

Celebrate the holidays with your neighbors and friends in the Campus District!

CAMPUS DISTRICT DSC1VC1

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* * HOLIDAY EDITION * *

DECEMBER 2012



Sterling Library Girl Scout Troop:

Building Future Community Leaders

By Donna Dieball

From left to right: troop leader La Queta Worley; troop members Delaina, Faith, Endia, Anteneice, Diasha and Poetessa; parent volunteer Betty Worley Harris; and co-leader Miss Ashley.

Many of the businesses and institutions in our area work hard to support improvements in the Campus District – but let's not forget that some of our younger residents also play a big role in making a difference in our community. Girl Scout Troop #75214, rooted right here in the Campus District, works hard year-round to help others, within our community and beyond.

The troop, led by La Queta Worley, holds weekly meetings at the Sterling Library on E. 30th Street. The standard Girl Scout levels – daisies, brownies, juniors, cadets, seniors and ambassadors – correspond with different grade and age levels. Most often, Girl Scout troops consist of a group of girls all at the same age and grade level. The Sterling troop, however, includes members of all ages grades K - 12. Any girl can join and hold the title of the appropriate level for her age group.

Worley has been the troop's leader for more than eight years. She became involved when her younger sister first became a troop member, and she has been dedicated to the group ever since. Just this past May, Worley received an appreciation award from the Girl Scouts of Northeast Ohio for her hard work and dedication as a leader.

Being involved with Girl Scouts is something that has been dear to Worley's family for some time. One of Worley's sisters, Maya Jones, has graduated from the Girl Scout program, but has left behind a story of accomplishment that the leaders hope will inspire other young girls to reach for their goals. As a girl scout, Jones had the opportunity to complete leadership training and to work with Daisy Alford-Smith, the chief executive officer of the Girl Scouts of Northeast Ohio. Worley's mother, Betty Worley Harris, has also been involved with the troop for a long time and helps out regularly as a parent volunteer. With one daughter as a leader, one as a current Senior Girl Scout, and another as a graduate of the program, Worley Harris feels strongly about encouraging the core values of Girl Scouting.

"I am walking in the path of our CEO, Ms. Daisy Alford-Smith – building courage, confidence and character in our girls," Worley Harris said.

The girls in the troop are a true reflection of the commitment shown by Worley, her mother, and the group's co-leader, who prefers to be known as Miss Ashley. Throughout the year, the troop participates in a number of volunteer projects. The girls often help maintain the appearance of their meeting place by picking up trash and cleaning up the area around the Sterling Library. They have a growing collection of pop-can tabs that they donate to Ronald McDonald House and also participate in local canned-food drives. The girls frequently spend time at the City Mission on E. 55th Street and Carnegie Avenue where they clean and fold clothes. They're also regular visitors at the Fairfax Place Nursing Home, where they visit with and sing for residents

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"I am walking in the path of our CEO, Ms. Daisy Alford-Smith – building courage, confidence and character in our girls."

—Betty Worley Harris

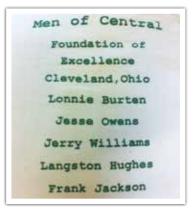
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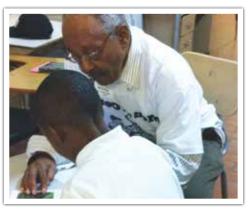
The Campus District has relocated its offices a few blocks further up the street, to 2254 Euclid Avenue. We now share office space with The Civic Commons in the Trinity Commons building. Our old location at 1900 Euclid will soon undergo renovations to welcome a new China Sea restaurant. Although we haven't traveled far, we look forward to the positive opportunities that our new storefront location will provide.

We are pleased to still be situated in the heart of the Campus District, and we're also excited to build new relationships with our friends at The Civic Commons, an online forum where community members can engage in conversation about local issues.

We also look forward to engaging more students and community volunteers in the work of the Campus District, Inc., the parent organization whose work is to revitalize the neighborhoods throughout the district, and with the Observer as writers, editors and thought leaders. Look for *Continued on Page 3*







(left) Men of Central founder Jerome Baker works with a student. (center) A shirt bearing the names of famous men of the Central Neighborhood. (right) Men of Central Fred Seals tutors a student in reading at Carl and Louis Stokes Central Academy.

Standing by the Children The Men and Women of Central

By Susan Reese

Fred Seals, Cedar Central resident and tutor with the Men of Central organization, has always been inspired by those of our community who strive to make a difference. One of the first stories that tugged at Seals' heart went something like this:

A young woman, soon to be the next Jane Addams' High School graduate, sat waiting for her turn to shake hands and receive the blessings of her community and family. Her name was called; now was the moment - her moment. She ascended the high school auditorium steps, shook the principal's hand and waited, knowing that no family would join in the celebration - no one would join her on stage. But she was wrong. Four men from the Men of Central were there for her; they were family for her. She had the love of her community for one of the most important days of her life.

The Men of Central is a grassroots organization founded by Jerome Baker in 2006 to help mentor young boys in the Central neighborhood. Jerome saw the need for men to stand up and

be present, be SEEN in this tight knit community. He feels, along with many others, that women have been bearing the burden of family alone for too long. Conversations with Demetrius Smiley and Larry Wanzo furthered Jerome's resolve to provide children with the positive role models of men in their lives.

Jerome's message captured Fred Seals' interest: "I liked what I saw, what they were talking about and where they wanted to go," said Seals.

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PAGE 2 CAMPUS DISTRICT OBSERVER



From the Executive Director of Campus District, Inc. and Observer Publisher

A map showing the

boundaries of the Campus

District, courtesy of

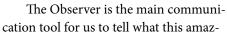
Stephanie Sheldon and

Tom Jordan.

Dear friends,

As readers of the Campus District Observer, I invite you to join me in an ongoing conversation about future possibilities for the Observer newspaper.

I am the recently appointed executive director of the Campus District, Inc., an organization dedicated to the redevelopment of the neighborhoods that make up the Campus District. Part of that job is the companion position of being publisher of the Observer newspaper. I have discovered in the five short weeks since I have been on the job how much this publication is loved by members of the community and relied on to find out what is happening all over the District.



ing, diverse District is all about - both to local stakeholders and to the broader Cleveland community. As I think about the continued growth and redevelopment that is desired for the District and the unique voices that are already here, I believe the Campus District Observer is one of our critically important agents for change.

I also believe this newspaper has the ability to reflect the heart and soul of this District that contains valued institutions, incredibly committed and talented neighborhood leaders, a huge number of students of all ages, our treasured daily newspaper, and solid businesses that provide jobs, goods and services to the entire city.

My commitment to the paper is that it reflect everything: all of the positive energy and excitement that is so palpable here - the healing, learning, commerce and daily living that bring us all together in this very unique place. It should also be a means of pointing out the problems that we need to solve together.

It's a big task, but I think we are all up to the challenge – and that includes YOU! Write to me at breichtell@campusdistrict.org, or call me at 216-344-9200 to let me know your thoughts on how the Observer can best serve you as a reader and potential neighborhood change agent.

We will be introducing new features over the coming months and new voices, including journalism students at Jane Addams Business Careers High School and residents of the Cedar-Central neighborhood led by Fred Seals of the Cedar Highrise. The Campus District organization will start a new project in early 2013, collecting stories of the Cedar-Central neighborhood through oral histories and then presenting them in an original play that will be written by local playwright Cornell Calhoun and performed in summer 2013. If you have roots in the Cedar-Central neighborhood or currently live there and want to participate, please let me know. We want to hear your story.

I wish you a happy holiday season and look forward to doing great things together in 2013.

Warmly,

Bobbi Reichtell

Bobbi Reichtell is the new executive director of the Campus District, Inc. organization and the publisher of the Campus District Observer. She has a 30+ year career in non-profit community development work, and attended Tri-C and Cleveland State University many years ago.

Girl Scouts

Continued from Page 1

and help serve food. Coming up this month, the girls will be helping out with the Samaritan's Purse program at St. John's where they will be wrapping gifts that will be sent to children in Africa. Community service has long been an integral part of the Girl Scout initiative, and the Sterling troop certainly works hard to uphold that tradition and to improve the lives of others in and around the Campus District.

While learning the value of volunteer work is important, the benefits of being a Girl Scout don't end there. Just by going to meetings, girls learn a variety of skills that give them the tools to grow into accomplished young women. Each meeting starts with a recitation of the Girl Scout Promise, in which girls pledge to live by the Girl Scout Law. The Girl Scout Law outlines the ways girls must act towards themselves and others. It promotes honesty, consideration, responsibility and respect. One of the most fundamental parts of Girl Scouting is for girls to practice the rules of this law within their troop, and also to carry them out into everyday life.

Worley is dedicated to instilling her girls with responsibility. She doesn't take attendance at meetings; girls are not punished or even questioned for not showing up.

"I want the girls to *remember* that we have meetings every Thursday," Worley said. "That's part of the Girl Scout Law and Promise." Girls are never pressured to stay active in the group, but those who do show commitment and dedication are rewarded from timeto-time with special treats during meetings, or the chance to go on outings.

Typical meetings at the Sterling Library can include a variety of activities. The girls do plenty of things for fun like arts and crafts, but they practice other valuable skills as well, such as sewing and table manners. Since Worley's troop members range from kindergarten to high school age, the group has unique benefits that a single-level troop wouldn't experience. Whether they're learning to sew badges on their vests or how to set the table for a family dinner, the older girls are there to give the younger members guidance and have the opportunity to act as leaders. In turn, the younger girls have older role models to look up to and learn from.

The troop leaders admit that it's not always easy to retain girls as they grow up and progress through the different levels. However, the girls who do remain active through their high school years will certainly be able to look back and appreciate the opportunities they were given as members, as well as the skills they received that will help them grow throughout the future. As the group's co-leader Miss Ashley puts it, "Girl Scouts is fundamental of being a woman."

The troop at the Sterling library is certainly a cherished part of the Campus District. Not only do they make a positive impact on their surrounding community, but the group provides local girls with the opportunity to learn, grow and create lasting friendships.

Donna Dieball is an intern at the Campus District Observer and an English major at Cleveland State University.

CAMPUS DISTRICT OBSERVER

The mission of the Campus District Observer is to attract, articulate and amplify civic intelligence and community goodwill in this community and beyond.

Published monthly with this month's holiday issue at 7,000 copies. This newspaper is available free of charge and can be found at over 75 business locations, restaurants and community gathering places throughout the Campus District, including Cleveland State University, Cuyahoga Community College's Metropolitan Campus and St. Vincent Charity Medical Center/Sisters of Charity Health System, and downtown Cleveland. You can also find it at our website at www. campusdistrictobserver.com.

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Become an Observer!

The Campus District Observer is looking for people to get involved in the newspaper and the neighborhood. We seek volunteer writers, photographers, designers and illustrators to help with production of the newspaper. It does not matter if you are a professional or amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help you through the process. Register online at our website to submit stories, press releases, letters to the editor and photos.

Upcoming
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Dec 18, 2012

Jan 4, 2013

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We Want Your Story! Write or report for the Campus District Observer. For more details contact us at info@campusdistrict.org





(left) City Planning Director Bob Brown with Latreasa Scott, one of the new Campus District Fellows. (right) Susan Reese, new Campus District Fellow, with Marty Cader, City Planning Bike and Pedestrian Coordinator.

Two Campus District Fellows Begin Work

The Campus District organization is pleased to announce that Susan Reese and Latreasa M. Scott have joined the Campus District as Fellows and will assist executive director Bobbi Reichtell in planning, real estate and program development work.

Susan Reese is a 2010 graduate of CSU's Levin College of Urban Affairs with a Master's degree in Urban Planning, Design and Development. Her areas of interest are neighborhood and economic development. Susan was attracted to the Campus District position because of the energy she sees with the leadership and the potential of the district as well as the community of

people who reside in the neighborhood. Prior to earning her master's degree, she taught students with disabilities at Cleveland Heights High School. Susan and her husband, Randy, have two grown children and reside in Shaker Heights.

Latreasa Scott is a native Clevelander, having grown up in the Garden Valley neighborhood. She earned a Bachelor of Political Science at Wilberforce University and a Master of Urban Planning, Design and Development from the Levin College of Urban Affairs in 2001. Her past work has been in research, community organizing and contract administration. She has joined the Campus District

Fellow program to gain experience in community development, planning and grant writing. She lives in the Buckeye-Larchmere neighborhood of Cleveland.

The Campus District is seeking two additional Fellows with skills in research, GIS, writing and marketing. The positions are for 3 or 6 months and can be extended. The positions are unpaid, but Fellows will gain valuable work experience, have networking opportunities and receive professional development support. If you are interested in becoming a Campus District Fellow, contact Bobbi Reichtell at 216.344.9200 or at breichtell@campusdistrict.org.



NEW FEATURE

THE CAMPUS DISTRICT MARKETPLACE HOLIDAY EDITION

The Campus District Observer begins a new regular feature with COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE - a place where offers and requests are made and community is built.

One of the features of strong communities is that they have the ability to draw on the assets, strengths and skills of their members and utilize them as needed for mutual support. For example, a neighbor who does yard work for an older person may get a home cooked meal on a night when she works late and can't make dinner for the kids. Sometimes it's arranged in advance - you do this for me, and I'll do that for you. But most often we just do this for each other willingly, with no motive to get repaid in any way. Some people call this paying it forward, others call it creating good karma and others call it living out their spiritual beliefs. Whatever it means to you is fine with us.

We want the Observer to be a tool to enable this Marketplace to occur where people make OFFERS and REQUESTS. It's as simple as stating what you would like and stating what you want to give.

In this December Holiday Issue, we focus on a few of the great organizations and schools who are working hard to educate and care for members of our community. Consider their requests and see if

you'd like to make an offer. That's how this simple Community Marketplace works. **REQUESTS:**

- Carl and Louis Stokes Academy:
 2225 East 40th Street, 44103 (contact principal Fatima Wright at 216-431-4410) Requests are for tutors for pre-K to 2nd grade, uniforms for all grades, supplies, and age appropriate high interest pleasure books for ages 4-14.
- Joseph's Home: 2412 Community College Avenue (216-685-1551). Joseph's Home is looking for men's clothing, especially shoes, socks and jackets as well as apartment start up goods (kitchenware, furniture, bedding).
- Jane Addams Business Careers
 School: 2373 East 30th Street, 44115
 (contact Asst. Principal Elaine Gollate
 at 216-623-8909) The school is looking
 for uniforms in all sizes for its students both young men and women.
 Additionally, the school would like to
 enlist the help of the community to
 tutor students in math and science and
 for the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT).
- Men and Women of Central: (contact Jerome or Theodora Baker, Founders, at 216-255-8990 or at bakerjerome67@ yahoo.com) Request is for both men and women community tutors for elementary students. All that is required is a desire to help and a love of children;

skills will come to you naturally. Children need attentive adults to guide them through their reading challenges.

Norma Herr Womens Center: (Contact Jan Eaton, Shelter Manager, at 216-279-0920, ext 2227) Request is for RTA bus tickets to help women get to their doctor appointments, job interviews and workplaces.

OFFERS:

- Downtown Cleveland Alliance provide transportation to homeless individuals via the Generocity Bus. Especially in the winter, it is hard for individuals to get to their appointments without transportation assistance. DCA has a 15-passenger van that gives people rides to doctor appointments, job training and other services that will help them improve their situation. By calling 216-621-6000, any homeless individual in downtown can request a pick up.
- For information about free tutoring, grades 1-12, visit www.saturdaytutoring.org/students.html
 Please contact the Campus District Observer COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

server COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE at 216.344.9200 or info@campusdistrict.org if you have an offer or request to make and we will publish it in next month's Observer.

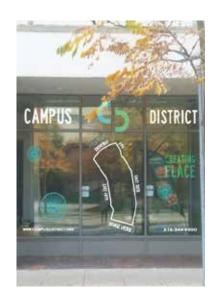
A Campus District Book Club

What Do You Think?

o you enjoy reading? Do you like talking about books you've read? How about starting a Campus District book club? Beginning in January 2013, the first gathering will be on Thursday, January 10th at 6:00 pm at the Campus District office, 2254 Euclid. We will choose our first book then. with pizza and drinks provided. The only rule is that there are no rules. You can read a chapter or the whole book. The discussion can be led by the person who chooses the book. We 'd love to have Cedar-Central residents, college students, old timers and young people involved. It would be a great way to have people with all kinds of perspectives, from all over the district connect and have conversations about life, reading, love of books, etc. Let's make one rule that the book needs to be available at the Cleveland Public Library so that there is absolutely no cost to participate.

If you are interested, please call or email Susan Reese, one of our Campus District Fellows, at 216.344.9200 or at s.carp.reese@ gmail.com and tell her you want to join. As soon as we have 4 people we'll start. And there are already two of us here who want to do it, so are there two more people? Tell her if Thursday evenings work for you or if there is a better day. The first meeting will be at the Campus District office at 2254 Euclid Avenue, but then we can rotate north and south around the district for future gatherings. Sound like fun? I hope so - it does to me!

Susan Reese is a Fellow at the Campus District. She is a 2010 MUPDD graduate of the Levin School.



New Address

Continued from Page 1

the new signage to go up during December and stop in and say hello!

Call us at 216.344.9200 or email us at info@campusdistrict. org if you want to know the many ways you can get involved.

PAGE 4 CAMPUS DISTRICT OBSERVER

Revitalizing the Cedar Central Neighborhood CMHA's Blueprint for Success

By Cortney Kilbury

Revitalization is happening in the Cedar Central neighborhood related to housing, health, safety, employment and education.

Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) is one of the partners working to invigorate and refresh the neighborhood. We are happy to announce that we have held numerous resident meetings to discuss the relocation process and obtain important resident input on how to make the process most efficient and seamless. Currently, we are relocating families to other low income public housing units or issuing them vouchers. The Authority is handling everything from scheduling movers to reworking dates to make an easy and smooth transition for residents.

Many families are excited to get into their own homes, meet neighbors, and feel a part of the community. We will continue to work with residents to meet their needs in terms of where they want to live and what is best for their particular situation by relocating throughout Cuyahoga County. For the remainder of the year, families will be moving and getting settled into their homes. Next, the renovation of the property will begin.

CMHA is trying to learn as much as we can to incorporate into the site plan, and engaged the Enterprise Leadership Institute to bring together leaders in affordable housing design and development for a two-and-a-half day session focused on innovation and best practices. The process included two teams: a Design Resource Team of eight expert design innovators and a Development Team of seven forward-thinking developers with projects in the schematic design phase. These groups will join forces to create solutions that will have an impact on real affordable housing projects nationwide. The session will help community development leaders put into action the best practices in sustainable community design, transit-oriented development, and green architectural design.

We received great feedback from this group of successful planners and architects regarding our Central Cedar initiative. Because of what we learned, we will now look at the density of the site as well as the use of green space and how parking is configured. This will benefit the homeowners through community forums on ways to reduce blight within the community and increase positive economic opportunities for Northeast Ohio.

Great design strengthens communities and adds to the vitality of our neighborhoods. We look forward to enriching the neighborhood and helping residents become a part of creating a place that they are proud to call home.

Want to Learn More & Get Involved in Central?

For information about free tutoring, grades 1-12, visit www.saturdaytutoring. org/students.html

Visit Cleveland's City Mission Website at www.thecitymission.org for a calendar of events.

Volunteer with Greater Cleveland at www.greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

For information about HUD's Choice Program, visit partner.hud.gov/grants/choice-neighborhoods

Visit CMHA's Central Choice Website at www.cmha.net/realestate/choice.aspx

Or email CMHA's Central Choice Program at choice@cmha.net

For information about educational and healthy living initiatives: www.socf-cleveland.org or www.clevelandpromise-neighborhood.org

Cortney Kilbury is marketing manager at the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority. She is responsible for planning and executive marketing initiatives to build positive awareness for CMHA.



Map displaying the Cedar Central neighborhood.



(left) Stainless steel film reels were used to load film onto before processing in complete darkness. (right) The sign at Labwork/Score has become obscured over the years by evergreens. All photos by Dan Morgan of Straight Shooter Photography.

Hoping For a 'Miracle on 22nd Street' Changes in Photography Industry Catching Up with Labwork/Score

By Dan Morgan

Inside a tiny brick building, midblock on a one-way street in the center of the Campus District, a great art form is dying. Let's hope for a Miracle on 22nd Street - Labwork may not make it to 2013.

Labwork/Score Photographers, just since I interviewed them a few days ago, has shut down its Web site. To old-school (okay, "just plain old") photographers everywhere, this is worse than the demise of Twinkies... much worse.

I sat down with Jim Mathews just after he received a rent check from a photographer who rents the small studio in the back of the building. I assume the rental income has kept the business alive the last few years. Mathews first moved into this building with Bernie Rich, a very successful commercial photographer, more than 35 years ago. Mathews is quick to reminisce about the old days shooting local and some national celebrities that passed through Cleveland. They also shot for many corporate monthly newsletters.

The impressive darkroom boasts several enlargers, old reels used for loading film in total darkness. I remember those nerve-wracking moments, alone with the results of a big shoot literally in my hands, in the total dark!

Their studio was moved out of the old Warner Brothers Pictures Building at E. 23rd Street and Payne Avenue in the 1970s. The Campus District, at one time, was a great motion pictures hub. Mathews was the darkroom man, while Rich, now retired, was the primary shooter. For the past 20 years or so Mathews has been able to keep his business going by servicing an ever shrinking population of passionate

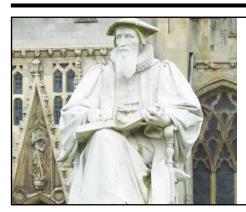
photographers who demand the silver gelatin print with the tray processed by hand in the darkroom. He has been able to keep enough photographers shipping him their negatives, sometimes made of glass, by advertising in specialty magazines. The orders have been coming in from all over the country - or at least, they were.

Digital photography, while eventually making life easier for the commercial and fine-art photographer, has taken a lot of the "handmade" joy out of the craft. As a photographer myself, who has spent long hours creating just a few images from a single negative, I appreciate the art form. I have, however, embraced the technological advances in my industry, grateful that it is easier to achieve my dream image. I have created better images than I was ever able to create with film. Still, there is nothing that can ever match the beauty and the understanding that something hanging on your wall was created using this old process. I am proud to have been able to work successfully with both processes.

The lack of business is forcing Labwork to close at the end of the month, unless, of course, a miracle happens. I for one would love to see that miracle happen.

Dear Santa, contact Jim Mathews at 216-621-7567. He is an easy guy to talk with on the phone, but he has no e-mail address... but neither does Santa!

Dan Morgan is a photographer and owner of Straight Shooter Photography. Morgan's office and studio are in the Campus District's Tower Press Building on Superior Avenue. He is a regular contributer to the Campus District Observer. Find out more about him at www.AboutDanMorgan.com.



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Young Professionals Attracted to The Langston

By Tim Coxey

It's been three months since the apartments opened its doors for business. The live-work-play community, recently finishing its first phase of development, has already seen lots of activity. And, it's proving to be popular for young professionals in the Cleveland area.

"We have a really nice mix of renters," said Adam Martin, site manager for The Langston. "And we're filling up fast."

Renters, who work in a variety of settings including the Cleveland Clinic, GE, and downtown's casinos, are feeling The Langston's convenient lifestyle perks. Plus, The Langston's central location is ideal, with connections to Cleveland's HealthLine, easy access to the I-90 expressway, and Cleveland nightlife just five minutes away.

"Living in the downtown Cleveland area is great, and The Langston's convenient location makes for a very short morning commute for me," said resident David Klink. "Equally as important, the leasing staff has always been helpful. I think both professionals and students alike will find The Langston to be a great addition to the downtown apartment complexes."

Since move-in day at the end of August, The Langston has remained at a high occupancy level. The first building was 100 percent occupied at its opening, and the other two buildings easily drew tenants within a month of their Sept. 15 and Oct. 1

"The Langston's convenient location makes for a very short morning commute for me."

-David Klink, Resident

opening dates. Currently, The Langston apartments are 90 percent occupied.

"All that we have available right now is our two bedroom and two bathroom townhome model," Martin said. "And these apartments are tailormade for the young professional. Along with a washer and dryer and stainless steel appliances in every Langston unit, the second floor bedroom you get in the townhome is extremely useful for guests or even an office."

When complete in early June 2013, The Langston will include a total of 318 apartments for rent, a fitness center, media room, cyber café and plenty of outdoor recreation space. The community will also have 10,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space and a schedule of resident events to keep The Langston a popular place for young professionals.

Tim Coxey is a writer and account coordinator at Borshoff, an advertising, branding and public relations firm in Indianapolis, Ind.



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ODOT has officially launched the search for a qualified design, construction and finance team to build the new eastbound Innerbelt Bridge – the second of the pair – and demolish the existing aging structure. The team will provide initial financing and construct the bridge; ODOT will then pay the team back over a set time.

Search for Second Innerbelt Bridge Construction Team Officially Begins

By Jocelynn Clemings

On Nov. 20, the Ohio Department of Transportation officially launched the search for a qualified design, construction and finance team to build the new eastbound Innerbelt Bridge and demolish the aging structure motorists currently use as they drive into and out of Downtown Cleveland. The team will provide initial financing and construct the bridge; ODOT will then pay the team back over a set time.

"I've said before, 'this isn't your Grandpa's ODOT,' meaning that – in many instances – the old way of delivering some of these major road and bridge construction projects is no longer sustainable," ODOT Director Jerry Wray said. "We must innovate and we must seek out new ways of generating money in order to deliver these large transportation projects that communities want and need in order to continue our state's economic recovery and to create jobs."

This is the first time the state has pursued a design-build-finance (DBF) approach for the construction of a major transportation project in Ohio. However, the practice is widely used in others states and countries. In 2011, Ohio's legislature was the 30th in the nation to approve public-private-partnerships that will allow ODOT to reconsider how it plans, constructs and delivers road and bridge projects in local communities.

The DBF teams will have until Dec. 21 to respond to ODOT's request for qualifications (RFQ). The list of qualified respondents will be narrowed to no more than three following a defined scoring model outlined in the RFQ. Those teams will be asked to develop technical and

financial proposals and provide them to ODOT. A final winning team is likely to be selected by the summer.

The Innerbelt Bridge project includes replacing the current aging span on I-90 with two new bridges and expands the number of lanes from eight to ten. Crews are currently working to build the new westbound bridge, and it alone is the largest project in ODOT history.

The DBF team will be responsible for financing a portion of the estimated \$330 million cost of constructing the new eastbound bridge and demolishing the current bridge. Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2013 or early 2014, once the first westbound bridge is complete.

In January 2012, ODOT announced a \$1.6 billion transportation funding gap that pushed back by decades some of the state's largest construction projects, including the construction of Cleveland's second Innerbelt Bridge. Pursuit of a DBF team has allowed ODOT to return the bridge project to its original construction start date.

A copy of the RFQ is available by visiting http://bit.ly/Innerbelt_RFQ.

For the latest on Innerbelt construction, motorists are encouraged to visit www.Innerbelt.org. Visitors to the site may sign-up to receive project-related e-mails and to view *Construction Connection*, the official newsletter of the Innerbelt project, or find links to both on Facebook and Twitter.

For questions or concerns, call the Innerbelt hotline at 216-344-0069, or 855-803-5280 toll-free, or e-mail the team at Info@Innerbelt.org.

Jocelynn Clemings is a member of ODOT's communications team.



There are several services and events taking place at Trinity Cathedral during the month of December and all living within or visiting the Campus District are welcome. These include:

Wednesday, Dec. 19 Annual Messiah Sing 12:10 p.m. Freewill offering

Monday, Dec. 24 • Christmas Eve 5 p.m. Family Eucharist and Pageant 10:30 p.m. Prelude Music for choir, organ and trumpet 11 p.m. Choral Eucharist Tuesday, December 25 Christmas Day 10 a.m. Eucharist with Carols Saturday, December 29 Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival 50th Anniversary 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Freewill offering PAGE 6 CAMPUS DISTRICT OBSERVER



Photo by Bryant Taylor

YMCA's "We Run This City Marathon" **Kicks Off Youth Program This December**

By Joan Mazzolini

YMCA's annual "We Run This City Marathon" youth program is gearing up again and is looking for students.

Students in 6th through 12th grade can participate in the program, which includes working out for free at the YMCA, attending other special activities and finally taking part in the last 1.2 milies of the annual Rite Aid Marathon in May.

So far in Central, George Washington Carver, Marion-Sterling and East Technical High School have signed up to be part of this great program.

Schools have to register with the YMCA by December 14, so students attending other Cleveland schools - let your principals know you want them to participate.

STUDENTS HAVE TO REGISTER BY JANUARY 31.

Participating schools will have registration packets for students soon. Be sure to ask. There will be a special kick-off for students at Sterling, Stokes and Carver in December, with special guests from WENZ 107.9. This program now operates around the city in 40 schools. School principals who are interested in having their students participate in the program should contact Tara Taylor, YMCA Program Director at 216.263.6298 or at ttaylor@clevelandymca.org.

Joan Mazzolini is communications director at the Sisters of Charity Foundation.

CHANGE

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Francine Simo ager, Campus Office neighbor

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Downtown Cleveland Alliance: GeneroCity Program Cares for the Homeless

By Mark Lammon

In addition to its security services and upkeep of the downtown area, the Downtown Cleveland Alliance is dedicated to helping the homeless population in the downtown area with their current situation and helping these individuals make the move into permanent housing and get job training.

The Downtown Cleveland Alliance staffed with a full-time social worker, has been able to establish relationships with the homeless population in order to help more effectively. For many, the simple issue of not having proper identification is all that stands between them and getting the help they need. Their social worker works with individuals to get them birth certificates, identification cards, transportation to doctor appointments and other essentials.

The Downtown Cleveland Alliance has recently formed GeneroCity Cleveland. This is a partnership that includes the property owners of Downtown Cleveland, the City of Cleveland, and the faith-based community that created a visible public awareness program and fund-raising strategy which included the installation of 12 bright-green donation receptacles throughout the downtown area. These receptacles, which are old parking meters, collect change from pedestrians, which is used to provide services to homeless individuals downtown.

Generocity Bus

Downtown Cleveland Alliance also provides transportation to homeless individuals via the Generocity Bus. Especially in the winter, it is hard for individuals to get to their appointments without transportation assistance. Downtown Cleveland Alliance has a 15-passenger van that gives people rides to doctor appointments, job training and other services that will help them improve their situation. By calling 216-621-6000, any homeless individual in downtown can call the operations center to request a pick up.

Mark Lammon is the director of operations and advocacy for the Downtown Cleveland Alliance.

Children

Continued from Page 1

Ierome wanted to reach out to the schools and he wanted to take Fred with him. Together, along with Malford Shaw and Charmaine Jordan, they started tutoring a few second grade boys from Ms. Fomby's class at Marion Sterling Elementary School. Fred was a bit uneasy at first: "I hadn't worked or been around kids in years, but after the first 'hello,' I relaxed a bit," he said. He knew what he needed to do, almost by instinct. He walked into the classroom and saw an empty chair, sat down and met the student with whom he would spend an hour each week, reading and going over math problems. Fred said the relationship has taken off with the help of positive attention and by adding

Tutoring is just one of the programs spearheaded by The Men of Central in addition, they have a successful mentoring library program at Marion Sterling Elementary as well as recreation programs. The seminal program of The Men of Central is their annual Father's Day event,

an opportunity to celebrate men and their contribution to the family. With a core of ten men and participation by upwards of fifty, The Men of Central is making a difference in the lives of children.

The effect of mentoring is powerful, but it requires one on one relationships. It requires time. Just one hour a week is all that is required for tutoring along with a desire to make a difference. Jerome sees a great need for more tutors, especially at the elementary school.

For more information or to volunteer, visit The Men of Central website at www.menofcentral.com or contact Jerome Baker at bakerjerome67@yahoo. com. As reported in last month's Observer, The Women of Central has recently formed with equal success. To volunteer for The Women of Central contact Theodora Baker at theodorabaker@yahoo.com (216) 269-9980.

Susan Reese is a Fellow with the Campus District. She is a 2010 MUPDD graduate of the Levin School.

CAREER, JOB FAIR FOR CENTRAL, GARDEN VALLEY AREA HandsOn Northeast Ohio and Grdina Elementary To Co-Host Event

By Katrice Williams

HandsOn Northeast Ohio (HandsOn NEO) and Anton Grdina Elementary School will be hosting a career and job fair Tuesday, Dec. 11, from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the school located at 2995 E. 71st Street in Cleveland.

Community members from Garden Valley and the Greater Central Neighborhood will have an opportunity to participate in job readiness workshops, networking opportunities and a career fair for youth. Workshops include resume-building, mock interviews, team-building, job etiquette and branding and social media.

HandsOn NEO will be running this career fair in partnership with Principal Marwa Ibrahim and Anton Grdina Elementary School. Twenty-five organizations will be participating to provide access to resources, information on employment and job training programs, and continuing education opportunities.

"Anton Grdina School staff and partners HandsOn Northeast Ohio have been working hard to increase community involvement, while at the same time serving the neighborhood and addressing their needs. The Dec. 11 event will involve around 25 community agencies and organizations committed to providing networking opportunities to parents, teens and community members. We want to provide opportunities to our community as we build a brighter future

"We want to provide opportunities to our community as we build a brighter future for our students."

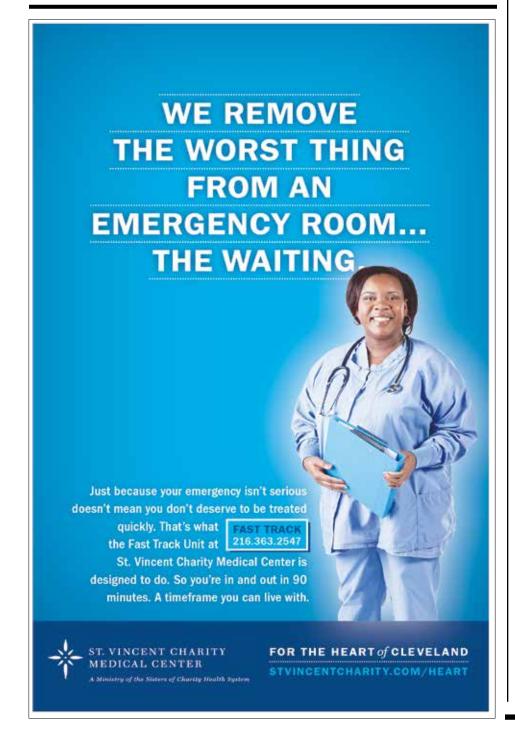
—Marwa Ibrahim, Principal of Anton Grdina Elementary School

for our students," said Ibrahim.

For more information about the career and job fair and how to get involved, please contact Katrice Williams at katrice@handsonneo.org or 216-432-9390.

HandsOn NEO strives to be a leader in volunteerism. The organization provides an opportunity for individuals, youth, families and businesses to improve the community through volunteer engagement. Visit the Web site at www. HandsOnNEO.org.

Katrice Williams is a graduate of Stanford University with a B.A. in International Relations, and is an alumnus of the United World College of the Atlantic. She acted as the project facilitator for the women's rights and empowerment workshops in Zambia and as the fundraising coordinator for a student-led project in South Africa. She currently lives in the Greater Cleveland area with her family.



Give us Your Thoughts About the Campus District & Enter to Win a Gift Card to a Local Restaurant!

The Campus District Observer wants YOU! To give us your opinion, that is.

Tell us about your experiences of the Campus
District neighborhood for a chance to win a \$25
gift card to Rascal House Pizza, Cafe AhRoma or
Artefino Café. There will be three winners selected
from the entries. Just respond to the following

statements and turn in your answers at any of the following places: Campus District office, Cafe AhRoma, Rascal House Pizza or Artefino Cafe. These locations will have a drop-box bearing our Campus District logo. Don't forget to include your full name, address, phone number and email so that we can get back to you if your submission is selected!

TELL US ABOUT THE CAMPUS DISTRICT!	
My favorite place in the Campus District is	
A hidden gem that no one knows about in the District is	
(Whether it's a business, a social gathering place, or a beautiful work of ar about one thing in our area that you think the community should be mor	
If you could create one new thing for the Campus District, it would be	
(What kinds of improvements or new ideas do you think the neighborhood would benefit from? It doesn't have to be a physical project.)	od
l am part of the neighborhood within the	e Campus District.
Ilive, work, go to school,visit the Campus District.	
NAME	
ADDRESS	
EMAIL	
PHONE NUMBER	
SCHOOL OR WORKPLACE IN THE CAMPUS DISTRICT:	
We look forward to receiving your answers and insights! Our drop boxes will be available at each	ch location from
December 5th to January 4th, 2013 and winners will be notified by January 11th.	
Rascal House Pizza is located at 2064 Euclid Avenue; Artefino Gallery and Café is located at 190	O Superior Avenue;
Cafe AhRoma is located at 2230 Fuclid Avenue: and the Campus District office is located at 225	4 Fuclid Avenue

ATTENTION HOLIDAY SHOPPERS! Tips to Keep Your Seasonal Spending Under Control

By Fred Dolan

Ready or not, the holidays are here! Hopefully you're in a financial position to easily cover all the gifts, food, entertaining and other seasonal expenses that come up. If you're not, don't worry - you have lots of company. A recent survey by Think Finance asked 1,000 people of all income levels about their holiday spending, and 45 percent said that the holidays put so much financial pressure and stress on them that they would prefer to skip them altogether. It doesn't have to be that way!

If you are one of the 45 percent who does not have enough money available to cover holiday expenses, there are a number of things that you can do to make it through this year and future years.

Make A Plan

Take a look at your finances. Figure out how much money you have available. Then, make a list of all the people you want to buy presents for, plus all the other expenses that come with the season. Try to be realistic. If you can't afford to buy the people on your list anything expensive this year, so be it. Don't overextend yourself. There's a reason why we have the old saying "It's the thought that counts." The holidays should be about family, friends and fellowship – getting together to celebrate the season - not about making an impression with expensive gifts. Think about it. The people who really love you would not want you to go into debt so that they could receive presents from you.

Borrowing

If you decide to borrow or use credit cards for the holidays, use these options carefully. If you have a good idea how much you will need, Signature Loan rates are usually lower than many credit cards, especially individual store credit cards. Try to borrow as little as possible and pay the balance off quickly. There's almost nothing worse than still paying on last year's holidays at this time of year. A good place to start shopping for the best rate is Ohio's First Class Credit Union where low-cost loans and VISA Cards are available to qualified borrowers.

Think Creatively About Gifts

Perhaps you have a special skill like woodworking, sewing, knitting, or baking that would allow you to make some of the presents you'll be giving. Nothing says "I love you" more than receiving a handmade gift.

If you come from a large family that exchanges gifts, perhaps suggesting a gift exchange where each family member purchases one gift for one other family member is a way to save. A dollar limit can be put on the gifts and names can be drawn for who buys for each family member.

If you are looking for bargains on holiday merchandise, take advantage of clearance items after the holiday for next year.

Join The Club

The best way to save for next year's holidays is to open a Holiday Club Account now and have a portion of each paycheck or retirement check go into the Club Account. Then next November, money for the 2013 holidays will be there. For example, if you are paid twice a month and have \$20 per pay deposited into the account, next November, you'll have \$400. Put \$40 per pay away and you'll have \$800. It's the best way to plan ahead and reduce stress. Contact Ohio's First Class Credit Union for details about a Holiday Club Account. Once you live through a holiday season that's already paid for, you'll never want to be without a Holiday Club Account again.

Let's face it. At this time of year, most people need to relax. The stores want to build excitement for the season and make you believe that you can't live without all of their latest gizmos and gadgets. Truth is, you can live very nicely without pretty much all of it - which brings us back to the real meaning of the year-end celebrations in our various religious and ethnic backgrounds. Give what you can. Don't go too far into debt. And remember that observing these special days with people we love is the real beauty of the holidays.

Fred Dolan does much of the marketing for Ohio's First Class Credit Union, working with Jeff Spada and the staff. PAGE 8 CAMPUS DISTRICT OBSERVER



10 RH = Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanza

By The Very Rev. Tracey Lind, Dean of Trinity Cathedral

Like many great ideas, necessity was the mother of this invention. It was 2008, the stock market had plummeted, and everyone was feeling strapped and not wanting Christmas to be too costly. So we came up with some simple rules for family gift giving – every present had to be less than \$10, recycled or homemade. Once the rules were communicated and agreed upon, everybody went to work.

Christmas Day arrived and we had the best time. My mother made fudge, and then we wrapped up her barely used collection of purses for every woman and girl in the family, and to the men she gave a slightly used briefcase or backpack. My in-laws gave away very special items from their home, and the room filled with shouts of glee as sons, daughters, grandchildren and in-laws unwrapped precious books from childhood and special pieces of family furniture or silver that had been lovingly polished anew. The farmers in our family presented frozen pork chops and sausage from Ralph the 4-H pig, dilly beans from their garden, figs in earl grey tea, pickled quince and fresh eggs from a new flock of chickens. I gave photographs in recycled frames, and Emily made incredible batches of olives brined in a secret recipe of spices and oils. And nobody spent more than \$10 on any gift.

We set up a table for a CD exchange, and what was one person's tired music became another's great discovery. And then, over eggnog and olives, we had the funniest Yankee Swap and watched

a family of girls fight over a Jane Austen CD collection that ended up being a box without the CDs (we just found those last week in the attic).

Financial necessity changed our family Christmas. The holidays have become more creative, thoughtful and less hectic. That holiday season changed our family attitudes about consumption and gift exchange.

Gift exchange is circular in its very nature. When a gift is given and received in love, both the giver and the recipient are blessed. I remember that principle every time I serve lunch to the hungry at our doors. Our Jewish sisters and brothers call it a mitzvah.

Gift giving is a part of the holiday season. I believe that the holiday gifts we give and receive are really symbols and reminders of the greatest gift of all – the love of God freely given to all of us. As history has shown over and over again, that love overcomes everything - even economics.

Revised and reprinted from *The Cathedral Connection*, December 2010

About Trinity Cathedral:
Trinity Cathedral, the Episcopal Church in downtown Cleveland, invites participation from people of all faiths, races, nationalities and walks of life. For more information on Trinity Cathedral and its programs, please call 216-771-3630 or visit www. trinitycleveland.org. Trinity Cathedral is located at 2230 Euclid Avenue in downtown Cleveland.

Photo of Choice Planning Interns:

Story Coming in Next Month's Issue: The work of the Choice neighborhood planning assistants nurtured by City Architecture and Burton Bel Carr Community Development staff.





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Soprano Meredtih Hall & Apollo's Fire

Apollo's Fire presents 'Happiness Two Ways'

By Margi Griebling-Haigh

The Year of the Dragon is one of the most revered years of the Chinese New Year calendar, and those born under the sign are regarded as having many wonderful traits. They are considered innovative, colorful, confident and passionate - exactly the qualities for which "gingery" Cleveland resident Jeannette Sorrell (a Dragon Year baby) and her ensemble Apollo's Fire are known.

Imagine now that you are seated in a Chinese restaurant and the special is "Happiness Two Ways." Given a choice between that and only one kind of happiness, why would you not opt for the special? Given the choice between hearing Handel's *Messiah*, which you know will fulfill your traditional and spiritual holiday needs, and hearing Sacrum Mysterium: A Celtic Christmas, a kind of folk-inspired Gaelic pagan and early Christian romp through the British Isles, which you know will thrill you with its mystery and color, why would you not choose to enjoy both? Sorrell and Apollo's Fire boldly offer two kinds of happiness in this Year of the Dragon: a two-week holiday extravaganza featuring two different programs for the delectation of Cleveland audiences.

Along with the 13th-century Vespers of St. Kertigern, one of the few remaining sacred Scottish works written prior to the 18th century, the repertoire for Sacrum Mysterium: A Celtic Christmas will include carols such as "Nowell Sing We," "Lully, Lullay," "O Come Emmanuel," and "Noel Nouvelet," as well as traditional Irish and Scottish fiddle tunes. A festive five-spice concoction of lute, step-dancing, hammered dulcimer, Celtic harp, and bagpipes provided by Mr. Bergeron, Steve Player, and Tina Bergmann will enliven the already energetic ensemble of Apollo's Fire players and singers.

between the two concerts will be

the meltingly lyrical soprano voice of Meredith Hall, whose guileless sincerity has for several years graced both Apollo's Fire and La Nef performances, and who will provide yet more "happiness" during this twoweek menu of delights. Joining Ms. Hall will be the very appealing tenor Karim Sulayman, new this season to the Apollo's Fire roster. Baritone Jeffrey Strauss, whose burnished tone and dramatic presence have made him a favorite with Messiah audiences, will also be featured.

Tickets starting at \$26 are available through the Apollo's Fire box office at (216) 320-0012 or (800) 314-2535, or online at www.apollosfire.org.

New this year: Buy tickets to both Sacrum Mysterium and Messiah and receive \$10 off each ticket! Student, senior, young adult and group discounts are also available through the box office.

Sacrum Mysterium: A Celtic Christmas Tuesday, December 11, 7:30 p.m.

Trinity Cathedral 2230 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115

Handel's Messiah Friday, December 14, 8:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church 3630 Fairmount Blvd., Shaker Heights, OH 44118

Saturday, December 15, 8:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church 3630 Fairmount Blvd., Shaker Heights, OH 44118

Sunday, December 16, 4:00 p.m.

St. Christopher's Church 20141 Detroit Road, Rocky River,





All photos courtesy of Trinity Cathedral.

Trinity Cathedral's Annual Messiah Sing: **December 19 By April Miller**

Music and Art at Trinity Cathedral presents a Cleveland Christmastime tradition: the beloved Annual Messiah Sing. The free event will be held Wednesday, Dec. 19 at 12:10 p.m. and is the area's only Messiah sing-along.

Director of Music and Worship Todd Wilson conducts the Trinity Chamber Orchestra, soloists and audience in the massed choir. Trinity's Messiah Sing includes all the beloved choruses and solos of Part I (the Christmas portion) of Messiah, and concludes with the Hallelujah Chorus. Experience the thrill of singing this great music as part of a massed chorus with an orchestra.

Free parking is available on Prospect Avenue at East 22nd Street. Overflow parking is available in the Cleveland State University Prospect garage. Trinity Cathedral is located at 2230 Euclid Avenue in downtown Cleveland.

About Trinity Cathedral: Trinity Cathedral, the Episcopal Church in downtown Cleveland, invites participation from people of all faiths, races, nationalities and walks of life. For more information on Trinity Cathedral and its programs, please call 216-771-3630 or visit www.trinitycleveland.org.

April Miller is communications manager at Trinity Cathedral.

Happy Holidays from the Urban League of Cleveland

By Marsha Mockabee

As we reflect on this joyous holiday season, we are thankful for many things. Looking to the past, we are thankful for the support and prayers that have gotten us to this point.

In 2012, the Urban League of Greater Cleveland celebrated 95 years of empowering African Americans and other minority groups to develop and exercise their potential on par with all other Americans through education, research, advocacy and provision of services. Through various programs, projects and initiatives, the Urban League has helped to change many lives for the better. Our rich history calls us to continue the legacy that connects to our past.

The year 2013 will begin our four year movement to our Centennial in 2017. In this unprecedented period, we want to show the community that we have a strong and committed membership that supports

the need for a strong and responsive Urban League. We will present you many opportunities for inclusion. We ask that you help us continue building the momentum for your Urban League serving our community every day. Become an active participant as the League continues *Empowering* Communities and Changing Lives.

As we anticipate the future, we look with hope and great expectation to abundant blessings, unprecedented support, new opportunities and an increased level of service to our constituents. May you experience joy overflowing, peace everlasting, health in abundance and increasing prosperity. From our family to you and yours, all the very best that this sacred season offers...your Urban League serving our community.

Marsha A. Mockabee is President & CEO of the Urban League of Greater Cleveland.





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Trinity Chamber Orchestra, soloists, and YOU in the massed choir! Todd Wilson, conductor

CHRISTMAS EVE

Family Eucharist and Pageant 10:30 p.m. Prelude Music for choir, organ and trumpet 11 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY Tuesday, December 25

10 a.m. **Eucharist with Carols**

Choral Eucharist

3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

50th Anniversary of this Cleveland Christmas tradition.

For more information, contact the Literacy Cooperative at 216.775.6180, www.literacycooperative.org.

Family Literacy Project: Winter break from school is a great time to start! First of a series - clip and save

By John M. LePelley, M.Ed.

Professionally, I'm approaching a decade in urban education, however, I've had a lifetime of hands-on experience with education in the city, growing up in Cleveland's near east side in the St. Clair-Superior neighborhood.

Recently, I transitioned from the role of an assistant principal to director of Early Literacy for The Literacy Cooperative of Greater Cleveland. In my new role, I've been able to visit schools and programs dedicated to advancing literacy rates for young children in the same types of at-risk neighborhoods that I came from.

I've read the statistics and I've been a part of the conversations, but the most compelling reminders of why I'm in the work of advancing educational equality comes from visiting people's homes.

Through home visits, I've had the opportunity to witness first-hand a child's first classroom. I am always so thankful and humbled to be welcomed into homes and find that no matter what the environment, there are almost always small things that can be done to promote literacy and education in the home. Some children have bookshelves overflowing with go-to favorites such as Where the Wild Things Are, The Giving Tree, Goodnight Moon and multiple copies of Dr. Seuss's Green Eggs and Ham, One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish, and The Cat in The Hat. Other children have never owned a book in their lives. Regardless of the resources available in

the home, there is always the opportunity to create a learning environment.

It's hard to believe that most schools are wrapping up their first quarter. Before all the leaves fall, the holidays pass, the snow comes and goes, and the sun comes back to welcome another summer, let's take the time to think about the classroom we're creating at home for our children. It's not too late to think about how ready we are for our children to be back in school.

Throughout the course of the school year, I hope to post a series of pieces on the home classroom and literacy, but for today, I challenge you to start the school year off with a family literacy project.

With whatever you do, always consider what you can handle. Don't be too ambitious! What works for your family?

STEP 1: How much time do you have? Do you have time for a family literacy project every night? *Are you crazy? Probably not!* But how about once a week? Once or twice a month? Whatever you decide upon, stick to it!

STEP 2: What is interesting to your child? Computers and technology? Outdoors? Arts and crafts? Sports? Fashion? Align your literacy project to an existing interest.

STEP 3: Read a little, write a little, create a little, talk a little and ask a lot of questions! Literacy and communication go hand in hand. Without going into a text book definition of literacy, literacy is basically about understanding what

is being read (words, symbols, numbers, etc.), the ability to communicate through writing and the ability to think critically. Since communication is about talking and listening and providing feedback, so, too, is literacy; a family literacy project is a great way for a family to bond!

STEP 4: As my elementary school principal used to say, "Keep it Simple, Stupid." For those who prefer something more endearing, how about "Keep it Simple, Silly." The phrase "family literacy project" can sound overwhelming. It can also sound pretty lame to your children...so it's probably best for everyone to disguise your project. Make it simple, cheap, easy and interesting.

If this still sounds overwhelming, here are five ideas that will help you nail down a project:

1) *Blog it!* You may already be reading a blog – create one with your family! A family blog is a great way to incorporate literacy in the home.

2) Book it! Write a book together. It doesn't have be to Huckleberry Finn. Give your family books as gifts – make a children's book for a new baby or make a book to give out during the holidays. Once you create the book, there are a lot of websites that will allow you to "publish" your books. You can just scan the pages and the company will bind and print them for you. Draw the illustrations, use photographs or collage the illustrations. Use your favorite children's

books as examples.

- a) Film it! Flip Cams are often on sale and most phones and photo cameras now come with filming capabilities. Create a family movie. Write the script for a creative film or think of an interesting topic and create a documentary. Have your children write down questions and interview someone. Perhaps, you can even create a filmed family history.
- 4) *Pic it!* Create a family photo journal. Take pictures of special events, holidays and family field trips. Then, go through the photos. Have everyone choose their favorite photo, print the pictures and then create a book out of them. Each child can write something about their photo to include in the book. This is a great way to be on top of keeping memories and everyone can chip in! Work on one page each month. It can be years-in-the-making! And, best of all, it's a great family keepsake.
- 5) Read it! Create a reading circle it could be focused around the holidays. To help build excitement around this idea, hold a book exchange instead of a gift exchange. Choose a book and have a book pass during dinner. Pick a holiday children's book and pass it around so that everyone has to read a page. Some families pray at the table maybe your family can read at the table!

John M. LePelley is the Early Childhood Literacy Program Director at The Literacy Cooperative.

Tri-C's Program Recognized Among "Best of 2012" Respiratory Care Departments, Alongside Nation's Premier Hospitals

By David Kich

David Lucas wasn't expecting it. The nomination materials were submitted, but he never saw this coming.

Lucas, program manager of respiratory care at Tri-C, isn't complaining. After all, it's always a pleasant surprise to be mentioned with elite company.

"I didn't know we'd be the only school listed," Lucas said during a recent phone call. "When you look at the quality of hospitals on the list, it's a pretty good honor."

RT Magazine, a highly regarded monthly publication for decision makers in respiratory care, listed Tri-C among its "Best of 2012" Respiratory Care Departments.

The honor is more impressive when you notice Tri-C is the only school listed among global healthcare heavy-weights such as Cleveland Clinic, Mayo Clinic and New York-Presbyterian/Columbia Medical Center.

When Lucas submitted the application for nomination, he highlighted five areas that make Tri-C standout. Chief among them was the fact that Tri-C students achieve an average pass rate of 90-100 percent on their first attempt at the board exam to become a Registered Respiratory Therapist.

The national average is 65-75 percent. "Our faculty is excellent," Lucas said proudly. "They really go above and beyond to make sure our students excel."

Lucas also nominated Tri-C on the

"They really go above and beyond to make sure our students excel."

—David Lucas, Program Manager of respiratory care at Cuyahoga Community College

basis of outstanding employer graduate surveys, an engaged advisory committee, and the use of human patient simulators (mannequins that articulate human symptoms) and standardized patients (actors who use scripts to exhibit certain health-related conditions).

The fact that Tri-C students have access to the world's best hospitals also was a key point.

"Students spend two thirds of their time at clinical sites," Lucas explained. "The quality of hospitals and instructors we have in the area with Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals and Metro Health among others is not available anywhere else."

Lucas welcomes a new class of 25-30 respiratory students each fall. He's been at Tri-C for 26 years, but the sight never gets old.

"Students will come in with really no healthcare background, but, by the time they graduate, they make us proud," Lucas noted. "Being able to see that transition is always special."

David Kich is a media coordinator at Cuyahoga Community College.



St. Vincent Charity Medical Center adds three new hyperbaric chambers at the Wound Center. Photo courtesy of St. Vincent Charity Medical Center.

St. Vincent Charity Medical Center Adds New Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Chambers for Patient Care

By Lauren Wilk

Since the recent renovation of St. Vincent Charity Medical Center's Wound Center, the medical center also saw a need to update the equipment used in that facility. In response to the renovation, the Wound Center now has three new hyperbaric chambers, used for the treatment of a variety of wounds. These new chambers will allow the medical center to treat a wider range of patients and also a wider range of injuries.

These new chambers are a significant upgrade from the previous chambers in the Wound Center. They are almost double in size and can hold persons up to 700 pounds. The larger size will allow the accommodation of more patients and also provide a more comfortable experience for the patient.

St. Vincent Charity Medical Center is the only facility in Northeast Ohio to offer 24/7 emergency access to our hyperbaric treatment chambers. Having access to these chambers in an emergency, such as carbon monoxide poisoning, is extremely vital and often life-saving. If a patient needed access to these machines in an after-hours emergency, the next closest location would be in Pittsburgh, Penn.

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy is used to treat a range of conditions, including carbon monoxide exposure, crush injuries, diabetic wounds, severe smoke inhalation and more. Treatments deliver 100 percent oxygen to the body, encouraging the development of new capillaries that transfer blood and oxygen to damaged tissues.

St. Vincent Charity Medical Center is proud to be one of the few hospitals in Ohio providing this service to their patients.

Lauren Wilk is the Marketing and Volunteer Coordinator at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center.



The Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation, commonly known as the Cuyahoga Land Bank, has reached the mid-way point of a groundbreaking agreement with Bank of America (BoA) for responsible disposition of distressed properties.

On June 14, 2011, BoA agreed to donate up to 100 low-value, distressed, vacant and abandoned properties in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, to the Cuyahoga Land Bank for reuse, redevelopment and neighborhood revitalization. These are properties that have been foreclosed, have, in many cases, been abandoned by prior owners and might otherwise sit vacant, creating a negative impact on the surrounding neighborhood.

The Cuyahoga Land Bank and BoA have reached the half-way-point

Bank of America Donates 50th Property to Cuyahoga Land Bank, Marking Midway Point in Their Agreement

By Katherine Bulaya

in implementation of their agreement with 50 property donations completed throughout Cuyahoga County.

Many of the vacant properties have become uninhabitable and require demolition and BoA is making cash contributions toward each demolition. Recently, BoA agreed to increase its contribution to help cover additional costs associated with asbestos and environmental regulation.

"This type of agreement is a responsible way in which banks can interact with community stakeholders to address some of the fall-out from the real estate foreclosure crisis of the past several years," said Cuyahoga Land Bank President and General Counsel Gus Frangos.

"The City of Cleveland Heights, like cities all across the country, has faced the plight of vacant and foreclosed properties.

The Bank of America property donations and contributions toward demolition costs in the Desota-Altamont neighborhood have been important in helping our City move forward," said Mayor Edward J. Kelley. "Our goal to revitalize the development of this neighborhood has come closer to being a reality due to the support of Bank of America."

"The donation of vacant or abandoned properties supports the bank's commitment to help stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods and communities that have been hit hard in the economic downturn," said BoA Ohio Market President Jeneen Marziani. "When we work in communities with established land banks or other dedicated, professional enterprises, such as the Cuyahoga Land Bank, we are able to address these situations efficiently

and reach our mutual goals faster."

Several of the homes donated to the Cuyahoga Land Bank by BoA under the agreement have been suitable for rehabilitation. Through the Cuyahoga Land Bank's Deed-In-Escrow Program and Owner Occupant Buyer Advantage Program, the homes have found new life. To both the Cuyahoga Land Bank and BoA, rehabilitation of these properties has been the best possible result of the agreement - promoting home ownership and placing these previously distressed homes back onto the tax duplicate.

"The renovated homes become a community asset along with the other homes on the street, promoting community stabilization," said Frangos.

Katherine Bulava is President of Hatha Communications.





(left) Tri-C student Amanda Siegfried tests her vocabulary skills with Free Rice. (right) Kwame Thornton steps up to the big screen to answer a question.

Tri-C Students Utilize Gaming to Learn, Fight Hunger

By David Kich

It's late afternoon on a dreary Monday and English class is soon approaching. That's not exactly the news college students would normally be happy to hear.

Times are changing, though. In fact, you're likely to see several Tri-C students wearing enthusiastic smiles as they walk to their classes.

"Everyone learns differently," Amanda Siegfried said as she settled into her third-floor classroom seat at the Metro Campus Liberal Arts Building. "This is great for the younger generation and keeps people more engaged and focused. I think it's a really good idea."

Siegfried's class and more than 20 others at Tri-C are utilizing EduGaming, an emerging element of education where games and game mechanics aim to engage, educate and motivate students like never before.

It's taking center stage during

National Distance Learning Week (Nov. 5-9) as the classes are competing in the Free Rice Project. Free Rice is an international online quiz game featuring questions on math, anatomy, literature, art, chemistry, geography and more. Every correct answer means 10 grains of rice are donated to the United Nations World Food Programme.

The Free Rice Project gives students the chance to study important subjects while helping fight hunger worldwide. Classes compete against each other through Dec. 3 to see who can win the most rice, with the combined total being donated to the Cleveland Food Bank.

"The vast majority of students play games," said Pat Stansberry, assistant professor of English. "More than 90 percent of young men play games and almost 80 percent of young women. Gaming provides a different angle to reach and engage students with educational content."

Stansberry and A. Sasha Thackaberry, manager of NextGeneration Learning, co-chair the Gaming Incubation Group (GIG) at Tri-C. GIG was started in 2011 as a way to promote EduGaming as a tool to help students learn.

"Gaming is a better way to learn," Metro Campus student Jacqulyn Bacchus said. "Books are old-fashioned. Online is the way to go. Playing Free Rice has helped boost my vocabulary as well as help me in other subjects. I'm interested and motivated."

It's music to Thackaberry's ears anytime she hears students saying they're motivated and interested in learning.

"Learning through gaming provides low-risk failure," Thackaberry pointed out. "Sure, students might miss an answer, but they're less likely to get frustrated or lose interest. They'll keep coming back and trying to succeed."

At the end of every semester, GIG holds a speed-gaming session, similar to speed-dating. It allows faculty and students to try a variety of games that test your mettle in chemistry, geography and math, among several others.

Much like Free Rice, all games are web-based. The Chem Bio Game (matching chemistry elements) and Medical Center Challenge (exploration of medical center buildings) are Tri-C exclusives.

"EduGaming along with mLearning (mobile learning) and social learning really are revolutionizing education," Thackaberry said. "They're giving us new ways to leverage what we're already doing well. The end result is better student outcomes and that's what is most important."

David Kich is a media coordinator at Cuyahoga Community College.

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Campus District Events Calendar December 2012

*For this December issue we are including downtown and nearby neighborhood holiday and arts events. "Campus District Dates" is the community event calendar for the Campus District. Event listings are selected from the calendar of events that can be found on the newspaper's home page at: http://campusdistrictobserver.com. To post an upcoming event, contact us at 216-344-9200 or go online to the website, scroll down to the bottom right of the homepage, and click on the "submit event" button.

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 14

Urban League of Greater Cleveland Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) Tutoring • 4:00 PM Ohio Graduation Test tutoring Monday through Thursday until December 14th. Tutoring resumes January 14th. Location: 2930 Prospect Avenue, 216-622-0999.

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 21

Exhibition: The Tower Press Artists Collective • 12:00 PM Through December 21st

with closing reception from 5-10 p.m. Featured artists include: Robert Banks (film/ photography), Christy Gray (textiles), Michale Greenwald (painter), Deb Lawrence (painter), Mike Levy (photographer), Jessica Maloney (photographer), Jason Milburn (mixed media), Dan Morgan (photographer), Billy Nainiger (mixed media), Eric Rippert (photographer), Chris Stofan (painter), Anthony Van Rooy (painter). Location: Greenwald Gallery 78th Street Studios, 1305 W. 80th Street #106 Cleveland, OH 44102.

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 29

William Busta Gallery • 12:00 PM Hildur

Asgeirsdottir Jonson, artist STRATA (Textiles) From the brochure: "Jonsson makes sketches based on snapshots, which then become the source of larger extrapolations woven from strands of hand-painted silk."

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 30

Lolly the Trolley Holiday Light Tours From one of the best-known tour companies in the area comes a unique holiday light adventure. Riders can learn about the past, present and future of the "All-American City" with a focus on the lighting displays in Public Square and the North Coast Harbor. Most stops include visits to Tower City or the historic Arcade to view the holiday decorations, as well. NOTE: ALL TOURS DEPART FROM THE POWERHOUSE @ NAUTICA ON FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS @ 6:00 PM AND ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT 4:00 PM. Tour is 1.5 to 2 hours long. Dates: November 30, December 1-2, 7-8, 14-15, 21-22-23 and 28-29-30 Adults: \$23.00 (ages 13+) includes tax Children: \$14.75 (ages 7-12) includes tax Toddlers: \$5.50 (Ages Birth to 6 years) includes tax Location: The Powerhouse at Nautica 2000 Sycamore St, Cleveland, OH 44113



DECEMBER 1-23 • CHRISTMAS EVE

A Carol for Cleveland **Cleveland Play House**

\$49-\$69 adults / \$15 students Allen Theatre, PlayhouseSquare, 1407 Euclid Ave., Cleveland 44115

Cleveland's Public Square. The 1970s. Ed Podolak is down on his luck when one desperate act becomes a catalyst to forgiveness and change. Brimming with memories and laughter, this heartwarming play is a timeless message of hope, love and the true meaning of the holidays.

DECEMBER 1-23

A Christmas Carol Great Lakes Theater • \$28-\$60 / \$26 students Ohio Theatre, PlayhouseSquare,

1511 Euclid Ave., Cleveland 44115

Open your heart to Charles Dickens' classic tale of one man's ultimate redemption in one of Northeast Ohio's favorite holiday traditions.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 6

Visiting Nurse Association (VNA)

20th Annual Light a Life Ceremony • 6:30 PM The Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) of Ohio knows that the holidays can be difficult for families who have lost a loved one. VNA Hospice invites them to remember and recognize their loved one at this special ceremony. This annual remembrance tradition is free and open to the public, but registration is required. To register, call the VNA at 216-902-7352 or email ssvolunteer@vnaohio.org. Location: Trinity Cathedral 2230 Euclid Avenue.

DECEMBER 6-23

The Secret Social **Cleveland Public Theater • \$45** 6415 Detroit Ave., Cleveland 44102

Select artists from the popular Conni's Avant-Garde Restaurant team up with CPT artists to create a new, like-you've-never-experienced-before celebration of theatricality! The Secret Social invites you into a brandnew immersive world. New characters created with Conni's Restaurant's signature charismatic flourish are your hosts in a lively dance hall, complete with a light

DECEMBER 7-9TH

"Short and Sweet Holiday Shop"!

supper. Graphic by Sean Higgins.

Art House Shop for artisan made items perfect for gift giving! Open 4pm-8pm Friday and 1-5 Saturday and Sunday. Then on December 20th, grab a friend and join us for Sippin' in the Studio! Come have a glass of wine and relax as you make punched metal luminaries to make your winter nights brighter. Art House Inc., 3119 Denison Ave., Cleveland, OH. 44109, 216.398.8556.

DEC 7-JAN 19

Thomas Frontini Paintings

Coming Exhibit January 6th-February 4th: Michael Loderstedt DIMENSIONAL: Printed Works by Current and Former Students from Kent State University. Location: 2731 Prospect Ave.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 8

Breakfast with Santa, Ward 10 • 8:00 AM

Councilman Miller and a special guest invite all Ward 10 residents and children to a special Breakfast with Santa at 8 a.m. at the Five Pointe Community Center. Call 664-4743 for more information. Location: Five Points Community Center 813 E. 152nd St., Cleveland, OH, 44110.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

3 p.m. Holiday Concert Roots of American Music • Free Bohemian National Hall,

4939 Broadway Ave., Cleveland 44127

Together with Walton Elementary School and the Ohio City Singers, Roots of American Music presents a free holiday concert at the Bohemian National Hall in Cleveland. Local artist Chris Allen and ROAM teaching artist Sheela Das will back Walton students in the showcase of their own, original holiday songs that are the result of a 2012 student song writing workshop.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

The Social Gospel • 10:10 AM - 11:00 AM December 9 and 16, 10:10 a.m.

What place, if any, does the Social Gospel of the 20th century have in modern-day debates about the 98% vs. the 2%, in-sourcing vs. outsourcing, sustainability vs. consumption, access to health care and other social and political issues? Led by the Rev. Canon Will Mebane. Location: Trinity Cathedral 2230 Euclid Ave.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

BrownBag Concert • 12:10 PM - 1:00 PM

A Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten. The sopranos and altos of the Trinity Cathedral Choir with harpist Jody Guinn present this holiday favorite. Sponsor: Doug and Mary Ann Caston in honor of Carola Boehm Hunt, for her love and devotion to music and arts in Cleveland. Location: Trinity Cathedral 2230 Euclid Ave.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 18

St. Vincent Charity Medical Center's Annual Christmas Program • 2:00 PM

St. Vincent Charity Medical Center would like to invite the community to attend a special Christmas program on Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. The medical center's caregivers will be performing their favorite songs, prayers, or readings in the Holy Trinity Chapel. Following the program will be a reception in the St. Vincent de Paul room with hot cocoa and cookies. Location: St. Vincent Charity Medical Center. 2351 E. 22nd St, between Central and Community College avenues in Cleveland.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 21

Candlelight Vigil: Memorial Services for those who Died Homeless or Having Experienced Homelessness in 2012 • 7:00 PM Presented by Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH). Bring the names of those who have died on the streets or those who died and were homeless at some point in the recent past. All are welcome to this memorial. For more information call NEOCH at 216-432-0540. Location: St. Malachi Hunger Center/Metanoia Project 2416 Superior Viaduct. Enter in the back side off the parking lot or off the door on Main

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

7 to 11:30 p.m. New Year's Eve Eve

Great Lakes Science Center • \$24 601 Erieside Ave., Cleveland 44114

Celebrate the New Year one night early with Great Lakes Science Center. Bring the whole family and go carpet-skating, marvel at our Big Science Show and enjoy an OMNIMAX movie double feature. Ring in 2013 with a countdown, ginger ale toast and a big balloon drop. For reservations and more information, call (216) 621-2400.

NOW THROUGH JANUARY 4

Photography Exhibit: PORTRAITS OF HOMELESSNESS • 12:00 PM

The Portraits of Homelessness gallery is a collection of 40 images and stories of men from Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's 2100 Lakeside Emergency Men's Shelter taken by Lydia Bailey, Coordinator of Volunteers at 2100 Lakeside. Location: Wasmer Gallery at Ursuline College, Pepper Pike.

NOW THROUGH JANUARY 4

George Mauersberger - USA Leather & Other Drawings, through Jan. 4 • 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM The Bonfoey Gallery, 1710 Euclid Avenue, is pleased to present an exhibition of drawings by George Mauersberger: USA Leather & Other Drawings. These drawings and etchings will be on view in our street level gallery through January 4, 2013. George Mauersberger is known for his meticulously detailed pastel and charcoal drawings, formerly his Wallflower series; a few of which will be on view this winter. For more information about GEORGE MAUERSBERGER - USA LEATHER & OTHER DRAWINGS, or upcoming exhibitions, please contact The Bonfoey Gallery, 216.621.0178, or visit the company website at www.bonfoey.com. Location: 1710 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115.