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FAIRVIEW PARK & ROCKY RIVER COMMUNITIES | VOL 02, ISSUE 9 | APRIL 2015



Rocky River Public Library Book Festival

By Kitty Sommers

Rocky River Public Library Book Festival takes place on **Saturday**, **April 25**, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Don Umerley Civic Center on 21016 Hilliard Boulevard. Meet 50 fiction and non-fiction authors, children's and teen authors, poets and book illustrators/photographers at this free event.

Hear popular authors talk about their books throughout the day, talk with your favorite authors and get signed copies of their books. Mary Doria Russell, Linda Castillo, Les Roberts, Jonathan Sawyer, Mary Ann Winkowski, D.M. Pulley, Michael Heaton, James Renner and more of your favorites will be there.

The Book Festival also features free book appraisals and prize drawings, raffle and more. This free event is sponsored by the Women's Committee of Rocky River Public Library, the Friends of the Library, and the Rocky River Public Library Foundation. •

Kitty Sommers is Director of Marketing at Rocky River Public Library

Tri-C Student Named to Academic Team

By John Horton

Nigmeh Abusbeih-Salti of Rocky River was one of seven students from Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C $^{\circ}$) named to the All-Ohio Community College Academic Team, which comprises top students at the state's two-year schools.

The All-Ohio Academic Team recognizes student excellence in academics, leadership and community service. Fifty-three students from across the state were selected for this year's team on the basis of their

outstanding records.

Congratulations, Nigmeh Abusbeih-Salti!

Tri-C had more students named All-Ohio than any other school. "The All-Ohio results are indicative of Tri-C's focus on academic excellence and the caliber of students that walk through our doors," said Craig Foltin, the College's interim executive vice president of academic and learning success.

Abusbeih-Salti, who received third-team honors, is pursuing her Associate of Arts degree at Tri-C. After graduation, she plans to transfer to Cleveland State University to pursue a career as a school psychologist. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and serves as a volunteer tutor in math, English, science, Arabic and Quran.

Academic Team page 2

Just-A-Buck Stores: Save & Do Good

By Latoya Hunter

Just-A-Buck, a cheerful dollar store located in the River Plaza on Center Ridge Road, allows shoppers to save money while contributing to social good. The store is one of three in Northeast Ohio owned and operated by Solutions at Work, Inc. (SAW), the non-profit partner of the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities. SAW is one of the largest employers of adults with developmental disabilities in Northeast Ohio.

The Rocky River store opened in 2013, preceded by stores in Parma and South Euclid. Stores are staffed entirely by adults with developmental disabilities (except for managers). They serve as a training ground and ultimately help place employees in dozens of retail positions throughout Greater Cleveland. The 5,500 square-foot Rocky River employs 15 workers with developmental disabilities who oversee stocking, cleaning, customer service and check-out.

According to Just-A-Buck Regional Manager Kim Pritchard, Just-A-Buck is investing in its employees and community. "Just-A-Buck offers customers in Rocky River, South Euclid and Parma the chance to find great savings while participating in a

remarkable mission to help individuals with developmental disabilities," said Pritchard. "Walk into one of our stores, see the smiling faces, the kind staff and you'll understand that Just-A-Buck isn't your typical dollar store."

Aside from Just-A-Buck's mission and dedicated team, the store offers customers a refreshing 'true dollar store' experience. Everything—from gourmet cookbooks to children's toys—is one dollar. New products arrive daily and local shoppers often encounter items typically found at larger retailers for a fraction of the cost. The store also features a diverse selection of seasonal items.

The Just-A-Buck franchise operates throughout the eastern U.S. The Northeast Ohio stores owned by SAW, however, are the only ones staffed by individuals with developmental disabilities.

Rocky River store hours are 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday–Saturday; and 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sunday.

To learn more about Just-A-Buck in Rocky River or Solutions at Work, Inc., visit the Just-A-Buck Facebook page

(https://www.facebook.com/pages/ Just-A-Buck/162267820511916). •





ROCKPORT FILES

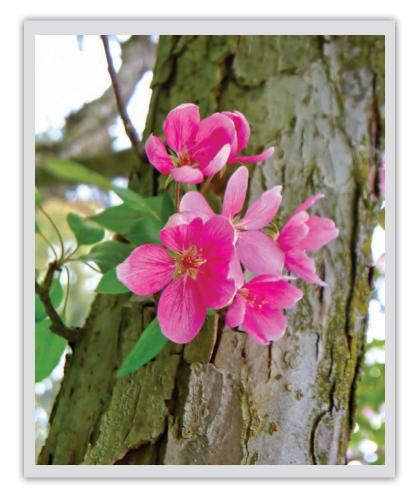
Academic Team from page 1

Abusbeih-Salti joined the following Tri-C students – designated by campus – as All-Ohio:

- · Eastern Campus: La'Vette Edgerson of Cleveland (third team) and Charmane Osborne of Shaker Heights (third team)
- · Metropolitan Campus: Faith Fatokun of Elyria (first team)
- · Western Campus: Marc Carranza of Strongsville (third team) and Hannah Kiraly of Lakewood (first team)
- · Westshore Campus: Aswin Bikkani of Westlake (third team)

First-team winners will receive \$1,000 scholarships, while third-team students get \$250 scholarships. A recognition program for team members will be held in Columbus on April 23 during Community College Month.

John Horton is Media Relations Manager at Cuyahoga Community College.



Adopt-A-Tree Program

The City of Fairview Park and Fairview Park Shade Tree Advisory Committee invite residents to participate in the Adopt-A-Tree program, a great way to enhance the appearance of your property and provide shade on hot, sunny days.

In just three easy steps, you can beautify your tree lawn and make Fairview Park proud to be a "Tree City, USA" community:

- · Contact the Fairview Park Service Department at 440-356-4410 to arrange a site inspection and discuss tree type, size, and planting location.
- · Purchase a tree at a local nursery at your expense.
- · The City of Fairview Park will deliver and plant your tree at no cost to you.

Looking for the perfect gift? This is a great way to honor someone special or commemorate a family event!

For more information and a list of suggested tree lawn trees, view the Adopt-A-



Rocky River Thaws



Rocky River Prosecutor and Assistant Law Director Michael O'Shea takes a break between meetings to check out the river.

Readers, send us your photos. We'd love to see what you find interesting in Rocky River and Fairview Park.



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

> Check out our Web site at TheRockportObserver.com

With a current circulation of 5,000 copies distributed to over 250 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 2015-The Rockport Observer, All right reserved. Any reproduction or

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COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Volunteers Make a Meaningful Impact

By Deborah Capstick

The Rocky River Senior Center honored over 130 volunteers in a Hollywood-style Gala complete with red carpet, paparazzi, and screaming fans in late February. Volunteers were treated to a catered dinner with entertainment and dancing. After the walk on the red carpet, volunteers enjoyed an Oscar Awards movie presentation featuring, of course, the volunteers. Excitement mounted as volunteers were recognized for their service and, can we have the envelope please - Nancy Schneider was named Volunteer of the Year!

Nancy was sitting in the front row when the announcement was made, oblivious to the fact that her family had slipped in the back of the auditorium to witness the event! It is Nancy's smiling face you see in the gift shop every Wednesday. From there, she moves on to the front desk to provide relief during the lunch hour. Nancy also helps out at many of the center's special events. Nobody will be surprised to learn that Nancy spent a large part of her career in customer service in the retail industry. Those skills serve her well in volunteer work- she is friendly, helpful, always smiling, quick to resolve problems and fun to talk to! Volunteering is ultimately about

helping others and having an impact on people's well-being. What better way is there to connect with your community and give a little back? These volunteers certainly return to our community some of the benefits that the community has given them. Can one person actually make a difference? Absolutely!

Volunteering is about giving your time, energy and skills freely. Volunteers make a decision to help on their own accord. Repeatedly, these volunteers express a sense of achievement, motivation and personal satisfaction generated from their desire and enthusiasm to help.

Researchers at the London School of Economics examined the relationship between volunteering and happiness in a large group of American adults. They found the more people volunteered, the happier they were. Compared to people who never volunteered, the odds of being "very happy" rose 7% among people who volunteer monthly and 12% among those who volunteer every two weeks. Weekly volunteers report even higher levels of happiness - 16% feel very happy.

Volunteering provides many benefits for both your mental and physical health. It increases self-confidence and reduces the risk of depression. Studies show volunteers have a lower mortality



And the Winner Is... Nancy Schneider!

rate than those not volunteering, AND volunteering has been shown to lessen the symptoms of chronic pain and heart

Gandhi said, "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." What better place to learn and live, then the Rocky River Senior Center! \bullet

Deborah (Bock) Capstick is the Director of Senior Services for the City of Rocky River. She has a B.A. in psychology and M.A. in counseling. For the last 13 years, Deborah has worked with seniors in North Olmsted, Bay Village and Rocky River.



Nominees for Volunteer of the Year Dottie O'Neill, Nancy Talbert, Nancy Schneider, Ted Kibbey, Rosanne Gavin, Kitty Stafford, and Pat Hendy.

The Hooley on Kamm's CornersTM Returns

By Marilyn Osborne

On Saturday, May 9, West Park's annual homecoming celebration will feature great food, live music, children's shows and activities, Irish dancers, pipes and drums, fine art, and more!

The 6th Annual Hooley on Kamm's Corners[™] takes place from noon to 8:00 p.m. Lorain Avenue will be closed for the festival between Rocky River Drive and West 165 Street. Show up to eat, drink, mingle, and enjoy! Once again, the event is free of charge.

Purchase unique goods and pick up interesting information from the many booths lining each side of Lorain Avenue. New this year, Cleveland Bazaar will host a juried handmade arts and crafts show on West 168 Street.

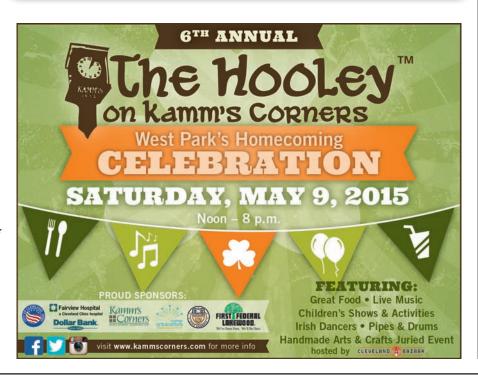
The main stage at Rocky River Drive faces east and features a mix of Celtic music and rock-n-roll. The Pipes and Drums of the Cleveland Police will help with opening ceremonies, and the Cleveland Firefighters Memorial Pipes and Drums will perform too.

The family stage at West 165 Street will entertain the younger crowd with Irish dancers and musical performances by local schools. Satisfy your cravings from the abundant food offerings, such as gyros, hot dogs, kettle corn, ice cream, and more. Details at kammscorners.com. •

Marilyn Osborne is Manager of Marketing Communicationsfor Kamm's Corners Development Corporation, the non-profit planning and development organization serving Ward 17 in Cleveland.



Join the crowd at The Hooley on Kamm's Corners^T



Volunteers Needed for PGA **Tour Event in** Westlake

By Eric Eakin

Want to rub shoulders with some of the best golfers on the planet? Want to help ensure that a PGA-sponsored tour event in Westlake runs smoothly? Volunteer to help out at the upcoming Rust-Oleum Championship golf tournament, set for June 8-14, at the beautiful Lakewood Country Club in Westlake. Volunteers are needed for course marshals, security, scoring, admissions, on-course services. clubhouse services, volunteer services. and to assist the Golf Channel.

Yes, there is a \$40 fee to volunteer, but vou receive a limited-edition hat, polo shirt, two tickets to the tournament for the entire week and one meal per shift you work. (They charge \$75 to volunteer at the Bridgestone in Akron and close to \$100 at other golf tournaments!)

Proceeds from the event benefit the Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital.

Sign up today at www. rustoleumchampionship.com. any questions, call the tournament office at 216-503-2270. •



COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Fairview Park Green Team Offers Fun, Informative Events

By Matthew Hrubey

The Fairview Park Green Team is a volunteer group of residents whose mission is to promote sustainable, environmentally friendly practices community wide. Mayor Eileen Ann Patton formed the group in 2011 to help promote the City's then-new curbside recycling program. Four years later, the Green Team's priority areas have grown beyond recycling to also include water quality, stormwater management, and active transportation.

2015 is shaping up to be a busy year for the Green Team as it works to offer fun, informative opportunities for Fairview Park residents to volunteer and educate themselves.

Recycling Town Hall

On March 25, the Green Team hosted a Recycling Town Hall at the Fairview Park Senior Center. The 30 individuals in attendance heard presentations on existing and future recycling opportunities from representatives of



Recycling Town Hall.

the City of Fairview Park, Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, and Republic Services.

The town hall also featured a presentation by Simple Recycling, a company the City of Fairview Park recently contracted with for curbside collection of clothing, textiles, and household goods. This new program, set to begin April 20, is designed to complement the City's current rubbish and recycling program. Each household

in Fairview Park will receive a series of four mailings that will explain the program in detail and provide the materials needed to participate. The first mailing will be distributed in early April.

The event concluded with a lengthy question and answer session that allowed attendees to get all their recycling

questions answered. All presentation slides and a transcript of the Q&A session will be posted online when complete at www.fairviewpark.org/green-team/recycling-town-hall/.

Freshen Up Fairview Park

The Green Team's annual Freshen Up Fairview Park event is returning for its third year on Saturday, April 11. In lieu of a community clean up day, Green Team members and volunteers will be planting over 100 trees and shrubs in Bain Park along Coe Creek.

Reforesting Coe Creek's riparian zone—the area where land meets water—will provide many benefits for the environment. The new trees and shrubs will help prevent soil erosion, filter water and improve its quality, and provide necessary shade to lower water temperature and improve the in-stream habitat

If you are interested in helping plant, join the Green Team at 9:00 am on April 11 at Bain Park Gazebo, 21077 North Park Drive in Fairview Park. This event is family and child friendly - all are welcome, no experience necessary! A demonstration of how to plant trees and shrubs will be offered to all volunteers. Any questions can be directed to greenteam@fairviewpark.org. •

Matthew Hrubey is a City of Fairview Park employee and serves as Mayor Eileen Patton's liaison to the Fairview Park Green Team.

Storewide Sale at The Ritzy Chic

By Debbie Simone

For the month of April, The Ritzy Chic Resale Shoppe is having a storewide 75% off sale. This sale includes items such as furniture, glassware, collectibles, vintage, retro, nearly new clothing, shoes, jewelry and accessories. The sale also includes pictures, paintings, lamps, kitchenware, metal and pewter items and more!

Come join the fun and get some great deals during our winter shop hours: Tuesday-Friday, noon to 5 p.m. and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Our shop is located at 1315 Linda St. Rocky River, Ohio 44116 and our phone number is 440-331-5200. You may also contact by email at theritzychic@windstream.net

While The Ritzy Chic still provides funds to benefit cancer survivors, we have added a section to our shop for animals. This section (and we will be adding more items) supports our program "Just Paws 4 A Cause". We also have a site that we support www.justpaws4acause.com, which helps abandoned, abused and sick animals (as well as animals with cancer).

So, check out our shop, get some deals and see what's new. Whether you are a



Pick up something for spring that will make you smile!

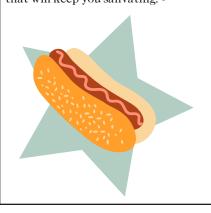
shopper, collector, or browser, we are always happy to see you and will help you in any way we can. See you soon at The Ritzy Chic! ullet

Debbie Simone is the owner of The Ritzy Chic Resale Shoppe. The shop donates a portion of its proceeds to cancer survivors.

River Dog Celebrates Anniversary

On April 25th, we will be celebrating our one-year anniversary at River Dog Cafe' and we invite all of you to come out and help us celebrate!

We will have specials running all day and would love to see you there. Like us on Facebook for details as we get closer to the event to find out about daily specials and see photos that will keep you salivating!





Cahoon in June Seeking Vendors

By Cynthia Eakin

Spring has finally arrived and family-style summer fun is not far behind.

The 46th annual Cahoon in June fine crafts, collectibles and antiques event is seeking vendors to fill Cahoon Memorial Park on **June 13** and help make this the biggest and best event in its history. The yearly festival of art, music, food and fun attracts more than 1,500 visitors. Admission to the show, which takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and parking are free. Vendor spaces are very affordably priced.

This year, the Bay Village Historical Society, the Cahoon in June sponsor, is partnering with BAYarts, which will hold its Annual Art and Music Festival on the same day in nearby Huntington Park. Transportation will run between the two venues. The Village Project has also scheduled its "Project Pedal" fundraiser for June 13.

For more information about Cahoon in June, contact Cynthia Eakin at 216-213-0312 or visit www.bayhistorical.com. Proceeds from the event support the Bay Village Historical Society's Rose Hill Museum, the Reuben Osborn Learning Center and student scholarships. •

Cynthia Schuster Eakin is a freelance feature, food and entertainment writer and a frequent contributor to The Westlake | Bay Village Observer.

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Gluten-Free Vendor Fair

By Judith Mazur

The Northeast Ohio Celiae Network is sponsoring a Gluten-Free Vendor Fair on Sunday, April 19, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The event will be held at Rocky River's Memorial Hall in the recreation complex at 21012 Hilliard Blvd. The event is free to the general public. Vendors will be giving samples and selling their gluten-free products. Most of the vendors are local to the greater Cleveland area.

The fair is sponsored by The Northeast Ohio Celiac Network, a group dedicated to people with celiac disease (CD), gluten sensitivity, their families, and the gluten-free diet. This greater Cleveland group has been active for over 20 years, formerly a chapter of the Celiac Disease Foundation and previously known as Northeast Ohio Celiac Support Group. As the group grew, the meetings moved from members' homes to library meeting rooms.

CD is an inherited, autoimmune disorder in which proteins from the grains of wheat, rye and barley (collectively called gluten) damage the small intestine. The only treatment for CD is a strict, lifelong gluten-free diet. With a prevalence rate of about one in 133 people worldwide, between three and four million North Americans have the disease. However, it is estimated that only 5% to 10% are currently diagnosed.



In addition to those with CD, gluten-free products are purchased by those with a wide variety of other conditions, including non-celiac gluten sensitivity, wheat allergy, autism, ADHD, multiple sclerosis and irritable bowel syndrome. The gluten-free diet, once thought a fad, is now a trend with more than 15% of North American households using gluten-free products.

For the fair, those who register in advance and bring a printout of their ticket will be entered in a gift card drawing. Additional information and registration can be found at http://www.neohioceliac.com. •

Judith Mazur is an independent, self-employed youth theater instructor and director. She is also a member of the Northeast Ohio Celiac Network.

Mozart Opera Comes to Rocky River

By Carol Jacobs

Rocky River Chamber Music Society is excited to bring opera to its stage at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church in Rocky River on Monday, **April 20** at 7:30 p.m. The concert will feature Baldwin Wallace Conservatory's production of concert selections from Mozart's rarely heard madcap opera "La Finta Giardiniera" (The Pretend Garden Girl). Seven cast members will perform in this concert version under the direction of Benjamin Wayne Smith, with Jason Aquila on the piano.

Mozart composed this comedic opera just before his eighteenth birthday. The opera's over-the-top qualities are hilariously conveyed by the plot elements of three love triangles, two characters in disguise, two mad scenes, lots of unrequited love, one abduction, three cases of mistaken identity, and a multitude of grand gestures made in the name of love. The main character is Violante, a noblewoman who has gone undercover as a garden girl to reclaim Count Belfiore, the man she loves.

For those who missed the full production of "La Finta Giardiniera" at Baldwin Wallace in late February, this is the perfect opportunity to see the same cast members in a concert version of this opera. Clevelandelassical.com called the February production "a funny, musically satisfying... production that succeeds on the quality of the cast's singing and its high level of comedic acting."

As is true of all concerts presented by the Rocky River Chamber Music Society, there is no admission charge and all are welcome. For further information call 440-333-4296 or visit www.rrems.org. \bullet

Carol Jacobs was most recently curator of the Cowan Pottery Museum at Rocky River Public Library for seven years. Before that she was archivist for The Cleveland Orchestra for 17 years.



"I declare after all there is no enjoyment like reading! How much sooner one tires of any thing than of a book!

-- When I have a house of my own, I shall be miserable if I have not an excellent library."

- Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice

Free Event! Rocky River Public Library Book Festival Saturday, April 25 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Talk with your favorite authors and purchase signed copies of their books. Featured Speakers Free Book Appraisals - limit 3 Prize Drawings! See you at... **Don Umerley Civic Center Auditorium** 21016 Hilliard Blvd., **Rocky River** Rocky River Public Library (440) 333-7610, www.rrpl.org

Prospective New Member Luncheon

By Karen Huhndorff

The Women's Board of Lake Erie Nature & Science Center invites prospective new members to a soup and salad luncheon on Wednesday, April 1, at 12 noon, at the Center, 28728 Wolf Road, Bay Village. An informative and entertaining program is planned for guests after the luncheon.

Amy LeMonds, Lake Erie Nature & Science Center's Director of Wildlife, will speak about the Center's specialized wildlife programs. She will provide an indepth look at the wildlife rehabilitation program and an overview of last year's wildlife intakes. Hear about some of these unique cases and why 2014 was the busiest year on record!

Amy will provide some insight into the new programs that have been developed with the Women's Board (WB), including the wildlife internship program. Meet one of the program animals and learn about how you can be trained as a docent to handle some of the resident animals and to share your knowledge with the Center's visitors.

The WB is a volunteer organization with a rich history. Begun in 1954, the WB is made up of volunteers with a diversity



of skills, experiences, and talents. These women support the Center and its mission through service, leadership, community awareness, and fundraising.

Please RSVP for the luncheon to Judy at 440-871-3071. We welcome anyone who would like to gain information about Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, meet WB members, and learn about WB membership opportunities and activities. •

Karen Huhndorff is a member of the Women's Board of Lake Erie Nature & Science Center. She also writes articles to publicize the activities of the Board.

"A children's story that can only be enjoyed by children is not a good children's story in the slightest."

– C.S. Lewis

The Eponymous Antique Shop Owner

Welcome Spring with a New Vision for Your Home

By Mitchell Sotka

As you know by now, I am passionate about antiques. I love their history, their quality, their impact on interior design and their value. In previous articles, I have written about the marketplace for antiques. Antiques are still a great value and still relevant in home design today.

Open any home magazine and you will see vintage and antique pieces in photos of high-end homes as well as more cost-conscious homes. Readers of *The Rockport Observer* may differ in aesthetics and lifestyles, but that is the cool thing about antiques. There is something for everyone – from simple lines to heavily carved ornate cabinets. Today's trend or the direction of consumers' purchases can be summarized easily: clean lines, practical décor and fewer pieces.

For some time the heavy, both physically and figuratively, pieces have been falling out of favor. Those tall, triple door armoires are being passed over. If they sell, it is at a quarter of the price they sold for 20 years ago. Given the labor and quality that went into creating these pieces, it is hard to believe. In addition, the excessive use of decorative pieces is giving way to fewer choice pieces. One may capitalize on the trends by buying such pieces when the market value is lower. And, using those heavy and fussy pieces sparingly can make a wonderful focal point for a room and still be on trend.

In the design world, everything comes full circle. Vintage pieces from the 1960s with their clean lines and practical

application to our current lifestyles are drawing more interest currently. This clean aesthetic is not unique to the 1960s. Take a look at French Deco and Ming Style pieces from China. Knowing what periods and cultures produced clean line decorative and furniture pieces, you can focus your hunt. An antique dealer can also help with your search.

An Interesting Mix

Mixing things has been on trend for some time. If clean lines are your overall theme, you can create interest by mixing pieces from various places and times. Currently, my shop has a fabulous Adrian Pearsall Gondola sofa that sits in front of a drop-dead gorgeous, eight-panel Chinese screen. The sofa

has built-in end tables that cantilever out on each side. The end tables are decked out with vintage barware - both Danish modern and American - along with matching 1960s lamps.

The clean lines of the sofa with a plain fabric contrast perfectly with the bold pattern of the screen. Nothing is overly fussy. Oh, and the new pillow in an animal print is also fabulous. It is a balance that works!



Keep it simple but interesting. The balance in this room works!

Even if a low-slung sofa is not to your liking, the idea of less is more is still a key trend. Letting the eye rest on pops of interest through fabric, wall color or a piece of furniture seems to be the direction of those furnishing or editing their space today.

Rotating

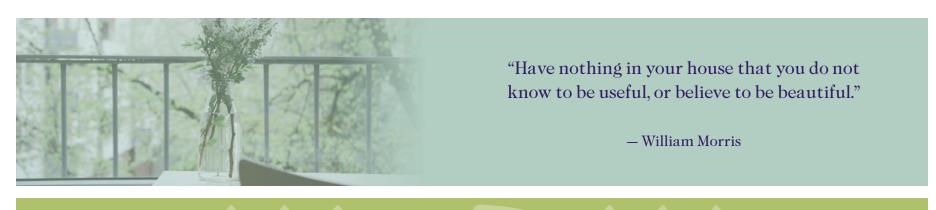
Restraint is not easy. For those who love beautiful objects and may be overwhelmed by the idea of "editing", the

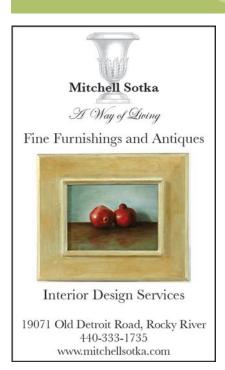
solution could be to rotate items in your collection. Store your winter objects and bring out others for a spring re-do.

A pottery collection is a great thing to rotate. A collection of monochromatic pottery grouped together can give a room weight, interest and cohesiveness. Green glaze pottery from the 1940s seems to be in demand today. Even if the pottery is from various makers and the shades of green are not exactly the same, a grouping can make an eyecatching focal point and be a great way to introduce spring into your home.

I think it is important to create a space that is not only functional but also inviting. The various antique and vintage shops in northeastern Ohio are great resources. Is it frivolous to put so much time and effort into the details of your personal space? The answer is no! Look around for inspiration; keep it simple and functional. Create points of interest by pairing complex or ornate pieces with clean line furniture. You will not only add a pop of interest to the room but also find it easier to rotate when you gather or collect in this method.

So, welcome spring with a new vision for your home. Look around your home and see what can be edited out, what can be grouped together, what needs a pop of interest. Photograph your rooms. Take the pictures with you when you are combing through the great shops of northeastern Ohio. You will have good pictures of your space that will help salespeople and shop owners make suggestions and recommendations. •









RiverSouth Townhomes Selling Out Fast

By Elliott Reusser

I am standing on one of the rooftop decks of the new Brickhaus Partners community of RiverSouth on the border of Rocky River and Fairview Park. As I look to the south, there is a panoramic view of the Metroparks. Turning around, amazingly, I can see the skyline of downtown Cleveland which is only 20 minutes away.

A large black bird appears in the distance heading toward RiverSouth. At first I think to myself that it must be one of the Hinckley buzzards that has lost its way. As the bird gets closer and swoops overhead, my partner and I realize and are amazed to see a magnificent bald eagle heading south, over the Emerald Canyon of the Rocky River Reservation. It follows the Rocky River as it meanders below, and then suddenly dives into the water to emerge with a large fish in its talons. A site like this cannot be experienced just anywhere; and this is what drew developer Andrew Brickman to the peninsula overlooking the Metroparks, where his newest community, RiverSouth, is quickly rising.



RiverSouth is a collaboration of developer, Andrew Brickman of Brickhaus Partners and architects Scott and Analia Dimit. It is the newest addition to a Brickhaus portfolio that includes other award-winning communities like the Brownstones of Derbyshire in Cleveland Heights, 27 Coltman in Little Italy, Clifton Pointe in Lakewood and perhaps the most infamous community (where "Draft Day" was filmed), Eleven River along the banks of the Rocky River.

Sales and construction at RiverSouth are moving along rapidly with over 12 residents already committed to a home. Three buildings are already under construction and two are under roof with the first resident planning to take occupancy in the next 90 days. Like other Brickhaus communities, the townhomes at RiverSouth are ecofriendly, dramatically designed, and have incredible views. In addition, they utilize the finest materials and feature the Brickhaus exclusive design of "clear span construction" that enables each homeowner to custom design their floor plan to fit their specific lifestyle.

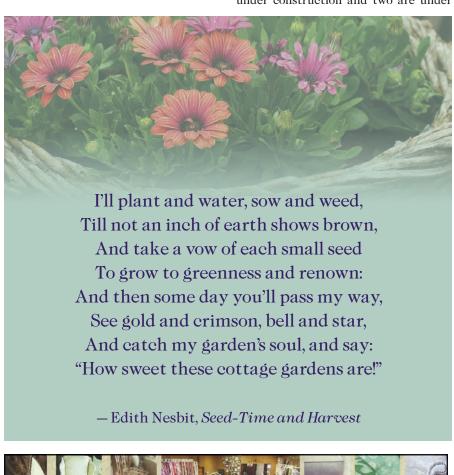
An additional feature of RiverSouth is that it has a seven-year, 100% real estate tax abatement, which amounts to a significant savings for the homeowner. Pricing starts at \$239,000 and goes up to over \$500,000. At this time, Brickhaus

also has five other purchase agreements out for execution, which would bring RiverSouth up to 50% capacity. There has been one price increase and another is anticipated as soon as the weather breaks.

Residents are coming from all over the city. They are drawn to the strategic location because of its walkability to amenities along Center Ridge Road and the Kamm's Corner area. In addition, they're surrounded by the Metroparks so outdoor activities almost invite residents to lead a healthier lifestyle and be more in syne with nature. Freeway accessibility is also excellent with I-90 and I-480 only minutes away. You are also a short drive to Cleveland Hopkins airport.

Mayor Eileen Patton, Economic Development Director Rob Berner, Councilman Brian McDonough, and Building Commissioner Sel Kulcsar were very helpful in making this project come to fruition. All should be applauded for the notable progress in Fairview Park.

For more information, please visit www.riversouth.com or www. brickhauspartners.com or contact developer Andrew Brickman at 216-965-4514. •







ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Turning an Idea into a Business

By Perry Haan

Most people think that they have had a bright idea that could be converted into a successful business. Most of those people, however, have not tried to create a business from that idea. The process of going from something scratched out on a napkin to a successful business is more complicated than most think.

New ideas come from many different places. Often, consumers realize there must be a better way to perform some routine task. Today many successful ideas come from making people's lives more convenient. For example, not very long ago, we were traveling to the corner video store to rent movies. Netflix and its competitors now make it possible for consumers to download movies and other entertainment to their TVs and other devices without getting off the couch.

It is critical for entrepreneurs to evaluate the validity of their ideas before investing time, money and effort. An entrepreneur needs to be enthusiastic about the idea. The founder of Virgin Group and serial entrepreneur, Richard Branson, runs new business ideas by his mother.

"If she glazes over when you describe the new venture, return to your hammock and start over. If she gets excited, you could be onto a winner." Branson says he does his business brainstorming from his hammock. Anjanette Whitman at AnjCookies in Rocky River began making chocolate chip cookies in high school. "I would send care packages of cookies to my friends in college. I worked with the recipe to make the cookies just how I would like them—soft, gooey and full of chocolate. Over time, the recipe became my signature product. My friends and family would crave them and get so excited to receive them as gifts. Many of them said that I should sell them because they were just that good."

Will It Work?

Several issues need to be addressed to determine the validity of a new idea. One is to determine what problem the new business will solve. Any new product or idea has to be able to meet a consumer's need or want in a distinctly new way to differentiate itself from products already in the market. If a need has not been met before, the new business has to find a way to solve a consumer problem.

Scott Cowan, owner of Century Cycles in Rocky River, Medina and Peninsula, said he took a geography of economics class that he later used to help evaluate his business plan when he started. "The first year of the business was within a few dollars of being exactly what I expected from the class," he said.

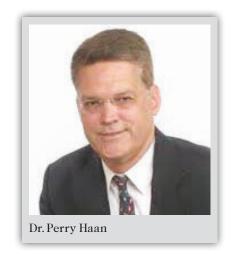
It may take some market research that typically requires some work and investment to help determine if a new idea has a chance of succeeding—or should stay on the napkin where it was first conceived. At some point, the entrepreneur has to make the decision to turn the dream into reality. This is usually one of the bigger decisions a first-time entrepreneur makes in life and requires the ability to deal with risk often never encountered before.

Turning a new idea into a business also requires support from others. Very few new ideas are converted into businesses by going it alone. The entrepreneur needs to find people to depend on to help implement the new concept such as employees, potential customers and investors.

The idea also has to be one that can be converted into a long-term, sustainable business. The model should work and be scalable. The entrepreneur needs to establish measurable goals for the organization.

Any effort to convert a new idea into a business is going to run into obstacles. The entrepreneur needs to try to anticipate potential obstacles. He or she needs to prepare for the practical and psychological bumps in the road, as it is important to stay positive when the inevitable obstacles occur.

"The only obstacle I found was finding a location where I could make the bagels. It took us a good year. But we found our location in Fairview Park. We love it there. We have a cafe where people can come in and eat their bagels, plain, hot topped or as a sandwich," explained



Terry Frick of Frickaccio's Fresh Italian Foods in Fairview Park.

The idea is the easy part of a business startup; it is the execution of that idea that is difficult. Venture capitalist Sam Hogg said today, he and his colleagues are looking at the people behind the ideas instead of just the idea itself. "Venture capital is all about mitigating risk, and if the majority of that risk lies in execution, it could come as no surprise that venture capitalists are shifting to a more peoplecentric model," Hogg stated. •

Dr. Perry Haan is Professor of Marketing and Entrepreneurship and former Dean of the Business School at Tiffin University. He resides in Rocky River and can be reached at 419-618-2867 or haanpc@tiffin.edu.





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HEALTH

New Epilepsy Unit at Fairview Hospital

By Angela Smith

Cleveland Clinic's Fairview Hospital has opened a new four-bed adult epilepsy monitoring unit (EMU) to deliver stateof-the-art evaluation, diagnosis and monitoring of patients with epilepsy.

As an expansion of the Epilepsy Center located on Cleveland Clinic's main campus, the facility features the latest technology of all-digital video EEG equipment. Operating around the clock, the unit is staffed by a team of nurses and EEG technologists specializing in epilepsy and backed by the Cleveland Clinic Epilepsy Center's large team of epileptologists. The team also includes specialists in neurology, neurosurgery, neuroradiology, nuclear medicine, psychology and psychiatry, as well as a large group of specialized nurses, social workers and clinical technologists.

"We are very excited to open the new EMU at Fairview Hospital," said Neil P.



Ready, set...the new EMU unit at Fairview Hospital is officially opened.

Smith, DO, President of Fairview Hospital. "We are always looking for ways to build on the quality care we can provide to our community so patients can receive the care they need close to home."

Epilepsy is one of the most common adult brain disorders. It is estimated that 200,000 new cases of epilepsy are diagnosed every year. There are as many people with epilepsy as with Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis and cerebral palsy combined. Over three million people in the United States are living with this disease.

"We are thrilled to be expanding our epilepsy services to Fairview Hospital and the West Side

community. The EMU will now give patients in this community access to evaluations, diagnosis and monitoring for seizure detection," said Dileep Nair, MD, head of Adult Epilepsy at Cleveland Clinic. "The new unit will be connected to the clinic's Central Monitoring Unit and will give patient's access to live EEG monitoring 24 hours a day. Bringing this capability into the community, gives the patients better access to advanced technology and care."

The new state-of-the-art unit, overlooking the Metro Parks at Fairview Hospital, will be uniquely connected to Cleveland Clinic's stateof-the-art Central Monitoring Unit, the first in the world to serve as a true live control center with the ability to monitor EEG 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for all Cleveland Clinic patients in the monitoring units, the hospital beds, the intensive care units, and the operating rooms at Cleveland Clinic's main campus, Florida and now Fairview Hospital. The implementation of this innovative infrastructure represents a paradigm shift in the concept of live neurophysiologic monitoring with direct feedback, thus optimizing seizure detection and patient treatment outcomes.

Wellness Doc

Alternative Solutions to Joint Pain

By Bryan Ruocco

A few months ago, I wrote an article on arthritis. Given the great turnout at our arthritis workshop, I thought I would elaborate a bit more on the topic. Millions of Americans suffer with joint pain. It is one of the top five reasons for doctor's visits in the U.S.

For those who suffer with joint pain, I am sure you realize that the pain can be disabling and can affect your lifestyle in many ways. From playing with the grandkids and enjoying your hobbies to just long periods of walking, joint pain can literally take years of enjoyment from your life.

There are many causes of joint pain. Many people think that arthritis is a death sentence to a life with joint pain. That is not the case. Joint pain can be a physical problem or a chemical problem. Some people experience both. From a treatment perspective, you can often limit joint pains by addressing both causes. Let me give you an understanding of both types and a few tips you can try to help with your pain.

Physical Problem

Over our lifetime, our joints take a beating. From sports and physical activity to trauma and stress, joints can easily break down if not well managed and cared for. The most common joints to break down are knees, hips and spine because they bear the most weight. The shoulders joints are a common problem too, because we use our arms so much every day.

When we experience an injury or trauma, we often forget that we must make sure that our body remains in proper balance. As I have mentioned before, joints that are out of balance tend to wear out and deteriorate faster than would otherwise be the case. When it's one knee or one hip, ask yourself why. Age is not the answer - your other knee and hip are the same age. Body alignment and healthy joint junction are key and one of the things we focus on in our office to help alleviate joint pain and stress.

Even if you already have joint pain and arthritis, if you are out of alignment, you are stressing certain joints. Once you improve the alignment, you reduce the joint irritation and stress and much of the pain is eliminated. Arthritis is actually

joint inflammation caused by stress and irritation to a joint. Don't be fooled into thinking it is a death sentence. You can eliminate the pain caused by arthritis in many ways. I will address this topic at our upcoming workshop.

Chemical Problem

If you do not think what you eat can cause joint pain and stiffness, you are in for a rude awakening. Body pH and the acids that are produced from what we eat and drink can have an enormous impact on joint pain, arthritis and inflammation. When your body chemistry is out of balance and producing excess acids, this is eroding and irritating joint linings and causing pain and stiffness.

The first thing to focus on is limiting sugar. Sugar causes an increase in acid production, so staying away from or limiting the carbohydrates can help reduce your inflammation. Many other factors can cause joint inflammation, including food sensitivities.

Most people are not aware of the foods their body is sensitive to. There are very basic in-office tests that we use to determine this. Avoiding foods that your



Dr. Bryan Ruocco

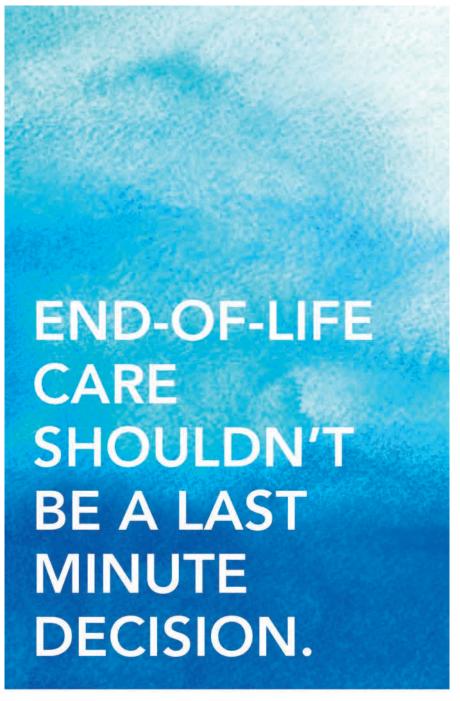
body is sensitive to is very important in piecing the puzzle together to free yourself from joint pain and arthritis.

Please join us on April 29 at 7:15 p.m. at Panera Bread in Rocky River as we take an in-depth look at the causes of joint pain, inflammation and arthritis and what alternatives are available to help alleviate the pain and suffering. Please call 440-331-4744 to reserve a space. •

Dr. Bryan Ruocco is a local chiropractor and wellness advocate. He owns and operates the Power of LIFE Wellness Center located in Rocky River. Dr. Ruocco graduated from the Life Chiropractic College in Marietta, GA. He graduated in the top of his class and received Magna Cum Laude Honors.



OPINION



April 16 is National Healthcare Decisions Day. You may have never heard of it, but it's just as important as the tax deadline that comes the day before. It's a day devoted to educating and empowering you to make your healthcare choices known should you become unable to speak for yourself. By making these choices now, you're giving your loved ones the gift of peace of mind.

Hospice of the Western Reserve can

help. We offer a free guide that provides useful tips and worksheets, plus all the legal documents required by the State of Ohio. There is no wrong way to begin and no better time than now. Be prepared to make choices that are right for you. Download your guide now at hospicewr.org/decisions.

Zoning Meeting of 10 Years Ago Still Fair Game

By Matt Gibel

Fairview Park residents, especially those near the former Coffinberry Elementary School, are getting involved in the planning of a new home development going in possibly later this year or early next year. Some news articles in the West Life and Sun Herald have been keeping people up to date, which is great. This is an extremely important issue for people in our area.

In 2005, a public meeting at Coffinberry School took place, prior to voting, on the issue of zoning this property to be residential. At this meeting, assurances were made by city officials that some green space would be a part of the land's future. Fairview Park Director of Development Jim Kennedy stated, "I can sit here and look you in the eye and tell you our intent is to fully put green space in there." An audio link, provided by Kevin Kelley of the West Life—easily found by googling the two words "soundcloud coffinberry", contains the entire audio of that meeting, which was attended by the mayor of Fairview Park.

During that 2005 meeting, plenty of questions were asked by Coffinberry residents, many of whom still live here. Kennedy goes on to state that residents will have a voice in the development process. At 4:38, Part 4 of the recording, he says, "everyone who lives in this area is welcome to attend planning commission meetings and have an opportunity to make comments on plans as they are submitted." In another statement, Kennedy says, "the public continues to have a voice in this process once a developer is selected." After hearing all this in 2005, we voted yes to rezone - barely. It passed by only 20 votes in Ward 1.

Our school district auctioned the property to the highest bidder on February 17 of this year. The highest bidder, Garland Homes, had no knowledge of the promises made with the 2005 Master Plan; they had no knowledge about the green space. The highest bidder learned of the auction only two days prior to the event.

There have been lots of reasons offered about why this development should be built without allocating meaningful public green space:

- "We have the Metroparks nearby."
- "There are already other parks in Fairview and Rocky River."
- "You had 10 years to make your point."
- "Where are you going to put the green space and who is going to maintain it?"
- "It's up to the developer, since he now owns it."
- "Not every neighborhood has a park in it, so why are you special?"
- "The people who made those promises are gone."
- "The vote passed, get over it."

These are all good points - the vote did pass, we have the valley, not everyone has a park in walking distance. It's all true.

What is also true is that promises were made about green space in order to have the vote passed. Specific promises were made to include neighborhood involvement in the development. Right now we have the opportunity to do just that, whether it's one year later or 10 years later. As Kennedy stated, "You will all have the opportunity to further comment on that when the time comes."

Adding new houses will bring some excitement to our neighborhood, and no doubt some families that today live in Coffinberry will be buying some of those homes.

If the issue is about money, there are solutions and we are looking for ways to address that. At the State of the City address, Mayor Patton closed by saying that the state of the city is good financially. Other funding sources are being explored outside

To summarize, 10 years ago a school in our neighborhood was closed. Our city leaders wanted to build houses on the property and also put in green space. To make this happen, our leaders said we needed to vote yes on the zoning ordinance, which we did. We trusted and we voted.

We all know politicians on TV tell lies to get elected and to push legislation through. I wasn't expecting it at the local level, in person, right here in my neighborhood. May be it is a misunderstanding, or maybe our city wasn't fully on board with Mr. Kennedy's statements. All I can say is, lesson learned. I will continue to follow Mr. Kennedy's directives about being involved in the development.

Matt Gibel grew up in Rocky River and is currently a resident of Fairview Park.



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GOVERNMENT

Fairview Park: State of the City Report

of the City address delivered by Mayor Eileen Ann Patton on March 11. The full report is available on the website for Fairview Park.

If I were going to summarize a theme for the State of Our City it would be... The future is looking better than ever for Fairview Park.

As an administration, we have the privilege of telling Fairview Park's story to people in the County and the State as we work to receive critical grant dollars to help bolster our city.

And boy have we delivered, with more than \$531,000.00 in grant funding received. Matt Hrubey, our Grant Administrator, worked with Ohio Department of Transportation in receiving funding for Safe Routes to School Program, the Cleveland Indians in park improvements, the Ohio EPA for stream bank and erosion at the creek and city hall parking lot, Cleveland Foundation for an intern and Cuyahoga County for recycling awareness and shredding days.

Development remains on track in Fairview Park. One of the biggest projects is the Garnett Health Campus renamed O'Neill Healthcare, Fairview Park. With an estimate of 100 employees when the business is up and running, we certainly welcome the O'Neill family back to Fairview Park, where it was once the place that they grew up.

This year we will be working on the occupancy of Savers Resale in the former Big Lots on Center Ridge and the Redevelopment of the Center Ridge/ West 210 commercial district that was re-zoned last year. The Coffinberry School Property was recently sold to a local developer. The sale of this area is in its infancy stages and we will be meeting with the new owner shortly. We continue our efforts working with the owners of the former NASA buildings in redevelopment of this property.

Sewer projects continue to be an important part of our future. Last year sewer line grouting, sealing and dye testing took place at various areas of our city. A new approach to tackling flooding problems began last year in public meetings with our residents. The results of these meetings was the city's decision to work and partner with an outside consultant, Black & Veatch Engineering to develop a comprehensive plan to address areas of flooding.

Based on the needs identified by the be developed consisting of prioritized improvement projects that will be implemented over several years. In the meantime, we will explore potential funding sources for future projects.

Our Service Department used over 2,000 tons of asphalt, cold patch and salt and collected 1,229 tons of leaves utilizing 3 leaf vac machines and 5 city trucks over 36 days. They also painted cross walks

This report is excerpted from the State and lane markings, pruned 111 city trees, removed 31 old trees and planted 28 new ones. And if that is not enough, this team repaired 35 water main breaks, serviced traffic lights, cleaned 47,710 feet of sewers, rebuilt 30 catch basins, made 196 service calls to residents.

> As we try to maximize our recycling efforts, I am pleased to report that the comingling of recyclables, combining paper with many household recycling items, has resulted in a greater participation and tipping fee savings. I commend both the residents and our Fairview Park Green Team for this progress.

> The efforts of our building and code enforcement go beyond bricks and mortar to real quality of life issues. I am personally committed to fair but aggressive code enforcement. Our Code Enforcers have had a busy and productive year conducting more than 2,000 property maintenance inspections. 1,408 permits were issued for various projects including - HVAC, plumbing, concrete, pools and demolition to name a few.

> Today, we are working hard to preserve our financial integrity. The city received the "Financial Reporting Achievement Award" from The Government Finance Association and State Auditor Award of Distinction. Thank you to Finance Director Lisa Rocco, the finance staff and the Directors and Chiefs who play a significant and active role in the operations of their departments budgets.

> Income tax receipts were up by 3.4% from 2013 to 2014 and property tax receipts were up 1 % from the same time period. There was a decrease in the general Fund Revenue from 2013- 2014 as this loss was attributed to receiving less from the estate tax receipts. We ended last year with a carry-over in the General Fund. Last Saturday, the city administration, directors and chiefs met with our city council to review our budget, revenue and expenditures for this year. With this continued fiscal oversight, we anticipate a carry-over of over 1 million dollars for next year.

> We are grateful for the dedicated work of our *Police Officers* on the street as well as the detective bureau. Our Police Department handled almost 14,000 calls for service, over 2,000 investigative/ accident reports, 640 prisoners were booked in our jail and 2,433 volunteer hours for our Auxiliary Unit.

> Last year eight MARC'S radios were purchased and 15 portable walkie talkie Marc's radios were received from a County grant. Five mobile data terminals were also purchased for our police cars. In September, we received financial assistance from the County to begin a Narcan Program. This program outfits officers with Nalaxone which can reverse the effects of a heroin or opiate overdose and is ready for use in our police cars, greatly increasing the survival rate of those who overdose.

In describing our Fairview Park Fire

Department three words sum up 2014: Lots of Change. We said goodbye to Chief Bud Williams after 31 years of service with our department and welcomed Tony Raffin as the new Chief, making him the 10th Chief in the history of the Fire Department.

Fire prevention and education are important functions that the department is involved with year round. 448 buildings were inspected with no major violations noted. 100 fire suppression systems were inspected and a total of 19 fire drills and 15 safety talks were completed. With the generous help of Energizer Batteries our firefighters distributed over 1,500 smoke alarm batteries to schools for distribution.

The Fire Department deserves our hearty congratulations on the results of a recent Public Protection Classification survey conducted by ISO! The ISO (Insurance Service Organization) evaluates fire departments around the country. Our department showed outstanding improvement, moving from Class 04 to a Class 02! (Class scale: 01 highest: 10 lowest.)

We were also the recipient of several grants totaling \$32,500.00. These dollars were used for emergency medical care and rescue operation equipment and 2 motorized stretchers that assist paramedics in lifting patients.

The department had its busiest year ever with 1,668 medic runs, 152 fire runs – including 3 structural files and 205 other emergency runs. There was no loss of life or injury resulting from these structure fires. Our department members are certified Firefighters and Paramedics and are trained for rope rescue and hazardous materials operations and to the awareness level for swift water rescue.

Our Parks and Recreation Mission Statement is to provide and promote participation through educational, park, recreational and leisure opportunities. 2014 brought exciting initiatives, programs, and development to our community, including

- ·Installation of new playground equipment at Morton Park,
- ·Reroofed restroom at Morton Park and Bain Park Pavilion,
- ·Installed steps entering Bain Park playground area,
- · Fenced in field #4 at Bohlken,
- · Added playground equipment to Grannis Park,
- ·Installed new carpet, fire alarm and lights at Bain Cabin,
- And developed an Ice Skating Rink at Bain Park. Please note the benches at the rink that were constructed by a young FP resident and Eagle Scout -Christopher Corrigan.

7,208 members enjoy the many activities hosted here at our beautiful Gemini Center, now 8 years old. Offerings include swim lessons, youth sports programs, youth leisure programs, adult



Mayor Eileen Ann Patton

programs. If you are looking to host a party, call to reserve one now as 133 wave room rentals hosted many birthday swim

Improvements this year will include a "fresh new focus" on Tri-City Park. This park is owned by the cities of Fairview Park, Rocky River and Westlake. In Director Brown's tour of the park, he felt Tri-City was underutilized and immediately began a collaborative effort between the three cities in programming the park with sports activities seven days a week. For our remaining parks and facilities, the list of goals and objectives are long and aggressive.

The goal of the Administration is to complete a needs assessment aimed at improving our community's quality of life. Please click onto our website and take the survey now, your input is important to us.

With the capital upgrades that will take place this year, the Gemini Center/ Parks and Recreation Budget is expected to have a carryover balance at the end of 2015 totaling \$1,193,981.81.

Another year of fun and excitement has gone by for the members of the Fairview Park Senior Center. Director Regina Sillasen and her staff continue to create new ideas to keep the senior active, healthy and busy. In addition to the grants I mentioned earlier, \$18,931.00 was awarded to our Senior Center to continue our popular hot lunch program, serving over 9,177 hot lunches last year.

I would also like to welcome School Superintendent Bill Wagner to our Fairview Park schools. I would like to thank you for supporting members of our Police Department who were assisted by FHS Assistant Principal Chris Vicha in the training for all the school districts staff in a program called ALICE. Alert, Lockdown, Identify, Counter, Evacuate This training is billed as the first active shooter response program in the United

I've learned great government can be successful by investing in what our citizens want and need... I've learned government is great when it lives within

The State of the City is good. I truly believe our future is looking brighter than ever! •

"A city is not gauged by its length and width, but by the broadness of its vision and the height of its dreams." - Herb Caen

EDUCATION

FAIRVIEW PARK BRANCH LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

April 1 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. In this informative and motivational workshop designed for The Over-40 Job Seeker and presented by a Career Counselor, learn how to increase your marketability and success in today's job field. This workshop will provide handson job search strategies and resources. Registration required.

April 8 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Enjoy an evening of music with the Ryann Anderson Trio. A lifelong instrumental guitarist from Cleveland, Ryann Anderson draws from several musical styles and genres—jazz, classical and folk, and stands apart with his original sound. Sponsored by The Friends of the Fairview Park Branch Library. Registration required.

April 16 at 7:00 p.m. Author John Sabol will talk about his newest book "Kelleys Island" and use a PowerPoint presentation to accompany the discussion. Books will be available for purchase and signing following the presentation. Registration required.

April 21 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Celebrate Money Smart Week April 18-25 by attending Budgeting for a Better Life. Financial experts will share tips on creating budgets and finding available tools and resources to reach your goals. Registration required.



April 23 at 7:00 p.m. With Elegance, the voice of Coloratura Soprano Kathleen Bosl and the voice of the flute played by Rachel Kim will join together to sing and play the compositions of K.G. Roy, A. Roussel, R. Vaughn Williams and others. Sponsored by the Friends of the Fairview Park Branch Library. Registration required.

April 29 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Come to learn how to Gain Historical Context for Your Ancestors. Genealogy involves more than collecting names of ancestors, documenting records and organizing information into charts. Author John Sabol will show you how to reconstruct the environment in which your ancestors lived, the social network through which they moved and some little known events of their lives. Registration required.

To register, call the Fairview Park Branch Library at 440-333-4700 or visit www.euyahogalibrary.org.

Rotary Foundation Awards \$51,000 in Grants

By Lynn Donaldson

Nearly \$51,000 in grants from the Lakewood-Rocky River Rotary Foundation will be used to provide scholarships, recognize student achievement, purchase dictionaries for third graders, and help fund worthy programs by community organizations.

The awards focused on three main areas – community health and wellness, food and nutrition, and programs that encourage and foster youth leadership.

The Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River will award \$10,000 in scholarships to high school seniors in May, and \$4,750 to student winners in the club's annual speech, music and art competition at the Beck Center on March 30.

The Beck Center received \$3,000 for visual arts scholarships and Bike for Beck, and \$1,920 was used to continue the club's commitment to provide a dictionary each year to every third grader in Lakewood and Rocky River.

Other grants for youth-related programs were awarded to: Mathew's Lending Library, Recovery Resources, H2O (Help to Others), Bridge Avenue School, Girls with Sole, Magnificat High School, Lakewood Foundation Supplies 4 Success, and the American Youth Foundation programs at Lakewood and Rocky River high schools.

Lakewood Community Services Center received a \$3,350 grant for programs to help its clients move toward self-sufficiency. Cornucopia Inc. (Nature's Bin) was awarded \$2,065 for its job training and placement program.

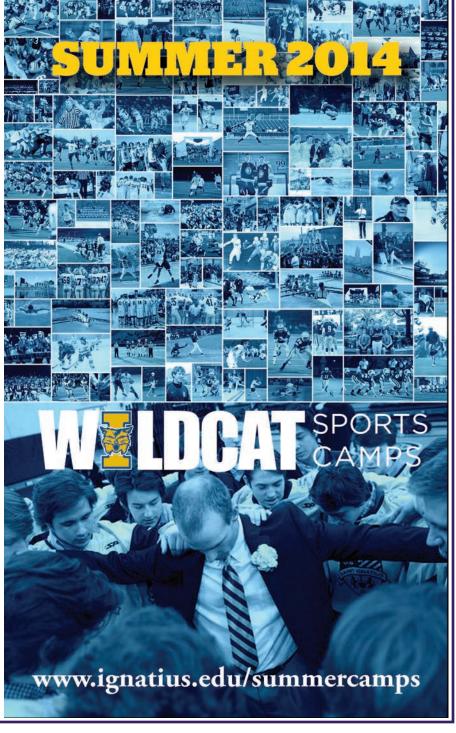
Additional community service grants were awarded to: North Coast Health Ministry, Barton Center, Providence House, Rocky River Senior Center, Trinity Lutheran Community Outreach, Rocky River Assistance Program, Lakewood Foundation for the Commission on Aging, Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corp., and Meals on Wheels in Lakewood and Rocky River.

The club Foundation's assets grow each year as the result of gifts, donations and bequests by members and friends of the club. The local club was chartered in 1926.

Rotary International is the world's first service club organization, with more than 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs in more than 160 countries worldwide. Rotary, along with its partners, has reduced polio cases by 99% worldwide since its first project to vaccinate children in the Philippines in 1979. •







EDUCATION

Rotary Honors Outstanding Career-Tech Students

By Lynn Donaldson

West Shore Career-Technical District Outstanding Student Award recipients were honored by the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River at its noon luncheon in March at the Don Umerley Civic Center.

The 16 students - top performers in their career-technical programs - were chosen for their exemplary accomplishments in the classroom, school activities, clubs, athletics and service in the community. Each student exemplifies traits of leadership, dedication, responsibility, caring, community involvement, and initiative.

"These West Shore students have achieved top results in the classroom and workplace," remarked Linda Thayer, West Shore Career-Technical District educational coordinator. "They have already started on their career path by earning college credit, industry credentials, and workplace experience through their West Shore experience. This sets them apart from their peers as they head out into the post-secondary and workplace world."

Parents, employers, work supervisors and guests were among those in attendance. According to Rotarian Nancy Ralls, West Shore Career-Technical District career development coordinator, this is the 18th year the club has honored the Outstanding Student Award winners.

The Rotary club will present each student with a gift card and a plaque to honor their achievements at West Shore's annual Career Passport and Student Recognition Assembly on May 19. Each award recipient is automatically nominated to receive the "Career-Technical Student of the Year Award" which will be announced at West Shore's Career Passport and Student Recognition Assembly.

West Shore districts are Bay Village, Lakewood, Rocky River and Westlake. This year, West Shore is serving 507 students in its workforce development programs.

Recipients

The 2014-15 Outstanding Student Award recipients are Alan Baker, automotive technology; Renee Klann, biotechnology; David Antz, business management; Sean Collins, communitybased training at Bonne Bell; Colin Murphy, community-based training at Rae Ann; Marta Myers, communitybased at the Marriott; Elijah Plumley, Katherine trades; Renaudin, culinary arts; Megan Knott, early childhood education; Darius Rogers, electronic technology; Mohamed Saed Alodat, health careers technology; Jacob Corder, interactive media; Ulmas Fayzulova, medical office management; Aaron Swartz, networking/Cisco; Laert Fejzullari, Project Lead the Way; and Eric Van Keuls, service occupations training. •



Magnificat Award Recipients Mrs. Pat, and Mr. Bill Reichard, with Sister Helen Jean Novy, H.M., Interim President of Magnificat(in center).

Magnificat's Annual Endowment Gala

By Karen Uthe

Thanks to Magnificat alumnae, parents and friends who joined together in support of the students of Magnificat, the school's 26th Annual Endowment Gala raised over \$225,000! It was a spectacular evening under the dazzling lights of the State Theatre at Playhouse Square. Special congratulations to Rocky River residents, Pat and Bill Reichard, who were honored that evening with the school's Magnificat Award. •

Karen Uthe is Director of Marketing for Magnificat High School.

"What you learn is your personal treasure.

No one can take it away from you."

- Lailah Gifty Akita



Rotary Foundation Offers Four Grants

The Lakewood/Rocky River Rotary Foundation is offering grants for study in any accredited post-high school educational institution. Four grants of \$2,500\$ will be awarded toward the cost of one year's tuition.

Applicants must be a member of the 2015 graduating class of any accredited high school and be a resident of Lakewood or Rocky River; in the top one-third of the graduating class; have applied to a specific college, university, community or junior college, or trade or professional school; and have no direct relationship to a Rotarian or Honorary Rotarian.

Applications must be received by 3 p.m., Monday, $\bf April~13.$ The awards will be presented on June 8.

Required information must be submitted on the application form that can be downloaded or completed online at http://www.lakewoodrockyriverrotary.org. Guidelines for submitting the application, as well as other criteria, are included. •

COMM UNITY WORKS

Women to Watch-Ohio



On view: April 2-May 2, 2015

Public Opening Reception: Thursday, April 2, 6–8pm

Panel Discussion with the artists: Friday, April 10, 12:15pm Presented by Cleveland Institute of Art, in collaboration with the Ohio Advisory Group of the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

The Artists:

Christi Birchfield, Hildur Ásgeirsdóttir Jónsson, Mimi Kato, and Eva Kwong

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THE GOOD LIFE

Introducing the Rockport Foodie

By Colleen Wing

The goal of any restaurant critic should be to offer a relatively educated opinion about a dining experience to the public. In the day and age of smart phones, Yelp, food blogs, and online magazines, getting someone's two cents isn't necessarily even that valuable. One of the things that is missing in most critiques is context.

Many factors go into someone's opinion about a restaurant experience. For example, my father once complained that the pork chops at TGI Friday's were too juicy...too juicy...is that even a thing? My husband, on the other hand, is willing to tough out a new experience with me. His only criterion is that he doesn't leave hungry and for him that means a meal on a plate. Then there are the children. My poor children aren't allowed to simply not like something. It is a lengthy conversation involving a barrage of questions about what they didn't like. Was it the texture, was it too bitter, sweet, salty, what...what! These are not the people you want getting a bee in their bonnet and writing a review.

I was a restaurant manager before my children were born. Having a degree in Hospitality Management and Culinary Arts is like having a PhD in other fields. There are few other occupations in which qualifications come as easily. Because someone likes to eat and drink and has seed money, he or she somehow has all the qualifications needed to run a restaurant. I have great respect for chefs and restaurant/bar owners, but you really have to love the business. I can tell when I walk in the door whether or not they do.



Recently, I walked into a local spot known for creative hot dogs and sandwiches. It also offers breakfast, lunch, dinner, and (my favorite) online ordering for takeout. Some of the local "Best of's" were just published and River Dog Café won in one category and was a contender in some others.

On entering River Dog Café, I was greeted by a person who seemed genuinely happy to be there. I asked for recommendations, ordered a Jenny Dog- hot dog with bacon, brie, and honey truffle glaze (\$6), The Adam Bomb-hot dog with beef brisket, creamy cheddar cheese, and fresh herbs (\$6), a side of macaroni and cheese (\$4), and tater tots (\$2.50). I ordered it to go so that I could dissect it at home and share with my boys.

The menu notes that all hot dogs are grass-fed, Angus beef, and uncured, free from nitrates. I thought all the bad stuff is what makes hot dogs taste good, but this one proved me wrong. The River Dog also offers a veggie version or kielbasa and bratwurst option for dog suggestions and builds dogs.

The Jenny Dog was excellent. The brie and the bacon along with the honey glaze had a bite but made for a savory sweet combo. My younger son taste of only the brie. It was a little too sharp him but he said the rest was darn tasty. The buns are soft but sturdy, so even with all the toppings, you don't end up with a soggy dog. The Adam Bomb was good too, although it seemed to need some crunch. Of course, my sons fought over the last

bit of cheese sauce for their tater tots.

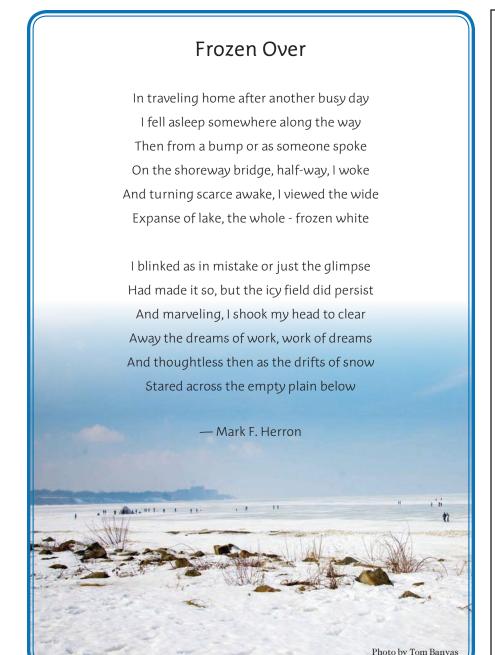
The macaroni and cheese was a perfect meld between kid and adult flavor palettes. The flavor proves it is house made. It was cheesy but not dry and wasn't, as my son says "too saucy". He loved the corkscrew pasta. Bar 145 in Avon has excellent mac and cheese. River Dog could rival it at half the price...and with better service.

Later that evening, we ordered online, which was quick and easy. We tried a Crispy Duck BLT (\$9.50) duck breast, bacon, brie, lettuce and tomato, cherry mayo on a grilled ciabatta. The cherry mayo mixed with the brie made for a wonderful creaminess next to the crunch of the bacon. The only flaw was that the skin of the duck was not crispy.

It is clear that quality ingredients and thoughtful components go into each of the items on River Dog's menu. The café is owned and operated by Christian and Jennifer Barnes, residents of Rocky River. The family's passion for good food is evident in everything made. I look forward to trying the Sunday brunch and what has been described as "the best cinnamon roll you'll ever have".

The River Dog Café is located at 19900 Detroit Ave, Rocky River; phone, 216-767-5559. Visit the Café at riverdogcafe. com, Facebook, and Twitter. •

Colleen Wing has a degree in Hospitality Management and Culinary Arts. She and her family live in Rocky River. Colleen believes that life is too short to waste good calories on bad food and wine.





Digital Magazines from RRPL

Stuck in a waiting room with nothing to do but flip through old magazines? Not anymore! Rocky River Public Library now offers a variety of your favorite magazines, available 24/7 online. You can instantly access the latest issues of over 40 popular magazines, which can be read on a multitude of smartphones and tablets.

Check out our new digital periodicals on the Library's website, where you currently borrow eBooks and digital audiobooks at http://digitallibrary.rrpl.org. Magazines are returned automatically after the lending period, so there are no late fees. Happy browsing! •

THE GOOD LIFE

The Etiquette Corner Share the Joy of Spring

By Colleen Harding

Spring is just around the corner. It has been a difficult winter, but crazy winters allow us to appreciate beautiful springs even more. Use the new season as an opportunity to spread some old-fashioned kindness. I think the continued extreme cold weather has put many of us in a funk. The cold and gray can do this. However, as you start peeling off the depression and feeling renewed, spread the joy.

Here are some suggestions of ways to enhance the rush you may experience with the return of the sun.

- 1. Greet a neighbor. We don't get to know our neighbors well in our fast-paced world. If you have an older neighbor, check on them and make sure they are feeling good. Put some time aside for a little visit. Remember that you could be the only person your elderly neighbor has seen in a very long time.
- 2. Bring your smile back and share it. Smile and say hello when you enter an elevator or grocery store or walk into a bank.
- 3. Take someone to lunch or dinner or for a drink and treat for no reason. Just grab the tab! The treat doesn't have to be fancy or expensive.
- 4. Call or write to someone that you haven't spoken to in a long time. Surprise someone with an unexpected note or call.
- 5. Bring someone flowers. Flowers are so inexpensive and can brighten anyone's day.
- 6. Tell someone special that he or she is special to you. Many times we don't express ourselves and say the words because we figure the other person already knows how we feel. And they may know - but it is still always nice to hear.
- 7. Call your mother. Moms are the people that are always glad to hear from us. Dads might think we need money when we call, but Moms always want to know what we are up to and how we are doing.

These suggestions might seem simple - and they are - but we still don't do them enough. This spring, share the joy of renewal and see how it enhances your internal happiness.

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

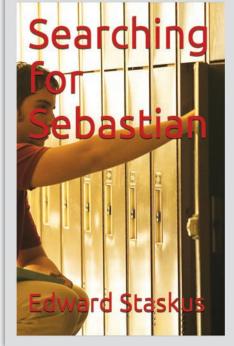


Local Author's Book on Kindle

By Edward Staskus

"Searching for Sebastian", a new short novel by Edward Staskus, has recently been published on Amazon's Kindle Books. Based on extensive interviews with the 2011 freshman elass of St. Edward's High School in Lakewood, the novel is a comic and dystopian coming-of-age story.

A short story writer and a regular contributor to the Rebelle Society, Mr. Staskus has written for magazines such as Integral Yoga, Australian Yoga, and Elephant Journal, as well as the Rockport and Lakewood Observers. His current project, "Dogs Never Bite Me", is appearing in serial form at dogsneverbiteme.wordpress.com. •



Consumer Beware: Phone Scams Targeting **Ohio Residents**

By Carolyn Hildebrandt

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine warned that consumers in Ohio and throughout the nation are reporting seam calls that appear to come from a 513 (Cincinnati) area code phone number and attempt to obtain consumers' credit or debit card numbers. The calls appear to be part of a "phishing" scheme, in which con artists attempt to gain a consumer's personal information by claiming that there is a problem with the consumer's account.

Although a 513-area code phone number appears on the consumer's caller ID, the calls likely are not originating from the Cincinnati area and may be the result of hacking or caller ID "spoofing," or altering. In one week, the Ohio Attorney General's Office received about 110 reports of these calls from consumers in Ohio and other states.

According to consumer reports, the calls generally begin with a recorded message telling consumers that their credit or debit card has been locked or frozen. Consumers are instructed to "Press 1" to unlock their account and then are told to enter their 16-digit card number. Consumers who supply this information may be at risk for identity

"Scammers often try to use fear to convince people to provide money or personal information," Attorney General DeWine said. "No matter what a caller says, don't give out any financial information in response to these kinds of calls. If you are worried about your credit or debit account, hang up and call your bank using a number you know to be real, such as the number that appears on your monthly statement."

Consumers who receive suspicious

calls should take steps to protect themselves, including the following:

- ·Be skeptical of the phone number that appears on your caller ID. It could be the result of "spoofing" or hacking.
- ·When in doubt, hang up or don't answer.
- ·Don't respond to suspicious calls. Even if the call prompts you to press a button to "opt out," don't do it. This could cause you to receive more calls, because it signals that yours is a legitimate phone number.
- · Never provide money or personal information to someone who calls you unexpectedly, even if it appears to be a local call.

Consumers who think they have provided credit or debit card numbers in response to a potential scam should take steps to protect themselves from possible identity theft. Call your bank to report that your credit or debit card number has been compromised. Banks may take action such as issuing a new card number

Monitor your bank accounts. Look for suspicious activity, and if you find any errors, immediately notify your bank, or credit or debit card provider. Place an initial fraud alert on your credit report. Contact one of the three major credit reporting agencies — Experian, Equifax, or TransUnion — to place an initial fraud alert, which will stay on your credit report for 90 days. The alert is free of charge and will make it more difficult for someone to open credit in your name.

Victims of identity theft should contact the Ohio Attorney General's Identity Theft Unit for help correcting the effects of identity theft. To report a scam, consumers should contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at www. OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov or 800-282-



FAIRVIEW PARK GARDEN CLUB SPRING LUNCHEON

Saturday, April 18 • 11:30 AM

Gemini Center

21225 Lorain Road • Fairview Park, Ohio

Tickets are \$30 each. Advanced ticket sales only. For tickets, please call: 440-333-3333.

Featuring a style show by Fairview Park's Dress Barn, our popular raffle baskets, door prizes, 50/50 raffle and more!



ROCKY RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY · CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Teens grab your friends and stop by the Library for Video Games! Grades 7 and up.

April 9 at 7:00 p.m. Be part of the Cleveland Play House Script Club. It's everything you love about a book club, but with a play in the spotlight. Check out the script for "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike," read it, and register to join CPH staff to explore the story, characters, and how CPH takes a play from page to stage! The quiet country lives of siblings Vanya and Sonia are upended when their fading B-movie star sister arrives with a revelation—and her sexy boy-toy, Spike. Existential despair has never been funnier than in this Tony Award-winning comedy.

Registration Required: Pick up your script at the Reference Desk as soon as possible and register online at www. rrpl.org on the events calendar at least 2 days before.



On Stage in River presents "At Wit's End," a literary concert on April 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rocky River Senior Center.

April 12 at 7:00 p.m. Join us for our performing arts series On Stage In River when we present the premier performance of "At Wit's End," a literary concert at the Rocky River Senior Center on 21014 Hilliard Boulevard. Experience the excitement of live theater when WordStage celebrates the spoken words of the Algonquin Round Table. WordStage, a Chamber Music Readers Theater, takes us back to New York City in the 1920s when a remarkable group of writers, critics, and actors met for lunch daily and in

10 years of association, the Round Table acquired national reputations both for their contributions to literature and for their sparkling wit.

All enhanced with music from the era—Gershwin—played by a pianist and violinist. Catch the likes of Dorothy Parker, Alexander Woollcott, Edna Ferber and Robert Benchley through a narrative in the form of a script read by four prominent area actors. Free admission. Limited seating—come early.

April 13 at 6:30 p.m. Come watch "The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie", a 1972 French drama/comedy, as our Indie International Film Fest continues. Enjoy fresh, hot popcorn while celebrating the world of cinema. Please note these films have not been rated and should be assumed to have mature content.

April 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. How Smart Is Your TV? will help you discover what defines a Smart TV, its capabilities, its limitations, and some of the latest television add-ons such as Chromecast.

April 15 from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Has your favorite book been turned into a movie? From the Page to the Screen will capture your attention. Join us for popcorn and a teen movie. Grades 7 and up.

April 17 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sip, Snack, and Craft! - Special Shannon 'Knitgirl' Okey Edition! - gets creative! Meet Shannon Okey, fiber artist, founder of Cooperative Press, and author of 13 books! Ms. Okey will be instructing the group on a simple project and materials will be provided. Registration required.

April 18 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Be a part of the Guild of the Brick for ages 5 and older. Are you crazy about Legos®? Then drop in! We provide the Legos®, you bring the imagination.

April 20 at 3:30 p.m. Come to Movie Monday for grades 3 through 6. We'll feature recent movie releases, along with

everyone's favorite classics. Enjoy free popcorn and drinks.

April 22 at 10:00 a.m. The Alzheimer's Association presents "Now What Was I Saying? Understanding and Enhancing Memory". This interactive workshop will explain the basics of how the brain works, the primary principles of memory, some techniques to improve memory and things you can do for improving overall brain health.

April 24 at 12:00 p.m. Really relax at Lunchtime Movie. Join us and watch "Unbroken," nominated for three Academy Awards and directed by Angelina Jolie. Popcorn and drinks provided.

April 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Meet 50 fiction and non-fiction authors, children's and teen authors, poets and book illustrators/photographers at the Rocky River Public Library Book Festival. Mary Doria Russell, Linda Castillo, Les Roberts, Jonathan Sawyer, Mary Ann Winkowski, D.M. Pulley, Michael Heaton, James Renner and more of your favorites will be there. Hear popular authors talk about their books throughout the day, talk with your favorite authors and get signed copies of their books. Plus free book appraisals, prize drawings, and more. This free event -sponsored by the Women's Committee of Rocky River Public Library, the Friends of the Library, and the Rocky River Public Library Foundation - is being held at the Don Umerley Civic Center on 21016 Hilliard Boulevard.

April 28 from 6:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Play Dungeons & Dragons, the classic fantasy role-playing game, with other teens. Learn how to create a character and embark on fantastic adventures. There is plenty of room for extra Dungeon Masters, too! Grades 7 and up. Registration required.

April 29 from 3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Drop in for Get in the Game! for students in grades 3-6. Meet at the library 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.



TUNE IN THURSDAY features The Cavani String Quartet at Rocky River Public Library on April 30 at 7:00 p.m.

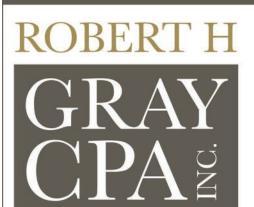
April 30 at 7:00 p.m. TUNE IN THURSDAY features the Cavani String Quartet. Cleveland's own internationally renowned, awardwinning chamber music ensemble returns to our Library with a new program. Two violins, a viola and cello create a musical memory.

April 30 Registration Deadline The Annual Cowan Pottery Symposium takes place on Saturday, May 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Symposium is an ideal opportunity for those who are interested in Cowan Pottery, local history, antiques, collecting, and the arts in general to network with like-minded people. The day includes speakers, meals, scholarship presentation, and a raffle. Cost is \$22.00. For more details, check www.rrpl.org/cowan, or contact Cowan Pottery Museum Curator/Historian Lauren Hansgen at 440-895-3763 or l.hansgen@rrpl.org

The Library will be closed on Easter Sunday, April 5.

For additional information, call the Rocky River Public Library at 440-333-7610 or visit www.rrpl.org.





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