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West Park Magazine is published quarterly by West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development

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DEAR NEIGHBORS

he summer season is finally here! Our team has been hard at work gearing up for our seasonal programming over the last several months. We are especially excited to welcome everyone to the 15th anniversary of the Hooley on Saturday, June 8 from noon-8p.m. Expanded activities and entertainment are sure to make this the biggest celebration yet and we hope to see everyone there.

In addition to the community events on the horizon, West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development is also pleased to announce that David Robinson will be joining the organization as our new Executive Director. David brings with him a wealth of experience in community development, and we are excited to continue to advance the mission of WPKND under his leadership. The staff at WPKND would like to thank the Board of Directors for their time and commitment to identifying a new Executive Director after a robust and thoughtful search. You can read more about David on page 10.

Another exciting change coming to WPKND is a new office. We are currently in the process of moving into a space on the first floor of the building we currently occupy and plan to welcome everyone to the space later this year. The new office will provide a more accessible and welcoming environment for our staff and residents so that we can better serve the members of our community.

Opportunities to engage with your community and neighbors will be in no short supply over the next several months. The Kamm's Corners Farmer Market returns on Sunday, June 16, Pop ups in the Park will be back starting July 16, and our Home Repair Workshops will return in August. Keep your eyes out for various volunteer opportunities and neighborhood cleanups as well.

As we touched on in the spring issue of the magazine, now is the season to start thinking about tackling some of those home repair projects you might have deferred in colder months. Our team highlights a few specific programs available to residents on pages 26 and 27.

Our Tree Stewards are also hard at work caring for the more than 50 trees planted last year in the community with 25 more to come thanks to Cuyahoga County's Healthy Urban Tree Canopy Initiative. Meet our Tree Stewards on pages 11-13. I hope those of you who received a free tree via the First Energy Tree Program are enjoying the new addition to your landscape.

There's lots to look forward to this season in West Park Kamm's and we hope to see you out amidst the sunshine soon!

Joe Dill | Director of

Neighborhood Development

Susan P. Blankenship | Board President

DAVID ROBINSON Executive Director david@westparkkamms.org | x1100

MOLLY CRAWFORD Director of Community Development molly@westparkkamms.org | x1500

JOE DILL Director of Neighborhood Development joe@westparkkamms.org | x1200

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

ALLISON WOODS Neighborhood Development Manager allison@westparkkamms.org | x1700

WPKND Celebrates Community Award Winners at Annual Town Hall By Molly Crawford

est Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development held its Annual Town Hall event in April at Saint Joseph Academy. The event began with remarks from Susan Blankenship, the President of WPKND's Board of Directors, who spoke about the history of the organization and our work, as well as the recent search and hiring process for a new Executive Director. This culminated in the announcement that David Robinson has been appointed West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Developments New Executive Director. Learn more about David on page 10. Susan was followed by Councilman Charles Slife who touched on several ongoing and soon-to-start infrastructure projects in the neighborhood. To learn more about these updates, read Councilman Slife's article on page 21.

The main presentation of the evening was given by WPKND's Director of Neighborhood Development, Joe Dill, and focused on major accomplishments from 2023. Firstly, Joe touched on business and real estate work, highlighting four projects that were completed in



the year totaling to \$40 million in investment in the neighborhood. Next, he highlighted our housing team and the work they do for our local homeowners. In 2023, WPKND completed 23 senior home repair projects totaling to \$11,500.

WPKND's Director of Neighborhood Development, Joe Dill

In addition to these awards, WPKND also distributed over \$240,000 in other home repair grants. Lastly, he touched on community engagement and event work, centering annual events like the Hooley and KCFM, while also touching on newer programs like our Pollinator Pathways program, which planted 290 native plants over 23 gardens last summer, and the 21st Century Afterschool Program hosted at Clara E Westropp Elementary School, which provides a free afterschool program to over 60 students. To view our full 2023 Year in Review Report, visit westparkkamms. org/reports.

The meeting concluded with a celebration of the four community award winners and a reminder of our upcoming summer events, including the Hooley on June 8 from noon to 8 p.m. and the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market. which returns on Sundays, beginning June 16.

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The Community Impact Award was given to Franciscan Village (represented by Alister Englehart) for their investment of \$25 million in back-to-back renovation and expansion projects.



Lesley Vizurraga was awarded the Emerging Leader Award for her leadership of the West Park Professionals group.



The Bob Bohr Safety Award was given to Matt Whisenhunt for a crosswalk painting project near Apelt Avenue.



John Roche is the Volunteer of the Year. Awarded for years of dedication to KCFM, the Hooley, and other neighborhood events.





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Cleveland Clinic Seeks Community Feedback on Future of Fairview Hospital By Joe Dill

n April 10, West Park residents gathered at the Cleveland Clinic to continue conversations surrounding the Clinic's plan for a reimagined Fairview campus. The Clinic currently has three structures that are beyond their useful life and need to be replaced, including a seven-story medical office building, two-story Moll Cancer Center, and the Groveland Avenue parking garage. The medical office building and cancer center serve around one hundred thousand patients each year. The existing parking garage on Groveland Avenue accommodates seven hundred vehicles. Replacing the structures will require a plan that allows the hospital to remain fully functional while the new buildings are constructed.

To achieve this, the Clinic recently completed the demolition of seven



homes they owned along West 179th Street, with an eighth home also owned by the Clinic on West 179th to be removed this summer. In assessing how to maximize the efficiency of their campus, the Clinic is exploring options

on all property they own, including a surface lot along Lorain Avenue across from Kamm's Plaza.

At the meeting, the Clinic shared five different massing concepts that showed how the campus could be laid out in the



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future. These showed only the size and scale of the proposed structures, and not a design concept for how they might look. Attendees were invited to view each option presented and give direct feedback either in-person at the meeting or via an online form. Representatives from Clinic staff were present at each

station to answer questions and discuss the options with the community.

Aside from the structures that need to be replaced, the Clinic is also seeking to solve for an employee parking shortage with their new campus. Presently, some Clinic employees are shuttled from Fairview Hospital to a satellite lot at the IX Center to mitigate the parking shortage. In total, the Fairview campus employs around three thousand caregivers.

In addition to solving for parking issues, the Clinic is hoping to achieve a variety of other goals in reimagining their campus including easy access for patients to their facilities, buffer areas between residential properties and the Clinic's campus, and efficient vehicular traffic flow.

The Clinic's team will assess the feedback received from this process and present the community with two to three refined versions at meetings later this year.

All together, depending on which option the Clinic moves forward with, the project reflects a total of a roughly \$150 million investment in the Fairview campus. The entire project will be multi-phased over a number of years. A specific project timeline will be determined after a concept for the campus is finalized.



5 Points Café **Expands with New Bakery** By Joe Dill

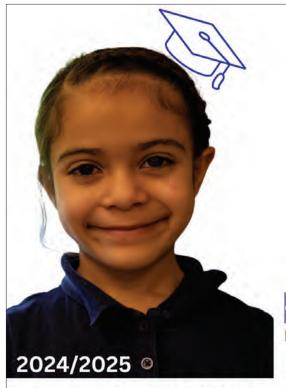
hen you are on the hunt for fresh baked Irish goods, look no further than Five Points Café. The café has been a staple for the last seven years in West Park and they are excited to begin to expand their pastry options.

For the last few years, the team at Five Points has been eyeing a location across the street from their shop to expand their back-of-house operations and add in a kitchen space. Those familiar with the neighborhood will remember Monzo's at 3601 West Park Road as the space where the Five Points team now prepares their baked goods. They have been quietly working on the space after acquiring it in July 2023 and started officially baking there in January of this year.



The journey to this new endeavor began even longer ago, though. For roughly the last decade, Lindsey Buscher has been honing her skills as professional baker. She joined the team at Five

Points Café in 2021 as a barista and will now be leading the kitchen for the café. She began her baking career dabbling in pies and breads and has since grown her repertoire to encompass all the



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goods she makes for Five Points Café.

As you might expect, Five Points Café will offer several pastry options that feature Irish staples mixed with locally-sourced ingredients. On the menu you will find items like sausage rolls, scones, shortbreads, muffins, cookies, and on the weekends, specials like homemade pop tarts.

Scones have thus far been the most popular item amongst customers with the sausage rolls coming in a close second. The sausage rolls are filled with meats from K&K Meats and Kilroy's Irish sausage. Another interesting item on the menu is their take on a chocolate chip cookie with Tayto chips. The Irish cheese and onion flavored potato chip gives a unique flavor to the cookie (after having one myself, I would recommend giving it a try).

Their kitchen is active seven days a week preparing the items mentioned above, as well as vegan and gluten free options. Anna Nguyen joins Lindsey as the first staff member hired specifically to focus on baking.

Aside from their own location, Five Points Café is also wholesaling their baked goods to other coffee shops and eateries around the area. In the future, they hope to expand this option to the general public on their website so that customers can order items in larger quantities if they so choose.

Five Points Café is located at 3600 West Park Road and is open 6:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday and 7:30 a.m. -2 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.



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WPKND Appoints New Executive **Director David Robinson**

By WPKND Board and Staff

est Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development proudly announces the appointment of David Robinson as its new Executive Director, effective May 20, 2024.

Robinson brings a wealth of experience and a proven track record in economic and community development, making him an ideal candidate to lead West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development into its next chapter. With more than a decade of experience in various leadership roles, Robinson has demonstrated his ability to drive positive change and foster community growth.

"We are delighted to welcome David Robinson as our new Executive Director," said Susan Blankenship. Board President of West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development. "His extensive experience in economic development and his commitment to community engagement



"I am honored to join West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development and am eager to apply my experience to support the growth and prosperity of the West Park Kamm's neighborhood." - David Robinson

make him the perfect fit to lead our organization."

Robinson's tenure at University Circle, Inc. equipped him with valuable skills and insights that will directly benefit the West Park Kamm's neighborhood. His strategic approach to program management and partnership development has led to successful initiatives that have enhanced communities and stimulated economic growth.

Robinson grew up south of Akron in the City of Green. In 2007, he attended the University of Akron where he later began working at a community

> development agency focused on the neighborhoods surrounding the university campus and Summa Health System. He has lived in Cleveland's Old Brooklyn neighborhood nearly eight years with his dog Gyro. Expect to see him this summer as he explores West Park in search of his new

favorite ice cream shop.

"I am honored to join West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development and am eager to apply my experience to support the growth and prosperity of the West Park Kamm's neighborhood," said Robinson.

As Executive Director, Robinson will leverage his expertise to develop and implement strategic initiatives that address the unique needs and challenges of the West Park community. His proven ability to build partnerships and mobilize resources will be instrumental in driving sustainable development and improving the quality of life for our residents.



Meet the West Park Tree Stewards By Emily Pikturna

est Park Kamm's takes great pride in introducing five new part-time team members, the West Park Tree Stewards! These individuals will be working to engage residents to expand the tree canopy on the south side of Ward 17. They will also be responsible for watering and maintaining the 55 trees planted last fall at Cuyahoga County Housing Authority's Riverside Park campus. This program is proudly supported by the Cuyahoga County Healthy Urban Tree Canopy Grant. ■

Meet Taylor at The Hooley! Taylor is performing on the main stage at the Hooley.

TAYLOR LAMBORN, **WEST PARK** TREE STEWARD **MANAGER**

Taylor is a resident of West Park and a constant advocate for the environment. While she is known locally for her performances as a Cleveland-based artist, Taylor's resume also includes teaching and nonprofit and community-based (Plus, a short stint during



the pandemic as a barista at one of West Park's favorite coffee shops, 5 Points!) As an educator, Taylor believes in connection, often using music as a bridge to bring people together and feel a sense of togetherness. She's worked with students at both Douglas MacArthur and Newton D Baker among many others in Northeast Ohio. As a neighbor, Taylor is both honored and excited to work with the community on this project and help put the "Forest" back in "Forest City."

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Meet the West Park Tree Stewards



AARON BANDY, WEST PARK TREE STEWARD

Aaron has been lucky to call West Park home for the past three years after he and his wife moved here from Columbus! His wife is a lifelong Clevelander, and after graduating from OSU, they decided to move back up north and start their family.

They are very happy to have found the community in West Park and try their best to take full advantage of it! Aaron wanted to become a Tree Steward to ensure that his child and any future children have a safe place to live, play, and grow. He loves doing work that positively impacts our community and provides a better life for others.



KEVIN de LEON, **WEST PARK** TREE STEWARD

Kevin grew up on Cleveland's west side and later found himself buying a house in the area too. He enjoys exploring Cleveland's restaurants, neighborhoods. and green spaces. He and his wife especially enjoy biking to the Kamm's Corners Farm-

ers Market in the summer to buy fresh produce and enjoy the community. In December 2023, he and his wife added a new addition to their family, a baby girl. They look forward to sharing Cleveland and exploring together as a family. Kevin is grateful for the opportunity to serve and help create a more sustainable and canopy-filled Cleveland.







ANTHONY GUSMAN. **WEST PARK** TREE STEWARD

Anthony grew up in Cleveland's west side, right along the Metroparks, where he gained an appreciation for the woods and nature. He graduated in Environmental Science, and served two years in AmeriCorps programs working in National

Parks and Wildernesses from Minnesota to Montana. While there his drive for environmental service and conservation only grew. He has spent almost an entire decade working in the outdoors taking care of plants. After living in several different cities, most of which are concrete jungles, he has a much greater appreciation for the unique nature of the Forest City. During the day, he works as a professional arborist, continually training in new ways of tree and plant care in service of the Forest City.



DANNY McLAUGHLIN. **WEST PARK** TREE STEWARD

Danny is an eight-year West Park resident with an interest in trees and the benefits of neighborhood trees. In 2019 he completed the Tree Steward training program at Blessed Trinity. Since then, he's helped with several tree

planting and tree care projects around town and is also an active volunteer with the Bountiful Basement food pantry.

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Sept. 8 | Pete Lazard

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Sept. 2 | Moises Borges

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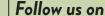
> 5pm - Bingo with Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging

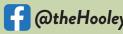
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More than 5,500 babies were delivered at Fairview in 2023, the second highest number of births among all Ohio hospitals. Fairview Hospital's Birthing Center is staffed with 24/7 Ob/Gyn coverage, experienced nurses and lactation nurses who are coaches and confidants. Fairview is also home to a Level III NICU.

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Gynecologic services are available to women of all ages from birth through adulthood for problems like abnormal bleeding and menstrual disorders, chronic pelvic pain, uterine fibroids, sexually transmitted disease, polycystic ovary syndrome, endometriosis, loss of bladder control, pelvic floor disorders, hormonal problems, sexual dysfunction, vaginal discharge, yeast infections and more.

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ROBOTIC SURGERY HELPS IN TIGHT SPACES.



Ajaratu Keshinro, MD

Robotic surgery, one of the latest innovations in minimally invasive surgery, is used for various surgeries at Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital including colorectal cancer surgery.

Compared to traditional open surgery, robotic surgery provides many benefits to patients including less pain, faster recovery, shorter hospital stays and better outcomes.

Most often used for colorectal operations within the pelvis such as sigmoid, rectal and anal cancers, rectal prolapse and diverticulitis, robotic surgery uses specialized technology that enhances the capabilities of the surgeon's hands, allowing them to perform in hard-to-reach areas through small incisions.

"The combination of the confined space of the pelvis and nearby critical structures creates a major challenge when operating in this space laparoscopically," says Ajaratu Keshinro, MD, who performs colorectal surgery at Fairview.

"Robotic surgery is a more exact type of laparoscopic surgery that enables more precise motions and enhanced visualization allowing us to execute complex cases via small incisions."

Dr. Keshinro explains that the use of the robot can better preserve nerves that impact bladder and sexual function, which is important for the patient's post-surgery quality of life. It also allows for faster bowel recovery due to less manipulation of the intestines.

"It's important to reassure patients that the robot doesn't do the surgery. Robotics are just a tool controlled by the surgeon who sits at a console to operate the robotic arms," says Dr. Keshinro. "The surgeon is in constant communication with an assistant at the patient's bedside as they work together to ensure the best possible outcome."

To schedule an appointment, call 216.444.7000.

Celebrating Outstanding Students in West Park By Rebekah Ferro

Meet some stellar West Park students who have shown excellence and leadership in their community, schools, and beyond!

JOSEPH (JOEY) ANDOLINA

St. Mark School—Grade 8.



Meet Joey, a stellar student who demonstrates the qualities of a leader and community builder! Joev has been incredibly active

in his school community by altar serving for Mass on Sundays, special holy days, and funerals, as well as raising money for childhood cancer research both by participating in St. Baldrick's Shave Your Mane event for 10 years and by acting as the emcee for the inaugural St. Mark Hoops for Hope. He participates in both community theater and the St. Mark Drama Club. He is involved in CYO basketball and track, is a member of St. Mark's Classroom of Champions team, which competes monthly in academic competitions at St. Edward High School, assists with decorating St. Mark Church at Christmas, and is also lead anchor of the student-led morning broadcast system WSMS. In the community, Joey volunteers at the Bountiful Basement Hunger Center in West Park passing out groceries to needy families, as well as at Community Cupboard at St. Augustine in Tremont. Joey is highly respected by the faculty, staff, and his peers at St. Mark. He serves as a great role model by showing respect and kindness to all. He has received First

Honors Honor Roll at St. Mark School and will be attending St. Ignatius High School in the fall on a scholarship.

EMMA DIPPEL

Holy Cross Lutheran School—Grade 8



Meet Emma, a remarkably hardworking. honest, and carindividual ing who has left an indelible mark on the Holy Cross Lutheran

School community! She has consistently demonstrated her leadership abilities by working with the kindergarten and first grade students, where she is looked up to as a role model and mentor. Her dedication to helping others shines through not only in her interactions with younger students, but also in her willingness to volunteer her time to help clean the church and school in the evening. Beyond her academic achievements, Emma's kindness and empathy are truly commendable. She is always willing to lend a helping hand to her peers, offering encouragement and support whenever needed. Her positive attitude and compassionate nature have made her a valued member of Holy Cross' school community, and she will undoubtedly be missed upon graduation. Her teachers and principal believe Emma will continue to excel and be a source of inspiration at her future high school due to her commitment to excellence, combined with her strong work ethic and genuine care for others.



ESDRAS GONZALES

Holy Cross Lutheran School—Grade 8



Meet Esdras. someone who is not only a dedicated student but also a remarkable athlete who excels both on and off the field. He is a

natural leader who is always willing to lend a helping hand to his teammates. Esdras goes above and beyond to inspire and motivate his peers, always encouraging them to do their best. His commitment to teamwork and his ability to foster good sportsmanship have positively impacted Holy Cross Lutheran School.

In addition to his athletic achievements, Esdras leads by example, demonstrating kindness, honesty, and trustworthiness in all his interactions. His positive influence on his peers is apparent, and he has become a role model and a mentor for many Holy Cross students.

Esdras' teachers speak highly of him, highlighting his strong work ethic, intellectual curiosity, and willingness to help others. He consistently engages in meaningful discussions in the classroom, displaying a thirst for knowledge and a desire to learn. Esdras' presence in the classroom enriches the learning environment for his peers and teachers alike.

Holy Cross Lutheran School describes Esdras as a remarkable young man who embodies the values of integrity, leadership, and compassion. Esdras was awarded a scholarship to Holy Name High School through the prestigious Marsha Lee Miko foundation, a testament to his hard work, dedication. and leadership qualities.

JOSIAH MACHNICA

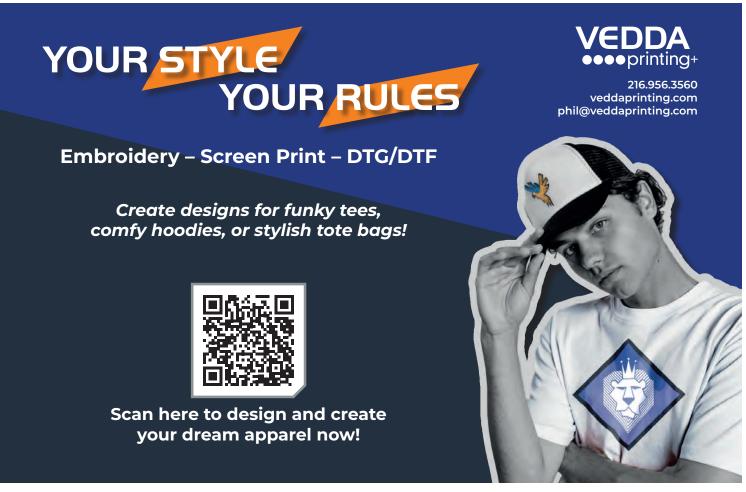
Holy Cross Lutheran School—Grade 8



Meet Josiah. a student who embodies the values of kindness, supportiveness. and selflessness. He serves as a mentor to kindergarten

first-grade students, has a strong work ethic, and is always willing to work hard to meet his goals, whether academic or personal.

Holy Cross Lutheran School highly commends Josiah's commitment to his faith. He not only puts his beliefs into action, but also willingly leads Bible study and prayer in the kindergarten and first-grade classrooms, showcasing his compassionate and empathetic nature. Josiah consistently puts the needs of others before his own, displaying a level of maturity and responsibility



West Park's Outstanding Students

beyond his years. Josiah is a dedicated, compassionate, and driven individual who will undoubtedly make a positive impact wherever his academic journey takes him.

KAMRYN POLAK

Our Lady of Angels School—Kindergarten



Meet Kam, a perfect example of what it means to be an OLA student. He goes out of his way to be kind to everyone, whether in the classroom or on the playground. He always follows classroom and school rules, and his schoolwork is always completed neatly and to the best of his ability. On a daily basis, he shows extraordi-

nary classroom leadership, and his teachers strongly encourage others to follow his example. Our Lady of Angels describes Kamryn as the perfect representation of the theme of their 2023-2024 school year; "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace." (Romans 14:19)

JACKSON DULAY AND CHASE SIMMONS



West Park Community Elementary School — Grade 3 (Jackson) and Grade 4 (Chase)

Meet Jackson Dulay and Chase Simmons (not pictured), a pair of excellent students from West Park Community Elementary School. On top of being stellar students, Jackson

and Chase are also stellar spellers. Both received first place in their grade for the annual Constellation School District Spelling Bee. WPC Elementary is so proud of these two wonderful students!





An Update on City Infrastructure Projects By Councilman Charles Slife



ince joining City Council in 2019, a goal of mine has been to bring more city investment into the Ward 17 neighborhood. Public

dollars have helped bring new life to many parts of the city and, like you, I think that is great. But at the same time, I recognize that City Hall must also reinvest in neighborhoods like West Park. I'm excited that there are significant and exciting capital improvements beginning this year across Ward 17 and I'm looking forward to next summer when they're done.

In previous letters, I've mentioned the indoor pool at Gunning Rec Center, which has been closed for the better part of four years. Construction crews are currently working on a full rebuild of the pool, slated to open as early as the end of 2024. In addition to being a needed reinvestment, the Gunning Pool project is also a testament to the power of collaboration. Though it is located in Ward 17, Gunning is also an important gathering place for residents of Ward 16, too. By advocating alongside Ward 16 Councilman Brian Kazy, we were able to underscore the urgency of rebuilding West Park's indoor swimming pool and have this project prioritized.

Nearer to Kamm's Corners, construction of the Old Lorain Connector projector is set to begin in Fall 2024. When temperatures begin to drop towards the end of summer, construction crews will begin limited tree removal and site preparation along the trail's path between Riveredge Road and Little Met. In spring 2025 as temperatures warm back up, crews will return to finish the project. In Summer 2025, Ward 17 residents will be able to get into the

Rocky River Valley along a new and scenic multipurpose path that will begin at the corner of Riveredge Road and Bradgate Avenue.

The power of advocacy and organizing is soon to be on display in a big way at Impett Park. Friends of Impett Park, a resident-led booster organization for one of Ward 17's great parks, led a community engagement process related to the park's playground. This summer, the existing playground will be removed and replaced with a new playground designed to meet the accessibility needs of all kids. It will have multiple play structures, spinners, interactive play features, and a zip line. At 1.4 million dollars, it is the most expensive playground ever built in a Cleveland park!

As you're out and about this summer, remember that all the construction projects you see are improvements to our great neighborhood!





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Greenways Project Expands Biking Accessibility in West Park

By Molly Crawford

he West Park Better Streets Committee is embarking on its second project in the neighborhood, a neighborhood greenways project. An idea that arose from early meetings the group of residents held; a neighborhood greenway is composed of slow, quiet, residential streets that are designated biking & walking routes to connect different parts of a neighborhood. These paths are also the backbone of a Safe Routes to School network. The Better Streets Committee spent the past summer doing community engagement work around the project, interviewing residents at local events such as the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market in addition to conducting an online survey. Over 60 residents responded, and the



results showed that 95% of residents would be more likely to ride their bikes if there was a network of slow, low-traffic residential streets throughout West Park. In addition, 85% of respondents stated that they would support their street becoming a slow, low-traffic street and promoted as a safe route for bicyclists.

In conjunction with this group's interest in completing a greenways project, the City of Cleveland was also interested in implementing a series of neighborhood greenways throughout the City. Thanks to the early and strong advocacy work from the Better Streets Committee. West Park will be the first neighborhood to pilot this program. Phase 1 of the West Park Greenways project will connect the 5 Points Neighborhood to Gunning Recreation Center, creating a main north-to-south corridor. Phase 2 will add eastto-west extensions in the north and south, as well as extend the route north to

the Lakewood border. The first phase of the project will be underway soon, ioin the West Park Better Streets Committee after Bike to the Market at the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market on June 16th for a group ride of the route! The group will meet at 1 p.m. at the 5 Points intersection.





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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.

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

For Senior Home Repair grants, contact: Allison Woods, 216-252-6559 x1700 or allison@westparkkamms.org

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



Cleveland 50/50 Sidewalk Residential Replacement	Partnership between the city and residents. Eligible repairs include sidewalks, driveway aprons, & curbs at the end of driveways.	
Cleveland Restoration Society (CRS)	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.	
Housing Enhancement Loan Program (HELP)	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.	
West Park Sherwin-Williams Paint Program	Discounts on paint and painting supplies. All those living in Ward 17 are eligible. Limit one per household.	
Senior Home Repair*	Small exterior repair grants of up to \$500 for seniors and adults with disabilities. Grants and grant size are income-qualifying.	
Contractor List	Looking for help with a project at home? WPKND has a list of local contractors and tips for hiring one.	
Cleveland Exterior Paint Program*	Provides free vouchers for paint and supplies to Cleveland homeowner- occupants and renters to paint the exterior of their house.	
Senior Homeowner Assistance Program (SHAP)*	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.	
Age-Friendly Home Improvement Program (AFHIP)*	Program for seniors/disabled homeowners to address critical home repair or maintenance projects.	
Healthy Home Production Program (HHP)	HHP provides a grant to moderate-income Cleveland residents who have 80% of the Area Median Income and reside in (and own) single or two-family homes in need of health and safety repairs.	

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

Healthy Homes Program Grant: New Housing Assistance Program

By CJ Demchak

ew in 2024 is the Healthy Homes Program (HHP) grant. This is a hazard reduction grant that can help complete a major home renovation project up to \$25,000. Aimed at helping families and moderate-income seniors, HHP can be used for siding and windows, garage and driveway, roof replacement, waterproofing, HVAC system repair or replacement, or whole home electrical/plumbing. The income cap is \$47,850 for a single person and \$54,650 for a two-person household. The application must be submitted through the WPKND office and requires income verification.

Income limit is 80% of household income below vs. number of persons in the home: 1p) \$50,600 2p) \$57,850 3_p) \$65,100 4p) \$72,300 5_p) \$78,100 6p) \$83,900 7_p) \$89,700 8_p) \$95,450

Schedule an appointment today to take advantage of this new opportunity! Contact CJ Demchak at (216) 252-6559 x1300 or cj@westparkkamms.org.

Senior Home Repair Program: Helping Older Adults Improve Their Homes By Allison Woods

ince 2016, WPKND has offered a Senior Home Repair assistance program for older adults and adults with disabilities who reside in Ward 17. Residents who are 60+ or are disabled and have a low to moderate income, are eligible to receive up to \$500 to assist with home repairs. Repair services focus on code compliance, quality of life, and safety issues. Projects can range from minor repairs to major projects, focusing on exterior upgrades. These improvements assist the homeowner in meeting code standards, as well as ensuring functionality and accessibility. They also allow the resident to age in place and increase their safety and quality of life. Examples of past projects include front porch repair, handrail installation, and storm door replacement. WPKND staff will assist residents in connecting with local contractors to obtain bids and will help facilitate the completion of the project.

For more information or to get started on your home repair project, please contact Allison Woods, Neighborhood Development Manager at (216) 252-6559 x1700.





Sign up for Summer Home Repair Workshops By CJ Demchak

est Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development and the Home Repair Resource Center are partnering to bring you a series of do-it-yourself home repair workshops this summer! Hosted at the WPKND office every Thursday in August, this is an amazing opportunity to learn more about home repair and empower yourself to take on projects yourself. This series is designed to equip you with the skills and knowledge you need to meet your home repair goals.

- August 8 Power Tools 101 An overview of the more commonly used tools: from drills to miter saws.
- August 15 Carpentry Basics How to measure twice and cut once, as well as basic framing techniques.
- August 22 Drywall Basics Installing new drywall sheeting and patching pesky holes.
- August 29 Plumbing Repairs: Toilets & Faucets Repairs for the most common toilet and faucet manufacturers, like Moen, Delta, and Kohler, and when to repair instead of replace.

So, if your toilet is running, or you're thinking you might need a wall to separate the kids; sign up for one or all of these FREE workshops!







FRIENDS OF WPKND

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, Pop-ups in the Parks, The HooleyTM, 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 with the QR code or mail back the form below!

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