Hi neighbors!

Spring has arrived in West Park and I am eager to see neighbors back outside and our neighborhood in full bloom. Between Mayor Bibb taking office and Council passing the budget, it has been a busy couple of months at Cleveland City Hall. I am optimistic that new leadership at City Hall will help move our city and ward forward.

As always, it is an honor to serve as your representative and I remain committed to being a vocal advocate for our neighborhood. This includes creating new home repair and development programs that fit the needs of neighborhoods like West Park, where existing resources struggle to help repair older buildings and grow our community. Our neighborhood parks are loved and widely used. Parks planning has helped secure new tennis courts and a brand new playground in 2022. Lastly, a neighborhood is not complete without events big and small. I cannot wait to see everyone at The Hooley! And please contact my office if you are interested in having a block party this year!

Ward 17 continues to attract residents, businesses, and development. As construction season gets underway, expect to see the former K-Mart plaza come to life as the new and improved West Park Shopping Center. Other visible projects include the construction of two new animal hospitals, the reopening of the West Park Library, and home improvement projects across the ward.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter! Thanks for reading!

Charles J. Slife
Councilman, Ward 17

New Playground for Drakefield Park

An all-new playset is coming to Drakefield Park (between Greenhill Rd. and Silsby Rd.) this year! The new equipment will replace the existing playset and will be an exciting addition to the park and Ward 17.

The new playset will be one-of-a-kind in Cleveland and will feature a firefighter theme. Older kids will have an ADA-accessible fire tower that features three slides, monkey bars, and other climbing features. For the younger kids, a smaller playset designed to resemble a fire engine will also feature a slide and climbing opportunities.

In addition to providing kids with a new playground amenity, the playset is also a nod to Lt. Richard Petras, a Cleveland firefighter and Silsby Road resident who passed away from COVID in August 2020. Shortly before his passing, Lt. Petras contacted Council inquiring about potential improvements at Drakefield Park, where he often took his daughters when they were young.

The new playset at Drakefield Park will be a fun and exciting amenity for our neighborhood kids. It will also recognize the service of our firefighters and the memory of Lt. Petras.

Kudos in Kamms

Do you think you have the nicest neighbor in the Ward?

Is there someone that dug you out the snow this past winter? Is there someone that always has a cup of sugar to borrow? Do you have a neighbor that’s always looking out for everyone?

Nominate them for Kudos in Kamms so they can get a shout out in our next newsletter!

Email submissions to Mary at mbreitweg@clevelandcitycouncil.org with the subject line “Kudos in Kamms”
Rank/Name: Heidi Medina, Paramedic
Year you joined: 2006, paramedic since 1999
Why did you become a paramedic?: I needed something that would provide job security while pursuing vocal studies. While working my first job as an EKG Tech/Nurse Aide I discovered the field of Emergency Medical Service through coworkers who also worked as paramedics. It sounded exciting and offered the type of job security I was looking for. It quickly became my new passion and I realized I’d stumbled upon my niche in life.
Favorite part of the job: The interesting people I get the privilege of interacting with and caring for. I find it very fulfilling. I’ve tried pursuing other things but always find myself unhappy, and end up coming back; it seems to be my calling in life.
Favorite places in Ward 17/West Park: 5 Points Cafe is a wonderful neighborhood gem I can’t get enough of. In the summer I enjoy taking my son to Kamm’s Corners Ice Cream Company.
Fun fact about you: My father is a Swiss immigrant and I hold dual citizenship. I’m very proud of my Swiss heritage. I lived in Zurich, Switzerland for a few years as a young adult where I learned enough German to hold a job at the University Hospital in Zurich.

The City of Cleveland is Hiring for Job Openings in Public Safety
The City of Cleveland is looking for recruits to fill vacancies in its public safety departments – police, fire and emergency medical service. Below is the contact information for all three divisions:

DIVISION OF POLICE - Contact for Questions: 216-623-5233 or 216-623-5135 or cpdrecruitment@city.cleveland.oh.us

DIVISION OF EMS - Contact for Questions: 216-664-2047

DIVISION OF FIRE - Contact for Questions: 216-664-6388 or firejobs@city.cleveland.oh.us

What is EasyPay?
EasyPay is a program that allows you to pre-pay your current property taxes. It can be done automatically through your bank or monthly by mailing/dropping your check and pre-payment form to the Cuyahoga County Treasurer’s office. To participate, your real estate taxes must be current or you must be on an active delinquent tax re-payment plan.

For quick and easy enrollment in the EasyPay program and details, please visit our website: www.treasurer.cuyahogacounty.us

Questions? Call 216-443-7400 for assistance.
Cuyahoga County Treasury Department
2079 East Ninth Street, First Floor Cleveland, OH 44115
Email: Treascomment@cuyahogacounty.us
W. Christopher Murray II, Treasurer

Our First Responders
Paramedic Heidi Medina

Come and hear safety updates from the Division of Police, the Division of Fire, and the County Prosecutor’s Office. Hear public safety information directly from Commander Butler and learn how to help make our neighborhoods safer.

WHEN: First Thursday of every month at 6:00 p.m.
WHERE: St. Ignatius of Antioch School, Lorain Avenue & West Boulevard

The City of Cleveland is Hiring for Job Openings in Public Safety

EasyPay
A convenient, affordable and secure way to pay property taxes

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Residents and Stakeholders are Invited to Join Councilman Charles Slife for the

WARD 17 Community Meeting

WEDNESDAY
MAY 18, 2022
6:00 pm at Gunning Recreation Center
(16700 Puritas Ave, Cleveland, OH 44135)

Secure Interest-Free Loans with HFLA of Northeast Ohio

HFLA of Northeast Ohio (NEO) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the self-sufficiency of the residents of NEO by providing access to fair financial resources. We provide interest-free loans to those who are unable to access traditional capital.

For over 118 years, HFLA has provided loans to residents of NEO through our relationship lending model. We do not base our lending decisions solely on a person’s income or their credit score (we pull credit reports that do not include a score). We work through the application process with an individual and learn about them, their relationship to their finances, and their specific needs.

There are three primary loan types:

- The Standard Loan can be applied to most any financial emergency that may arise including home repairs, utility bills, car repair, or funeral expenses among other needs.
- Education Loans help pay for undergraduate, graduate, vocational or technical education for students in NEO.
- Small Business Loans can be applied to grow a new business or expand an existing business.

We have added two new loan products:

- Credit Builder Loan: a small loan, which, paid on-time over a short period can improve an individual’s credit score who is credit invisible or has little credit history.
- Pre-approved auto loan: a loan for up to $15,000 to help individuals avoid, or get out of, predatory loans to purchase much needed transportation.

As a relationship lender, we base our decision making on an individual’s income vs. their expenses.

We look for three indicators:

1. That our loan fills a need, not a want.
2. That the applicant can fit our loan payment into their budget.
3. That the loan does not provide a temporary band-aid fix, but a bridge to a more stable future.

For more information, visit: www.interestfree.org

Gunning Recreation Center
SPRING SCHEDULE - DAILY ACTIVITIES

EARLY OPEN FOR SENIORS
Monday - Friday; 8:30 am

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:
- Kickboxing Aerobics (Adults)
- Water Aerobics (Adults)
- Youth Swim (Ages 8 - 17)
- Basketball Skills & Drills (Ages 8 - 17)

VISIT OR CALL FOR COMPLETE HOURS AND SCHEDULE
Location: 16700 Puritas Ave  Phone: 420-7900
www.clevelandohio.gov/NNRActivities
These items must be taken to the service garages on the designated round up dates.

Do NOT leave computers, tires, trees, hazardous waste, or other debris at the drop off boxes.

www.cleveland-oh.gov
5600 Carnegie or 3727 Ridge Road, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

DO NOT leave computers, tires, trees, hazardous waste, or other debris at the drop off boxes.

www.cleveland-oh.gov

No Latex Paint

SHREDDING

HOUSEHOLD

at 5600 Carnegie

Department of Public Works

YEAR ROUND

www.cleveland-oh.gov

YEAR ROUND

Division of Waste Collection

- BULK WEEK (3 items only)
- Holiday with Regular Pickup
- One Day Delayed Collection
- Holiday with Regular Pickup
- Special Events at the Market

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

KAMM’S CORNERS

2022

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Kammsmarket

Sundays 10am - 1pm
Jun 12 - Oct 16

The Market Returns:

Mark your calendars!

HEALTHY LIVING • LIVE MUSIC • FAMILY FUN • ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Get all the updates!