City Looking to “Change the Culture” with Resource Centers

Mayor Frank Jackson announced a shift in the philosophies and purpose of the city’s 22 recreation centers to Neighborhood Resource & Recreation Centers, offering expanded programs and becoming spaces that will serve local families more holistically. We are moving away from traditional recreation centers because sports alone, although they have a purpose, are not sufficient to properly prepare our children to become successful adults,” said Mayor Jackson. “Only intervention and opportunities can help our young people, build stronger families, and develop healthy neighborhoods.”

The changes are part of the mayor’s strategic plan to address the root causes of violence and toxic stress by promoting wellness and resilience, especially for young people. Residents who visit the facilities will see opportunities that connect youth, adults and seniors to the center-based employment services, recreation programs, educational advancement opportunities and more. They will have access to new and expanded programming, including many year-round offerings in the following key areas: Youth & Adult Education, Job & Career Readiness, Health & Wellness, Youth Development Mentorship, Leadership & Community Service, The Arts, and Sports & Recreation.

This will also enhance the summer programs and benefits from Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.) internships, Cleveland Public Apprenticeships, ACT and SAT preparation, and summer jobs programs.

The city of Cleveland introduced legislation on March 25th to support these programs. The new Neighborhood Resource & Recreation Centers will be equipped with trained Trauma-Informed Care staff members and social workers who will provide year-round center-based resources, programs and activities.

As part of the change, the city is completing an assessment of all recreation centers. This will mean renovation at the existing centers and construction of new facilities to replace aging infrastructures.

The first new construction will be the Neighborhood Resource & Recreation Center at John Rhodes. Mayor Jackson’s strategic vision is far-reaching and encompasses other programs that improve youth and families’ quality of life such as Safe Routes to Public Recreation Centers visit online: www.city.cleveland.oh.us

Cleveland Asian Festival MC’s May 18-19

Lynna Lai joined Channel 3 News in April 2012, and anchors the weekend editions of Channel 3 News. Lynna brings to the job her broadcasting experience in major markets across the country. Lynna can be found on Twitter @Lynna_Lai.

Chris Tanaka joined the Cleveland 19 News Team in July 2016, after a five-year stint as anchor and reporter in Honolulu, Hawaii. He is happily married with two young boys. Chris can be found on Facebook and on Twitter @Chris_Tanaka.

Cleveland to host MLB 2019 All-Star Game

The Indians and Progressive Field will play host to the Midsummer Classic at the newly renovated Progressive Field on July 9th, giving the organization an opportunity showcase our revitalized city and incredible ballpark. The Tribe and city of Cleveland last played host to the All-Star Game in 1997, when current first base coach Sandy Alomar, Jr. hit a homer in his home park and was named the game’s MVP. Though it might come as a surprise, the Cleveland Indians have hosted the most All-Star games in Major League Baseball history, surpassing the Cincinnati Reds and Pittsburgh Pirates. Cleveland’s celebrated history of hosting All-Star games can be traced back to 1911, 22 years before the first All-Star game in Chicago. History is sure to be made once again when the Cleveland Indians host their sixth All-Star game in 2019!

The dance crews have between 2 and 10 people who either cover a dance or choreograph their own to the music of Bollywood (India), C-Pop (China), J-Pop (Japan), K-Pop (South Korea), and Nepali Hip Hop. Raymond Bondad, the chair of the Asian-Pop Dance Competition committee says, “From being part of the first group to perform K-pop and C-pop with the Cleveland Asian Festival, to having the honor of judging the past 3 competitions, I can say with confidence that the dancers just keep getting better, and the competition brings the community together.” On May 23rd, the three videos with the highest number of votes, plus two CAF choices, will be announced and invited to compete live on May 18th, 2019.
Older Adults are Connecting, Creating and Contributing to Ward 7 at Eliza Bryant Village

May is a special month where we come together to celebrate Mother’s Day and Older American’s Month (in addition to Nurses Day, National Skilled Nursing Care Week and Senior Health & Fitness Day). With so many opportunities for celebrations, how do you find the time to appropriately honor each one? Eliza Bryant Village, the oldest operating African-American founded long-term care facility in the United States, has a few ideas.

May 17, 2019 is Mother’s Day. For many, Mother’s Day is an opportunity to show their love and appreciation for women who nurture our minds, bodies and souls, who encourage and support those they love, and whose devotion to our happiness and success is unwavering. These admirable qualities are also emulated in caregivers of older adults. Eliza Bryant Village – a nonprofit organization that serves more than 1,200 older adults each year – knows the value of caregivers (both men and women) and tailors programs and services to best serve them and the aging loved ones whom they care for.

The Villages’ Adult Day Care program provides nurturing care for older adults in a safe environment while offering respite to caregivers. Serving the community Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and offering their own transportation program helps to accommodate caregivers’ personal or professional schedules. In the care of Eliza Bryant Villages’ experienced and compassionate staff, participants enjoy engaging activities and amenities in a welcoming, therapeutic and comfortable setting.

Participants enjoy social activities at Eliza Bryant Village like bingo, dance, and Wii bowling.

Free monthly Caregiver Support Groups provide caregivers respite, a free dinner, education and conversation with friends and professionals. Celebrate mothers, caregivers and older adults by helping them relieve some of the burden they carry and tell them about these helpful program and services at Eliza Bryant Village!

Embodying the theme for Older Americans Month in 2019, “Connect, Create, and Contribute”, the Village serves older adults through a comprehensive menu of programs and service. Eliza Bryant Village connects aging adults and their caregivers with services that help them age in place, enjoy a variety of activities, meals and time with peers. The Village’s Senior Outreach and Adult Day Program creates opportunities for fun, better physical, mental and emotional health, and learning opportunities. The caring staff at the Village contributes their compassion, service, talents and time to our community’s older adults and their families.

May, Ward 7 celebrates the opportunities to honor older adults and their caregivers. Communities that encourage the contributions of older adults are stronger! Eliza Bryant Village continues to build a strong and safe community for older adults within their village and their services are available to you at home as well. To speak to someone about how you and your aging loved one can benefit from these programs, call 216-361-6141.

Chair Yoga at Eliza Bryant Village Adult Day Program

A 2015 survey conducted by the National Alliance for Caregiving, AARP, and Caregiving in the U.S., states that approximately 34.2 million Americans provided unpaid care to an adult age 50 or older in the last year. Eliza Bryant Village operates a Senior Outreach & Adult Day Program that meets the needs of both caregivers and older adults.

The Villages’ Medical Model Adult Day Program provides a Registered Nurse on staff.

Unique to the Villages’ Adult Day Program is a “medical model” structure. This model allows the Village to tailor services to older adults with cognitive and physical impairments with the assistance of a full-time nurse and a full-time social worker on staff. Because of this medical model, the Village can assist with monitoring of chronic conditions through blood pressure and glucose checks, and administer medication as prescribed by a physician. This is just one example of how our medical model enhances the quality of life for our program participants.

Charlette B. is a caregiver for her brother who attends the Adult Day Program at Eliza Bryant Village. She said, “My sister

and I are very grateful that he is in the wonderful care of Eliza Bryant Village. It gives us time to take care of business and we are at ease knowing he is in such good hands.”

But it isn’t just the seniors who receive specialized care at Eliza Bryant Village – it’s the caregivers too! The Eliza Bryant Village Caregiver Support Group provides a safe space for caregivers to connect with new friends and learn tools and resources for coping with stress, anxiety and caring for aging adults. The confidential Caregiver Support Group meets on the fourth Thursday of every month at 6:00 p.m. over dinner that is provided by the Village. Educational presentations are provided as well as a tour of the campus and time for discussion and relaxation.

Music Therapy at Eliza Bryant Village Adult Day Program

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Massage Therapy Services at Eliza Bryant Village through the Ohio Attorney General’s Office

Eliza Bryant Village


7201 Wade Park Avenue
Cleveland OH 44103
216-361-6141
www.elizabryant.org

www.ward7observer.com

2 May 2019
Volunteers are needed, to lead the way on each Street. Let’s come together and prepare Ward 7 for a great summer with “Clean and Green Day.”

On Saturday, May 18th thru May 25th we will pick up litter around our yards and on our streets. Remove all trash and debris from around our houses and plan on one of the best Memorial Holiday celebrations with neighbors friends and family. Grab a neighbor and walk, talk and pick up the trash around your curbs and sewer drains.

Here is a checklist and some tips on Spring maintenance. Spring home maintenance goes beyond deep cleaning and organizing. Work your way through this checklist to make sure your home is ready for the change in seasons.

**CheckList:**

1. Check the roof. If you’re comfortable on a ladder, inspect your roof from up high. If not, use binoculars. Look for damaged or missing shingles and signs of rotting, cracking or leaking. If you find issues, call a professional to assess the damage.

2. Clean out the gutters. Clear all leaves and debris out of the gutters and downspouts. If they’re sagging, reattach the gutters, or replace them with new hardware. Use caulkling to seal holes and prevent leaking. Make sure downspouts face away from the foundation of your home for proper draining.

3. Inspect the concrete. Take a walk around your property to look for cracking in the driveway, walkways or pool deck. You can fill cracks with concrete filler or silicone caulk, but if the concrete is severely damaged, you may want to replace it entirely.

4. Check outside faucets. Inspect hose faucets for freeze damage by turning on the water and placing a finger over the opening. If that stops the water flow, the pipe may be damaged. Call a professional to inspect your pipes and determine if they need replacing.

5. Inspect the air conditioning unit. Remove debris from around the cooling unit, and change the filters. To help your unit run properly in the upcoming months, follow these steps to make your system more efficient. Spring is also the ideal time to schedule a professional HVAC tune-up.

6. Give the deck some attention. Check the deck for signs of water stains, discoloration and warping. Look for rusty or loose nails, and make sure the railings and stairs are safely secured. Replace rotting or lifting boards.

7. Repair and reseal woodwork. In addition to the deck, you’ll also want to focus on wooden fences, railings and trellises if you have them. It’s important to give these wood structures some TLC as they are prone to rot and decay so it’s a good idea to learn how to maintain a wooden fence.

8. Inspect windows and doors. Check for cracks or holes and repair as necessary. Use a screen repair kit to fix holes or tears that bugs can sneak through.

9. Spruce up landscaping. Clear your landscaping of debris, trim overgrowth and plan fresh additions. HGTV recommends using compacted soil in low areas of your yard, as spring rains can cause flooding and foundation damage.

Remember get out and spring clean and meet a new neighbor for “Clean and Green Day”.

**Street Resurfacing Projects**

By Nancy Kelsey

This week, the City of Cleveland began resurfacing projects in Ward 7. Advance notice signs will be posted to advise the public of the following road improvements. These streets will be resurfaced and completed by the end of July 2019.

### E. 89th St.
(Chester Ave. – Hough Ave.)

### East 69th Street
(Chester Ave. – Hough Ave.)

**Linwood Ave.**

(East 70th Street– East 85th St.)

**East 66th Street**
(Linwood Ave.– Lawburn Ave.)

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**Community Events**

**Free (Registration Required)**

Cleveland National Air Show 2019
May 9, 2019, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
3663 Park East Drive
Beachwood, Wood, OH 44122

Cleveland Board of Health: Health Fair
Monday, May 6th, 2019, 12:00-4:00 p.m.
2246 Euclid Rd
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Inaugural Cleveland State Police Conference
May 9, 2019, 7:00 PM to
Cleveland Public Library-Louis Stokes Wing
525 West Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113

FunkTown Technology and the Future of Work
West 8, 2:30 – 10:00 p.m.
1 St Clair Ave NE
Cleveland, OH 44114

Midtown Mornings:
Monday, May 6th, 2019, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Growth Opportunity Partners
6001 Euclid Avenue, #120
Cleveland, OH 44103

**Bar 32: Patio Opening Party**
May 10, 2019, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.
100 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114

**2019 Cleveland VayFest**
Saturday, May 18, 2019, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland
330 Lakeside Ave E C
Cleveland, OH 44114

Cleveland Asian Cultures Ride
Saturday, May 18, 2019, 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. the Cleveland Museum of Art
11150 East Blvd, Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Thunderdome of Comedy! Free Show!
Friday, May 17, 2019, 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
13601 Detroit Ave,
Cleveland, Ohio 44107

SCENE Taste of Summer 2019
Friday, May 24, 4:00 p.m. May 26, 10:00 p.m.
Flats East Bank
One Building 1 W 13th Street,
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Anual Larchmere Sidewalk Sale 2019
Saturday, May 25th, 2019, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Larchmere Blvd.
Cleveland, OH 44120

East 50th on the Lake: Line Music Saturdays
Every Saturday, Ohio August, 7:00-2:00 p.m.
5655 N. Marginal Road
Cleveland, OH 44114

3rd Annual BGDB Jersey Ride
Saturday, May 25, 2019, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Edgewater Park - Upper West Shelter
7800 Cleveland Memorial Shoreway,
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Edgewater Live
Thursday, May 23, 2019, 4:30-9:00 p.m.
Edgewater Park
7800 Cleveland Memorial Shoreway,
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

3rd Annual BGDB Jersey Ride
Saturday, May 25, 2019, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Edgewater Park - Upper West Shelter
7800 Cleveland Memorial Shoreway,
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Eucalyptus Beach Live
Friday, May 31, 2019, 4:30 p.m to 9:00 p.m.
Eucalyptus Beach Live
18301 Lakeshore Blvd,
Cleveland, OH 44107

Little Italy Summer Art Walk
Friday, May 10, thru May 19, 2019
5:00 p.m. – Friday, 12:00 p.m. Saturday/Sunday
12310 Mayfield Rd,
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Hessler Street Fair 50th Anniversary
June 1st and 2nd, 2019, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
11326 Hessler Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Meirose Ave.
(E. 24th St. – E. 82nd St.)

E. 94th St.
(Crawford Rd. – Ansel Ave.)

Shaffer Ave.
(Addison Ave. – E. 71st St.)

One lane of traffic will be maintained for local traffic during the duration of each project and no detours are expected. Access to all businesses, residences and side streets will be maintained during construction. On-street parking will not be allowed during construction.

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**Article Submission Policy**

The Ward7Observer will take article submissions electronically via email at ward7observer.com.

Registration required. Submitter must provide name, email address, and phone number with submission.

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**Contact Information:**

11459 Mayfield Rd. #302
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Email: wardsevenobserver@gmail.com

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**Classifieds**

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**Your AD HERE NEXT MONTH**

Join The Team!
WEIGHING IN
By Margret Adams

Let’s talk about a topic that is spoken about in many environments, how much people we‐ight.

Let’s be more specific and talk about what being outside of a healthy weight means to the health and economic well-being of our community. According to the medical community overweight means having a BMI (body mass index) of 25-30, with obesity being defined as a BMI of 30 or more. You know you are overweight when the clothes you wear have gotten too small or when you look at your body and see rolls of extra fat. Yes, we like our bodies a little thicker, but thick should not mean fat, and our bodies a little thicker, but see rolls of extra fat.

Extra weight wears your joints out. If you are overweight it sooner than it should by your body work harder and ages faster for you. Being overweight makes high blood pressure and diabetes can lead to kidney failure and lead to having to depend on dialysis. Some studies associate higher incidents of cancer to obesity. All of these conditions can lead to disability or premature death.

The economic impact can be seen in your health insurance and life insurance premiums, the price you may have to pay for medications, seats on a plane and even the cost of clothing.

We need to respect our bodies and ensure the health of our future generations. A few simple suggestions to better health are decrease the amount of food you put on your plate, change what and how many sugary beverages you drink, drinking more water and teas, and by all means being active as possible. But if you think about it, what they are saying makes NO SENSE! As humans, we evolve and adapt to the technology that is being presented to us, especially Millennials and Generation Z.

Other generations like Baby Boomers and Gen Xers grew up with email and landlines, which explains why only 26% of adults at the age of 65 (older baby boomers) are comfortable using electronic devices. According to pewinternet.org, the other 74% either don’t know what they are doing or just don’t feel comfortable with recent technological advancements. In order to become comfortable with something, you have to be willing to learn about it or understand how it works. Technology is like people in a way, very complex yet understandable if time is taken for comprehension. The current technological advances and openness of our generation is not something that we often see in the other generations. But like the generation before, we are not understood, and are instead seen as lazy, different, and crazy. However, what they don’t see are the positives. Instead of criticizing our differences, maybe they should take the time to learn a little something from us.

Cleveland Foundation Grants March 2019

The Cleveland Foundation’s mission is to enhance the lives of all residents of Greater Cleveland, now and for generations to come, by working together with our donors to build community endowment, address needs through grantmaking, and provide leadership on key community issues.

Neighborhoods:
Cleveland Neighborhood Progress ($5,000,000)
Ohio Environmental Council ($371,600)
LAND studio Inc. ($408,500)

Economic & Workforce Development:
NewBridge ($800,000)
Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry ($250,000)
Manufacturing Advocacy & Growth Network ($415,000)

Education:
Cuyahoga Community College Foundation ($172,107)

Where Millennials end and Generation Z Begins

1925-1945
The Great Depression
WWII
McCarthyism

1946-1963
Vietnam
Woodstock
The Civil Rights Movement
President Kennedy’s assassination
Watergate
Space exploration

1964-1978
The fall of the Berlin wall
The Challenger disaster
AIDS
MTV
The Iran hostage crisis
Desert Storm

9/11
Columbine
Google
Social Media
Video games
Y2K

1979-1995
The Great Recession
ISAs
Sandy Hook
Marriage equality
The first black president
The rise of the popularity

1996-2010

S o w h a t d e t e r m i n e s a generation? Let’s use 1996 as the last birth year for Millennials. Anyone born between 1981 and 1996 (ages 23 to 38 in 2019) is considered a Millennial, and anyone born from 1997 onward is part of a new generation. The oldest of the new generation is turning 22 this year so we will call this new generation, Generation Z. While the generation before, we are not understood, and are instead seen as lazy, different, and crazy. However, what they don’t see are the positives. Instead of criticizing our differences, maybe they should take the time to learn a little something from us.
Introduced legislation that would place a moratorium on giving permits to open so-called “dollar stores.” The legislation says a proliferation of small-box general discount stores in Cleveland is hurting the local economy. The stores carry an array of consumer goods, including household items, health products, food and beverages.

The strategy of Dollar Tree, Family Dollar and others is to saturate communities with multiple stores, making it impossible for local self-service grocery stores to stay open. Dollar stores have limited selections of fresh food and most carry processed foods at inflated prices. Dollar stores employ fewer workers at lower wages than grocery stores and often face class-action lawsuits for violating fair labor standards.

Approved the spending of Casino Revenue Funds for three community organizations that sponsor training and educational programs for residents, as well as sports, recreation and job training for youth. The Youth Education Through Sports program, under the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission, will receive $25,000 to help fund youth sports and recreation programs. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland will receive $25,000 to help provide career employment education and training for youth. And the nonprofit neighborhood group, Mt. Pleasant NOW Development Corporation, will receive $10,000 for community workshops on health, safety and social support services for Cleveland residents.

Approved legislation to give tax abatements to two suburban-based manufacturing firms that are planning to move into Cleveland, bringing with them a total of 58 new full-time employees. Both firms – Dynamic Metal Services and Northern Stamping Inc. – are planning major renovations to the buildings into which they are moving, therefore demonstrating their needs for tax abatements. Dynamic Metal, an industrial metals manufacturer, currently operates four plants located in Ashtabula, Bedford and two in Bedford Heights. The company purchased a building at 18901 Euclid Ave. into which it will move and consolidate its subsidiary.

The ACLU issued the following report on Monday finding that nearly 300 Mayor’s courts in Ohio “prioritize money over justice,” and recommending five reforms to implement in order for mayor’s courts to be fair, transparent and accountable.

Mayor’s courts are local courts that hear traffic and local ordinance violations. They are relics of the past – only Ohio and Louisiana still have them. Mayor’s courts are geared toward making money rather than delivering justice. In 2016, municipalities with Mayor’s courts issued one out of every six traffic tickets in Ohio. Unlike municipal courts, Mayor’s courts are not courts of record, which means there are no audio recordings or transcripts of what happens in mayor’s court. This lack of transparency and accountability creates a breeding ground for coercive tactics used to collect fines and fees. To make matters worse, Mayors or magistrates who hear cases in mayor’s court are only required to have six hours of training per year. There is limited oversight by mayor’s courts by the legislature or state judiciary. This makes it difficult to discipline problematic mayor’s courts. Mayors are responsible for balancing the municipal budget and can use mayor’s courts to generate revenue. Some mayor’s courts in inner-ring suburbs issue a disproportionately high number of citations to Black drivers.

The ACLU issued the following five recommendations for the Ohio General Assembly: “Restore state funding to municipalities, eliminate Mayor’s courts in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, and Summit Counties, increase education and procedural requirements for Mayor’s courts, expand oversight of Mayor’s courts, and abolish driver’s license suspensions for any reason not related to public safety.”

Introduced legislation that would permit Midtown Cleveland Inc. to install 24 to 36 bicycle racks at various locations on the city’s Near East side. Sites include the Aroma, 5000 Euclid Ave.; Children’s Museum, 3813 Euclid Ave.; City Mission, 5310 Carnegie Ave.; Masonic Auditorium, 3616 Euclid Ave.; and the former South Euclid high school.

The Ohio Lesson Part 1
by Meryl Johnson

Private school vouchers private school vouchers affected children in 83% of Ohio’s school districts.

In 2017, more than $310 million in public money was sent to private, mostly religious schools through vouchers.

Private school vouchers began in the white South shortly after the US Supreme Court ruled in 1954 that racially segregated schools violated the constitutional rights of African-American children.

White parents, not wanting their children to attend schools with African-American students, set up private schools and the state governments provided public funds to support these new schools.

More than thirty years passed before the next private school voucher law, passed in Wisconsin, went into effect for a similar, successful pilot project for Milwaukee. Promoted by the ultra-rich Bradley Foundation and State Representative Polly Williams, an African-American lawyer from Milwaukee, the voucher program played on the justified dissatisfaction of parents with the Milwaukee public schools. The small yet beautiful Milwaukee voucher program has dramatically expanded since its inception. Democrat Polly Williams later admitted, saying, “Our intent was never to destroy the public schools.”

A combination of wealthy Akron businessman and major Republican Party contributor David Brennan, leaders of the Catholic Church, and conservative political strategists pushed Governor George Voinovich to include a Cleveland-only private school voucher bill in the Ohio state biennium budget. Cleveland was targeted because the suburbs had taken over the public schools when it looked like the schools would run out of funds. By adopting a Cleveland-only private school voucher plan, these lawmakers did not have to deal with the wrath of their suburban parents who were losing their public funds for vouchers in their districts. David Brennan wanted to lessen the influence of these veterans schools and teacher unions.

(Continued on page 6)
Campus International HS wins music honor

CMSD’s Campus International High School has received national recognition for its commitment to teaching music.

Carpenter, International High School, located at Cleveland State University, is one of 98 schools in the country to earn a 2019 SupportMusic Merit Award from the Best Communities for Music Education Program. While the International Baccalaureate model that CIHS follows calls for a well-rounded education, the rigor can make it difficult to maintain an extensive music program, said Matthew Cotton, the school’s director of music activities.

Cotton credited the award to the support he gets from Principal Ameer Kim El-Mallawany and Assistant Principal Amy Brodsky, as well as the authority that CMSD gives schools to determine their programming. Brodsky, who played in the Shaker Heights High School and Cleveland Youth Orchestra, sometimes helps instruct percussion students.

Cleveland State University/Parker Hannifin announce $5 million investment in support of Say Yes to Education Program

Cleveland State University (CSU) and Parker Hannifin recently announced that the school is investing $5 million over five years to establish the Parker Hannifin Learning Community at CSU, which will provide Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) students studying at CSU with two years of free on-campus housing.

Providing on-campus housing will reduce a significant economic barrier many students face when pursuing a college degree and enhance student retention, which studies have shown greatly improves when students live on campus, particularly as freshmen and sophomores.

The Parker Hannifin Learning Community will also offer a mentoring program to match students with faculty and peer mentors and directed career preparation activities as job analysis support, internships, co-ops, and hands-on research projects. “Parker is proud to support CSU, and Say Yes to Education by strategically investing in an existing commitment that will have a great impact on the future success of Cleveland public school students,” said Parker. This initiative further strengthens our longstanding relationship with Cleveland State University and is aligned with our broader commitment to help improve education.”
Brandon: Funny thing is painting happened on mistake. It happened when I was in prison. I was writing a book, I wanted to make something of myself and to have some money to come home to. I realized I needed a book cover.

Several inmates were impressed, one in particular gave me a canvas and a paint brush that would change my life. I painted the whole time there, 7 years. Then joined an art program in Hope Valley School, an education and trade school in Richland Correctional. The program taught graphic design, pencil and pastel painting and anything else that’s art. Then the instructor for the program began to mentor me and I eventually started tutoring other inmates in painting. I then knew that art would take me places I couldn’t imagine, because it took me from that dark place, I felt free! With that art is…

Interviewer: That’s fantastic! It sounds like you changed a negative experience into a positive career. When did you start painting murals?

Brandon: I started painting murals last year before I was only doing portraits. I really enjoy painting murals because you have a much bigger canvas to work with, I love challenges. The bigger the mural the bigger the challenge.

Interviewer: Tell me about the mural you are painting here at the Hough Multi Service Center?

Brandon: This mural represents a thriving community, its economic growth will be shown, self-empowerment, love and sharing education. It will be a visual of what Councilmen Basheer Jones talks about and is working towards, group economics. We need to be business minded and work together. It will display faces of the community and historians. The black dollar does not last long in the Black community, yet in different cultures their dollar stays for long periods before it leaves. We (blacks) spend over a trillion dollars a year, imagine if we circulated that amongst us?

Interviewer: Yes! That would be amazing. Have you done any other projects in this community or other communities?

Brandon: Yes, I have painted murals in barbershops, spas, restaurants, hair salons, personal portraits, live paintings, and I recently painted on wooden bow ties at an entrepreneurs fashion show.

Interviewer: Wow! Wooden bow ties that is really unique. What is your next project?

Brandon: My next project or goal is that I would like to open a studio to have a team of artists to take on any projects. I would like to reach out to inspire people especially the jail population. There is so much hidden talent in prison and I would like to help a brother like me introduce their talents.

Interviewer: Brandon is there anything else you would like to share with the Ward 7 Observer readers?

Brandon: I am universal and I am willing to share my story to inspire others to do better and follow your dream. Encourage people to become business minded which is necessary to the tenets of helping your fellow man aren’t just mere words to him. If there is any way that he can contribute he does, even financially to agency fundraisers, and will also donate items for families. He is a good steward in that he will visit the sick and will pray for and with them. As a former Volunteer Coordinator at the Veterans Administration and as a Vietnam Veteran, he is very sensitive to the needs of military individuals. He assists them in receiving benefits and other much needed services. He will do whatever it takes to help them with their needs. He will transport them to meetings acting as a strong advocate on their behalf. Over the past two Christmases, Rev. Henderson has provided a Christmas party for the veterans and their families complete with a live band, food, presents and even Santa Claus. Rev. Henderson is one of those people who we marvel at their capacity to give unconditionally, without judgment. He gives sincerely from his heart. Rev. Henderson is very special and appreciated.
Graffiti Heart Gallery Grand Opening, Featuring Artist Kelly “RISK” Graval

Graffiti HeArt is taking on a home of its own and is making it real by welcoming world-renowned artist, Kelly “RISK” Graval, to Cleveland! RISK will be painting the new Graffiti HeArt gallery at the corner of Superior Avenue & E. 49th Street, during the month of May 27th, making this spot a new art attraction in the region.

Graffiti HeArt was founded in 2013 with a dream to provide opportunities for graffiti artists to get connected to commissioned projects, in helping beautify and revitalize spaces. It will also generate funding for youth art scholarships for under-served communities. It will revitalize spaces. It will also generate funding for youth art scholarships for under-served communities. It will revitalize spaces. It will also generate funding for youth art scholarships for under-served communities. It will revitalize spaces.

The new Graffiti HeArt gallery was acquired in late 2018 with $50,000 in scholarship funding, to recognize you!! To be featured in the Graffiti HeArt gallery grand opening on May 27th, making this spot a new home of its own and is making it real by welcoming world-renowned artist, Kelly “RISK” Graval, to Cleveland! RISK will be painting the new Graffiti HeArt gallery at the corner of Superior Avenue & E. 49th Street, during the month of May 27th, making this spot a new art attraction in the region.

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American Rivers President Bob Irvin. “Because everyone in our country deserves clean water and a healthy river.”

To celebrate 50 years of environmental resurgence, the Cuyahoga River has been named “River of the Year” by American Rivers. The Washington D.C.-based conservation organization works to protect wild rivers, restore damaged rivers and advocate for clean water.

For more than 30 years, the organization annually has named 10 endangered rivers. The Cuyahoga has been working to identify the Cuyahoga River as an endangered river. But it’s being honored for its role in sparking the modern environmental movement and the return of the river to an open sewer, to an active fishery and watersports playground.

More than 60 species of fish thrive in the river, which hosts kayakers, stand-up paddle-boards and oodles of rowers from April through November. Irvin said the clean-up has revi-talized Cleveland, and he hopes it inspires Americans across the country.

Kudos to the AsiaTown Community committee for going through a long tedious process to get signage purchased and installed on step poles along several streets in Ward 7.

Councilman Jones has invited the AsiaTown community to nominate AAPI heroes for secondary street signs which will be revealed annually at the Cleveland Asian Festival beginning this year. Keep up the great work!

FREE TAI CHI
Every Sunday
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Bailey Wellness Store
Asian Town Center
5900 Old Airport Road, Suite 400
Cleveland, OH 44135

Cleveland ASIAN FESTIVAL 2019
May 18 & 19
North Coast Harbor
American Rivers

Business Highlight
by Kia Grayson

The Ward 7 Observer recognizes Jennifer Marriott’s for seeing the beauty of the employees’ passion and keeping key assets right here in Cleveland alive and well. Jennifer Marriott believes in the dignity of labor. For 5 1/2 years as the CEO of Redmond Waltz, company revenue climbed from $1.6 to 4 million dollars.

Established in 1946, Redmond Waltz is an expert provider of AC/DC electric motor repair, aluminum, steel, metal Stamping, extrusion, mining, elevators, and manufacturing. Redmond Waltz is centrally located in downtown Cleveland. Thank you Mrs. Marriott.

Operating a business? We want to recognize you!! To be featured please contact Kia Grayson via email: kgrayson@stclairsuperior.org

Like most groups of neighbors who come together to organize, TheBC Block Club residents, between Chester and Hough from East 26th to East 15th, have an admirable mission: “Working together to build a safe, economically stable, and beautiful community.” The BC, formed in April of 2018, and has been working to identify goals to ensure that the needs of the residents in this well-defined geographic area are not overwhelmed or ignored. In the greater activity areas with new names for what was formerly known as Hough (Midtown, Upper Chester, Medical Campus.)

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In the Greater Cleveland area, long-time Hough residents have been neighbors for 30, 40, 50, and yes 60 years. Long-time home owners in older neighborhoods, on both the east and west side of Cleveland, face rising property taxes and utility prices as a risk of development. These risks can be the beginning of class gentrification in a community. But the Sustainability Committee of TheBC sees opportunities to stabilize the neighborhood by anchoring a solar garden that will support stabilized utility prices and ultimately generate income for subscribers.

Like most groups of neighbors who come together to organize, there is much work to do within and without. The Sustainability Committee is now conducting a survey of utility usage among the neighbors. “Our Committee members have already started to gather this generic utility information and will continue or start a conversation to explain more details about the solar garden during the month of May. It is exciting to share the brochure and discuss the vision of the solar garden with neighbors,” offered Ms. Lewis. “So don’t be surprised if I knock on your door or leave a brochure! Edited by Observer - Full article can be viewed on ward7observer.com