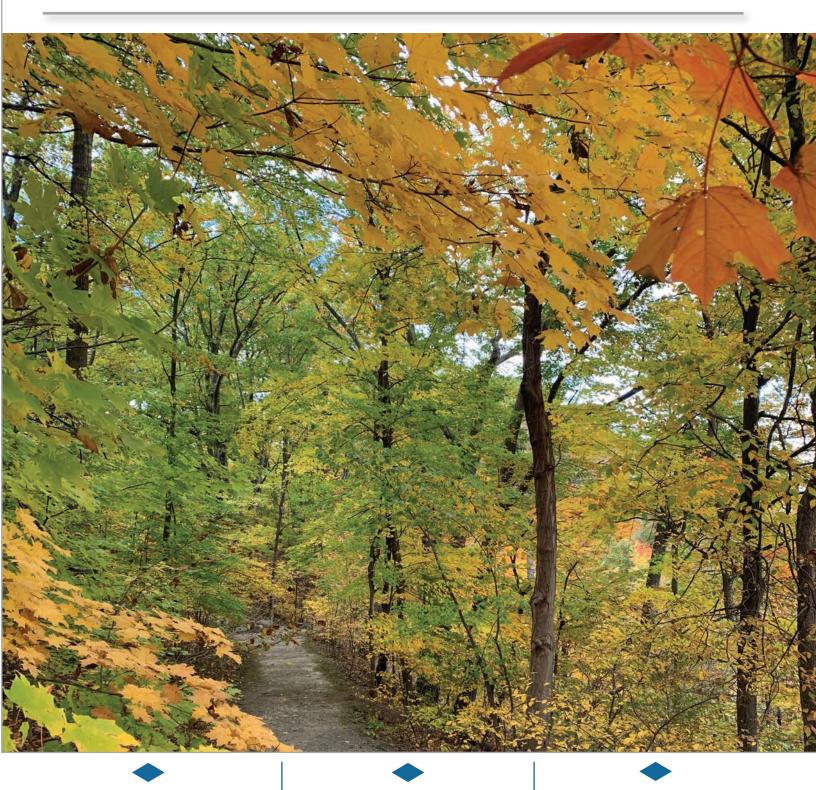
OLD BROOKLYN NEWS



OLD BROOKLYN DAY

14 Ways to Give
Page 4

SUMMER WRAP-UP

Events for all Ages
Page 13

DOG TRAINING

New Location New Tricks

Page 22

FALL 2023

A PUBLICATION OF

BROOKLYN CDC UPDATES

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SHOW YOUR SUPPORT OF THE **OLD BROOKLYN NEIGHBORHOOD!**

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation is dedicated to growing Old Brooklyn through empowered partnerships, leadership, programming, and advocacy!

Through this work, we want to ensure that Old Brooklyn's tomorrow is better than today. Our mission is financially supported through donations, grants, and generous members of the community, but it is our membership base that remains critically important to us. OBCDC is welcoming new members!

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

This **FREE** membership is your opportunity to join an organization that helps to make the neighborhood of Old Brooklyn, A Great Place to Grow. Membership serves as a great entry point to learn more about the organization, volunteer, join a committee, vote on new and returning Board of Directors, or become a Board Member yourself!

20 Join online or fill out the information card below and mail/deliver to Old Brooklyn CDC, 4274 Pearl Rd, Suite F, Cleveland, OH 44109

2023 Membership

Name: Address:		
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FALL 2023



INSIDE OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

03	14 WAYS TO GIVE OLD BROOKLYN DAY
05	GHOST STORY
80	PEARL AND MEMPHIS PROJECT UPDATE
09	RECIPES FOR FALL
10	DONATE FOR OLD BROOKLYN DAY
12	TREE STEWARDS
13	SUMMER REVIEW
17	HISTORY - MOSES CLEAVELAND TREE PART III
19	WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
22	TURNING POINT DOG TRAINING
23	TOWN CRIER
26	COMMUNITY NOTES

Cover Photo: Brookside Reservation Trail Photo Credit: Amber Jones

Funding for a purpose: OLD BROOKLYN IS OUR PURPOSE

by OBCDC Staff

This year for Old Brooklyn Day, we want everyone to get involved and give back to the neighborhood! This will mark our third year celebrating Old Brooklyn Day, which will be Saturday, October 14.

The past few years have seen Old Brooklyn Community Development staff and volunteers out and about in the neighborhood completing fun projects that make this neighborhood a great place to live.



Mural painting at South Brookn Library



Volunteers picking up trash

Tree planting at Estabrook

Past projects included street clean-ups, mural painting with kids at the South Brooklyn Library and seniors at Senior Citizen Resources, and tree plantings at Estabrook Recreation Center.

This year, you can be sure we'll be out in the neighborhood again! Our annual day of giving will showcase tree plantings at Goudreau Park - sign up to help us plant them!See page 11 for the details.

If you sign-up to plant trees, you'll be completing #10 on our list of the 14 Ways to Give! How many of these can you do? Check out our website for direct links www. oldbrooklyn.com/obday





OBCDC is looking for community members to join our Mighty Volunteers Program! Become an MVP!

- Projects include events & planning, neighborhood beautification, home repair assistance, and more!
- Meet new friends, help your neighbors, and be part of an engaged community!
- MVPs perks: free swag & social media recognition!



To learn more, scan the QR code or visit www.oldbrooklyn.com/volunteer Ideas? Contact us! Call 216-459-1000 or email MariaS@oldbrooklyn.com

14 Ways to Give Back for Old Brooklyn Day

- Purchase an item from OBCDC's Amazon Wishlist.
- 2 Join the OB MVPs! The Mighty Volunteer Program is recruiting!
- 3 Make a one-time monetary donation.

4

(13)

(14)

- Join us at community events, as a volunteer or participant.
- 5 Donate a gift card or SWAG for Old Brooklyn Nite from a local business.
- Become an OBCDC Member: Sign up for free on the inside of the front cover.
- Involve your company in matching donations.
- Sponsor an OBCDC event.
- Buy Old Brooklyn SWAG and show your love for OB!
- Participate in our local tree plantings on October 14th.
- Make a monthly monetary donation- set it automatically.
- Give in-kind donations to OBCDC to help complete our community work and projects.
 - Get your friends and family involved with fundraising.
 - Assist with the beautification of the neighborhood: pick up trash, removing graffiti, etc.

South Hills Antique Gallery has real GHOST STORY TO TELL FOR HALLOWEEN

by: Lynette Filips

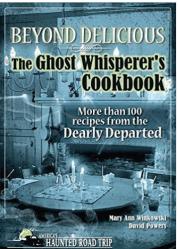
It's been a long time since we've run a "Halloween-Special" in the Old Brooklyn News. That's probably due to two reasons - (1) Since changing to a quarterly publication, we no longer have an October issue and (2) I did not have any more ideas for Halloween articles ...until now. The story I am about to recount actually took place about fifteen years ago, but I think that it's better to relate it late than not at all.

Many Old Brooklyn News readers are no doubt familiar with South Hills Antique Gallery at 2010 W. Schaaf Rd. And some of the same (as well as other) readers are no doubt familiar with a former television program called *The Ghost Whisperer*.

South Hills Antique Gallery is owned by a lady named Annette Rutkowski; *The Ghost Whisperer*, which ran on CBS for five seasons from 2005-2010, was inspired by a local paranormal investigator named Mary Ann Winkowski. Annette, Mary Ann and the earthbound spirits of three other ladies will be the main characters in the ghost story which follows.

Only recently when I was reading about Mary Ann Winkowski online did I learn about this encounter in our neighborhood. As I was scrolling through a list of many YouTube interviews with her I came upon one called *The Ghost in the Antique Shop*. Pictured with Mary Ann in the shop was longtime Old Brooklyn business woman Annette Rutkowski.

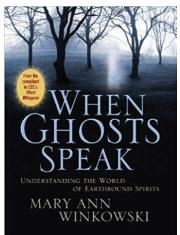
If you search for the video online, you may see that a Google account is required to access it and also that it is not recommended for audiences under age 14. But anyone can directly access it through YouTube. It is very short (5 minutes and 25 seconds) and was made for a GMAC commercial on one of *The Ghost Whisperer* episodes.



I'd previously read two of Mary Ann's autobiographies, plus I've known people who've used her unique "ability" to see and communicate with spirits who are invisible to the rest of us. But even though I had an idea of what to expect, I had as many questions after I watched the video as I did before I watched it.

In the order of their appearance in the video, the names of the three earthbound spirits whom Mary Ann met at South Hills Antiques were Charlotte, Naomi and Julietta. But before I get into their stories, perhaps I ought to talk about why Mary Ann was called to investigate in the first place.

Not surprisingly, it is common to find spirits in antique shops. The explanation is that when some people die, they prefer to stay with their possessions and whom and what they know on



earth rather than move into the White Light and the next life.

Over the 27 years that Annette has owned South Hills Antiques, she and a number of the dealers who rent space from her, as well as a number of her customers, have experienced some very strange things there –

- The smell of cherry tobacco in a certain corner of the shop;
- A big old family Bible flying off the stand on which it was displayed;
- Annette's Rottweiler dog stopping in her tracks, staring at the ceiling and refusing to pass a certain point on the floor;
- Annette herself stopping in her tracks, immobilized by the feeling of a presence in that space;
- The feeling of someone tapping on their backs;
- The sound of footsteps on the stairs to the retail spaces in the basement;
- A spooky experience some of the dealers had with an EVP (Electronic Voice Phenomenon) recording machine and a ghost in the basement.

Prior to contacting Mary Ann and her visit, two of Annette's downstairs dealers decided to shoot a bunch of photographs down there to see what would show up. While they didn't notice any clear images of ghosts like the ones pictured in Mary Ann's books, they did see many orbs which are also indicative of spiritual presences. (Orbs are circles of light in photographs.) And so the basement dealers, being aware of Mary Ann and her gift of being able to communicate with beings who have died but have not yet crossed over into eternity, decided to contact her. At the time, Mary Ann was interacting with people and the ghosts in their through lives both phone conversations and visits to peoples' houses. Her goal is to learn why the earthbound spirits are still hanging around here instead of passing into the next life. She typically charges a moderate amount of



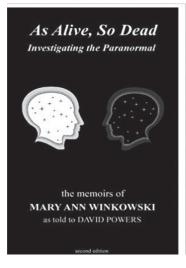
In speaking with Annette about the video, I learned that she already had the same bedroom set with all the pieces except the night stands, so that is why she kept them. Annette told me that she hadn't discussed doing so with anyone, and that the only way Mary Ann could wlearned have

Here is a frame from the video of the day Mary Ann Winkowski, The Ghost Whisperer, and Annette Rutkowski, South Hills Antique Gallery owner met at the shop.

money for this service. But because she was wanting to do a collection of video ghost story vignettes, she liked the idea of filming in an antique shop and she didn't ask Annette to pay for the visit.

When Mary Ann entered through the shop's front door, her camera crew followed her. Mary Ann rehearsed absolutely nothing with Annette ahead of the encounter with the three spirits. The story unfolded as it happened. But, of course, Mary Ann and her crew were at the shop longer than what showed up in the edited video.

Charlotte was the first earthbound spirit with whom Mary Ann communicated (via mental telepathy). She was unhappy that her two fine green glass vases were relatively hidden in a cabinet in the back of the shop rather than being showcased up front. Annette was fine with moving them!



Naomi was someone who had worked in a Psychiatry Ward for 25 years and came home with Annette (who also had worked in Psychiatry). She was actually attached to Annette and kept herself going with Annette's energy.

Julietta was very upset that Annette had split up her bedroom set, having kept something for herself and then selling the other pieces separately. She wanted

to know why Annette did that. Annette did not go into the whole reason in the video. She just said that she didn't want the other pieces and that usually she doesn't split up sets. All photos from the internet have wlearned about it was from

Julietta. Because of this experience, Annette believes that what Mary Ann claims to do is true.

Fortunately, all three of the spirits in Annette's shop wanted to cross over, so Mary Ann made the bright White Light on a wall and then watched each one enter into the portal which would take them to the next life. Mary Ann's ability to communicate with spirits ends here. She cannot communicate with them after they cross over.

A 1300-word article can in no way relate the variety of situations Mary Ann has experienced in her approximately 70 years of doing what she does. From the time she was four years old she began honing this 'ability' by going to wakes with her grandmother. It has existed in her Italian family for generations. (Winkowski is Mary Ann's married surname.)

Mary Ann was raised Roman Catholic in an area of Parma just outside of Old Brooklyn. Her unique ability can be viewed like a ministry in that it helps both the earthbound spirits and the people in whose houses they have taken up residence. She has certainly poured a major portion of her life's energy into it.

Perhaps some readers are thinking that this is quite whacky or even contrary to their religious beliefs. Our intention is not to upset anyone but to present another view. Not everything in the world is visible to the human eye. If you are caught between believing and not believing, try reading Mary Ann's books. They can be quite mind-expanding and might help you decide what you think is true.

Lynette has lived over 53 years of her life in Old Brooklyn and written for the Old Brooklyn News for 33 of them. She's most known for her local history articles and The Town Crier and for her work as the former monthly OBN copy editor.



6



Memphis and Pearl: Project Team INVIGORATED BY COMMUNITY FEEDBACK



Conceptual design for the corner of Memphis Ave. and Pearl Road

The Memphis & Pearl Project Team, consisting of architecture and development firm Desmone, real estate finance consultants Tipping Point, Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC), and Pearl Road United Methodist Church (PRUMC), had another successful round of community engagement about the transformative development of one of the neighborhood's central corners at the end of May 2023. This comes off the heels of previous opportunities for community feedback, sought by OBCDC in late December 2022, which helped their Board select the development team as a part of a competitive process for the redevelopment of Memphis & Pearl.

OBCDC lead the community engagement strategy, developing a digital survey, making plans available on their Memphis & Pearl project website, and holding an in-person community meeting May 9th. Over 160 community members responded to the call for input on the conceptual design plans.

Respondents were thrilled that the plan included the re-use of the former St. Luke's church sanctuary, with the potential to lure a large commercial tenant to the reimagined, long vacant space. "Throughout the development process we've remained focused on community impact, vibrancy, and transformational potential. Getting input from residents, business owners and other stakeholders is essential to meeting our goals," says Lucas Reeve, Executive Director of Old Brooklyn CDC.

Those who attended the in-person community meeting hosted at PRUMC were presented

with the current conceptual design plan, asked to envision how they might interreact with the project, and broke out into small group discussions with members of the development team. This allowed for direct conversations with development team members who could respond to questions and hear feedback in real time. One attendee remarked "I can't believe we actually got to speak with the people designing the buildings. They asked great questions and really listened to what I had to say".

Members of the development team found this experience of engaging directly with community members very helpful and insightful. "We are here to listen to the community's goals and needs, making decisions based on those needs," says Chip Desmone, CEO of Desmone. The design team will be working to incorporate community feedback as the plans continue to evolve. Desmone added "We understand this project represents a new chapter for the Old Brooklyn community. Our goal is to create a space that encourages gathering, while preserving the history and legacy of the neighborhood".

Since the community engagement session in early May, all groups involved have been actively working to pull multiple moving pieces together. Much of the activity on the site has consisted of full scale environmental and structural assessments to all buildings, to determine the types of remediation involved in re-use as well as the structural integrity of the old buildings. The design team continues to evolve the design, and expects to have more detailed plans in the late fall.



Apple Pie Pancakes

Recipe Submitted by: Connor Gail

Servings: 6



Ingredients:

- 11/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 3 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 tablespoon white sugar
- 1/4teaspoon salt, or more to taste
- 1¹/4 cups milk
- 3 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1egg
- 1 large apple
- 2 tbsp. cinnamon sugar or to create your own use 1/2 tbsp. cinnamon with 1 1/2 tbsp.of sugar

Instructions:

- 1. Cut apple into small 1/4 inch cubes, toss cut up pieces into a bowl. Stir in the cinnamon sugar mixture until all of the apple pieces are evenly coated.
- 2. Mix all of the other ingredients in a large mixing bowl until combined to make the batter.
- 3. Heat a large skillet and grease with butter or oil.
- 4. Pour a 1/4 1/2 cup of the pancake batter into the heated skillet and add several apple chunks from step 1.
- 5. After 1 2 minutes flip the pancake and after another 1 - 2 minutes remove to a plate. And repeat.

Sweet Potato Broccoli Chicken Bake

Recipe Submitted by: Amber Jones

Serves: 4 - 5

Ingredients:

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breast or thighs, cut to bite-size pieces
- 5 cups broccoli florets (may also use the broccoli stems)
- 1 large sweet potato, peeled or scrubbed and cut into 1/4 - 1/2 inch cubes (2 - 2 ¹/2 cups)
- 1/2 medium red onion, sliced (2/3 cup)
- 2-3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 3 tablespoons olive oil or avocado oil
- 11/2 teaspoons dried Italian seasoning
- 3/4 teaspoon fine salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 3 tablespoons chopped pecans or walnuts
- Shredded Parmesan, to top

Instructions:

- 1. Preheat the oven to 375°F. Mist a 9×13 inch baking dish with nonstick cooking spray (may also use a round 10-inch baking dish or any 3-quart baking dish)
- 2. In a large bowl, combine the chicken pieces, broccoli, sweet potatoes, red onion, garlic, raisins, nuts., oil, Italian seasoning, salt, and pepper. Toss until all ingredients are coated evenly with the oil and seasonings.
- Cover the dish with foil and bake for 20 minutes. After 20 minutes, remove the foil, stir, & continue to bake (uncovered) until the sweet potatoes are tender and chicken is cooked through to an internal temperature of 165°F, another 15-20 minutes.
- 4. Serve topped with shredded cheese.
- 5. Store leftovers in an airtight container in the fridge for up to 3 days.





Donate for Old Brooklyn Day

At Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, we work hard to grow Old Brooklyn through empowered partnerships, leadership, programming, and advocacy.

Please consider supporting Old Brooklyn CDC with a monetary donation to the Old Brooklyn Fund to help us continue our work in making Old Brooklyn a great place to grow!



All donations support the Old Brooklyn Neighborhood!

www.rebrand.ly/obcdc-donate







OLD BROOKLN LEAD SAFE PROGRAM



- Lead Safe CLE vetted & licensed lead clearance
 technician to check your home/apartment for lead
- Stay in compliance with Cleveland Ordinance
 365.04
 - Landlord's responsibility
 - Testing required every 2 years for homes built before 1978
- Protect the health of tenants & your home!
- \$350 Lead Clearance Test \$50 Discount for all Old Brooklyn rental homes



- Técnico de aclaranza de plomo es licenciado & tambien aprovado por LeadSafeCLE para revisar su hogar en busca de plomo.
- Cumpla con la Ordenanza de Cleveland 365.04
 Responsabilidad del dueño
 - Se requieren pruebas cada 2 años para casas construidas antes de 1978
- ¡Proteja la salud de sus inquilinos y su hogar!
- \$350 Prueba de aclaranza de plomo- Descuento de \$50 para todas las casas de alquiler de Old Brooklyn



www.oldbrooklyn.com/lead-safe Call or Email Alex Deliz alexd@oldbrooklyn.com 216-459-1000 x 215 HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL







11

Old Brooklyn Tree Stewards PLANTING FOR THE GENERATIONS

by Hope Fierro

The Old Brooklyn Tree Steward program is in full swing! Since February 2023, the tree stewards have been working to increase tree canopy in Old Brooklyn. According to the Cleveland Tree Coalition, tree canopy cover in Cleveland is at a low 18%, less than one-fifth of what is possible (Old Brooklyn has 21% canopy coverage).

Each year, it is estimated that 75 acres of tree canopy is lost. At this rate, canopy will drop to 14% by 2040 unless we act now. Funded by the Cleveland Tree Coalition and the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, the tree stewards aim to increase and advocate for more tree canopy in the neighborhood while caring for public park trees and acting as a connection for residents and tree care resources.

Holden Forests & Gardens and Western Reserve Land Conservancy provide tree steward trainings that the group learns from in order to implement best practices when caring for the trees. Topics include Pruning, Young Tree Training (how to prune young trees), Plant Healthcare, Plant Identification, and more. Planting trees is important, but it's the maintenance that keeps the trees thriving for years to come!

Many of the trees that the tree stewards assist with were planted through the Old Brooklyn Tree Planting Program – in October 2022, 25 trees were planted at Estabrook Recreation Center; in April 2023, 66 trees were planted at Loew Park.

In October 2023, OBCDC with the help of volunteers plans to plant 17 trees at Goudreau Park with funds provided by the Cleveland Tree Coalition. All of these trees are cared for and maintained by Old Brooklyn Tree Stewards through watering, trimming, re-staking, and ensuring the trees are growing healthily.

Over the past few years, in partnership with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, Forest City Ecological Services, and Holden Forests & Gardens, we have planted 200 trees on residential properties throughout the neighborhood.



Tree Stewards maintain the trees to keep them thriving for years

The tree stewards work to educate tree owners on how to properly care for their tree to prevent any future issues. When minor issues do arise, the tree stewards can advise on what to do about them. We recently received funds from the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission to continue the tree steward program and plant 80 more residential trees into 2024.

When asked why he became an Old Brooklyn Tree Steward, Tim Werling said, "I do it for my grandkids. It's a great thing for them to go back decades from now and say 'yeah, I planted that.' I took this opportunity to make a change for my grandkids and other generations of Old Brooklyn families."

Interested in learning more about the Old Brooklyn Tree Planting Program and the Old Brooklyn Tree Stewards? Visit <u>www.oldbrooklyn.com/tree</u> for more details.

We are thankful to our tree stewards who are working to make Old Brooklyn a great place to grow; not only for the residents, but the trees too!

Summer sum-up: A look back at OLD BROOKLYN FUN THIS SEASON

We can't believe that summer is already wrapping up in Old Brooklyn! What a better way to celebrate all the fun we had than to reminisce about the summer events that happened this year. With Takeover Old Brooklyn, the Old Brooklyn Farmers Market, Crooked River Exploration Camp, the Young Professional Social Hour Series, GardenWalk Cleveland, Pedal for Prizes, youth baseball leagues, and so many more activities, this summer was a blast!

OBCDC hosted another summer of **Takeover Old Brooklyn**, a community event that activates spaces around the neighborhood. This event encouraged neighborhood exploration of the parks and greenspaces in Old Brooklyn!

This year, the events were held at 4 different locations: Harmody Park, Estabrook Recreation Center, Archmere Park (new to the line up!), and Loew Park. Since 2021, Takeover Old Brooklyn has provided an opportunity to bring people together and allow those living, working, or exploring Old Brooklyn to learn more about what our neighborhood has to offer!

Another aspect this summer included events that were geared toward various age groups including teens, young professionals, and children. Each event showcased local businesses - vendors like 787 Market, Guaterriqueña, KCC Carry-Out, Frankie Lynn Hotdogs, and Lekko Coffee, shared their talents with us through food and drinks. It was an opportunity for neigh-



Takeover Old Brooklyn was held at 4 parks throughout the neighborhood Harmody Park, Estabrook Recreation Center, Archmere Park and Loew Park.

bors to explore their neighborhood together and try food from different local vendors, meet people from various community organizations, and take part in activities like Zumba, children's yoga, and live music with Ropa Vieja. Carey the Carrot also made an appearance at each event! We hope these events created a space for the community to grow together.





And we can't forget about the kids! Summer camps and youth leagues were in session! The **Crooked River Exploration Camp**, in partnership with the Cuyahoga Valley National Park and the Cleveland Metroparks Youth Outdoors, was an exploratory adventure for kids ages 6-12 to learn more about nature not only at the national park, but in their own backyard in Old Brooklyn! This satellite camp was 3 days for the months of June, July, and August.

The first day of each session was facilitated at Brookside Reservation, a Cleveland Metropark in Old Brooklyn; the second day featured a field trip to a Cleveland Metropark in a different area, and the third day featured a field trip to the Cuyahoga Valley National Park.





Crooked River Exploration Camp was held in the Cleveland Metroparks and the Cuyahoga Valley National Park

The camp was split into three sessions: Becoming a Scientist (June), Wilderness Survival (July), and Recreation Adventures (August).

It was a great way to learn and have fun while doing it! The children were able to connect to the outdoors in new ways: identifying insects, planting seeds, team building games, water activities, and so much more.



The **Old Brooklyn Farmers Market** (OBFM) opened for another summer of fresh produce and more ways to connect with the community! And continues through September! Led by market manager Andrew Holmes, this summer marks year 8 of the market. Our night markets on the 2nd Thursday each month provided fun opportunities to partner in new ways and bring after-market activities to Old Brooklyn. Our Saturdays continued to provide more opportunities for Old Brooklyn residents to purchase fresh produce near home while meeting other community members.

With each new year comes exciting new ideas and partnerships – beyond the Thursday night market option, OFBM partnered with artists for live art demonstrations with artists like Tammy Sparks and Brittany Paynter. They also collaborated with local groups such as Snowflake Comedy Club for after-market comedy shows each Thursday night. Each market also had com| Old Brooklyn News |

The market will continue throughout the month of September – check out www.oldbrooklyn. com/market and follow us on Instagram at @ oldbrooklynfarmersmarket for updates on themed days (Dog Week, anyone?!) and the full schedule.

As the market wraps up for the season don't forget to check out the final Thursday after-market show on September 14 with Snowflake Comedy Club (tickets: https://snowflakecomedy.com/ shows). The last market will be Saturday, September 30 with an after-market Drag BINGO at Opal on Pearl (4250 Pearl Rd) hosted by Uncle Lulu at 2:30pm (see the Old Brooklyn Farmers Market IG for ticket information).





Old Brooklyn's Farmers Market, Pearl Rd.



The **Young Professional Social Hour Series** kicked off this year with monthly events designed for young professionals – folks in their mid 20s to early 40s, living, working, or playing in Old Brooklyn who want to connect with other Old Brooklyn community members. This new series kicked off in May with Carey-oke, a night of karaoke and appetizers at Pearl Road Tavern – Carey the Carrot even had the chance to solo! In June, we teamed up with Snowflake Comedy Club hosted at Sixth City Cycles for a night of comedy an 6d pizza from local pizza shops.

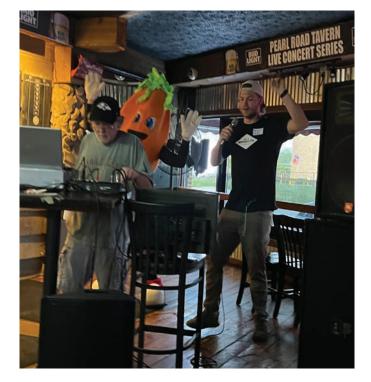
In July, the YPs met up at Archmere Park for Takeover Old Brooklyn for drinks, food from local vendors, live music, and pickleball. As the summer continued into August, the group met up at Opal on Pearl for drinks and appetizers and took a bus to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame for the Rock'n Gems concert with Apostle Jones!

Take a look at the next event at the end of September: Get S'More Social and Bonfire at the Ben Franklin Community Garden on September 26! We hope to see you there – for more information, visit www.oldbrooklyn.com/ypsocialhour!

Picture above right: Carey-oke night, Pearl Road Tavern

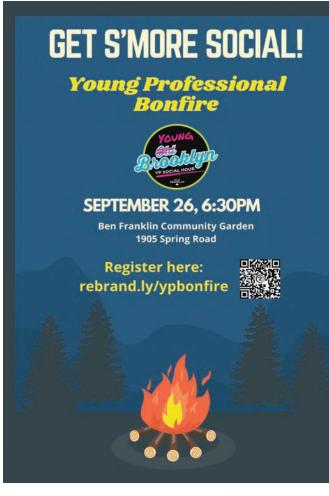
Picture below: Spokes and Jokes, Sixth City Cycles





Thank you to everyone who came out to these events! Follow Old Brooklyn CDC on social media for up to date information on all OB events.

FB: @OBCDC IG: @Old.Brooklyn



Celebrating Moses Cleaveland trees in 2021 DELAYED TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC, part III

by Lynette Filips

The City of Cleveland celebrated the 227th anniversary of its founding with a relatively big downtown birthday bash (both on Public Square and in Tower City) on Saturday, July 22nd. Being as it wasn't a birthday ending in an increment of 25, recognizing new Moses Cleaveland Trees wasn't part of the official program.

That doesn't mean that work on finding both new and old Moses Cleaveland Trees isn't taking place or that they and other "Landmark Trees" have become any less important in our city. The process has been and is ongoing, which is something I didn't fully understand when I began writing about Moses Cleaveland Trees last March. Everything seemed so simple then.

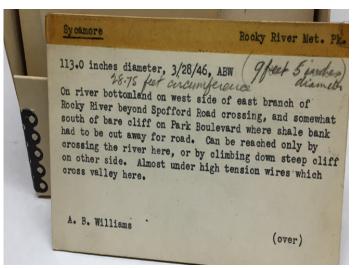
Therefore, I must correct something I implied/stated in my first article – that the Moses Cleaveland white oak tree in Lutheran Cemetery was one of the original 150. As majestic as it is, it was not among the first designees. Nor was the now deceased tree at 12987 W. Pleasant Valley Rd. which I also mentioned in the same article. Both trees were designated later.

As those of you who've read the two previous articles may recall, in 1946 Cleveland turned 150 years old and as part of the Sesquicentennial celebration, 150 trees which were thought to have been standing in 1796 were designated as Moses Cleaveland Trees. Or at least that's what I'd read and reported. I've since learned that there were actually 154 original trees.

When I got to writing the second article, I talked with Roy Larick, Ph.D., owner of Bluestone Conservation in Euclid, who is also the chairman of the Moses Cleaveland Tree Committee of the Early Settlers Association. He is doing the current investigative work, and in addition to telling me about the 4 extra trees in the 1946 inventory, he also advised me about the 136 Moses Cleaveland Trees which the Early Settlers Association designated in 1971, 1976, 1984 and 1986

So now it seems that over the years, a total of 290 Moses Cleaveland Trees have definitely been designated, and there are perhaps another half dozen trees for which records are too sparse for them to be included. Approximately 70 of the total 290 trees are still living.

I was particularly interested in the trees on the original list which were located in today's Old Brooklyn neighborhood (which was called South Brooklyn in 1946) or even in today's Brooklyn Centre neighborhood. In 1946, 5 trees in Brookside Park -- in the Big Creek Valley separating the two communities were recognized as Moses Cleaveland Trees. But in which section of Brookside Park were they located? The Cleveland Metroparks Zoo was called Brookside Park in those days, and the Cleveland Metroparks Brookside Reservation -- where the baseball diamonds are -- was also called Brookside Park then. Obviously, there wasn't GPS to pinpoint an exact location, and the file cards about each of these trees weren't as detailed as some of the others were. So while no one is 100% positive, it seems that none of the 5 Moses Cleaveland Trees in Brookside Park have survived to this day.



This is an example of the front side of one of the file cards from the 1946 inventory of Moses Cleaveland Trees. Image from the internet.

What's exciting to me, however, is that Roy Larick has a list of 46 new candidates for Moses Cleaveland Trees which he hopes to submit this autumn and one of them is in the South Hills neighborhood of Old Brooklyn. It is a red oak tree on private property and it can be viewed right next to the sidewalk on the south side of Tampa Ave. just east of South Hills Dr. No doubt the reason that the tree was never cut down for home construction is that the property on which is stands was once a right-of-way for a potential route for the Lake Erie Terminal Railroad.

Roy said that red oak trees can grow quickly and that the Tampa Ave. tree might not be as old as it appears to be. Nonetheless, he also said that it's a "big, beautiful tree", and if it doesn't qualify for the Moses Cleaveland Tree designation, it will still qualify for a new category called Landmark Trees.

Roy also has a second stately tree to check out in that vicinity, as well as one in Parma Hts., thanks to readers who called in response to my last article. Another candidate he has for a Moses Cleaveland or Landmark Tree designation is in Edgewater Park. When a Moses Cleaveland Tree leaves the land of the living, it might go down naturally, from age or disease or a lightning strike; it might have to be cut down due to its deteriorating state posing a safety threat to pedestrians and and/or property; and it might be cut down because the owner of the property has other plans for the land it occupies.

In March of 2018, for example, a white oak on Summit Ave. in Lakewood had to be taken down. Fox 8 News reported its age to be 320 years, and that at the time it was one of 20 oldest trees in Ohio. It had been previously pruned and stabilized in an effort to save it, but eventually the interior of the trunk rotted. A portion of the process of taking it down can be viewed online.



This Moses Cleaveland Tree, a white oak on Summit Ave. in Lakewood, was so rotted/hollow that in 2018 it had to be cut down for safety reasons. Image from the internet

There were once 8 Moses Cleaveland Trees in Lakewood. Another one which recently (September of 2020) met its demise was a swamp oak on Athens Ave. in front of Roosevelt School. Now only one Moses Cleaveland Tree remains in Lakewood, a swamp oak on Overlook Rd. in the Clifton Park neighborhood.

Although it had not been designated a Moses Cleaveland Tree, a beautiful old tree on Lake Rd. in Bay Village was the victim of a new owner's 'other plans.' It was a white oak, affectionately called the 'Grand Abby Oak' after the matriarch of the family which lived on the property for nearly 50 years. Abby and her husband raised 10 children there. After Abby died, the lakefront property was sold to a couple who tore down the house and had the revered tree cut down. It was in the way of the modern lakefront mansion they were planning to build. Perhaps someday municipalities which value their tree canopies will have ordinances to prevent such things from happening.

This Moses Cleaveland Tree saga will break for at least our December issue, and maybe for longer than that. But if/when any of our neighborhood trees receive designations, we might pick up the story again.

In the meantime, you might enjoy watching two videos on YouTube. The first one is called *This Old Tree*; it is a lovely artistic piece about trees in photos and song.

The second one is called *This Old Tree with Doug Still.* It is a podcast with him, Roy Larick and Margeaux Apple. The link is: The Moses Cleaveland Trees: www. thisoldtree.show/episode-details/the-moses-cleaveland-trees-ep-16#/



Lynette has lived over 53 years of her life in Old Brooklyn and written for the Old Brooklyn News for 33 of them. She's most known for her local history articles and The Town Crier and for her work as the former monthly OBN copy editor.



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WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

Q: Tell us a little about yourself!

A: My name is Leah Addison. I live in Old Brooklyn with my two cats, Cece and Simon. I grew up in Uhrichsville, Ohio, and went to college at the University of Cincinnati, but am happy to call Cleveland home.

Q: Where can we find you out and about in OB & Cleveland?

A: I always bring any visitors to Gus's for breakfast, Metropolitan Coffee for meetings, and Honey Hut for ice cream. I love to unwind at Opal on Pearl with some rose, but I'm also looking forward to Never Say Dive opening this year

Q: What inspired you to start Snowflake Comedy Club?

A: I started doing stand-up comedy in 2019 after taking a local class. After the class completed, I began going to open mics and was super uncomfortable with the scene - how male-dominated it was, and how many people felt compelled to make jokes that perpetuated stereotypes and contributed to a culture of discrimination. A friend from class decided we would try to run our own show and the rest is history.

Q: Where do you see SCC in 2 years?

A: I'm very excited, but also very conscious of Snowflake's growth. I'm much more about quality over quantity, which is why I don't try to stack my weeks with a whole bunch of shows. Rather I want to curate shows that I really care about with people I really like to work with. We are starting a women's writing workshop in the Fall that I am excited about. I hope in 2 years we are bringing more women and underrepresented minorities into the local comedy scene.

Q: What else would you like people to know about you?

A: Living in, and starting shows in Old Brooklyn has been such a beautiful collaborative effort that allows me to get to know my neighbors, my community, and the people working to help make Old Brooklyn "a better place to grow." I'm so excited about the potential of this neighborhood, and am excited to contribute a very small part.

Q: How long have you lived in the neighborhood?

A: I bought my house in Old Brooklyn in December 2019, just before I learned I'd be spending all my time indoors, really getting to know my home's interior during a lengthy lockdown.



Leah Addison

Q: How can we follow along?

A: See one of our Spokes & Jokes shows at Sixth City Cycles on the first Friday! We're also doing the After-Market shows with Old Brooklyn Farmers Market on the second Thursday evening markets. Visit snowflakecomedy.com for more information, and follow @ snowflakecomedyclub on Instagram.



Spokes & Jokes show at Sixth City Cycles, 4274 Pearl Rd.





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From Woofs to Wows TURNING POINT DOG TRAINING

by Charles Kennick

As the new school year is set to begin, students across the country will return to the classroom to advance their knowledge of geography, chemistry, calculus, and music. It is widely agreed that children across the world should be cared for and prepared for their future as well-educated members of society by professionals we call teachers, professors, and coaches.

But what about the furry members of our families? Shouldn't they also have highly trained professionals activate their minds?? Turning Point Dog Training has an answer for these questions: "Yes!"

Turning Point Dog Training was founded in 2019 by Old Brooklyn resident Anthony Jochum. The special dual relationship of working where you live and being a member of your community drew Anthony to start up his business in Old Brooklyn. He loves being both a resident and business owner in the neighborhood and is excited to be a part of and to live in a community on the rise where people care about their community. Another added perk is that he can easily walk or bike to the office every day without sitting in traffic on the freeway or Opportunity Corridor.

Originally located at 4521 State Road, Anthony's business took off and grew rapidly during the pandemic as people across the country spent more time at home with their dogs and looked for companionship from a new furry friend during the stay-at-home orders. Old Brooklyn CDC helped Turning Point Dog Training with their relocation within the neighborhood so they could move from their original location along State Road to their new location on Stanford Avenue.

Old Brooklyn CDC's Neighborhood Development team often helps small business owners find brick-and-mortar spaces for their new or expanding business. The Neighborhood Development team can work with businesses at all stages of growth and would love to help all current and aspiring neighborhood business owners find spaces in the neighborhood! There are so many positives for Anthony as a resident and business owner in Old Brooklyn.

Turning Point Dog Training offers a wide variety of training services that vary from a handful of training sessions to a multiple week "board and train" programs where your dog stays overnight at the facility to receive the most comprehensive



Anthony Jochum, Turning Point Dog Training

training possible. They also offer free, community-oriented "Pack Walks" where the Turning Point Trainers invite dogs and their owners to meet up with them at neighborhood parks to do group dog walks and give tips, pointers, and tricks to keep your pup on their p's and q's. Follow their social media (@TurningPointDogTraining) or just reach out to know when the next one is coming up!

So, whether your pup has behavioral challenges or just needs a bit of a refresher on the basics, the team at Turning Point has the experience and the 1-on-1 attention your dog needs to be the bestest boy or girl that deserves many, many treats and belly rubs!

Or... if you don't have a dog at home but own a building that is available for lease/sale or a business owner in the neighborhood looking to grow or improve your business, please reach out to Old Brooklyn CDC's Neighborhood Development Coordinator, Charles Kennick at <u>charlesk@</u> <u>oldbrooklyn.com</u> or 216-459-1000 ext. 203.

> Turning Point Dog Training 3504 Stanford Avenue (440) 679-0049 www.turningpointdog.com

Fall 2023 THE TOWN CRIER

Although you are most likely reading this column

in the vicinity of Labor Day, I am actually writing it in the vicinity of Independence Day/the Fourth of July. And what a Fourth of July it has been. I thought that the worst air I ever breathed was on Wednesday, June, 28th, when the smoke from the wildfires in Canada pushed Cleveland's air quality index to 250. But the evening of July 4th seemed to be just



as bad, except that it smelled like gun smoke.

Some people find enjoyment in (illegally) shooting off fireworks, but at least fireworks are pretty. Firecrackers, on the other hand, are nothing but noise and air pollution. I wonder how many hundreds of thousands of dollars Old Brooklyn residents spent to amuse themselves in this way on the day set aside to celebrate America's independence.

I need to begin this column with a **clarification** about something I said in our Spring issue. While discussing business changes along Memphis Ave., I had written, "... One neighborhood place we won't be able to go to this Spring, however, is **Vino Veritas**, the winery between Memphis Ave. and Henritze Ave. at W. 41st St. Councilman Kris Harsh announced at his January Ward 13 meeting that the business was closing and that he is seeking input for an alternate use of the property. (The City of Cleveland still owns the land.)"

While it is true that Councilman Harsh did discuss possible alternate uses for the Vino Veritas property at his January Ward meeting and that the City of Cleveland does own the two-plus acre piece of land, and owner **Anthony Nunes Insana** has taken down both the hoop house in which he hosted events and the outdoor restroom which was immediately behind it, **he is still the legal tenant and his winery is still open for outdoor socializing.** I apologize for any confusion my 'incomplete knowledge' caused.

Hopefully I have my facts right in the following summaries of three of the events which I advertised in our June issue – *Pedal for Prizes, Cleveland History Days* at **Metropolitan Coffee** and *GardenWalk Cleveland.* For the first time at this year's **Pedal for Prizes** on Saturday, May 2nd, cyclists took off from the relatively new **Brighton Park** on Pearl Rd. north of Broadview Rd. Members of the committee headed by **John Young** of **Speed Exterminating** also arranged for the amenities which made the 'center of Old Brooklyn' site welcoming to the 300-plus cyclists who turned up for the event. Participants had a chance at winning over 100 prizes, including 15 bicycles, courtesy of generous Old Brooklyn and Greater Cleveland businesses. John considers *Pedal* to be "Old Brooklyn's premiere event" and no doubt many participants agree with him.



Photos by Deirdre Faranda Pedal for Prizes

(Bicycle enthusiasts, please note that **Slow Roll Cleveland** will be pedaling through Old Brooklyn on Monday, September 25th. Check out their website, www.slowrollcleveland.org, for the details.)

The Cleveland History Days event at **Metropolitan Coffee,** 4744 Broadview Rd., on Wednesday, June 28th, attracted a capacity-plus crowd. They came to hear Tom Yablonsky and Tim Donovan talk about their advocacy work in getting the **Ohio &**



Cleveland History Days at Metropolitan Coffee, 4744 Broadview Rd.

Erie Canalway National Heritage Area established in 1996. The popular **Towpath Trail I**ies within the Heritage Area.

In addition, Tom and Tim discussed possibilities for the **Canal Basin Park** being planned for the northern end of the Canal. Murals on the bridge supports depicting the history of the Canal are what's being considered. Muralmaster John Rivera-Resto was also on hand with a PowerPoint presentation about his other work in Cleveland, including the mural on the northwest corner of Clark Ave. at W. 25th St.,

Kudos to the 45 Old Brooklyn (44 residents and 1 business) gardeners who beautified their yards for Old Brooklyn's **GardenWalk Cleveland** day on Saturday, July 8th. Unfortunately, the weather only cooperated until about 2:15 p.m. when the rain started. But rain or shine, **GardenWalk Cleveland** is still one of my favorite weekends of the year.

In spring of 2022, a team of ladies from **Senior Citizen Resources, Inc. (SCR)** entered our region's **2022 Mind Challenge Championship** for the first time. It was held at the Brookpark Senior Center (at Holland Rd. and Engle Rd.) over two days in May, 2022. **Denise Dalton** organized the team so that she and **Sundra "Sunny" Chalia, Rober**ta McCreary, Barbara Puchalski, Norah Rafferty, Bonnie Robertson, Rosemary Williams and Sandra Wrencher could represent SCR at the competition. They were happy to finish seventh out of the fifteen groups there and started planning to enter again in 2023.

And so in May of this year, they added to their number, and two groups from SCR participated in the *2023 Mind Challenge Championship.* Group One was composed of **Denise Dalton** (Captain), **Keith Bukavak**, **Judy Ladika**, **Joann Matson**, **Boni Robertson** and **Sandra Wrencher.** Group Two was composed of **Rosemary Williams** (Captain), **Marc Fenster, Ron Friz, Robert McCreary, Marge Milligan** and **Norah Rafferty.** The competition again took place at the Brookpark Senior Center.

The organization of the whole event is quite complicated as there are eleven regions in northeast Ohio with many senior groups in each region. But just focusing on the 10 teams at the Brookpark Region's 2023 tournament, there were 3 teams from Brookpark, 3 teams from Parma, 2 teams from Old Brooklyn (SCR'S!), 1 team from Brooklyn and 1 team from Cuyahoga Hts.

The results -- Denise Dalton's team finished second and Rosemary Williams' team finished fifth. Congratulations, ladies and gentlemen! **Mary Queen of Peace School,** 4419 Pearl Rd., again awarded a multitude of partial high school scholarships to its eighth graders at the school's June graduation ceremony. The names and amounts of the scholarships, the students who received them, and the high schools which they are now attending are:

Our Lady of Good Counsel Scholarship, \$10,000 over 4 years, to Aris Soto, St. Ignatius High School; Darlene Brezovsky Memorial Scholarship, \$500, to Giovanni Perez, school unknown;

Brian Himes Memorial Award, \$100, to Nomar Reynoso, Holy Name High School;

Paul Armbruster Memorial Award, \$100, to **Isabella Rees**, St. Joseph Academy;

Reynolds Family Scholarship, \$500, to Liliana **Flores-Linares,** St. Joseph Academy;

DTC Scholarship (from 3 MQP teachers), \$500, to **Aris Soto,** St. Ignatius High School; and

DTC Scholarship (from 3 MQP teachers), \$300, to **Kyle Verhosek,** St. Ignatius High School.

Nineteen PTU Scholarships for varying amounts to:

Arya Amparo, \$500, St. Joseph Academy; Lindsey Eichenmiller, \$500; Holy Name High School;

Brbara (sic) Mansour, \$500, St. Joseph Academy; Pamela Mansour, \$500, St. Joseph Academy; Kyle Verhosek, \$500, St. Ignatius High School; Elijah Colon-Johnson, \$300, St. Martin de Porres; Liliana Flores-Linares, \$300, St. Joseph Academy; Giovanni Otero, \$300, Holy Name High School; Ava Cruz, \$200, Holy Name High School; **Quin Griffith,** \$200, Holy Name High School; Loreisa Marshall, \$200, Holy Name High School; Caleb Mills, \$200, St. Edward High School; Isabella Rees, \$200, St. Joseph Academy; Emma Rees, \$200, St. Joseph Academy; Nomar Reynoso, \$200, Holy Name High School; Conner Wholaver, \$200, Holy Name High School; Joshua Feliciano, \$100, St. Martin de Porres; Alyzzia Urban, \$100, Holy Name High School; and Raschelle Wilson, \$100, Holy Name High School.

Although summer will be officially over this month, you can still catch the two remaining outdoor concerts in the gazebo at the **Ben Franklin Community Garden.** The *Tim McDonald Quartet* (jazz) will perform on Saturday, September 2nd and Red Campion (a vocal quartet with piano accompaniment) will perform on Saturday, September 16th. Both concerts last from 6 to 7 p.m.

by Lynette Filips



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Community NOTES

BROOKLYN HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Shunpike Shoppe - Sept. 16 & 17; Sat. 10 am. - 3 pm. & Sun., noon - 3 pm. Raffle beautiful fall quilt "Autumn Kaleidoscope" on Sun. Colorful hand-loomed rugs made in house and made to order, also crafts, books, plants and misc. White elephants. For more info call Barb 216-410-3598.

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4542 Pearl Rd. 216-302-4409 gatewaychurcholdbrooklyn.com - gwcoldbrooklyn@gmail. com

Worship Services - every Sun; 10:30 am. in-person or livestream our services via Facebook Live. Check website or email for more info on community groups, ministries, & events.

GRACE CHURCH OF OLD BROOKLYN 2503 Broadview Rd. 216-661-8210

www.graceoldbrooklyn.org

Worship services - every Sun; 10 am * Kids Church & Youth Ministry, Sundays. Really Recovered meetings Mon., 7 pm. Wed., 5:45 pm. Church Anniversary Celebration - Sat., Sept, 23, 1 - 5 pm: inflatables, food, & more, fun for everyone. Visit website for more information.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF OLD BROOKLYN 3430 Memphis Ave. 216-337-8200

Meeting Fri., Sept. 8; 7 pm. Topic: Mayflower Compact. "Photos & Potluck" meeting - Fri., Nov. 12; 6 pm. Pearl Road United Methodist Church, 4200 Pearl Rd. Enter

driveway off Memphis Ave. You may bring a dish, as well as an Old Brooklyn photo may want to share.

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2928 Scranton Road 216-781-9511 German & English Mass - each Sunday. German - 9

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Community Meals - 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month; 1 pm. Sept. 3, 17; Oct. 1, 15; Nov. 5, 19; Doors open 12 pm; meals served inside only from 1 - 2 pm. only one meal per person. Mobile Food Pantry - Sat., Sept. 16; Oct. 21; Nov. 18; 9 - 11 am. Weekly AA Meetings; Mon. 7:30 pm. Daily Reflection; Wed. 7:30 pm. Men's Big Book; Thurs, 8 pm. (Men's closed Meeting). Catholic Movie Nights; 6 pm.- Sun., Sept. 17; "Esther & the King"; Sun., Oct. 22; "The Bells of St. Mary"; "Brother Sun, Sister Moon", Sun., Nov. 19. Christmas Market - Sun., Nov. 5; 9:30 am. pm. Night at the Races - Sat., Oct. 14; 6:30 pm. OLGC/ MQP School All-Alumni Reunion - Sat., Oct. 21; 5:30 pm. Free Thanksgiving Day Meal: Thurs., Nov. 23; 12 - 2 pm.

OLD BROOKLYN ANNUAL MEETING - Tues., Oct. 24; 6 pm. Check website for updates. oldbrooklyn.com.

OLD BROOKLYN CRIME WATCH Meetings - 3rd Monday of the month; 7 - 8 pm. St. James Lutheran Church 4771 Broadview Rd (at Oak Park).

PEARL ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 4200 Pearl Rd. 216-661-5642 pearlroadumc.org

Worship - Sun., 9:30 am. Livestream service on facebook.com/PearlRoadUMC with Pastors Matt Whisenhunt & Christian Darrin. Fall Rummage Sale - Fri., Oct. 6, 10 am. - 4 pm. Sat., Oct. 7, 10 am. - 2 pm. (bag sale). Trunk-or-Treat Community Event - Sat., Oct. 28, 2 pm. - 4 pm. Church parking lot off of Memphis Ave.

REFUGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

(Inside Broadview Baptist Church) 4505 Broadview Rd. 216-273-8005

Friday Service 7 pm. meal served 6 pm. Sunday Service 11 am. Wednesday Bible Studies - 7 pm. meal served 6 pm. Follow us on facebook.com/refugecommchurch as we engage the community & seek to meet needs.

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH 4771 Broadview Rd. 216-351-6499 www.stjameslcms.church

Worship services with communion - Sat.; 5 pm. & Sun.; 10:15 am. Services are live streamed every Sunday. Adult Bible class - every Sunday; 9 am. AA Groups - Tues. & Thurs. 8 pm. Sat. 7 pm. Meetings are limited to 50 people. Old Brooklyn Crime Watch meetings - 3rd. Mon. of every month: Thanksgiving day worship - Thurs., Nov., 23; 10 am. Check website or call for updates.

ST. LEO THE GREAT CHURCH

4940 Broadview Rd. 216-661-1006 leothegreat.org Mass Schedule - Sat. 4 pm. Sun. 8 & 11am. Weekday -Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri. - 8:30 am. Reconciliation - Sat. 3 - 3:30 pm. Sat. 10 - 10:30 am. Sun. by appt. Parish Fes-tival - Fri., Sat., Sun., Oct. 20 - 22. (See ad page 7)

ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4464 Pearl Rd. 216-749-3545 Sunday service - 11 am. Bible Study - Sun. - 10 am. Mens Bible Study -2nd & 4th Sat. 8:45 am.

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH

4170 N. Amber Dr. 216-749-0414 Mass schedule: Sat. Vigil - 4:30 pm. Sun. 9 & 11 am. Weekday/end Masses: Mon., We., Fri. & Sat. 8:15 am. Tues. evenings - 6:45 pm. No Mass on Thurs. Confessions: Sat. 3:30 - 4:15 pm. Chili Cook-Off - Sat., Oct. 14; 6 pm. Utopia Hall.

UNITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4542 Pearl Rd at Behrwald Ave. 216-741-2085 unity-lutheran.org

Sunday Worship; 9:30 am. Last Sunday of each month Worship, 10 am - location alternates between St. Mark & Unity.

WARD 13 COMMUNITY MEETINGS

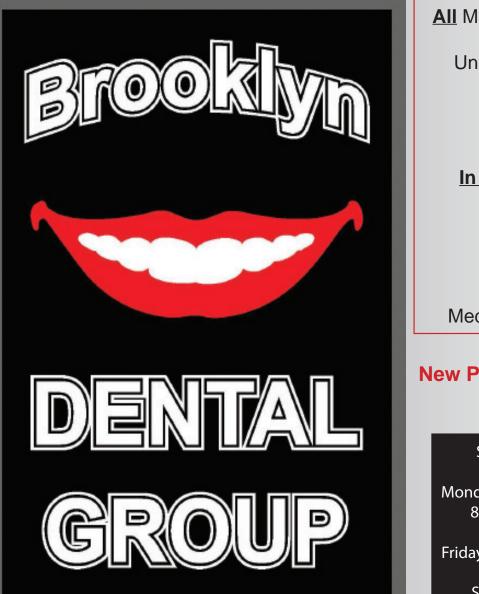
Estabrook Recreation Center, 4125 Fulton Rd. **2nd Wednesday of the month,** 6 pm. For more info. call Kris Harsh's Ward office at 216-664-2943 or email: kharsh@clevelandcitycouncil.org

> Interested in sharing your events for December, January, February? Send them to sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com

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