



COUNCIL MEMBER  
Jenny Spencer

CUDELL  
DETROIT SHOREWAY  
EDGEWATER  
PARTS OF OHIO CITY  
& STOCKYARDS



# WE ARE WARD 15

Nosotros Somos Ward 15 - Al servicio de los vecindarios de Cudell, Detroit Shoreway, Edgewater y parte de Ohio City y Stockyards

## Grown Locally in Ward 15



Ward 15 is home to many market and community gardens. Here are some of the urban farmers and gardeners growing fresh produce in our community.

### Good Earth Farm

Good Earth Farm is one of the Council office's favorite places in the Ward, and a hidden gem in the Cudell neighborhood.

Proprietors Jeanette and Norm Toms have been farming Good Earth at 9600 Madison Avenue since 2013. This couple, known for being friendly and welcoming, have worked hand-in-hand to create a self-sustained, year-round operation. Two large hoop houses allow for planting and a rotation of crops in cooler weather. The work required to grow, maintain and market produce is more than Norm and Jeanette can manage during peak times, so they enlist the help of local, neighborhood kids.

Jeanette received a certification in Market Gardening from The Ohio State University (OSU) Extension, while Norm is the "bee expert." In addition to a wide variety of vegetables, honey

harvested from Norm's multiple hives has become one of the staples available for purchase at the Farm, as well as eggs, with chickens joining the bees as Farm residents. Jeanette reports that approximately 80% of customers come from the 44102 ZIP code.

#### How to Shop at Good Earth:

9600 Madison Avenue in the Cudell neighborhood  
www.goodearth.today  
216-288-0170

The Good Earth Farm Stand is open May through October on Mondays and Thursdays, 3-7pm, and on Saturdays from 12-4pm. Winter hours (January



Jeanette and Norm Toms

through April) are Thursdays from 3-5pm. Ohio Direction Card (EBT) and credit cards are accepted.

#### Como Comprar Verduras, Miel y Huevos en el Good Earth Farm:

Good Earth Farm Stand está abierto los lunes y



jueves de mayo a octubre, desde las 3pm hasta las 7pm, y los sábados desde las 12 a 4pm. El horario de invierno (de enero hasta abril) es los jueves de las 3 a 5pm. Se aceptan Ohio Direction Card (EBT) y tarjetas de crédito.



### Kasimbi Garden



A brand new urban farm will take root this season at 7801 Madison Avenue in the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood.

Through the assistance of the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants and a partnership with EDEN, Inc, Simbi Ebambe and Kasigwa Rugenyeka will be planting roots as Kasimbi Garden within this vacant, approximately 1/4 acre sized lot. After arriving in the US in 2019 as refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, these farmers met while immersing themselves in English classes, bonded over their appreciation for and experiences in gardening and soon worked the soil within other, nearby Congolese farms.

Despite many years of planting experience, one significant challenge for this duo was working within Cleveland's cooler climate and shorter growing season. A partnership with OSU Extension provided the education and foundation for becoming self-sufficient

farmers. Farming is also a family affair, with many members of both families lending their support. The Garden will feature many of the traditional fruits and vegetables that Americans have come to love, and it will also have crops native to Congolese culture and cuisine, including white eggplant, Native greens and mboga kienyeji.

Someday, Ebambe and Rugenyeka may expand their garden model to include produce sales onsite, but for now, all crops will be picked on Tuesday mornings for a weekly sale at the Tremont Farmers Market. The Farmers Market is held each Tuesday through October 11th from 4-7pm at Lincoln Park (W. 14th St. & Kenilworth Ave.).

Los productos de Kasimbi Garden se venden en el Tremont Farmers Market, los días martes desde las 4pm hasta las 7pm en Lincoln Park (W. 14th St. & Kenilworth Ave.).



### Community Gardens

These volunteer-led gardens bring residents together, and several of them have space available for additional gardeners.

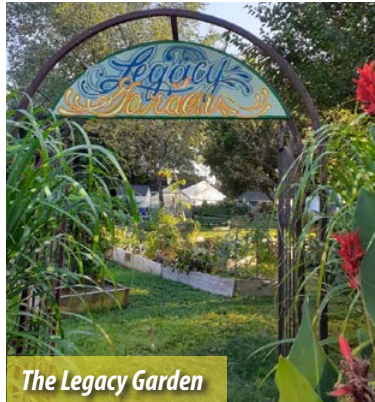
#### Crescent Moon Farm - 8421 Detroit Ave.

Gardeners lease this corner lot from the City of Cleveland Land Bank. This unstructured garden is filled with vegetables, fruit trees, chickens, and beehives. Believing that food resilience is important, the gardeners hope to formalize a process for donating any surplus produce to those in need. There is a Little Free Library adjacent to the garden for passersby to enjoy.

#### Edgewater Hill Victory Garden - West 73rd Street (north of Detroit Ave.)

This garden is easy to spot with its 70-foot, beautifully painted mural along the edge of the property leased from the City Land Bank. Gardeners here cultivate with a method known as "lasagna

Crescent Moon Farm



The Legacy Garden

gardening," which involves planting within raised sections of layered organic matter. Gardeners will not only be growing vegetables this year; they will also be helping to grow the monarch butterfly population by reestablishing milkweed.

#### The Legacy Garden - 1362 W. 74th St.

You don't have to be a gardener to come to enjoy this corner



Ithaca Court Community Garden

gathering space. Formerly the site of homes damaged by fire, gardeners now lease this land from the City Land Bank and plant within the approximately 30 plots. A firepit and seating area creates a place for gathering and connecting with neighbors. There is a "free farm stand" located on the edge of the Garden where gardeners



**JUNE**

**Edgewater NeighborFest**  
Art, music and play on Clifton Boulevard; **Sunday, June 26, 12pm-6pm**, Clifton Blvd from West 115th St. to West 117th St. [www.cudell.com/enf](http://www.cudell.com/enf)

**JULY**

**Pop-Up Recess** Fun, games and activities for the whole family; **Wednesday, July 6, 2-5pm** at Dudley Triangle (West 73rd St. & Elton Ave.); **Wednesday, July 20, 2-5pm** at West 100th St. & Macon Ave.

**GardenWalk Cleveland** Stroll Detroit Shoreway and Clifton-Baltic to admire gardens created and displayed by your neighbors. **Sunday, July 10, 10am-5pm** [www.gardenwalkcleveland.org](http://www.gardenwalkcleveland.org)

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel Italian Festival** Food and rides for the kids available for purchase **Wednesday, July 13 - Sunday, July 17, 6928 Detroit Ave.** [www.olmcchurchcleveland.org](http://www.olmcchurchcleveland.org)

**AUGUST**

**Clifton-Baltic Neighborhood-Wide Sale** Shop yard sales in Clifton-Baltic and along West Boulevard **Saturday, August 6** [www.cliftonbalticneighbors.com](http://www.cliftonbalticneighbors.com)

**Back-To-School Giveaways and Recess Games**  
**Sunday, August 7, 12-6pm** at Michael J. Zone Recreation Center (6301 Lorain Ave)

**ALL SUMMER LONG**  
**The City of Cleveland's Neighborhood Resource & Recreation Centers** are now offering expanded programming at all centers. Register online at [www.clevelandohio.gov/NRR](http://www.clevelandohio.gov/NRR) or walk in to Michael J. Zone Rec or Cudell Rec to learn more.

**Summer classes at Cudell Fine Arts Center** started May 23. Residents are able to sign up for classes after the start of the season. Residents can stop by CFA or call 216-664-4183 to sign up. If CFA has a space open in the requested class, they will drop you into the space for the remainder of the season.

**Lake Pool (Outdoor)** 1341 West 85th St. **June 11 - August 7, Wednesdays-Sundays** (tentative, exact times tbd) Questions, call 216-664-3018

**For free or low-cost theatre programs in the Gordon Square Arts District**, visit [gordonsquare.org/arts](http://gordonsquare.org/arts)

# APPLICATIONS OPEN: Racial Equity and Inclusion

For the second year, Councilmember Spencer is inviting residents to apply for **scholarships to two-day, virtual REI Workshops**. Thirdspace Action Lab is the Cleveland-based host of these sessions, which are facilitated by the Greensboro, NC-based Racial Equity Institute.

Lindsey Polichuk was one of six Ward 15 residents to receive a scholarship in 2021. "My experience... was eye opening and also a recognition of how much I have to learn in the space of racial equity and inclusion. The trainers were incredibly engaging and were able to describe the current state of REI without judgment and with encouragement to challenge what I know and to push past guilt and bias. It is a constant learning and growth process and willingness to engage with things that make me uncomfortable, but ultimately push me to be open, think differently, and do better," states Lindsey.

For more about **ThirdSpace Action Lab**,

visit: [3rdspaceactionlab.co/2022rei](http://3rdspaceactionlab.co/2022rei)  
For more about the **Racial Equity Institute**, visit [racialequityinstitute.com](http://racialequityinstitute.com)

**TO APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP:**

A total of **six Ward 15 scholarships (two per session)** are available on the following session dates:

- **July 20-21**
- **August 24-25 and**
- **September 21-22**

Residents must be able to commit to the full two days.

Please email Heather Lazar at [council15@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:council15@clevelandcitycouncil.org) for an application today. **APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.** A full group debrief hosted by Councilmember Spencer will take place in late September, 2022, once all three sessions have concluded.



**COMMUNITY GARDENS CONTINUED**

place surplus crops to share with residents so that they can take home to enjoy.

**Kirby Manor Garden - 11500 Detroit Ave.**

Since 2010, the residents of the Kirby Manor tower have been gardening in the 12 plots tucked away within the yard of this retirement complex. With the help of the Nieves family, resident leaders and the OSU Extension, the garden will now serve as a memorial to Carmen Nieves, a former Kirby Manor resident and longtime neighborhood advocate who passed away in 2022. Kirby Manor residents are in need of small garden tools; if you have any items that you would like to donate, please call Sam Nieves at (216)375-9644.

**Albert Hart Orchard & Community Garden - W. 80th St./Wakefield Ave.**

This orchard and 14 garden plots are situated on a stretch of land leased from Norfolk Southern Corp. The site was named for Albert Hart, who once lived on Lake Avenue, had greenhouses in the 1950s-60s and sold produce at the West Side Market. Disease resistant fruit trees were planted to avoid the use of pesticides. Throughout the growing season, the community is invited to pick surplus fruit so that none is wasted. An Eagle Scout built benches and picnic tables, and a group of residents created an artistic display from recycled glass.

**Ithaca Court Community Garden - 5501 Ithaca Court**

In 2001, the Ithaca Court Community Garden in the Cleveland EcoVillage opened on three City Land Bank lots where abandoned structures once stood. Today, the garden is a thriving space home to 40 plots, made of small, raised beds. The garden also features a



strawbale toolshed. Local youth are hired to help maintain the area. There are a handful of plots available for \$10 each. Contact [ithaca.court@gmail.com](mailto:ithaca.court@gmail.com) to be connected with the garden organizer, or swing by to see the buzz of activity as the season gets underway.

**Studio West 117 Community Garden - 1361 W. 112th St.**  
If you speak with Sara Continenza, the Founder and Executive

Director of Foodstrong, a non-profit with the mission of empowering and strengthening communities through fresh, local foods, you will surely be nothing but impressed with her attention to thoughtfully addressing community needs. In 2021, Foodstrong partnered with Betsy Figgie and Daniel Budish of Studio West to create a community garden on W. 112th Street through support from a Neighborhood Connections grant and fundraising. No produce grown at the Garden goes to waste. In addition to deliveries to B. Riley Sober House at 2121 W. 117th St. ([www.brileysobershome.org](http://www.brileysobershome.org)) and sharing crops with volunteers, Sara uses the foodconnect app to identify places in need of food donations. The work through the partnership between Studio West 117 and Foodstrong is never-ending and more is yet to come. To volunteer in the garden, join their mailing list or learn more about the programs offered by Foodstrong, go to [www.foodstrong.org](http://www.foodstrong.org).

**Watterson-Lake Learning Garden - 1449 W. 75th St.**

Founded by a teacher and adjacent to the former Watterson-Lake School, this 14-plot community garden occupies the site of a home lost to fire. Raised plots rent for \$20 each annually. This year, the Garden will be collaborating with other, near west Gardens to form a Google Group, which will create a platform for sharing information, seeds, advice, surplus produce, and more. If you would like to rent a plot, please reach out to Mark DiDonato at [markdidonato@hotmail.com](mailto:markdidonato@hotmail.com).

**Did we miss your community garden?**



Please e-mail us at [council15@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:council15@clevelandcitycouncil.org) so we can note it in the Fall edition of the newsletter. With questions about community gardening, email [council15@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:council15@clevelandcitycouncil.org).

# Meet & Greet with Council Member Spencer

## Conocerla a la Concejala Spencer

Last Summer, Councilmember Spencer worked alongside residents to host community Meet & Greets across the Ward. These small, outdoor gatherings provided a casual and welcoming opportunity for neighbors to meet fellow neighbors, receive community updates and chat with the Councilmember about issues and ideas for their streets. Some of the issues discussed included traffic calming, crime, activities for families, trees, problem properties, and much more.

Meet & Greets are returning this Summer. If you would like to hold an outdoor meeting with residents from your street, contact the Ward 15 Council office at 216-664-4235 or [jnaser@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:jnaser@clevelandcitycouncil.org) for more details and to pick a date.

*Si Usted y sus vecinos quieren conocer a la Concejala Spencer y hacer preguntas tanto como hablar sobre temas varios de la comunidad, favor de contactar la oficina de Ward 15 en el 216-664-4235 o [jnaser@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:jnaser@clevelandcitycouncil.org) para programar.*

## Fireworks - Yes or No?

*The short answer is "no."*

Cleveland Codified Ordinance §605.10 already makes it unlawful to discharge any fireworks within the city limits, except novelty or trick fireworks as defined in Ohio Revised Code (ORC) §3743.01 and except for licensed exhibitors.



Recently, the Ohio legislature passed House Bill (HB) 172, allowing any person authorized to possess consumer-grade fireworks ("1.4G fireworks") to discharge, ignite, or explode them on their property, or if authorized, on another person's property, on 10 specified calendar days per year. HB 172 also authorizes any city to restrict the days and times that persons may discharge 1.4G fireworks or to place a complete ban on their use.

**Mayor Justin M. Bibb and Cleveland City Council have introduced Ordinance No. 483-2022, which strengthens the city's Fire Code to prohibit the discharge of 1.4G fireworks at any time, including holidays, unless you have a state exhibitor's license and a City permit.** Ordinance No. 483-2022 is expected to pass by June 6, 2022.

In conclusion, only professionally licensed fireworks displays are allowed in the City of Cleveland. Individuals setting off fireworks could be charged with disorderly conduct (Ord. No. 605.03), unnecessary noise (Ord. No. 605.10), prohibitions (possession of fireworks, Ord. No. 387.03), or use of firearms (fireworks in park, Ord. No. 559.40) and be **subject to fines starting at \$150.**

**Please celebrate the Fourth of July safely and responsibly in Ward 15.**

**RECORDATORIO:** Está prohibido encender fuegos artificiales en la ciudad de Cleveland. Las personas que disparan fuegos artificiales podrían ser acusadas de alteración del orden público (Ordinance No. 605.03), ruido innecesario (Ordinance No. 605.10), prohibiciones (posesión de fuegos artificiales, Ordinance No. 387.03) o uso de armas de fuego (fuegos artificiales en el parque, Ordinance No. 559.40) y **sujeto a multas desde \$150.**

**Favor de celebrar el 4 de julio de manera segura y responsable en Ward 15.**

## Home Repair Assistance Available for Seniors

Northwest Neighborhoods CDC now has a program for those over the age of 60 or permanently disabled and the owner-occupant of their home that provides grants of up to \$500 for minor exterior or interior repairs. These repairs may include work to your porch, handrails, gutters and downspouts, roof, siding, sinks and toilets, light fixtures, and more. The annual income restriction for a household of one is \$41,300. For more information, contact Kena Chappell at 216-961-4242 x223 or [kchappell@nwneighborhoods.org](mailto:kchappell@nwneighborhoods.org).



## Behind on your Property Taxes? Assistance is Available

With Property Taxes due later this Summer, many residents are faced with the challenge of being able to pay. **CHN Housing Partners' Property Tax Assistance Program is available to address property taxes for individuals who have experienced a COVID-19 hardship after January 21, 2020. Cuyahoga County homeowners who qualify for the program can access up to \$10,000 in grant assistance to pay for property taxes.** Funds are limited and applications are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information and to see if you qualify, call 216-774-2336 or go to [www.chnhousingpartners.org](http://www.chnhousingpartners.org).



## Meet the Council Office Staff

Councilmember Spencer and her staff, Executive Assistant Joseph Naser and Neighborhood Advocate Heather Lazar, are each very proud to serve the Ward they call HOME and the residents they call NEIGHBORS. You may have spoken to one of us on the phone or communicated through emails. You have opened your doors to share with us, so we thought that we would share a little about us with you.

**Joseph Naser joined Team 15 as Executive Assistant in January 2022.** Although new to this role, Joe has lived in the Ward his entire life. Before graduating from the College of Wooster last year, he attended our own Louisa May Alcott Elementary School. "My favorite Ward 15 things to do include going to Edgewater Park, seeing new bands at local music venues and getting a bite to eat at our restaurants." Joe adds that his favorite memory is "watching the fireworks as a kid on July 4th with my family at Edgewater Park." During his free time, you can catch this avid music fan playing his guitar and

writing songs. Joe can be reached at the office at 216-664-4235 or [jnaser@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:jnaser@clevelandcitycouncil.org).

**Heather Lazar has been the Neighborhood Advocate since 2019.** Twice a Cleveland State Viking, Heather says, "our Ward is unlike any other – you can search for lake glass at Perkins Beach, watch surfers, enjoy great coffee, shop, and catch a movie – all in the same day!" Coincidentally, when Heather moved into the Ward in 2000, Joe was the first person she met when he and his mom welcomed her with homemade brownies, making it one of her favorite memories! After 10 years of working for three of Cleveland's CDCs and another decade with cities across the nation addressing vacant properties, she understands the need to preserve and protect our neighborhoods. Heather plays the Ukulele, leads therapeutic swim classes, is a terrible cook, yet has volumes of cookbooks, and loves to eat & shop locally. Heather can be reached at the office at 216-664-4235 or [council15@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:council15@clevelandcitycouncil.org).

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# Curbside Recycling is Back in the City of Cleveland

## Nuevo Programa de Reciclaje en Cleveland

*But you need to opt in – deadline July 31, 2022*

*Fecha límite para inscribirse es el 31 de julio*



Residents can now enroll in the City of Cleveland's new-and-improved curbside recycling program. Recyclables will be picked up weekly by City of Cleveland crews beginning June 13, 2022. **Residents can register for the program by visiting [CLErecycles.com](http://CLErecycles.com) or by calling 216-664-3030, but be sure to opt in by July 31, 2022.**

"We are proud to bring recycling back to Cleveland and consider curbside recycling a basic city service that we are committed to getting right," said Mayor Justin M. Bibb. "I hope residents will join us in this effort to reduce landfill waste and work toward a greener future."

No action is needed from the approximately 27,000 households that enrolled during the Fall 2021 enrollment period. There is no additional cost for residents associated with the new recycling program.

All enrolled households will receive a welcome packet that includes everything needed to get started in the new recycling

program. The packet includes FAQs, an expanded list of what is recyclable under the new program, a list of recycling dos and don'ts and — most importantly — a set of stickers that must be placed on the blue recycling bin to identify it as enrolled in the program.

Because items placed in blue bins have previously been collected as trash, it is critical that the stickers are placed on the bins per the instructions in the welcome packets. Packets will be mailed to residents on a rolling basis. Those already enrolled can expect packets in May, those enrolling in May can expect packets in June and so on through the end of the enrollment period on July 31, 2022.

Blue bin contents NOT marked with City of Cleveland recycling stickers will continue to be picked up as trash over the summer. In Fall 2022, blue bins from households not participating in the recycling

program will no longer be picked up as trash and the bins themselves will be collected for reuse in the recycling program. More information about the recycling program is available at [sustainablecleveland.org/recycling](http://sustainablecleveland.org/recycling).

**Para inscribirse en el programa de reciclaje de la Ciudad de Cleveland, hay que completar el formulario en la página web [CLErecycles.com](http://CLErecycles.com) (versión en español disponible) o llamar al (216) 664-3030. También pueden contactarse con Joe en la oficina de Ward 15 para obtener una hoja con instrucciones detalladas en español, en el 216-664-4235 o [jnaser@clevelandcitycouncil.org](mailto:jnaser@clevelandcitycouncil.org).**

# WE ARE WARD 15

**CUDELL, DETROIT SHOREWAY, EDGEWATER, PARTS OF OHIO CITY & STOCKYARDS**

WARD 15 COUNCIL MEMBER

**Jenny Spencer**

**City Hall Office:**

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**Visit** [www.ClevelandCityCouncil.org/ward-15](http://www.ClevelandCityCouncil.org/ward-15)



## Get Ready for Another Amazing Summer

The CMSD Summer

Learning Experience is back for a second year with something for scholars in preschool through 12th

grade. The program will be held at more than 30 school sites throughout the city. Meals will be provided. K-8 students will receive yellow bus transportation to and from the nearest K-8 school. High school students will receive tickets to ride RTA.

To participate in the Summer Learning Experience, students must attend a CMSD school or be pre-registered to enroll.

Last year's Summer Learning Experience proved to be very popular, with more than 8,400 students signed up. Registration for this year's program has begun. Visit [www.clevelandmetroschools.org/summerlearning22](http://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/summerlearning22) for registration and program details.



## POLICY UPDATE

### Tax Abatement

On May 25, 2022, Cleveland City Council approved a new tax abatement policy which will go into effect on January 1, 2024.

For more information on Tax

Abatement, view Council Member

Spencer's statements at:

[bit.ly/W15TaxAbate](https://bit.ly/W15TaxAbate)



## Thank You!

Thanks to all the neighbors and friends who came out for our Ward 15 Neighborhood Clean Up on May 7th.

