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# THE ROCKPORT Observer

FAIRVIEW PARK & ROCKY RIVER COMMUNITIES | VOL 01, ISSUE 4 | OCTOBER 2013

## Is Cleveland Becoming a Filmmaking Mecca?

BY BRIAN LUMLEY

In 1940 Cleveland was the fifth-largest city in the nation. But since the post-war years, Cleveland has lost much of its industry, more than half its population and, more important, its sense of identity.

Like many other post-industrial cities, Cleveland has been trying to reinvent itself. It hasn't been easy. Once known as a manufacturing powerhouse, we've become known as a "foodie" town. The cuisine draws people from all over the region to sample culinary delights, the list of which has grown larger than the stalwart pierogies and brats found in most traditional pubs on both sides of the river.

The Greater Cleveland Film Commission also hopes to make Cleveland a much larger draw for something else: Hollywood. Several blockbuster movies have come to town recently and, while flying under the radar of the mega-budgeted movies, so have many small, independent, micro-budgeted films.

A new Katie Holmes' film, "Miss Meadows," wrapped production in Cleveland a few weeks ago. Unlike the Marvel movies "Captain America 2: The Winter Soldier" and "The Avengers," almost all of the crew and much of the cast were pulled from Northeast Ohio. Miss Holmes, a Toledo native, worked with a cast and crew that were 90% local talent.

Young Wyatt Koehler, a nine-year-old from Fairview Park, sees the silver screen in his future. He and his mother Deneen responded to an open "Miss Meadows" casting call in early August. Upon arrival at the film's offices, Wyatt was asked which role he was auditioning for. He didn't know it was for a featured part in the film and was handed the lines for Willie, a seven-year-old boy in the film. He "reviewed and memorized his lines in about 15 minutes," according to his mother.

About a week later, the Koehlers received a phone call from the producers asking Wyatt to come back for a second audition. Excited, the Koehlers made their way back to the casting director's

office. This time, however, Wyatt auditioned in front of both the director and the executive producer of the film.

Deneen notes that "hundreds of kids" were seen for the role. A third phone call prompted a downtown meeting with the film's creative team and it made a decision: Although everyone loved Wyatt, the team felt that, at nine years old, he was just too old to believably play a seven-year-old character.

Wyatt was disappointed by the decision but that hasn't daunted his acting dreams. Recently, he asked his mother if they could go to California for an audition. Deneen is proud of her son, exclaiming that he "got three call backs, who gets that their first time?"



The film's noted cinematographer, Barry Markowitz, lines up a shot at a church in Cleveland's University Circle. Photo by Brian Lumley

The film's producer, Robert Carliner, said that "Cleveland is a wonderful place to shoot." He would love to come back to shoot another project. However, Carliner

See Cleveland Film page 2

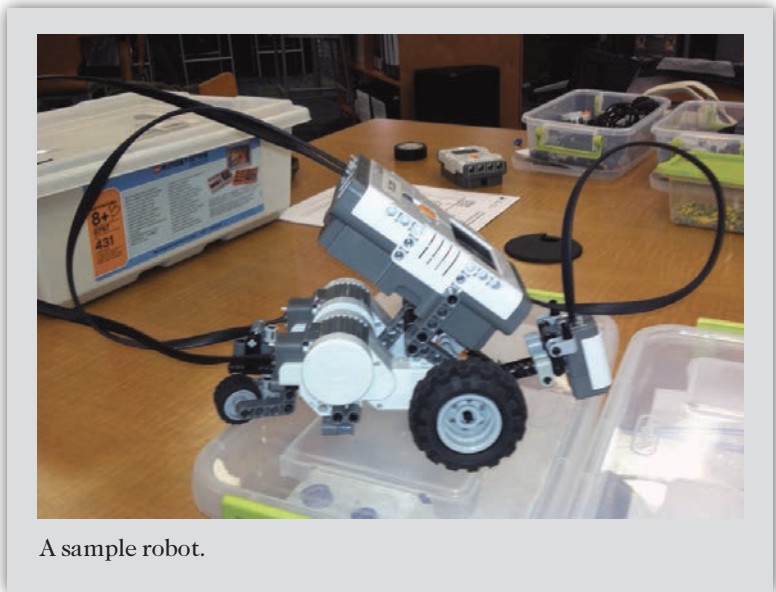
## Robotics Are for Girls Too!

Middle-school girls from across Northeast Ohio spent a day learning robotics at Magnificat High School. The event proved that LEGOs and robots aren't just for boys any more! About 75 girls in grades 5-8 from public and private schools came together for Magnifibot 2.0, a LEGO Robotics Day just for girls put on by Magnificat and the Great Lakes Science Center. This is the second year that the two institutions have partnered for this event.

Working in groups of two or three, the girls assembled a NXT-powered LEGO robot, and then programmed the robots' motion and speed to complete an obstacle course. The day's events allowed teammates to work collaboratively to put their problem-solving skills to the test. Magnificat's teachers and students were on hand to guide the teams throughout the day's 23 steps.



Girls busy at designing and programming their robots at Magnificat's Robotics day.



A sample robot.

Magnificat's Science Department Chairperson Mrs. Lori Koss said one of the best things about the event is the energy of the girls. She hopes that the message the attendees receive is "you can do anything and that STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) careers are wide open for women."

Mr. Ian Roberts, director of youth and family engagement at Great Lakes Science Center, said that events like this help foster interest in science and math, especially for girls who are on the cusp of attending high school, where curricula usher in a broader range of subjects and social pressures escalate.

Magnifibot 2.0 echoed Magnificat High School's approach to teaching, bringing together girls from a wide array of schools and communities to learn, lead and serve. ●



ROCKPORT FILES

Cleveland Film from page 1

laments that larger, blockbuster films put “too big a spotlight” on Cleveland and will make it more expensive for small-budgeted films in the future. He thinks that productions like “Miss Meadows” sometimes “pay the price for those who come before you,” acknowledging that as we become recognized for our homegrown talent, the cost of goods and services will rise. Carliner stated that he was “very happy with the Cleveland crew and the hard work that they’ve put in.”

William Baker, the film’s production manager, talked about the path to growing Northeast Ohio as a film production center. He praised the state of Georgia for its balance of tax incentives and mix of talent, equipment and, most important, locally created content. “If you don’t create content, it’s a hurry-up-and-wait mentality. You need regional money and ideas to keep production running.”

Baker thinks that Cleveland should be looking to attract eight-to-ten small features and one big Hollywood feature each year “to keep this rolling.” He believes the key to success is content composed in this area, as “gross revenues don’t stay in Northeast Ohio when [the content] isn’t created here.”

If the “ideal” type of production schedule came to pass, local crews and actors could be working all year, with little in terms of breaks.

And if Wyatt is still bitten by the acting bug, we could see him on the silver screen one day soon. ●

Brian Lumley is a professional photographer with a studio in Cleveland. He has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Motion Picture Studies.



A young local actress was tapped to play Katie Holmes’ character as a young girl.  
Photo by Brian Lumley

A Note from the Publisher

I am still on my mission to recruit more participants, but I feel pretty confident that The Rockport Observer is catching on! I continue to be grateful to our advertisers and writers for their contributions. We’ve made it to our fourth issue!

Be one of the first to help your community find its voice, define and amplify its brand. Think of The Observer’s website as a virtual town center, written, photographed and created by you - the people who live, work, go to school and play in Fairview Park and Rocky River. Our website is very user friendly.

Below are a few tips on how your business can benefit from partnering with The Rockport Observer. Take advantage of the following:

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When posting an event or entering your business in our directory, be sure to include a URL so a reader can navigate to your website to view details of your business or event.

We hope you enjoy this issue. And for you Tree Stump fans, have no fear. Our series on the band will continue in our November issue.

“All the animals excepting man know that the principal business of life is to enjoy it.” — Samuel Butler

— LuAnn Leonard  
Publisher



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Qualified individuals who want to become involved in this exciting and growing grass-roots community project should contact LuAnn at l.leonard@rpobserver.com



THE ROCKPORT  
Observer  
Volume 1 | Issue 4

Community news powered by the  
citizens of Rocky River & Fairview Park

Check out our Web site at  
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With a current circulation of 5,000 copies distributed to 125 locations in the Fairview Park, Kamm’s Corners, and Rocky River community and via our Web site, The Rockport Observer is a community media initiative whose mission is to involve, engage, inform and converse with neighbors in what was once known as Ohio’s Rockport community. The views and opinions expressed in the publication do not necessarily reflect that of The Rockport Observer, its publisher or staff. Copyright 2013-The Rockport Observer, All right reserved. Any reproduction or use of the content within without expressed written consent is forbidden.

The Rockport Observer is a locally-owned and operated citizen-based news source written by community writers. Stories are accepted in the order received (save for time-sensitive community event material). The Rockport Observer reserves the right to edit all entries and items for publication.

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LOCAL TALENT

# I'm Leaving on a Jet Plane

BY RON PUZZITIELLO

It was Christmas morning, I was 8 years old, and a big mysterious box with my name on it was staring at me from under the tree. I anxiously awaited the time to open it, pretending like I didn't even notice it. I peeled off the paper and opened the box to find a brand-new Olympic White Fender Stratocaster, just like Jimi Hendrix played. It was love at first sight! I remember my pops showing me how to play "Iron Man" by Ozzy and some Nirvana tunes. That is where it all started, I was on my way. I would lock my bedroom door and stand in front of my mirror with my guitar and lip-synce to songs by Led Zeppelin, Smashing Pumpkins and Nirvana. I wanted to be Kurt Cobain.

I started singing and writing when I was in my late teens-early twenties. My sister recorded me singing "Hey Joe" by Jimi Hendrix and sent it to one of her friends. To make a long story short, I was persuaded to start performing in front of crowds. I began to play local coffee shops, bars and restaurants. Although these were small venues, I was on top of the world. I was doing what I loved and getting paid for it!

In 2010 I put a band together and signed us up for The Cleveland Music Festival. The show was pretty



Catfish Walkin' plays the House of Blues. Left to right: Joe Gambitta, lead guitar; Ron Puzzitiello Sr., bass guitar; Jay Lucarelli, drums; Ron Puzzitiello, rhythm guitar and vocals; and Chris Hengoed, piano.

amateurish and I was a nervous wreck. The band didn't work out and we went our separate ways, but I am grateful for our time together. After that experience, I almost gave up on music.

I packed up my car and moved out to Arizona, where I was hired by a Fortune 500 company to work in sales. I was very

motivated at first, but eventually I just became burnt-out. I was fired by the company in 2012. That's when I thought - everything happens for a reason. I moved back to Rocky River in 2012 and I started getting involved with music again.

I was highly motivated with a lot of emotion running through me, so I started writing diligently. I was playing locally at Tartine's every Wednesday night and the Burntwood Tavern on occasion but nothing too serious. I saw an ad for the Cleveland Music Festival and signed up for it again. For a couple of weeks, I struggled to put a band together - to no avail. Finally, I decided to forget about the young musicians with big egos. It was time to bring in the seasoned vets, the 40 and over club.

I assembled the best musicians I know. Jay Lucarelli on drums; Joe Gambitta, owner of Joe's Music, on lead guitar; Chris Hengoed on piano; and last but not least my pops, Ron Puzzitiello, on bass guitar. We practiced for only three weeks, but we were on point. I had never felt a chemistry like the one we have together.

We sold over \$3,000 worth of tickets, making us the top-grossing band in the history of the Cleveland Music Festival.

## California Dreaming

My band, Catfish Walkin', played the main stage at House of Blues on September 6 in front of a sold-out crowd. I was amazed by the terrific response. It was an absolutely incredible feeling that words cannot describe. A feeling that I would have again the following day, but for different reasons.


Jeff Blue is a multi-platinum music producer, an A&R (artist and repertoire) executive, a BMI award-winning songwriter, and a lawyer. He is currently an A&R consultant for Atlantic Records. He also works with Warner Bros., Interscope, Virgin, Capitol, Sony, BMGJive and RCA records. He is responsible for discovering Macy Gray, Linkin Park, The Last Goodnight and many others. In addition, Jeff has produced many platinum movie soundtracks and has sold more than 130 million records worldwide.

Jeff approached me on September 7 after my show at Peabody's Concert Club. He sat me down in his Ford rental car and he told me that I have everything it takes to be successful in the music business. He said that I reminded him of a cross between Ray Lamontagne and Bob Dylan. I tried to remain composed. I was hearing what I had been waiting to hear for the past 12 years. Jeff invited me to fly out to Los Angeles in early November for a week to record some songs and co-write some with him. The songs will be shopped to numerous record companies, along with hopes of making my dreams a reality.

I look forward to sharing the rest of this story with you. ●

*Ron Puzzitiello is the lead singer and a guitarist with the Catfish Walkin' band. He graduated from Rocky River High School and attended Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.*






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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Encore

BY JEANNE GALLAGHER



Can you name your Clerk of Court? Many residents are unaware of who their clerk is and what function she or he performs. Many municipalities have appointed clerks, but the Rocky River Clerk of Court is an elected position.

I am currently serving the citizens of Cuyahoga County as an assistant bailiff in the courtroom of the Honorable Judge Kristin W. Sweeney. It is in this capacity that I have learned just how vital the clerk position is to the operation of the court. A wrong order could result in garnishment of wages or liens on property or assets. Untimely-filed documents could result in dismissals of important cases. These are issues that most people don't think about until they are directly affected. These are issues that are important to me.

I want to be the Rocky River Clerk of Court who makes your experience with the court as simple and painless as possible. I want to be trusted to process and archive all court records in accordance with the requirements established by the Supreme Court of Ohio. The citizens must trust me to be fiscally responsible to the communities.

I also am inspired by the constant changing of technology. I would like to research available grants and funding for smartphone applications that put court information at your fingertips as well as payment options using the swiping of a card immediately when issued your ticket. Someone that receives a waiverable ticket can pay it instantly and keep moving.

Lastly, I want to be visible. I want the citizens to know who I am. I don't want them to see me only at election time. I want them to see me throughout the year - making an impact, volunteering my time and services, and giving back. Sharing in the concerns and helping in the improvements for all the residents and users of the court is my inspiration. With the voters help ... I CAN. ●

Jeanne Gallagher is the mother of two beautiful daughters, a resident of Rocky River, and a candidate for the Rocky River Municipal Clerk of Court.

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LOCAL TALENT

# Fairview Park’s Rock and Roll Hair Designer

## An Interview With George Yunis

BY CATHERINE GRACE

George Yunis is a man of many talents. He is an icon in the world of Rock and Roll and a hair wizard at Fusions Salon and Spa in Fairview Park. Loved by many from all generations, George knows how to give his passion on the stage and on the salon floor. I had the honor and pleasure of speaking with George in an exclusive interview.

**How long have you been in Cleveland?**

I’ve lived here all of my life and I love it, but it’s a damp town. I always wear a scarf around my neck, even in the summer. As a singer, I need to protect my vocal cords.

**Do you “warm up” before a gig?**

Yes. I learned vocal techniques and a warm-up method from one of my vocal coaches. Mental preparation also goes along with warming up and getting focused.

**How did you get started in the music business? Who inspired you?**

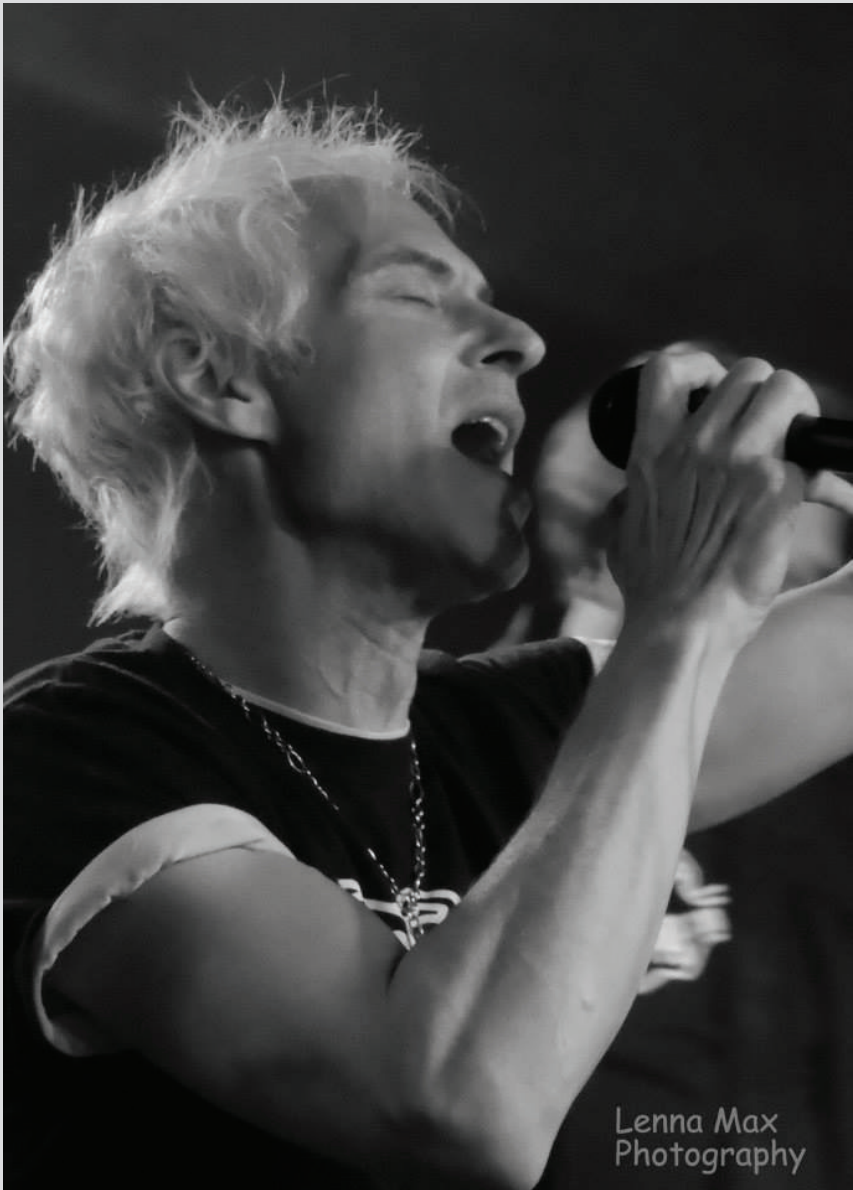
My dad, who was from Brazil, was an orchestra leader, a trumpet player, a lead vocalist and an actor. He taught himself music. My sister Marti was my other inspiration. She was into Motown and some obscure artists such as Timi Yuro, one of the first blue-eyed soul stylists of the rock era. We didn’t have money for music lessons, so my dad was my teacher. I learned notes on a paper piano. After I got a guitar, I found my way to pop music, contemporary music, rock-theater, and some musicals as well. I am a singer first and, although I am very versatile, I think singers of my age get type-cast in rock.

**How did you get into your first band?**

It was a neighborhood thing. Everybody from my brother-in-law to the next door neighbor was in a band. My brother, Mike, played drums. The band began with folk music and evolved into a little rock combo. Our heroes were the Beatles and the Monkeys.

**Have you written and recorded any of your own songs?**

I’ve recorded throughout my life. In the beginning, it was with my friends in little home studios. My first “real label” record was a song I co-wrote, “Just Another Day,” with the band Champion. That wound up on the Billboard Chart of radio stations. Recently, I made a CD



George Yunis putting his heart and soul into the music.

with the band BMZY. I wrote one of the songs on the album.

**How do you think the venues have changed over the years as far as playing, crowds, bookings, etc.?**

I love singing and dancing on stage with people who really want to be part of the music. However, in today’s business, I can’t always do that. Bands are hired for who they are and they are expected to do all the work. The music itself has changed dramatically too - there is not much “relatable” music. People don’t come out to dance unless it’s to classic rock music. The clubs want music that everyone can relate to, but heavy metal thrash or screaming shriek music doesn’t do the trick. Music from my era brings people to their feet; everyone knows the

lyrics. In contrast, the new music - rap or fast-paced music - makes it hard for the crowd to participate.

**Your current band is That 80s Band. Are you doing other projects?**

I sing with That 80s Band and another band called the Time Travellers, a tribute band to the Moody Blues. I’ve come to appreciate the movement and 4-part harmonies of this great band. To enjoy the full rock/orchestra style of the Moody Blues, Time Traveller sometimes performs with a city’s orchestra.

**How did you get started in hairstyling?**

My parents were both stylists. I started in the craft when I did the hair of the Champion band members. My parents

encouraged me to get a license, so that I would always have money in my pocket. I am very glad that I did. I made the transition from full-time band member to full-time hair stylist. It took 18 years to become a part-time band member again!

**Have you “given back” in respect to charity?**

During that 18-year break, I sang gospel and traveled to South Africa to raise money for different charities. I am grateful for all my faith has given me.

**How long have you been with Fusions?**

Twenty-three years. I have a great relationship with Laurie, the owner and my boss. She is an amazing business woman and keeps Fusions running smoothly.

**Your hair clients, how do you feel you serve them?**

I listen and I tell them what I see as an artist. Laurie taught me the dynamics of looking at clients from an artist’s viewpoint and of educating them on what works best with their bone structure and lifestyle. It doesn’t happen on the first visit!

**How do you balance career and family?**

My calendar is the thorn in my side! I pray on what I should do this coming year, so that I have the time and energy to do my best in all my endeavors.

**Are your children involved in music?**

My wife is classically trained and my daughter is serious about the possibility of attending Baldwin Wallace and studying classical piano. We don’t force music on our children.

**What advice would you give the up-and-coming artists of today?**

Be true to yourself. True artists are not in it just for the money. The money will come if you excel at what you do. And a good business sense is essential. Most important, you need to strike a balance between business, being yourself, and loving what you do. ●

*Catherine Grace is bereavement, dating, life, professional, and relationship coach. My passion is getting you to a greater place one thought at a time and feeling great doing it!*

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Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772 - 25 July 1834)



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LOCAL BUSINESS

# Connect at Rocky River Chamber's Business Expo

BY LIZ MANNING

The Rocky River Chamber of Commerce is holding its 11th annual Business Expo on Thursday October 10, 2013 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Don Umerley Civic Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River. You are invited to attend and meet the business people who have the products and services that are right here in our own backyard.

This year's Business Expo, the only business show of its size and scope in the area, will feature over 100 exhibitors, including 12 restaurants. It presents exhibiting businesses with a unique opportunity to stand out in today's competitive business world. It is expected that attendance will top 1,000 again this year, as people take this opportunity to make connections and learn how new products, services and technology can help their businesses grow.

Returning this year to the Expo will be a wine and beer tasting from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Local retailers will be selling a variety of fine wine and beer samples.

Brian Bott of Chase and co-chairman of the Expo Committee offers just a few

of the reasons why the Expo is a valuable business investment. "This is an exciting event, it's a powerful five hours filled with high energy. Expo 2013 will feature a wide variety of exhibitors. It gives people a means to network, to increase business opportunities and to obtain ideas on ways to increase business. We see many successful connections made at the Business Expo. The feedback gets better every year."

Liz Manning, Executive Director of the Rocky River Chamber of Commerce, explains, "It's a lot of hard work to produce the Business Expo, we work on it year-round. But when Expo day arrives, it's all worth it because I witness so many successful connections made and connecting people is a primary goal of the Rocky River Chamber. Months and years later I hear about people who are doing business together because they met at Expo. There is so much positive energy at the event as people come together to support our area's businesses. Expo is very impactful to our business community."

Expo's Platinum sponsor is Cox Business. Gold sponsors are Tri-C,




Cleveland Clinic Hospitals, Timan Custom Window Treatments, Normandy Retirement, WestLife, Cleveland.com and 87.7. Silver sponsors include First Federal Lakewood, Dollar Bank, Huntington, PNC, Dawson Companies, Giant Eagle, Hospice of the Western Reserve, Admiral Products, Aable Rents, Lytell Designs, Inside Business and Paychex.

Admission is free when you present your business card or a ticket. Valet parking is available for \$5 per car. Free offsite parking is available at St.

Thomas Lutheran Church at 21211 Detroit Road in Rocky River and there will be free shuttle bus service. For more information, call the Rocky River Chamber at 440-331-1140 or visit [www.rrexpo.com](http://www.rrexpo.com).

*Liz Manning is the Executive Director of the Rocky River Chamber of Commerce.*

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## LOCAL BUSINESS

# Cleveland Tile and Cabinet Celebrates Its 80th Anniversary

BY GEORGE SHIEKH

The Cleveland Tile & Cabinet Co. was founded in 1933 by Carl Dryer. The company, an original tenant in the Terminal Tower Arcade, initially installed metal cabinets and metal tile in the kitchens and bathrooms of clients. As time progressed, other types of cabinetry and materials were introduced into the company's offerings. Cleveland Tile and Cabinet also became one of General Electric's first major appliance dealers. By the early 1950s, it became known as the premier kitchen and bathroom remodeling company in the greater Cleveland area.

At that time, George Shiekh, Sr., came on board as a salesman. In 1964, he purchased the company from Carl Dryer. George Shiekh brought his son, George Shiekh, Jr., into the business in 1977. He was taught all aspects of the business and is now the present owner.

In 1987 the company moved from its original location of 54 years to its present location at 19560 Center Ridge Rd. in Rocky River. The company still services Cuyahoga County and its surrounding counties. George Shiekh, Sr., retired in 1992. Cleveland Tile and Cabinet has maintained its high standards and is still known to be the most respected

kitchen and bath remodeling company in Northeast Ohio.

The company has a staff of five designers with over 150 years of combined

kitchen and bath design experience. It also employs an experienced in-house installation crew.

The showroom is open Monday

through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, call 440-331-2088 or visit [www.clevelandcabinet.com](http://www.clevelandcabinet.com). ●

*George Shiekh is the owner of Cleveland Tile and Cabinet.*



## WOMEN OF FAITH WHO LEARN, LEAD AND SERVE



**Open House** | Sunday, October 20, 11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**Scholarship/Placement Exam & Parent Information Fair**  
Saturday, November 9 or 16, 8 a.m.

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COLLECTIBLES & CRAFTS

# Bears and Bear Lovers Invited to CMS Show

BY JOYCE WALTZ-UMERLEY

If you go down to the woods today - or rather, if you go down to The Don Umerley Civic Center in Rocky River on October 12 - you'll be sure of a big surprise! The Cleveland Miniaturia Society is hosting its 42nd annual Dollhouse Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. And this year's theme is... "The Year of The Bear." Nothing has stood the test of time better than the teddy bear, because no matter how patched up they are, teddy bears become even more cherished as they get older.

BIG BEAR will be on hand to shake paws and to sit for a picture with you on the Bear Bench. Bring your camera and don't forget to bring your teddy bear, even half-chewed, dribble-coated bears are welcome. There will be an exhibit of



Vintage Bear and Miniature Teddy Bear Exhibit "Family Memories" by Joyce Umerley.



miniature teddy bear scenes, roomboxes, and dollhouses, along with full-scale vintage teddy bears having a picnic.

Vendors from Ohio, New York, Illinois and other states will be selling miniature furniture, tools kits, supplies, accessories, dollhouses, roomboxes, miniature paintings and more at prices ranging from \$0.75 to \$5,000.

A raffle will be held for several items, including two large plush teddy bears, a Gund 2001 Wish Bear Panda with baby bear from the Smithsonian National Zoological Park, and a 1/2 inch-scale

Bavarian chalet dollhouse. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6/\$5.00. There will also be a silent auction for signed miniature Artisan items and door prizes. Most important, the food concession table promises treats much tastier than plain old porridge and honey!

Admission is adults, \$5; children, \$2; children under 5 years free. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the club's 2013 charity, the Cleveland Animal Protective League.

For more information and to view photos of the full list of silent

auction and raffle items, go to [www.clevelandminiaturiasociety.org](http://www.clevelandminiaturiasociety.org), or e-mail [Zakncleve@aol.com](mailto:Zakncleve@aol.com) or call 440-449-3038. The Don Umerley Civic Center is located at 20106 Hilliard Blvd. ●

*Joyce Waltz-Umerley has been a member of Cleveland Miniaturia Society since 2008. She was a Founding Director of Rocky River Senior Center until retirement in 2004. Joyce was chosen Rocky River Woman of the Year 2002 by the Rocky River League of Women Voters.*

# Calling All Quilters! 25th Annual Holiday Craft and Quilt Show

BY ANN MCCAULEY

It's not too late to enter your quilt for consideration in the Rocky River Senior Center's 25th annual Harvest Holiday Craft and Quilt Show. Quilt Show Coordinator Shirley Purcell said, "If you have a quilt to share, please stop in at the senior center and pick up an application by the first week in October. This year's display will feature about 150 beautiful quilts. The show also will have a quilt art gallery of original design quilts." Shirley, who has been a sewer and quilter since childhood, has a deep appreciation of quilts and those who created them. She said, "We look forward to inviting people to the Center to enjoy the beautiful quilts."

The craft show includes a variety of booths offering small Christmas trees, Victorian gifts, Carat Coin Collectibles, garden accessories, fine-quality hand-crafted jewelry and more. The center's Program Coordinator Margaret Allen said, "This year we have an exciting group of vendors that offer interesting and unusual gift items for the holidays." There are a few vendor spots remaining. For more information, call Margaret at 440-331-1114.

The show will be held Friday and Saturday, November 1 and 2, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the senior center. Admission is \$2. Call 440-333-6660 for information. ●

*Ann McCauley is an Administrative Assistant at Rocky River Senior Center.*





## LOCAL NEWS

# Lakewood Hospital Emergency Department Exceeding Goals & Patient Expectations

BY SABRINA POWERS

Lakewood Hospital's Emergency Department was recently recognized for an impressive door to provider time - and for exceeding patient expectations.

## Definition of Door to Provider Time

The definition of door to provider time is the median number of time between when the patient arrives at the Emergency Department and the time that it takes for a physician or physician's assistant to make direct contact with the patient.

## Lakewood Hospital Door to Provider Time Goals

Scott Hantz, BSN, RN, EMTP, Nurse Manager along with Lakewood Hospital Emergency Room Medical Director, David A. Levine, MD, in the Lakewood Emergency Department noted that all Cleveland Clinic Hospital Emergency Departments have a goal of 14 minutes door to provider time. Lakewood Hospital Emergency Department averaged 12 minutes in February, 11 minutes in March, and continued meeting and exceeding its goal times in the spring and summer.

"We have streamlined our process in patient registration and have also decreased the time it takes patients to be given a room. By getting patients into their rooms faster, caregivers are able to get in and do their evaluations in a much timelier manner. It is a rare occurrence when patients are required to wait in our waiting room, which is a significant improvement," said Hantz.

Lakewood Hospital's goal is to provide quality and excellent care in a timely fashion. There are many factors that determine how quickly a patient can be seen in the emergency department and there is no guarantee that every patient will be seen in less than 14 minutes. The number of patients arriving at any given moment can fluctuate greatly throughout the day, as can the critical nature of particular patients and the care they demand. Patient experience is very important to the entire team and Lakewood Hospital's Emergency Department works constantly to meet and exceed patient experience on a variety of levels.

## Firsthand Patient Experience

On top of receiving care quickly, Rocky River resident, 77-year-old Frances DeChant was also impressed by the transparency of care and convenience of her patient records being available to the Lakewood Emergency Department.

"All of my patient information from Cleveland Clinic was right there for the caregivers to access, so I wasn't constantly answering someone's questions. When you're in terrible pain, that is greatly appreciated. Everyone in the system acted as a team, picking up the ball in an exceptional way."

Specifically, Ms. DeChant appreciated Lakewood Hospital Emergency Department employee, Dave Van Seyoc, RN, for his support. "When I was admitted, I was alone. Mr. Van Seyoc stayed with me giving me ice, quiet encouragement and excellent care so that I was ready for afternoon surgery."



Even after Ms. DeChant's surgery, which was performed at Lakewood Hospital, Mr. Van Seyoc stopped outside her room and waved to her. "He had the biggest smile on his face. That was such a nice touch, you are so aware of people in the hospital when you are a patient and he really made me feel special."

Ms. DeChant is inspired by the care she observed during her time at Lakewood Hospital, from the nurse who brought her lip balm for her dry lips after surgery to the motivating physical and occupational therapists in the hospital's Inpatient Acute Rehabilitation Unit and Outpatient Rehabilitation.

"I had never had a severe accident and I didn't know what was going to happen

to me," said Ms. DeChant. "The whole system worked together to do the right thing for me and make it as comfortable and seamless as possible. All the way through, I was pleasantly surprised by the excellent service medically and personally."

Ms. DeChant is back at walking her dog and is presently taking part in water exercise to continue the healing process.

"When someone has a traumatic experience, it's often therapeutic to tell the story of what happened to you. Timely and efficient medical care is paramount, but our emotional health is also as important to the healing process. Lakewood Hospital contributed to both sides of that care spectrum." ●

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LOCAL NEWS

# Compeer Volunteer Celebrates One-Year Match

## Fairview Park Resident Partners with Volunteer

BY DENISE AYRES

Steve has been a lifelong resident of Fairview Park, has solid bowling skills and enjoys bike riding. He has many interests such as sports, history, music, and trying new dining experiences. Steve manages a mental illness that resulted in a loss of confidence along with depression and a feeling of isolation from his community. In August 2012 Steve agreed to be matched with a new volunteer in the Compeer Program at Far West Center, Dr. Ron Arndt, for a Compeer friendship match.

The Compeer Program at Far West Center matches adult volunteers, one to one, with same gender adults who are in recovery from mental illness. Beginning in 1989 Compeer Program volunteers have been serving to decrease the isolation that too often accompanies the process of managing mental illness. Dr. Ron's role as a Compeer volunteer is to provide friendship and supportive encouragement to Steve and to plan opportunities for the two of them to socialize and enjoy community activities. Ron's commitment, warmth, and enthusiasm has brought Steve out of his shell and given him many new reasons to smile.

Steve and Ron's friendship has grown over the past 12 months and it is apparent that they enjoy each other's company. They look forward to their phone conversations and attending scheduled Compeer Events. They get together just about every week. Steve and Ron meet for lunch, shop at the West Side Market, join our Compeer Chick-fil-A Nights, bike ride, and take walks in local parks.

Ron kept his friendship with Steve going even though Ron and wife Trish had to live in Arizona for a few months last winter. Ron sent weekly cards and



Above: Ron's wife Trish serving up a special dinner for their Compeer friend Steve.

Right: Steve's niece Kate, Compeer volunteer Ron, and Steve enjoying time together at Ron's home.

gifts to Steve and they stayed connected by phone. This Compeer Friendship Match with this special volunteer has taken Steve out of isolation and depression and given him more self-confidence in social situations. As a Compeer volunteer, Ron focuses on Steve as a kind and intelligent person and does not focus on mental illness. They laugh a lot together. Steve said to Ron, "I believe you are the best friend I ever had."

Last month Ron and Trish welcomed Steve and Steve's niece Kate to their

home for a summer barbeque. Ron grilled steaks and corn on the cob for his friends. For dessert, they enjoyed Trish's special peach pie and ice cream. This was a perfect way for these two Compeer friends to celebrate the one-year anniversary of their match.

The Compeer Program at Far West Center offers a unique and rewarding volunteering opportunity. Ron is a retired dentist and currently a professional dental coach. Compeer offers Ron and all volunteers the flexibility to fit Compeer

into their monthly schedules. Compeer offers training to volunteers and provides ongoing support. If you are interested in volunteering for Compeer and bringing friendship and happiness into someone's life, please call Compeer at 440-835-6212, ext. 242. The Compeer motto is "Making Friends. Changing Lives." •

Denise Ayres, LSW, is the Program Coordinator of the Compeer Program at Far West Center.



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## “Hometown Favorites” Cooks Up a Winner for Senior Center

BY ANN MCCAULEY

“Hometown Favorites” is the answer to “What’s for dinner?” Rocky River Seniors Council, an advisory group to Rocky River Senior Center, thought about a fund-raising activity and decided people love to try different recipes. With that thought, the Cookbook Committee, chaired by Dottie O’Neill, along with members Carole Calladine (Director of the Senior Center), Sharon Halm, Karl Kuhn, Mary Ellen McFarland, Naomi Opdycke and Betsy Roth, collected 248 recipes from 171 volunteers, staff and supporters.

The cookbook celebrates the 40th anniversary of senior services provided to Rocky River residents. Watercolorist Bob Moyer created the cover, a scene from Old River, for the three-ring notebook-style cookbook. The recipes are divided into categories and the dividers feature many colored photos of Rocky River landmarks. Reading through the cookbook, you will find recipes from some familiar names such as Mayor Pamela Bobst, Municipal Court Judge Donna Congeni Fitzsimmons, realtor Gloria Hardington, Pearl of the Orient’s George Hwang, members of Rocky River City Council and many others.

Cookbook chair Dottie O’Neill said, “The cookbook was a labor of love for the committee. We are very grateful to all those who contributed recipes, many of which are family traditions. It is a crown jewel to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the City’s senior services and wonderful senior center.”

“Hometown Favorites” is available for \$16.00 at the Rocky River Senior Center, 21014 Hilliard Blvd. or call 440-333-6660 for more information. •

Ann McCauley is an Administrative Assistant at the Rocky River Senior Center.



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Rocky River High School hosts the Lincoln Exhibit from October 8 through November 14, 2013.

The public is invited to attend these programs and/or to view the exhibit free of charge at the following times:

Oct. 8 7 - 9 pm Opening Program  
Oct. 10 7 - 9 pm Robert Brugler, Lincoln Impersonator  
Oct. 17 7 - 9 pm Western Reserve Historical Society presentation of "Cleveland and the Civil War"  
Oct. 24 7 - 8 pm Steve Ball, Civil War Music  
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*Additional information available at [www.rrcs.org](http://www.rrcs.org)*



FESTIVAL FUN

# Valley Riding Festival Fun for All

BY ALEX SALMON

Valley Riding's annual benefit festival held at Rocky River Metroparks stables was a fun-filled day for people of all ages. More than 1,000 people attended the event. One attendee, Lorie Petti, said, "My husband and I brought our two children. There was something for everyone. My two-year old liked the stable tour, and my four-year old enjoyed the snow cones."

The stables gave western and English riding demonstrations. A dressage demonstration - horse and rider perform a series of predetermined moves from memory - was given by Lauren Ball-Tisdale and her students, along with a jumping demonstration by Indy Peckham. The Cleveland Police gave a presentation on how the mounted police and their horses handle crowd control. In addition, the Northern Ohio Outlaws showed the different skills involved in mounted shooting competitions. Valley Riding's own pony and horse quadrille, which is a drill team on horseback, performed routines to the music of Star Wars and the Great Gatsby. Moreover, students in the Therapeutic Riding Program demonstrated what they have learned and the skills they have developed over the course of the program.

Not only was it enjoyable to watch the festival, but there were also interactive activities! Pony rides were this year's biggest hit - 313 rides given and all

tickets sold out! But you got to learn more and to interact with the horses by taking a barn tour. During the barn tour, you had the opportunity to learn about what the horses eat and how often, how the stalls are cleaned, and what the names are of the school's horses and ponies.

This year Valley Riding students sold

\$7,765 worth of tickets, which gave people a chance to win a variety of prizes, including a one night stay at Kalahari and an Apple iPad mini! Valley Riding raised more than \$20,000. All proceeds contribute to the Therapeutic Riding Program.

Valley Riding, Inc. is a non-profit affiliate of the Cleveland Metroparks.

For more information on the school and its programs, contact Valley Riding by calling 216-267-2525 or by visiting the website at valleyriding.org. ●

*Alex Salmon is an accomplished rider and a freshman at Rocky River High School.*



Let the fun begin!

## Magnificat Hosts Lucky Dog



Daniel takes a break from his admirers.

Magnificat High School had a special four-legged VIP guest in September, Daniel the Miracle Beagle. Two years ago, Daniel was to be euthanized in the gas chamber at an Alabama pound. Somehow the four-month-old pup survived, and the warden spared his life. Daniel and his adoptive owners - the Dwyer Family of Nutley, New Jersey - have written a book about his life and now tour the country advocating for animal causes. Needless to say, Magnificat's students scored big with Daniel. ●



## Magnificat High School Invites You to Fall Open House

BY KAREN UTHE

Magnificat High School, a girls' Catholic, college-preparatory high school, announces these important fall dates:

**Annual Fall Open House**  
**Sunday, October 20, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

The event is open to all prospective students and their parents—both public and private school students are encouraged to attend. Take a guided tour with a current student, meet our teachers and coaches, talk to our students and parents, observe classroom demonstrations, listen to various choral performances and watch our Show Choir and Dance Team perform in The Magnificat Center for the Performing Arts. Refreshments will be served.

**Scholarship/Placement Exam and Parent Information Fair**  
**Saturday, November 9 or 16, from 8 a.m. to Noon**

The Scholarship Placement Exam is for current eighth grade girls, and they only need to attend on one date. The test fee is \$20, and you need to bring two #2 pencils and dress comfortably. The Scholarship/Placement Exam is open to current eighth grade girls in both public and private schools. The test being administered is the Scholastic High School Placement Test (HSPT).

A Parent Information Fair will be held concurrently with the Scholarship Placement Exam in The Magnificat Center for the Performing Arts from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Parents will learn about all aspects of school life, including academics, tuition assistance and scholarship programs, transportation, athletics and co-curriculars. Refreshments will be served.

Magnificat High School is located at 20770 Hilliard Blvd. in Rocky River. ●

*Karen Uthe is the Director of Marketing for Magnificat High School.*



Magnificat High School students look forward to meeting prospective students and their families at Fall Open House.



ETIQUETTE CORNER

Bringing a Hostess Gift

Dear Mrs. Harding:  
What is considered a good hostess gift?

The holidays are just around the corner. Soon we will be traveling to friends and relatives for Thanksgiving, Christmas and festive parties to celebrate the season. Entertaining is costly and requires a lot of planning and work. A host or hostess gift is always suggested and recommended.

If you are contributing to the menu with a dish, this can take the place of a hostess gift. You could also present a small gift, but it is not necessary.

A good hostess gift can be something personal. If you make a special scone, bread, cookie or candy at holiday time, these treats can make wonderful hostess gifts. If you are not a baker, a candle that comes with the scent of the season is a lovely gesture. A plant like a mum for the fall or a poinsettia for Christmas is also a special hostess gift. When in doubt, a bottle of good wine is always appropriate and appreciated. Present the wine in a decorative wine bag with a wine accessory of some kind if you would like to add some creativity.

Regardless of the gift, your host and hostess will appreciate the gesture. Always make sure you attach a card of some kind to identify your gift. Many times there is commotion and chaos when guests arrive and gifts are left without acknowledgement. Properly label your gift prior to arriving at an event, so that your host will know who brought the thoughtful gift.

Please submit your questions to Mrs. Harding through our website, click on Submit a new story and choose the category “Mrs. Harding”.



ROCKY RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY • CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**October 3 at 7:00 p.m.: Chef’s Secrets Series** continues with “Delicious Guacamole” presented by Eric Williams, Executive Chef/Owner of Momocho & El Carnicero. This popular chef shows you how to make one of his most requested dishes at Momocho—Silver Spoon Award Winner for Best Mexican Restaurant by Cleveland Magazine, Top 10 Restaurant by Food and Wine, Hot 10 List by Bon Appetit and more. Scrumptious samples. Recipe handouts.

**October 5 at 2:00 p.m.:** Drop in for **Family Flicks** on Saturday. Beat the afternoon doldrums by bringing the whole family for a fun movie and a snack. All films will have a G-rating, and a caregiver must be present.

**October 9 at 6:30 p.m.: Books Inspire the Artist Within!** Read *A Simple Murder*, by Eleanor Kuhns, in anticipation of our next discuss and create program for adults. Craft materials will be provided for the creation of a small woven paper picture. No previous art experience required; all are welcome to discuss the book.

**ATTENTION STUDENTS IN GRADES 4-6!** Check out our book clubs, including **“River Readers,” “Tween the Pages,” and “Going Graphic!”** A copy of the book for each club member will be available for pick up in the Children’s Department at time of registration. Snacks provided.

**“River Readers”** for students in grades 4 & 5 begins on **October 8 at 7:00 p.m.** Our first title will be *The Sisters Grimm Fairytale Detectives* by Michael Buckley.

**“Tween the Pages”** for students in grade 6 begins on **October 16 at 3:30 p.m.** Our first title will be *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. Club members will choose and vote on future book titles.

**“Going Graphic!”** for students in grades 4 to 6 starts **October 22 at 6:30 p.m.** Comic and graphic novel fans, this is for you!

Register by going to [www.rrpl.org](http://www.rrpl.org), call 440-333-7610, ext.5502 or stop by the Children’s Department.

**October 9 at 3:30 p.m.: Teen Pizza Pagets** begins for 7th and 8th grade students. Stop by the Reference Desk to register and pick up a copy of the current book. Registration required.

**October 10 at 7:00 p.m.: Experience History through the Eyes and Heart of Lincoln** with Lincoln reenactor Robert Brugler at Rocky River High School. Dressed for the part and brimming with little-known details, he shares his insights about the 1800s including the Civil War as the nation’s gravest constitutional crisis. Sample a Civil War treat baked by Wild Flour Bakery. No registration. This program is presented in cooperation with Rocky River High School to highlight its special exhibit, “Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War,” which runs from October 8 through November 14 at the high school.

**October 14 at 6:30 p.m.: Indie International Film Fest** features Aliyah, a 2012 French drama about a low-level drug dealer in Paris, who longs to give up his perilous occupation and is given an opportunity to start life over in Israel. You are invited to stay for a brief discussion after the film.

**“Live Music Online”** on October 16 at 9:30 a.m. helps you discover musicians and vocalists holding concerts online daily through websites and virtual worlds.

**October 23 at 2:00 p.m.:** The **Technology Petting Zoo** allows you to touch and test different types of new technology, such as tablets, eReaders and more. Please register via the Library’s online events calendar at [www.rrpl.org](http://www.rrpl.org).

**October 16 at 7:00 p.m.: The Young and the Young At Heart Book Discussion.** In collaboration with RRHS’s grant-winning Lincoln display, teen and adult readers are invited to join this book discussion. Read either **“Mrs. Lincoln’s Dressmaker”** by Jennifer

Chiaverini or **“An Unlikely Friendship”** by Ann Rinaldi and come to share your thoughts. Stop by the Reference desk to register and get a copy of either book. Grade 7 and up. Registration required.

**October 17 at 7:00 p.m.: Seasonal Pasta Favorite** will be presented by Ben Bebenroth, Chef/Owner Spice Kitchen & Bar on at 7:00 p.m. Find out what makes his hot new restaurant so special and why it won Cleveland Magazine’s Silver Spoon Award for Best New Restaurant. Enjoy flavorful samples. Leave with recipe handouts. No registration.

**October 18 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.: Be S.H.A.R.P! (Super Happy Awesome Role Players)** and satisfy your curiosity about multi-player role-playing games. Whether you are an experienced player or just wondering what it’s all about, this is the group for you! Grades 7 and up.

**October 19 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.:** Be a part of the **Guild of the Brick** for ages 5 and older on Saturday, October 19, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Are you crazy about Legos? Then drop in for “Guild of the Brick.” We provide the Legos, you bring the imagination.

**October 20 at 7:00 p.m.:** Join us for **“On Stage In River”** as we present the **“Cleveland Women’s Orchestra”** at the Rocky River Senior Center on 21014 Hilliard Blvd. As part of our popular performing arts series, the Cleveland Women’s Orchestra will perform selections by Tchaikovsky, Kern, Lehar and others conducted by Music Director Robert L. Cronquist. Jean Geis Stell plays the Grieg Piano Concerto in A minor. It will be a memorable evening with a special focus on music to celebrate Sweetest Day. Free admission. Limited seating—come early.



**October 21 at 3:30 p.m.: Movie Monday** for students in grades 3-6 takes place. Enjoy a movie after school with free popcorn and lemonade on the 3rd Monday of every month. We will feature newly released DVDs along with everyone’s favorite classics!

**October 24 at 7:00 p.m.: Civil War Music & Instruments** performed by Steve Ball at Rocky River High School. Don’t miss hearing authentic Civil War music performed as it was in the 1860s on true, period-correct Civil War era guitars. Sample a Civil War treat baked by Wild Flour Bakery.

**October 25 at 12:00 p.m.:** Drop in for **Lunch and a Movie** in the Auditorium. Bring your bag lunch and enjoy a free film selected from our popular new releases. We’ll provide the hot popcorn and refreshments. Adults of all ages welcome.

**October 28 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.: Celebrate Day of the Dead** and learn about the history and traditions of Dia de los Muertos and make your own traditional sugar skull. Grades 7 and up. Registration required.

**October 28 at 6:30 p.m.:** The 7th annual **Cowan Classic Film Festival** continues on with *Watch on the Rhine*, a 1943 drama starring Bette Davis and Paul Lukas. Free hot popcorn!

**October 30 from 3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.:** **Get in the Game!** for students in grades 3-6. Meet up after school to hang out with your friends, play games and munch on snacks. Different games are featured each month, including Wii Just Dance, PlayStation Rock Band, party games and board games!

For additional information, call the Rocky River Public Library at 440-333-7610 or visit [www.rrpl.org](http://www.rrpl.org).



# Where Do You Shop for Treasures?

## The Eponymous Antique Shop Owner

BY MITCHELL SOTKA

Those of us who are collectors and enjoy the hunt can remember the first antique we purchased. The Pappabello Antique Show in Cleveland is where I purchased mine. I still have that Eastlake-style washstand that I purchased more than 20 years ago. My style has changed, but that washstand still remains. It may not be in the same place that it once was, but I can't give up my first treasure. Since then and over 20 years later, I have been in many shops in London, Paris, Palm Beach, Los Angeles, Georgetown and Cleveland. I am still looking for my next great find - a piece that will round out my collection or make a corner of a room sing more harmoniously.

There are many places to shop, including estate or garage sales, flea markets, curbsides, antique shops, junk or thrift stores, and antique shows or auctions. If you have not tried one of these venues, you should jump out of your comfort zone and experience another side of treasure hunting. Anyone of these places can hold your next great find. Keeping it local, Cleveland is filled with great places. I have favorites in each city that I've visited. In our own backyard, I have several favorite places that I would like to share with you.

- **Vintage Faire** is a shop with two floors full of wonderful finds. You will see mahogany tables, stained glass windows and more! It is a quintessential antique store (17106 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, 216-221-2149).

- **Century Antiques** is Cleveland's best shop for lighting. The walls are clad in sconces and the ceiling is dripping with chandeliers of every type and size (7410 Lorain Ave Cleveland, 216-281-9145).

- **John Young Antiques.** If diamonds are a girl's best friend, then John should be your go-to guy for wonderful estate jewelry (and fine Asian art). John's inventory includes estate, vintage and some of his own creations (12803 Larchmere Blvd., Cleveland, 216-721-3123).

- **Martines Antiques.** Silver is a



Top: Vintage Faire Antiques in Lakewood. Bottom Left: Susan and Kerri at the Sunday Market in Hingetown (Ohio City). Bottom Right: Miniature Tea Service at Martines Antiques in Chagrin Falls.

passion of mine and Martines Antiques is the equivalent of the London Silver Vaults here in Cleveland. The owner, Peggy Martines, has a plethora of sterling serving pieces, ranging from picture frames to silver miniatures (516 Washington St., Chagrin Falls, 440-247-6421).

- **The Gallery**, in the Tremont neighborhood, is a new shop that came to life via the Cleveland Auction Company. With new ownership and a new location, this store has great music playing and hours that fit shopping in before or after having dinner. You never know what you will find - from taxidermy skulls to

grandmother's china (2415 Tremont Ave., Cleveland, 216-631-3232).

- **"The Sunday Driver"** is a pocket guide of shops in Northeast Ohio. Check it out for other great places [www.sundaydriver.com](http://www.sundaydriver.com)

Antique shops are a great way to find the perfect piece of art, a set of china for the holidays or a gift for a special occasion, but it is not the only way to get your shopping fix. Cleveland has so many other venues to explore. We can boast of internationally known auction houses: Aspire, Grays and Rachel Davis Fine Arts. These are all great resources for finding treasures. Remember that bidding on antiques can be crazy; you are spurred on by emotion and at times you may pay more than you want. However, the upside is that you may buy an item for a song.


A flea market can be a relaxing way to shop. You set your own pace to walk around the market while picking up a few things along the way. A new upscale flea market has opened in Ohio City. The Sunday Market in Hingetown is scheduled for October 20. September's market was fabulous with over 1,500 visitors finding treasures of all sorts, including oysters, mimosas and crepes - as well as the traditional treasures (silver, paintings and vintage couture). The 2014 season of the Sunday Market will be held on the third Sunday of the month from May through October. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/#!/hingetownmarket>.

### Where Do You Shop?

Send me an e-mail and include the location of the place, why you like to shop there, and a picture of the item you bought or a picture of the place. You can send your e-mails to [mitchell@mitchellsotka.com](mailto:mitchell@mitchellsotka.com). Remember to attach your jpeg image in high resolution. Lastly, let's keep it local, so our readers have a chance to go to see your favorite places in person. Thanks in advance for sending in your picks. Happy hunting! ●

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"He makes all mankind just a bit taller."

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