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FAIRVIEW PARK & ROCKY RIVER COMMUNITIES | VOL 03, ISSUE 13 | SEPTEMBER 2016

FPCS District Selected to Participate in Elite National Personalized Learning Program

By Amanda Lloyd

Fairview Park City Schools has a new tool to deliver The Fairview Advantage. The District has been selected to be one of more than 100 school districts across the country (and one of only two from the state of Ohio) to partner with Summit Basecamp, a free program that provides teachers and schools with the resources they need to bring personalized learning into their classroom.

School leaders applied for the program because the district shares a common vision with Summit Basecamp: students should be at the center of learning.

The backbone of Summit's approach is the online Personalized Learning Platform (PLP). Developed by teachers from Summit Public Schools in the San Francisco Bay area with technical assistance from Facebook engineers, the Summit



Photo by Melanie Wightman

Teachers and counselors from Fairview Park City Schools spent two weeks in the San Francisco Bay area this summer learning about the Summit Personalized Learning Platform (PLP) that is now being implemented within the school district.

PLP helps students set both short and long-term goals (while tracking progress towards these goals), prioritize their work, learn content at their own pace, complete deeper learning projects that apply real-world situations, and reflect on their learning. Teachers are able to better customize instruction to meet individual students' needs

and interests, including utilizing a variety of tools, many hands-on. This approach is supported by technology that allows both students and teachers to create and carry out individual learning plans and track progress towards goals.

The district will begin implementing the program and the digital platform this school year

for students in sixth grade at Lewis F. Mayer Middle School and ninth grade at Fairview High School.

This partnership aligns perfectly with the district's strategic plan — The Fairview Advantage; a framework for student success which empowers students to create, innovate, investigate, collaborate, communicate, solve problems, lead, reflect, and serve.

The district was uniquely poised to apply for the program because of the work accomplished as a part of developing the The Fairview Advantage and its vision for personalized learning: to ensure that the school district's offerings, tools, and instruction methods work together to develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for each child to be successful.

"One of the core goals of our strategic plan, based on community survey data, is learning — specifically

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Grammy-Winning Group Comes to Rocky River

By Carol Jacobs

The Rocky River Chamber Music Society opens its 58th season with the Brazilian Guitar Quartet on Monday, **October 3**, at 7:30 p.m. at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 20401 Hilliard Blvd. Formed in 1998, the Quartet has established itself as one of the world's leading classical guitar ensembles as shown by its achievement of "best classical album" at the 2011 Latin Grammy Awards. The Quartet's discography includes six CDs for the Delos label.

During its nearly 20 years of activity, the Brazilian Guitar

quartet has performed throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia, receiving ecstatic audience responses in sold-out halls and garnering rave reviews. Praised by the Washington Post for its "seductive beauty" and "virtuosic gusto," the Quartet is known for its unique combination of regular six-string and extended eight-string guitars, thereby allowing for the exploration of unusual repertoire. In its Rocky River appearance, the Quartet will begin with Spanish music by Manuel de Falla, Enrique Granados, and Isaac Albeniz; it will

Quartet page 3

St. Mary Magdalene Parish to Hold 7th Annual European Festival

By Michael Prochko

Come experience cultures from across Europe at St. Mary Magdalene's 7th annual European Festival to be held Saturday, **September 10th** from 11 AM to 11 PM at St. Mary Magdalene Byzantine Catholic Church located at 5390 W. 220th Street in Fairview Park. The Festival brings together the music, dancing, ethnic cuisine and other traditions representing various European cultures including Slovak, Polish, Hungarian, Irish, Italian and more.

Dance groups perform each hour throughout the day, concluding with a performance by Polka band, Jimmy K. & Ethnic Jazz from 6:30-10:30. The parishioner-catered menu includes traditional favorites such as pierogi, paprikash, goulash, stuffed-cabbage, kielbasa & kraut, potato pancakes, sauerkraut balls and cabbage & noodles. A wide selection of homemade bakery including nut & poppyseed rolls is also available for sale. An indoor Bier Garten features European beers, wine and signature cocktails. Visitors can take a chance at a cash or basket raffle, browse the religious gift selection or shop the craft show which runs from 11:00-7:00. Those interested can learn about the Eastern Catholic Churches by taking a church tour (2:00 and 4:00) or listening to one of the guest speakers (1:00 and 3:00). Entertainment, dining and most activities are indoors. Children's activities will be held outside, weather permitting. For more information, visit www.stmmeurofest.com •

Learn to Play Bridge in a Day

By Edith Dus-Garden

The game of Bridge is a favorite with people all over the world. If you don't know this great game, have never played, or need a refresher course, here is your chance. The American Contract Bridge League and the Cleveland Whist Club are underwriting an event, Learn to Play Bridge in a Day. The event will be held on Saturday, **October 1** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Cleveland Yachting Club in Rocky River. For more info, call 440-734-0296 or email ediegarden@cox.net •

THE ROCKPORT OBSERVER

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personalized learning. The Learning Action Planning Team built in a lot of strategies surrounding personalized learning, and this is the tool that will deliver it,” said Superintendent Dr. Bill Wagner. “We sought out the best opportunity in personalized learning and brought it to Fairview Park.”

This tool will help educators deliver the Fairview Advantage and its component goals of Learning, Readiness, Resources, and Engagement through participation in the Basecamp program and will be empowered to able to adopt this Personalized Learning Platform as a digital vehicle to fit the needs of their students.

“It is very exciting to be a part of this national community of practice,” said Director of Teaching and Learning Melanie Wightman. “The opportunity to access this tool



at no cost to the district is incredible. There have been millions of dollars invested in design and development in this platform and Fairview is very fortunate to be able to be a leader in implementing this program in our schools and our community.”

This platform not only provides the ways and means for students to be intensively focused in their education initiatives, but involves parents as well. Parents will be able to see the entire curriculum,

feedback from teachers, and their child’s progress.

Mary Cory, a counselor at Fairview High School, was inspired by the experience at the Summit Basecamp training and embraces the belief that in order to best serve students, it’s important to make room for new ideas and practices. “The Fairview Advantage and personalized learning are perfectly complementary — the core values and practices are inherently aligned,” she said. “The skills, the connectivity, the nurturing, empowering and engaging aspects of this type of learning are deeply holistic and intensely powerful because they serve the paramount function of honoring the individual person of each student, which, to me, is the most valuable and essential role of educators.”

“The Summit Personalized

Learning program is the only comprehensive curriculum and assessment platform in the nation. This curriculum is developed and managed by teachers and, through generous foundation funding, made available free for broader use in public schools,” explains Wightman. “Content, assessment tools (rubrics, tests, projects, and more) are constantly vetted by Stanford University. Because teachers create and curate an organic, living curriculum, they are deeply invested in implementing all elements and phases with fidelity. Teachers are especially enthusiastic about building those habits and skills that work across content areas and are required to excel in school and beyond.” •

Amanda Lloyd is Communications and Marketing Coordinator for Fairview Park City Schools.

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citizens of Rocky River & Fairview Park

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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 2016-The Rockport Observer, All right reserved. Any reproduction or use of the content within without expressed written consent is forbidden.

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COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Photographer's Dog Touts Power of Life

By Bob Soltys

A local photographer's dog has written a book that mentions how Rocky River chiropractor Bryan Ruocco improved his health and his Dad's.

Illustrated with his Dad's black and white photos, *A Lucky Life* narrates a dog's twelve-year journey across America with a photographer, making friends and opening doors for his Dad along the way, beginning with Lucky's long night and uncertain future:

"I don't know why they did it. It's not like I crapped on the floor or watered the carpet.

But on the night of September 29, 2003, my human drove me to the South County Shelter in San Diego, removed my tag, tied me to a light pole in the parking lot, and left me there in the middle of the night.

When the shelter staff came to work the next morning, they untied me and took me in, but my troubles weren't over yet. Because money for pet shelters is limited, California shelters keep pets without tags for only three days.

The morning of October 3, my time was up. A little before 11 o'clock, one of the staff opened the door to my cage and reached in, a sad look on her face. My short life passed in front of my eyes ..."

Ever the raconteur, Lucky continues, describing trips across America and the letter his Dad wrote to Power of Life Wellness proprietor Dr. Bryan Ruocco about nutritional supplements after he heard *The Success Principles* author Jack Canfield say that fruits and vegetables lose some of their natural vitamins during shipment. Lucky and his Dad both take supplements from Power of Life Wellness.

A Lucky Life is available at Power of Life Wellness at 21690 River Oaks Drive in Rocky River, on Amazon.com, and via Bob's website, www.bobsoltys.com.

Bob Soltys is a photographer, writer, former Navy officer, and the co-author of A Lucky Life.



Lucky and his Dad.

Photo by Tom McLaughlin



Lucky in his Dad's Beetle convertible.

Quartet from page 1

end with Brazilian music by Heitor Villa-Lobos, Camargo Guarnieri, and Francisco Mignone.

The members of the Brazilian Guitar Quartet are Everton Gloeden, Tadeu do Amaral, Luiz Mantovani, and Gustavo Costa. All are Brazilian musicians and the latter two, in addition to their performance careers, also teach classical guitar at Brazilian universities. The Quartet is dedicated to interpreting the repertoire for four guitars and to making transcriptions of works from diverse periods and styles, with a heavy emphasis on Brazilian and Spanish music.

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 please call 440-333-4296, visit our new website at www.rrems.org, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Carol Jacobs was archivist for The Cleveland Orchestra for 17 years, and most recently was curator of the Cowan Pottery Museum at Rocky River Public Library for seven years. She lived in Rocky River for 41 years and currently resides in Westlake.



They'll always remember girls' night in.

Mom is able to stay at home with us because we contacted Hospice of the Western Reserve. Her care team is there to keep her comfortable and her granddaughters are there for game night. I'm so glad we called when we did.

Living with a memory impairment illness is challenging for the whole family, but keeping your loved one at home is easier with specialized medical care and compassionate support. Our care team can make the first visit **the same day you call for help**. And we'll continue to be there in person and by phone 24/7.

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COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Children Needing Grief Support Can Find Help at Overnight Camp

By Laurie Henrichsen

Registration Now Open for “Together We Can Overnight”

Support is available for children ages 8-14 who are coping with the death of a loved one. “Together We Can Overnight,” a children’s grief support camp hosted by Hospice of the Western Reserve, is planned from Saturday, Oct. 15, 9:30 a.m., to Sunday, Oct. 16, 10:15 a.m., at Red Oak Camp, 9057 Kirtland-Chardon Rd., Kirtland. For the convenience of families from Fairview Park, Rocky River, West Park and surrounding west side communities, camp transportation will be provided from the Holiday Inn, 4181 W. 150th Street. Drop off times and additional camp details will be included in registration packets. The registration fee is \$25 per camper; scholarships are available. Space is limited and completed registrations are due by Monday,



Children and counselors gather to get acquainted and sing camp songs on the first day of “Together We Can.”

Sept. 26. For more information and to receive a registration packet, call 216.486.6838.

Planned activities such as commemorative crafts, drum circles and storytelling encourage memories, coping skills and the expression of feelings in a safe and supportive environment. Plenty

of time is also set aside for fun recreational activities and creative play, allowing children to enjoy the beautiful natural setting.

“We have hosted bereavement day camps for many years,” said Karen Hatfield, Team Leader for Counseling Services, Hospice of the Western Reserve. “Our campers

have frequently asked us to consider an overnight event. We’re excited to offer one for the first time this year. Staying overnight enables children to participate in traditional camp experiences like spending time together around the campfire and sleeping in the cabins available at Red Oak. The outdoor setting allows them to feel comfortable sharing their thoughts and asking questions in a safe, supportive environment among other children who are coping with similar feelings.”

Generous gifts from the community make it possible for Hospice of the Western Reserve, a nonprofit agency serving the Northern Ohio region, to offer a variety of grief support camps for children. For more information or to make a donation supporting the camps, visit hospicewr.org/donate.

Laurie Henrichsen is Public/Media Relations Manager at Hospice of the Western Reserve.

Rocky River Public Library Wants a Card for Every Child

By Kitty Sommers

Nine library systems in Cuyahoga County, including Rocky River Public Library, have teamed up on an initiative to help ensure every child from Pre-K to high school senior in Cuyahoga County owns a library card and takes advantage of the resources that libraries offer.

The initiative, called “A Card for Every Kid,” takes place throughout September to coincide with National Library Card Sign Up Month. It is a cooperative effort among the library systems to raise awareness of the importance of library card ownership for children and teens.

The libraries are encouraging children and teens to sign up for a free library card, and offer one-time fine forgiveness to children and teens who have been blocked or barred from using their library cards because they owe fines. Jamie Mason, director of Rocky River Public Library, is focused on providing library cards to as many children as possible in the new school year. “A library card is the best item any school supply list could include,” said Mason.

The initiative also seeks to gain a better understanding of the roadblocks that keep some children



ConnectedED Library Challenge

and teens from owning a library card. “Libraries are great equalizers. They offer any child access to books and other learning resources no matter what city they live in, no matter their socio-economic status,” says Euclid Public Library Director Kacie Armstrong, who co-chairs the nine-library committee leading the A Card for Every Kid initiative. “Every public library in our county shares the goal of ensuring that every child can check out materials at their neighborhood library.”

The library systems participating in the A Card for Every Kid initiative include Rocky River Public Library, Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library, Cleveland Public Library, Cuyahoga County Public Library, East Cleveland Public Library, Euclid Public Library, Lakewood Public Library, Shaker Heights Public Library, and Westlake Public Library.

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

Does Your Vote Really Count?

By Conda Boyd

In Ohio, we have three safeguards to ensure accurate vote counts: VVPAT, EAP, and a “Noah’s Ark” system.

VVPAT. Every Ohio ballot must have a Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT). Ohioans vote on either a paper ballot or an electronic screen that produces a paper record. Either way, you can check your vote on paper, and officials can hand-count votes in audits and recounts.

EAP. Before every general election, each county Board of Elections must prepare an Election Administration Plan (EAP) detailing everything from personnel to facilities, supplies, and security. EAPs are available for public review.

Noah’s Ark. Ohio requires that all election aspects be administered by teams of two whose members come from different parties, making ours

one of the most secure systems in the nation. Bipartisan poll workers count votes for their polling place, sign the results, and post them for the public. A bipartisan team then delivers all the ballots and records to the Board of Elections, where they are double-locked in a room that can only be opened by both the Director and Deputy Director, who must be from different parties. Finally, a bipartisan procedure is followed when mailed-in and provisional ballots are counted ten days after Election Day, for recounts, and for audits.

Of course, your vote only counts if you actually vote! Registration forms are available at your library, city hall, and senior center. If you’re already registered, verify your status, update your address, find your polling place, and track your ballot at <http://www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us/>. The registration deadline is **October 11**.

FP School District Receives Budget Award

By Amanda Lloyd

The Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) recently awarded the Fairview Park City School District its Meritorious Budget Award (MBA) for excellence in budget presentation for the eighth consecutive year. The award is presented to school districts that have met or exceeded the rigorous MBA criteria. Fairview Park City Schools is one of three districts in the state to receive this award.

The MBA program promotes and recognizes excellence in school budget presentation and enhances school business officials’

skills in developing, analyzing, and presenting a school system budget. After a rigorous review by professional auditors, the award is conferred only on school districts that have met or exceeded the program’s stringent criteria.

“This award demonstrates the outstanding efforts of our entire financial team,” said district Treasurer Amy L. Hendricks. “We are honored to receive this recognition for yet another year and eager to continue our success.”

For more information about the MBA award, visit ASBO’s website at www.asbointl.org/MBA.

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COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Martin J. Uhle Named Interim Superintendent of Cleveland Lutheran High School Association

By Lorilynn Wolf

The Cleveland Lutheran High School Association (CLHSA) and Lutheran West are pleased to announce that Martin (Marty) J. Uhle has agreed to serve as the interim superintendent of the CLHSA beginning August 1. Uhle brings with him a wealth of experience in both the non-profit and private business sectors. He was identified as the candidate of choice because of his multi-faceted executive and financial management experience, blended with his lifelong commitment to the Cleveland Lutheran community

and the mission of ministry. Uhle's private sector employment and non-profit Board history spans a wide spectrum including:

- Executive Director – Pierstorf Memorial Fund (2012 – Present)
- President and Chief Executive Officer, Vantage Financial Group (2005-2011)
- President and Chief Operating Officer, Heartland Payment Systems, Inc. (1998-2004)
- Board Member and Advancement Chair – Community West Foundation (serving 8th year)
- Past Board Member – Urban Community School, Cleveland, OH



Martin J. Uhle

- Board of Trustees Member and Audit Chair – Wittenberg University (serving 8th year)

- Council Member, Call Committee Member, Finance/Budget Group Member – Messiah Lutheran Church & School, Fairview Park.

Uhle's project management experience includes mergers and acquisitions, government compliance, capital campaign management, and academic-focused strategic planning centered on marketing, enrollment growth, budget management and succession planning.

Uhle, who resides in Rocky River, received his BA in Business from Wittenberg University and his MBA from Baldwin Wallace. He and his wife, Laura, have two adult sons. •

5K Stampede And 1 Mile Walk To Support Lutheran West Athletic Boosters

By Lorilynn Wolf

Area residents are invited to help raise funds for the Lutheran West Athletic Boosters program by participating in the 5K Stampede and 1 Mile Walk on Saturday, **October 8, 2016**. The event will kick off at the high school located at 3850 Linden Rd. in Rocky River. The 1 Mile Walk begins at 8:30 a.m. and the 5K Stampede will take place at 9:00 a.m. Registration for both events will open at 7:45 a.m. This annual event is held as part of Lutheran West's Homecoming festivities.

The cost for the 5K Stampede and 1 Mile Walk is \$20 prior to October 7, 2016, and \$25 on race day. The student fee is \$10. Fee includes a recovery continental breakfast following the race. Awards will be presented to the top male/female racers in each age group, the top alumni and master racers. A free t-shirt will be given to the first 100 registrants.

The 5K course will start at the Lutheran West Alumni Field track and continue through Bohlken Park and side streets in Fairview Park. The 1 Mile Walk is on solid surfaces including the track and asphalt walk ways.

To register, call 440-356-7155 x3 or visit signmeup.com/LW. •

Tri-C Westshore Campus Now Offers Physical Education and Dance Classes for Credit

By John Horton

Beginning with the upcoming fall semester, the Westshore Campus of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) will offer physical education and dance classes for college credit.

Courses will be offered in yoga; yoga and pilates; and dance fundamentals. Classes will be held at two Tri-C sites in Westlake – Corporate College® West and the Health Careers & Sciences building at Westshore Campus.

Classes begin Sept. 12 and meet twice weekly for 14 weeks. Class times are as follows:

Yoga (PE-1440)
7:30-8:20 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Corporate College West
5-5:50 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Corporate College West

Yoga & Pilates (PE-1480)
11:45 a.m.-12:35 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Corporate College West
5-5:50 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Westshore Campus

Dance Fundamentals (DANC-1501)
9-10:58 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at Corporate College West
Registration is now open. Visit www.tri-c.edu to enroll. The yoga and yoga and pilates classes are one credit hour each; the dance class is three credit hours. Tri-C's tuition is \$104.54 per credit hour.

For more information, call 216-987-5828. Corporate College West is located at 25425 Center Ridge Road in Westlake, while Westshore Campus is at 31001 Clemens Road. •

LWV Candidate Forum

The League of Women Voters will host a candidate forum for District 16 State Representative and District 24 State Senator on Tuesday, September 27 at 7pm in Westlake's Porter Library. The incumbents for both seats, Nan Baker and Tom Patton, have reached their term limits. State Representative candidates are Tommy Greene and Dave Greenspan. State Senator candidates are Matt Dolan and Emily Hagan. Candidates will give brief statements and answer audience questions.

The forum is sponsored by the League of Women Voters - Greater Cleveland chapters in Bay Village, Fairview Park, Rocky River, and Westlake-North Olmsted. State House District 16 includes these cities, plus Olmsted Township. State Senate District 24 encompasses all of House District 16 and continues along the southern and eastern borders of Cuyahoga County to Highland Heights. •

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THE GOOD LIFE

The Eponymous Antique Shop Owner Bring Life to Your Home with Antiques

By Mitchell Sotka

A small group of women came to our home recently for a garden and house tour. An attendee asked me, “What is your most treasured item?” That was a difficult question for me to answer. I took a few minutes to think and then blurted out our campaign chandelier.

Why did I struggle when limiting myself to just one thing? For me things are more than just utilitarian objects, they are also memories. We all have our favorite items and would be hard put to give them up or pick only one, especially when the inanimate object is full of life and memories. It is the gathering of these objects that makes your place a home.

Objects can embrace a host of memories, ranging from milestones in one’s life to travels. When I travel, I am not a T-shirt or a coffee mug guy, but if a piece of art or a sterling spoon strikes me, I’ll opt for it. The

return from a trip is about memories, experiences, and maybe a beautiful treasure.

On one trip, a chandelier stopped me in my tracks. Yes, the campaign chandelier that hangs in our dining room. It was 16 years ago that I jumped into an SUV with my friend Judy to drive out East. We were headed for a big outside antiques market in Brimfield, Massachusetts. We then went on to visit my brother in Boston and Judy’s cousin Josie in the Berkshires (more antique shopping).

Roughly six hours into our trip, we decided to stop in Hudson, New York. This was the early days of Hudson’s now-famous chic shopping district. We moseyed down quiet sidewalks, refreshed ourselves at a local bakery, noticed small town charms and walked through well-curated shops. In one of these beautiful ateliers, I fell in love with the campaign chandelier, which dates back to the early 1800s. After a wire transfer of



This chandelier, dating to the early 19th century, collapses for convenient storage when one is traveling - in style.

funds, I purchased my substitute for a T-shirt!

This purchase not only got a coveted spot in my home but also became a touchstone for many fine memories. The significance of the chandelier deepens when you realize that I ate into three fourths of my shopping budget on the first day of the trip. However, I looked forward to our next stop with chandelier in hand, a smile on my face, and a new memory.

This fabulous souvenir is one of my treasures, one I hope will adorn our home in Ohio City for many years. It is my T-shirt and coffee mug wrapped into one beautiful object that reads road trip, adulthood, new home, dinner parties, friends and more. This treasure holds memories and creates new ones too.

So when you are out of town or remembering a milestone in your life, look toward your next treasure. Place that treasure center stage in a room and share your memories with others. •

Computer Center Gets a Makeover

By Kitty Sommers

Check out Rocky River Public Library’s recently renovated Computer Center featuring ergonomically correct desks and chairs, new countertops and fresh color on the walls. The Library also added a second scanner for quick document scans to e-mail, thumb drives, and online applications. Staff is now better positioned and always ready to help patrons on our 20 computers.

Also, the Library’s Computer Training Center, a beautiful state-of-the-art environment for educating our patrons, has been upgraded with a widescreen format digital projector with a new screen to match! •



Rocky River Public Library’s Computer Center was recently renovated.

SEPTEMBER is National LIBRARY CARD Sign-Up Month



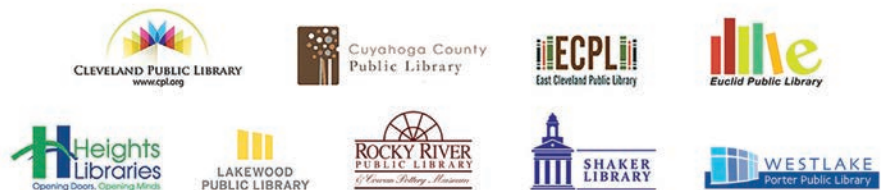
Libraries in Cuyahoga County are celebrating National Library Card Sign-Up Month (September 1-30) with A Card for Every Kid campaign!

A Card for Every Kid aims to put a library card into the hands of every child under 18 in Cuyahoga County. You can celebrate with libraries in Cuyahoga County in two ways:

1. Get your child a new library card. It’s easy: just stop in at your local library!
2. If your child already has a card but has fines, bring your child to your library to have those fines forgiven. (Fine forgiveness is a one-time benefit.)

Visit your local library starting September 1, and help us make sure every kid in the county has a library card.

Parents, help us learn about kids and library cards by taking our brief survey, and get \$5 off your fines! Visit heightslibrary.org/signup_month for a link to the survey.



A Card for Every Kid is part of The Connected Library Challenge, a way for communities throughout the country to create or strengthen partnerships so that every child enrolled in school can receive a library card. The initiative calls upon library directors to work with their mayors, school leaders, and school librarians, to provide wider access to the learning resources and books of America’s libraries.

FAIRVIEW PARK BRANCH LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Thursday, September 1, 2016 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. We will host Raisin’ Canes in Lower Level Meeting Room A & B. Raisin’ Canes, a group of dancing seniors ranging from ages 64-89, will perform a great little Vaudeville show—complete with soft shoe, tap dance, great old songs, Charleston, cane twirling, sing-along, jokes and more with lots of audience participation. Registration required.

Tuesday, September 6, 2016 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. We will host Meditation: a Path to Inner Peace in Lower Level Meeting Room A & B. Learn simple meditation techniques to reduce anxiety and find inner peace. Explore the history, research, benefits and practice of meditation. Presenter and audience will develop a customized approach to meditation. Ideals for adults and teenagers. Dress in comfortable

clothes. Chairs will be provided for sitting meditation. Registration required.

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. We will host Cleveland Victorian Women in Lower Level Meeting Room A & B. During the American Victorian period and through social reform efforts, the ladies of Cleveland gained managerial and fundraising (philanthropic) skills which served as their work during a time of class system, gender bias and transition of the new American women in this nation into the early 1920s. Sponsored by The Friends of Fairview Park Branch Library. Registration required.

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

THE GOOD LIFE

The Stage Mother of All Musicals Opens 2016-2017 Beck Center Season

By Pat Miller

Beck Center for the Arts proudly opens its 2016-2017 theater season with the campy cult musical *Ruthless!* September 16 through October 16, 2016 in the Mackey Theater. Show times are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are now on sale. Buy early and save with promo code: PIPPI to receive \$5 off each adult/senior ticket purchased by September 15. This production contains strong language and content.

Ruthless! is an Off-Broadway sensation featuring book and lyrics by Joel Paley and music by Marvin Laird. The winner of “Best Off-Broadway Musical” from the Outer Critics Circle, this story stars Tina Denmark—the greatest song-and-dance sensation to ever hit the third grade. When her school holds auditions for *Pippi in Tahiti*, Tina proves she will do anything to play the lead...anything! This outrageous production spoofs musicals such as *Gypsy* and *Mame*, as well as classic films including *The Bad Seed* and

All About Eve. Even *The New York Times* agrees, “the fun comes from the sheer brazenness.”

Beck Center’s former artistic director, William Roudebush, returns to direct this hilarious musical for the new theater season. “*Ruthless!* is *Gypsy* on steroids. It is an unforgiving satirical romp through every show business cliché including backstage back stabbing and self-involved shameless self-promotion,” remarked Roudebush. “How could I not want to direct this musical?”

With musical direction by Larry Goodpaster and choreography by Martin Céspedes, *Ruthless!* features Calista Zajac as Tina Denmark, and Lindsey Mitchell as ultimate stage mother Judy Denmark. They are joined by Matthew Wright as Sylvia St. Croix, Kate Michalski as Miss Thorn, Carla Petroski as Lita Encore, and Brittini Shambaugh Addison as Louise Lerman/Eve All about. Equity actors Mitchell and Wright appear courtesy of the Actors’ Equity Association (AEA), the union of actors and stage managers.

Tickets are \$31 for adults, \$27 for



seniors (65 and older), and \$12 for students with a valid I.D. A \$3 service fee per ticket will be applied at time of purchase. Preview Night on Thursday, September 15 is \$10 with general admission seating. Group discounts are available for parties of four or more. Purchase tickets online at beckcenter.org or call Customer Service at 216.521.2540 x10. Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available.

This production of *Ruthless!* is presented through special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. It is generously sponsored the

residents of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Ohio Arts Council.

Ruthless! opens Beck Center’s 2016-2017 theater season, which also includes the family favorite holiday production of Disney’s *The Little Mermaid*. It also includes the regional premieres of *Body Awareness* by Pulitzer Prize winner Annie Baker, *Bring It On the Musical* by Hamilton mastermind Lin-Manuel Miranda, and *Really Really* by Helen Hayes New Playwright winner Paul Downs Colaizzo. This spectacular lineup is complimented by classics such as *The Dresser* and the Tony Award winning musical *City of Angels*. “I’m very excited by the balance in this season between regional premieres, as well as works that have been seen locally, though rarely,” commented Artistic Director Scott Spence. “This is a terrific season to explore new titles and to have some very special guest artists return to our stages.” •

Pat Miller is Graphic Designer & Marketing Coordinator at Beck Center for the Arts.

College Club West Scholarship Winners



Pictured are award winners Silvia Loboy, BWU; Ramona Jasmine Smith, BWU; Markisha Monique Robinson, CSU; Julie Brown, Kent State; Sharie Nicole Bailey, CSU; and Katherine Ann Pollard, CSU. These six extraordinary young women were each awarded a \$2,500 tuition scholarship to continue their college education. Scholarships are awarded every year to women 25 years or older who are already enrolled in a degree-granting college program. The awards are based on educational goals, financial need and academic record. College Club West is a non-profit organization offering diverse interest groups and meetings for the benefit of college-educated women.

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ROCKY RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY • CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 8 at 7:00 p.m. Organizing Your Home And Life will be presented by Ann Shenk, owner of Simple Spaces and Member of the National Association of Professional Organizers. Get ready to get your life organized the way you've always wanted. Professional organizer Ann Shenk will present information and helpful tips to help you no matter what stage of organizing you are currently in.

September 9 at 10:00 a.m. Our Senior Lecture Series features **Your Diet and Diabetes**, presented by Jan Friswold, registered dietitian from University Hospitals' Case Medical Center. Learn about the Diabetes Plate for meal planning and tasty recipe ideas for fall and the holidays. Also, discover the new nutrition label and newer drugs being used for type 2 diabetes.

September 10 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Are you crazy about Legos®? Then drop in for the **Guild of the Brick** for ages 5 and older. We provide the Legos®, you bring the imagination. No registration required.

September 11 to 17 Outside the Lines is a week-long celebration demonstrating the creativity and innovation happening in libraries. We'll be all over the city -bringing RRPL to you! Check our online Calendar of Events to find: the what, the when, and the where.

September 12 at 2:00 p.m. Join in an **Inspirational Book Discussion** of "The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother". Author James McBride paints a portrait of growing up in a black neighborhood as a son of an interracial marriage with 11 siblings. His mother, an Orthodox Jew from the South, abandoned her heritage, moved to Harlem and married a black man in the 1940s.

September 12 at 3:30 p.m. Enjoy **Movie Monday** for students in grades 3-6. Enjoy a movie after school with free popcorn and drinks. We will feature newly released DVDs, along with everyone's favorite classics!

September 12 at 6:30 p.m. Join us for "Dark Horse," a documentary set in a former mining village in Wales about friends in a working men's club who decide to take on the elite "sport of kings" and breed a racehorse. We continue our **Indie International Film Fest**, featuring selections from the world's top film festivals. Please note that films shown have not been rated and should be assumed to have mature content. Free popcorn!

September 14 at 3:30 p.m. Be a **Library Literati** for book discussions and other bookish activities. Grades 7-9. No registration necessary.

September 19 at 3:30 p.m. After School Makerspace for students in grades 3-6 takes place. Join us for creativity, technology, and fun! Each month will feature different S.T.E.A.M. related activities from iPads, the Smart Board, Snap Circuits, to crafts, clay, paints, and much more!

September 21 at 9:30 a.m. Our next Computer Breakfast series features **DSLR Cameras**. What is a DSLR camera? What makes them different than "point and shoot" cameras? What is aperture, shutter speed, and ISO? Discover DSLR cameras with Deb Ward, manager of Dodd Camera in Avon.

September 21 at 3:30 p.m. Be a part of **Teen Book Club II**. Join us on the third Wednesday of each month for book discussions and other bookish activities. Grades 10-12. No registration.

September 22 at 7:00 p.m. Our **Chef's Secrets** series features **Delicious Mushroom Risotto** presented by Greg Korney, executive chef of Georgetown Restaurant. Find out what makes this restaurant so special and why it won Cleveland Magazine's Silver Spoon award for "Best Outdoor Dining." Once this skillful chef teaches you how to make mushroom risotto with bacon, you'll be serving



it at every opportunity. Delicious samples. Recipe handouts.

September 23 at 2:00 p.m. Sip, Snack, and Craft! Why not come to the library to sip, snack, and chat while you get into the knitting groove. You can bring your own project or select a suggested pattern from the Calendar of Events. Registration required.

September 26 at 6:30 p.m. Join us for the 10th annual **Cowan Classic Film Festival**, with a showing of "Grand Hotel" (1932), starring John Barrymore, Greta Garbo, and Joan Crawford. Fresh popcorn provided!

September 26 at 7:00 p.m. Make it a family event for **Meet the Author: Dave Spangler**. Author, artist, and teacher, Dave Spangler, will present captivating storytelling of one of his recently published books, "Clamming Hods and Santa Claus" and "Who." Books will be available to purchase following the event. No registration necessary.

September 27 at 7:00 p.m. Book Buzz With Penguin Random House will give you the scoop on future bestsellers BEFORE they become bestsellers. Interested in some giveaways direct from the publisher? Amanda Fensch from Penguin Random House will be buzzing about Fall 2016 releases. Every attendee will receive a tote bag full of goodies, possibly including some advance reader copies! Registration required.

September 28 from 3:15 to 5:00 p.m. Get in the Game! for students in grades 3 to 6. Meet up after school to hang out with your friends, play games and munch on snacks. Join us for Wii U Super Smash Brothers and Mario Kart, iPads, board games and candy prize bingo!



September 28 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Attend Developing Study Skills Seminar for grades 7 and up. Presented by college students from College Nannies and Tutors, this seminar focuses on recognizing learning styles, understanding time and study management, how to take notes based on your learning style, memorization strategies, group studying, and test taking strategies. Registration required.

September 29 at 7:00 p.m. Flavorful Fall Harvest Hors D'oeuvres will be presented by Andy Dombrowski, executive chef of The Zack



Bruell Restaurant Group. Learn to create these delightful treats for your next party from the popular chef behind eight of Cleveland's award-winning restaurants including L'Albatros Brasserie. He'll be working his magic with a medley of seasonal vegetables. Scrumptious samples. Recipe handouts.

September 30 at 12:00 p.m. Watch a **Movie Matinee** featuring "The Jungle Book," an epic journey of self-discovery. Popcorn and lemonade provided!

September 1-30 is National Library Card Sign-Up Month. Does your child have a library card they can use? If not, this is the time to make that happen! Anytime during the month of September, students in grades pre-K through high school are encouraged to **sign-up for a new card or benefit from a one-time opportunity to have fines and fees cleared from existing cards.** Open the door to endless possibilities for your child, sign them up for an RRPL Library card!

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

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