



EUCLID OBSERVER

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October 2013

HGR Hosts CHAIR-ity Auction to Benefit Euclid Playground

by Glenn McLaren

One-of-a-kind furniture will be going, going, gone next month as HGR Industrial Surplus auctions a unique group of industrial-strength chairs, with proceeds going to the Heritage Playground in Euclid.

The chairs, originally designed and built for the HGR Chair & Tell Project at the 2011 Ingenuityfest, were constructed using materials found in HGR's 400,000-square-foot showroom. The unique seating creations have been on display at HGR following the Ingenuityfest and a three-month stay at the RTA's Tower City Station.

"Everywhere these chairs have been displayed, people have asked us how they can buy one," said HGR CEO Brian Krueger. "We've enjoyed having them, and they have been great conversation pieces when customers come to HGR. But we saw the opportunity to help out a great cause and decided it was time to auction the chairs off to the highest bidders."

Bidding is up and running for the silent auction, both at HGR's showroom at 20001 Euclid Ave. in Euclid and online at www.teamhgr.com/chairs. Bidding will end at 2 p.m., Oct. 11, with

Euclid Mayor Bill Cervenik on hand to bring down the final gavel on each of the eight custom chairs. The artists who created the chairs are also scheduled to attend the closing ceremonies.

All proceeds from the silent auction will go to the Heritage Playground, located at East 193rd Street at Rosebud Avenue. The city is planning to refurbish the park, including repair and replacement of swings, bike racks and jungle-gym components. "HGR is an invaluable member of our community," wrote Jonathan Holody, director of the city's Planning & Development Department. "Your recent interest in making a donation to the City of Euclid for a community project further demonstrates this fact."

About HGR Industrial Surplus: HGR buys and sells used industrial equipment, manufacturing machinery and surplus items. With its network of buyers located throughout the eastern U.S., HGR inspects and purchases more than 3,000 truckloads of machines, tooling and just about anything that is used in the manufacturing environment. HGR sells this surplus at its 12-acre showroom, located near Cleveland, Ohio, and online through www.hgrinc.com.

Cross country runners hit their stride

by Kay O'Donnell

Runners take your mark...Go! That's exactly what the runners from the St. John of the Cross Tigers Cross Country team have been doing for the past ten weeks. The team, which is comprised of 40 athletes from St. John of the Cross, St. Robert and William, and Our Lady of the Lake parishes, has been practicing three times per week since early August. Meets are held on Saturdays and Sundays at various parks and schools throughout Northeast Ohio, with as many as 25 teams competing each week. Head Coach, Laurene Sweet, and Assistant Coach, Rich Schultz, combine efforts to train the kids, who range in age from 2nd grade to 8th

grade. Sweet, a St. Robert and William parishioner, is in her 2nd year of coaching the Tiger team. "It's amazing to see how well the kids merged together from the three Euclid Catholic schools to form a cohesive team. They run their practices through a 2-mile out and back trail and it's not uncommon to see them high-fiving and cheering for each other.

One of the eighth graders on the team, Erin Osborne, from Our Lady of the Lake Parish, couldn't say enough good things about cross country. "The workouts are tough, but Coach Sweet makes the practices fun. Even though I know I will be exhausted at the end of practice, I always look forward to going."

To date, the team has completed six

Expanded Sims Park Pier and Trails open to the public



by Frank Pietravia, Assistant to the Mayor for Development

Mayor Cervenik, members of City Council and guests joined together at 4:00 pm on October 3, 2013 for an historic grand opening and ribbon-cutting event of the first phase of construction related to the Euclid Waterfront Improvements Plan at Sims Park, at 23131 Lake Shore Boulevard, Euclid, Ohio.

This exciting project enhances the Sims Park portion of the lakefront with a new handicap-accessible trail leading to the waterfront and a substantially larger new fishing pier. The pier officially opened to the public for the first time following the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"This project, along with future phases, will increase public access to the lakefront for the entire region, drawing people to Euclid's Waterfront District to fish, recreate and enjoy Lake Erie. In fact when the Waterfront Improvements Plan is fully implemented, nearly three-quarters of a mile of the shoreline will be opened up to public access from Sims Park to approximately East 248th Street. We also encourage the lakefront visitors to take advantage of the variety of nearby Downtown Euclid shops and great restaurants, while they are in the area," stated Mayor Bill Cervenik.

Mayor Cervenik along with many others whom helped make the pier possible cut the ceremonial ribbon.



Mayor Cervenik testing out the fishing platform at the end of the pier. Photos: Liz Copic

The new pier, which replaces a former pier constructed in the 1970's, includes a wider deck, a custom designed shade pavilion and a fishing platform protected by a stone breakwall. The extension of the pier nearly doubles its length to reach shoreline waters deep enough to fish. The project also includes specially-designed lower railings to allow handicap-accessible fishing. "Together these improvements offer another option to get to the water's edge to enjoy one of the City's greatest assets, Lake

Continued on Page 2

meets, placing between 4th and 10th out of about 24 teams from across Northeast Ohio. They are proud of the many individual accomplishments in running the 1.5 and 2 mile races, with six runners placing individually in the top 10 places at weekly meets, and every athlete on the team earning personal records (PR's.) Even more noteworthy is the team spirit that this group exudes. When asked how she felt about morale on the team, Coach Sweet responded "The kids are truly excited to run each week. There are several hundred runners at most of the races and our team is out there cheering for everyone! Parents from other teams have approached us to ask where we are from because they are so impressed with our team spirit. To me, that really says something


about our team and about our city."

The Championships are scheduled for October 5 for the Elementals (3rd and 4th grade) and Cadets (5th and 6th grade), and October 12 for the Intermediates (7th and 8th grade.) While the outcomes of these meets are unknown at press time, one result is guaranteed. A spirited and dedicated group of runners from the SJC Cross Country team will cross the finish line with heads held high and with teammates and proud parents cheering them on.

The back of the team shirts are printed with a variation on a biblical quote that reads, "St. John of the Cross runners make the mountains tremble." With all the mountains this team has climbed this season, those words couldn't be more fitting.



Dialogue



EUCLID OBSERVER

YOUR INDEPENDENT SOURCE FOR EUCLID NEWS & OPINION

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You can mail your stories to the Euclid Observer office at 650 E. 185th St., Cleveland, 44119.

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From the desk of Mayor Cervenik

by Mayor Bill Cervenik

The fall weather, with its cooler temperatures and beautiful scenery, is a great time of the year to be outdoors and enjoy the season on foot. Throughout Euclid there are numerous walking areas in our parks and also in the neighborhoods. In fact, Cleveland Magazine gave the city a 100% rating for having sidewalk lined streets.

The Recreation Department's Passport to Euclid program sponsors a series of 1 hour walks (1.5-2 miles) through the city's eight wards once a week on Saturday mornings. The series of guided walks allows you to venture out of your own neighborhood and see what the other areas of Euclid are all about. Learn about Euclid history and hear updates concerning future projects. Meet your neighbors and make new friends. Walks are 1.5-2 miles in length and begin at 8:30am as follows:

- October 5**
Heroes Park, Hero Drive off Euclid Avenue

October 12
Lakeshore Christian Church,
28010 Lakeshore Blvd

October 19
Bethlehem Community Church,
24490 Euclid Avenue

October 26
Forest Park Junior High School,
27000 Elinore Avenue

The new walking paths in Sims Park, 23131 Lakeshore Blvd., offer an up-close view of Lake Erie and our new fishing pier.

The paths throughout the Euclid Creek Reservation, part of the Cleveland Metro Parks off of Highland Road, are particularly beautiful this time of the year and feature wooded hill-sides running the length of the park. Whether you just want to take a leisurely stroll or a fast-paced walk or jog, Euclid has many options throughout the city. For more information on the Passport to Euclid or other recreation programs, call (216) 289-2700 ext. 3955. I hope to see you in the neighborhood.

Your Mayor,
Bill Cervenik

PIER continued from Front Page

Erie. Not only will you be able to fish from the new pier, but this is also one of few locations where you can experience incredible sunsets and views of the Sims Park and the greater Cleveland shoreline, particularly east into Lake County," said Mayor Bill Cervenik.

The cost for the first phase, including the trail and pier improvements, was approximately \$1.7M. Mayor Cervenik and Euclid City Council worked together to develop a funding plan and to pass all legislation needed for the City to bid and award contracts for construction. With support from the State of Ohio, the funding includes grants through the Department of Natural Resources totaling over \$350,000. The balance of the cost was covered by City-issued bonds as part of the City's Capital Improvement Program.

The trails were constructed by Mr. Excavator, Inc. and the pier was constructed by Huffman Equipment Rental & Contracting, Inc., both local companies awarded contracts for this project through a competitive bidding process. Smith Group JJR, LLC, the City's waterfront planning consultant, also acted as the consulting engineer on the project. Construction started on this Phase in 2011 with the installation of the new trails and ended late summer 2013 with the completion of the fishing pier and related amenities.



Euclid's new pier at Sims Beach. Photo: Liz Copic

The Mary Mavec Opportunity School Autumn Festival

by Vicky Geer

The Mary Mavec Opportunity School of Euclid located at 21701 Lakeshore Blvd. invites you to join them for an Autumn Festival on Thursday, October 24 at 6 p.m. Refreshments, wine and Hors d'oeuvres will be served. There will be side boards and a silent auction of the clients art work.

Mary Mavec Opportunity School is a non-profit school/workshop for adults

with developmental disabilities.

Our mission is to provide a stimulating, rewarding, and stable workshop environment for adults with developmental disabilities in a richly rewarding and compassionate setting that encourages life-long growth.

Call for tickets (216) 731-4666, or stop in at 21701 Lakeshore Blvd. Visit our website at www.marymavec.org



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Euclid Recreation Exercises Good Study Habits

by Lisa Mayermik

On a weekly basis, you can find the Euclid Recreation Department's youth tackle football teams together studying their school work. Under the leadership of Director Mac Stephens, the study tables are overseen by volunteer coaches and team parents. Kids have a GPA requirement in order to play on the fall tackle football teams and must submit progress reports to be certain that education is their first priority.

At the study tables kids will also hear motivational talks and participate in community service projects. Those

who need additional help with school work can be referred to a tutoring service or given help by other program volunteers. Director Stephens stated, "Trying to get the kids to look beyond the sport and understand that they can achieve academically and socially at high levels is our goal."

The Recreation Department started the successful model program several years ago and have had positive results. They plan to expand the study table program to include more sports teams this winter.

What's Happening at the Euclid Y

by Courtney Nicolai

Calling all Swimmers...

The Euclid Family YMCA is part of the YMCA of Greater Cleveland Sting-rays Swim Team. Swim team is open to youth ages 6-18. Participants must be able to swim at least 50 yards freestyle or backstroke. Practice is held both at the Euclid YMCA and the Warrensville Heights Rec Center. Call Coach Gary Guzy today to try a practice and be a part of this great team. Coach Guzy can be reached at (216) 731-7454.



Job Openings at the Y

The Euclid YMCA is also looking for Lifeguards for Monday-Friday shifts from 6-11am and 10am-2pm. Applicants must be Red Cross or YMCA certified in Lifeguarding, CPR, First Aid, AED and O2. Must be able to swim 500 yards, pass the Lifeguard test and perform mock rescues and trainings. Starting Salary is \$9-\$10 per hour. Please send your resume to Gary Guzy at gguzy@clevelandymca.org or drop off at the Euclid Y at 631 Babbitt Rd.

The Euclid Y is also hiring for Member Service Representatives. Responsibilities include opening and closing the facility, greeting members, answering phone calls, membership sales and tours and coordinating front desk duties. Starting salary is \$8 per hour. If interested please send resumes to Brian Merkich at bmerkich@clevelandymca.org.

And finally we are looking to hire an experienced cycling instructor. Spinning or cycling certification is required. Salary range is \$13-\$20.00 per hour. Interested applicants can send resumes to Kyan Johnson at kjohnson@clevelandymca.org.



Halloween at the Y: Calling all Ghost, Goblins and Witches of the Night...

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SINCE 1978

Euclid Hospital & Cleveland Police Department Hold Fitness & Wellness Challenge

by Sabrina Powers

Fitness and Wellness Challenges were held in September at Euclid Hospital and Edgewater Park for The Cleveland Police Department. Police officers and staff completed heart health screenings and a body fat analysis along with exercise testing at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School in an effort to promote wellness throughout the police department.

The 2013 Fitness Challenge will carry out over a six-month period supported by not only the Cleveland Police Department's own fitness team but also by Cleveland Clinic's Euclid Hospital. "We believe that the Cleveland Police Department and Euclid Hospital share important profiles in the community which will lead us all to a healthier future," said Michael Koch, MD, Cardiovascular Medicine at Euclid Hospital. "We are proud of the relationship that we have developed with the Cleveland Police Department and feel privileged to support them in their pursuit of health and wellness."

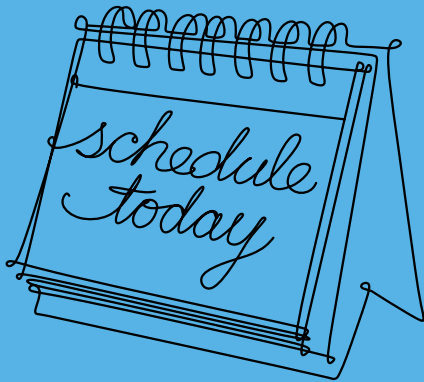
Euclid Hospital will be holding health screenings and monthly health talks featuring speakers from their staff and the Wellness Institute at Cleveland Clinic throughout the year.



Police officers and staff completed heart health screenings in an effort to promote wellness throughout the police department.



Euclid Hospital will be holding health screenings and monthly health talks throughout the year.




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This offer valid thru October 2013

Arts

Biography of the Life in the Arts of Charles J. Abraham Jr.

April 1, 1958 - August 31, 2005

by Charlotte Mirabile

Chuck Abraham was a pillar in professional and community theatre ever since he was a young man. Chuck's mother Florence was a professional actor and singer, and undoubtedly inspired Chuck to carry on with the same passion. Chuck would attend rehearsals and shows with his mother and before long the directors of the musical shows (which was sometimes his mother) would recognize the zany, energetic, and extremely talented acting and singing skills he possessed.

Through many shows growing up at the Cleveland Playhouse and around local community and semi-professional theatres, Chuck fine-tuned his abilities to command presence on stage. Good, bad, or indifferent, the audience members always remembered the characters that Chuck played. He was a true scene stealer because of his outrageous comedic timing and physical humor, and also of his rich baritone-tenor voice.

Chuck's mother managed, directed, and produced all of her own shows within the community in and around the greater Cleveland area, and thus was born the production troupe known as SILHOUETTE PRODUCTIONS. This was the start of Chuck's personal legacy which he later carried on following his mother's passing. Chuck's mother passed away while he was still a young man, leaving behind questions about the future of the family and their place in the theatre. The passion persevered, and through strong faith and family love, Chuck continued his mother's

vision in the community arts by maintaining their family theatre group, Silhouette Productions.

Silhouette Productions became a vehicle for Abraham to solicit families of all types, genres, races, and creeds to become involved in the community performing arts. Chuck insisted on not discriminating against anyone based on their outward appearance, their level of talent, or the like. This is truly the trademark of Silhouette, and one that separates it from others in the community who can only attempt to mimic the standards set by Abraham and his family. Abraham insisted on giving all children a chance in the theatre by involving the parents and siblings, whenever possible, to share in the experience. This family-friendly environment spawned show after successful show of casts in excess of 85 people.

Mr. Abraham was versatile enough to call several locations home for Silhouette Productions. Not only did he write, produce, manage, and direct his very own shows, plays, and musical murder mysteries, he also took them on the road to local community arts organizations to perform on a regular basis. Local businesses also took note of Silhouette's following, having asked Chuck and his group of friends to perform at benefits, fund raisers, and corporate events of the entertainment of all.

The Wickliffe Civic Center (WICC) became a home for Chuck to produce Broadway shows locally, being only a mile away from his own home. WICC boasted many shows under Chuck's direction. Although the budgets were always scarce and it took awhile for attendance to justify expenses, Chuck always unselfishly found a way to make it happen. Abraham would regularly

dip into his own personal finances to fund production expenses such as construction materials, lighting, sound, and even associate directors payroll expenses. He did this time after time to keep theater going in the small city that he loved, and to keep alive his vision for Silhouette. Aside from his own monetary investments, Abraham also built most of his own scenery with the help of his closest friends and family. Hours upon endless hours were spent before and after rehearsals (and on Saturdays) with public relations, marketing shows, making phone calls, planning and organizing the business of Silhouette

After numerous shows at WICCI and over ten years of active involvement, eventually the Centre succumbed to modern economy problems. Sadly, the center was knocked down and thus ended the Wickliffe home of Silhouette. The city of Euclid, where Chuck had grown up and spent his childhood had become the next home for Silhouette. The Shore Junior High School, located on the corner of East 222nd and Babbitt, eventually became a civic center much in the way that WICCI did. The very hallways where Chuck's childhood memories endured once again came to life with the return of Abraham.

The Shore Cultural Center, as it is known, boasts a large historic theatre which holds over 1200 people. It is both cavernous and impressive, and Abaraham saw an opportunity to have a true theatre setting to perform his shows. Chuck continued this passion at his new home for six years directing and producing musicals with his closest family and friends. He truly loved it at Shore, and eventually it became the place where his final moments were spent.

Abraham suffered a fatal heart attack in the front office of the Shore Cultural Centre just moments before a scheduled rehearsal for Peter Pan, a show which he was very

excited about. The news sent shockwaves through the community and his expansive network of friends and family.

Much confusion and dismay was left behind following the untimely and unfortunate passing of Abraham. The show he was working on was scheduled to go up only a week after his death. The surviving family and closest friends of Abraham rallied together in support and love for Chuck to finish his work that he was so excited to present. The show went off without a hitch, and Peter Pan flew through the air just as Chuck would have hoped.

Chuck's sister, Charlotte Abraham Mirabile is the Artistic Director and cousin Lawrence DiDonato is the Production Director for Silhouette Productions. They worked side by side with Chuck, investing time, sweat, and tears throughout the years with him. Chuck instilled in them the belief that having fun in the community is what it is all about. That was truly what Chuck Abraham was all about - if he was not having fun in the community performing arts, he would not have done it at all. That is something we all learned from Chuck, among so many other things.

Chuck will be greatly missed in the upcoming years. His smile, energy, and internal motivation to actively pursue the next challenge in the theatre became the motivation for his survivors to continue his legacy. Shore Cultural Centre is still the current home for Silhouette, and shows are currently being produced on an annual and semi-annual basis. Chuck would have been proud of the continuation of family, faith, tradition, and above all laughter.

The 2013 November Production "Guys and Dolls" is dedicated to the memory of Charles J Abraham Jr.

Please attend a performance at Shore Cultural Centre.

Respectfully, Silhouette Productions

October at The Orchestra

by Ellen Ivory

October is here and that means the Euclid Symphony Orchestra is ready to open its concert season. Tributes and an elegy for our fallen heroes are several works that will kick off the Orchestra's 53rd season on Sunday, October 27, 3pm in Shore Cultural Centre's Auditorium.

The Orchestra will showcase Sir Edward Elgar's, "Elegy for Strings," which was written in 1909 as a personal tribute to August Jaeger, Elgar's close friend who died when he was 49. A work composed almost a century later by Michelle Diehl, "Soliloquy - An Elegy for our Fallen Heroes," will also be featured. Other concert selections will include the romantic, style, "Lyrisches Andante fur Streichquintett," by Max Reger, Beethoven Symphony #7, and a piece by Guest Soloist, Linda Atherton, on cello playing the composition "Kol Nidrei" by Max Bruch.

The Euclid Symphony Orchestra has distinguished itself as one of the leading orchestras in the area through over a half-century of acclaimed performances, youth concerts and outreach. Comprised of volunteer members, the orchestra performs four concerts a year. "Our members have been practicing in earnest and we are looking forward to an exciting season of music. We would like to invite everyone to attend our concerts and hope they will bring new audience members in the coming season," states Ryan Roberts, Orchestra President.

Tickets are \$8 in advance, and \$10 at the door. Advance sale tickets can be purchased at the Shore Cultural Centre main office located at 291 East 222nd Street, Euclid, OH 44123.

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DANCEVERT Returns For Student Lecture Demonstration On October 11th



On Friday, October 11 at 9:30am, come experience a magical feeling of the geometric wonder of our world and the joy of dancers' moves through space with DANCEVERT's "Geometry in Motion".

This 45-minute assembly program introduces the elements of dance as an art form and demonstrates the principals of geometry in the math academic content standards. The DANCEVERT Company will perform a variety of dances that integrate the

amazing parallel made with lines, angles and shapes which are the fundamentals of both geometry and dance.

Take the lessons back to the classroom!

In addition to the wonderful, diverse learning opportunity for your students, this program will provide teacher resource materials. These will allow the lessons to be extended back to the classroom and incorporated into the regular curriculum. These materials are FREE to all schools attending.

Tickets to this event are \$5 per student, or \$3 for groups of 25 or more. To purchase tickets, visit shoreculturalcentre.com/dancevert or call us at (216) 289-8578.

Shore Hires New Executive Director

We are pleased to announce the hiring of John Farina as the new Executive Director at Shore Cultural Centre. John brings over a decade of experience in fundraising, nonprofit management, and arts programming to Shore. This experience, along with John's energy, enthusiasm, and

passion for building community through the arts, will be valuable assets to Shore, Coral, and the City of Euclid. Under John's leadership, Shore's future is bright. Joining John's leadership team at Shore will be Laura Kidder, who will stay on as property manager.



'Guys and Dolls' Coming To Shore In November

Silhouette Productions and Shore Cultural Centre will present the musical favorite 'Guys and Dolls' for six performances in mid-November. You will not want to miss this fun and energetic American classic, performed in the historic Shore Auditorium.

Director Ian Atwood, Musical Director David Cox, and Choreographer Tara Mirabile will be running the show that is being dedicated to the memory of Charles Abraham. The cast is set and full of wonderful local talent. Performances

will be on Friday and Saturday evenings, November 15, 16, 22 and 23, at 7:30pm and on Sunday afternoons, November 17 and 24, at 2:00pm.

Advance tickets are on sale at Shore Cultural Centre or online at shoreculturalcentre.com/guysanddolls.

Celebrity Bartenders
In the auditorium lobby, beer, wine and refreshments will be available before each performance and at

intermissions. The drinks are going to be served up by some of our favorite Euclid "celebrities" who will be competing in a tip competition with donations going to benefit Shore Cultural Centre. Bartenders will include Euclid Mayor Bill Cervenik, Peter Rubin, President of the Coral Company, Councilpersons Daryl Langman & Candace Jones, Council Candidate Laura Gorshe, and more!

Dinner and a Show
Make it a great night out by

purchasing a 'Dinner and a Show' package with either Vittorio's or Mama Catena's! This \$36 package is available for Saturday and Sunday shows and includes your theater ticket, a hearty meal including appetizer, entrée, non-alcoholic beverage, and dessert, as well as tax and gratuity. Saturday dinners will precede the show, while Sunday dinners will follow the matinee. **Make your reservations now by calling (440) 585-7700.**

Shore Has Rooms For Rent!
Call Shore today at (216) 289-8578 to start planning your next great event. Our event rooms are spacious, convenient, and are available for low hourly rates.

The Euclid Farmers' Market
will be wrapping up on Friday, November 1, from 3 to 7pm. Be sure to come out every Friday this month to purchase fresh, local produce, herbs, spices, teas, honeys, and much more. **See you at the market!**



Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School

Faith. Family. Future.

Bishop celebrates VASJ Opening Mass

The Most Rev. Richard G. Lennon, Bishop of Cleveland, celebrated the Opening Mass for VASJ's new school year on Thursday, September 5.

The gym was full and vibrant with live acoustic music as the entire student body, faculty and staff were joined by alumni, friends and members of the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland, Marianists and VASJ Board of Advisors.

Principal David Csank welcomed special guests including Secretary for Education/Superintendent of Schools Margaret Lyons and Associate Superintendent for Secondary Schools Gene Boyer.

President Richard Osborne '69 greeted Bishop Lennon, pledging that faith would remain at the foundation of the school's mission throughout the year. VASJ Chaplain Fr. Jim Bartlett, SM, served as the concelebrant for the Mass.

"Let us take this time to be here together at the start of the school year and pray that it be a very important year in our lives," said Bishop Lennon during Mass.

The Bishop, who arrived at the school hours prior to the Mass to meet with students and members of the faculty and staff, said he was very pleased with all that he learned about the continued increase in VASJ's enrollment and the positive direction of the school. "We have a lot that is



Bishop Richard Lennon celebrated the Opening Mass for VASJ. Chaplain Fr. Jim Bartlett, SM, served as the concelebrant.

uplifting as we start this new school year," he said.

The theme of the opening liturgy was branches and the vine – which Bishop Lennon focused on during his homily. "Jesus is the vine and all of us, we are to be the branches," he said. "We are to have a relationship with him and when we do, our lives are strengthened and enriched."

For VASJ senior Nicholas

Uitenham, it was a particularly special celebration. Not only was it the official kickoff for his senior year, but after three years of preparation he was commissioned by Bishop Lennon as an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion.

It was the idea of service that motivated Uitenham to seek this privilege. "I wanted to do it for the idea of service," he says. "Jesus was serving

others and I kind of want to follow that path."

At the conclusion of the Mass, visitors were welcomed into VASJ's Ministry Center for a light reception.

It was a wonderful way to officially start the 2013-14 school year. Just as Bishop Lennon urged the students, we plan to "keep that good family spirit" going strong throughout the remainder of the year.



Bishop Richard Lennon commissions VASJ senior Nicholas Uitenham as an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion.

VASJ McDonough Invitational draws 50 teams, 1,250 runners

VASJ was the host school and among 50 teams who competed at the McDonough Invitational. The Vikings' runners were among approximately 1,250 runners who participated on September 12 in East Cleveland. An estimated 3,000 fans watched the action at the annual meet that has been run since 1960.

"This is a wonderful event that I want to be more involved in and make sure VASJ is even more proud to be the host of," Zavorek said. "It really is so well run from start to finish and just a special event. I want to get the word out because it shouldn't be our best kept secret. Everyone should get the chance to enjoy this fantastic race."



VASJ hosted nearly 1,250 runners and 3,000 fans at the McDonough Invitational, held annually since 1960 at Forest Hill Park in Cleveland Heights.

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Wednesday, October 9, at 6 p.m.

Thursday, November 14, at 6 p.m.

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www.vasj.com/admissions

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Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School

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Morgan Adrine '16, Alison Sukys '15, Valerie Koch '15, John Henry Posey '16 and VASJ religion teacher Patrick Preto were among the presenters at VASJ's service assembly.

VASJ students embrace service to others

By Emily Robinson

"My overall goal in life is to be remembered for my actions, not only my words," said junior Valerie Koch during her presentation at VASJ's service assembly.

Service is an integral aspect of VASJ's identity and is one of the core values of educating in the Ursuline and Marianist traditions.

Each year, VASJ holds a service assembly to demonstrate to the students the importance of service to others and give examples of the various ways students can get involved in the community.

"One of the values we stress here to our students is the importance of giving back, or 'paying it forward' as the saying goes," says VASJ Principal David Csank.

"The service assembly is an excellent way for the students of VASJ to learn about the many opportunities that are out there, and that they not only can make a difference, but that we as Christians are called to make a difference," Csank adds.

While each student at VASJ is required to complete service hours in order to graduate, many students go above and beyond the hours needed, nearly doubling the mandatory amount.

For VASJ Campus Minister Jill Latkovich, the service assembly is about striking a chord with each of the students, connecting with them in some way and inspiring them to get involved with service opportunities in the community.

"My hope is that students will receive some type of inspiration to try things they've never tried before and



VASJ student Morgan Adrine '16 shares her experiences volunteering at the Cleveland APL during a service assembly.

that service will become a part of their life - something that they enjoy doing, not something that they have to do," Latkovich says.

A group of students gave powerful presentations to the entire student body about the importance of getting involved and making a difference in the lives of others.

Valerie Koch has found her experiences volunteering at Euclid Hospital to be rewarding and beneficial.

"I feel that I am making a difference and having an impact on the lives of others by keeping patients company," says Koch. "Volunteering has inspired me to work in the medical field someday. It has taught me that it is the little conversations and smiles that can truly make someone's day."

Sophomore Morgan Adrine spoke of her involvement at the Cleveland Animal Protective League (APL) in



Alison Sukys '15 speaks to the student body about the rewards of volunteering at Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital.

which she not only gained valuable work experience, learning how to use a time-clock system and the importance of arriving to work on time, but she also had the opportunity to foster two young puppies at her home until they were old enough to be adopted.

Learning the importance of showing compassion for families going through difficult times was one of the most valuable aspects of junior Alison Sukys' experience volunteering at Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital.

"The greatest reward I got out of volunteering was the appreciation some patients had just when I smiled at them or asked them how they were doing," Sukys says.

Sophomore John Henry Posey spoke of his involvement in the 2013 Musical Alliance Summer Honors Band program, held at Borromeo School of Pastoral Leadership in

Wickliffe.

His role was to assist in teaching students notes and rhythm. For Posey, assisting at the summer camp meant more than just fulfilling a school requirement.

Sophomore Aysia Kemp shared with the student body her experiences volunteering at New Avenues to Independence summer camp at Broadmoor School, a school for students who have been diagnosed with disabilities and/or developmental delays.

"As a volunteer, we have an important job," Kemp says. "Our main priority is to help out the staff to make their day easier. While doing that, an amazing experience that you will never forget happens each day."

Shea Smith '15, Maggie Boru '16 and Jasmine Toney '16 spoke of their experiences volunteering for Youth Challenge, an organization assisting kids with physical disabilities.

"Service is very important," Smith says. "It is a time to learn and grow while helping in the community."

In addition to hearing from their peers, VASJ students also heard a presentation from new religion teacher Patrick Preto who spoke of his involvement in service during his high school career.

"Service changes you," says religion teacher Patrick Preto, new to VASJ this year. "If you can at least wear the mask of Christ when you serve, I can promise you that you will find yourself a better person."

Emily Robinson is Director of Communications for Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School.

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Euclid City Schools

EUCLID CITY SCHOOLS

OUR KIDS,
OUR COMMUNITY,
OUR INVESTMENT

Bluestone teacher awarded “A Day Made Better” from OfficeMax

The teaching surprise of a lifetime happened for Bluestone Elementary School teacher, Cheree Mason as she received an award and \$1,000 in school supplies from OfficeMax. The award program known as “A Day Made Better” is part of the Office Max National School Advocacy Program where principals nominate teachers who go above and beyond. Bluestone Elementary School’s Principal, Linda Knight nominated Cheree Mason for this incredible award due to her dedication, excellence and love for her students. With family, friends, and colleagues surrounding her Mason humbly accepted this tremendous honor.

Each school was granted a total of \$400 to use for planting seedlings, transplanting to the garden site and maintaining the gardens. Students were involved in every aspect of the project including recent harvests. The most prolific garden came out of Bluestone Elementary School where they have enjoyed “salad days” with staff and students and had quite a bountiful crop.

Cheree Mason, award recipient for “A Day Made Better” poses with the supplies that she won for her students.

Cheree Mason and Linda Knight, Principal of Bluestone.

Proud chip winners from Chardon Hills Magnet School.

All that and a bag of Chips!

Chardon Hills Magnet School teachers and staff are enjoying “catching” students going above and beyond in their attitude and actions with their All That and a Bag of Chips reward system. The staff at Chardon Hills will send students to the office immediately with a certificate explaining to Principal Chris Papouras and Assistant Principal Jacqueline Sturm why their student is “All That and a Bag of Chips.” Some certificates have included “... helped another group clean their station when they needed help and followed the Euclid Way,” and “... turned in a beautiful bracelet she found by the

PANTHER PRIDE

HOMEcoming

FESTIVITIES

Join us October 24 & 25 to celebrate Euclid Panther Pride with a variety of homecoming activities!

October 24

6PM State of the Panther in The Little Theatre

7PM Stand Up Parade (Along the north half of E. 222nd Street followed by a bonfire behind EHS)

October 25

7PM Varsity Football game kick off – the Panthers take on Maple Heights

Half-time fireworks and presentation of the Homecoming Court

Euclid City Schools

Euclid Elementary School Gardens

School gardens first became a topic of conversation in the Euclid City Schools during the spring of 2012 through a proposal made at the districts Family and Civic Engagement Team (FACET) meeting. The idea was for students to learn interdisciplinary lessons through the hands on activities involved with the planting, caring for and harvesting a vegetable garden. A rather large grant written in conjunction with Cuyahoga County, for this project was not successful. However, a smaller start-up school garden program titled the Urban Agriculture Program, an extension program of The Ohio State University and overseen by Nicole Wright did become available and the school garden project was off the ground. Nicole subsequently met with elementary principals to set a timeline, look at school locations, and do appropriate soil testing.

Each school was granted a total of \$400 to use for planting seedlings, transplanting to the garden site and maintaining the gardens. Students were involved in every aspect of the project including recent harvests. The most prolific garden came out of Bluestone Elementary School where they have enjoyed “salad days” with staff and students and had quite a bountiful crop.

Students and teachers alike look forward to the feast.

Bluestone's Harvest

Mrs. Knight serves students Bluestone garden grown salad!

Chardon Hills Community Garden

EHS Golf Team wins the LEL Championship for third consecutive year

On September 24, the Euclid High School Golf Team got to show off their talent as they hit the links at Briardale with Euclid High School staff members. It proved to be an easy victory for the EHS golf team as they prepared for their next match that would earn them the LEL Championship title.

We are PANTHER PROUD of the EHS Golf Team, as they won the LEL Championship for the third consecutive year! Good luck going forward!

Jonathan Johnson, Matt Kiun, John Kane, Doug Sessor

Miss Obradovich, Mrs. Goerndt, Elizabeth Clack, Mr. Torrelli

Elizabeth Clack lines up her putt for par.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT + BUSINESS= THE RECIPE FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS

You have probably heard the phrase, “It takes a village to raise a child.” If we take some liberty with those words, we could say, “It takes a village to educate a child.” Join us for a panel discussion led by Keith Bell, Superintendent of Euclid City Schools, and a representative from the Euclid Police Department’s Community Policing Unit, on ways our business community can help in the commitment to providing a solid education for our young people. We want to hear your voice about ways your business is affected by the young people of our community and ideas about how we can collaborate to achieve success.

Do you have a great story to share about a student intern from EHS? Is your business or organization already collaborating in some way with the schools? Or, do you have concerns you would like to discuss? We will enjoy a delicious meal prepared and served by the Euclid Culinary School students and Chef Dan.

When: November 13 from 12–1 p.m.
Hosted by:Euclid City Schools Culinary School at Shore Cultural Centre, 291 East 222nd St., Euclid 44123
\$20 ECC Members/\$30 Guests

Register at www.euclidchamber.com or call (216) 731-9322.

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Schools

Grandparents Are golden at Ss. Robert & William Catholic School

by Ellen Ivory

For 40+ years, the parish school at Ss. Robert & William Catholic Church has been celebrating “Grandparent’s Day.” This is a unique day where students and their grandparents/special guests are embraced and recognized.

This year’s celebration, at Ss. Robert & William Catholic School, began by uniting at Mass to celebrate the gift of these special relationships. In his homily, Pastor, Fr. John D. Betters, spoke of the bond that exists within this family unit. He told of the loving relationship he had with his own grandparents. “I believe it is important that you learn from each other,” states Betters. He continues, “For example, the students can share their gifts, such as their contemporary knowledge of technology. On the other hand, grandparents and special guests can provide the nurturing and loving environment that is so needed in today’s world. Additionally, grandparents can pass down important traditions and stories that help to define the child.”



Melanie, Bella and Joe enjoy Grandparent's Day at SRW Catholic School



Nic embraces his special guest

Taste, learn, discover at Ss. Robert & William’s 1st Annual Harvest Wine Fest

by Ellen Ivory

Get ready for one of the most impressive wine-tasting events in Euclid. This 1st annual fundraiser will take place the second weekend in November at Ss. Robert & William Catholic Parish. Wine lovers will not want to miss the chance to taste a variety of wines during the Harvest Wine Fest on Friday, November 9.

Guests at this formal event will spend Saturday evening enjoying an exotic variety of mouth-watering appetizers and delectable desserts from Mama Catena Ristorante and learning more about wine with helpful tasting guides and samplings. The wine will be presented by Kris Krey, Professional Wine Taster and Sommelier. Guests can take a break from tasting and bid on items in the silent auction while enjoying the entertainment.

Additional Contributor:
Ms. Maureen Frydl

C.E. Orr Arena set to open

by Ben Perpar

As the days draw shorter, the C.E. Orr Ice Arena Staff is in full gear preparing for the upcoming season. The doors are set to open on September 21, while the first public skating event will be held on October 1 from 7:30-9:00. This session will feature free admission and skate rental, games, prizes and a whole lot of fun!



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There are several special events lined up this season, including Pink the Rink on October 8, from 7:30-9:00 where participants can wear pink in support of breast cancer research for a discounted admission rate. Our Halloween Scream will be held from 7:30-9:00 on October 29, any skater who wears their Halloween costume will receive \$3 admission. Skaters who bring 2 canned goods on November 23 or 26 will receive free admission for our Turkey Skate. This event provides non-perishable food items to the Euclid Hunger Center for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Santa Clause will be stopping by on December 21 for our Skate with Santa event. Skaters can enjoy \$3 admission from 1-4 and get a chance to skate with Santa. Children who bring a wish list for Santa will receive free skate rental.

For the second year in a row, students will be able to participate in our Educate Skate program on Thursdays from 3:30-5:30. This program is designed to offer students in grades 1-6 an opportunity to work on homework for the first hour, followed by open skating and lessons until 5:30. This program costs \$10 per month and includes skate rental.

Euclid Learn to Skate is continuing to thrive with lessons beginning on Octo-

ber 1. Lessons are available to all skill levels beginning at age 3. Euclid residents can sign up for 8 week sessions for only \$45 (skate rental is additional) on Tuesday evenings. Class times can be found on the City website. Session 2 will begin on November 26th, and February 4th marks the first class of Session 3.

New this season, is our Holiday Hockey Camp! On December 26-27 and January 2-3, hockey players between Squirt-Midget levels can participate in our Holiday Camp. The cost for the camp is \$60 and includes a camp t-shirt. The camp will be held on consecutive Thursday's and Friday's from 8:00am-12:00pm and will include individual skill training, conditioning, film study and competitions.

Registration for any arena activity is available at the C.E. Orr Arena during Open Skate, Learn to Skate or City Ice time, or you can contact Ben Perpar at (216) 289-8649. Check out www.cityof-euclid.com/icearena for times, rates and details!

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Schools

NDA FACULTY GROWS by Sandra Ferrara

Join New Day Academy in welcoming the newest additions to its faculty:
Mary Colan – Kindergarten, Charles Hayward – 4th Grade, Elizabeth Couture – High School Algebra and Statistics, Warren Franklin – Electives



Ms. Colan



Ms. Couture



Mr. Hayward



Mr. Franklin

NDA students find career clarity

by Sandra Ferrara

“What field do you want to go into when you graduate?”

It’s a question that’s baffled high school students for decades. Unless a school develops creative ways of offering real-world learning, students oftentimes miss out on the opportunity to discover their true calling.

New Day Academy, located in Euclid, cuts clean through career confusion. The proof is in the internship opportunities they’ve developed for their students. What’s so special about the internships at New Day? Just ask the Assistant Dean of the Upper School (Grades 8 – 12), Chanelle Stepp, “It’s my job to make sure that my students feel inspired in school and in work. I’m always on the lookout to uncover opportunities that will enable my students to spread their wings and fly. No other school is placing their students in the organizations that we are.”

Stepp is referring to such power-

houses as the Cleveland Clinic, the Justice Center, and the office of Cleveland’s own, Frank Jackson. This year, New Day Academy placed 9 of its students at the Cleveland Clinic where they will be learning a variety of skills including medical procedures as well as office operations.

Stepp explains that most other schools have internship programs already in place whether they suit students’ interests or not. New Day Academy attempts to first uncover their students’ interests and then create an internship opportunity to turn those interests into reality. This has resulted in improved performance and, in many cases, has lead to job offers for students.

“It’s a competitive world out there,” explains Stepp. “It’s our responsibility to ensure that our children succeed. To New Day Academy, that means outshining the competition with quality skills and real-world experience.”

NDA celebrates academic excellence

by Sandra Ferrara

New Day Academy’s Middle and High School, located in Euclid, recognize their Student of the Month as well as those students whose academic achievement sets a standard of excellence. Congratulations!

Student of the Month:
Symone Ford

9th Grade Reading:
Christian Downey
Romell Goodgame
Breanna Couch

10th Grade Math:
Mark Patrizi

10th Grade Reading, Science and Social Studies:
Chris Muhammed

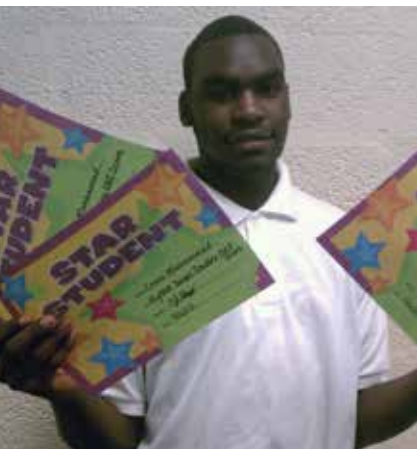
Elementary School:
Joenyla Totten, Grade 4
Zoey Davenport, Grade 1
Jamiya Benedict, Grade 2
Raynia Martina, Grade 1
Mamadou Sow, Grade 2
Amirah Raheem, Kindergarten
Amir Raheem, Kindergarten
Benson McCants, Grade 3
Ta’nya Parker, Grade 3



Symone Ford



Mark Patrizi



Chris Muhammed



NDA Elementary school students of the month.

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Election Forum

★★★★ City Council Candidates ★★★★★

Euclid City Council Candidates 2013

by Kristin Klatka

WARD 4

Kim Baioni



Kim Baioni

How many years have you lived in Euclid?
25 years

Do you own the home you currently live in?
Yes

What is your educational background? I have a Bachelor's Degree from Cleveland State University in Psychology and Criminology and a J.D. from Cleveland Marshall College of Law.

1. Why did you want to run for Euclid City Council? I think it's important that young people step up and take ownership and work in key positions in city government. I want to give back to the city I live in and now I have more time to focus on public service.

2. If you are elected to Council, what do you think the people in your ward would want you to work toward? They would want me to work toward the vacant home situation and how to rectify it. We need to get all the stakeholders involved in making decisions to improve the neighborhood. I've been on the Housing Task force and have worked for the Cuyahoga County Land Bank and I know the troubles that the historically vacant homes bring to a city.

3. What do you see as both the concerns and the opportunities of Euclid in 2013? One concern is the large proportion of vacant and rental homes in Euclid. Many people think that when we have a high percentage of non-resident owners they are less invested. With the housing market as it stands, and low interest rates, this can be an opportunity to attract new home owners. With proper marketing, we could attract more first-time home owners.

4. Presuming you will be elected, what would you like to see accomplished in your first two years when looking back in 2015? One of the main things I'd like to see is attention given to the East 185th Street corridor. We can't neglect our borders. Important companies are there, such as both University and Euclid Hospitals, and we need to enhance this area and deal with the vacant store fronts.

5. If there is one aspect of Euclid you would like to put your energy into, what would it be? It would be to improve the reputation of our city and its standing in our regional area. We need the people outside our city to know we have a great location and great city services with affordable homes, several miles of lakefront and new schools.

6. What book are you currently reading? Charlotte's Web to my third grade daughter.

Kristian Jarosz



Kristian Jarosz

How many years have you lived in Euclid? I've lived in the Euclid area most of my life, but Euclid over a decade.

Do you own the home you currently live in? Yes

What is your educational background? I have a B.S. in Finance from Wright State University.

1. Why did you want to run for Euclid City Council? I have three children, ages 10, 8 and 2. My wife and I are committed to Euclid. We both have been involved in our children's schools as a coach of baseball and in the PTO. I recognize that the next few years will be significant for Euclid as they impact the decades ahead.

2. If you are elected to Council, what do you think the people in your ward would want you to work toward? The first thing is that they want a councilperson they know and one who will be an advocate for them on Council. I'd be that advocate for them. We need stabilization with home prices, and we need to focus on home ownership because home owners with roots have the sense of neighborhood we're trying to foster. Public safety is important in my ward. Police officers and emergency responders need to be well equipped. We have quality of life issues; residents don't want to put up with loud noises, lewd language, loitering and littering in the neighborhoods. We need to put a focus back on quality of life. We also are concerned with the general economic development. Euclid is uniquely positioned to be an incubator for the entrepreneurial endeavors of new ideas. We need to work on Euclid's perception of our city.

3. What do you see as both the concerns and the opportunities of Euclid in 2013? I'm finding that there's a serious concern about the level of city services and yet we are paying high taxes. Property taxes were hit especially hard in Euclid when the market went down. Our homes are our largest investment. We should make it a priority to sustain property values. We need to deal with the blighted and abandoned homes because it impacts others' homes as well. We've seen stabilization because of the core elements of location, people, and some business such as University Hospital and Lincoln Electric. We need to be progressive in leveraging the positive elements of Euclid.

4. Presuming you will be elected, what would you like to see accomplished in your first two years when looking back in 2015? One of the first things I'd want accomplished is a renewed perception of Euclid within the entire north east Ohio community. Also, I'd like to see the aesthetics of East 200th and East 185th improved. Store fronts should be full and active. The vacant stores need businesses who care for the property. Year over year property values should increase with homes that are full.

5. If there is one aspect of Euclid you would like to put your energy into, what would it be? I would want to get the word about Euclid out into the area. We need to sell Euclid so that empty homes and businesses are filled.

6. What book are you currently reading? The Last Lion by William Manchester and Market Monitorism by Marcus Nus

Mary Jo Minarik



Mary Jo Minarik

How many years have you lived in Euclid?
23 years

Do you own the home you currently live in?
Yes

What is your educational background? I have an Associates of Theology degree from the College of Biblical Studies and I studied Philosophy and the Classics at John Carroll University.

1. Why did you want to run for Euclid City Council? In the last two years the ward has been orphaned. The deterioration in the neighborhoods and the streets makes people just want some relief. I decided to jump back into Council to help the neighborhood get better.

2. If you are elected to Council, what do you think the people in your ward would want you to work toward? They want safe streets, and to restore Euclid to the city of superior services and strong neighborhoods. Doing this encompasses a big agenda.

3. What do you see as both the concerns and the opportunities of Euclid in 2013? The biggest concern is the schools. Strong schools make strong neighborhoods, but we should focus on strengthening the neighborhoods in order to strengthen the schools. Failing schools gives the wrong impression towards the quality people who might want to move here. We don't have enough people in the Housing Department and six inspectors aren't enough to maintain our housing stock. Streets and Sewer Departments also need to be stronger and proactive about problems. Our greatest opportunity is the break-wall on our lakefront. Any developer should want to invest in our waterfront with tax benefits to build a marina. This will give new energy to the lakefront. The breakwall needs to come first.

4. Presuming you will be elected, what would you like to see accomplished in your first two years when looking back in 2015? I want to see safe streets where residents talk to each other and I want to see that city services are working proactively. Housing, streets and sewers, police and fire have been maintained. We need to change the penal system and issue tickets to juveniles who commit crimes. I support the strong neighborhood associations and encourage them to work with the city. Positive relationships with the city and landlords need to improve to get better tenants in Euclid. Neighborhoods need to be strengthened and the city needs to be stabilized to be more attractive to owner occupancy.

5. If there is one aspect of Euclid you would like to put your energy into, what would it be? I would like us to focus on sustainability with things like downspout disconnect to keep water out of the sewers. It makes sense to have a green environment. We need to develop a calm environment with more natural green spaces to soften the city.

6. What book are you currently reading? The History of Christianity by Paul Johnson

Patrick Delaney



Patrick Delaney

How many years have you lived in Euclid?
All of them; my whole life.

Do you own the home you currently live in?
Yes

What is your educational background? I have a Bachelor's Degree from Notre Dame College in Education.

1. Why did you want to run for Euclid City Council? Each time I have run for City Council I have been motivated differently. I had taken time off to finish my education and to teach. During that time, residents would ask me if I intended to run for office again. This time I reflected on my record and recognized the fact that I had passed a lot of legislation that still impacts the city. This was legislation that I initiated as a result of listening to the community as well as members of the safety forces. There is still so much to be done.

2. If you are elected to Council, what do you think the people in your ward would want you to work toward? Certainly safety and strong neighborhoods are the primary concern. While I was off Council, I initiated legislation that created ordinances restricting sex offenders in neighborhoods. We have to be vigilant and proactive, not just reactive to trouble when it happens.

3. What do you see as both the concerns and the opportunities of Euclid in 2013? Everything has to be connected with building the tax base in Euclid. Economic development should be a priority. I would challenge any new taxes that might be proposed. The next boom for our area probably will be tied to energy – solar and geothermal as well as wind. We also should look closer into deconstruction; it's happening in a lot of places and we should be aware of the opportunities for Euclid.

4. Presuming you will be elected, what would you like to see accomplished in your first two years when looking back in 2015? To be able to look back knowing I did the job efficiently and built a consensus around legislation that improved the quality of life in Euclid.

5. If there is one aspect of Euclid you would like to put your energy into, what would it be? My priority would be to look at the lakefront and to make sure we have the public/private partnership that was planned and to regain that momentum.

6. What book are you currently reading? Cleveland's West Side Market: 100 Years and Still Cooking by Laura Taxel

Election Forum

★★★★ City Council Candidates ★★★★★

WARD 6

Jim O'Hare



Jim O'Hare

How many years have you lived in Euclid?
32 years

Do you own the home you currently live in? Yes

What is your educational background? I am a graduate of John Carroll University with a major in English and a Communications minor. I also received an Education Certificate from John Carroll in Engineering and Computer Science.

1. Why did you want to run for Euclid City Council? What inspired me the first time was the advent of the housing crisis and its impact on the city. I learned a lot from going through the experience of having houses in my own neighborhood that became vacant. After serving one term we've made a lot of progress, but I think there's more to be done.

2. If you are elected to Council, what do you think the people in your ward would want you to work toward? I would use the A to Z analogy; what people want is everything from Animal Control to disturbances on Zeman Avenue. In my ward we have concerns for the city as a whole and yet we're all concerned with issues in our own homes. It's a question of balance with these concerns. Most of us are willing to be accommodating, but when there are troubles, we want them fixed.

3. What do you see as both the concerns and the opportunities of Euclid in 2013? The main concern is protecting the housing stock. We want our home values protected and to feel secure in a vibrant community. My second concern is to make certain our city is financially secure. We need to get the most services from the budget that we can. Our opportunities are many. These include development of the lakefront, adding diversity to business with high tech and bio science businesses and the medical corner at East 185th to name a few. Our Neighborhood Engagement program will help with communication which is always important.

4. Presuming you will be elected, what would you like to see accomplished in your first two years when looking back in 2015? I would like to see an implementation of the waste and storm water control project and to have this well maintained. We need to reduce the flooding of properties. I'd also like to see implementation toward long range financial planning. We have an ad hoc group of citizens working through an initiative to look toward the long term financial health of Euclid. Sooner than two years we'll have a better look at producing a consolidated annual financial report.

5. If there is one aspect of Euclid you would like to put your energy into, what would it be? Everything is so interconnected, but I would say economic and business development. Local businesses, like between East 264 and East 266, with their storefronts are putting together a consolidated plan. This will be a large boost to Euclid's economy.

6. What book are you currently reading? The Round House by Louise Erdrich

Jerry Sustarsic



Jerry Sustarsic

How many years have you lived in Euclid?
63 years

Do you own the home you currently live in? Yes

What is your educational background? I attended St. Joseph High School and have an Associate of Arts degree from Lakeland Community College. I also attended Kent State University.

1. Why did you want to run for Euclid City Council? I'm retired and as I've been walking door to door most people don't seem to know who their council person is. Some haven't gotten the responses they wanted. With retirement, I'll be very available for questions, concerns and problems. Being councilman would be my job. Holzheimer's and PNC Bank were lost in our ward and I'd want to work with Community Development to provide more services.

2. If you are elected to Council, what do you think the people in your ward would want you to work toward? Basically, it would be relative to community issues. Youth leaving school during the day and walking around is a potential problem. We might want to consider a daytime curfew. Typical street repairs and the care of properties is also a concern in my ward.

3. What do you see as both the concerns and the opportunities of Euclid in 2013? Number one is the economy and survival. Bluestone Development is something we should promote more. Community Development is key to our future. The development of Euclid Square Mall and other vacant properties, along with our position with the railroads and the freeways make Euclid a great location that is open. This is something we should take advantage of.

4. Presuming you will be elected, what would you like to see accomplished in your first two years when looking back in 2015? I'd want to see the fact that I'm well known in helping people with many concerns and that I was able to start a forward movement of the city, bringing economic efficiency, the attraction of new business and the like.

5. If there is one aspect of Euclid you would like to put your energy into, what would it be? The promotion of Euclid as far as housing to bring the city up to a point where it would be attractive to bringing in families. Also to make Euclid the city that's decent and livable with good services and good education.

6. What book are you currently reading? Bill O'Reilly's two books, Killing Lincoln and Killing Kennedy.

Eric Condon



Eric Condon

How many years have you lived in Euclid?
16 years

Do you own the home you currently live in? Yes

What is your educational background? I attended St. Peter Chanel High School in Bedford and was Valedictorian, earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering at the University of Miami in Florida and a J.D. from Cleveland Marshall College of Law.

1. Why did you want to run for Euclid City Council? I want to help with the infrastructure of Euclid. I have a Civil Engineering degree and I feel that I can help with our flooding issues. I wasn't happy when Council voted themselves a raise. I want to be available as a sounding board to the law director since there are no lawyers currently serving on Council. I've been a prosecutor for 17 years and that experience might help in the areas of public safety.

2. If you are elected to Council, what do you think the people of your ward would want you to work toward? They would want me working toward fixing or replacing the sewers. They have been a problem and I am uniquely suited to ask the right questions.

3. What do you see as both the concerns and the opportunities of Euclid in 2013? I think the major concern is the aging infrastructure. The other concerns are the obsolete commercial industrial spaces, the shrinking of quality housing stock and an increased need for social services. The police and fire departments are excellent along with the recreation department and there's a lot of community involvement in Euclid.

4. Presuming you will be elected, what would you like to see accomplished in your first two years when looking back in 2015? I want to have a full understanding of the problems of our sewer and storm water systems and have made some progress toward the repair or replacement needed so that the citizens can see the difference.

5. If there is one aspect of Euclid you would like to put your energy into, what would it be? It would be to ensure that the Service Department is on top of sewer and storm water issues and maintaining full economic support for our safety forces.

6. What book are you currently reading? I will borrow one of the books on 9/11 that the library currently has on display.

Laura Gorshe



Laura Gorshe

How many years have you lived in Euclid?
19 years

Do you own the home you currently live in? Yes

What is your educational background? I have a B.S. in Marketing from David N. Myers University and have taken educational and certification classes in banking.

1. Why did you want to run for Euclid City Council? For many years I've had a passion for Euclid and have been involved with the community both personally and professionally. This has given me the knowledge and experience to have the competencies I'd need to serve on Council.

2. If you are elected to Council, what do you think the people of your ward would want you to work toward? The quality of life issues, such as foreclosed and vacant properties, maintaining streets and sewers, increasing safety patrols (including community policing,) strong neighborhood associations as well as programs and activities to keep the youth off the streets.

3. What do you see as both the concerns and the opportunities of Euclid in 2013? We need to attract strong, viable businesses. Euclid has an opportunity for enhancing our infrastructure by repaving streets and maintaining sewers, the waste water treatment plant and its issues as well as maintaining personal and city properties. I would like to look into the formation of a Housing Court to deal with foreclosed, vacant and abandoned properties. Our concerns would be with making sure we're mindful of how we spend money and to be fiscally responsible. We should continue to seek government support outside of Euclid with the county and the state.

4. Presuming you will be elected, what would you like to see accomplished in your first two years when looking back in 2015? I'd like to see the Housing Court along with sound, fiscal responsibility. I'd also like to see increased staff in the Streets, Sewer and Housing Departments and an active and engaged community police unit that includes bike patrols and programs for juveniles and youth.

5. If there is one aspect of Euclid you would like to put your energy into, what would it be? The reputation of Euclid to be turned around showing people that it's a great place to live. We have an orchestra, community gardens, pools, the lake and Henn Mansion. I'd like to turn our reputation around to something positive.

6. What book are you currently reading? Team of Rivals: the Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln by Doris Goodwin

Election Forum

★★★★ School Board Candidates ★★★★★

Euclid School Board Candidates 2013

by Kristin Klatka

Carla DeVontenno



Carla DeVontenno

How many years have you lived in Euclid? 20 years

Do you own the home you currently live in? Yes

What is your educational background? I am a graduate of Jane Addams School and I attended the ICM School of Business Management.

1. Why do you want to serve on the Board of Education? I can make a difference helping the Superintendent with my suggestions. In my job I sit in on cases where I see juveniles who are not educated, and who have special needs and get in trouble. I can suggest a redirected focus for these kids because I've seen it firsthand.

2. At this time, what do you consider to be the most pressing issues facing the Euclid City Schools? The pressing issue in my perspective is the IEP program (individualized education program.) If kids

don't understand what they are learning in school, they become delinquent. It will make a big difference in the grade point average if the focus was put on the IEP.

3. If elected to the school board, how would you address the issues you just mentioned? I'd ask the Superintendent to give us an outline about how he would help the kids who need an IEP. Also, we might need to look at expanding the program.

4. The most recent State Report Card, released a few weeks ago, wasn't very favorable to the Euclid City Schools; what do you believe are the implications? I believe it reflects again on the IEPs. I agree with the state to implement the third grade reading guarantee. If the children can't read, they should be held back. Students need to read to do any subject well.

5. How would you respond to the community members who question the schools' performance? I think we should question the schools performance. We have too many kids with special needs and we need the programs to help them achieve.

6. What relationship do you believe the schools and the community should have? It should be an open door policy. We learn a lot from the community. We should know the kids in the city even if we don't have any at home – the kids who walk the streets should be familiar to us. Schools and the community should work together as a village.

7. What book are you currently reading? I'm reading the series of James Patterson books, but not necessarily in order.

Angela Lisy



Angela Lisy

How many years have you lived in Euclid? 22 years

Do you own the home you currently live in? Yes

What is your educational background? I have a B.S. in Chemistry and Mathematics from Washington and Jefferson College and a Masters in Macromolecular Science and Engineering from Case Western Reserve University.

1. Why do you want to serve on the Board of Education? I feel like my work isn't finished after eight years. In my first four years I was learning the details of state budget and financing requirements. With the second four years I felt more confident and now with the new facilities it is good to have institutional stability. I have children at all levels of education; elementary, middle and high school as well as a child with special educational needs and another daughter who is gifted and the top of her class.

2. At this time, what do you consider to be the most pressing issues facing the Euclid City Schools? Our report card came out and it does show that we've made significant improvement. For me, student achievement will always be number one. In today's world, no longer will students go to manufacturing jobs or college. We need to develop apprenticeship programs. This began last year. Children can get the educational opportunity they need for all students and at all levels when they graduate.

3. If elected to the school board, how would you address the issues you just mentioned? We need to make sure to follow through with apprenticeships. For example, to take welding classes we'd need internships and capstone projects within the businesses of the district. We also are doing something this year to ramp up the pre-kindergarten program. Our facilities at

the new elementary schools are prepared for preschool.

4. The most recent State Report Card, released a few weeks ago, wasn't very favorable to the Euclid City Schools; what do you believe are the implications? We haven't failed our students. We have a transient rate of over 30%. Many come to our district one or two years behind their peers and we need to work on that to get an "A" in that category. All our gifted students get specialized learning all day long. We met 6 of the state indicators and had a 3% rise in the graduation rate. We need to make sure that most of our students will get a high school diploma. We know where we need to improve and do assessments on a monthly basis. This information needs to be available to teachers to help them teach concepts and see how the class is doing. We'll then redirect the evaluation information for better success.

5. How would you respond to the community members who question the schools' performance? We're doing an active campaign to have children from the charter and parochial schools visit our schools. We have about 23% of our students in special needs classes and they are taken care of very well, but their assessments didn't come out very high. This pulls down the average scoring. Many of our students go on to significant colleges because the Euclid City Schools provides a good education. Students in general education and higher have a 95% graduation rate which is significant to note. Our schools have options that the charter and parochial schools can't offer. College courses can be taken while in high school at no cost to the families. A large percentage of students do very well after graduation. The transient population affects the overall success of our schools as well.

6. What relationship do you believe the schools and the community should have? It should be a partnership. In working with our Business Manager, we're working on a wellness initiative to open facilities for all residents. We've opened our gyms so the Recreation Department can use it for programming. There's a 5 AM group for seniors to exercise as well as a pitching clinic that I've assisted with. Every elementary school has a technology room and community technology classes potentially could be taught by students to interact with adults in an educational environment.

7. What book are you currently reading? Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson

Donna Sudar



Donna Sudar

How many years have you lived in Euclid? 28 years

Do you own the home you currently live in? Yes

What is your educational background? I have a B.S. in Chemistry from S.U.N.Y. – College of Environmental Science and Forestry as well as from Syracuse University. I have graduate hours at CSU in Early Childhood Education and I am working on licensure to teach preschool.

1. Why do you want to serve on the Board of Education? I'm a strong supporter of public education and I feel that serving on a school board helps provide the children of Euclid the best opportunity they can have in a public education setting. Because of this, I want to serve on the Euclid School Board.

2. At this time, what do you consider to be the most pressing issues facing the Euclid City Schools? It's still achievement. I think we've got a lot of things in place to improve achievement, but we have new challenges to meet because of implementation of the common core curriculum.

3. If elected to the school board, how would you address the issues you just mentioned? During this past term on the school board, we made a lot of changes in allocating the Title One grant money. This money is now focused on providing intervention support. Children are regularly assessed for getting the intervention they need. This was a major step to help support kids' achievement.

4. The most recent State Report Card, released a few weeks ago, wasn't very favorable to the Euclid City Schools; what do you believe are the implications? I think it gives us a base to address our instructions toward achievement. It is a good place to start and we have challenges to consider. There are things we're doing right. We have a huge transiency issue. Last year we had a turnover of 2000 kids. This makes education challenging; some come to our system two grade levels behind and without the credits they need for graduation.

5. How would you respond to the community members who question the schools' performance? My reply is that the kids who begin and end their education in the Euclid City Schools do very well. I have four children, each of whom is different, who all did well in this system – one is a journalist, one a physics major, one an illustration major and my youngest is a sophomore in the high school who loves his classes, teachers and friends. We have challenges in the schools that are just a part of life in 2013.

6. What relationship do you believe the schools and the community should have? The schools are the community. We're one entity. It's not just the public schools; we're all in this together to support each other.

7. What book are you currently reading? The Power of Guidance by Dan Gartell

Tisha Thomas



Tisha Thomas

How many years have you lived in Euclid? 14 years

Do you own the home you currently live in? Yes

What is your educational background? I have a B.S. in Elementary Education and Math from Western Illinois University and a Masters in Public Administration from Texas Southern University.

1. Why do you want to serve on the Board of Education? I want to be able to establish and assist in breaking down the barriers toward establishing the healthy relationships that are vital with families, community and the schools. As a parent, I want to be an agent of change, not just sit back and complain.

2. At this time, what do you consider to be the most pressing issues facing the Euclid City Schools? The most important is the readiness of students for college and careers. Students should have the skills and vital needs for success.

3. If elected to the school board, how would you address the issues you just mentioned? Part of the capstone for my

Masters Degree was to take a look at school programs. I'd take a look at the existing programs and see if they are working effectively. For example, my program, "Relationship Matters" is one that took a look at the root causes of troubles for students. By looking at these we can better resolve the issues of behavior. We need more communication between parents, the schools and the community. We need to bring everything back to the basics.

4. The most recent State Report Card, released a few weeks ago, wasn't very favorable to the Euclid City Schools; what do you believe are the implications? I felt embarrassed for myself, my child and the city. I want to feel proud of the Euclid City Schools. We need to bring back critical thinking. Children need help with the Standardized testing that intimidates the students. The flow of education should move upward with the students if taught correctly.

5. How would you respond to the community members who question the schools' performance? I think that if the right people are in place on the School Board with the passion to move the schools forward, then success will happen.

6. What relationship do you believe the schools and the community should have? It needs to be healthy and positive. The Board should be welcoming and approachable and provide encouragement to anyone who would want to attend the meetings. We need a better connection between the schools and the community. I feel that I can understand the generation of kids who are in our schools and I can listen and know what's going on in the community.

7. What book are you currently reading? I'm reading the Children's Bible with my son.

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