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Arbor Day dedication honored Dickson and Euclid Hunger Center



Mayor Ed Cervenik and Edward Dickson share the work of planting this tree as part of this year's Arbor Day dedication. Dickson was honored for his lifelong dedication to improving his Euclid neighborhood and community. The Euclid Hunger Center was honored as well. Lakeshore Garden Club donated the two red oaks planted next to the Shore Cultural Centre. In keeping with Arbor Day, Euclid is approaching its 22nd year designated as Tree City USA.

Euclid High talent dazzles audiences

by Charles Smialek

For one mid-April weekend, Euclid High School's auditorium glowed as the Emerald City as EHS students displayed their talents in the production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Over 100 students participated in this year's edition of Big Show and annual tradition of spring musicals. Approximately 4,000 members of the community attended, making this year's Big Show one of the most popular ever.

Director Ken Ferlito spent countless hours helping the talented cast to perform at the highest of levels. Ferlito, an assistant principal at Upson Elementary School, has directed many musicals during his career with the Euclid City Schools, but felt this year's effort was especially successful. "We have great kids here at Euclid High School, and it's very exciting to help them shine!" he explained.

Over 50 students performed as members of the cast. Junior Jodi Ferlito starred as Dorothy. "I just want to thank everyone for coming to the show. The support was great!" Other stars

included Kristin Krysiak (Auntie Em), Deionte Appling (Uncle Henry), Zak Adkins (Scarecrow), AJ Stovall (Zeke), Rebecca Maxwell (Wicked Witch) and Brandon Baker (Wizard of Oz). The evening also featured special effects created by the Crew, led by Allen Black. Effects included a mock tornado, "flying" cast members, and a trap door that helped the Wicked Witch disappear into the ground. The concert band, under the direction of Diane Tizzano provided musical accompaniment throughout the evening.

Assistant principals Robin Hopkins and Ed Klein hosted a Munchkin Luncheon, providing an opportunity for children to eat lunch while interacting with members of the cast. The event, which took place before the last performance, encouraged community involvement, which helped make the weekend so special for all who attended or participated.

If you missed the show, look for the sign at the corner of Tracy Avenue and East 222 Street next spring. We hope to see you next year!

Love, respect and humor make Bill Gutbrod tribute memorable

by John Sheridan

In 1987, the year he was one of the charter inductees into the St. Joseph High School Hall of Fame, legendary coach Bill Gutbrod mentioned that he'd turned down a number of college coaching opportunities because "I just didn't want to leave."

The school's first head football coach, who spent 40 years at St. Joe's, then added: "This place kind of gets to you -- the school spirit, the unity, the togetherness."

All three of those ingredients were on full display last month when a crowd of nearly 500 people, including many former Viking gridders, turned out for the April 8 tribute dinner honoring perhaps the most beloved figure in the history of the school, now VASJ.

The event, held at the Croatian Lodge in Eastlake, featured speakers representing five decades, from Joe Topoly of the Class of 1954, the first St. Joe graduating class, to Rick Finotti ('91) who is now head football coach at St. Edward. Their common themes

included respect, gratitude, and, perhaps most important, love.

Making a surprise appearance was Desmond Howard ('88) who once scored five touchdowns in a single game for the Vikings. He went on to win a Heisman trophy while playing for Michigan and a Super Bowl MVP award as a member of the Green Bay Packers.

During his remarks Howard, who now works as an ESPN football analyst, turned to his high school mentor and declared: "Coach, not only are you loved, but you are appreciated and respected." Citing Gutbrod's ability to inspire his charges, Howard noted that "great leaders are able to pull something out of you that you didn't know you had in you."

Another characteristic of a great leader, he added, is the ability to instill the desire to succeed. "I never wanted to disappoint Coach Gutbrod on the football field."

Howard wasn't the only ESPN broadcaster to appear at the event. Also among the speakers were emcee Bob

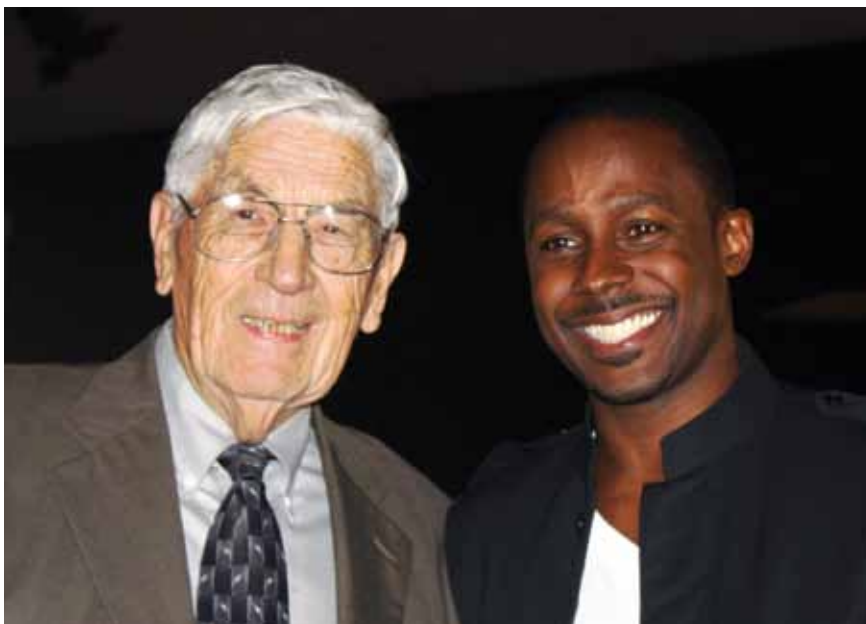


Photo by John Sheridan

The coach and his mentee, Desmond Howard, Heisman Trophy winner, Super Bowl MVP, SJ '88

Golic (St. Joe class of '75), who played in the NFL for the Cleveland Browns, and his brother, Mike Golic, who now stars on ESPN's "Mike and Mike in the Morning."

Mike Golic ('81), who followed his brother to Notre Dame and later played for the Miami Dolphins under Don Shula, proudly recalled that he was on the Viking squad that gave Coach Gutbrod his 200th victory. "I often get asked which of my coaches was the most influ-

ential," he said. "And people expect me to say Don Shula. But, immediately, I say, 'Bill Gutbrod.' His values were passed on to us, whether in football or in life."

The evening included a balance of seriousness and humor. Mike Moran ('69), the former Viking basketball coach now at John Carroll University, hailed Gutbrod as "by far the greatest motivator I've ever been associated with. At one

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Inside Cover



EUCLID OBSERVER
YOUR INDEPENDENT SOURCE FOR EUCLID NEWS & OPINION
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Letter from the publisher

CALLING ALL CANDIDATES.

This year there will be a race for mayor in the city of Euclid. In an ongoing effort to be fair, this is the format that the Euclid Observer proposes to help the residents get to know the candidates. Each qualified candidate will be allowed a freeform article or an interview up to 2400 words in length. These will all be printed in the same issue. We would like to print these as soon as possible, so if you are qualified candidate, please submit them to Euclid Observer. Go to www.euclidobserver.com, sign into the Member Center, and submit your article.

For the September issue, we will be asking each of the qualified candidates 10 questions. We would like to enlist your help in defining what those questions should be. Please e-mail any suggestions to Euclidobserver@Gmail.com. We will publish them in the paper and with your assistance, pick the ten best questions. Then each candidate will be given 1200 words to answer the 10 questions.
We have received criticism for not tackling some of the tough issues. I have been accused of carrying the mayor's water. For the record, the mayor has never asked nor have I ever offered to or agreed to carry his water. We have printed

the articles he submitted. We have in fact printed all articles submitted by everyone in the community. We are a community-written newspaper.
We do not have a staff. We do not have reporters that we can assign to stories. We need you, the concerned citizen to write the story. We want to have both sides of the story in the paper. We are relying on you to tell the other side. We look forward to your submissions.

John A. Copic

Euclid Creek wetland restoration project begins in Wildwood State Park

by Claire Posius

The Lacustrine Refuge is The Lacustrine Refuge is a wetland restoration project located in Wildwood Lakefront State Park in the Euclid Creek Watershed on the Main Branch of Euclid Creek, a tributary to Lake Erie that is heavily urbanized and affected by urban runoff and habitat degradation in the city of Cleveland. The Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District applied for and was awarded \$1,396,050 from the US EPA through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) to fund the Lacustrine Refuge project.

An estuary, or lacustuary in fresh-

water systems, provides habitat for nearshore fish and typically consists of wetlands. Today, the Euclid Creek estuarine zone has been modified for a public park and marina, but opportunity exists to restore some of the natural estuary function.

The Lacustrine Refuge project will restore three acres of urban coastal wetlands and restore 1,100 linear feet of shoreline habitat to serve as a fish habitat refuge and nursery for the urban coastal estuary zone. In addition, eroding banks in the park will be stabilized and invasive plants replaced with native plants to attract more birds and amphibians to the area.

The Lacustrine Refuge project provides a rare opportunity for nearby residents of Cleveland and Euclid to connect with nature and to experience native plant species long displaced from our region and to enjoy wildlife species which have disappeared. Keep updated on this exciting project by checking the Euclid Creek website at http://www.cuyahogawcd.org/EuclidCreekFiles/EC_LacustrineRefuge.htm.

Claire Posius is the Euclid Creek Watershed Coordinator for the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District.

Euclid City News

Euclid to receive \$150,000 in funding

by Mayor Bill Cervenik

The I am happy to inform you that the Cuyahoga County Council approved a Brown Field Grant to the city of Euclid at their recent meeting in the amount of \$150,000 for asbestos remediation of the buildings on the former St. Robert's property. Economic Development Director Frank Pietravoia and I presented our case before the Economic Development Committee to explain the importance of this property in relation to Euclid's Lakefront Development Plan. They

wholeheartedly agreed. Thank you to the Euclid Economic Development Department and especially our intern Eugene, who really took this challenge to heart.

Cuyahoga County Councilperson Sonny Simon supported the grant strongly and talked about the great initiatives that are taking place in the city of Euclid. It is great to have her support.

Thank you to all that are working with us to keep the renaissance of Euclid moving forward.



Euclid Memorial Day parade steps off at 10 a.m. May 30

by John Sheridan

Memorial Day ceremonies sponsored by the Euclid Joint Veterans Council will begin with graveside services at 7:45 a.m. on May 30 at Euclid Cemetery, East 204th Street and Euclid Avenue, followed by services at 8:15 a.m. at St. Paul's Cemetery, 1231 Char-don Road.

The city's annual Memorial Day Parade will kick off at 10 a.m., starting at East 228th Street and Lakeshore Boulevard (near Sims Park). The theme for this year's parade is "If You Value Your Freedom, Thank a Veteran." Marchers, floats, bands and other parade units will begin assembling at 9:15 a.m.

From East 228th Street, the parade will proceed west on Lakeshore to East 222nd Street, then south on East 222nd Street to the Veterans Memorial next to Euclid City Hall. Services at the memorial will begin at approximately 11 a.m.

Leading this year's parade will be

Urban Sclaro, president of the Euclid Veterans Association. Chairman of the Memorial Day committee is Chuck Hill.

Workshops Assist with Parade Signs, Banners

In preparation for Euclid's Memorial Day parade, the Shore Cultural Centre is sponsoring two community workshops to help residents create their own hand-crafted signs and banners to wave along the parade route, demonstrating support for area veterans.

The center will supply sign-making materials at two workshop events:

Saturday, May 21, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Alive on Five on East 185th Street.

Monday, May 23, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, at Shore Cultural Centre.

Participants are invited to "bring the little ones" to enjoy the fun. For more information on either of the workshops, call the Shore Cultural Centre at (216) 289-8578.



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Community

Eaton Family Credit Union wins Chamber of Commerce business award

by Fred Siegel

The Western Lake County Chamber of Commerce conducted its annual meeting Mar. 31, inducting new board members and announcing annual awards during this circus-themed event.

Eaton Family Credit Union garnered the Medium Business of the Year Award for 2010. Mike Losneck, Eaton Family Credit Union president said, “Last year was great for us and our membership. Because we support our communities, our communities will continue to support us.” The credit union was proud to receive proclamations from U.S. Congressman Steven

LaTourette, Willoughby Hills Mayor Robert Weger, Wickliffe Mayor William Margalis, Eastlake Mayor Ted Andrzejewski, Ohio House Representative Lorraine Fende, Ohio senators William Batchelder, Kenny Yuko, Tom Niehaus and Timothy Grendell, and Lake County Board of Commissioners members Robert Aufuldish, Raymond Sims and Daniel Troy.

As treasurer of the chamber of commerce Losneck also presented the organization’s financial report during the annual meeting.

Learn more about this local credit union at www.eatonfamilycu.com.



Maria, Lisa and Debbie with Skipper

Reader’s Digest is coming to Euclid

by Lisa Mayernik

Reader’s Digest has selected the City of Euclid to receive a stimulus check from Reader’s Digest “We Hear You America” campaign and tour. The program brings funds and press attention to 100 communities around the United States during these tough economic times. Reader’s Digest is presenting a check in the amount of \$1,000 to Mayor Bill Cervenik on Monday, May 2nd in a brief ceremony at 12:15 pm at the Euclid Municipal Center, 585 East 222nd Street. The check will be presented by supermodel and 2011 Celebrity Apprentice star Niki Taylor.

The Reader’s Digest’s “We Hear You America” campaign began last November as a way to provide support to Americans and their hometowns that have been hurt by the recession. The stimulus is being provided to support a host of projects selected by the towns themselves. The City of Euclid has chosen to use the funds to support two separate projects;\$500 to the



Supermodel Niki Taylor

Euclid Fire Department in their effort to construct a case to hold a piece of steel from the Ground Zero 9-11 tragedy and \$500 to assist the East 200th Street Stroll. This year the family-fun event will take place on Saturday, June 4th from 10am to 2pm featuring entertainment and activities along East 200th Street.

The “We Hear You America” towns were chosen using several criteria including the receipt of adoring and compelling stories collected on their website from area residents.



You never know what you'll find!

The Euclid Beach Cleanup Season Is Off To A Great Start!

by Stephen Love

Volunteers from the Collinwood Masonic Lodge #582, a women’s rugby team, General Electric employees, college and high school students and neighborhood residents came together in mid-March for the first Euclid Beach cleanup of 2011. They managed to collect an absolute hands-down record of 234 pounds of trash, over 75 pounds of which was recycled! Thanks to those hard working volunteers who collected over 850 cigar tips, close to 200 plastic bags bottles and cans and well over 150 plastic and paper bags! The most “unique” items collected included a freezer door and a construction barrel!

Volunteers joined forces again in mid-April to continue their clean-up efforts. But this is only the beginning of a long and active year ahead! With sum-

mer around the corner, we are going to need your help! Now more than ever join volunteers just like you this summer along with over 7,000 other volunteers across the Great Lakes as we tackle some of the toughest months of the year for beach and water quality! Remember, our Great Lakes constitute over one-fifth of the earth’s fresh surface water. Let’s at least take care of the beaches in our own community!

For more information on the Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team, please e-mail Stephen Love at stephen.love20@gmail.com or call 216.571.0685.

Visit the Euclid Beach Adopt-a-Beach Team on Facebook! <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Euclid-Beach-Adopt-a-Beach-Team/110703672309610?ref=ts>

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Community

Observations

by Jerry Corbram

MINARIK FIGHTS COUNCIL POWER PLAY

Don’t ever expect Euclid councilwoman Mary Jo Minarik to sit quietly as something offensive draws her attention. The former editor and publisher is a skilled researcher and historian well schooled in the works of our Founding Fathers.

Item 1 on the council’s Apr. 18 agenda was an emergency ordinance to approve spending \$255,000 to draw up construction plans and specifications for a brand new \$3.2 million jail. The legislation came as a shock to Minarik, who recalled that the mayor presented his concept plan for a new jail in April 2010.

“In January of this year, once again, we sat through the same presentation as last April; then heard nothing more. No heads-up [that] it was coming. No indication at any time between April of 2010 and April of 2011, that the administration was doing anything differently than it had in the last five years, when the mayor first talked about a new jail.”

“The public had little to no knowledge of the mayor’s plan to even build a new jail” She continued,” In light of that, I asked council to first, remove the emergency portion of the ordinance; and second, to hold the item for a second reading on May 2. A second read would give the city and council - at least those who chose to - to inform the people of Euclid that this was going to be voted on. Waiving the emergency would, should anyone want to, allow voters to gather signatures to overturn the vote.”

She then said “My appeal to hold off one more meeting in order for residents to express their opinion was rejected. Council members were of the opinion that the residents had had their chance at the two committee meetings to speak up. Since they didn’t care to show up then, council was going to deny them the right to show up now. And they did – in a seven to one vote. I voted no.” Her usual ally, Langman, was absent for the vote.

SHOULD EUCLID SPEND \$ 3.2 MILLION FOR A NEW JAIL?

These are excerpts from Councilwoman Minarik’s blog spot posting of Feb. 28, 2011.

(To view her entire commentary, go to <http://4euclid.blogspot.com/>.)

There’s no question that the current jail falls woefully short of Euclid’s needs. The day after it opened in 1989 it was declared obsolete. The mayor claims it needs \$400,000 in repairs: roof, HVAC, windows and locks. On top of that, the jail (currently) costs over \$1 million a year to operate.

The current jail has a 66-person capacity. Average daily inmate population is 57. About 35 of those are federal and county prisoners for which the city receives compensation. So Euclid offenders (male only) amount to an average of 22 per day. The cost to operate the jail in 2010 was \$1,649,558. At the same time, the city’s compensation for housing outside prisoners in 2010 was \$732,521. The loss to the taxpayers in 2010 was \$917,037.

Mayor Cervenik calls for a new jail housing 44 prisoners to be built in two phases at a cost of \$3.2million. The jail will be dormitory-style, two-storied facility attached to the current police station in order to house more prisoners with less corrections officers. Labor is the most cost-intensive part of facilities. The final building will be about half the size of the current jail.

Phase 1 would consist of building new while using the existing jail. Phase 2 would demo much of the current building and complete remodeling new and current.

It all sounds grand, practical and well thought out. And perhaps back in 2006 when the mayor first proposed it, it might have been a good idea. But a lot has changed in the five years this new jail has been talked about. What hasn’t changed is the consistent drain (operating loss) of \$1million and more a year.

According to (Euclid police) Chief Repicky, the prison facilities in Lake County, Geauga County and Bedford Heights are all down

in numbers of prisoners. Corrections officers in some places are being laid off. The state is looking to reform how it classifies certain crimes as well as how it sentences those crimes. Is this the right time to build a new jail?

Minarik shared that there are no guarantees that the county will continue housing prisoners in the Euclid jail. Until that issue is resolved, the design size of a new facility cannot be determined, bolstering her argument that the project should be put on hold.

TEA PARTY SPRING FLING

Tea Party activists met all over the nation this spring. Some events attracted huge crowds when former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin or Congresswoman Michelle Bachmann spoke.

The partiers in general are unhappy with the direction state and national governments and Congress are taking the nation. There is no national organization or spokesperson leading the movement. Liberal voices are trying, without success, to label partiers as racists.

The typical Tea party is a cross section of Democrats, Republicans and Independents who are conservative, liberal, white, black, Asian, rich and poor as well as of Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish faiths. So it was in the Cleveland area when they met last month.

Partiers were especially not happy with the compromise that the speaker of the House agreed to on spending cuts on the current budget, and are holding feet to the fire of those elected representatives, Republican and Democrat, who made promises. They feel Congress and elected officials should be accountable to the people that they represent. They shouldn’t work for themselves and ignore his constituents.

Jean from Euclid suggested that Euclid citizens should join the Cleveland Tea party, versus having a branch of its own. Euclid does have a Tea Party but the lack of a local newspaper has made growth difficult. The Euclid leader is Joe Udovic.

Those interested in information can reach him (216) 383 8359 evenings or cutfood4@yahoo.com

SHORT TAKES

1. President Obama is about to hire a group to fix the blame for skyrocketing gasoline prices. Why doesn’t he save the cost and accept the cards dealt him like Jimmy Carter and George W. Bush, who faced the same dilemma during their terms of office. The news media are falling all over themselves to come up with the idea that the Obama gas prices are a good thing. Things like with fewer miles driven due to costs, there will be fewer accidents and deaths.

I recently got an email from an unknown source. He noted that the Arabs are getting \$110 a barrel for their oil. We are getting \$11 a bushel for our wheat. He suggested that we charge the Arabs \$ 110 a bushel for wheat and then watch those oil prices drop dramatically. Obama should find this guy and make him secretary of Energy, secretary of State, or maybe even co-president.

Seriously, there are claims that the United States has more oil underground than all the Arab nations combined.

If the president wants to find some fault that may be the place to look. We know the environmentalists have fought drilling in Alaska’s Anwar Plain to protect migration habits of wildlife. Some say this is foolish thinking.

2. I’m confused by the collective bargaining issue between the unions and several state governors. The unions seem to be saying all their bargaining rights have been taken away. My reading sources say that the states have only asked that the union members are asked to pick up a larger share of the employee cost of benefits, something near comparable costs in private industry.

Wage collective bargaining remains. Can someone say I have miss-interpreted the issue?

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Community

A local love affair with an old fashioned love story

by Carole Price

Very early April 29, eleven royal watchers gathered at the Euclid home of Carole Price to view the “Wedding of the Century.” Network coverage began at 4 a.m. and so did they. Due to the hour, required attire consisted of PJs, robe and slippers, and with a nod to British nuptial protocol, stylish hats! Sipping mimosas and Bloody Marys, and noshing on a buffet brunch, the activities across the pond were thoroughly dissected. All agreed the bride was exquisite, the groom handsome in uniform, and the ceremony hit just the right notes.

Viewing parties are not new to this group. In 1973 several of the group were around to watch Princess Anne marry Captain Mark Phillips. The group increased in size in 1981 when vigil was kept for the marriage of Prince Charles and Lady Diana. Gatherings continued through the wedding of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson and sadly, Princess Diana’s funeral.



Long-time friends Mary Kohanski and Joellen O'Neill celebrate Wills' and Kate's nuptials with memories of Charles' and Diana's wedding 30 years ago.

Word has it that Zara Phillips, the daughter of Princess Anne, will marry her rugby player July 30 in Edinburgh, Scotland. If the event is televised the women will surely be on hand to mark the festivities – no matter the hour.



Pat Brady enjoys the highlights of Friday's royal wedding.

May 17 is deadline for Bark-B-Q tickets

Animal lovers who'd like to support the Euclid Animal Shelter have until May 17 to purchase tickets for the Euclid Pet Pals' Bark-B-Q, the group's first major fund-raiser of the year.

The event, featuring a rib dinner, a 50-50 raffle, Chinese auction and door prizes, is scheduled for May 20 at Tizzano's Party Center, 1361 East 260th Street. There will be an open bar starting at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7:30. After the dinner, DJ Ben Ricci will provide music for dancing until 11 p.m.

All net proceeds benefit the shelter, located at 25100 Lakeland Boulevard. For information, call the shelter at (2160 289-2057. The shelter is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. and on Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m.



LOOKING FOR A HOME—Volunteer Deidra Berhent holds a 2-year-old male cat who is awaiting adoption at the Euclid Animal Shelter. A snowshoe mix, the cat has been given the name “Ghengis Khan,” although he probably wouldn't object to a name change. “He is very friendly,” notes Humane Officer Trisha Beach. “But he would probably do best as an only cat.”

Fixing up or buying a home?

by Jeffrey A. Beck

Need a roof? A new furnace? Buying a Euclid home? You may want to consider contacting the Euclid Development Corporation (EDCOR) first. EDCOR is offering qualified Euclid homeowners three percent loans, up to \$30,000, to fix violations and home improvement. Applicants must own and reside in the home in which the improvements are to be made. A U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant, under the Housing and Community Development Block Grant program, and the HOME program provide funds for this program.

Additionally, through Euclid's Special Projects Division of the Community Services and Economic Development Department, qualifying homeowners can receive services customized to meet various housing needs such as weatherization, dead bolts, smoke alarms, furnace inspection and cleaning and handicapped services. Since there can be a waiting list, those interested should

apply early. For information on this program, call (216) 289-8562.

The city of Euclid is offering qualified first time home buyers a down payment assistance program. This program, managed in cooperation with Cuyahoga county, provides a 17 percent down payment (home buyer provides three percent), up to a maximum of \$14,500, for purchasing a home in Euclid. Half of the money is forgiven (in increments) over a five-year period as long as the buyer resides in the home at least five years, with the remaining half recaptured upon sale or transfer of the home. There are no monthly payments required for this funding, but funds are limited so apply early. Those interested for this program should visit www.cityofeuclid.com for more information.

With all these programs available, now is the time to purchase a Euclid home or fix up your Euclid home. For additional information, please call EDCOR at (216) 289-4625.

Clean Up Euclid Day - May 7

by Sherrie Zagorc

Let's join hands to make our neighborhoods and our city as beautiful as they can be.

Clean up Euclid Day will be May 7 from 9am to noon.

All volunteers should meet at the playground behind city hall at 9am. We will break into small groups and go to an assigned area to clean up litter. Garbage bags will be provided. At 11:30 am we will meet back at the playground for pizza and refreshments.

Need service hours for school or work? Contact us at info@euclidchamber.com. Visit www.ExperienceEuclid.com.

Senior lunch bunch sets pot-luck picnic for June 2

The Golden Lunch Bunch, a group of Euclid-area seniors, will hold its next luncheon event outdoors. It will be a pot-luck picnic June 2, starting at 11 a.m.

The group, which typically visits a different area restaurant each month, has reserved the Upper Highland picnic area of the Metroparks' Euclid Creek Reservation for the event. Access to the picnic area is off of Highland Road.

For more information, or to make a reservation, contact Clare Vertocnik at (216) 486-2411, or e-mail her at clarevertocnik@hotmail.com.

Insights on insurance

by David Carlson

You don't have to live near water to become a flood victim. In fact, everyone lives in a flood zone. It's just a matter of how likely it is that a flood will hit your home. And unfortunately, floods are the most common natural disaster. Heavy snow fall, heavy rainstorms, and the aftermath that follows causes flooding. Record precipitation and massive snowfall this winter in most parts of the United States has already led to spring flooding in many areas. The national news has recently featured several stories of unsuspecting property owners who suffered damages as a result of quick snow melt, rising waters and flooding.

We should note the difference between a flood and water backup. Flooding is surface water, which would include overflow of a body of water. Water backup refers to water which backs up through sewers or drains from outside the dwelling's plumbing system. This also includes a failed sump pump. Generally, you can add an endorsement to your home insurance policy that will protect you against financial loss due to water backup. Read your policy carefully as there are many variables and conditions surrounding these endorsements. Water can also enter your home from below the surface of the ground via seepage or leakage through a foundation. No insurance will cover this type of damage.

Remember, your homeowners insurance will not cover you for flood damage, either to your home or to your personal belongings. Only Federal flood insurance reimburses you for flood damage to your property. With one annual premium, you can protect your most important investment – your home. Call your insurance agent or company today and ask about the National Flood Insurance Program.

Community

Spring Cleaning: Proper disposal of household hazardous waste

by Claire Posius

Antifreeze, household cleaners, gasoline, pesticides, oil paints, solvents, used motor oil, etc. Improper disposal allows these items to seep into and pollute our rivers and groundwater. So the next time you're spring cleaning or on the move, learn the proper disposal of household hazardous waste. The Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District encourages you to participate in spring cleaning to rid your house and garage of household hazardous waste.

This spring, the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District will be opening a year-round facility to receive household hazardous waste collected by Cuyahoga County communities. Since this facility will not be open to the general public, the district is working with all Cuyahoga County communities to establish local household hazardous waste collection programs. Once the materials are collected by a community, they will deliver the materials to the district's year-round center. This new program will make it more convenient for residents to recycle unwanted household chemicals and protect the environment.

Contact your community's service department for local household hazardous waste collection information. Some residents can already dispose of household hazardous waste year-round at their service department.

The following items are accepted in this program. The district can only accept materials that originated from a household and not a commercial source.

Household Materials Accepted

- Oil or solvent-based paint, sealers, primers, or coatings (aerosols or liquids)
- Varnishes, polyurethanes, shellacs
- Paint thinner, mineral spirits, turpentine
- Caustic household cleaners
- Pesticides, herbicides, fungicides
- Pool chemicals
- Automotive fluids, motor oil, car batteries
- Adhesives, roof tar, driveway sealer
- Kerosene, gasoline, lighter fluid
- Mercury, fluorescent bulbs

Materials NOT Accepted

- Explosives, gun powder, ammunition, flares
- Medical waste, pharmaceuticals, medicine, sharps

- Radioactive waste (e.g. smoke detectors)
- Tires
- Electronics, appliances

Latex paint is mostly water and is not a hazardous material. To dispose of latex paint, solidify and place in your curbside trash. For detail instructions, go to: <http://cuyahogawcd.org/en-US/latex-paint-disposal.aspx>. Dried out paint and/or empty paint cans are not hazardous and should be placed in the regular rubbish.

Disposal Of Other Items

Wastes such as motor oil, antifreeze, propane tanks, aerosol cans and batteries can be disposed of at various locations throughout Cuyahoga county. Visit the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District website for the brochure *Handle with Care: How to Properly Dispose of Hazardous Household Products*.

The Home Depot has a national compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) recycling program. At each Home Depot store, customers can simply bring in any expired, unbroken CFL bulbs, and give them to the store associate behind the returns desk.

Keep an eye out for expired medicine drop off events in your community to keep pharmaceuticals out of our waterways!

Event Background

The Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Program is free to all Cuyahoga county households. The program provides for the environmentally-safe disposal of hazardous, poisonous or toxic household products that cannot be disposed in the regular trash.

Since this program began in 1996, more than eight million pounds of hazardous household chemicals have been collected. When households improperly store or dispose of hazardous materials in the trash, storm drains, or on the ground, they can pollute our environment and endanger the health and safety of themselves, their family, pets and sanitation workers.

Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District - www.cuyahogawcd.org

Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District - www.cuyahogawcd.org

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Health

Families and friends of Euclid use hearts and feet to fight cancer

by Nicole Nall

Walkers will go around the clock in the battle against cancer when the 3rd Annual American Cancer Society Relay For Life® of Euclid gets underway with teams of residents gathering at the Euclid High School track on May 13 at 6 p.m.

Relay For Life events are held overnight as individuals and teams camp out at an athletic track, park or other gathering area, with the goal of keeping at least one team member on the track or pathway at all times throughout the evening. Teams do most of their fundraising prior to the event, but some teams also hold creative fundraisers at their camp sites during relay. Relay brings together friends, families, businesses, hospitals, schools, faith-based groups – people from all walks of life, all aimed at furthering the American Cancer Society’s efforts to save lives by helping people stay well, by helping them get well, by finding cures and by fighting back.

This year’s Relay For Life will kick off with a Survivors’ Lap. Survivors are invited to gather on the track

and lead the first lap of the relay with teams and families cheering them around the track. Immediately following will be a survivor dinner for all survivors and their guest. If you are a cancer survivor and would like to participate, you can register online at www.relayforlife.org/euclid.

There will be entertainment going all night. There will be local bands, food, jazzercise, karate demonstrations, raffle baskets, a bounce house and much more!

“Relay is a unique opportunity for our community to come together to celebrate people who have battled cancer, remember those we’ve lost, and fight back against the disease,” said Katie Crea from the American Cancer Society. “Many of the participants are cancer survivors, which serves as a reminder that Euclid is not immune to this disease and that by participating in [the] relay, we are joining with the American Cancer Society’s efforts to create a world with less cancer and more birthdays,” Crea added.

Funds raised at Relay For Life of Euclid are enabling the American

Cancer Society to impact the lives of those touched by cancer within the community. Last year, Euclid Relay For Life was a great success raising approximately \$50,000.

Relay For Life’s Luminaria Ceremony takes place after sundown, honoring the community’s cancer survivors and remembering those lost to the disease. Participants will circle a track that is surrounded with glowing luminaria that have the name of someone who has battled cancer. Luminaria may be obtained online for a \$10 donation or at the event or by visiting www.relayforlife.org/euclid.

Those interested in learning more about this event can go to www.relayforlife.org/euclid, or call the mayor’s office at (216) 289-2751. Information about other Relay For Life events and how to become involved is available at (800) 227-2345 or www.relayforlife.org.

The American Cancer Society combines an unyielding passion to save lives and end suffering from cancer. As a global grassroots force of more than three million volun-

teers, the organization fights for every birthday threatened by every cancer in every community. The American Cancer Society saves lives by helping people stay well through preventing cancer or detecting it early; by helping people get well as a presence for them during and after a cancer diagnosis; by finding cures through investment in ground-breaking discovery; and by rallying lawmakers to pass laws to defeat cancer; and by energizing communities worldwide to join the fight.

As the nation’s largest non-governmental investor in cancer research, contributing about \$3.4 billion, the American Cancer Society is action oriented in its fight against cancer. As a result, more than 11 million people in America who have had cancer and countless more who have avoided it will be celebrating birthdays this year. To learn more about the American Cancer Society or to get help, call anytime, day or night, (800) 227-2345 or visit cancer.org.

(Lisa Mayernik contributed to this article.)

Health

Herbert Orlansky, DMD, opens new dental office

Allows detection of oral cancer with high-tech device

by John Copic

Dr. Herbert Orlansky is pleased to announce the opening of his new dental office at 26300 Euclid Avenue, Euclid. With over 30 years of experience, Dr. Orlansky has designed the optimal setting for his patients’ professional dental care. This state-of-the-art office provides patients with a warm inviting atmosphere, views overlooking Lake Erie, and the newest dental technology.

dentistry emphasizes periodic and preventative dental care, as well as early oral cancer detection, treating sleep apnea (a common cause of snoring), and providing cosmetic enhancements. The office’s new luminescent technological equipment, VELscope (R), has a unique light and lens that Orlansky uses to identify potential oral cancer areas in the mouth, invisible to the naked eye. This state-of-the-art equipment is not available in most other dental offices. Early detection is the key to the cure.

Dental Savings Club

As a special service to patients, Orlansky offers a Dental Savings Club. This club is especially beneficial to those who do not have an insurance option. The plan includes two cleaning and exam visits per year, x-rays and fluoride. Members also receive a 25 percent discount off all regular dental treatments. Prices range from \$249 for individuals to \$499 for families.

Dr. Orlansky graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine in 1980, and

competed his general dental residency at the Mt. Sinai Hospital in Cleveland. He is a member of the Greater Cleveland Dental Society and the American Dental Association.

Dr. Orlansky, customizes treatments to the patient’s needs. New patients are welcome. Dr. Orlansky can be reached at (216) 797-1401 or www.acaringfamilydentist.net.

Tips for healthy eating

by Joan Holmes

A dietician from the Diabetes Association will speak at the May meeting of the Euclid Diabetes Support Group at the Euclid Public Library, May 16 at 6:45 p.m. The topic will be Tips for Healthy Eating. The public is welcome to attend this free presentation.

The Euclid Diabetes Support Group meets monthly at Euclid Public Library

to discuss living with diabetes. Monthly activities include speakers, videos, and discussions to share information about living a healthier lifestyle. They also share healthy potluck meals at annual picnics and its Christmas party.

Members include people and family members of people living with this chronic disease. All meetings are free and open to anyone who is interested.



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Fight breast cancer

by Carole Price

Euclid Curves is a flagship sponsor for the upcoming Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, a 5K walk that involves thousands of men, women, and children. The event will take place May 21 at Cleveland Browns Stadium.

In keeping with the celebration the ladies of Curves have decorated bras which were auctioned off to raise

funds for breast cancer research. In a spirit of solidarity, the women put their creative talents to work. The bras were so very clever that they earned equally creative titles such as Red Hat Society, Beaded Boobs, Belly Dancer, and Here’s Looking at You. Over 50 bras adorned the walls of the Euclid Curves. More funds were raised as the members paid \$1.00 per vote to vote for their favorites.

More information about the walk is available at http://makingstrides.acsevents.org/site/TR/MakingStridesAgainstBreastCancer/MSABCFY11Ohio?pg=entry&fr_id=28159.

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Board Certified in Pediatrics, Dr. Usis received his medical degree from the Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He completed his residency in pediatrics at UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. Dr. Usis has been practicing in the community for over 10 years.

Dr. Usis has special interests in asthma, allergies, care of infants/toddlers and general pediatrics. He is currently welcoming new patients.


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Arts

Sunday afternoons are for polka dancing

by Pat Nevar

Polka dances continue to be held every Sunday in the Waterloo Ballroom at the Slovenian Workmen’s Home, 15335 Waterloo Road, Cleveland. The last dance of the season will be held May 22. The doors open at 2 p.m., with the Don Wojtila Band providing music for your listening and dancing pleasure from 3 to 7 p.m. Admission is only \$10 per person and includes a sandwich and soft drink. What a deal!

After May 22, we encourage dancers to attend the Sunday dances at the S.N.P.J. Farm, on Heath Road in Kirtland. Dances will return to the Waterloo Ballroom Oct. 2. Call (216) 481-5378 for additional information.

The Ohio Independent Film Festival to be held on Waterloo Road May 18 & 19 at the Beachland Ballroom and Tavern May 20 & 21 at Arts Collinwood

by Cheryl Carter

The Beachland Ballroom & Tavern and Arts Collinwood will host four days of independent films presented by Independent Pictures, May 18-21. In 1993, Independent Pictures was originally founded as The Off-Hollywood Flick Fest and the first film screening events took place in a small storefront in downtown Cleveland. Supported by, led by and for Ohio filmmakers, it started as a small local film festival and has grown into a full service film arts organization, offering a variety of programs, including: the Ohio Independent Film Festival (OIFF), the Ohio Independent Screenplay Awards (OISA), The Film Production Training Program, Director of Photography Workshop, Curatorial Programs, Fis-

cal Agent Sponsorship Program, Film Seminars, Speaker’s Bureau and more. The annual Ohio Independent Film Festival (OIFF) is their flagship event and is among the leading showcases in Ohio for independent short- and feature-length films. Since their inception they have exhibited more than 1,172 short films and more than 169 feature films. Approximately 1,300 filmmakers from 27 countries have been represented.

As opposed to many other popular film festivals, Independent Pictures programs the OIFF entirely from filmmaker submissions, giving every filmmaker an equal opportunity to have that work exhibited to the public. In turn, the general public receives an opportunity to be exposed to work

that may not be shown anywhere else in the Cleveland or Ohio area. This philosophy embodies their mission, which is (in part): “to encourage freedom of expression through the art of independent media (and) to provide a consistent, reputable venue for work the public may not otherwise see. Their executive director, Bernadette Gillota, is a practicing filmmaker who is also one of the original founders of Independent Pictures.

For more information about the OIFF, call (216) 926-6166. The ticket price is \$10 per screening and can be purchased at ticketweb.com or at the door on the day of the screening. A schedule of films will be available at the Beachland Ballroom and Arts Collinwood in early May.

Arts

Sand Mandala with Alsie Clay at Artisan Treasures

by Alisa Boles

Alsie Clay, owner of Artisan Treasures at Shore Cultural Center, advertises Sand Mandala parties as “having fun with interpretive artwork.” I’ll admit that I questioned the value of her service at first. It sounded a little too indulgently new agey to me, not to mention messy. I met Clay when I stopped at her table at Partypalooza party planning event at Shore Center. She showed me what looked like a big mess of colored sand in a dish. She then pointed out particular images she saw in the sand and once she did I saw them, too. They were very clear and detailed. Kind of like looking for shapes in clouds or patterns in stars, but WAY more detailed and true to life, some even photo quality once you really saw them.

She said her gift is seeing the images in the sand and she realized she had this gift after a near death experience. Whether or not this gift is otherworldly, I began to find it fascinating. She invited me to do a personal reading and I took her up on it. I figured that if nothing else, I may get some extra attention that will lead to personal inspiration and that alone was worth the adventure to me. As a single mother taking on the endeavor of building an insurance agency from

scratch this year, it was much needed attention. Clay saw a caterpillar in one of my layers of sand. She said that was a sign that I’m on my way to a wonderful metamorphosis. I realized that if I was in the process of doing all I do to raise my son and grow a business, that if not physically, then mentally I can have many more than my two hands to move me forward on the way to my dreams. Perhaps I can be that caterpillar on my way to becoming a butterfly.

This may sound silly (as I am usually a literal and serious person) but it was very good for me to get this nice image. I walked out of there feeling less overwhelmed than I had when I walked in, and quite capable of continuing with all that is involved with raising a well-rounded child and growing a thriving business. The source of inspiration matters not, as long we keep looking for inspiration and share inspiration with others.

I’d recommend Alsie’s Sand Mandala session to anyone. She is also available for jewelry making parties, sewing classes and other creatively uplifting activities. She can be reached at (216) 526-9383 or at room 251 at Shore Cultural Center at the intersection of 222nd Street, Babbit Road and Lakeshore Boulevard in downtown Euclid.



Abstract painter Liliane Luneau highlighted at the Arts Collinwood Gallery

Abstract painter Liliane Luneau highlighted at the Arts Collinwood Gallery

by Cheryl Carter

Abstract Painter Liliane Luneau brings first solo exhibit in almost a decade to Arts Collinwood Gallery. With a career that spans over twenty years, abstract painter Luneau has always been able to fuse her interest in visual language with the idea of her paintings having a poetic, minimal beauty. Luneau’s “New Work” provides focus on her ongoing interest in integrating a number of varied elements that involve drawing, the geometric and the painterly.

The drawing is set against or within translucent, sometimes iridescent fields of color. The energy and the rhythm of the drawings and the juxtaposition of color with unexpected opposites create tension and resonance within the work. This visual language serves as a metaphor for spiritual and physical balance in our own experience and being.

“My intent is to create balanced compositions with these disparate elements that conjure notions of constraint and freedom, of poetic order and chaos, of the structured and the intuitive. This balance is achieved through a process of searching and editing, revision and adjustment, layering and scraping until the composition is resolved to a point of meaning. The process is about the residue of things, about the marks and the traces that are left behind, about resonance and echoes.” shares Luneau’s. “New Work” illuminates the very idea of space, really the poetics of space, and is as much about the erasure of the previous image as it is about the final image. It is about unseen layers, what lies in between and beneath.

Liliane has dedicated her show to the Craig Lucas, respected art professor at KSU who died on April 1. Arts Collinwood arranged for a silhouette of Lucas to display alongside this exhibit.

More information about Arts Collinwood, its programs and cafe are available at www.artscollinwood.org, and additional information about Liliane Luneau is at www.lilianeluneau.com. The exhibit runs through May 15.

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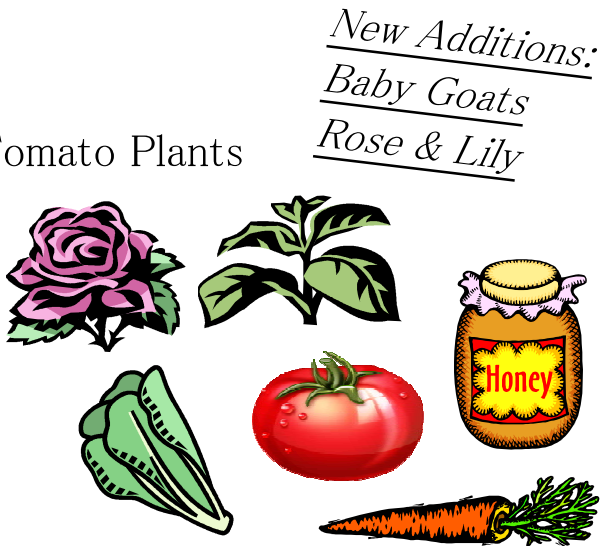
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Education

A saint goes marching in:
Tim Robertson, long-time VASJ educator, gets a fitting farewell

by John Sheridan

The Villa Angela-St. Joseph High community lost one of its stoutest leaders on April 21 when Timothy Robertson passed away while hospitalized at the Cleveland Clinic. He had been on a waiting list for a heart transplant. The highly regarded 66-year-old educator taught advanced placement mathematics at the school for more than four decades until his recent retirement. He also served as the school's academic dean.

The measure of the regard in which he was held was highly evident as hundreds of students, teachers and other friends and supporters of the East 185th Street school turned out for his wake at Brickman Brothers funeral home in Willoughby. So many came to pay their final respects that people stood in line for two hours, or longer, to reach the viewing parlor where they extended sympathies to his wife, Georganne, and their four children: Jeffrey, Timothy Jr., Melanie and Kevin.

And, in a scene vaguely reminiscent of the classic movie "Goodbye, Mr. Chips," dozens of VASJ students lined the front steps at Our Lady of the Lake

church (formerly Holy Cross) on April 27, waiting for the casket to arrive and then escorting it inside for a Mass of Christian Burial. As the funeral party entered the church, where Robertson had served as a Eucharistic minister for many years, a solitary bugler played "When the Saints Go Marching In," an appropriate tune considering that it was the St. Joseph High sports theme song for many years.

During most of his career at St. Joe and VASJ, Tim was a constant presence on the sidelines at football games and other athletic events, serving as the school's official sports photographer. He also pitched in as a sports statistician for the athletic department. In his late thirties, he played for the "Open Pantry Old-Timers" in the Euclid Sunday morning softball league, a team composed primarily of Holy Cross parishioners.

For the funeral service, Father John McNulty, former pastor at Holy Cross, returned as the chief celebrant, assisted by the current pastor, Father Joseph Fortuna. In his eulogy, McNulty noted that Robertson was a teacher in more

ways than one. In addition to teaching AP calculus in the classroom, "Tim also taught others, by his example, what it means to live a good Christian life," McNulty said.

Shortly after earning his math degree from John Carroll University in 1966, Robertson accepted a position as a math teacher at St. Joseph, his alma mater (Class of '62), and then spent the next 44 years at the school, including 20 years as chairman of the mathematics department. He also taught evening math courses at JCU, where he had earned his master's degree in 1969.

Among his various duties at the high school, Robertson served stints as publicity director, bingo volunteer, moderator of the yearbook staff, director of graduation ceremonies and co-chairman of the joint curriculum committee that helped to oversee the merger between St. Joseph and Villa Angela in 1990.

The thousands of students who have learned the nuances of higher mathematics in Robertson's classes include many who went on to enjoy successful



Tim Robertson, one of VASJ's most beloved leaders.

careers in business. "He taught captains of industry," noted one of his admirers.

Robertson, who was inducted into the VASJ Hall of Fame in 1999, will be remembered for the many contributions he made to his school and community, and for the impact he had on the lives of so many students.

VASJ teacher Megan Scheider earns distinction

by Emily Robinson

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School Assistant Principal and teacher was recently selected as a Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction by The National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS). A role model to pupils, Megan Scheider was nominated by VASJ senior Terika Hyneman for outstanding dedication and commitment to excellence in the classroom.

"Mrs. Scheider is the best teacher any student could ask for," Hyneman

said. "She deserves this award because of all the hard work she has put into this school and her students in her math class. I nominated her because of all the help she gave me personally by tutoring me in Calculus. I wouldn't be where I am today academically without Mrs. Scheider."

Each year student members of NSHSS have an opportunity to select the teacher who has made the most significant contribution to their academic career. The Claes Nobel Edu-

cator of Distinction award recognizes teacher role models who have made a lasting difference in their classroom by encouraging students to strive for excellence.

"Dedicated educators who exhibit a commitment to excellence deserve our highest praise and appreciation," said NSHSS President James Lewis. "We're excited to provide an ongoing means to do so, and we encourage our members to nominate teachers who have contributed to their academic success."

Education opens doors for landscaping careers

by Laura Dorr

Today, landscaping is more than just cutting a lawn or rounding up stray leaves. Lawn upkeep is only one facet of a landscapers work, and they stay busy designing aesthetically pleasing landscape plans, planting trees and flowers, monitoring plant health and installing sprinkler systems and walkways. Landscapers' backgrounds must go beyond equipment operation to include horticulture, landscape design, soil analysis and botany.

Many landscapers are also employed as garden center and nursery consultants, and groundskeepers often work for businesses and athletic facilities. Experienced landscape professionals can also advance to work as contractors, who supervise landscaping companies and handle the business side of things by scheduling work crews and ensuring quality of service. Experience aside however, education is crucial for advancing in the industry. With the

Bureau of Labor Statistics projecting that more than 250,000 landscaping jobs will be added within the decade, the demand for educated and skilled workers is increasing.

Education for the industry is available locally, as Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) graduate Jessica Burr discovered. When Burr joined the Tri-C Plant Science and Landscape Technology program, she was working as a groundskeeper and wanted to advance.

"I decided to go to school to further my career," said Burr. "You can learn on the job, but it's difficult. With training and education you have more knowledge, so you're not just coming in to mow the lawn."

After graduating with an associate of applied science degree, Burr advanced to become an associate account manager at a landscaping company. Burr credits the diverse Tri-C program, which offers multiple degree con-

centrations and various certificate programs, as part of her success.

"The education was very important in finding a job," she said. "It made the difference for me."

The Tri-C Plant Science and Landscape Technology program blends classroom instruction with hands-on learning experiences to equip students with valuable skills – skills that have helped Tri-C graduates like Burr find industry work, start landscaping businesses, and land positions with the Cleveland Botanical Garden and Metroparks Zoo.

With an expanding industry and training opportunities available conveniently at Tri-C, landscaping is proving to be a very promising career choice. For more information on the Tri-C Plant Science and Landscape Technology program, contact program manager David Emmitt at (216) 987-3060 or david.emmitt@tri-c.edu.

Can This Be Love?

by Laniece Thomas, VASJ Sophomore

Can This Be Love?

I lived for love
Love lived through me
You say you bur.
When boundries between us begin to tear

Love told me that it was true
It showed me things I never knew
But all I saw were lies
Taking away the blindfold'd from my eyes

It sucked me in
And took me over
Making me feel
As though I found a four-leafed clover

Love picked me up
And dropped me back down
Taking away
My joyous crown

I lived for love
Love lived through me
Blinding the truth
I could not see

Euclid School Sports

TRACK REPORT:
Euclid Relays on tap for Friday May 6

by John Sheridan

Larry Nosse, head coach of the Euclid High girls track team, has had a lot to smile about this season, especially the performances of the four girls who are the nucleus of his "running game."

As most local track aficionados know, that quartet includes hurdler/sprinter Artia Gunn, the Rambo sisters—Erin and Taylor, and distance specialist Emily Sweet.

The Panthers will be counting heavily on that foursome to make a strong showing at the biggest home meet of the season, the "Euclid Relays," on Friday May 6 at Sparky DiBiasio Stadium.

But Nosse is a realist. He doesn't expect his girls to win the team championship this year. He sees Medina and Solon as the favorites in the girls' division.

"I see us finishing somewhere in the middle of the pack," the coach said the week before the event. "I think we'll do well in the track events, but our field event performers haven't been coming along as fast as I hoped they would."

In the Euclid Relays, the field events get under way at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, with running events starting about 5:30. The defending champions in both the boys and girls divisions are the teams from Solon. The squads from Medina and St. Ignatius should

be among the top contenders in the boys' division. However, the Panther boys could make some noise this year, if they can shake off the nagging injuries that have hampered them in the early part of the spring.

"Several of the key runners on the boys team have been out with injuries," notes Coach Nosse, now in his 12th season at the helm of the girls' unit. "We're hoping to have them back for the district meet at Mentor."

As for the Lady Panthers, they've enjoyed quite a bit of success this season, including a fourth-place finish in a closely-bunched competition at the Willoughby South Invitational in mid-April. They amassed 92 points, just 12.5 shy of Mentor's winning total of 104.5. Winning first-place medals for Euclid in that meet were Artia Gunn in the 100-meter dash (12.5 seconds), and the 4x100, 4x200, and 4x400 relay teams.

The Rambo sisters competed in all three relays, while Aishonae Pride, DeAnn Frazier, and Artia Gunn also ran splits on the relay quartets. Gunn placed second in the 100 hurdles and Emily Sweet took runner-up honors in the 1600 meters with a 5:27 clocking.

More recently, the Lady Panthers improved their dual meet record to 3-1 with a 92-31 trouncing of Cleveland

Heights in a home meet. Among the highlights: Amanda Burrell set a new personal record (PR) with an 8-foot pole vault; Sweet won the 1600 in 5:23, her best time so far this year; junior shot-putter Narcisse O'Neal set a new PR with a heave of 28-8; and senior Erin Rambo ran the 300 hurdles in 47.1 seconds, her best time of the year. In addition, Erin clocked a 58.9 split in the 4x400 relay.

"We're pushing Erin pretty hard right now," Coach Nosse says, "in the hope that she'll qualify for the state meet in both the 300 hurdles and the sprint relays."

Against Heights, Artia Gunn clocked 46.8 seconds in the 300 hurdles. It was her first appearance in that event this season. "We're trying different things with her--to see what she can do," the coach notes. "She also runs the 100 meter dash, the 100 hurdles, and in the sprint relays. The hurdles might offer the best opportunity for her to make it to the state meet."

The road to the state finals begins with the district meet May 18-20 at Mentor, followed by the regional meet May 25-27 at Austintown Fitch.

Coach Nosse was hopeful that senior Tchanavia Spencer, who went to state

last year as a member of the 4x200 relay, would be ready to return for the post-season meets. Tchanavia suffered an injury at the Maralyn West Relays at Collinwood High earlier this spring. "We're trying to bring her back slowly," the coach points out. "She could help us in the sprint relays."

Among the top performers on the Panther boys' team this year have been sprinters Carl and Tremell Jones, John Jackson, Javon Johnson, and Kevin Richardson, all of whom have enjoyed success as part of the sprint relay units. Jackson also runs the 100 dash and Johnson has competed in the 300 hurdles.

The boys' field events unit includes Joe Farley in the shot and discus and Joshua Scott in the high jump. Scott also competes in distance events.

In their recent dual meet, the Panther boys edged Cleveland Heights, 71-65, as Scott won the 1600 in 5:13 and Javon Johnson captured the 300 hurdles in 41 seconds flat. Jackson was a double winner with first place finishes in the long jump (19-10) and the 200 meters (22.9 seconds). Also joining the victory circle was Richardson in the 400 meters (54.1).

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Euclid School Sports

Panther pitchers off to a promising start



ZAK ADKINS, Euclid's senior 145-pounder, compiled a 37-9 record and led the Panther mat squad with 26 pins this past season. His photo was omitted last month when the Observer saluted its "Wrestlers of the Year."

by John Sheridan

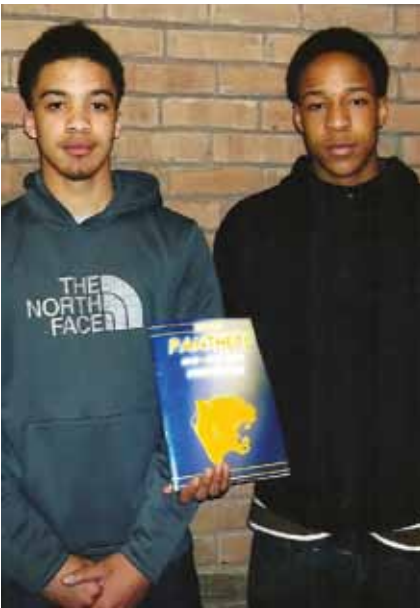
In high school baseball, the arms often are the deciding factor. Winning teams tend to rely on a talented pitching corps. Through the first half of this weather-plagued season, Euclid High baseball coach Brian Leroy was encouraged by his team's performance, as the Panthers won six of their first seven games. Much of that success was due to the efforts of a quartet of Panther pitching aces, several of whom played for Euclid's CABA World Series team last summer. "We've been getting a strong performance from our starting pitchers," Leroy said, not long after the Panthers had notched win number six — a 7-1 victory against Shaker Heights. Members of the Euclid mound crew include a pair of juniors, John Law and Vinnie Klun,

who were credited with five of the team's first six wins. Law, who tossed a complete game three-hitter against Shaker, owned a 3-0 record, while Klun was 2-0 and also had a save. Also off to a solid start, although you might not guess it from his 0-2 won-loss record, was senior Josh Roberts, who sported a very respectable 2.00 earned run average. "Josh has kept us in every game that he's pitched," the coach says. "And we ask him to pitch in our biggest games." The fourth member of the Panther mound brigade is Connor Fuller, who was 1-0 with two saves. "Connor has been doing a great job for us in relief," said Coach Leroy, now in his second year as head coach. Like most high school teams in North-east Ohio, the Panthers have had their

problems with the weather, which has forced a number of postponements and created difficult game conditions. "With the weather we've had, it has been tough to develop any sort of consistency," Leroy notes. "But so far, I'm very encouraged." "We have a nice mix of seniors, juniors, and sophomores," the coach adds. "And I've been very pleased with the way the young guys are starting off. We're hoping to compete for the league title." In the early going this year, the four pitching aces also played key roles in the Panthers' offense, with each of them batting .300 or better. Also wielding a big stick at the plate has been Randy Wente, a senior in his third year of varsity ball. Likewise batting in the vicinity of .300, he's the Panthers' leadoff hitter. "He sets the table for us," the coach says. Clearly, the cold spring conditions have put a damper on the long ball. As of the Observer deadline for this issue, only Sean Carney, a senior outfielder, had lashed a home run—in the game against Shaker.



ALL BUNDLED UP—Euclid High baseball fans were dressed warmly and huddled beneath blankets while enduring chilly "football weather" conditions during the Panthers' recent home baseball game against Lorain.



HARDCOURT ACES—Euclid High's "Basketball Players of the Year" are Je'Land Head (left) and Martel Madley. Their photos were omitted last month when the Observer honored its Winter Sports Stars. Madley averaged 17.1 points per game for the Panthers, while Head averaged 12.5 points and 4.7 assists per game.



ZAK ADKINS, Euclid's senior 145-pounder, compiled a 37-9 record and led the Panther mat squad with 26 pins this past season. His photo was omitted last month when the Observer saluted its "Wrestlers of the Year."

Euclid School Sports

continued from front page

pep rally, he reached into his pocket and pulled out what he said was a letter from the star player for the team we were getting ready to play. Then he grimaced and said, 'I can't read it to you -- for your own welfare.'" More than one speaker kidded Gutbrod about his exhortations to his players to "draw blood," either the opponents' or their own. Bob Mullin ('88), now the Vikings' head wrestling coach, recalled one halftime speech where Gutbrod told his players that they weren't bloodied enough. "Then he pulled out a huge bottle of ketchup and we got rained on with ketchup," Mullin chuckled. Don Dailey, co-captain of the 1970 St. Joe team, offered another "ketchup" story involving a hot afternoon practice session before a game against Euclid. "There wasn't enough blood on our uniforms, so out came the ketchup, and we went into the game that night not only looking like blood, but also smelling like blood." Appropriately, the dinner's souvenir table decorations were large bottles of ketchup with humorous labels.

On a more serious note, Dailey announced plans to establish a Bill Gutbrod Scholarship program that would award four renewable \$1,000 scholarships annually to current or incoming VASJ students. "Every dollar we raise," he said, "will be passed on to students to honor a man who has touched all of our lives in a positive way." Bob Golic echoed that theme when he stated: "Seldom do you encounter someone who inspires the kind of confidence in yourself that lasts for the rest of your life. But Coach Gutbrod was that kind of person." Rick Finotti, who guided St. Edward to a Division I state championship last fall, described the guest of honor as "the best coach at one of the greatest schools in history. You have to understand that it wasn't only his great locker room speeches, but things like seeing Coach at Mass on Sunday.... As a kid, it was my dream to play for Coach Gutbrod. Growing up, he was a legend in our household.... We love you, Coach." That word "love" kept bubbling up all evening long.



The Golic brothers helped make Coach Gutbrod's night memorable.



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Euclid’s Back Page

Lakeshore Coffee House serves a loyal clientele

by John Sheridan

In Downtown Euclid’s oldest commercial strip — the string of retail establishments between East 218th and East 222nd streets — many businesses have come and gone over the last two decades. But, like the little train that could, the Lake Shore Coffee House keeps on chugging along.

“We have a really great loyal clientele,” says proprietor Greg Lawrence. This cozy coffee house, known for its casual, relaxed atmosphere — as well as

its fresh-brewed coffee, is approaching 19 years in business. It is easily recognizable from the street as the place with the sidewalk table for patrons who enjoy sipping or snacking al fresco.

“We opened the coffee house in 1992, just about the time that a Seattle startup company began branching out,” Lawrence points out. “That company was Starbucks.”

The long-time Euclid businessman has actually been on the strip since 1989, when he moved his real estate and

insurance office from East 200th Street to Downtown Euclid. He believes his three businesses may be the longest-running establishments on the strip.

The other businesses are Hilltop Insurance and HRI Realty. “Those are what I do for a living,” he says, adding that the coffee shop seemed like a good idea back in 1992, as a way to fill a vacancy in the building and also to offer Euclid area residents something a bit novel. At the time, there were very few coffee shops in the Greater Cleveland area.

Over the years, Lawrence has benefited from a symbiotic effect. “Many of our coffee house customers have become clients of the other businesses,” he notes.

Among the features that make the Lake Shore Coffee House appealing to customers are the “little extras” that it offers, including Wi-Fi internet access. Customers with laptop computers are able to access the internet during visits to the coffee shop, located at 22032 Lakeshore Boulevard. It also has a video game terminal, reading materials on loan from the Euclid Public Library, and (in addition to its coffees) a menu that includes sandwiches, soups, salads, ice cream, muffins, bagels, cookies and other treats. The muffins are baked on site.

“The signature drink is our mocha,

which is our own recipe,” Lawrence explains. “It is similar to a chocolate milk, only with caffeine and really creamy, served hot or cold, and topped with whipped cream.”

Each day, the coffee shop features a selection of six different flavors. The coffee is ground for each pot just before it is brewed. The popular house blend is a mix of three African coffee beans.

Among the sandwich offerings, many customers prefer the chicken salad, the proprietor notes. The most popular ice cream flavors are cappuccino crunch for the adults and Superman for the kids. For mothers with toddlers in tow, the coffee shop has high chairs available. And the rear entrance is “wheelchair friendly.”

Last fall, when a new food establishment opened next door, in space previously occupied by the Kebab House, Lawrence was not concerned about any competitive threat. In fact, he welcomed his new neighbor with open arms. “Additional restaurants should help bring more attention to the coffee house,” he says.

Certainly, Lawrence understands how retail establishments can co-exist in a symbiotic relationship. And he’s hoping to see more of that principle at work, to ensure a brighter future for Euclid’s oldest commercial strip.

Mocha, anyone?



“WHAT’LL IT BE?”—Employee Holly Frankos is ready to pour any of the Coffee House’s six daily brews.

May Horoscopes

by Observer Staff

- Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 18) *******

Put a log on the fire & a lager in your tummy. Relax while you can, because after the 17th it'll be all business, and you better be ready to impress. This Month: don't linger with your lager.

Lucky Number: 1.6
- Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20) *******

You were hoping this would say something cheerful, so... something cheerful. Get your creative juices flowing with a big pot of spaghetti. This Month: It's still too cold for swimming pools, so put your floaties away.

Lucky Number: Eleventeen
- Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19) *******

Life is like Peanut Butter, it's just not the same without chocolate, but there's still a million things you could do with it. Luck is on your side. This Month: You're thinking about Reese's cups aren't you...

Lucky Number: 2 (Reese's cups in a package)

- Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20) *******

New Moon. New Birthday. New Plans. New shoes for those new plans, and new socks for those new shoes. You're worth it. This Month: Don't regret any of those accessories that go with the aforementioned shoes, just buy them.

Lucky Number: 7 ½ - 8 ½
- Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *******

The Sun isn't just a ball of gas in the sky, it's everything. It's your mood, your happiness, your energy. This Month: Forget about Twilight and get out.

Lucky Number: SBF 35
- Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *******

If you're still not on the cover of Sports Illustrated, consider taking up golf, it doesn't look too hard. Love, or something like it, is on its way, and it's not Italian. This Month: Climb the ladder at work, just don't look down.

Lucky Number: 62

- Leo (July 23 – Aug 22) *******

There's no Leo in Team, work together to get ahead at work. Rethink romantic decisions or else. This Month: your Checkbook will thank you for avoiding your family.

Lucky Number: 0
- Virgo (Aug 23 – Sept 22) *******

Your meticulous planning pays off by months end. Embrace Really Purple Socks. This Month: If you can't decide what to do, go to the Beachland, everyday, even Brunch on Saturdays & Sundays, and did you know they have a new iPhone app.

Lucky Number: Blue
- Libra (Sept 23 – Oct 22) *******

Technology will help you succeed in business, if you avoid angry birds. Get UnBirthday presents for your loved ones. This Month: If you can't be the Emperor, try to be the Mayor.

Lucky Number: Par 3

- Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21) *******

Mercury and Venus are opposite your sun, and will make you extremely photogenic. Spend your extra time in the garden surrounded with greenery. This Month: the best kind of drama is on tivo.

Lucky Number: 7
- Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21) ***

Spring makes you want to have all your meetings outside, so schedule them that way, unless you have allergies, then come prepared. Romance requires surprises. This Month: Think Madonna & Express Yourself

Lucky Number: 5 Bazillion
- Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 18) *******

Let daffodils guide you to the enjoyment of Frisbee golf. Colorful plaid is your friend, and so is anything pastel, especially mint green. This Month: You're daring enough to wear mint green, you just don't know it yet.

Lucky Number: 39.95

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