WEST PARK MAGAZINE

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met through community-building,
stewardship, and development initiatives.

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FROM THE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR

DEAR NEIGHBORS,

n typical Cleveland fashion, we jumped quickly from chilly days to summer weather! The warmer temperatures have the team at West Park Kamm's excited for a full summer of community programs.

Join us for the official start to summer when **The Hooley on Kamm's Corners**™, presented by Cleveland Clinic's Fairview Hospital, returns on June 18 from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Lorain Avenue. We'll celebrate West Park with good food from local businesses, a beer garden with selections by Working Class Brewery, live music all day, artisan and commercial vendors, and plenty of fun activities for kids sponsored by our community partners.

It wouldn't be summer in West Park without the **Kamm's Corners Farmers Market**! Enjoy the market every Sunday, beginning June 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with sustainability programming, music, a family activities tent, and, of course, our favorite local farmers and vendors. We're excited to launch, **Pop-Ups in the Parks**, a newly imagined summer program involving parks across the neighborhood with a wide range of family friendly programming that includes everything from sports to arts and crafts to live children's theater! Find us rotating around the neighborhood each month with our first event in June at Impett Park. Find all the details on page 5.

Summer is also a great time to get to know your neighbors or spruce up the house, and WPKND would love to help you! Our Engagement Coordinator, Devon, can help connect neighbors – whether it's a block party, street yard clean-up day, or a community meeting. We also have a robust Senior Home Repair program that provides small grants and technical assistance to income qualifying seniors. For more information on assistance with home repairs, check out our resources on page 22.

Cheers to another great summer in West Park!

Rosemary Mudry | Executive Director

Todd Sheppard | Board Chair

WEST PARK KAMM'S STAFE

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Levon Foster: Fostering Community

by Devon Chodzin

evon Foster grew up in East Liverpool, Ohio, on the banks of the Ohio River near the confluence of the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia borders. Her father raised her and her siblings in what could be described as a rural setting. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Levon can remember refueling the coal furnace to stay warm and retrieving food from the icebox, still complete with a block of ice to keep food fresh. father slaughtered, de-feathered, and deboned chickens for the family that were locally raised. At that time, she felt an incredible amount of promise for the future. John Glenn visited her high school in the ear-

ly 1970s, fueling more excitement about the space exploration that Ohioans had achieved in recent years. However, the vestiges of an ugly past still stood strong. Levon can recall that a Ku Klux Klan bar stood tall across the Ohio River in West Virginia. She and her fellow Black friends joked that the



Levon Foster has been a Cleveland resident for nearly 40 years

KKK on the outside actually stood for "Kool Kolored Kids" like it was actually their club.

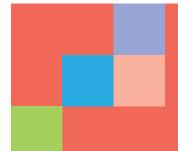
Levon has lived in Cleveland for nearly 40 years and officially moved into the Riverside Estates CMHA neighborhood in 2004. Before then, she visited the neighborhood regularly to see family

and friends who lived on the property, so she was already known as a fixture in the neighborhood. It didn't take long before she assumed leadership in the neighborhood. In late 2005, Levon noticed a neighbor standing outside of her apartment looking distressed. The woman shared with Levon that, despite Christmas being right around the corner, she didn't have any presents for her two kids and couldn't afford to buy any. Levon marched the neighbor to the office of the then-LAC (Local Advisory Council) President to try to come up with a solution. According to Levon, the LAC President would be able to assist with a solution because the

LAC worked as a body of neighbors to serve residents. However, she was also skeptical — at the time, the LAC Board was composed largely of members of the same family who seemed interested in consolidating neighborhood influence and not much else. When the LAC President refused to get involved, Levon swore that she would get on the board to ensure that nothing like this would happen to another one of her neighbors. The following year, in 2006, Levon Foster was elected to the LAC board and would serve as its President for 14 years.

In her years of leadership, Levon cultivated community confidence through program execution and acts of kindness that made her a permanent, beloved fixture in the neighborhood. She did this by forming a relationship with Toys for Tots, the organization best known for ensuring that families in need have gifts for kids. She then led an effort to properly acknowledge





In her years of leadership, Levon cultivated community confidence through program execution and acts of kindness that made her a permanent, beloved fixture in the neighborhood.

Toys for Tots for their commitment to serving the property and all of CMHA. Under her leadership, Riverside Estates became the first CMHA neighborhood to present an award to Toys for Tots for their commitment to serving the local children. Levon, who is an aunt by blood and by proxy to dozens, if not hundreds of people young and old, says this is what keeps her engaged in the neighborhood and serving the youth. She emphasizes that servant leaders must properly recognize the efforts of their partner organizations to achieve common goals in order to ensure that the youth have what they need.

Levon also oversaw a lunch program that served the youth at Riverside

through the administration of the Diocese of Cleveland. She recalls that many of the young people did not want to eat the fruit that came with these lunches, so she would save the apples and peaches over the summer to bake into cobblers and serve a la mode. The kids were shocked that their program leader would go out and buy so much fruit for them, only to realize that Levon had saved the fruit that they supposedly did not want and used it to the best of her ability.

Levon also dedicated LAC resources to recognizing the CMHA leadership that helped organize all the communities in the network. She maintains a close relationship with Lillian Davis,

a resident leader who serves as President of the systemwide version of the LAC, known as the Progressive Action Council or PAC. She also has a close relationship with CMHA CEOs, including George Phillips-Olivier and Jeffery Patterson. After a visit to a Detroit auto manufacturer, Levon was inspired to make CEO Patterson a plaque. She saw a plaque displayed at the auto manufacturer featuring decals of every model made. Levon worked with West Park's own Setta Trophy to design a plaque featuring decals of CMHA's estate neighborhoods that she and the whole LAC presented in honor of his dedication to leading the organization.

Levon has fond memories of her



community coming together to share love with other neighborhoods in the area. After a tragic shooting at Chardon High School in 2012, the LAC came together to make a giant commemorative card that the residents brought to the school. No one immediately recognized the LAC folks and wondered who they were. Levon responded: "We're from the projects. We're a community standing in support of another community." It was a powerful experience on which Levon often reflects.

Since the start of the pandemic, the LAC has remained mostly inactive, and Levon has conducted much of her outreach work informally. She continues, for example, to organize a backto-school supply drive with her family members to ensure that neighborhood kids are ready for school with all their own supplies and ready to start the new year off right. She was inspired to continue this project by her own childhood experience, in which her single-parent family was strapped for cash but always made sure the kids had enough school supplies every fall. The 2021 school supply giveaway turned into a full-fledged block party, featuring

> pizza, candy, bottles of water and cans of pop, and appearances by Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation, West Park Kamm's Development Corporation, Councilman Slife, and Levon's pastor, Dave.

Levon remains a fixture in the Riverside Park neighborhood with her home near the entrance to Maplewood Park on the south end of the property. She lives with Sebastian, an 8-year-old boy who has been in her custody since he was 11 months old. She keeps busy ensuring that he and all his friends have what they need to be happy, healthy, and safe in the neighborhood. While Levon loves the neighborhood's relative peace, she is often concerned about crime and wrongdoing for fear that her neighbors and loved ones will become caught up in a vicious cycle of crime and imprisonment. She hopes for a more visible, friendly police presence in her neighborhood that can help improve police-community relations in a neighborhood where those relations can be strained. Still, she is hopeful that as the pandemic wanes and more youth engagement programs return to Riverside, young people in the neighborhood will have a safe place to spend their time.



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The Congregation of St. Joseph Celebrates its 150th Anniversary

By Molly Crawford

hen Mother Theresa Fitzmaurice first came to see the property, now located at 3470 Rocky River Drive, it was little more than a vast wilderness. Luckily, that's exactly what she was looking for. Mother Fitzmaurice took over as Superior in 1895, inheriting a growing congregation of sisters as well as a thriving boarding school that taught girls art, music, and French. They purchased a 5-acre plot on Starkweather Avenue in Tremont in 1880 and built their own stone building on the property ten years later. However, by 1895, the effects of city life had taken their toll. Their property was close to the river, which created a boggy atmosphere that was rife with sickness and



disease. Sisters and students began to fall ill, and so Mother Fitzmaurice took charge and set out to find a new home for the Congregation of St. Joseph and their beloved St. Joseph Academy.

She decided on and purchased a property in Rockport Hamlet along the river, some distance from what was then Cleveland. They built a small farmhouse close to the road, where the sisters and boarding students lived. The sisters, still led by Mother Fitzmaurice, worked quickly to improve their property, and construction on their new motherhouse began in 1905. This structure, now known as Fitzmaurice Hall, housed the sisters and students until 1929 when the current St. Joseph Academy was built.



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An aerial photo of St. Joseph's from 1930

While the sisters worked to expand their own school, they also found the capacity to staff three high schools, St. Agnes, St. Colman, and St. Therese Academy (originally known as St. Joseph Academy Extension). Through war and economic depression, the sisters continued their educational mis-

sion, briefly opening a parochial school offering college-level classes in the mid-1930s through a program called the People's University at St. Agnes. However, by the 1970s, the work of the sisters expanded to include advocating for social justice issues such as care for the Earth, anti-racism and anti-death penalty



A classroom setting, photo undated

work, and immigration reform. They also worked in hospitals and hospice care for the sick and elderly, and in social service agencies and organizations to help feed, clothe, house, and educate those most vulnerable in our community. This expansion led to the many ministries established by the Congregation of St. Joseph, which continue to serve all members of our community today.

One such program is Seeds of Literacy, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose goal is to provide access to free educational resources to adults in the commu-



nity. The program was founded in 1997 by Sister Kathleen Kilbane as a GED prep program and was designed to be easily accessible to adults in need of literacy education. Seeds became a non-profit in 2005 and its second location opened in the Kinsman neighborhood in 2015. In 2020, the organization expanded its programs again. Seeds began offering virtual classrooms via phone and video to accommodate students with varying technical abilities after COVID-19 closed physical classrooms. Seeds is open all year and has around 1,000 students and 250 volunteers.

Providence House, a crisis nursery founded by Sister Hope Greener in 1981, is another program born of the congregation. Providence House began in a house on West 44th Street before moving to what is now Elizabeth's House on West 32nd Street in 1982. Originally, Elizabeth's House could accommodate five infants and toddlers at a time. They expanded to care for 15 children at a time in 1987. In 1990, they bought an adjacent

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house and opened Leo's House, which could house 26 children at once.

Providence House expanded its policy advocacy reach throughout the 2000s, as well as all of its West Side properties, before expanding into the East Side in 2018. In 2021. Providence House was able to assist 323 children from 163 families across Cleveland.

A non-profit now known as Front Steps Services was founded in 1986 by Sister Loretta Schulte from the Congregation of St. Joseph as Transitional Housing Inc. The organization's goal is to house low-income and homeless women and it was one of the first transitional housing programs to serve women living on their own. Front Steps did this by purchasing and renovating an old motel into a 60-unit residence. Front Steps began a restructuring process in 2010 in response to the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH Act). This bill is based on the Housing First Model, which aims to end homelessness



Providence House

by providing permanent housing solutions to those who are homeless. Front Steps also converted 10 of its 60 transitional units into permanent housing units for chronically homeless disabled women in response to the HEARTH Act. Following the national trend of permanent supportive housing, Front Steps renovated all 60 of their units into permanent housing units for mentally disabled or economically disadvantaged individuals and families throughout Northeast Ohio.

Finally, after seeing large needs develop in their communities as a result



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The West Side Catholic Center

of extreme poverty, the Congregation of St. Joseph, particularly Sister Kathleen Kilbane, joined forces with other area churches to establish the West Side Catholic Center. The Center, which has been serving the community since 1977, is a non-profit organization sep-

arate from the Catholic Diocese and Catholic Charities. Anyone in need, regardless of religious affiliation, can receive hot meals, hospitality, clothing and household goods, emergency services, advocacy, housing solutions, workforce development training, and a family shelter from the organization. In 2021, the Center served 38,300 meals to people in need and had 5,174 people visit their food pantry.

The accomplishments of these organizations attest to the Congregation of St Joseph's commitment to identifying and meeting community needs. Today, the Sisters of the Congregation of St. Joseph continue to serve the community through active ministry, by advocating for those who are most vulnerable and marginalized, speaking out about social justice issues, and by sharing their resources in support of people and organizations who are working to make a difference in our community. This summer, the congregation will celebrate 150 years of service to the community with an open house, inviting the public to engage with the congregation and their work, on Saturday, August 14 from 2 to 4 pm. Registration is not required for the event. To learn more about the sisters and their work, visit CSJoseph.org.



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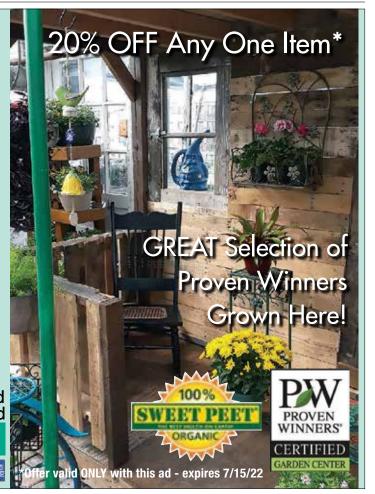
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Welcome back to the Market! June 12-Oct. 16 Sundays, 10am –1pm

Chef Demos!



Visit the Community Tent at 11:30am for workshops on canning, preserving, and more tips to make your produce last longer with

West Park neighbor and expert Susan Schneider-Baker. Any other neighbors interested in demonstrating their culinary skills are invited to reach out to KCFM Manager Devon at 216-252-6559 x1000.

Special Events

August 7 | Celebrate KCFM's Sweet 16 with us! CLF Market & Back to School Festivities

September 18 | St. Paddy's Day in September Irish Music, Food, and Fun

October 16 | Halloween at KCFM Trick or Treating and Costumes Galore

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Food Assistance Programs



SNAP - The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is part of the state's suite of programs to provide dollars for food and nutritional assistance for low-income families and individuals.



Produce Perks – Produce Perks matches dollar-for-dollar amounts spent on your Ohio Direction or P-EBT Card! Spend \$1 on your card and receive \$1 in produce tokens, up to \$25.



Ohio WIC - WIC offices will be at select dates throughout the season, distributing coupon books worth \$30 and small kitchen tools to WIC families. Check the market schedule for WIC dates!



TANF - On limited market dates, income-qualifying households with children can receive a coupon book valued at \$240. Supply is limited. Check the market schedule for TANF dates!



Buckeye Health Plan - Buckeye Health Plan clients can spend their Buckeye Fresh! Dollars at the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market. For more information about this program, check the market website.



Dedicated Senior Medical Center - Members of Dedicated Senior Medical Care can enjoy market dollars at the market.

For more information, or to see if you and your family qualify for these benefits, visit the Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services website at ifs.ohio.gov or call the Cuyahoga County Jobs & Family Services Department at 216-987-6640.

Follow us on for updates! @kammsmarket









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MAIN STAGE

12:00 PM Kick-off to the Hooley

12:15 PM Cleveland Firefighters Memorial Pipes & Drums and Pipes & Drums of the Cleveland Police

12:30 PM Taylor Lamborn

2:15 PM Wallace Coleman

3:45 PM West Side Irish Pipes & Drums

4:00 PM Window Dogs

6:00 PM Cats on Holiday

FAMILY STAGE

presented by Dollar Bank

12:30 PM West Park-Fairview Family YMCA

1:00 PM O'Malley Irish Dance

1:30 PM YMCA Hip Hop Dance

2:30 PM Burke Irish Dance

3:00 PM Leneghan Irish Dance

3:30 PM All-American Karate

4:00 PM Cannon Irish Dance

4:30 PM Brady Campbell Irish Dance

5:00 PM YMCA Line Dancing

5:30 PM Hip to That

6:30 PM The Prom Queens

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Bounce Houses, Make and Take by Imagine that and More and the Boy Scouts Climbing Wall for the kids!

Food by our local restaurants! Also enjoy the beer garden, featuring Working Class Brewery brews.









Opt-In to Curbside Recycling by June 13

By Ben Campbell

he City of Cleveland has announced that it has selected a new contractor and its weekly curbside recycling program will resume on June 13, 2022. This program will be available only to residents who opt in and agree to follow specific recycling practices in order to reduce the amount of contamination in recycled products. Readers may recall that the city's curbside recycling program was suspended in 2020 due to high contamination levels. Residents who sign up for the program will receive a recycling guide as well as a sticker to place on their blue recycling container to prove their participation. Residents who do not participate in the program forfeit their blue can, which will otherwise go uncollected.

There are many benefits to recycling, including the conservation of finite natural resources, the reduction of demand for raw materials, the reduction of energy required to produce new products, the reduction of climate-changing carbon emissions, and the protection of wildlife and ecosystems. Recycling is also less expensive than traditional waste collection and disposal at a landfill.

The enrollment process has already begun. If you wish to sign up, call (216) 664-3030 or go to CLErecycles.com.





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Tell Us How You Use the Parks

By Hannah Gall

id you know that Ward 17 is home to eight City of Cleveland parks? The West Park neighborhood has a variety of green spaces, ranging from Rainbow, a small pocket park, to the recreation facilities at Gunning Park. We want to hear from you, so tell us about your neighborhood park experiences.

Launched in May, we have been promoting the West Park green space survey with the goal of better understanding how residents currently use our neighborhood parks, what the community loves about them, and what could be improved. To complete the survey, scan the QR code below. For a paper copy, call or email Hannah Gall at (216) 252-6559 ext. 1700 or hannah@westparkkamms.org.



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Kindergarten ~ 8th Grade

Drakefield Park Playground Improvements Honor First Responders by Councilman Slife



COUNCIL MEMBER Charles Slife WARD 17

ummer is a beautiful season in Ward 17 and residents are eager to visit the neighborhood's eight parks to go for a walk, play sports, and let kids climb and swing. Parks are important gathering places in our community and residents often contact my office with ideas for how parks can be improved and programmed.

Located between Greenhill Road and Drakefield Avenue, Drakefield Park features a baseball dia-

mond, tennis courts, a playset and swings, and walking paths. In 2020, Richard Petras, a Silsby Road resident and lieutenant with the Cleveland Division of Fire. contacted my office to discuss Drakefield Park, where his family spent many hours. Within weeks, Lt. Petras passed away from COVID-19.

This summer, work crews will be at Drakefield Park replacing the playground and swings. In honor of Lt. Petras and in celebration of West Park's first responders, the playset will be firefighter-themed and will feature a fire tower for older children and a fire engine for younger kids. Additionally, new swings will be installed, including a face-to-face expression swing and toddler swing that offers better support for children with motor disabilities.

Installation is expected to take place over the summer, with the new playground and swings being ready for use this fall. Stay tuned for details on an official ribbon cutting and, if you have never been, be sure to check out Drakefield Park.

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Michael Scarcella, MD

Hip pain? A minimally invasive approach may help.

f you have hip pain deep in the joint that occurs with particular movements, check with your doctor to see if you might have a labral tear.

"A labral tear is a tear in the ring of cartilage (labrum) in your hip that cushions and seals the joint," explains orthopaedic surgeon Michael Scarcella, MD, at Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital, Richard E. Jacobs Health Center at Richard E. Jacobs Campus and Cleveland Clinic Sports Medicine Center. "It can occur from trauma, but we see it more frequently among athletes whose activities flex the hip while twisting. We see this in all kinds of sports — even activities like yoga and Pilates."

Conservative treatments — stopping or modifying activities, anti-inflammatory medications, physical therapy or a cortisone injection — are the first line of defense in treating a labral tear.

If these treatments do not alleviate the

pain, hip arthroscopic surgery may be recommended.

Your surgeon will make a few small incisions and insert a special tool called an arthroscope into your hip joint. The arthroscope includes a camera and a light that lets your surgeon identify and repair damage inside your hip, as well as surrounding bones or connective tissues.

"Minimally invasive hip arthroscopy is less stressful on your body and often has a shorter recovery time," says Dr. Scarcella. "Most patients experience less pain, minimal blood loss and scarring, and fewer complications as compared to more invasive surgeries."

Following surgery, physical therapy is needed to increase your strength and ability to move your hip again. The goal is to return you to your regular active lifestyle.

To make an appointment with Dr. Scarcella or another Cleveland Clinic orthopaedic surgeon, call 216.518.3444.

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When it's time to welcome your baby into the world, Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital can accommodate your preferences and needs, whether it be the traditional approach for low, medium and high-risk deliveries in the Birthing Center, or natural childbirth with minimal intervention in the Family Birth Place.

One of only two in-hospital birth centers in Ohio, Fairview's Family Birth Place has six private, newly-renovated suites for labor, delivery and post-partum, plus three additional post-partum rooms, and an environment that allows newborns to room with mothers to immediately begin the bonding process.

The suites are spacious and bright, with contemporary furnishings and hydrotherapy options for water labor. Comfort measures include large, freestanding labor tubs and showers; nitrous oxide, IV pain medication, and other techniques are available to work through labor pain.

For premature babies or those born with health issues, Fairview Hospital is home to the only Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) on the West Side.

To schedule an appointment with an Ob/Gyn near you, call 216.444.6601.

For more information about the Fairview Hospital Birthing Center, Family Birth Place, natural childbirth or childbirth education and parenting classes, please go to ClevelandClinic.org/FairviewBirthing.

Healthy Homes Initiative: More About Home Surveys in West Park By CJ Demchak

ello neighbors, I'm CJ! You met me in the 2021 Holiday Issue of West Park Magazine. I support the Healthy Homes Initiative as the Community Engagement Specialist for WPKND. My goal is to build relationships within the community so that I can better connect West Park Kamm's residents with the resources that WP-KND. Cleveland, and other partners have to offer. If you see me on your street surveying homes, please stop, and ask me about available resources.

The Healthy Homes Initiative (HHI) is an inter-organizational partnership between the City of Cleveland and community development corporations. The goal is to improve the quality of life for residents through outreach, education, and advocacy. As a Community Engagement Specialist, I work directly under HHI. This makes me your direct connection to all housing-related programs the City of Cleveland has to offer.

The first step is outreach - and the first step in outreach is the survey. Rather than waiting for residents who need help to call me, I go to them. HHI works on a four-year cycle, meaning I conduct a property condition survey for every home in the WPKND service area once every four years. The survey only takes a couple of minutes to complete and includes a photo of the home, to serve as a reference when the survey took place. While conducting the survey I'm looking at: the general conditions of the home, the siding for damage or peeling paint, the condition of the roof, gutters, windows, and chimney, the front porch/steps, and access to the home, as well as the foundation, ga-



rage, and sidewalk. If there are any concerns or issues with the home, they are noted, and a letter is sent to the resident or landlord noting the observations as well as available resources and how to contact me.

The HHI Property Condition Survey is conducted from the perspective of a Building and Housing Inspector, but my



Justin Ragor CPCU, Agent 3878 Rocky River Drive Suite 4 Cleveland, OH 44111 Bus: 216-251-5300 justin@ragorinsurance.com

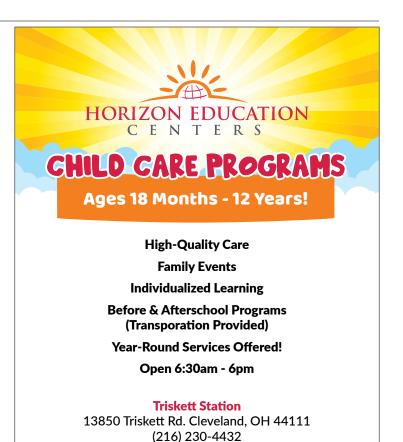
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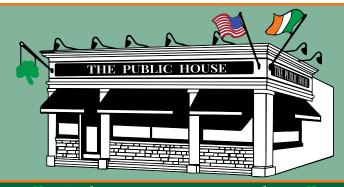


www.HorizonOhio.org



letter is not code enforcement. Rather, it's an attempt to connect a homeowner with a wide range of resources that can help bring the home back to code compliance. These resources can be any number of services, such as lead abatement, the City Paint Program, Senior Home Repair, the Age-Friendly Home Investment Program, the Heritage Home Program, or the WPKND Contractor List. So, please reach out if you have questions about home maintenance, and don't be afraid to say hello if you see me on your street!

Happy Hooley!



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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!

Contact Healthy Homes Specialist: CJ Demchak, 216-252-6559 x 1300 or CJ@westparkkamms.org

For Senior Home Repair grants, contact: Hannah Gall, 216-252-6559 x 1700 or hannah@westparkkamms.org

Visit westparkkamms.org/live/maintain-a-home. * indicates income qualifying programs

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.





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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.			
CHN Energy Efficiency Services*	Services include insulation, LED bulb installation, and Energy Star refrigeration replacement.			
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.			

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

All Emergencies: 911

Cleveland Police, District 1 Office: 216-623-5100 Cleveland Police, Non-emergency: 216-621-1234

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

Cleveland Fire, Smoke Alarms: 216-361-5535 Cleveland Refuse: 216-664-3717

Cleveland Animal Control: 216-664-3069

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

Cleveland Water Department: 216-664-3130

Cleveland Department of Aging: 216-664-2833

Gunning Recreation Center: 216-420-7900

Cuyahoga County Auditor Call Center: 216-443-7452

Cuyahoga County Real Property Office: 216-443-7010

Social Service Referral: 211



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Low-Interest Home Loan Options

By CJ Demchak

est Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development receives a number of inquiries from residents looking to finance home improvement projects. Here are a few of the low-interest loan options I regularly share when a homeowner calls me looking to finish a job. These programs offer a variety of project types for all income levels.

REPAIR-A-HOME: Available to all qualifying homeowners in the City of Cleveland, RAH is a great low-interest loan for non-elective rehab and repair. Unfortunately, this means RAH cannot be used for your backyard oasis. However, it can be used for building code violations and major repairs like roof replacement, gutters, HVAC, whole home electrical and plumbing, lead abatement, tuckpointing, windows and doors, and exterior paint. Interest rates range from 0% to 3%.

HELP: The Housing Enhancement Loan Program is available in most Cuyahoga County communities. This



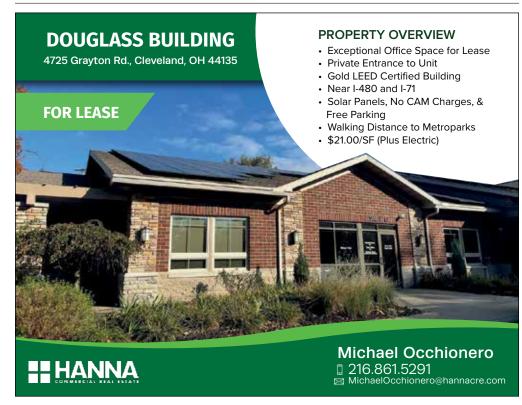
low-interest loan has no income restrictions and few limitations on what improvements can be made to a property. The rate is three points below

normal bank rates, making HELP one of the best deals in town.

HERITAGE HOME PROGRAM: The Heritage Home Program loan is a low-interest fixed-rate home equity

loan for homes 50 years or older. This loan has an interest rate as low as 1.4% and comes complete with written construction specifications for exterior projects, help finding contractors who can handle heritage restorations, and expert support from the Cleveland Restoration Society.

FIXER-UPPER LOAN: This loan is serviced through Third Federal, and it's the newest one in my toolbox. The borrowing caps out at \$9900, but a fixed 2.99% interest rate over a 15 or 30-year term makes this loan a great option with a low payment. It can be used for a lot of different housing-related needs like landscaping, air conditioning, appliances, or carpet.



Franciscan Village Nears Completion of Renovations

By Allister Englehart

s signs of winter's end appear, the Franciscan Village staff has been encouraged to begin transitioning to the last stage of the site's renovation process. As the renovation of the final set of units was completed in April, 27 new households joined the community. The return to a "full house" has been revitalizing for the entire Franciscan Village community, bringing a new level of vibrancy and frequency to interactions between neighbors throughout Franciscan.

The renovation of the space that used to

be the old Our Lady of Angels Rectory will

be finished in June. It will house new amenities for the residents at Franciscan such as a fitness center, library, fitness exam room, arts and crafts room, and beauty salon. As the effects of the pandemic fade, residents and staff are excited to take the first steps toward revitalizing the community development aspect of life at Franciscan. The completion of the atrium, outdoor walking area, and new community room will be significant steps toward the staff's goal of promoting



Rendering of the atrium at Fransiscan Village

a flourishing culture. The new atrium, which was supposed to start construction in March, will now start in early May in order to finish work on an on-site orphaned gas well. The well was filled by The Well Done Foundation, a non-profit organization.

Visit franvillage.org for more information.





West Park Welcomes a New Nail Salon

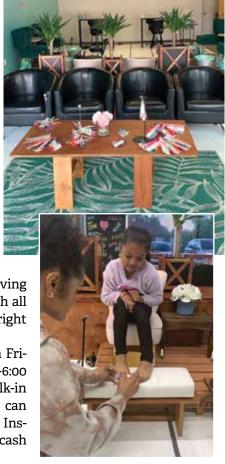
by Ben Campbell

fter working at nail salons in Rocky River for the eight last years, Tya Sibert decided it was time to start her own business. This spring, Tya opened Pressed Nail Bar at 19609 Puritas Road. While staying with her family in West Park Kamm's during the pandemic, she got to know the West Park Kamm's neighborhood and was determined to find a storefront here. Given the proximity to Rocky River, she was able to take her customer base with her to the new location.

Pressed Nail Bar offers manicures, pedicures as well trending new services such as manicures that use milder products for a healthier alternative to regular polish, gel manicures, DIP, and Gelx. A lot of tender loving

care was given to building out the space with all new fixtures and products to provide the right ambiance for customers.

Pressed Nail Bar is open Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., and Sunday by appointment only. Walk-in customers are welcome, and appointments can be scheduled by calling (216) 235-0247 or via Instagram. The salon accepts cash, the Venmo cash app, and credit cards.



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Photography Studio to Open on Lorain Avenue

by Ben Campbell



egan MacLeod Photography plans to move her homebased photography business to 17106 Lorain Avenue (formerly occupied by an Allstate Insurance Agency).

Her studio specializes in photographing newborns as well as families, children, and high school seniors. She moved from out of state to the neighborhood in 2012 and has been a West Park resident ever since. The business was established in 2013 and has grown to the point where she is ready to relocate to the storefront. Her customer base is regional, so she chose to open in West Park Kamm's due to the ease of access. The front area of the space will be a staging area, the middle section for portraits, and the newborn studio will be situated in the back of the space.

Megan plans to have photos on display and basic signage up in time for The Hooley on Saturday, June 18th, and will offer a promotional discount for any bookings done that day. The studio is operated by appointment only so there are no walk-ins. For more information, call (917) 968-2276 or go to clevelandbaby.com.

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, Lawn Chair Cinema, 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.



\$10

\$100

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

Eve	rv doll	ar of	rvour c	lonation will	suppor	t WPKN	D's mission	and is a	ı 100% ta	ax-dedi	ıctible	aift
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