

# BELLAIRE-PURITAS Community Post

Spring 2013

## BPDC Arts Festival 2013 coming on June 2

It's time to dream and dream big at the 2013 Bellaire Puritas Arts Festival. "Working on a dream" is the theme of this year's event; imagining what you'd like to see in your community and what you'd like it to be is what we're encouraging.

We also would like one and all to come to Jefferson Park on Sunday, June 2, 2013 from noon to 6 p.m. The annual arts festival will feature live music, art exhibitors, food vendors, hands-on art stations for children and youth, student art, and community groups. We haven't yet finalized the line-up for the stage, but suffice to say some of the crowd favorites, as well as a new group or two, will perform.

If you would like to participate as a vendor - art, crafts, or food - please call 671-2710, ext. 220, and information will be provided.

In addition to our usual attractions, the festival this year will feature a stone-carving demonstration by the studio of noted artist Giancarlo Calicchia. The demonstration is related to a Bellaire Puritas-sponsored public art plan project for the West 140th Street corridor.

The project (see p. 3) will incorporate historic stone remnants of the recently razed John Marshall High School; so festival-goers will be able to get some ideas about what's possible in terms of using stone in public art.

The art stations for kids will piggyback on that theme; they can have fun building sculptures, making dream catchers, and creating other types of fun stuff at beading and other hands-on stations.

Bellaire Puritas can use the help of volunteers to help with the children's art stations, and set-up and clean-up. If you're able to lend a hand, please call us at 671-2710.

We'll see you on June 2.

## Mark the date: May 4 is Run Puritas 5K & 1-miler (See more information on page 2)

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## General Pest Control moves to the Bellaire Puritas neighborhood with 37 employees

General Pest Control Co. a 75-year-old exterminating business that's poised for growth, is now making the Bellaire Puritas neighborhood its home.

John Gideon, the firm's chief executive officer, said he moved the company to the former Skill Tool building at 4520 W. 160th St., three months ago because it had outgrown its facility on West 105th Street and Dale Avenue. He wanted to consolidate into one complex (the company had used several buildings at its old location) and prepare for the possibility of future expansion.

"And location was the most attractive part," of the decision to move General Pest's headquarters.

"Access to freeways was critical," he said, noting that his company serves clients in a nine-county area in northeast Ohio, stretching from Conneaut to Port Clinton and south to Canton.

General Pest Control was founded by Gideon's parents 75 years ago, when his father took over the reins of another exterminating company when the previous owner retired. While his father took care of customers and ran the "outside" of the business, his mother, now 95, took care of office management and other "inside" duties.

Despite the move to Ward 18, the company has not abandoned its old neighborhood: it maintains its retail store on West 105th for do-it-yourselfers. John's father has passed away, but his mother still drops in on the retail store several times a week to help out. The company remains very much a family business, with John's son sharing operating management duties and his wife managing accounts payable.

*Continued on page 6*

## Bellaire Puritas launches public art planning process

Bellaire Puritas has launched a year-long process to re-imagine the look of West 140th Street from Lorain Avenue to Puritas Avenue - with the goal of having public art as part of the look.

With the help of grant from Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, a county-funded arts initiative, BPDC is hosting an interactive website to garner your ideas, sponsoring workshops for the general public and in local schools, and introducing the neighborhood to the concept of public art via activities at the upcoming Bellaire Puritas Arts Festival.

BPDC chose West 140th as a ripe place for a public art design because so much has happened and will be happening on the street. In the last few years, Garfield and Artemus Ward K-8 schools have been rebuilt and John Marshall High School has been razed and is awaiting reconstruction.

*Continued on page 3*

**A word from the executive director:****Ward changes usher in partnerships, services remain steady**

Boundaries for Cleveland's soon-to-be 17 wards have been redrawn; they'll be implemented in 2014. But even before the redistricting results were known, Bellaire Puritas was working on relationships with our neighbors to ensure services will remain vibrant no matter what happened politically.

Our neighbors, of course, include Kamm's Corners' Development Corp. (KCDC) here in West Park. Bellaire Puritas, KCDC and our respective City Council representatives, Martin Sweeney and Martin Keane, have been developing ways to collaborate, anticipating new political boundaries could place some of you in new CDC service areas.

We are hoping to capitalize on each of our strengths to benefit all of the stakeholders in the new wards (16 and 17, starting in 2014). We hope that our plans will benefit residents who continue to live in what have been their traditional wards and those who find themselves in new wards and with new representation.

**Seniors:****Check your benefits**

Benefits Checkup is a screening process which provides older adults with an efficient, effective and confidential method for determining eligibility for federal, state and local assistance programs. Applications are available at the BPDC office or you can call the Cleveland Department of Aging at 216-664-2833.

**Bryan Gillooly**

BPDC will offer residential, housing and commercial support services, code enforcement and youth programs in our current service area (now Ward 18).

We likely will expand these services in the neighborhoods that will be joining the new Ward 16 as a result of redistricting, including the blocks north of Lorain Avenue from St. Vincent de Paul Church to West 120<sup>th</sup> Street.

BPDC also will provide residential services in the current Ward 19 (the future Ward 17), that would not otherwise be available through KCDC. Those services include neighborhood clean-ups, senior home maintenances and youth programs.

Our residents will benefit from KCDC staff that will help us conduct our residential and commercial code enforcement activities in Ward 16.

These collaborations are not entirely new. We began them in the past few years as federal funds have tightened and community development corporations have sought new ways to deliver quality services.

We know that constituents - and community development corporations - develop relationships with and loyalty to their council representatives. Councilman Sweeney has long been a funder and advocate for Bellaire Puritas.

However, the reality of population loss in Cleveland - and hence, the need to redraw ward boundaries - and the challenges facing CDCs have forced us to adjust.

We believe that with both council representatives, and Kamm's and Bellaire Puritas working together, the transition for you will be seamless and our programs and services will be as strong as ever.

*For a look at the new West Side ward maps, see p. 6.*

## Join Bellaire Puritas on May 4 for the Run Puritas 5K and 1-miler

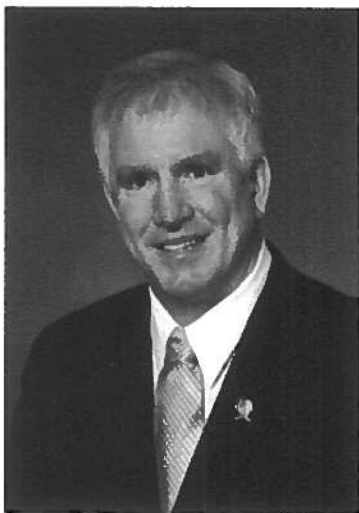
Bellaire Puritas is hosting its first-ever fun run (or walk) through our neighborhood; the event will be a fund-raiser for BPDC. Through the run, we hope to offset the costs of our public events such as the arts festival.

Puritas Run 5K and 1-mile fun run and walk will be on May 4. Registration that day begins at 7:30 a.m. The one-mile run or walk begins at 8:30 a.m. and the 5K begins at 9 a.m.

You can register on-line at [www.bpdc.org](http://www.bpdc.org) Registration in advance of race day costs \$20 and \$25 on race day. Racers will gather at Blessed Trinity Church at 14040 Puritas Ave., where the race will begin and end.

The first 300 participants who register before race day will receive a souvenir t-shirt. Awards will be given for winners in different age groups. Puritas Run will be managed by Peace Racing.

Thanks to all our sponsors for making this happen, and especially to our title sponsor PPG Industries, at West 143rd Street and Lorain Avenue.

**A word from Councilman Sweeney:****City-wide ward redistricting process is underway, to take effect in January 2014****Councilman Martin J. Sweeney**

Dear friends,

Spring is here and it has brought with it renewal and change to the city of Cleveland. Recently, Cleveland City Council approved new ward boundaries for the city that will take effect on Jan. 6, 2014. There will be a reduction

in the number of wards and seats on City Council to 17 from 19 as part of a voter-approved redistricting process.

The redistricting process began in 2012 and consisted of more than 60 meetings and phone conferences that included dialogue with community development organizations, major businesses and organizations and constituents.

The process, managed by Triad Research consultants, involved a series of meetings and discussions in 2012 and 2013 from which the new Ward 17 boundaries were created. The residents of Cleveland will vote for representatives of the new 17 wards during the general election on November 5, 2013.

Most importantly throughout the redistricting process, Council made sure that our residents, businesses and institutions are well served by the city. To find out how the re-

districting may affect you, please call me at my home number, 216-252-0986 or the Ward 18 office at 216-664-2942. Cleveland City Council will reach out to residents in the coming months via mailings, social media and website updates to inform them of the ward in which they will reside in 2014.

Ward boundaries may change, but our neighborhood has the unique advantage of having a strong constant - Bellaire Puritas Development Corp. I want to encourage residents to continue taking advantage of the wonderful services that BPDC provides to the community all year long. While the ward maps may change, the commitment and service of BPDC will remain the same.

I look forward to continuing to serve our community, and I appreciate the privilege of working as your council representative. You are the eyes and ears of our community.

Please feel free to call the

Ward 18 office with any questions and concerns at 216-664-2942. Keep the calls coming and have a happy spring.

Sincerely,  
*Martin J. Sweeney*  
Ward 18 Council Representative

**Seniors needing transportation in Cleveland: call 664-2833 to find out how you can schedule service.**

**Remember the Bellaire Puritas Arts Festival on Sunday, June 2 in Jefferson Park.**

## Public art planning is underway, continued from p. 1



Demolition crews razing the old John Marshall High School first extracted ornamental features of the building, such as stone medallions, so they could be preserved for future use. The holes in the structure show where the stone relief was removed.

Before demolishing the school, the Cleveland Metropolitan School District preserved many architecturally significant pieces from the building; most are stone carvings with Art Deco-era designs. CMSD plans to incorporate some of those artifacts into the new structure, and the rest will be available for other uses, including being part of public art works.

The design process will ask the community for ideas about a cohesive look for the street, as well as where individual pieces might be placed. It also will solicit ideas for public art images. The project's end result will be a design plan, from which BPDC then will seek funds for implementation and art installations.

We've created a website for the project, which can access through [www.bpdc.org](http://www.bpdc.org). That site includes a survey about public art; we're asking for your ideas about public art, your likes and dislikes, and what you think would be appropriate for this area. It the website also includes updates on the project and information about the neighborhood.

## Construction of new John Marshall High School is underway, slated to open in August 2015

The Cleveland Metropolitan School District has completed the demolition of John Marshall High School and has begun construction of a new facility.

The new school, designed for 1250-student capacity, is scheduled to open in August 2015.

CMSD's goal is to recycle most (84%) of the materials, such as concrete, brick and steel, from the former building. Some will be used in the new John Marshall, some in other CMSD buildings, and some has been saved for possible use in a public art project. (See story on page 1.)

Bricks from the original 1932 building have been preserved, along with stone medallions, cornices, carved eagles and the front granite steps.

The John Marshall Alumni Association is selling commemorative bricks to support its college scholarship and other programs. For more information on buying a brick with a commemorative plaque, go to [info@jmha-lumni.com](mailto:info@jmha-lumni.com) or call 440-356-0249.

The new John Marshall will have a silver rating in LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), a certification program of the U.S. Green Building Council, which evaluates a structure's energy efficiency, indoor environmental quality, materials selection, sustainability and water savings.

To see the designs for the new building, go to [www.bpdc.org](http://www.bpdc.org) and click on planning and development, then click John Marshall redevelopment and go to "view slideshow."

## John Marshall might be turned into an "academies" school, offering speciality curricula....see story on page 6.

## West 130th Street Tri-League: about to play ball

The boys and girls of summer are about to embark on the 2013 season in the West Park area.

West 130th Street Tri-League Inc, the youth baseball and softball league serving this neighborhood for decades, is now taking registrations for children and youth. A new twist in the league's offering this year will be an adult slow-pitch softball league. For information on that program, check out the Tri-League website at [www.trileague.com](http://www.trileague.com) or call 216-476-8456.

For parents of younger folks, registration runs through April 20 and will take place Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tri-League office at 4462 West 130th Street.

Divisions this year include junior novice (ages seven to eight, co-ed); senior novice (ages nine-10, boys); junior hardball (ages 11-12, boys); senior hardball (ages 13-14, boys); junior girls fast-pitch softball (ages 9-11); senior girls fast-pitch softball (ages 12-14) and high school girls fast-pitch softball (ages 15-19).

The Tri-League plays in several of the area's city parks; even if you don't have a daughter or son in the league, come on out and cheer on our local baseball teams. Schedules and locations can be found on the Tri-League website.

## West Park Airport Committee wants to hear from you at May 16 public meeting

If you live in the West Park/Bellaire Puritas area, you no doubt are used to hearing airplanes overhead. In the summer months, especially, when you're in your backyard or have your windows open, the noise can be deafening.

The Federal Aviation Administration in December approved a Cleveland Hopkins' proposal to implement noise-reduction methods. Hopkins also has formed an advisory group – composed of elected officials, FAA administrators, airline representatives, citizens, and others – to oversee the plan for noise abatement.

The West Park Airport Committee will have representation on that advisory group. The WPAC is a group of residents that works with Bellaire Puritas, Kamm's Corners Development Corp., and council representatives to try to find ways to minimize noise in our neighborhoods. Even though Cleveland Hopkins has ended its residential noise home insulation program, there is much more that can be done to make the skies quieter (for example, persuading the airlines to use non-residential flight corridors at night, conducting engine run-ups farther away from homes, etc.).

The WPAC would like to hear from you. It's been awhile since the committee has had a public forum to discuss such things as: how to represent the public effectively in the Hopkins' advisory group; which issues are most important to you, the residents (night time noise? getting better responses to noise complaints? planes flying too low? concerns about pollution from planes?); and how to communicate with you when new actions are taking place at the airport and how to keep you updated about the new noise-reduction plan (a dedicated website? keep going with regular WPAC meetings? fliers?).

BPDC and the West Park Airport committee need your help in moving forward. You are cordially invited to a public meeting on Thursday, May 16 at 7 p.m. at the Bellaire Puritas offices (14703 Puritas Ave.) to talk about noise issues and how collectively they can be addressed. The group needs your input and your involvement to better do its work in trying to create a quieter West Park. Please call Lori at 671-2710 if you have any questions.

## Connect with BPDC via social media



For all of you who haven't joined us yet, Bellaire Puritas is on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, and we'd like to make you part of our network. Facebook is a great way to catch up on photos and news in the neighborhood and to find out about events and resources. Twitter is another tool to hear the latest at BPDC; and LinkedIn is for professionals to use to connect to our work and each other.

We'd love to see your posts and comments and find out what's happening with you. We want to know what's up on your street, your block, your church or workplace - so we can get to know you, too.

**Youth program round-up:****Fair draws teen job seekers; youth active in MyCom programs**

Youth in the Bellaire Puritas-West Park area have been busy preparing for the workforce and college, and otherwise learning about life as they participate in programs sponsored by West Park MyCom and its partner agencies.

West Park MyCom is the neighborhood arm of the county-wide MyCom initiative. MyCom, funded by local foundations and Cuyahoga County, is a network of youth serving agencies and community groups which share resources and offer programs to children and youth. Bellaire Puritas is the lead neighborhood agency for the West Park My Com effort.

On March 9 at Gunning Recreation Center, West Park MyCom and Youth Opportunities Unlimited, a youth employment agency, sponsored a Job & Community Service Fair. Eight-five youth from schools throughout the city attended the event, where they could talk to potential employers or organizations looking for community service volunteers. They were able to submit resumes and share information with 23 employers and five non-profit organizations.

Prior to the job fair, 60 youth from our neighborhood prepared for the event at workshops that included mock interviews and learning about resume writing. A youth leadership team also helped organize and promote the event.

On March 21, several youth involved in MyCom programs participated in National Lobby Day. They traveled to Columbus and met with Voices for Ohio, a children's services advocacy group, and then with aides to state legislators from Northeast Ohio. The youth spoke with them about gun violence and healthy school lunches.

Bellaire Puritas is happy to report that Shahira Hester, a junior at John Marshall High School, spent her spring break touring historical black colleges in Ohio and several southern states. The tour was conducted by the Urban League of Greater Cleveland. Shahira won a scholarship from Bellaire Puritas and West Park MyCom and was one of 45 students from Northeast Ohio to explore the historic colleges.

Meanwhile, as all these special events were taking place, youth continued to take advantage in the last few months of ongoing programs. From December through the end of April, Art House Inc., a non-profit arts organization based in Old Brooklyn, has offered seven classes, ranging from printmaking to ceramics, to youth in kindergarten through eighth grade at Artemus Ward School in the Schools as Neighborhood Resources program (where schools are used for arts and recreation after hours). BPDC and MyCom also were partners in the program.



Above, a young job seeker presents his application to representatives of TJ Maxx at the March 9 job fair. Below, Jadel, left and Jeliel Perez enjoy an art class at Artemus Ward school taught by Art House Inc. instructors.



Below, from left to right, Darius Tabor, from Jane Adams High School, Marshannay Burleigh from John Marshall and Shayla Colston from John Marshall (far right) at Lobby Day in Columbus. Second from right was featured speaker Adrian McClemore.



Shahira Hester

**St. Vincent DePaul is turning 90**

St. Vincent DePaul Parish and School on Lorain Avenue are celebrating a big anniversary this year, and everyone's invited.

On Sunday, April 28, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., SVDP will share photos, yearbooks, and other memorabilia. The day will kick off with Mass at 10:30 a.m., then participants will head to the school for more festivities.

SVDP alumni: if you have any pictures you'd like to share in a slideshow, please bring them to the church at 7:30 p.m. on April 9 or April 16.

**Drop off hazardous wastes, cell phones, etc. at year-round recycling roundups**

The city's Department of Public Works and the Division of Waste Collection offer ample opportunities to get rid of used equipment and hazardous household wastes. The wastes can be delivered on the first Friday of each month to 3737 Ridge Road or 5600 Carnegie Ave. Computer and cell phone equipment can be dropped off any day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



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## Trizsi and Krupla families have strong ties to Gilmore Park; it once was home

The following is part of an ongoing look at Bellaire Puritas neighborhood history.

The swish of a tennis racket. The swat of a baseball. The squeaks of a swing set. Sounds that can be heard on any warm-weather day at Gilmore Park off of Bellaire Road. The city park, restored and refurbished just a few years ago, is a recreational jewel in Ward 18.

Go back several decades, however, and you'd hear cows mooing and chickens clucking on a family farm; and you just might see a Prohibition-era still. They were owned by a proud family of Hungarian immigrants who nurtured the land that is now Gilmore Park. The Trizsi family still lives in the neighborhood and cherishes their role in its history.

Ron Krupla, a resident of West 174<sup>th</sup> Street, is the keeper of family memories that began in 1911. That's when Ron's grandparents, Janos and Sophie Trizsi, arrived at Ellis Island, New York, after a passage on the ship Carpathia, from their original home of Hernaduemetz, Hungary.

Janos, who was born in 1884 and Sophie, born in 1887, settled here in Cleveland and within a year of their arrival bought land that is now Gilmore Park, or from West 130<sup>th</sup> Street to where Bellaire and Puritas Avenue split. The road that is now West 134<sup>th</sup> Street was once the driveway to the Trizsi's home.

The Trizis had four daughters: Margaret (Ron's mother); Ella, Elizabeth and Irene. Ron's grandfather built the family home; in addition to working at RB Biscuit Co. on the Near West Side, he and Ron's grandmother also raised fruits and vegetables on their land and took care of a cow, chickens and white pigeons.

Sophie Trizsi also worked cleaning the Settlement School at West 140<sup>th</sup> Street and Puritas Ave.; which was first part of the Cleveland schools and then used by the former Ascension School. Now, it's a vacant lot next to the Rockport Branch Library.

A hardworking woman, Sophie also made braided rugs and traded Carnival glass. The family was devoted to their Hungarian roots and the Hungarian church. They were charter members of the West Hungarian Reformed Church at West 32<sup>nd</sup> Street and Carroll Ave., which many years later relocated to Puritas Avenue. Sophie participated in the Hungarian Women's Aid Society which helped immigrants get accustomed to their new country.

Life in the Great Depression, from the late 1920s through the start of World War II, brought some challenges to the Trizsis, who, like all families, sought new ways to make ends meet. Family lore includes tales of a still where bootleg hootch was made, then brought to the house in



From left to right: John Trizsi, (standing) Margaret (Trizsi) Krupla, (front), Ella (Trizsi) Manyak, Elizabeth (Trizsi) Hura, Irene (Trizsi) Chany and Sophie (Toth) Trizsi.

buckets to the bathtub to be bottled for distribution. Sophie used to tell the following story: one day, a man named Elliott knocked on the door; fearing it was a law enforcement agent, she took off her clothes and jumped in the tub, thereby warding off the visitor from coming into the bathroom and seeing the tub's other contents.

"She was a card and a half," said Ron.

Folks in the neighborhood also told tales of visiting what is now the VFW Hall; back then, it was a speakeasy that was visited by sports stars such as the great Babe Ruth.

Grandpa Trizsi passed away in 1944; during the Depression he had already sold part of the land to the city to build an apartment complex.

Sophie sold the family house and the rest of the land in 1968 and moved in with Ron's parents; Ron said the negotiations with the city were protracted. Sophie wanted a stipulation in the contract that some of the land would be used for children.

She passed away in 1975; according to the City of Cleveland Archives, the park's official name for decades was Gilmore Playground, but eventually it came to be known as Gilmore Park.

Today, Ron and his wife Mary, who have three children, live in another part of the neighborhood, but they remain devoted to the Bellaire Puritas community and to keeping its history alive. They also have a word to those who visit Gilmore Park: there's a buried treasure in the park - a still that forever will be safe from a man named Elliott.

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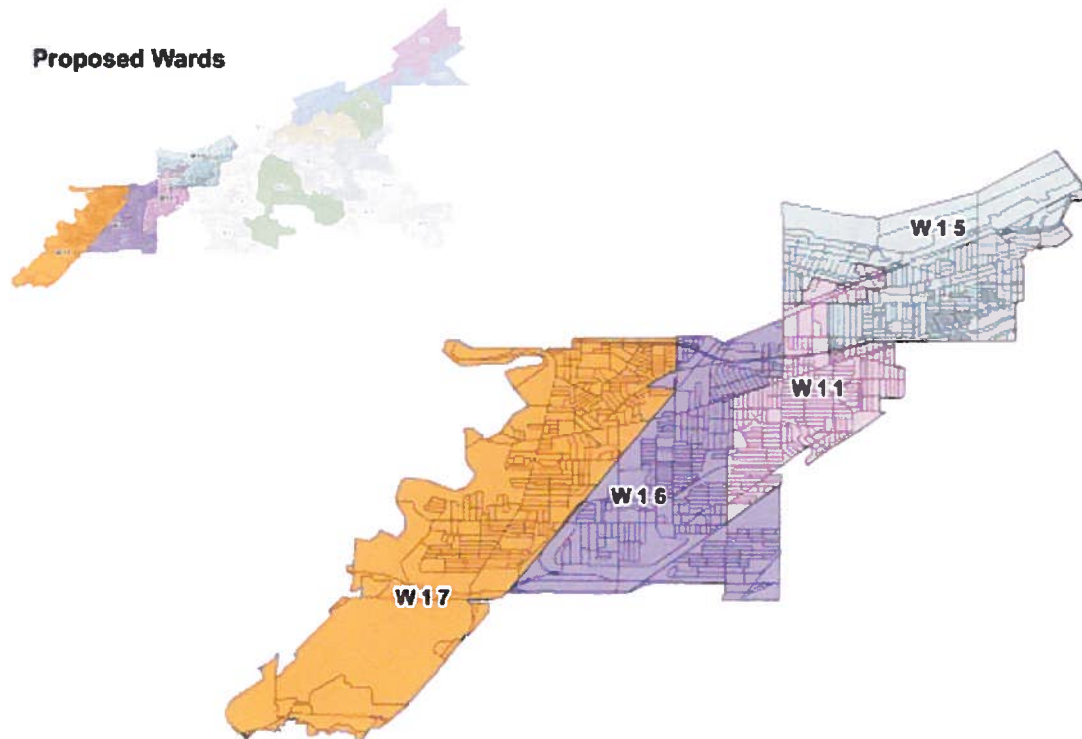
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## Boundaries shift slightly for three West Park wards



Here are the new ward boundaries as established by City Council in late March. Reports have stated there may be opportunities for minor tweaking, but the major changes have been confirmed by vote of Council. They take effect in January 2014.

For those in the Bellaire Puritas area (Ward 18 now, Ward 16 in 2014), the shifts in boundaries have occurred primarily on the western edge. The few areas south of Puritas and west of Rocky River drive that had been in Ward 18 will belong to what is now Ward 19 (Ward 17 in 2014). The airport will now be solely in Ward 17 and not split between the two.

A few streets along Lorain in the St. Vincent parish also will shift to the Bellaire Puritas service area, or to Ward 16.

## Cleveland school district considers change to small academies at John Marshall

Academic changes could be on the horizon when John Marhsall High School reopens if proposals being considered by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District become a reality.

Currently, JMH is operating in temporary site, Carl Shuler school on Terminal Avenue, while a new high school is being constructed; it's slated to open in 2015.

CMSD's Academic Department is exploring curricula for the new school and is considering three small academies, which would serve about 400 students each. They would each have specific themes and operate within the larger school.

The decision about establishing these academies eventually will be made by Eric Gordon, the district's chief executive officer.

Three themes being considered are: science and medicine; hospitality/tourism, and International Baccalaureate (IB), which is sponsored by an outside organization. Its website describes IB as preparing students for life in a global society by "offering an academically challenging program designed to address the intellectual, social, emotional and physical well-being of students."

The district has made no decision about students who live in the neighborhood but do not want to enroll in any of the three academies.

One group of area residents which addresses school issues, the Neighborhood Education Committee, is seeking the community's response to the idea of small academies at John Marshall.

The NEC and BPDC are conducting a survey -in cooperation with CMSD - to get community input on this academic planning process.

Please lend your voice by going to: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/NECJohnMarshall](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NECJohnMarshall). If you'd like updates on John Marshall's facility or academics, please contact Ian Heisey at BPDC at 216.671.2710 or [i.heisey@bpdc.org](mailto:i.heisey@bpdc.org).

## General Pest, cont....



*Continued from page 1*

General Pest new facility has 28,000-square-feet, with indoor parking for its service vehicles a big plus, said Mr. Gideon. There's also plenty of space for training classrooms. All of the company's technicians are either licensed or in training to become licensed. The firm has 26 field service technicians and 11 office employees.

In the last five years, Pest Control has added seven full-time jobs just to respond to the bed bug epidemic facing Northeast Ohio, which has the dubious distinction of being one of the top 10 cities in the United States for bug infestation. The company, however, also gets rid of ants, cockroaches, mice and any kind of nuisance that might be bothering their customers.

## Help with food is available in West Park area

If you are in need of groceries, there are several places in the West Park/Bellaire Puritas area that can help.

At the Joseph Center of Blessed Trinity Church, at 4370 W. 140th St., is the Bountiful Basement Hunger Center, part of the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland. The center supplies three days worth of groceries. Eligibility is based on income and address, but you'll receive help and referral on a first visit. Hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 a.m. to noon and Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

The West Park Christian Reformed Church hosts the Bread Basket, a similar center, at 15135 Triskett Ave. Hours are Tuesdays 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Thursdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Remember Run Puritas, BPDC's first-ever 5K & 1-miler, on Saturday, May 4. See details on page 2.**



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**Bellaire Puritas partnering with county Land Bank to develop vacant house in area**

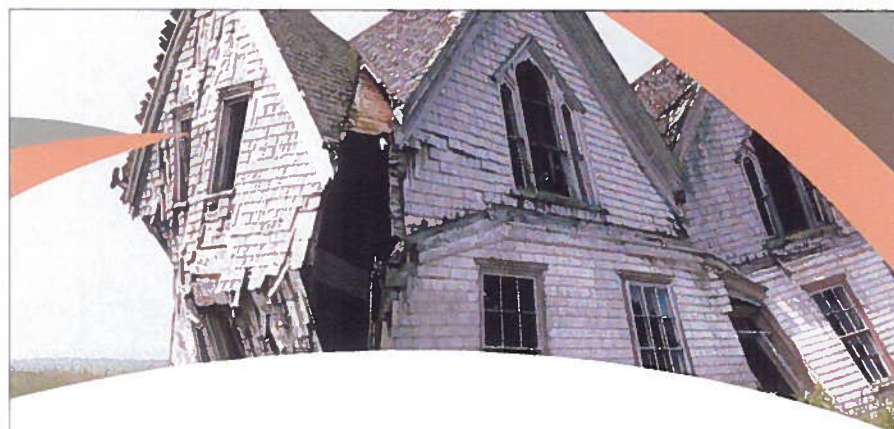
The Cuyahoga County Land Bank, which acquires vacant houses through tax foreclosures, is working with Bellaire Puritas and other community development corporations to make sure that abandoned homes end up in the hands of good owners.

In the Bellaire Puritas neighborhood, the Land Bank works with BPDC to buy properties that can then be sold to developers who will do a proper job of renovation. The goal is to make sure housing in our neighborhood is sound, that homes become occupied, and that neighbors are assured they won't have a problem with eyesores and deteriorating houses on the street.

As of this writing, BPDC has assisted in the development of 14 homes in Ward 18. Those homes have completed the acquisition and development process and have been sold to new owner-occupiers or rented.

If you'd like more information about the Land Bank program, call Toni Jones at 216-671-2710, ext. 205.

**Here's a tip for lowering your electric bill:** Don't position heat-producing devices such as lamps beneath a wall-mounted thermostat for a central cooling system. Heat rising from the equipment could cause the thermostat to read a temperature higher than the true room temp and lead to overcooling: If you'd like dozens more tips, check out "More than 100 ways to improve your electric bill," a First Energy brochure available at BPDC.




**From where we're standing, it looks a little crooked.**

We can lend a helping hand. **CASH** is a local non-profit community development organization offering low interest rates to all Cleveland property owners and investors to renovate or remodel your home. Just fill out our simple online form to get started and we'll help with everything.

Learn about our new low interest rates: call 216.621.7350 or visit [www.cashcleveland.org](http://www.cashcleveland.org)

**CLEVELAND ACTION TO SUPPORT HOUSING**  
More than money.



## HomeToday

Strengthens Communities. One Homeowner At A Time

HomeToday is a comprehensive program which combines group education sessions and personal counseling to teach the fundamental skills of good financial management and successful homeownership to individuals referred from local churches and community organizations.

As you complete each step in the HomeToday process, you will be one step closer to successful homeownership. There are four HomeToday educational sessions offered over a 4-week period. Individual counseling follows the completion of session four. Complete the seminar requirements and Third Federal will give you \$2,000 towards your down payment.\*


### 2013 April HomeToday Seminars


**Dates:** April 4, 11, 18, & 25  
**Location:** Cudell Improvement, Inc.  
 9821 Lorain Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44102  
**Time:** 6:30pm-8:30pm

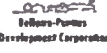
**Complete the HomeToday™ Program and receive a FREE pre-approval!**


\*The final step is an individual session(s) at which time you will meet one-on-one with a specialist to review your credit report and budget.

Contact Third Federal at 216.441.7345 to reserve your seat.

  
**ThirdFederal**  
MEMBER OF  
 HomeToday™

  
**Kamm's**  
**CORNERS**

  
**Bellaire-Puritas**  
Development Corporation

  
**WESTTOWN**  
Community Development Corporation

\*Maximum loan amount is \$150,000. Must originate loan with Third Federal to receive \$2,000 towards down payment. Details of the down payment assistance program will be provided at the seminar. ©2013 Third Federal


Noise complaints?  
Call Hopkins' noise hotline at 216-898-5220.

**Want to spruce up your house this spring or summer? Check out home improvement loan information first.**

**CASH-CLEVELAND ACTION TO SUPPORT HOUSING Home Improvement Loan Program:** This program is designed for owner-occupants and investors who wish to improve their properties in the city of Cleveland. In addition to a low interest rate (2.3%), specialists will guide you through the entire process – from the application through the completion of construction. Call CASH at 216-621-7350 for more information.

**NHS-NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES OF GREATER CLEVELAND 216-458-4663.** NHS provides home repair loans for credit worthy customers and those with credit issues. The home repair loan program gives the homeowner the extra attention needed when starting a rehab project. NHSGC will assist you with job specifications, cost estimates, contractor selection and oversight of your project. Each application is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Priority cases are those with health and safety repairs and code violations. Customer-friendly terms. Call NHS at (216) 458-HOME or visit [www.nhscleveland.org](http://www.nhscleveland.org).

**HFLA-HEBREW FREE LOAN ASSOCIATION (HFLA).** The association lends money interest free to individuals in need regardless of culture or religious preference. The applicant must demonstrate a genuine need and has been unable to receive a loan from a conventional source. This loan can be used for family expenses, mortgage payments, home repair, education or medical and dental expenses. Call 216-378-9042



Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation

**5K RUN • 1 MILE WALK • MAY 4, 2013**

## BPDC and Community Calendar

**Neighborhood Education Committee:** Meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at BPDC.

**First District Community Relations:** Police-public officials-community meeting. First Thursday of every month. 7 p.m. St. Ignatius of Antioch Church at West Blvd. & Lorain.

**West Park Airport Committee:** Third Thursday of each month. 7 p.m. at Bellaire Puritas.

**Run Puritas 5K and 1-mile Race/Walk:** Saturday, May 4. 7:30 a.m. registration. One mile begins at 8:30 a.m.; 5K begins at 9 a.m. \$20 in advance of race day, \$25 on race day. See story on page 2. Meet at Blessed Trinity Church, 14040 Puritas Ave.

**The Hooley:** music and community festival sponsored by Kamm's Corners Development Corp. Saturday, May 11, noon to 8 p.m. Lorain Avenue from Rocky River Drive to West 165th Street.

**West Park Airport Committee Public Meeting:** Thursday, May 16 at 7 p.m. Learn about airport issues and lend your ideas for community responses. Bellaire Puritas office. See story, page 3.

**Bellaire Puritas Arts Festival:** Sunday, June 2, noon to 6 p.m. in Jefferson Park at West 132nd and Lorain Ave. Music, art, food, fun. See story on page 1.

***Bellaire Puritas is at 14703 Puritas Avenue,  
Cleveland, Oh 44135***

***Phone: 216-671-2710, fax: 216-671-9868***

### **Bellaire Puritas Board & Staff**

#### **Officers:**

President: Jackie Krieger  
Vice President: Fr. Doug Koesel  
Treasurer: Sigmund Sesplankis  
Secretary: Charles Nusbaum

**Directors:** Valerie Jackson, Mary Lou Palermo,  
Margaret Roudebush, Kris Tabor

#### **Staff:**

Executive Director: Bryan Gillooly  
Office Manager: Sheila Duncan-Rawls  
Receptionist: Peggy Yomnick  
Senior Services: David Kasik, Daniel Conway  
Housing Director: Toni Jones  
Planning & Safety Coordinator: Melissa Miller  
Housing Assistants: Luciano Brown, Karen Crocheron  
Resident Services: Judy Schafrick  
Mediation Coordinator: Ian Heisey  
Youth Development Director: Nancy Baxter  
Youth Development Assistant and Neighborhood Marketing Specialist: Rachael Napolitano  
Computer Lab: Jessica Untch, Judith Opalach

### **Birders (and friends of birders) alert: a feathered friends walk is happening at the Puritas Wetlands**

The Puritas Wetlands will be the site of an exploratory bird walk on Saturday, June 8, for all of you who happen to be early birds.

The walk will begin at 7:30 a.m. and will be led by local resident Liz McQuaid and Garrett Ormiston from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Puritas Wetlands is an 80-acre detention basin in the Big Creek Watershed and runs in back of the Puritas Plaza shopping center at West 140th Street and Puritas Ave. The wetlands stretches to I-480 and from West 140th to West 150th Streets.

Participants should meet in front of the center parking lot, near Puritas before the walk begins.

### **About Bellaire Puritas:**

Bellaire Puritas (BPDC) is a non-profit community development corporation that strives to better the quality of life in Ward 18 and revitalize its neighborhoods. We provide housing assistance, safety and mediation services, help for seniors, planning, community organizing and youth programs. You can visit us on the web at [www.bpdcc.org](http://www.bpdcc.org). Our offices are at 14703 Puritas Ave. and we can be reached by phone at 216-671-2710.

BPDC is funded in part by government grants and by grants from private foundations, fee income and donations. Like other non-profits, we seek support, in-kind and financial, from our community and other friends who value our work and wish to help us serve our community. We also welcome volunteers with an interest in contributing to our neighborhood. Thank you for your support.