



OLD BROOKLYN NEWS



MEET THE NEW COUNCIL

Rebecca Maurer, Ward 12
Kris Harsh, Ward 13

Page 03



A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Cornell students create a plan
for the future of Old Brooklyn

Page 15



SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Ben Franklin brings music to the
Community Garden

Page 17

SPRING 2022

A PUBLICATION OF



OLD
BROOKLYN
CLEVELAND

OLD BROOKLYN CDC UPDATES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NOTES

If you look really hard, amidst the snow-covered lawns and dusted rooftops, you can see spring just around the corner. If you listen really close, as the sun comes up on a cool winter's morning, the birds will share their perennial excitement for the yearly rejuvenation just on the horizon.

In Old Brooklyn, the change of season, with the promise of warmer weather to come is a welcome one. Small businesses along our main streets are eagerly preparing for more foot traffic. Residents are excitedly dreaming of what to plant in their garden and which new neighbors to invite over for lemonade on the front porch.

In this issue, we celebrate the legacy of outgoing OBCDC Executive Director Jeffrey T. Verespej, introduce the new City Council representatives for Old Brooklyn, and in a nod to our neighborhood's rich history, share the magic that is Ben Franklin Community Garden and the unique experience of the Garden Walk.

Grab a hot beverage, sit back, and enjoy this spring issue of the Old Brooklyn News! Don't forget to tune your bike up, you'll need it soon.

Lucas Reeve, Interim Executive Director

Dave Margolius, Board President



Old Brooklyn Community Meetings

Virtually every 4th Wednesday of the month.

March 23rd

April 27th

May 25th

If interested, call Hope Fierro

216.459.1000 x206 for more information.

Lucas Reeve

Interim Executive Director.
lucasr@oldbrooklyn.com

Devine Anderson

Community Engagement Specialist
(Healthy Homes Initiative)
devinea@oldbrooklyn.com

Jayme Lucas-Bauer

Neighborhood Devt. Project Manager
jaymel@oldbrooklyn.com

Devin H. Cotten

Director of Advancement
devinc@oldbrooklyn.com

Alex Deliz

Community Ambassador
alexdel@oldbrooklyn.com

Maggie Eby

Americorps VISTA
maggiee@oldbrooklyn.com

Hope Fierro

Community Engagement Coord.
hopef@oldbrooklyn.com

Darlene Glass

Ambassador Supervisor
darleneg@oldbrooklyn.com

Amber Jones

Director, Community Health
amberj@oldbrooklyn.com

Carlos Laboy

Community Outreach Coordinator
carlosl@oldbrooklyn.com

Johnese Sherron

Neighborhood Devt. Coordinator
johneses@oldbrooklyn.com

Sandy Worona

Outreach Coordinator and
Old Brooklyn News
sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation
4274 Pearl Rd. Suite F Cleveland, OH 44109
216-459-1000

Interested in advertising
in our magazine?
Contact Sandy Worona
216-459-1000 x 210 or
sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com

SPRING 2022

INSIDE OLD BROOKLYN NEWS

01

OLD BROOKLYN CDC UPDATES

03

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS WARDS 12 & 13

07

JOHN W. YOUNG, FIRST PRESIDENT OF OBCDC

11

JEFFREY T. VERESPEJ LEAVES OBCDC

15

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE OF OLD BROOKLYN

17

BEN FRANKLIN GARDEN SUMMER CONCERTS

21

WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

23

HISTORY - CORONAVIRUS (PART) VI

25

TOWN CRIER

27

INSTAGRAM

30

CHURCH NOTES

Cover Photo: Cherry trees are blooming at Brookside Reservation, part of the Cleveland Metroparks.

PhotoCredit: Cleveland Metroparks



First month in office: Freshmen council members at the helm in Old Brooklyn

by: TRICIA L CHAVES

The day Rebecca Maurer and I spoke marked a month since she'd assumed her role as Ward 12 councilwoman after unseating 16-year incumbent Anthony Brancatelli. Behind the wheel en route to a constituent's residence near Steelyard Commons, she hoped to help mitigate a utility shutoff, then planned on stopping to ensure an illegal dump along I-176 was cleaned up by sanitation workers in advance of the blizzard heading towards Northeast Ohio.

"It's the best job I've ever had in my life," she marveled, when asked how things were going thus far. "I mean, I get to wake up every morning and dream big about a city and about neighborhoods that I love. I can't ask for much more."

Against the angular backdrop of her colleagues' domains, the map of Maurer's ward stands out, and harkens to a Rorschach Test image resembling a dove in mid-flight: Its head poised at the intersection of interstates 77 and 480, beak tipped toward Scranton Avenue in Tremont, tail pointed down Broadview to I-71. The Cuyahoga River protrudes from its mouth and rests on its breast like an olive branch, bisecting the wide breadth of its mighty wings as they envelop Old Brooklyn, Brooklyn Centre and Slavic Village, forming a cradle around neighboring Newburgh Heights.

Looking back to 2013 helps clarify how this peculiar configuration of Ward 12 was contrived. In a press release from Cleveland City Council dated March 25th that year, a controversial, albeit voter-approved redistricting process was announced. The effort, implemented the following January, was managed by the Westlake-based TRIAD Research Group and whittled the Cleveland's 19 wards down to 17, eliminating two council seats. At the time, some critics of the redrawn districts hinted gerrymandering was to blame for the haphazard parceling of Old Brooklyn.

When probed, she'll agree the ward has a geographically inefficient setup, and with swift assuredness promises that she'll divide her efforts equally among neighborhoods and begin crafting a more cohesive "ward identity." One-way Maurer plans to do so is by rotating between the Cleveland Public Library branches in Brooklyn Centre, Old Brooklyn and Slavic Village to conduct a monthly meeting for con-



Rebecca Maurer, Ward 12 councilwoman

stituents. Between gatherings, she encourages contact from Ward 12 residents via email at rmaurer@clevelandcitycouncil.org.

The sprawled nature of Maurer's ward highlights the city's ethnic and economic diversity, and embraces both east- and west-siders. Being an effective advocate for the area's citizenry requires empathizing with an array of challenges. Maurer, a resident of Slavic Village, says that particular brand of empathy was nurtured at The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland (LASC). Her first job post-law school after working as a clerk for Judge James Gwin of the Northern District of Ohio. While representing the city's least fortunate, each day offered new insights into the injustices they suffered and opportunities to assist. So gratifying was her role that she jokes, "I thought they'd be wheeling me out of there at 80 years old!"

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warn that when a child is exposed to lead, they can experience damage to their brain and nervous system, delays in growth and development, and problems in behavior, hearing, learning and speech. Lead was a driving force that shaped Maurer's tenure at LASC, and eventually led her to pursue public office. While defending clients whose rental conditions caused lead contamination in their children, she spearheaded the City's first measure to prevent it: Ord. 747-2019. When her unwitting neighbor's address appeared on a long list of toxic rentals awaiting enforcement, Maurer reeled at the injustice while recalling the woman's twin toddlers playing on the weathered front porch the summer before. She realized it was necessary to take matters into her own hands.

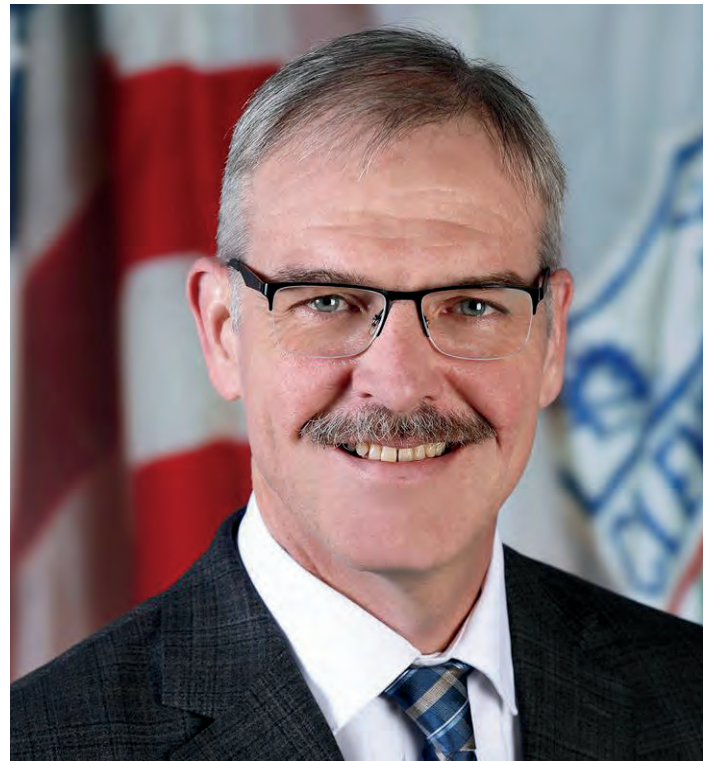
Disjointed as the Old Brooklyn wards may seem on a map, the community's two representatives at City Council are certainly on the same page when it comes to ensuring quality housing options for renters and maintaining property values for homeowners in the neighborhood.

"I'm a slumlord hunter," proclaimed Kris Harsh, when I asked him what inspired his candidacy for Ward 13. The former Housing Director of Metro West Community Development Corporation fills the seat Kevin J. Kelley vacated for a mayoral run. "As a certified lead risk assessor, eradicating unsafe living conditions has been a career focus of mine for the 15 years preceding my city council appointment," he said.

According to Harsh, the mandatory Cleveland rental registry for landlords was revised last spring to include a lead safe certification requirement. This means a risk assessor or credentialed lead safe inspector has conducted a clearance exam certifying the property is free of lead hazards. Change will occur incrementally, as biannual renewals come due. "The big enforcement is on its way right now, and this isn't perfect but it's a start - you cannot evict a tenant without showing a lead safe certification," he says.

Harsh - who famously clocked more than 7,000 knocks on Old Brooklyn residents' doors during his campaign - employs senior Old Brooklynite Debbie Heyink to monitor his Facebook page so he can personally respond to issues quickly, or snuff out the occasional conspiracy theories with a counter by video. He says constituents often take to social media before making a phone call, so this arrangement aims to help him sustain productivity and maintain the consistent in-person contact that's become his calling card.

With the former Ward 13 office on State Road recently unveiled as a retail florist, Harsh and his staff will be setting up shop at Estabrook Recreation Center on Fulton Road.



Kris Harsh, Ward 13 councilman

The centralized location, ample parking, and handicap access will ensure he's easily accessible for all. His monthly meetings will center around a theme and feature presentations from local experts. One example: Dementia and Alzheimer's Resources for Residents. He can be reached at kharsh@clevelandcitycouncil.org.

A day in the life of a council member requires frequently shifting gears between fielding constituent concerns and community-building to legislative tasks like policy changes and committee assignments. "I sometimes use this analogy that you're both flying the plane and rebuilding the engine at the same time," Maurer explained. "You're trying to keep things going. Then asking: What can we be doing to make things better? That's what we were elected to do. We weren't elected to maintain the status quo. We were elected to make things better in the city."

The legislation calendar at clevelandcitycouncil.org provides a schedule and links for watching the committee hearings and council meetings online. Under the "Public Comment" tab, you'll find upcoming points for discussion and a form that enables you to speak up about topics of relevance to you.

Under the leadership of newcomer, Mayor Justin Bibb, council members are individually settling into their respective committee assignments. Each member assumes four posts from 11 different areas according to Harsh, who'll be honing in on improving the city's public power,

wastewater management, and broadband internet just to name a few. Collectively, they're preparing for the annual budget review process, "It's our biggest responsibility as the legislative body of the city," Harsh affirmed. Budget revisions span about 60 days as council members allocate operating funds for Cleveland's public works, projects, and the manpower that makes it all possible.

Burgeoning to-do lists aside, both leaders indulge in a little time for dreaming beyond their day-to-day realities.

Maurer composed a 10-page transition plan with ideas ripe

for picking. "I have a goal of how many trees we can plant in the ward. We also have legislative goals, for instance, to protect workers. We don't have any wage theft laws (in Cleveland) right now, and we have a lot of folks being taken advantage of as a result. We have many, quote unquote, wins on paper, but people don't feel them because the implementation hasn't been right. I really want to make sure that these programs are actually implemented in a way that residents can use."

Councilman Harsh has a succinct mission: "I'm building the neighborhood I hope my kids will eventually want to return to, buy homes, and raise families of their own."

DESIGNED LANDSCAPING
by **OSH**
"MOST OF YOUR NEEDS"

- ◆Stones ◆Shrubs ◆Edging
- ◆Perennials ◆Light Tree Work
- ◆Mulch/ Top Soil
- ◆Low Voltage Lighting
- ◆Clean-Ups ◆Free Estimates

Call: 216-402-2861

CLE INT'L FILM FEST **46** **SAVE THE DATES**

CIFF46 AT PLAYHOUSE SQUARE
MARCH 30–APRIL 9, 2022

CIFF46 STREAMS
APRIL 10–APRIL 17, 2022

CLEVELANDFILM.ORG

CARMINO'S
PIZZA

4728 Pearl Rd.
(216) 398-9365
Order online at: carminospizza.com

Sheet Pizzas • Wings • Chicken Pasta • Stromboli • Party Trays

Monday - Thursday: Noon - 11 p.m.
Friday & Saturday: Noon - Midnight
Sunday: 12 noon - 10 p.m.

VISA MasterCard DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

5% OFF any order \$20 or more with mention of this ad

HEALTHY HOMES INITIATIVE

2022 paint program

Is your exterior paint chipping?

Are you interested in re-vamping the color on your home?

If so, consider signing up for the 2022 city paint program.

Applications will be available soon!
** additional program available for seniors**

For more information on the paint program or other home repair programming please contact:
Devine Anderson
216-459-1000 x 218 or devinea@oldbrooklyn.com

St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Elementary School

4600 State Road, Cleveland 44109 216-749-7980
www.stmarybyzantine.com REGISTER TODAY!



Faith – Service – Integrity

Preschool - Daycare
Grades K-8
Before & After School Care
Accepts State Tuition Voucher
Preschool & Kindergarten
Registration Open Now!



The NEA BIG READ Cleveland 2022

Join us in these events as we celebrate art and literacy.

Art House is proud to be one of only four OHIO organizations to be part of the 2021- 22 NEA Big Read program. Programs are inspired by The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros.

3/8, 5:30- 8 PM: Women Now: Celebrating Women and Femme in our Community with the Young Latino Network at Julia de Burgos
4/9 and 5/28, 1-2 PM: Workshops and readings at the Shalom Tranquility Community Garden
April 9 & 23, 10:30-Noon: Poetry and Prints with Lake Eire Ink at SPACES Gallery
May 6, 4- 5:30 & 6- 8 PM: Ice cream social and evening reception for the Annual Urban Bright Exhibition

For more information and to RSVP, go to www.arthouseinc.org/big-read

"NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest."
"El proyecto NEA Big Read es una iniciativa del National Endowment for the Arts (el Fondo Nacional para las Artes de Estados Unidos) en cooperación con Arts Midwest."



I look forward to serving Old Brooklyn in the years ahead.

Please reach out to my office with neighborhood issues and policy concerns. I'm committed to building a successful, safe city where everyone can thrive.

-Ward 12 Councilwoman
Rebecca Maurer

Ward 12 Council Office



216-664-4233



rmaurer
@clevelandcitycouncil.org



@CouncilwomanMaurer



John W. Young Legacy, leadership, and always looking forward

by: **Brittney Hooper**



IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF HIS WISE LEADERSHIP,
DEVOTED SERVICES AND UNSELFISH EFFORTS

Presented to

JOHN W. YOUNG

FIRST PRESIDENT

OLD BROOKLYN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

1975 - 1977

It's a gray day in Cleveland the Tuesday following Christmas. December these days seems more like a mild November. While the winter weather doesn't pose a problem for visiting one of the oldest homes in Old Brooklyn, an in-person meeting seems...strange. After all, it's so much easier to email, or talk on the phone, or really enter this post-Covid era and Zoom conference. Yet John W Young is the hero of this story; to hear it be told, a visit to his childhood home is best. The homestead known as Emerald Valley Ltd, owned by three generations of John W. 's family, is only a short drive from the heart of downtown Public Square to Old Brooklyn.

Heading east on Valley Rd from Broadview, row after row of apartment buildings line the street. The area certainly doesn't look like it hosts a century-old 12 acre plot. But suddenly the apartments cease, and there standing behind a huge clump of rhododendrons is a proud white house boasting cheerful Christmas wreaths and red bows.

A clear survivor of whatever land gobble claimed its neighbors, the home is surrounded by gardens and paths, guarded by a family determined to preserve their history and legacy.

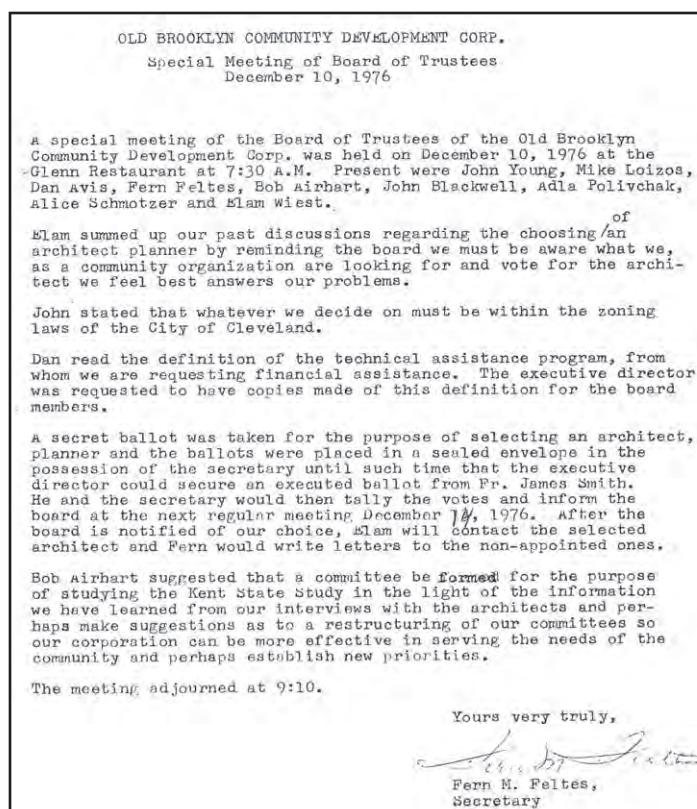
The reason for an in-person visit becomes much clearer.

Crossing the threshold into a warm dining area, John W greets his guests. His wife Dianne, has started the coffee on the old stove. Young's son John G and granddaughter Maddy are also present, eager to offer their time and support for him. A quick look around the room reveals period antiques and decor, all lovingly labeled; the family's very own historical museum. Theirs is one with the rare benefit of actually being lived in, and though a ghost or two might be the only current residents, the aura of a loving family lingers here.

Brief tour complete, with a warmly-offered cup of coffee in hand, Young sits at the head of the table, his wife Dianne at his side. Now in his 80's, he claims he needs help with his memory, though his family clearly thinks otherwise. It's a pleasure to meet them, but not a necessity. John is charming and eloquent, with no evidence of any lagging recollections. His "backup" is lovingly given, and only adds to the story. Young begins by sharing a childhood memory of his time at Ben Franklin school, and the gardening tasks that comprised part of his schoolwork. Pulling weeds all summer was a chore Young admits might have cost him a perfect grade. With his childhood still clearly in mind, he tells his family's history and their connection to the neighborhood they love so much.

Why do they care so much about Old Brooklyn? A simple question, with an answer formed over the span of a hundred years. Though it is John W. narrating the story, his family's devotion to their community is a continuation of what his grandfather began so many years ago. As he says, "In this particular family, Chapter one was John Speed".

Living in Cincinnati at the turn of the century as a lithographer by trade, Speed had an opportunity to move to Cleveland in the early 1900s. A family friend and owner of Rose Exterminating offered him the chance to open a new branch of the company. In those times, pest control was a sorely needed service. So, Speed set out ahead of his family to choose a downtown East 4th St location, and followed the streetcar line right to Saratoga Ave for the location of his first home. The neighborhood was love at first sight in



Original document of minutes from 1976 OBDC board meeting

Photo courtesy of John W. Young's

his eyes. Speed wrote to his wife describing Old Brooklyn's beautiful park filled streets. Living here, he would continue to travel by streetcar every day, likely right alongside his own customers, all while wearing a 3 piece suit, John W. describes.

In 1908, Mr. Speed began his own exterminating company mixing his chemicals and working from the basement of his home. In 1918 he left Saratoga Ave for the property that would become Emerald Valley on Valley Rd. Here he would happily settle for the remainder of his life, raising his family and nurturing his passions; dahlias, apple trees, even peacocks. Speed would never operate out of a storefront, instead traveling on the streetcar to his customers from his home. His business and his home were thus tightly entwined; his family and the daily work involved in keeping the farm, a part of that. As John W. describes, "those things are threads that bind all this together."

The success of Speed's business relied on the success of his home, which relied on the success of his family. That key concept formed a strong foundation, and is echoed in the generations of descendants following in Speed's footsteps.

John W. looks out towards the back of the property and pauses a moment. He recalls the last time he saw his grandfather after a heart condition claimed his life,

"I can still see him lying there on the swing, in my mind's eye. What a guy".

Of course, a family isn't just made up of one person, and daughter Helen Speed was equally devoted to her new

home. She was an active member of the Pearl Road Uninted Methodist Church, teaching Sunday school for 35 years, and forming her own ties to the community. Her name, along with others in the family, still graces a quilt hanging in the Church. Speed's wife Katherine, bookkeeper for her husband, was the only other employee of the business. It wasn't until Larry Young entered the picture, Speed's son-in-law, that he would gain another hand at exterminating.

Larry Young, a WWI veteran, first worked on the Ford automobile line and later as a pipefitter until jobs declined in the area. His skills were invaluable to the home and he shared his father-in-law's interests in growing their orchards, adding more fruit trees, and even installing heating in the house. As John W. astutely points out, his father lived with 9 others, all in-laws, as a hardworking man devoted to the family's success. He explains,

"Times were different. People relied heavily on each other. Creature comforts were nonexistent compared to today".

Though the means of the past don't always provide as clear a picture of the thoughts and emotions our ancestors experienced as today's technology allows, some actions spoke volumes. John W. believes it was the little things over the years, a formed familiarity, that naturally led to Larry Young taking over Speed's business. John W. says perhaps it was, "a sign of the times", that the business passed to Speed's son-in-law over Helen. (Today, John G would happily give the business to his daughter, but back in 1945 things were different). However the decision was made, Speed surely held his son-in-law in great esteem, and trusted him to carry the torch.

So in his 1939 Ford, the first 'Young' (Larry) of Speed Exterminating began driving to his new customers, and continued the strong bond between business and community. Speed's personal philosophy passed on again to his grandson. Growing up on the homestead, John W. 's childhood was strongly influenced by his family's deep-rooted commitment. Like his father, he seemed destined to continue the family business,

"I worked for a car wash when I was in high school; part time after school and Saturdays. 5 cents a car. I never did have a full-time job", John W. admits.

After graduating with an entomology degree, he began his own Old Brooklyn legacy at the reins of Speed Exterminating. "I used to brag that I'd be the only entomologist in pest control in Cleveland. I knew the insects." John W. explains with a smile.

Considering his family's history, John W. 's involvement in the community of Old Brooklyn is not surprising. Beginning in the 70s, through the 80s, he rallied local business and Church leaders, starting with the area surrounding Speed's storefront. His son describes his father's role in forming Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation;

“Dad was determined to get a group of business owners together and say, ‘What can we do for Broadview and Pearl?’ As they kept expanding, they realized it needed to be a community wide thing.”

As OBCDC President for over 10 years, John W. ’s commitment to the neighborhood he grew up in never wavered. Still, not all battles are won. One of his greatest victories was also one of his deepest regrets.

The old Broadvue Theater started as a success story for the CDC under John W. ’s leadership. Through spaghetti dinner fundraisers and community outreach, what had been a seedy establishment was converted into a family friendly theater, known especially for its laser light shows. The Brooklyn Kiwanis, all through volunteer labor, rehabbed the second floor bowling alley, intending to eventually rent the space out. Unfortunately, second run theaters are a difficult business and The Broadvue struggled. Years later, when John W. was called to help the property again, an entirely new set of politicians were in office. The complexity of having land, building, and business owners proved too challenging. In the end, A Family Dollar replaced where the Theater once stood.

It’s the genuine loss John W. feels that yet again displays his love for the community. He had no vested interest, or personal reasons demanding the theater’s existence. He has numerous achievements both within and out of Old Brooklyn that would more than compensate for a few losses along the way. But he doesn’t think like that. He explains,

“All of the success that I’ve made, the different accomplishments; COSI, Rotary, Old Stone Church, and Dianne backed me up every single one” he is quick to add. “Probably my greatest disappointment was the Broadvue theater. And it’s only a building. But it did represent community.”

Today, John W. is happily retired after handing the business to his own son, John G. Young Like his father, he shares the same distinction of having one full time job his whole life. In college he admits that he had to get his beer money somehow. Delivering pizzas did cover that expense.

John G. describes subtle cues that prompted each family member to continue on in their father’s place. It was never an expectation. The shift happened gradually and naturally, and he speaks about his own hopes for his daughter to pursue her own path. He recalls asking John W. for help on an inspection one day. “Let me check my calendar”, his Dad replied. And that was when John G. acknowledged, “I think we can box up his things on his desk”.

Of course, retiring from a family owned business isn’t quite the departure of traditional retirement. Perhaps that is why John W. is still so important and present in the Old Brooklyn community. His son echoes his father’s commitment,

“Watching things go on, asking what can we do?” John G. explains of his position at Speed, “The importance of a business giving back to the community is huge.”

At one point during all of this inspiring story, John W. breaks from the table and walks to the

large bay windows overlooking the yard at Emerald Valley. A record-breaking 15 squirrels are gathered on the stone platform that’s been laid out with winter offerings of delicious peanuts. He enthusiastically watches as he counts them aloud. If his enthusiasm for the small creatures that share his family’s property is any indication of who he is, John W. possesses a compassion not easily surpassed.

That compassion is humbly offered. In fact, none of the family wants to take credit for any of their successes. As John G. points out,

“We’ve given a lot to what we get involved in. We care. We’re passionate. We are not looking for the spotlight. It came by accident. But it was an opportunity to tell a story.”

John W. proudly declares that none of his accomplishments would have been possible without his wife. He admits she is the much better writer of the two,

“Dianne is the supporting actress. She gets an Oscar for that. Because there isn’t a single page of report or business letter that I ever wrote that she didn’t proofread.”

The spoiled squirrels continue their feast as the family wraps up their tale. It isn’t just the squirrels that John W. wants to enjoy Emerald Valley though. After walking along the property’s path, beach trees as old as the home itself lining the valley, John W. shares his hopes for its future. As perhaps the only family-owned plot of its size, 12 acres, in Cleveland proper. It is a unique location. He is exploring potential ways to share and preserve the Valley, including a possible designation as an arboretum. John W. believes Emerald Valley should be shared with those who might benefit most from its tranquil setting and history here in Old Brooklyn.

One recurring theme seems to stand out as John W. speaks about his history, love for Old Brooklyn, and Emerald Valley. “Signs of the time”, he says often. True, in times past communities were more dependent on their neighbors. But it is more than simply a house and business that happened to succeed here. John W. shares his family home of 104 years, surrounded by wife, son, and granddaughter. Though Emerald Valley no longer boasts an active farm as a necessity for survival, it is lovingly preserved. The property lives on thanks to the family’s continued devotion to each other. This devotion they share with every venture, every cause, that matters to them. Whatever ‘sign of the times’ might have led to that level of devotion years ago, it flourishes here, in the present.

Thanks to John W. Young and the efforts begun by John Speed. They will continue to flourish for many years to come. Old Brooklyn is privileged to be a part of it.

No One Beats Our Prices - NO ONE!



ROOF LEAKS? WE CAN HELP!

Financing Available!

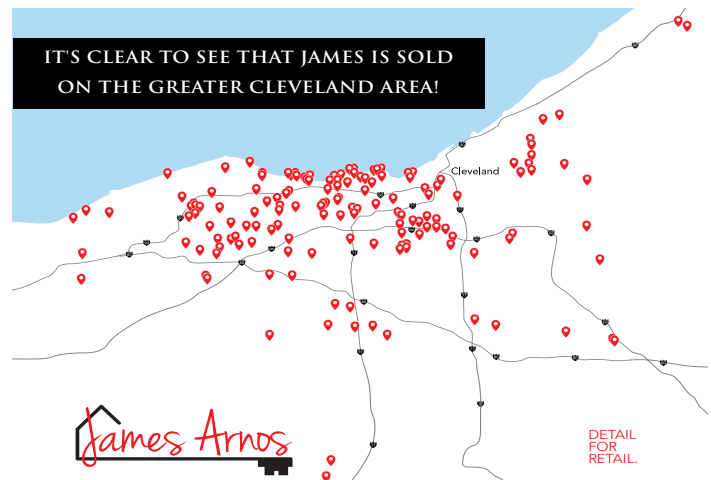
REPAIRS WELCOME!

Call For Free Estimates: **216.397.6349**
 Visit our website: www.Class1Pavers.com

<p>Spring Checklist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kitchen - Kitchen Refacing Windows & Doors Siding Roofing & Gutters Insulation Residential Driveways Waterproofing Masonry & Tuckpointing Bathroom Walk-in Tubs - Handicap Showers Carpentry Repairs & Rec Rooms Enclosures Porch Repair Garage Repairs 	<p>Complete Kitchen</p> <p>Get a BONUS Dishwasher or Microwave</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offer. Must present coupon after estimate. Expires 5/31/2022.</small></p> <p>\$200 OFF</p> <p>Interior Remodeling</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offer. Must present coupon after estimate. Expires 5/31/2022.</small></p>	<p>Complete Bathroom</p> <p>Get a BONUS Ceramic Floor</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offer. Must present coupon after estimate. Expires 5/31/2022.</small></p> <p>\$200 OFF</p> <p>Porch Repairs & Masonry Work</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offer. Must present coupon after estimate. Expires 5/31/2022.</small></p>
	<p>\$200 OFF</p> <p>Asphalt & Concrete Driveways</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offer. Must present coupon after estimate. Expires 5/31/2022.</small></p>	<p>\$350 OFF</p> <p>Complete Roof Tear Off</p> <p><small>Plus FREE Ice Guard System Protection. Not valid with any other offer. Must present coupon after estimate. Expires 5/31/2022.</small></p>

For Great Pricing, Must Have Estimate & Coupon

IT'S CLEAR TO SEE THAT JAMES IS SOLD ON THE GREATER CLEVELAND AREA!




James Arnos

DETAIL FOR RETAIL.

jarnos@cutlerhomes.com

WHY WORK WITH ME?

- 2019 OAR President's Club Award Winner!
- 2017-2018 OAR Award of Excellence Winner!
- Top Producer for Cutler Real Estate in the Greater Cleveland Area Market for 2018-2019!



Cutler REAL ESTATE THE SIMPLE WAY HOME.

James Arnos 216.407.5347



Updated menu with even more delicious flavors coming soon!

Inspired by tradition, Made with heart

iRiE
Jamaican Kitchen

4162 Pearl Rd,
 Old Brooklyn, OH 44109
www.iriejakitchen.com

@iriejamaicankitchen
@iriejamaicankitchen
@IJKCLE

Eight great years, and HE'S JUST GETTING STARTED

by **Jacqueline Mitchell**

For a moment, think back to eight years ago. Much has changed in a relatively short period of time, and life in 2014 likely varies greatly from the age we live in now. Through the eyes of Old Brooklyn, the neighborhood — though still anchored by its historic legacies — has undergone quite a transformation in this eight-year span.

Jeffrey T. Verespej has had a panoramic view of this metamorphosis in his position as Executive Director for Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, a title he has held since April 2014. In February, Verespej announced his next venture in community development as Cleveland Neighborhood Progress' Chief of Staff and Operations. His new role with the community development funding intermediary will allow him to continue his work in supporting and revitalizing communities, but on a larger scale: instead of focusing solely on Old Brooklyn, he will direct his attention to strengthening all of Cleveland's CDCs and aim to bring equitable revitalization to every Cleveland neighborhood.

Verespej lives with his family in Edgewater but was born in Old Brooklyn, so his ties to the neighborhood run deep. As he said, "I count myself really fortunate that there are people who knew me when I was a six-year-old that still live in the neighborhood and that I know will still be living here for another 30 years."

By the time he was in college, Verespej said he knew he wanted to devote his career to "having a positive impact on the lives of as many Clevelanders as possible." At 19, he was assigned by a Case Western Reserve professor to attend a Lakefront Planning Commission meeting. At the time, Verespej thought he was going to attend law school and leave Cleveland behind. "I went to my first public meeting not knowing what to expect, and I walked out 90 minutes later saying, 'I'm going to spend the rest of my life doing that,'" he said.

Career highlights

When Verespej arrived at OBCDC, he brought his experience with neighborhood organizations in bustling com-



Jeffrey T. Verespej standing next to the newly planted Jessie Owens Olympic Oak at Rockefeller Lagoon.

munities such as University Circle Inc. and Ohio City Inc. Old Brooklyn has seen its own economic vibrancy in the years since: project highlights during Verespej's tenure include the addition of Cleveland Metroparks' Brighton Park and the narrowing of Pearl Road from seven lanes to five to allow for wider sidewalks and better crosswalks.

Other highlights, he said, included working with Radhika Reddy and her partners at Ariel Ventures to purchase the former Pearl Street Savings & Trust Co. building and transform it into an event venue, now known as Ariel Pearl Center.

While legacy businesses such as Honey Hut and Jack Frost Donuts were around when Verespej started at OBCDC,

many of the businesses residents have come to know and love were not: spots like Coffee Coffee Coffee, Metropolitan Coffee, Sabor Miami, El Rinconcito Chapin, Sixth City Cycles and Old Brooklyn Cheese Co. didn't exist.

"I think us acquiring major real estate, like the land at Pearl and Memphis and the land behind the library, are huge things," Verespej said. That includes the OBCDC building on Pearl Road, now adorned with the instantly recognizable 30-foot Old Brooklyn sign. "That was a boarded-up, falling-down, derelict building with a sign that you thought if you walked under it, it would hurt you," he recalled.

"Organizationally, we went from being one of the lowest performing CDCs in town to one of the highest performing CDCs in town with innovations and new initiatives and outstanding staff and a great board and a deep level of community engagement," Verespej said. "Eight years ago, when we'd host a community meeting, we'd have two people, three people show up. Last week, we had 90 people show up. That matters."

Attitude Shift

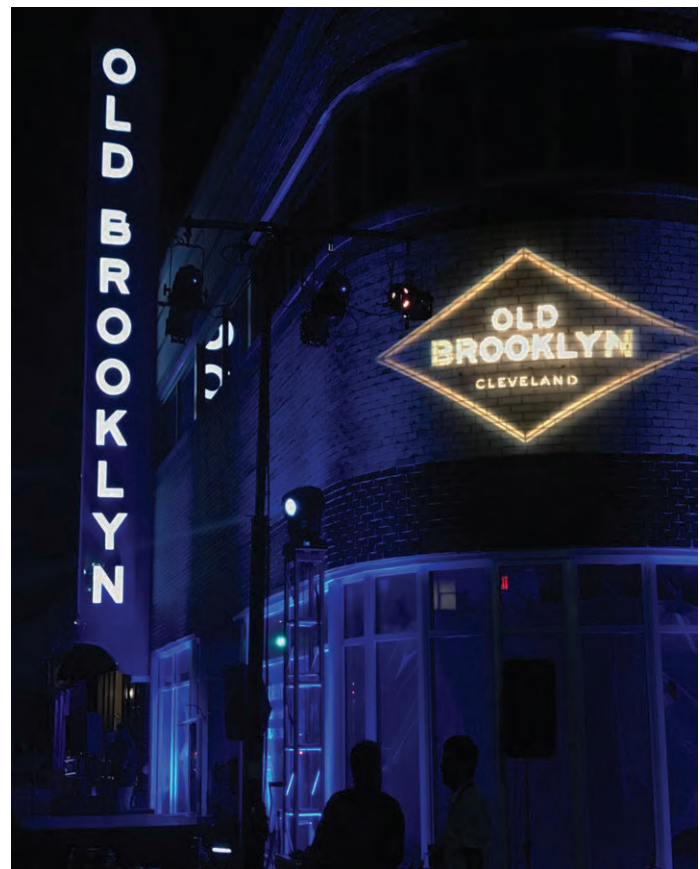
One of the most significant changes Verespej notices in Old Brooklyn today is a shift in neighborhood confidence.

"I think the neighborhood has confidence that tomorrow's going to be a better day than today," he said. "And if you don't have that, nothing else matters. Because if [a business owner] thinks that tomorrow is going to be worse than today, are they even going to bother hiring people? No. If you're thinking about buying a home, and you're like, 'Man, that neighborhood's going downhill,' are you going to buy a home? No. If you own a home, is next summer going to get better than this summer? Yes? OK, I'll redo my porch; I'll paint my house.

"Not everybody has that confidence ... but that confidence is far more pervasive today, whereas it was nonexistent eight years ago. The neighborhood should have swag. The neighborhood should walk very proudly, like, we're Old Brooklyn, and we are on the rise, and things are good."

Verespej attributes the neighborhood's accelerated revitalization over the last eight years to a mix of factors.

"It's like cooking," he said. "When you have good ingredients, things get a lot easier. It starts with a great neighborhood that has, thankfully, a low foreclosure rate, a high level of home ownership, a deep history of community



Inaugural lighting of the Old Brooklyn sign at 4274 Pearl Rd. during the Smorgosbord Street Fest in 2019.

engagement, a relatively intact building stock and institutional anchors including the Metroparks and MetroHealth. We're starting from a baseline that is way higher than most places in Cleveland. And so some of it was just doing things the right way and letting the neighborhood and the businesses and the entrepreneurial spirit take over. If I can take any credit, it's just building a good organization, hiring great people, getting out of their way and letting them do their jobs, demanding the same level of excellence in our organization that every business owner has here."

Fostering the shift in neighborhood pride took intentionality, Verespej said, which runs deeper than branding and marketing (though that certainly has been strengthened in the last several years). Old Brooklyn has an active social media presence, a recognizable diamond logo with its blue, green and white color scheme and the tagline "A great place to grow," paying homage to the community's greenhouse roots. While Verespej said he loves everything about Old Brooklyn's brand, "it's more so just the values we stand for."

Those values include embracing what makes Old Brooklyn unique, like its entrepreneurial spirit and multicultural population.



Brighton Park ribbon cutting for Old Brooklyn's new 25-acre park. The park is located on Pearl Rd. across from the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

"We leaned very hard into the fact that we are this exponential growth community for the Latinx community," Verespej said. "We leaned hard into the fact that we're a neighborhood of opportunity for the Black community. It was intentional in who we brought to the table."

In turn, celebrating the community's diverse voices has drawn more people to the neighborhood.

"It makes us a really funky place where you can have a Guatemalan restaurant and a soul food place right next to each other on Broadview," Verespej said. "And both entrepreneurs are living their dreams, and maybe they wouldn't have been able to in any other place. ... Folks are excited to move to Old Brooklyn because you can go to a hip coffee shop, an amazing multicultural restaurant and an old-school diner, all within a block from each other. That's hard to capture."

Roadblocks and Challenges

Though community growth has been significant, Verespej's job came with its own set of challenges that have yet to be solved.

Though he's mindful to add that sometimes, challenges can lead to a success the next day, Verespej said he does wish OBCDC could have acquired more land and made more connections down into the River Valley, specifically Snake Hill.

"It's land that we should be able to make progress on: The City of Cleveland controlled, Cleveland Metroparks managed, really cool housing stock, natural topography," he said. "And I promised the community members in my first month that we were going to get that done, and we didn't. It's a naturally winding ravine that should be a gem as a part of the Cleveland Metroparks' Emerald Necklace."

"We still have a hard time convincing philanthropy that we matter," he said. "Because philanthropy still looks at us as a neighborhood doing too fine for their assistance. And I have to shout until I'm hoarse that no, that's not the case. ... But the market — real estate developers and entrepreneurs — doesn't think we're doing well enough. And that's really maddening that I have a conversation at 9 a.m. where someone's like, 'You guys are doing great. You don't need our money.' And then at 11 o'clock, they say, 'You do not have enough money.'"

Eyes on the Future

Despite the inherent challenges, Verespej sees a bright future for Old Brooklyn and another decade of dramatic revitalization.

"I think the neighborhood will continue to attract entrepreneurs to Brighton," he said. "I think you will likely see a handful of large projects on a scale that Old Brooklyn has never seen in Brighton, where you see 40, 50, 100 apartment units going up in multi-family buildings with some cool retail on the first floor. And I think Brighton will be

dramatically transformed during that time period. I think that's really, really cool."

A more seamless connection between the business corridor and South Hills is also on the horizon, Verespej said.

"South Hills obviously being a regional destination for the housing market and really attractive, I think that's going to continue to grow and accelerate," he said. "And I think between that energy and this energy [at Brighton], you're going to see those two things blend together so that residents and visitors have a more seamless experience connecting those spaces."

He also looks forward to seeing the neighborhood tackle environmental mitigation with historic landfills in the community, "not necessarily for them to turn into parks like we did — those are 10-year projects in and of themselves — but at least have a plan in place," he said.

As far as the future of OBCDC, Lucas Reeve, Director of Neighborhood Development, will step in as Interim Executive Director while the organization's board creates a search committee to fill the position.

New Role, Same Goal

Meanwhile, Verespej is looking forward to his new role at Cleveland Neighborhood Progress and the citywide impact it allows. As Chief of Staff and Operations, he'll work with the CEO to manage day-to-day operations and lead the implementation of a new strategic plan.

"I'm taking some of the lessons learned on organization building and neighborhood impact here and taking that citywide," said Verespej.

"Ultimately, the plan should lead to more resources flowing to all neighborhoods in Cleveland," he said. His new role will still have a significant impact on Old Brooklyn as Cleveland Neighborhood Progress serves as an intermediary for organizations like OBCDC.

"As an intermediary, we do things that an individual CDC can't do for policy and advocacy, because when one neighborhood shouts, then, OK, that's fine, whatever," he explained. "When 27 neighborhoods sing the same song, you can bring about real policy change that has a direct impact on the work that happens, whether that is a change in how we address city service delivery to housing programs to tax abatement policies to funding streams. Cleveland Neighborhood Progress can do that work that an in-

dividual CDC can't. Additionally, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress can touch regional and national funders and policymakers in a way that an individual agency can't and bring home the bacon so that we all can have more, so that there's more dollars programmatically flowing out to our businesses and there's more dollars operationally flowing to OBCDC. So there's a direct connection, because the better Cleveland Neighborhood Progress does, the better each CDC in Cleveland should be able to do and the better each neighborhood should be able to do."

Verespej described his time with OBCDC as "the ride of a lifetime."

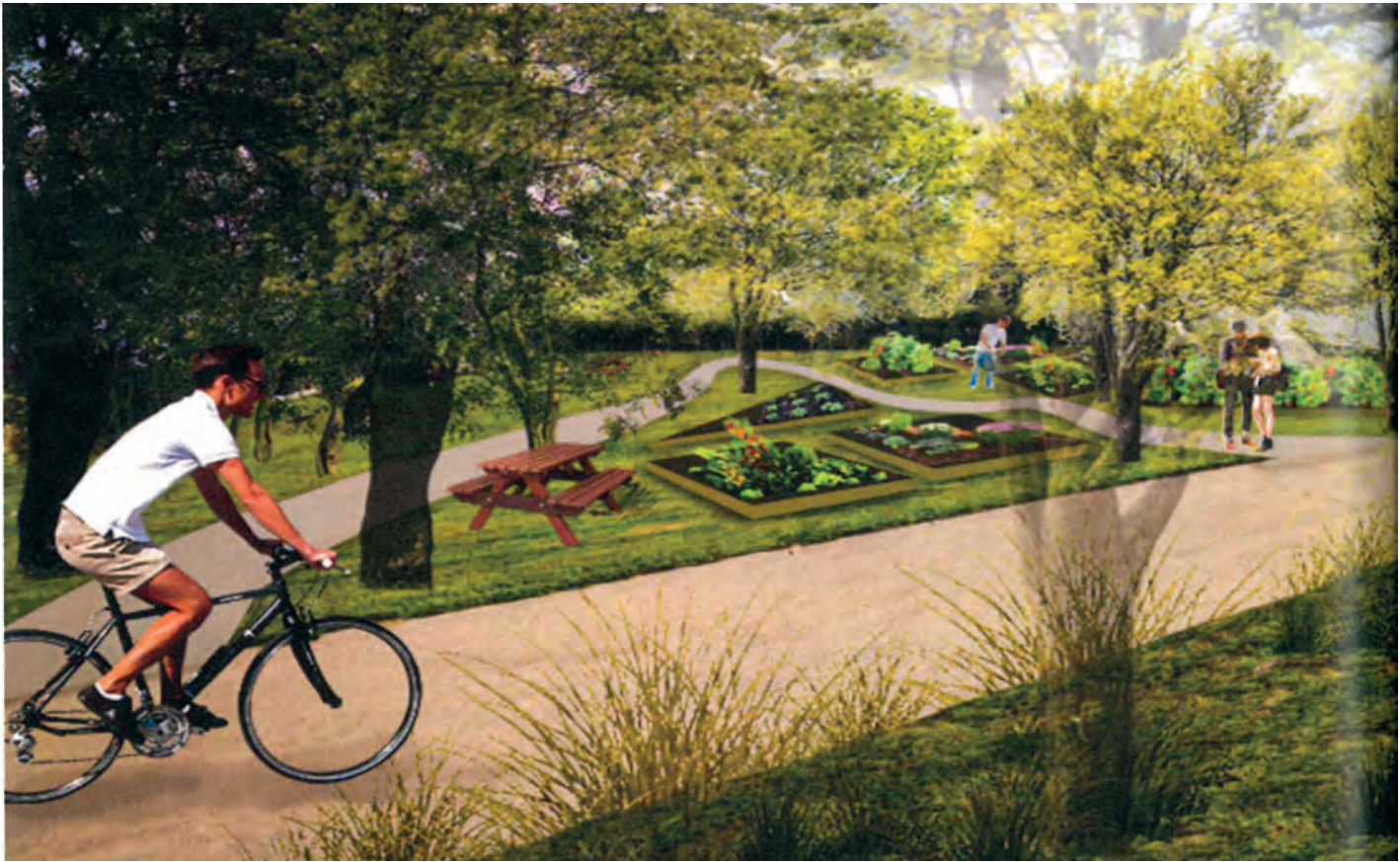
"This neighborhood and the people of it will be forever imprinted onto my heart," he said.

Though he'll no longer work in the neighborhood, Verespej said he'll still frequent the community establishments he's watched grow and thrive over the last eight years. And he's not quite ready to say goodbye to that iconic Old Brooklyn sign that presides over Pearl Road.

"I'd like to take that sign with me," he joked. "I'm not allowed to."



Former board president Kristen Wilson and Jeffrey T. Verespej addressing the crowd at Old Brooklyn Nite.



A rendering of a proposed unused area transformed into a new vibrant green space. Photo from Cornell University, Department of Landscape Architecture.

Envisioning the future of Old Brooklyn

by **DARLENE M. GLASS**

Old Brooklyn has several great parks and lots of greenspace, but some of the commercial areas could benefit from a sprucing up to highlight their features and budding potential. This is notably present along the neighborhoods Brighton Corridor; the three quarter of a mile stretch from Broadview Rd. to the State and Pearl Rd. split that functions as downtown Old Brooklyn. This would not only improve the overall look of the area, but also make it more inviting to visitors and residents.

The Brighton Corridor got a major face lift in 2017, with the Pearl Road streetscape renovation. The project reduced the number of lanes from seven to five in order to widen the sidewalks and promote pedestrian traffic. New flower beds, planter boxes, street banners, and one of a kind carrot installations were added to bring vibrancy to corridor. But that one single investment alone does not change the trajectory of a neighborhood, but it is the continued and consistent efforts of many that change outcomes. Recent-

ly, I had the pleasure of meeting Mitch Glass and Gavin Ratliff from Cornell University, who are currently working on a project plan to partner with the neighborhood to re-imagine key areas that can serve as a beacon for vibrancy.

Mitch is a professor at Cornell University in the City and Regional Planning and Landscape Architecture Department. Gavin is one of several students who have been working with OBCDC since last year to study and develop a plan to move Old Brooklyn from a middle neighborhood to a vibrant, thriving neighborhood.

Middle neighborhoods can be defined in several ways.

“...neighborhoods that are neither clearly healthy and thriving, nor overtly distressed. Long seen as stable communities for middle- and working-class families, today many middle neighborhoods are on the edge of growth or decline.”

With the addition of many new businesses and the number of new people moving into the neighborhood in recent years, Old Brooklyn is definitely on the edge of growth.

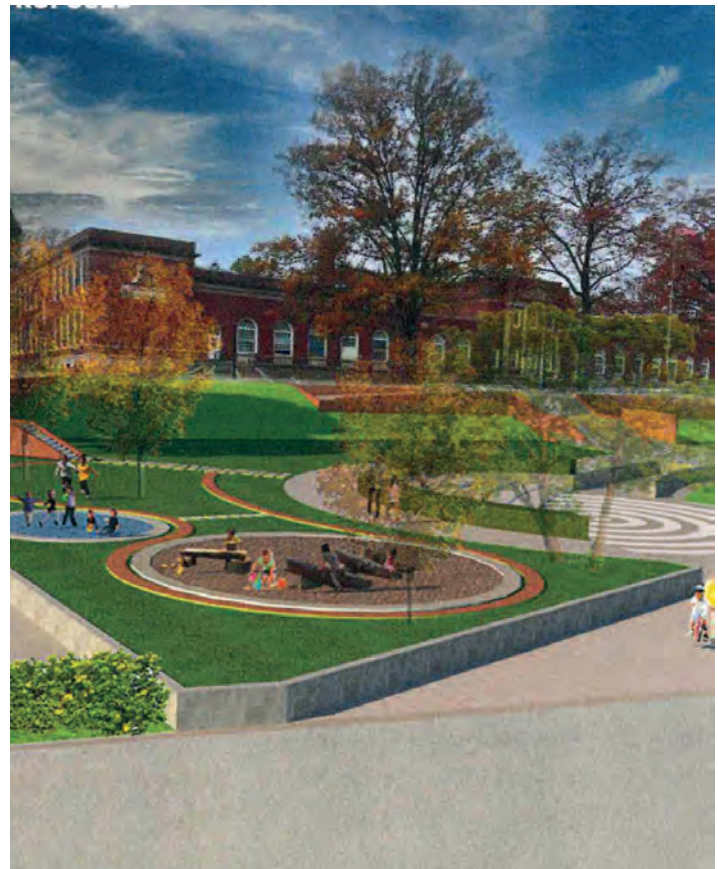
Last summer, Mitch and a group of his students visited Old Brooklyn to study our potential for growth. The students created a plan (in the form of a detailed book) that includes visions for economic development, opportunities for local businesses, public space enhancements, and streetscapes along key corridors. One project involves creating a new intergenerational park in the front of Ben Franklin School, creating a public greenspace where everyone could walk and play. A few ideas for the landfill at Spring and W. 11th include a solar field or a new community park.

Why did they choose Old Brooklyn for their middle neighborhood project? According to Mitch, “Cleveland is a city with great people and great neighborhoods. Since 2018, I’ve been bringing planning and design students from Cornell to Cleveland to work on visioning projects for different neighborhoods, including Midtown, Kinsman, Central, Slavic Village, Hough...” And now they can add Old Brooklyn to that list. Cornell has had many alumni who have moved to Cleveland after graduation to work in city planning and Old Brooklyn has been very welcoming.

Jason Powers, Director of the Middle Neighborhoods Initiative at the City of Cleveland, knew Old Brooklyn was right for Cornell’s next project. As a long-time resident of Old Brooklyn, Jason knows the great things about Old Brooklyn, and can also see, and hear, where improvements need to be made. After touring the neighborhood, talking with residents and business owners, and doing much research, the students created a plan for Old Brooklyn that the City can use when envisioning future developments. According to Jason, the students were able to create a vision as if anything was possible. “If you don’t set the goal as high as you can, then it’s too low,” stated Jason. Cornell’s ultimate goal was to give suggestions to “strengthen OBK as a continued high-quality place to live.” M. Glass. Big goals are necessary to help attract new residents.

“We had a really fun time in OBK, not only walking but also getting great bikes from Berto at Sixth City Cycles,” Mitch said. They visited Loew Park, Ben Franklin Community Gardens, Old Brooklyn Cheese Company, Metropolitan Coffee, Harmody Park, and many other sites. “We also ate breakfast at both Gus’s and Gabe’s diners....two thumbs way up from the students!”

The students completed 3 team projects and 3 individual projects. In addition to the slew of other projects, some students worked on an Old Brooklyn Neighborhood Greenway project that would offer a bike path with clear signage throughout the neighborhoods as a way for families and kids to bike safely. This also included clearly marked bike lanes and more pedestrian friendly street areas.



A rendering of a parking lot transformation into a sensory play zone. Photo from Cornell University, Department of Landscape Architecture.

“We hope the student projects contribute to the ongoing evolution and development of OBK in whatever way possible,” said Mitch. “The projects are meant to be both aspirational but also grounded.”

They hope parts of the work can come to fruition in the near future to promote walkability and bikeability throughout OBK. “This all needs to be done in close coordination with all residents and stakeholders, which is something the students really understood by the end of the semester.”

The next step in Mitch and Gavin’s project is to come to Old Brooklyn and help develop a plan for 4 key streetscape areas in the Brighton Corridor. They will be here at the end of February to get soil samples, check out the landscape currently in place, and discuss options that are aesthetically appealing, salt tolerant, and low maintenance. They will be working with the Community Ambassadors, OB CDC, the Middle Neighborhood Initiative office, and Old Brooklyn volunteers to bring the project to fruition. The students will create a plan and also search out grants and funding sources to help the project along.

“Overall, the projects highlight OBK’s current strengths and future potential as a place to live, work, play, shop, and grow,” Mitch said. And as a long-time resident myself, I am excited to be working with them to make that happen.

Ben Franklin Garden Summer Concerts

by **Brittney Hooper**

Any gardener worth their soil will share how fun it is looking forward to a new growing season. At the Ben Franklin Community Garden, they are taking their season to a whole new level. They are growing more than delicious, sustainable fruits and veggies, but they are seeding plans on growing the Garden into a neighborhood community center this year. Their Music in the Garden series will host its biggest series ever. Made possible by their brand-new pavilion.

Mark Tapajna, Vice-Chair of the Operating Committee, shares how the series began and its plans for the year ahead. The idea sprouted when the Garden had remaining funds from a grant and wanted to explore ways to utilize an unused space. They had a woody area that wasn't suitable for gardens and needed a new purpose. Arleigh Savage, an esteemed bassoonist and instructor at the College of Wooster as well as a Ben Franklin gardener was an important player in creating the concept. Savage has won the George F Goslee prize in bassoon, in addition to many memberships with musical groups such as the Youngstown Symphony, Cleveland Opera Theater and Pops Orchestra, to name a few. Her work doesn't just include orchestral performances. Savage is a member of the folk and jazz group Cellocentric, also a Music in the Garden performer.

With a sound group of community and musical contacts, Ben Franklin was able to expand the series last year. The garden received funding from the OBCDC to not only build their new pavilion but also assist with the summer series. Before construction, the pavilion's platform served as the stage for the musical guests. This year the now completed pavilion will host talented performers, many of whom are gardeners or members of the Old Brooklyn community. Savage's groups Cellocentric and the North Coast Winds Quintet along with her musical connections within the orchestral field provide high level professional concerts at no cost to attendees. John Orsini of the John Orsini Jazz Quartet is another Old Brooklyn resident, and bluegrass band Small Craft Advisory also has ties to the neighborhood, ensuring an eclectic mix of styles for the Series.

Unsurprisingly, given its status as a Cleveland Landmark and official Monarch Waystation, the Garden offers "a lovely intimate woodland setting", as Tapajna describes. Typically, attendees range from 20 to 35 people, offering a more personal concert experience. This setting was especially important last year as the need for outdoor venues became more critical. Tapajna says, "With Covid, it made sense. There was plenty of room and space for people to sit back and relax safely." Outside of musical performances, the Ben Franklin Garden is highly involved in Old Brooklyn



The construction of the new pavilion will act as a stage for musical guests and other events held at the Ben Franklin Community Garden.




and surrounding communities. Their belief in sustainable practices and circular economy has encouraged collaborations with Metropolitan Coffee for coffee grounds, Old Brooklyn Re-cycles, and even the Schnitzel Haus with excess brewery waste.

The 2022 series continues with support from the OBCDC and will offer more opportunities for folks to safely gather and enjoy live music and experience the Garden's beautiful settings. Concerts are planned for the 1st and 3rd Saturdays and every 4th Wednesday of the month. The first concert will be held in May and run through August.

Ben Franklin Garden is looking forward to hosting many events to enjoy at its new pavilion outside of the Music Series. They are exploring outdoor arts and crafts activities for all ages, as well as a daytime children's series. Their community-oriented philosophy encourages people of all backgrounds and interests to experience what the city's largest community garden has to offer. Gardeners, music lovers, and everyone in between can stay up to date on all these exciting happenings by subscribing to Ben Franklin's newsletter at benfranklincommunitygarden.org and follow them on social media.

With warmer weather ahead, Music in the Garden gives a reason for everyone to share the excitement of a new growing season, no green thumb required!



Podiatry of Greater Cleveland

FOOT & ANKLE SPECIALISTS

Affiliated with: UH-Parma, Marymount and Southwest Hospitals

Like us on Facebook

Diabetic Foot Care

- Diabetic Foot Problems • Arthritic Foot Problems
- Sports Injuries • Fungal & Ingrown Nails • Heel/Arch Pain
- Warts • Bunions • Corns • Fractures • Hammer Toe
- Ulcerations • Bone Spurs • Callouses • Skin/Nail Conditions



PARMA
440-884-4100
5625 Ridge Rd.

BROADVIEW HTS.
440-660-2990
785 East Royalton Rd.

John R. Taddeo,
D.P.M.




Jeffrey A Halpert,
D.P.M., F.A.C.F.A.S.*



Stacie D. Anderson,
D.P.M.



Hannah Khlopas
D.P.M. D.A.B.P.M.**



Alexander B. Crag,
D.P.M.

*Board Certified by American Board of Podiatric Surgery **Diplomat American Board of Podiatric Medicine

www.clevelandfoot.com

Constellation Schools

Old Brooklyn Community Elementary

Old Brooklyn Community Middle



2022-2023

NOW ENROLLING

K~ 8th Grade

Call 216.661.7888



SCAN ME

Scan QR Code
for a Virtual Tour of the School



Scan QR Code
for the Application Packet

www.constellationschools.com 4430 State Road, Cleveland 44109

INVISIBLE

EXCAVATIONS PLUMBING & DRAINS

24/7 SERVICE

West Side: **216-741-5131**

Interior Drain Cleaning
\$77⁰⁰ Under 2 inch

Tankless Water Heaters
Sewers Cleaning
Service & Repair
Hot Water Heaters
Preventive Service
Agreements
Gas & Water Lines
Faucets & Disposals
Basement Waterproofing
Senior Citizen Discount

Protect your biggest investment
hire a state licensed plumber
License #20134






All Major Credit Cards Accepted

formerly B. McDermott Plumbing; Serving Old Brooklyn for over 30 yrs.



REAL ESTATE MOMENTUM



**Proudly Serving the
Old Brooklyn
Community**



Joseph F. Rutkowski
Real Estate Professional
(216) 337-6656
Email: joerut2342@sbcglobal.net
www.joerutkowski.com



Pearl Dental

Mit Brahmhatt D.D.S.

4194 Pearl Rd.
Parking in rear

216-459-1185

New Patients Welcome!

Convenient Flexible Hours
Call to confirm
Weekend emergencies only

Serving the Community with Same Day Appointments

- ❖ Crowns ❖ Bridges ❖ Fillings ❖ Dentures
- ❖ Implants ❖ Whitening ❖ Cosmetics
- ❖ Root Canals ❖ Adults & Children

Most Insurance Accepted

24 Hour On Call Emergencies
Call 440-409-9682

*Helping
northeast Ohio
honor the memory
of their pets
since 1996*




- Private cremation services
- Memorial services
- A wide variety of urns
- Removal service from your home or veterinarian

4701 Hinckley Industrial Pkwy • Cleveland

216.398.4282
AllCountyPetMemorialServices.com

DINA'S Pizza & Pub

(The Filling Station)

*Where Good Friends Meet
For Good Food & Good Drinks*

216-351-FOOD (3663)

Kitchen Hours:
Sun. - Thurs. 11am - Midnite
Fri. - Sat. 11 am - 1 am
Bar open daily till 2:30 am
Serving pizza till 2 am



**5701 Memphis Ave.
Old Brooklyn, OH 44144**

We Deliver
\$5 Minimum for Delivery
Limited Westside & Downtown
Delivery

**Full Service Restaurant & Bar, Delivery,
Drive-up Window, On & Off Site Catering
Banquet Room seats 56 accommodates up to 80**

a RELIABLE CONSTRUCTION
 "Serving Cuyahoga County Since 1982"

BUILD • REMODEL • REPAIR

(216) 221-0012

45% Off any
 Interior Remodeling expires 4/30/2022

BBB Member A + Rated **Free Estimates**
 Call Rocco **Licensed Bonded Insured**
www.areliaconstruction.net

HONEY HUT ICE CREAM
 OPEN FOR OUR 49th SEASON
 in the OLD BROOKLYN neighborhood
 March 17, 2022

Visit our other locations in:
 Solon, Parma, Brecksville
 and Brunswick.

Accepting applications for
 part-time summer jobs:
 servers & ice cream makers.

Inquire at: icecream@honeyhut.com

4674 State Rd. 216-749-7077



SOUTH HILLS  Chris Wygonski
 Adam Cook

LAWN MOWER REPAIR **PLUMBING SERVICES**

HARDWARE **PRICED RIGHT**
 216-749-2121 *Everyday!*

www.southhillshardware.com
 corner of: Tuxedo Ave. & Schaaf Rd. next to Lunch Box Deli

Greenhouse: Annuals, Perennials, Vegetables
 Top Soil / Sweet Peet / Garden Tools / Bird Seed
 Handyman Services - - Window & Screen Repair
 Furnace / AC Repair / Installation
 Lump Charcoal & Propane Exchange

Riteway Home Service
KITCHEN & BATH Remodeling
 In Business since 1978

3522 Henritze Ave. Find us on  216-351-5726

Complete Bathrooms - for as little as \$5,900
 fiberglass tub/walls, toilet, vanity/top,
 sink/all faucet's & linoleum. For room size 6 1/2 x 5 ft.

Reface your Kitchen Cabinets in Formica - for as little as \$6,000.
 15 lineal ft. of base/uppers 8 lineal ft. of countertop,
 13 new doors, 6 new drawer fronts & ss sink/faucet

We are now expanding our talents of workmanship to the exterior
Free estimates on: •roofs •siding •replacement doors / windows
 •basement remodeling / waterproofing •cement driveways

DEPENDABLE
 24 Hour Service **ELECTRIC**

Is Your Fuse Box Old & Unsafe?

Mike Azzarello Brings You 15 Years' Experience From the Illuminating Co.

Electrical Installation and Maintenance • 24 HR Service • Free Estimates

\$100 off
 Good Towards
 Electrical Panel Upgrade

Commercial & Residential
 License #35281

• LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED
www.dependableelectric.com

440-845-8661






WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

Q: What is your favorite place in Old Brooklyn?

A: This is easy - my backyard! Nolan and I have put a lot of sweat into it and it truly is a little oasis.

Q: Do you have a regular order at any neighborhood businesses?

A: I love to get a fancy cocktail and a Big Board of meat and cheese at Opal on Pearl.

Q: Do you have a favorite holiday?

A: We celebrate the Eve of the Fourth (of July). Over the past several years, Nolan and I put together gift bags with a patriotic theme and prepare a treat (biscuits & gravy, homemade jam, cornbread) for nearby family members. As our self-created myth goes, the ghost of George Washington rises from the dead and is carried by bald eagles across the sky to reward good American boys and girls with gifts under their flag. We dress in eagle costumes from Ikea, jump in the truck, and drive out to the houses under the cloak of darkness to distribute the gifts. The nephews and nieces get a kick out of it and we know it's a unique tradition.

Q: How did you first get involved with GardenWalk, and why?

A: I heard about the GardenWalk Cleveland in 2012—the second year of the event. The gardens I saw and people I met were so uplifting, I had to become a part of it so I could spread the word. Soon I joined the group as a committee member and eventually became the Garden Finder for Old Brooklyn as well as the current Treasurer. From the committee to the gardeners, you get caught up in the passion we all feel for gardens and sharing the joy that comes from them. It has helped me meet more of my neighbors on surrounding streets and take more pride in my neighborhood.

Q: What are three words to describe GardenWalk?

A: Inspirational, Evolving, Community

Q: Why do you enjoy gardening?

A: It feels great to grow your own food and have the addition of freshly-picked produce. We also freeze, can, or dehydrate our bounty, and have fresh herbs available year-round with the help of a low hoop house. We don't have a particular vi-



Holly Rose

Holly Rose lives in Old Brooklyn with Nolan, her partner, plus two cats and one dog. She is an ardent volunteer leader of GardenWalk Cleveland, serving on the organization's Board of Directors and coordinating Old Brooklyn's participation in the event. Interested gardeners, volunteers, or event attendees should mark their calendar for July 9th and 10th, 2022. More information can be found at www.gardenwalkcleveland.org.

sion for the yard, but every year we're more excited about what we're going to do next. In a semi-normal-sized backyard, we have enclosed veggie/herb gardens, a strawberry patch, raspberries (some are from my late grandparents' garden), blackberries, fruit trees, and a ton of perennials.

Q: Who should consider participating in GardenWalk?

A: Anyone who has some space dedicated to gardens and wants to share it with enthusiastic visitors. We encourage gardeners of all levels to join because everyone shares tips and secret tricks they have learned, and you meet so many wonderful people. If you do not garden yourself, you can visit gardens in several Cleveland neighborhoods over a 2-day span in July and show the love to gardeners that are sharing their spaces. GardenWalk Cleveland is always looking for new members—fresh insight and suggestions are helpful, and we always need volunteers to staff very short shifts during this free event.



St. Leo the Great School

4900 Broadview Road

EXCELLENCE IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Faith * Family * Education

All are welcome - Please call
(216) 661-2120
for more information or a tour.
www.leothgreat.org

**Now Enrolling Preschool,
Kindergarten to Grade 8.**



***Tour the School**
***Apply for Fall Enrollment**
***Cleveland, EdChoice**
and JonPeterson

PATIENT FIRST FACILITY

All Around Physical Therapy is a **Patient First Facility**. We attempt to keep an individual personalized plan of care and promote patient communication to tailor plans to each unique situation. We are staffed with Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants, Massage Therapists, and a network of referring medical specialists.



WE CAN HELP WITH...

- Pre-Post op
- Aquatic Therapy
- Massage Therapy
- Chronic Pain
- Workers Comp.
- Post Injury
- Stretching
- Balance & more

CALL TODAY FOR AN APPOINTMENT!

No MD script is needed to make an appt.

PARMA & STRONGSVILLE

440-502-5117

WWW.ALLAROUNDPT.COM



Call Today:
216-661-7608
Your Call is
Important to us



*That's why WE answer
the phone, not an
answering service!*

Richard's

"Your Outdoor Connection"

Over 35 Years in Your Neighborhood

Servicing ALL Your Outdoor Needs!

- Complete Tree Service
- Custom Landscaping
- Demolition & Hauling Service
We Load or You Load
- Water Proofing
- House Clean Outs
Estate, Foreclosures, Any Cleanups
- Garage Building
Including Tear Down & Haul Away
- All Types of Concrete Work
- Firewood
- Firewood Delivery

**Ask about
Our Senior
Discount**



Licensed *Bonded *Insured
Free Same Day Estimates!

Coronavirus not first epidemic to affect Clevelanders, **PART VI**

by Lynette Filips

Our ancestors were all too familiar with trying to survive epidemics and pandemics. From reading the journals and diaries which women kept it's clear that keeping from getting sick was an even higher priority in those "limited-treatment-options" days than it is today.

Ever since the coronavirus (aka, COVID-19) appeared two years ago, I have been writing about previous epidemics/pandemics which have visited our city. The series began in June 2020 with a discussion of early Cleveland malaria and cholera epidemics; those two infectious diseases were also the topic of the September 2020 history article. The series continued in March 2021 with an article about Cleveland's typhoid fever epidemics.

Water-borne illnesses, malaria, cholera and typhoid fever are under control these days in the developed world thanks to an understanding of both the bacteria which cause them and modern water purification processes. Drugs are available to treat each of them, but no vaccines were ever developed to prevent them.

Diphtheria (dif-theer'-e-uh), was the topic of the June 2021 article. Also caused by bacteria, it spreads via direct person-to-person contact and/or respiratory droplets rather than through exposure to contaminated water. These days most of the world has been vaccinated and boosted against diphtheria with shots usually given in combination with tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) vaccines.

An anti-toxin and antibiotics to treat diphtheria are also available.

Smallpox, the topic of the September 2021 article, also spreads by person-to-person contact via the saliva droplets in an infected person's breath. Vaccination has eliminated smallpox globally; it was the first infectious disease ever treated with/eliminated by vaccination

Tuberculosis is the infectious disease featured in this issue. Known as "the white plague" (as opposed to "the black death") and "consumption" in bygone eras, and also as "TB" in more recent decades, tuberculosis has afflicted the human race for at least 9000 years. Dr. Robert Koch, the same man who discovered the germ which causes cholera, discovered *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in 1882.

Tuberculosis has three stages. *Exposure* occurs when *M. tuberculosis* travels through the air from the coughs, sneezes, speech and spit of infected individuals, enters the nasal passages of a potential victim, and reaches the lungs.

The immune system in a healthy individual could destroy the bacterium or it could remain *latent* within a person. The *active* stage begins when symptoms occur. Tuberculosis victims often develop: severe coughing for more than three weeks, coughing up blood, loss of appetite, weight loss, fatigue and a feeling of malaise, fever and chills, night sweats, pale skin, chest pain, wheezing and shortness of breath.

People with latent tuberculosis are not contagious. People with active tuberculosis are contagious. The laws against spitting in public do not exist because it's disgusting, but because spitting spreads germs like *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

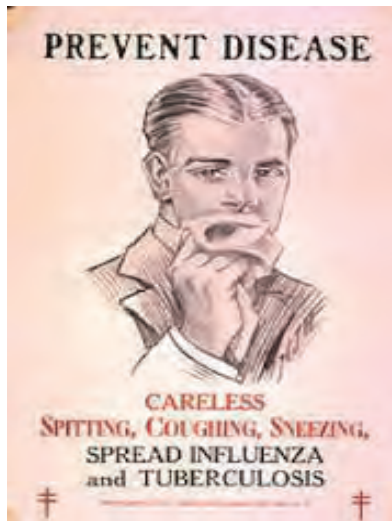


Photo from google images

Tuberculosis bacteria destroy infected lung tissue and the impaired breathing lowers the oxygen level to a person's brain which then negatively impacts cognitive function. *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* can also travel to: the skeletal system (bones and joints), causing back pain and difficulty moving; the kidneys and intestines, causing abdominal pain; the brain, causing headaches and repeated fainting spells; and the larynx, eyes and lymph nodes. It weakens an already weak immune system.

There is a tuberculosis vaccine, Bacille Calmette Guerin/aka, BCG, which is administered to infants and young children in some Third-World countries, but it is only moderately effective.

Tuberculosis is diagnosed through blood tests, skin tests and x-rays. One hundred and twenty-five years ago, it was responsible for one third of the deaths in the United States. In 1943 an antibiotic which cured tuberculosis (if taken exactly as prescribed) was discovered. It is called streptomycin and was first used in 1949. Unfortunately there are also drug-resistant strains of tuberculosis.

Prior to antibiotic treatment, some people thought that tuberculosis was a hereditary disease because it tended to run in families. Beginning in 1854, some people thought that sanatoriums were the way to cure tuberculosis, and it is true that the fresh air and higher altitudes did slow the spread of tuberculosis.

Cleveland has a long history of organizations, hospitals and a sanatorium which treated individuals with tuberculosis. I will talk about these resources in the next issue before I move on to polio, another infectious disease which reached epidemic proportions.

REGAL REALTY, INC.

Your Neighborhood Specialist for
BROOKLYN/OLD BROOKLYN
 ROGER PETERS, OWNER/BROKER



Thinking of Buying or Selling?
Call us 216-789-0262

Serving Brooklyn/Old Brooklyn
 For over 40 YEARS!!

Family Owned and Operated



Rodger Peters
 Brooklyn Homeowner



John Peters
 Old Brooklyn Homeowner

For Results - Call Today
(216) 789-0262

www.regalrealtyinc.net

Purchase A 96+ High Efficiency Furnace
Get an A/C for 50% OFF

Financing for 12 months
 No Interest, No Payments.
 With approved credit.

FREE \$25 AMAZON GIFT CARD
 with Any Scheduled Furnace or A/C Estimate



*Furnace Model GMVC960803BN

A/C or Furnace Clean & Check Only \$59	A/C No Cool? \$37 Service Call	Furnace No Heat? \$37 Service Call
---	---	---

CALL TODAY **216-290-2495**



Licensed • Bonded • Insured
 OH State License # 16784

Proud partner of:
 alzheimer's association
 The Brains Behind Saving Yours

Visit us online at: www.TigerAirOnline.com



Gregory P. Godorhazy
 Funeral Director



GREGORY P. GODORHAZY FUNERAL HOME



Cremation With Memorial Visitation \$2485.00

Services of Funeral Director & Staff, Local Removal and Cremation of Your Loved One, 4 Hours of Memorial Visitation in our Funeral Home or other Local Location, Register Package.

Simple Cremation \$1090.00

4801 Memphis Avenue * Cleveland, Ohio 44144 * 216-351-4625

Open 7 Days
 A Week
 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

Pearl Brookpark Car Wash

216-661-8030

5133 Pearl Road (Corner of Pearl and Brookpark Rds.)



Let us clean the inside of your car!

UNLIMITED WASH PLANS starting at **\$19⁹⁹** + tax

No discounts or coupons accepted on monthly unlimited car washes.

More discounts available at: www.pearlbrookparkcarwash.com

\$3.00 OFF
 YOUR NEXT CAR WASH

Expires 3/31/2022 #800



\$3.00 OFF
 YOUR NEXT CAR WASH

Expires 4/30/2022 #800



\$3.00 OFF
 YOUR NEXT CAR WASH

Expires 5/31/2022 #800

March 2022 TOWN CRIER

by Lynette Filips

It's two years later and here we still are, spinning our wheels in the muck and mire of COVID-19. I think that I was more hopeful at this time last year when so many of us thought that the forthcoming vaccines would protect us from the virus and life would return to normal. In addition to relatives and friends, I hate to think of how many small businesses have gone under because of the pandemic. My sympathy to all of them.



It turns out that Covid isn't the only thing shutting down our neighborhood businesses though. Shoplifting is another big problem. I'm sad to report that the Corporate Office closed our **Rite Aid Pharmacy** at 2323 Broadview Rd. at the beginning of last month. It's the only store they closed in Greater Cleveland/Cuyahoga County, and according to the manager, neighborhood shoplifters have been adversely affecting the store's viability for a very long time. Rite Aid had been in that location since 1987 when Rite Aid purchased the Gray Drugstore chain. A Gray Drug was there at the time, but the building had initially been constructed as an A&P grocery store. I have not heard what will become of the site.

I was also sad to read in one of our online neighborhood sites that **Jindra Floral Design** closed its store at 4603 Pearl Rd. in January. If you dial their phone number, though, you will still reach Jindra's. People ordering flowers online is what brought them down, because the ordering service took a large percentage of the sale. To save on rent and hopefully keep three neighborhood florists in business, Jindra joined Brennan's (formerly on Madison Ave.) and Floral Images, and they are all working out of Floral Images' space at 15701 Lorain Ave.

On a cheerier note, the number of "**Little Libraries**" in Old Brooklyn continues to grow. With a motto of "Take a book; leave a book", these free book repositories are actually an international phenomenon. Visit www.littlefreelibrary.org if you want to learn more about them. Donations of books, especially children's books, are welcome.

How well I remember Old Brooklyn's first Little Library on the grounds of **Grace Church**, 2503 Broadview Rd. at the corner of W. 28th St. At the time (five to ten years ago), the Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation's office was right across the side street. **Girl Scout Troop #71821** established the library but when the wooden box

needed maintenance I used to see **Bruce Page** from **Honey Hut Ice Cream** fixing it. These days the church and **Cathy Briggs** through the Cleveland Kids Book Bank make sure that it is kept stocked.

Two new Little Libraries made the Old Brooklyn scene in November of 2019. One was at **Metropolitan Coffee**, 4744 Broadview Rd. at Portman Ave. It was funded by a basket raffle which owner **Deirdre Faranda** put together and the coffee shop patrons supported, as well as raffle money from two now closed Old Brooklyn business -- **2020 W. Schaaf** (art gallery) and **Lilly Chocolates & Confections**. Deirdre maintains the Little Library, largely with books **Kiera Kurak** obtains from the Cleveland Kids Book Bank.

South Hills Circle, (at the intersection of Landchester Rd. and Cypress Ave.), the other Little Library placed in November of 2019, was the project of an Old Brooklyn homeschooling co-op. It was funded with donations from the **Old Brooklyn Families Group** and South Hills residents and is maintained by **Kiera Kurak** with books from the Cleveland Kids Book Bank.

The Little Library in the front yard of a home on the south side of **W. Schaaf Rd.** near Broadale Rd. was placed by the people who live there there in late spring of 2020. The residents also maintain it.

MyCom Partner Support Grant money and a grant from the **Brooklyn-Cleveland Kiwanis Club** helped to establish the Little Library at **Urban Kurtz Barbershop**, 4491 Pearl Rd. at Dawning Ave. **Kiera Kurak** and **Carlos Laboy** of the **Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (OBCDC)** helped place it in July of 2020. Cleveland Kids Book Bank and barber shop employees maintain it.

Mary Queen of Peace Church, 4423 Pearl Rd., placed a Little Library behind the church in mid-2020; they also maintain it.

MyCom Partner Support Grant money also helped to fund the Little Library at the entrance of **William Rainey Harper School**, 5515 Ira Ave. at Fulton Rd. **Kiera Kurak** and **OBCDC's Carlos Laboy** placed it in September of 2020. It is maintained by the **Veverka family** and the school staff.

The Little Library at **Christ Church**, 6400 Memphis Ave. at W. 63rd St., was installed early in 2021 by Eagle Scout **Tyler Close** with financial assistance from OBCDC. Church employees maintain it.

Tyler Close also installed a Little Library at **Old Brooklyn Community School (a Constellation School)**, 4430 State Rd. between Dawning Ave. and Leopold Ave. It was placed in spring of 2021 with financial assistance from OBCDC. Tyler also maintains it.

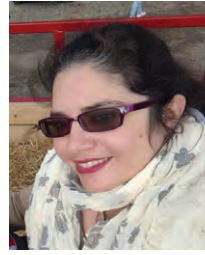
Contact Sandy Worona in the OBCDC office, 216-459-1000, ext. 210, if you have any submissions for this column or email her at sandyw@oldbrooklyn.com.

OLD BROOKLYN NEWS AUTHORS



Tricia L. Chaves is a native Old Brooklynite who grew up eating Hough Bakery pizelles and Sforzo's Pizza, watching Golden Glove tournaments at Estabrook, and shimmying through a hole in the fence to play at the zoo with her five big brothers.

TRICIA CHAVES



Brittney has lived in Old Brooklyn since 2014 and loves seeing the neighborhood grow. She works by day as a Research Associate at a biotech company, and enjoys writing, cooking, and going on adventures with her 2 boys. She is a proud life-long Clevelander who loves sharing everything the city has to offer with others.

BRITTNEY HOOPER



Lynette has lived over 50 years of her life in Old Brooklyn and written for the Old Brooklyn News for 32 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.

LYNETTE FILIPS



Jacqueline Mitchell is a journalist living in Old Brooklyn with her pug, Van Geaux. She is senior editor of PCT magazine, based in Valley View. In her spare time, she can be found creating art and reading her way through the never-ending stacks of books in her apartment.

JACQUELINE MITCHELL

Why I voted against Rebecca Maurer for Ward 12 City Council

Part of this ad was published in the Neighborhood News {Slavic Village} shortly after my endorsement ad for now ex-councilman Brancatelli.

On the other hand, his {Tony Brancatelli's} opponent Rebecca Maurer comes across as a political opportunist. She conveniently purchased a house in the Forest City sub-neighborhood of Slavic Village, joined the local block club, and manipulated herself on to the Slavic Village Development Board of Trustees and the presidency of the Ward 12 Democratic Club. Note: The Cuyahoga County Democratic Party refused to endorse her. She even summoned me to her law office to find out whether I intended to run for Ward 12 city council.

Now she brags of being a community activist with no record to reveal. Other than registering voters it is doubtful she ever contacted City Hall to assist a resident/business owner to fix a problem they are experiencing. Now she is holding meetings to discover what the problems Ward 12 Old Brooklyn and Slavic Village are facing. It seems to me that if you were a "community activist" for the last four years you would already have a grasp on the issues. Besides, it's easy to take credit for something you never had anything to do with. Slavic Village already has enough buckaroos that do that.

Over the next four years Ward 12 Old Brooklyn {along with Slavic Village} is going to become one of the most organized neighborhoods in Cleveland. Ms. Maurer has not mentioned one word about community organizing. Instead she harps on citizen representation at City Hall which begs the question: which civic association presidents/block club captains are going to represent each of the Ward 12 Old Brooklyn/Slavic Village sub-neighborhoods at City Hall?

And what are her proposals for addressing crime? It is the number one issue facing Ward 12 Old Brooklyn/Slavic Village. We have just taken a chance on someone who will need on-the-job training. And we all remember Trump. Our quality of life is much more important than that. Further, instigating a complaint against Brancatelli with the Ohio Elections Commission proves that she was just trying to draw attention to her own campaign {the Ohio Elections Commission has since ruled against her}.

Let's hope that Ms. Maurer gets her act together. If she doesn't I {along with the residents/business owners} will make sure the issues facing Ward 12 Old Brooklyn/Slavic Village are addressed. That much I can guarantee you. And no I'm not running for public office but I am Joe Bialek and I approve this message.

Paid for by the personal funds of Joe Bialek

4233 River Ridge Drive Cleveland, Ohio 44109 216-744-8352 JGBIALEK2@ROADRUNNER.COM

THE BEST OF INSTAGRAM



www.TamaraSims.Realtor (216) 394-4318



RUSSELL
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Trusted Advisor For Life.
Thank you for the opportunity
to be of service!

Proud resident of Old Brooklyn!



Attorney
James M. Hungerford
General Practice

2424 Broadview Road

Cell: 216-215-0319 Office: 216-398-4100
jmhlaw@sbcglobal.net

.....

- Probate & Trusts • Estate Planning
- Real Estate • Civil Litigation • Family Law

40 years in Old Brooklyn



John G. Young
President -4th Generation

*Visit our
Do it yourself store*
4141 Pearl Road
Old Brooklyn
216-351-2106

John@speedexterminating.com
www.speedexterminating.com

Schedule service at your home or business

- any pest or rodent • bees
- pavement ants • carpenter ants




Enrollment is Open!

Programming for children 18 months to 12 years.
Toddler, Preschool, Before & After School Program & Summer Camp! Conveniently
open from 6:30 am to 6 pm Monday - Friday!

Old Brooklyn Center | 4142 Pearl Rd, Cleveland Ohio
219-584-KIDS (5437)


www.HorizonOhio.org






Summer Camps

Nature play, crafts, activities
and animal encounters are
all part of the experience at
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
Summer Day Camp.

Ages 5-14



Learn more at clevelandmetroparks.com/camps   

©Registered trademark of Cleveland Metroparks.



**Land of the free
Home of the brave**

HOME - AUTO - RENTERS

216.459.9265

**4712 State Rd
Cleveland, OH 44109**




StateAuto.com



RET3 RE-CERTIFIED COMPUTER SYSTEMS FOR RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, AND CHURCHES OF WARDS 12 & 13

BASIC DESKTOP SYSTEMS
START AT \$135
INCLUDES:
19" FLAT SCREEN
KEYBOARD AND MOUSE



LAPTOP SYSTEMS
\$165 - \$230
SEVERAL OPTIONS
AVAILABLE TO FIT YOUR
BUDGET



COMPUTERS CAN BE BUILT TO ORDER WITH THE SPECS YOU NEED
EXTENDED WARRANTIES AVAILABLE ON EQUIPMENT
ALL SYSTEMS INCLUDE WINDOWS 10 PRO AND OFFICE

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PLACE AN ORDER:
SANDY WITH OBCDC AT 216-459-1000
RET3 AT 216-361-9991
WWW.RET3.ORG

Immanuel Lutheran Church

A German\English Lutheran Church
2928 Scranton Road, Cleveland, OH 44113
216-781-9511



Jerry Jablonski, Pastor ✝ *Horst Hoyer, Pastor Emeritus*
Sunday Services: German 9:00 a.m. English 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School during English Service

Serving God's people since 1880
immanluth1@sbcglobal.net

Memphis Fulton Shopping Center

located at 4215 Fulton Rd.



- Save-a-Lot
- Dynamic Creations Daycare
- Papa John's Pizza
- China City
- Kenny's Tavern
- Jo's Barber Shop
- Jackson Hewitt Tax Services
- H & R Block
- Guaterriquena Bakery
- Miracle Kratom
- Family Dollar
- Citi Trends
- WOW Beauty Supply
- Sam Sylk's Chicken & Fish
- US Hair & Nails
- Checksmart
- Key Bank
- Eagle Rents
- Fred Loya Insurance
- Boost Mobile
- MetroHealth Center
- Cinema Lounge
- Old Brooklyn Locksmith



SPACE FOR LEASE | Call 216-921-5663 x105 | paranmgt.com

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY



"A tradition of personal care & concern for your loved ones"

A Cleveland Landmark
Serving our Community Since 1876

- All Faiths
- Traditional and Natural Burials
- Cremation Columbaria and Urn Garden
- Chapel - all types of services

- Personalization
- Above Ground and Flush Memorials
- Ample Space Available Including New Group Sections
- Pre-Planning

Office Hours: Mon. - Sat. 8 am - 4 pm

3607 Pearl Road @ I-71

Cleveland, OH 44109

(216)-351-4800

riverside.cemetery@att.net www.riversidecemeterycleveland.org

CHURCH NOTES

CHRIST CHURCH

6400 Memphis Ave 440-236-8282 christchurchohio.org

Sunday In-Person, 11 am. **Online** 9:30 & 11 am.

Lord's Supper Service: 3rd Thurs. of every month, 7 pm.

Please check our updates page for more info.

GATEWAY CHURCH OLD BROOKLYN

4542 Pearl Rd. 216-302-4409

gwcoldbrooklyn@gmail.com gatewaychurcholdbrooklyn.com

Worship Services - every Sun; 10:30 am. in-person or livestream our services via Facebook Live.

Community Groups - are for folks to understand & experience what life together looks like. **Loseto Group;**

Men's & Womens Ministry, check website for more info. on these groups. or email gwcoldbrooklyn@gmail.com

GRACE CHURCH OF OLD BROOKLYN

2503 Broadview Rd. 216-661-8210

www.graceoldbrooklyn.org

Worship services - every Sun; 10 am * **Kids Church;** 10 am. **Youth Group** - every other week at end of service.

Good Friday service - April 15; 6:30 pm

Easter Sunday service - April 17; 10 am

Food Pantry Open - M, W, F, 12 - 2 pm

View more information or upcoming events by visiting:

www.graceoldbrooklyn.org/calendar

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2928 Scranton Road 216-781-9511

German & English Mass - each Sunday. **German** - 9 am. **English** - 10:30 am. To ensure the safety of all our members & guests, we request everyone maintain appropriate social distancing & wear masks in church.

LIFT HIM UP APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH

4004 Cypress Ave. 216-421-7388 www.lifthimupafc.org

Sunday Worship; 11 am. **Prayer Tuesday;** 7 pm. **Bible Study Thursday;** 7 pm. Temperature checks & masks are required.

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE

4423 Pearl Rd. 216-749-2323

Masses - Sat; 4:30 pm. **Sun;** 6:30, 8:30 & 11 am. **Daily;** 6:15 & 8 am. **Community Meal** - 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month; 1 pm. **Mar.** 6, 20; **Apr.** 3, 17; **May** 1, 15; meals served inside 1 - 1:30 pm. drive through meals served 1:30 - 2 pm. **Weekly AA Meetings;** Mon. 7:30 pm. **Daily Reflection;** Wed. 7:30 pm. **Men's Big Book;** Thurs, 8 pm. (Men's closed Meeting). **Mobile Food Pantry** - Sat., Mar. 19; Apr. 16; May 21; 9 - 11 am. (Drive-through Only). **Lenten Fish Fry, Fri. Mar. 4 - Apr. 8;** 4:30 - 7 pm. **Catholic Movie Night** - Sun., Mar. 20; *Of Gods & Men;* **May 1; *The Robe;* **May 13; *The 13th Day.* 6 pm. **Vitalant Blood Drive** - Sun., May 15; 9 am - 1 pm.****

PEARL ROAD UMC

4200 Pearl Rd. 216-661-5642 pearlroadumc.org

Worship - Sun., 10 am. **Livestream service** on facebook.com/PearlRoadUMC with Rev. Harlen Rife.

REFUGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

Sunday Services; 6 pm. **Fri.;** 7 pm. **Celebrate Recovery** - **Tues;** 7 pm. **Bible Studies** - **Mon;** 7 pm. & **Thurs;** 1 pm. Follow us on facebook.com/refugecommchurch as we engage the community & seek to meet needs.

ST. BARBARA CHURCH

1505 Denison Ave. 216-661-1191

Mass Schedule - Sat., 4:30 pm. **Sun.;** 9 am. English & 11 am. Polish. **Weekdays Mon. - Fri.** 7:30 am. **Confession** - Sat. 3:45 - 4:15 & **Sun.** 10:45 - 11am.

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

4771 Broadview Rd. 216-351-6499

www.stjameslcms.church

Worship services with communion - Sat.; 5 pm. & **Sun.;** 10:15 am. Masks are required. You may view the Sunday service live streamed or anytime on YouTube.

Mid-week Lenten services on March 3, 10, 27 & 24 will be found on YouTube.

AA Groups - Tues. & Thurs. 8 pm. **Sat.** 7 pm. Meetings are limited to 50 people & masks are required.

Check our website at www.stjameslcms.church or call the church office for updates about meetings & bible studies.

ST. LEO THE GREAT CHURCH

4940 Broadview Rd. 216-661-1006 leothegreat.org

Mass Schedule - Sat. 4 pm. **Sun.** 8 & 11am. **Weekday** - Mon., Wed. & Fri. - 8:30 am. **Thurs., Communion Service** 8:30 am. Masses are livestreamed on leothegreat.org. **Confession** - Sat., 3 - 3:30 pm; **Sun.;** 10 - 10:30 am. **Lenten Fish Dinners** - starting **Fri., March 4 - April 1;** 4:30 - 7 pm. **Pancake Breakfast** - **Sun. April 10, April 16 - Blessing of Food;** 11:30 am. & **Easter Vigil;** 8:30 pm. Check leothegreat.org for more info.

ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4464 Pearl Rd. 216-749-3545

Sunday service - 11 am. **Wednesday service,** 6 pm.

Bible Class - Sun. - 12:30 pm. **Wed.** - 6:30 pm.

Sunday School - 11 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 - 4 pm. **Ash Wednesday - Mar. 2;** 8:15 & 11:15 am., 6:45 pm.

UNITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4542 Pearl Rd at Behrwald Ave. 216-741-2085

unity-lutheran.org

Sun. Worship - **Traditional service;** 9:30 am. **Vespers**

service; 7 pm. **AA Meetings** - Mon., 8:30 pm. **Bible**

Study - Wed., 5:30 - 7 pm. **Sunday School;** 11 am. **Youth**

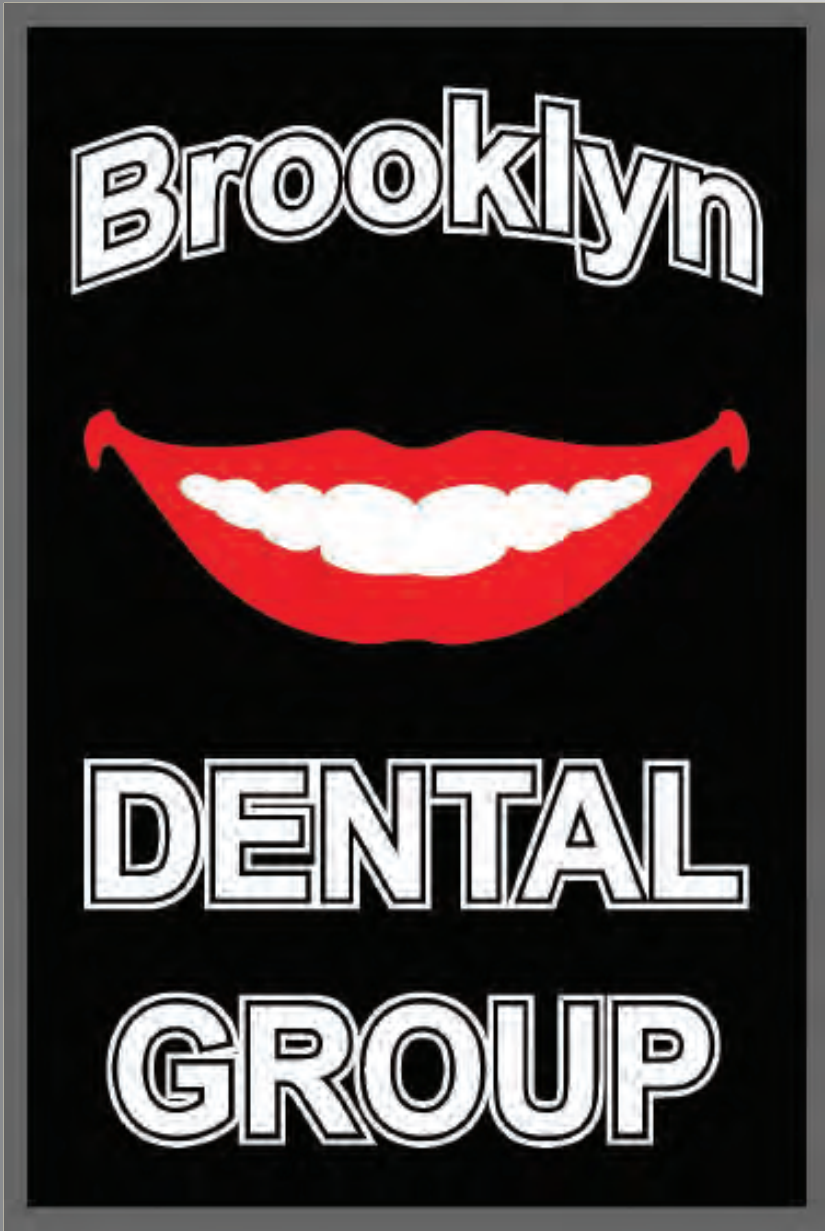
Activities - Sat., 4:30 - 7:30 pm. (no youth activities 1st Sat. of each month).

Old Brooklyn CDC
4274 Pearl Rd. Suite F
Cleveland Ohio 44109

*****ECRWSEDDM*****
Postal Customer

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CLEVELAND, OH
PERMIT NO. 283

Same Day Emergency Appointments Available



All Medicaid Accepted:

Caresource
United Healthcare
Paramount
Molina
Buckeye

In Network with:

Metlife
Delta Dental
Guardian
Cigna
Aetna
Medicare and more.

New Patients Welcome!

All Ages

Sunday – Closed

Monday through Thursday
8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Friday – 8:30 am – 1:00 pm

Saturday – Closed

\$99 New Patient Exam/X-rays/Cleaning
(No Insurance)

Se Habla Espanol

www.brooklyndentalgroup.com
4163 Pearl Rd. 216-860-0120
Parking on side of building