \$750,000 through Cuyahoga County to help make this project a reality in the coming years.



Finally, our work engages the community and brings people together through events like The Hooley, a street festival that celebrates the neighborhood and showcases our Kamm's Corners businesses, KCFM, Pop-Ups in the Parks, and others. From June through October, every Sunday, the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market is the gathering spot to meet neighbors, enjoy live music, learn more about health, wellness, and sustainability, and — most importantly — get fresh produce and local foods from some of the best farms and small food businesses in the region.

**On behalf of the staff and board of West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development, we are thankful for your contribution!**



**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





# See you at Summer Events! *By Councilman Charles Slife*

Happy Summer Ward 17! A quick thank you to all who came to Impett Park on April 1 for the Ward 17 Easter egg hunt! The kids had a great time and I'm looking forward to getting the gang back together in 2024! My wife, Holly, and I love how friendly and active our West Park neighborhood is. I'm a big believer that events like this build community and keep our neighborhood strong. With that in mind, let's get ready for a summer of fun in Ward 17!

As you're seeing in this magazine, The Hooley is June 10 and I'm proud to be a sponsor. I hear from residents across the region that The Hooley is their favorite of Cleveland's street festivals. Head down to Lorain Avenue on June 10 and then head back on July 4 for the Independence Day parade, hosted by West Park Kiwanis!

Another personal favorite is the

West Park GardenWalk, happening this year on Saturday, July 8. In addition to giving me pointers for my own garden, GardenWalk is an amazing opportunity to showcase how amazing living in West Park is! GardenWalk draws visitors from across the region and as far away as Toronto, and I am always excited to hear visitors say "this is such a great neighborhood!" If you want to learn more about participating in GardenWalk and showing off all your hard work, give my office a call at 216-664-4239 and I'll connect you to organizers.

And as always, contact my office if you're interested in hosting a summer block party. They're great ways to get together with neighbors and kids love playing in the street!

I'll see you in the neighborhood, likely on my bike with kids in tow! ■



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## Leg pain? PAD may be the cause.



Roy Miler, MD

While peripheral artery disease (PAD) affects between 8 and 12 million Americans, it often goes undiagnosed and untreated. With PAD, arteries leading to areas outside of the brain and heart become blocked, including the neck, arms and belly, but most often the legs and feet.

### Risk factors for PAD include:

- Heart disease.
- Diabetes.
- Smoking.
- Age 50 or older.
- Being African American.
- Personal or family history of heart or blood vessel disease.

“The most typical symptom is heaviness or aching in your legs while walking that improves when you stop and rest. More severe symptoms may be poor wound healing,

ulcers and even gangrene,” says Cleveland Clinic vascular surgeon Roy Miler, MD.

PAD is more treatable when diagnosed early, and may include monitoring cholesterol levels and blood pressure, supervised exercise, weight control and smoking cessation.

“When PAD affects your daily activities, or if you develop ulcers, interventional therapies work well,” explains Cleveland Clinic vascular surgeon Christopher Smith, MD. “These include balloon angioplasty, stenting or atherectomy (cutting out the blockage). In some cases, surgical treatments are needed, such as removal of plaque from a blood vessel or bypass of the blocked artery.”

Dr. Miler and Dr. Smith see patients at Cleveland Clinic West Valley Medical Building in Fairview Park and Richard E. Jacobs Health Center at Richard E. Jacobs Campus in Avon. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Miler or Dr. Smith, call 440.333.8600.



Christopher Smith, MD

## ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY HELPS SEPSIS PATIENTS.



Naren Alappan, MD

Sepsis is a life-threatening medical emergency caused by your body’s overwhelming response to an infection. Untreated, it can lead to tissue damage, organ failure and death.

Bacterial infections in the lungs, urinary tract, gastrointestinal system, central nervous system and skin are among the most common causes.

Symptoms include a skin rash, urinary issues, low energy or weakness, fast heart rate, low blood pressure, fever or hypothermia, confusion or agitation, rapid breathing or shortness of breath, extreme pain or discomfort.

“In many sepsis patients, there is no clear source of the infection initially. We follow specific care paths and use X-rays, CT scans and blood cultures to confirm the

cause,” says Naren Alappan, MD, a primary and critical care medicine specialist at Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital. “These care paths ensure consistency of care that is known to make a positive and significant difference in patient outcomes.”

Once diagnosed, timely measures are taken to monitor the patient including cardiovascular and organ function using point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) at the bedside. “This technology allows us to make judgements based on the need for more fluids or medication to personalize patient care,” says Dr. Alappan.

To avoid sepsis, seek treatment for any infections immediately.

Visit [clevelandclinic.org/fairviewhospital](http://clevelandclinic.org/fairviewhospital) for more information about Fairview Hospital.



# WPKND Hosts Annual Town Hall and Series of Community Meetings By Molly Crawford



In mid-April, West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development invited West Parkers to our Annual Town Hall event. Hosted at St Joseph Academy, the meeting had nearly 75 attend-

ees and began with a welcome from WPKND Board President Susan Blanksen, followed by remarks from Councilman Charles Slife. Executive Director Rosemary Mudry gave the main

presentation of the evening. She recapped the work that the organization and its staff have been doing over the past year and the impact of that work.


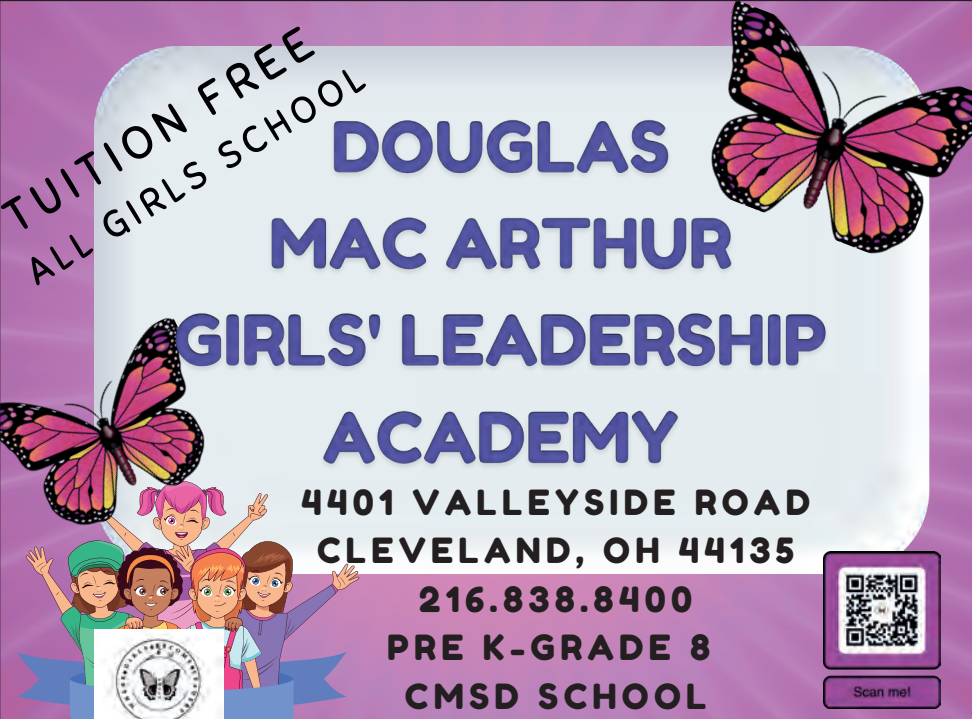
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## INTERESTED IN HELPING IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

WPKND has various volunteer positions available for individuals, families, or groups. Please fill out the form at [westparkkamms.org/about-wpknd/volunteer-with-us](http://westparkkamms.org/about-wpknd/volunteer-with-us) or call Devon at 216-252-6559 x1000 or email [devon@westparkkamms.org](mailto:devon@westparkkamms.org).



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brating the eight development projects that have been completed, started, or are currently underway in the neighborhood. Those eight projects amount to almost \$73 million in investment within Ward 17. Mudry singled out the \$1.5 million in funding that has been approved for the Old Lorain Connector project as an exciting future project. On the housing side, we were able to complete 28 Senior Home Repair projects in 2022, which totaled \$17,000 invested in homes in the neighborhood.

The presentation then shifted to discuss community engagement and our events. One of our most notable programs is Kamm's Corners Farmers

Market, which saw more than 13,500 attendees during its 19-week season. Through our food incentive programs, residents in need accessed \$37,984 in free fresh food, the equivalent of 32,230 servings of fresh fruits and vegetables. Our other events also saw great attendance; The Hooley saw over 15,000 people along Lorain Avenue in 2022, while our other summer programs saw 1,200 attendees. An additional 900 residents were engaged through community meetings and surveys that WPKND held in 2022. To view our 2022 Year in Review report, visit: [westparkkammms.org/reports/](http://westparkkammms.org/reports/).

WPKND also celebrated resident

The presentation included highlights of the year and community awards.

and partner impact with community awards. Laura's Home was awarded the Community Impact Award for their recent renovation and expansion project that added 10,000 sq ft of space to the building and created new childcare spaces for kids of all ages, as well as a new playground outside for the families to utilize. Linda Uveges, the CEO of the City Mission and Jaime Buxton, the Community Engagement Manager for the City Mission attended.


The second award of the night, the Emerging Leader Award, went to Friends of Impett Park. The award was




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FARMERS MARKET**


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**Young's Art Center**  
Community Events



**Creating Humans** June 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 4pm  
A Fashion Experience  
Live Fashion Show & Art Installation  
Featuring: Live music, runway models, vendors, painting demos



**FOODIE:**  
A Contemporary look at Pop Art  
Opening Reception July 15<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm  
July 22 is Meet the Artist Super Saturday.

**Classes, Clubs, & Camps**  
June 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Art Mini Camp 10am-12pm ages 7-10  
1pm-3pm ages 11-14  
June 10<sup>th</sup> Resin Pendants workshop 3-4:30pm

**22084 Lorain Rd, Fairview Park Oh 44126**  
**216 370 2414**

**Super Saturdays: Class Schedule**  
June 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> & July 22<sup>nd</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> & Aug 20<sup>th</sup>  
10:00-10:30 StoryArts: Children 22mo to 5yrs and one parent  
10:45-11:15 Pre-K & Kindergarten Art  
11:30-12:30 Ages 7-12yrs Art workshop  
1:00-2:00 Teen Art Workshop  
3:00-4:00 Adult Art Workshop  
June 26<sup>th</sup> 5:00-6:30 Doodlers Art Club: 16yrs and up  
July 31<sup>st</sup> 5:00-6:30 Doodlers Art Club: 16yrs and up  
Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> 5:00-7:00 Jewelry Making Basics: Earrings  
Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> 5:00-7:00 Jewelry Making All Wired Up: Rings  
Aug 28<sup>th</sup> 5:00-6:30 Doodlers Art Club: 16yrs and up





The Community Impact Award was given to Laura's Home Women's Crisis Center.

accepted by the group's leaders Kate Catanese and Don Hill, both dedicated West Park residents. Both emphasized the importance of well-maintained and activated green spaces to residents of all ages and abilities. "Parks are a great equalizer," Kate remarked.

The Bob Bohr Safety Award was given to First District Community



Don Hill and Kate Catanese accepted the Emerging Leader Award for the Friends of Impett Park.

Engagement Officer, Kerry Adams, for her years of service to the First District and the community it serves. JoAnn Bohr, daughter of the late Bob Bohr whom the award honors, presented the award to Officer Adams and shared how proud Bob would have been of her accomplishments and dedicated service.



JoAnn Bohr presented the Bob Bohr Safety Award to Officer Kerry Adams.

Lastly, Volunteer of the Year was awarded to a dynamic duo, Ardis Janke and Ronnie Havrilla. For years these two have attended trash clean-up events as dedicated volunteers who are always willing to go above and beyond for the sake of their community. Both are also members of the West Park Green Team which is working to



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**IN NEED OF HOME REPAIRS?**

WPKND CAN HELP!  
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Ardis Janke and Ronnie Havrilla were recognized with the Volunteer of the Year Awards.

expand sustainability efforts within the neighborhood. On behalf of West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development, congratulations to all the award winners, and thank you for being upstanding, proactive, and valued members of our community. It was a pleasure to celebrate your service. ■

# COMMUNITY MEETING TOUR UPDATE



Two weeks after the Town Hall, WPKND launched its Community Meeting Tour. The Tour was a series of six community meetings held at various locations throughout Ward 17 that aimed to connect with residents in each area and learn more about their reasons for living in West Park, their challenges as residents, and their vision for the future of their neighborhood. The meetings were held at Riverside Park Community Center, West Park Cleveland Public Library Campus, Our Lady of Angels, Clara E Westropp Elementary School, Gunning Recreation Center, and St. Mel's Parish.

In the meetings residents and members of the WPKND staff and board discussed three questions: **1.** What do you love about your neighborhood? **2.** What challenges do you face as a resident? **3.** What would an ideal West Park look like?

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! COULDN'T ATTEND THE MEETINGS? TAKE OUR SURVEY NOW!

We are launching a community survey that poses the same questions that we asked during the Tour so that we can hear from everyone who would like to participate. The survey will be open all summer long, scan the QR code to submit your response! If you need a paper copy, contact Rebekah at 216-252-6659 x1000.





# WORLD CLASS CARE IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital is proud to be ranked 3rd in Ohio and among the top hospitals in the U.S. and the world, according to *Newsweek's* World's Best Hospitals 2023 list.

But what fills us with even more pride is every caregiver working towards one goal – delivering world class care. Thanks to every one of our caregivers for always putting patients first.

