

EUCLID OBSERVER

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SPECTACULAR Showing by EHS Show Choir



Members of the EHS acapella group FORTE! putting guests in the holiday spirit at the benefit concert.

by Jennifer Banasik

Raw talent and the purest passion for performance amazed the hundreds of attendees at the 2nd Annual Varsity Chorale Benefit Concert on Friday December 18th. Members of the junior high school show choir, Euclid Elite, kicked off the show with their awesome display of song and dance. Through out the evening the crowd was dazzled by several soloist and group performances by members of the high school show choir, as well as a showing by the acapella group FORTE! The event was topped off by a stellar show-stopping display by

EHS's award-winning group Varsity Chorale (VC), with several numbers from their upcoming competition show which they will be taking on the road starting in February 2016! All of the funds collected from this benefit will send this group to Richmond, VA for their out-of state competition, where VC hopes to make all of their countless hours of rehearsal time pay off with a coveted "Grand-Champion" title! Understandably, most Euclidians cannot make the trek to Virginia, but there are plenty of local opportunities for you to come out and support VC at their other



Varsity Chorale entertaining the crowd at their 2nd Annual Benefit Concert in December.

scheduled competitions. Below is the competition tour schedule for VC's 2016 season. We hope you could make it out to some of them and show your hometown Euclid pride, these hard-working, amazingly talented kids would definitely appreciate your support! Hopefully with a little "Panther Pride" in the audience chanting "VC! VC! VC! VC!" before they take the stage, that "Grand-Champion" title will become a reality!

Interested in becoming a corporate sponsor for VC? Please contact Director Ross at ross@euclidschools.org.

EHS VARSITY CHORALE COMPETITION TOUR 2016

February 6, 2016 The Cuyahoga Classic Show Choir Competition - Cuyahoga Falls HS

February 20, 2016 The Mid-Atlantic Show Choir Spectacular - Clover Hill HS-Richmond VA

February 27, 2016 The Northcoast Show Choir Invitational - Twinsburg HS

March 12, 2016 Solon Show Choir Invitational - Solon HS

May 4, 2016 Spring Choral Concert - EHS Auditorium

Euclid Girl Scouts host Food Drives for Local Hunger Centers



Junior Troop 71033 delivers a trailer full of food to End 68 Hours of Hunger in Lake County.

by Jamie Zagar

Over the past weeks, several Euclid Girl Scout Troops have held various Food Drives to support two local organizations dedicated to ending hunger in our area.

In October, Junior Troop 71033 decided to make End 68 Hours of Hunger their service project for their Agents of Change Journey. The Girl Scouts spoke in their classrooms and asked for donations of non-perishable foods from the 68 Hours grocery

list. The girls spoke after mass at St. John of the Cross and raised over \$1,200 that weekend which they immediately turned around and bought food to be donated to the group.

End 68 Hours of Hunger Lake County is a local chapter of a national non-profit group that provides food and meals to children who are apart of the government lunch programs in schools. It was found that while they were getting nutritious

lunch and breakfast while in school, they were going hungry on the weekends (68 hours) from the time they left school Friday until they returned Monday morning. The Lake County chapter has a Facebook page and the national website is end68hoursofhunger.org.

Over Thanksgiving weekend, the Troops from Ss. Robert and William Catholic School (Brownie Troop 71022, Junior Troop 70493, Cadette Troop 71570, Cadette Troop 70987) held a Food Drive after each mass to stock the shelves of the Euclid Hunger Center for the holiday season. They collected a trunk-full of food along with \$1,000, all donated to the Euclid Hunger Center.

The Euclid Hunger Center is a non-profit organization that exists for the sole purpose of providing quality food staples and grocery items for needy Euclid residents. Their website is www.euclidhungercenter.com To donate to either organization, please visit their websites. For more information about Girl Scouts, please visit www.gsneo.org.

Do Not Miss These Parties !



Saturday Feb 6
I-Tal SOWFLO

Tuesday Feb 9
Fat Tuesday
Mardi Gras Party

15335 Waterloo


Omeleggeddon Smokehouse Cafe Opens on East 185 Street

by Lisa Mayernik

The new Omeleggeddon Cafe owners, Carl DeScott and Antonio de Leon, celebrated their grand opening with Mayor Bill Cervenik, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sheila Gibbons and City Planning Director Jonathan Holody. The new cafe, located at 651 East 185th Street, specializes in omelets, breakfasts, sandwiches, salads and more.



Dialogue



EUCLID OBSERVER

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As a product of citizen journalism, The Euclid Observer is looking for people, ages 3 to 100, to get involved in the paper and the city. We are looking for volunteer writers, photographers, designers and illustrators to help with the production of the paper. It does not matter if you are a professional or an amateur, our editorial staff will be glad to help you through the process.

Register at our website Member Center where you can submit stories, press releases, letters to the editor and photos. Go to www.euclidobserver.com, click on Member Center, sign in, click on Submit Story, and start writing. No need to register to post online calendar or classified ads.

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 the Mayor



Happy New Year! I am truly honored to have been elected to serve as the City of Euclid's 14th Mayor. I want to thank all of those who helped make this possible, especially the voters of Euclid for their confidence in me.

I also want to thank Mayor Bill Cervenik for his leadership and service to the City of Euclid for the past 12 years.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve Euclid in various capacities for the last 20 years. I began my career in Euclid at Euclid Community Concerns. The mission of that organization was to create a model community where citizens of all races and backgrounds live together in harmony.

My work on City Council and involvement with community, neighborhood, and school organizations allowed me to continue that work. The constant themes throughout these roles has been working to build strong neighborhoods, help engage residents and stakeholders, build on our strengths, and promote the positives found in Euclid – working to create that model community. I will continue to make those themes cornerstones of my administration.

I have had the opportunity to meet and talk with residents and businesses across the city. I have heard their concerns and their dreams for Euclid. Some look back to the Euclid of yesterday, some look forward to what Euclid can be. I believe our past offers us a great platform from which to build. Euclid has been a place for those looking for something better, a community of innovation, a community built by the

ideas/ involvement of residents. While our society has changed in many ways – the need for safe neighborhoods, quality education, thriving business and industry, and services and programs to enhance our lives continues now more than ever.

I believe that Euclid can again be a first choice suburb – a place we all can be proud to live, work or visit. I look forward to working with the new City Council as well as community organizations, businesses, faith communities, and residents to achieve this vision. I know if we work together, we can accomplish great things. I look forward to the opportunities ahead.

May 2016 bring happiness, good health, and prosperity to you and the City of Euclid.

Happy New Year!

Kirsten Holzheimer Gail
Mayor

Former Police Station and Court House Building Receives Landmark Designation



The former Euclid Police Station and Court House at 445 East 200th Street is shown in this historic photo courtesy of the Euclid Historical Society.

by Jonathan Holody

Euclid residents may know the building at 445 East 200th Street as the home of Decker Appliance. But before the building was occupied by a local appliance-repair company, it housed the

Euclid Police Department and Court House. The City's police and court operations were moved to the site in 1929 after a fire destroyed the original location at the corner of Euclid Avenue and Chardon Road.

The Euclid Landmark Commission recognized the historical significance of the Decker Appliance building by designating the property a Euclid Landmark on September 10, 2015.

Rebecca McFarland, Chair of the Landmark Commission, presented a bronze plaque manufactured by the Family Bronze Company of Cleveland, Ohio to the building owners at the Euclid City Council meeting on December 21, 2015.

The Decker Appliance Service Company was founded in 1940 by Paul Decker. In 1965, the company was purchased by Arnold Ayers. Still family owned and operated, the Ayers family is celebrating their 50th anniversary as owners of Decker Appliance.

Decker Appliance provides repair services for all major-brand appliances. The company's expert technicians can service a wide variety of household appliances, including refrigerators, ice machines, air conditioners, ovens and washers and dryers. Customers can call Decker Appliance at (216) 486-7200 for all of their appliance repair needs.



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"The Center for Connected Care was created to combine all post-hospital services available to Cleveland Clinic patients," says cardiologist Eiran Gorodeski, MD, director of the Center for Connected Care at Cleveland Clinic. "Through our center, we strive to provide a full continuum of care so that patients can recover from illnesses or injuries in the best location for their individual needs, with Cleveland Clinic caregivers by their side."

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- Home infusion pharmacy
- Home respiratory therapy
- Palliative medicine (care for symptoms/stresses of a serious illness)


- Daily visits by Cleveland Clinic providers to direct and supplement care for patients discharged to nursing care and rehabilitation facilities

"Thanks to the use of the same secure electronic medical record used in Cleveland Clinic hospitals, Center for Connected Care patients benefit from seamless communication among their primary care physicians and other caregivers. Healthcare providers are able to communicate effectively with patients and families, ensuring that each patient is receiving the best care possible," says Dr. Gorodeski. "It's about delivering the right care at the right time in the right place."


Although anyone may request home care services, all must be ordered by a physician. For more information about the services available from the Center for Connected Care, call 216.444.HOME (4663) or visit clevelandclinic.org/homecare.

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Euclid Music Legends Johnny Pecon and Frank Yankovic Honored at Polka Music Awards

by Joe Valencic

The late Euclid bandleaders Johnny Pecon and Frank Yankovic, America's Polka King, who both would have been 100 this year, were honored at the 52nd Thanksgiving Polka Party Weekend, staged at the Downtown Cleveland Marriott Hotel by the Euclid-based National Cleveland-Style Polka Hal of Fame and Museum, and the 28th annual polka music awards ceremony on Saturday, November 28, 2015. The awards show theme, "A Century of Cleveland-Style Polka," saluted the Slovenian and American influences on the music, especially by Yankovic and Pecon, and Slovenia's late polka powerhouse Slavko Avsenik. Pecon's sons John and Jeff and Yankovic's son Bob performed in honor of their fathers.

Featured entertainer was Denis Novato, World Diatonic Accordion Champion, who arrived from Europe for the occasion. Several Polka Hall of Fame honorees appeared on stage, including Canada's Polka King, Walter Ostanek, Joey Miskulin of TV's Riders in the Sky, past President Fred Kuhar, and Dusan "Duke" Marsic, who was recognized by polka radio host Tony Petkovsek for his 90th birthday. Three Polka Hall of Famers celebrated 80th birthdays, Hank Haller, Del Sinchak and Walter Ostanek.

The Frank Stanger Orchestra enjoyed a three-peat win as Band of the Year. Frank Stanger, a native of Doylestown, OH, also collected trophies for Musician, Album and Song of the Year, as did bandmates Paul Yeager and Joe Zdelar for Side Musicians. The late Cleveland musician and radio host Eddie Bucar and the late drummer Dave Wolnik were inducted for their lifetime achievements in polka music.

The two All-Time Hits were played by local bands Patty C and the Guys (Lojze Slak's "V Dolini Tihi (Quiet Valley)") and the Veseli Godci (Merry Music-Makers)



The late Euclid bandleaders Johnny Pecon and Frank Yankovic were honored at the 52nd Polka Party Weekend and Polka Music Awards Show hosted by the Euclid-based National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame and Museum.

(Avsenik's "Na Golici (Trumpet Echo Polka)"). Featured performers included Jeff Winard (WI), Denny Anderson (WI) and the Alpine Sextet (OH). The Awards Show orchestra, led by Tom Mroczka, included the show's youngest musician, accordionist Joshua Kay, age 15. Master of ceremonies were WINT radio hosts Ray Somich, Ray Zalokar and Denny Bucar. The show was directed by Brandon Bucar and produced and written by Joe Valencic, President of the Polka Hall of Fame. The polka weekend was organized by Vice President Mark Habat, a Euclid resident. Each guest received a 64-page souvenir program book.

The Thanksgiving Polka Party Weekend brought polka entertainers and busloads of fans from the U.S. and Canada for the three-day polka event. More than 700 room-nights were booked at the Marriott. Performers included orchestras led by Dick Tady (PA), Ed Klancnik (MI), Linda Lee Brown (MI), Mikey Dee (PA), Fritz Scherz (NY), Brian Sklar (SK). Frank Stanger joined Ohioans Frank Moravcik, Del Sinchak, Eddie Rodick, Anthony Culkar, Dan Peters, the Button Box Divas, Patty C and the Guys, Aaron Dussing, Ron Likovic, Frank Svet, Joshua Kay, and the Fairport Jammers.



Impromptu jam sessions attracted music-makers from around the country at the Polka Hall of Fame's Thanksgiving Polka Party Weekend at the Downtown Cleveland Marriott Hotel Ballroom.

Forty-two musicians appeared on the main stage in the traditional jam session on Friday evening. A high point was the Polka Mass, celebrated by Fr. Frank Perkovich of Minnesota, Cleveland's Joey Tomsick Orchestra, and vocalist Cecilia Dolgan, a Hall of Famer and past President. Impromptu polka jam sessions extended into the wee hours.

"I heard about this polka festival in Las Vegas and I knew I had to come," said Peter Geres from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. "The music is first rate. I enjoy it so much I'm coming back next year."

"It's all about camaraderie," added Euclid resident Mark Habat, Vice President of the Polka Hall of Fame and Chairman of the Thanksgiving weekend music festival. "Great music brings out the best in people."

Other winners were Kathy Hlad for Button Accordionist; Patty C and the Guys for Button Accordion Ensemble; Al Bambic for Side Musician; the SNPJ Recreation Grounds in Kirtland, OH, for Culture and Heritage; and Ray Zalokar's 247PolkaHeaven, the on-line polka channel, for Support and Promotion. Christine Hibbs, the Vocalist of the Year, "Happy Birthday, Baby," written by Frank Stanger and



Pennsylvania accordionist Joshua Kay, 15, was the youngest bandleader to perform at the Polka Hall of Fame's Thanksgiving Polka Party Weekend at the Downtown Cleveland Marriott Hotel Ballroom.

performed by his orchestra.

Six entertainers were added to the Polka Hall of Fame Trustees Honor Roll: accordionists and bandleaders Milan Racanovic (a Euclid resident), Marty Sintic, Eddie Liszewski, and Johnny Pastirik; saxophonist Joe Samsa and radio personality Patty Sluga.

Musicians and leaders of Slovenian and nationality organizations founded the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame in Euclid in 1987. Museum exhibits trace the story of Cleveland's home-grown dance music from its roots in the city's Slovenian neighborhoods to nationwide popularity. Historic instruments include an accordion belonging to Frank Yankovic. The archive preserves 6,500 vintage recordings, some dating back a century

The Polka Hall of Fame and Museum is located at 605 East 222nd Street in Euclid, Ohio, in the historic former Euclid City Hall. Admission is free. Polka and Slovenian CDs are on sale on-line and in the museum store. Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 11:00 to 4:00. For more information, call (216) 261-FAME, toll-free (866) 66-POLKA, or check Facebook or the website, www.polkafame.com.

Hit the Ground Running



by Gina M. Tabasso, marketing communications specialist, HGR Industrial Surplus Change. Nothing stays the same.

How many of you remember the 1980s Van Halen song "Unchained?" David Lee Roth sang, "Change. Nothing stays the same. Unchained. Yeah, you hit the ground running." Believe it or not, that's how HGR Industrial Surplus in Euclid, Ohio, got its name. Founder Paul Betori had left his previous employer with a vision for a new business model. As he sat in his living room listening to Van Halen, Paul decided to hit the ground running (HGR) and formed HGR Industrial Surplus in 1998 with 13 employees.

Since then, the company has grown to more than 110 employees with a showroom of 500,000 square feet and recently purchased and dedicated its Nickel Plate Station building on Euclid Avenue. The mission of the company is to serve as a conduit between customers looking for affordable used machinery and equipment and manufacturers hoping to recoup some portion of their capital investments.

Because of its passion for manufacturing and the growth and development of

industry in Northeast Ohio, the company decided to work with John Copic, publisher of The Observer, to offer this monthly column to showcase the amazing, fun, interesting and cutting edge manufacturing taking place in the region. It's just another way of connecting customers and industry. There's so much going on right in your neighborhood that you may not know about, but it affects you directly. Your friends and neighbors work for these companies. You buy their products. Their taxes improve your roads and schools. You have a vested interest in their success because they are contributing to a recovering and, hopefully, stable economy.

And, as the song says, change is inevitable, especially in manufacturing and industry. The economy has been a roller coaster ride for quite a few years. Families and businesses have had to learn to adapt and creatively problem solve to overcome challenges and turn them into opportunities.

In this column, we intend to showcase some of those opportunities and inspire you with success stories. What are local businesses doing in the community? What new development is happening in The Euclid Corridor? Let's hear firsthand from some local businesses. What are their plans for the area? What tips and tricks do you have for others? What best practices can we apply to our own businesses for success? What weird and wacky manufacturing and product photos can we share?

Speaking of wacky photos, did you know that HGR Industrial Surplus buys and sells everything? Literally! Here is an example of an interesting item that recently became available in its showroom. These GM gears are 19,000 pounds each. Does anyone know how they might have been used?

For suggestions of topics you'd like to see covered or feedback on what you've read, contact Gina Tabasso at gtabasso@hgrinc.com or call 216.296.1118.



Music for Miles in the New Year

by Nan Kennedy

Local artists Eileen Sheehan and Jen Hearn More Music at Waterloo Arts

Amy Callahan and the Music for Miles committee have announced their 2016-17 dates for the chamber series named in honor of Miles Kennedy, a Waterloo Arts founder and Waterloo benefactor. As usual, the concerts will be varied, informal – and free.

March 13 – piano chamber; April 10 – string quartet; May 8 – The Trillium Trio (flute, clarinet, bassoon - and our very first M4M concert in November 2011); September 11 – brass quintet; October 9 Silver Keys Clarinet quartet; and November 13 – sitar.

The concerts always begin at 4 pm in the WaterlooArtsNan & MilesKennedy-ArtsCenter; families with musical children are invited to arrive early so their offspring can watch the professionals set up. They run for about 90 minutes, with an intermission, and refreshments may be found in the adjoining Callaloo Café.

This year's season will be extended by two CityMusic chamber concerts, in the same setting.* CityMusic has added North Collinwood to the Cleveland neighborhoods where it performs – chamber concerts will

be played at Waterloo Arts on January 15 and February 19, and the full orchestra will perform at St Jerome on March 17 and May 12.

Since its founding in 2004, the orchestra CityMusic created has presented a regular schedule of free concerts in city and suburban neighborhoods. Social issues are central to its programming: bullying, the Holocaust, the plight of Cleveland refugees and of its homeless children. It often commissions new works to suit the topic, and recruits stellar soloists and conductors. And it is building new audiences, with an education program modeled after El Sistema.

All that will now be enjoyed in North Collinwood, with CityMusic's selection of St Jerome church as its latest venue: the orchestra will play there on March 17 and May 12. CityMusic players will also perform at Waterloo at the beginning of the year – on January 15 and February 19 – as both an introduction to the CityMusic program and an extension of Waterloo Arts' chamber concert series.

Nan Kennedy; nankennedy@yahoo.com 216-531-8161

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From Euclid to Hoboken



Stop 136 on the Lakeshore trolley line, Euclid, OH



Euclid trench, Camp Sheridan, Montgomery, AL

by Claude Humbert
In the September issue of the Euclid Observer, I told you about the journey Valerie and I were just about to make in the footsteps of Major Arthur Houts, who lived in Euclid with his wife Georgina (born Crichton in 1884) and their son Kenneth (1903-1985) in the 1910s.

Our journey is now over. We have gathered new information, and hundreds of pictures, old and new, and we still have to put all this together. This is our first attempt to sum up what we have experienced, and what we have learned.

Indeed, we have had a busy stay in the United States. We have met a lot of interesting, friendly, and helpful people, be it in Ohio or Alabama.

Starting with Euclid, we met John Copic of the Euclid Observer. John drove us through Euclid, showing us places we had missed on our way from our hotel in Cleveland to Euclid.

John took us to the Euclid Historical Society and Museum. I encourage everyone in Euclid who has not visited them yet to spare some time and meet them – and why not join them! They were very friendly and helpful. The last known address of Major Houts was Stop 130, Lakeshore, Euclid. I had figured it could refer to something like a railway stop. The Euclid Historical Society confirmed that: two trolley lines operated by the Cleveland, Painesville, and

Eastern Railway, ran through Euclid, and one of them followed Lakeshore Boulevard. The Euclid Historical Society was not able to locate Stop 130 during our visit, but I eventually found Stop 130 on a map from their archives. On this 1912 map, Stop 130 is at Lakeshore & Cut Road (now E 200th Street).

In Cleveland, we visited the Grays Armory, a historic building similar to the Central Armory – destroyed in the 1960s. Major Houts and the 5th Ohio National Guard had their quarters at the Central Armory, but the Grays Armory was also used in 1917 by units of the 37th Division.

We also met retired Colonel John Jenkins, president of the 37th Division Veterans Association, and his wife Rose, who drove us to Camp Perry. The camp has a rare souvenir from France: one of the 48 train cars offered by France to the United States after WWII. It was part of a gratitude train, filled with presents from several French cities or provinces. The car in Camp Perry was built in 1913. It is of the famous 40 and 8 model – in fact 40 or 8, as it could hold 40 men or 8 horses. It was in cars like these that the soldiers of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) travelled through France during WWI.

Our stay in Alabama was also very dense. In August 1917, Major Houts was among the first ones to leave Ohio to supervise the building of Camp Sheridan in the northern



Major Houts' trunk



Major Arthur Samuel Houts

part of Montgomery, out of former cotton fields.

In Montgomery, two small pieces of Ohio can be found. The first one is on the Southern side of the Alabama Capitol: every State is represented here, both with its flag, and with a local stone. Another stone can be found on the site of former Camp Sheridan. It has been brought here in memory of the Ohioans who had been trained at Camp Sheridan in 1917-1918.

We also visited the Montgomery County Historical Society. The people there did more than their best to help us, much like at the Euclid Historical Society. They have their own archives – and very rich ones indeed! Afterwards, we went to the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Thanks to archivist Keri Hallford, and with a hint from the Montgomery County Historical Society, we could find a map of the trenches in Camp Sheridan, dug for training purposes. Like on the actual front-line, the trenches wore names. The enemy trenches were named after Hamburg and Frankfort. The US trenches were named Cleveland, Superior, and... Euclid! To be more precise, Euclid seems to be a communication trench.

To follow as closely as possible the journey of Major Houts, we then took the Crescent train, northbound, at the Birmingham Amtrak station. In April 1918, Major Houts and the 37th Division left Montgomery by

train to Camp Lee (now Fort Lee), Virginia. Montgomery has no Amtrak station, so we had to entrain at Birmingham. We skipped Fort Lee, where the 37th spent only a month, and headed to New York.

In New York, we went to the South Street Seaport Museum, which used to have in its collection a large-scale model of the USS Leviathan – the ship used in June 1918 to transport Major Houts and a part of the 37th Division from Hoboken to Brest –, in its dazzle-camouflage paint. That is where we fell upon the sad part of our quest: the Museum has lost most of its collection in 2012 due to hurricane Sandy. They are still trying to save and restore some items, but the model of the Leviathan seems to be lost forever.

As we stayed in New Jersey, we took a ferry from the Hoboken terminal to the South of Manhattan. This was the closest we could do – ocean liners are getting rare – to the departing of the USS Leviathan in June 1918. The New York skyline has changed a lot since 1918, but the soldiers leaving for France saw the statue of Liberty getting thinner exactly as we saw it.

There is a lot of information we still have to analyze. So we probably will have more to share with you in the future. In the meantime, we would like to thank everyone we have met during our journey.

Claude Humbert & Valerie Vitoux (France)



Technology, Enrichment Put OLL School at Head of Class



A recent STEM open house at OLL School drew enthusiastic crowds.



Principal Rita Kingsbury focuses on student engagement.

Our Lady of the Lake School has a tradition of offering quality Catholic education that has served the community for more than 80 years – but they're not resting on their laurels. "We're not only committed to offering a faith-based, caring environment," says Principal Rita Kingsbury. "We're also committed to offering the very best education for your child." That means investing in state-of-the-art technology in everyone classroom – from preschool on up – and ensuring that students have access to a broad array of curriculum and enrichment offerings.

"We educate the whole child, and we use the best available tools," Kingsbury says. A tour of the school shows that iPads and Chromebooks, a dedicated computer lab, smart boards in every room, and a new distance education lab are helping get the job done. When the second grade wanted to learn about water treatment systems for their STEM week project, they powered up their computer-aided design software, and got to work creating their own water filtration models. Technology also features in a new language teaching curriculum, and in countless classroom projects. The recent

STEM open house in November showed the cutting-edge teaching approach is popular with families, too: lines of parents and visitors extended out the door, and hallways were thronged with enthusiastic participants.

"Our parish is invested in Catholic education," says Fr. Joe Fortuna, and you can see the investment in other features of the school, including a full range of enrichment offerings from visual arts and music to after school programs, including new clubs for cooking, sewing and chess. The eighth grade is excitedly planning for a spring trip to Washington, DC, while the students in the drama program are still celebrating the success of the recent parish production of The Lion King. With so much happening, there is a sense of excitement at the school – and also a sense of purpose. "We set goals for this year," Principal Kingsbury says, "of maintaining a positive attitude, building relationships and focusing on student engagement." It's clear that setting goals and investing in the future is making Our Lady of the Lake not only a strong school now, but one that is positioned for the future.

Taking Physical Education to a New Level



Our Lady of the Lake School is proud to introduce their new Physical Education Instructor, Stephanie Omueti. Stephanie

joins the talented teaching team at Our Lady of the Lake this January, and brings with her an exciting approach to physical education that promises fun challenges ahead for students.

The youngest of four children, Stephanie was born and raised to the age of ten in Nigeria, where her father is a Professor at the University of Ibadan. As a child, she moved to her mother's native Chicago, and attended Whitney Young Magnet High School – the same school attended by First Lady Michelle Obama. She went on to get an undergraduate degree in International Studies from University of Chicago, and an M Ed through the Physical Education Teacher Education program at University

of Texas. She also continued her love of international travel, visiting ten countries, most recently Japan.

As a three-time NCAA All-American in the 100m and 200m dashes, Stephanie likes to be active and fit. She is currently training for her third marathon – which gives some nice balance to her other hobbies of cooking and crocheting. She also has a passion for helping youth learn to love fitness. "The hallmark of my physical education program is: SWEATY FUN," Stephanie says. "This means teaching movement skills, teamwork and positive social interactions, in addition to improving fitness and promoting the joy of movement by keeping students active."

Our Lady of the Lake School has always enjoyed top-quality physical education programs, with a competition-level gymnasium, CYO sports and a full roster of opportunities. Now students are looking forward to taking the fun – and the fitness – to new levels!

To see Stephanie's video, visit www.our-ladyofthelakeschooleuclid.org

Life on the Lake Races and Raffles

Our Lady of the Lake School celebrates its biggest fundraiser of the year with its Races and Raffles night at the Races on February 6. The event features races, raffles, games and prizes, great food and drink and company and a full evening of entertainment. It all takes place at the East Side Irish American Club, and if you'd like to be there, or be sure that your business or organization is featured as a sponsor, you can call to reserve a space, sponsor a race or place a program ad. Call (216) 486-0850 for more information, or visit www.olleuclid.org.

Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday is February 10!
Join us for Lenten services
Living Stations March 18
Palm Sunday March 20
Tenebrae March 23
Holy Thursday March 24
Good Friday March 25
Holy Saturday March 26
Easter March 27

OLL Open House. Come and See!

Find out if quality Catholic education is right for your child!

Our Lady of the Lake School will host an open-house on Sunday, January 31, from 11:00am-1:30pm, at 175 E. 200th Street. Visitors are encouraged to come in and see some of the exciting things happening at OLL School, to learn about possible scholarships and discover resources that can help every parent get the best education for their child. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (216) 481-6824, or email Principal Rita Kingsbury, rkingsbury@ourlady-ofthelakeschooleuclid.org.

PACER'S

Specials available Open to Close

Monday	Burger Night
Tuesday	Prime Rib/Corned Beef Sand.
Wednesday	Large 1 Topping Pizza
Thursday	\$1.25 Rib Bone
Friday	Fish Fry
Saturday	Prime Rib (After 4 PM)
Sunday	Half Slab Rib Dinner

Come in for the specials Stay for the Fun !

19800 S. Waterloo Rd.
216.486.7711

Breakfast in Bethlehem

Our Lady of the Lake celebrated Breakfast in Bethlehem with students in the Parish School of Religion, hosting a fun feast that celebrated the true meaning behind the Christmas Season.



The PSR pilgrims preparing for their Breakfast in Bethlehem feast



Two students earned top honors for punctual, enthusiastic attendance at PSR



The shepherds respond to the good news!



A dedicated team of volunteers guides the PSR pilgrims.

EUCLID

E

SCHOOLS

Art Club Art Buddies

The Euclid High School Art Club, led by Ms. Garbin-cus, has an on-going project called, “Art Buddies.” Art Club members work with our special needs students to build relationships and to include them in creating art. It is the second year of this project, and it has been a tremendous success!

Most recently, Art Buddies had a holiday event, where students made crafts, played games, and ate lunch together. Creating and designing different textiles has bonded students from all different backgrounds to-gether.

The Euclid High School Art Club is also working on a mural in Freshman Principal, Mr. Gurski’s office. Using the famous Harlem Renaissance muralist, Aaron Douglas, for inspiration they created an uplifting jungle scene.

The mural should be complete sometime in January. For more information about the arts and education visit our website at www.euclidschools.org.



EHS Senior featured at Ohio House of Representatives Student Art Exhibition

Columbus, Ohio – As a part of a year-long celebra-tion of the arts and arts education, Euclid High School senior, Monique Cook’s artwork has been selected for the 2016 Ohio House of Representatives Student Art Exhibition.

Miss Cook has applied and been accepted both Cleve-land Institute of Art and Bowling Green State Uni-versity. She is an EHS Stand-up Ambassador and her art teacher, Edie Mellen describes her as a “very nice, respectful young lady!” Monique just received a Silver Key in Scholastics Art Awards for her art portfolio and a color pencil drawing.

The exhibition is open to the public at the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts lower level State-house connector from January 3, 2016, to December

30, 2016. The Riffe Center is open during regular busi-ness hours year round.

The Ohio Art Education Association joined the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Arts Coun-cil to mount a student exhibition representing all 99 House districts in the State of Ohio. The exhibition recognizes the talents, creativity, and innovation of students who receive high-quality arts education instruction as part of their academic experience in school. It represents art by some of the finest high school artists.

For more information about the Ohio House of Repre-sentatives Student Art Exhibition Please contact Cora Slack, Ohio House of Representatives communications department, at 614-466-3800 or coraslack@ohiohouse.gov.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT. FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY. CREDIBILITY.



Photo: Central Middle School seventh grade students working on Chromebooks in Mrs. Urban’s Social Studies class.

Did you know that Euclid Schools...

- Include the Early Learning Center, a pre-school awarded Five Stars, the highest possible rating for ex-cellence from the Ohio Department of Education.
- Boast of four elementary schools that opened in 2012 and contain state-of-the-art technology.
- Feature a Mandarin program for gifted students in grades three through eight.
- Offer extra-curricular activities that rival that of any school in Northeast Ohio, including sporting teams at no cost to families in both middle and high school.
- Provide award-winning Career Technology Education programs including Fire Academy, Criminal Justice, Computer Information Systems, and Culinary Arts.
- Structure College Credit Plus classes which allow students to earn college credits for free at Euclid High School.

Breakfast with Santa at Euclid High School

Euclid, Ohio-- On Saturday, December 12, 2016, the Euclid High School cafeteria was filled with the aroma of maple syrup, pancakes and sausage as the Euclid High School Leadership Team hosted the first ever community breakfast with Santa. Jolly old (or in our case Young) Saint Nick listened to the wishes of the good Euclid girls and boys.

The event was organized by the Euclid High School Criminal Justice Program and Instructor Nick Selvagio. This same group of students also organizes the annual Trick-or-Treating event at Euclid High School as well as the Easter Egg Hunt. A delicious breakfast was provided by Chef Daniel Esquivel and the Euclid Culinary Bistro.

Candy canes were donated by Euclid Schools teachers, staff and community members for Santa to give to his visitors. Gracious staff members and students also donated their time and talent to make this event possible.

The Euclid High School Leadership team is looking forward to bringing the Euclid community more fam-ily fun in the spring for our second annual Easter Egg Hunt.

More information will be made available in the com-ing months. As always visit the Euclid High School Facebook page for infomation, stories and events.



V

Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School

Faith. Family. Future.

Students honored with faith-based award

As a college-preparatory high school, academics are extremely important at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School. The school's commitment to the academic growth of each student is demonstrated at the end of every quarter when students are recognized and awarded for earning honors-level grade point averages.

In addition to academics, though, at the very heart of VASJ's mission as a Catholic high school rooted in the Ursuline and Marianist traditions (the only school in the world to be sponsored by both), is to guide students spiritually and help them to grow in their faith.

There are a variety of faith-based awards given to students each year at the school's Founders Day Mass but still VASJ Religion Chair Mr. Bill Raddell '68 wanted to do more so he created the Faces of our Founders award.

"We have many academic awards, but this one emphasizes that as a school we are doing more than offering a solid academic program and that character development and faith are core to our school's identity," Raddell says. "It reinforces the effort we are making with our students to encourage them to grow in virtue."

At the end of each quarter, one VASJ student from each grade level who exemplifies the characteristics of the school's founders, St. Angela Merici and Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, is presented with the Faces of Our Founders award.

Recipients are both nominated and selected by their classmates, teaching students to look for these qualities in their classmates.

"It is good for the students to reflect on who is living out our school's charism and Christian values and perhaps encourages them to look at their own faith witness," says Raddell.

Students are asked to nominate someone they think best exemplifies the spirit of St. Angela Merici and Blessed William Chaminade with the following character traits:

- They actively live their faith and act in a Christ-like manner. They are a positive example to others.
- They use the gifts that God has given them in academics, athletics, the arts, or other areas of school life.
- They contribute to the common good and family spirit of the VASJ community.
- They exhibit a concern for others through acts of service or by working for justice.

VASJ students Janessa White '19, Elizabeth Smith '18, David Paus '17 and Cara Faddoul '16 received the Faces of our Founders awards for the second quarter.

- They recognize needs around them and try to respond to these needs as a person of faith.
- They exhibit leadership through their example and in a spirit of service to others.

After two quarters of nominations and awards, Raddell is pleased with the results he has seen.

"It is not a popularity contest," says Raddell. "Students are taking it seriously and I think the students who have been selected truly live the values of our faith."

Award recipients are recognized at an all-school assembly and their pictures are displayed in cases on the school's second floor.

First quarter winners were Candace Trivisonno '19, Elizabeth Gielink '18, Billy Vidmar '17, Carlie Beard '16.

Second quarter winners were Janessa White '19, Elizabeth Smith '18, David Paus '17 and Cara Faddoul '16.



VASJ students Janessa White '19, Elizabeth Smith '18, David Paus '17 and Cara Faddoul '16 received the Faces of our Founders awards for the second quarter.

VASJ gathers to celebrate Feast of the Immaculate Conception

The VASJ community came together to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Dec. 8 with a beautiful Mass planned by the student Peer Ministers.

Special thanks to Fr. Joe Fortuna of Our Lady of the Lake for serving as Celebrant and Melissa Gali-Bird for providing the music.

During his Homily, Fr. Joe shared that the Feast is not just a celebration of Mary but also a celebration of God's mercy.

"God never gets tired of forgiving," Fr. Joe said. "God never gets tired of offering mercy."

Mercy is a chain reaction, Fr. Joe explained.

"We who have received God's mercy must extend the mercy to others," he said. "Our world is in terrible need of mercy."

"The mercy of God we experience today, let it strengthen us to be those ambassadors of mercy."

Congratulations to seniors Gina Ciariello and Cara Faddoul who were commissioned by Fr. Joe as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.



where friends become family

OPEN HOUSE
March 22, 2016, 6 p.m.

ENTRANCE EXAM
January 23, 2016, 9 a.m.*
(Placement only. No walk-ins: All students must pre-register.)

REGISTER AT
VASJ.COM/FUTURE-VIKING-FORM

VASJ.COM/ADMISSIONS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 23: Entrance Exam
Jan. 27: Founders Day Liturgy
Mar. 2: National Honor Society Induction Ceremony
Mar. 22: Open House
Apr. 2: Continue the Dream Annual Benefit
May 5: Ladies Night Out
May 25: Baccalaureate Mass
May 26: Class of 2016 Graduation
July 9: Escape on the Lake 5K run

Visit vasj.com/calendar for all events

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Catholic education in the Ursuline and Marianist traditions

January 2016

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216.481.1500 www.imaginebellaacademy.org 19114 Bella Drive, Cleveland, Ohio

Rock Star Teacher Spotlight



Rock Star Teacher Ms. Grimes with Kindergarten.



Rock Star Teacher Mrs. Dudley is the captain of this 3rd grade class.

By Lawren Brown and Abigail Juhasz
Two teachers were selected as Rock Star Teachers for the month of December, Third Grade Teacher Mrs. Tammy Dudley and Physical Education (PE) Teacher Ms. Brittney Grimes.

Ms. Brittney Grimes
By Lawren Brown
Ms. Grimes likes basketball and the team that she likes is the Cavs. She's a good gym teacher and she also is a success teacher. She also likes to teach gym because she likes to help people stay active and she wants to stay active.

Interview with Mrs. Tammy Dudley
By Abigail Juhasz
Q: When's your birthday?
A: June 19th
Q: How long have you taught?
A: 4 years

Kind Classrooms



Ms. Figueroa's class has filled their kindness jar and Mrs. Dudley's class has filled their too.

By Terrica Bennefield and Logan Dunnican
How kindness jars work is you have to fill a kindness jar with at least 250 pom pom balls. To fill the jar you have to be kind a lot and each kind act earns a pom for the jar. We fill the kind jar at school. Every class is trying to fill their jar by winter break. This is how kindness jars work.

Q and A with Tony J.



Mrs. Heston and her wall of masks.

Interview by Tony Jordan Jr. of Art Teacher- Mrs. Elizabeth Endicott-Heston

Q: How long have you taught art?
A: For 31 years.
Q: Who taught you how to draw?
A: Mrs. Hall. I started in 1971 in a private class.
Q: What degree(s) do you have?
A: B.A. in Art, B.A. in Studio Art, and a minor in Education, Art Education, and Psychology.
Q: What is your favorite kind of art?
A: Messy art, I love it!
Q: Have you taught a pro artist?
A: Probably all of these years. By the way, I know one is an actor.

Imagine Bella News



Students check out the teacher decorated stockings and mittens to vote for one they hope to win.

By BK Kennedy
PTO Fundraisers
At Imagine Bella we are raising money for the PE and Art budget. So we decided to have a fundraiser. For the fundraisers we sold candy bars and Krispy Kreme donuts. We raised about \$900 and now we can have more equipment for Art and PE.

Teacher Stockings
Imagine Bella is having a drawing for some stockings and mittens. The teachers at Imagine Bella made some stockings and the students have a chance to win the stockings but they must earn a ticket and put it in the raffle box. So in conclusion, we are getting a chance to win some stockings.

Families helping Families



Imagine Bella Families donated winter wear, uniforms, and more for other families for the holidays.

Winter Art Walk



On December 15th, Imagine Bella hosted their annual Winter Art Walk. This winter wonderland was part of the student work on display throughout the building where families could make festive crafts and enjoy hot chocolate.

Ss. Robert and William



www.srweuclid.cc or www.srwschool.cc

Life Learning Love

Santa Visits SRW



Euclid LifeTeen/Edge hosted "Donuts with Santa," in December. Not only is this a wonderful holiday tradition, it also serves as a fun, intergenerational event.

Preparing Our Hearts



by Mrs. Martha Dodd

The students of Ss. Robert and William Catholic School committed themselves to preparing their hearts for the coming of Jesus throughout the season of Advent. Each week the school community gathered for an Advent Prayer Service. They made and sent Christmas cards to the homebound of our parish. A traditional service project at this time of year is to donate hats and mittens for children in need. So many were collected that they did not all fit on

the Christmas tree! The culmination of the Advent preparation was an all school Advent retreat. The students spent the day with their faith families completing a craft project for area nursing homes, making kindness bracelets, singing Christmas carols, and attending Mass. It was a beautiful day of prayer and reflection.

The holiday season would not be complete without singing and music. The members of the SRW band performed for their classmates and families. The audience



Hat and Mitten Giving Tree

enjoyed the beginner, intermediate, and advanced bands' Christmas selections. Another holiday tradition enjoyed by all was the annual Christmas Program. Students from Preschool through Grade 6 as well as the school choir performed to a packed church filled with family and friends. The weeks leading up to the celebration of our Lord's birth have been busy, fun, and prayer-filled!

May the New Year be filled with peace and happiness!

SRW School Open House

Sunday, January 31, 2016 12:30 pm-2:00 pm

and

Wednesday, February 3, 2016 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

Tour the school, visit the classrooms, meet the teachers, see awesome displays of our students' creations and learn about our unique program.

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Community

Cleveland Clinic's Euclid Hospital Receives Quality Distinction by Anthem Blue Cross

by Sabrina Powers

Euclid Hospital recently received the Anthem Blue Distinction Center+ designation for delivering high quality and safe specialty care based on criteria that directly impacts patient results. Euclid Hospital was recognized as a top performer for heart failure, pneumonia, surgical care and stroke, making it one of 38 hospitals in the state to receive a "Top Performer" award from The Joint Commission for key quality measures.

The Blue Distinction® Designation Aids Consumers and Employers in Choosing High-Performing Hospitals and is measured on how efficiently high quality patient care is delivered. The program expanded recently to include more robust quality measures focused on improved patient health and safety, as well as new cost-efficiency pro-

cedures. The selection criteria used to evaluate facilities were developed with input from the medical community and include general quality and safety metrics plus program specific metrics.

"This recognition is a testament to the teamwork at Euclid Hospital and was made possible through the determination and compassion of our exemplary caregivers who are dedicated to providing quality outcomes for our patients," said Daniel Napierkowski, MD, President of Euclid Hospital.

Research confirms that designated Blue Distinction Centers demonstrate better quality and improved outcomes for patients, with lower rates of complications and readmissions than their peers. Blue Distinction Centers also are more than 20 percent more cost-efficient.

Friends of Euclid Creek Announces Third Environmental Studies Scholarship



by Claire

Posius

The Friends of Euclid Creek (FOEC), a grass-roots, non-profit charitable organization which advocates for the health of the Euclid Creek watershed, is pleased to announce the availability of its third annual scholarship in environmental studies. This scholarship was created in order to aid one deserving student in his/her pursuit of a degree or certificate in environmental studies, field biology, or any scientific field related to watershed health.

FOEC is currently seeking applications from high school seniors or college students who are passionate about their study of the environment. One \$1,000.00 scholarship - earmarked for educational purposes - will be awarded in May, 2016.

Applicants must not have received a previous scholarship from the Friends of Euclid Creek. FOEC prefers a student who attends or has attended a school located in Beachwood, Cleveland, Euclid, Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights, Richmond Heights, South Euclid, Willoughby Hills, or Mayfield Village - the communities in the Euclid Creek watershed. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of their background and their potential to make a contribution to environmental studies or a related field.

Interested students must submit a one to two-page letter describing their career goals, past volunteer work related to environmental studies, and significant achievements to date. This letter must include the applicant's name, address, telephone number, email address, and signature. Applicants also must provide a minimum of one letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor or community member.

All application materials must be postmarked on or before April 1, 2016. They should be mailed to the Friends of Euclid Creek at P.O. Box 21384, South Euclid, Ohio 44121, unless the applicant has reached an agreement with FOEC to submit them via email. Applicants must also be willing to interview with FOEC members, upon request.

Questions concerning the scholarship or application process may be directed to FOEC board member Jeanette Evans via email at: jeanette.evans@sbcglobal.net. Information may also be obtained at the organization's website: <http://www.euclidcreekwatershed.org>.

The Friends of Euclid Creek organization is again delighted to offer this scholarship opportunity and looks forward to helping a passionate student realize his or her educational aspirations.

The Friends of Euclid Creek's mission is to raise awareness about and preserve the natural features of the Euclid Creek watershed.

Cuyahoga County Board of Elections is Seeking Temporary Employees

by Mike West

BOARD OF ELECTIONS ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Temporary Election Clerk: Location: Cuyahoga County Board of Elections
2925 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115
Hourly Rate: \$10.00, Hours: 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m., Monday - Friday

Hours: Generally Monday- Friday from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., but may vary to include evenings and weekends, depending on the workload and needs of the department. Assignments may vary in length from a few days to up to 12 weeks or longer.

REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma or equivalent required. Prior experience in a public contact or customer service environment preferred. Must demonstrate command of Microsoft Windows and Office programs (ex: Word, Excel). Data entry or call center experience is helpful. Driver's license, proof of automobile insurance and access to a personal vehicle may be necessary for some assignments. Good math skills are helpful. Bi-lingual (Spanish-English) is helpful. Applicants may be required to complete a skills assessment.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Performs assigned duties related to the preparation for Elections, conduct of Elections, and Post Election processes. Duties and responsibilities will vary with the department assigned, but may include the following:

Preparing, processing and mailing Vote-by-Mail Ballot applications and Ballots; assisting the public with the In-house Voting process located at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections; performing data entry; answering phones and providing prompt, accurate, excellent customer service; proof-reading various Election related documents for content and accuracy; processing Vote-by-Mail identification envelopes, Poll Books and various reports; processing mail which includes organizing, opening, scanning, proofing and recording transactions; reviewing, researching, verifying, organizing and/or compiling data, and generating reports; completing tasks associated with

Voter transactions such as Vote-by-Mail and Provisional Ballots; safeguarding sensitive documents and supplies; recruiting, scheduling, assigning, and processing payroll for Poll Workers; assisting with the testing of Voting or Ballot Scanning equipment; conducting business in accordance with the Federal Election Guidelines, Title 35 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Policies and Procedures of the State of Ohio, and the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections and according to NVRA and HAVA procedures; performing all other duties assigned, delegated, or required of the management team, including those prescribed by law.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Applications and resumes can be submitted through our on-line process only. Visit our website: www.443vote.com, then click on the Employment tab and follow the prompts. Please note that you must complete a BOE on-line profile before you are able to apply for position at the Board of Elections. All job offers are made with the understanding that prospective employees pass a drug test and a criminal background investigation prior to being hired. Applications must be received by 4:30 pm -January 08,2016

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