

# FAMILY MATTERS



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कर्मिणः कामदवभक्तक

## Inside the new John Marshall HS Campus and 4 small schools



John Marshall is back home! After three years in the making, a new John Marshall High School's (JMH) campus stands tall along W. 140th St. in West Park and opened its doors to 9-12th grade students on Monday, Aug. 17th.

Inside, JMH School of Information Technology (IT), JMH School of Engineering, JMH School of Civic and Business Leadership, and the 11th & 12th Grade Academy share sports and extracurriculars. Graduates of each themed JMH school may obtain an industry-recognized certificate to prepare them for immediate employment or college, related respectively to the school they attend.

Over 30 community members formed a receiving line to "clap-in" students on opening day. Neighboring PPG Industries represented in a big way, with not just plant management, but a PPG employee and Marshall parent, Jamillah Hurt, whose daughter Ja-Reese Love attends JMH. PPG has already committed to supporting the School of Engineering going

forward, as they supported JMH during the planning of the academic programs for the whole campus.

### Inside the JMH School of Information Technology

David Darnell is most excited about learning about computers. When he thinks of future careers he wants "to follow the footsteps of my cousins and work on computers." He says the Marshall campus is "convenient with 3-4 schools...You get to choose your career and learn about it in one building."

What most excites Joseph Lawrence is that he is "learning a lot about IT and it's a brand new school." He's attending the School of IT because "I'm thinking about being a police officer. We'll have new technology in 3-4 years." He comments, "it's fun actually." Both 10th graders bike commute and would like a BMX biking club to start.

Briana Wagner (sophomore) wants to be a medical examiner and thinks the School of IT will help because she will need to know technologies in her future career. She matriculated from Garfield School, just next door. Principal Chelsey Cook described plans on linking Garfield students to explore the technologies accessible on-site at Marshall and to create academic interest in science and math and career awareness in the neighboring students in their own classrooms.

### Inside the John Marshall 11th & 12th Grade Academy

"Watching it being built "was a lot of anticipation," says junior and West Park MyCom leader, Tatiana Burton. She continues, "It's a good school. I love it- the teachers are amazing, the vibe of being in a new building, seeing students from last year, plus the new

freshman and sophomores." She is most excited about ceramics and environmental science and wants to be an orthodontist.

Her principal, Tiffany James, returning from JMH at Shuler, reports the school has moved from an 8 period day with 43 minutes per class to a 4 block schedule. Students take 4 classes each day at 83 minutes each, but every other day is a different set of 4 classes, 8 in total. It is referred to as an A/B schedule.

Friends, Ashley Pinto and Jade Mitchell, both seniors, replied, "Graduating!", when asked what they are most excited about at the JMH 11th & 12th Grade Academy. Ashley has run cross country and wants to join track, while Jade celebrated that her Lawyers volleyball team "won our first home game yesterday" against Glenville.



Jade wants to be a forensic nurse and go out of town to Akron or Kent to study. "I always wanted to go into forensics," but she has no interest in working with dead bodies. "I want to work with victims of crime-to help them." Ashley, a graduate of West Park Catholic Academy, used to live in the Puritas area and wants to work in the medical field.

Cont. on page 2...



Veronica Bensford's family gets their spot early at the movie in Jefferson Park on the National Night Out Against Crime Ice Crime Festival. See more Jefferson Park event photos on Page 7. Photo credit: Zayra Ramos-Ortiz

## Welcome back John Marshall High School at 3 events

Please join us on at the new Marshall campus and its 4 academic programs at 3955 W. 140th St. at one or all of these events:

- **Thursday, Sept. 24th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.** for a ribbon-cutting and dedication
- **Thursday, Sept. 24th from 4 to 7 p.m. - an open house** to tour the school
- **Saturday, Sept. 26th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** for an Alumni and Community Open House to welcome alumni, the community, families, friends and neighbors.

For more information contact BPDC at 671-2710 and ask for Ian.

## Lyric Community Center coming to Education Corridor

The Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation's (BPDC) Lyric Community Center project is moving forward! In May 2014 BPDC acquired the small commercial building on West 140th Street and Lyric Avenue from the Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation, a land bank, with the intention of rehabbing the building for a community center.

The building is located in the heart of the neighborhood in the West 140th Street Education Corridor. Over the past year BPDC has been hard at work securing funding to rehab the building and is now ready to begin. Many residents contributed to an online campaign to crowdfund initial costs of retaining the building. **(Thank you very much!)** BPDC secured a grant from the City of Cleveland with the help of former Councilman Martin J. Sweeney (now State Representative).

City Architecture is the architectural firm that has been hired to design the new space, and just by coincidence, **one of the architects working on the project, August Fluker, is a proud alum of John Marshall High School.** The architects are designing a space that has a large multi-purpose room, a computer lab and a small kitchen. Once the plans are complete BPDC will share them with the community.

Many of BPDC's afterschool youth programs will be housed in the new facility. Being on West 140th Street with two public K-8 schools and the new John Marshall High School, and being walkable from Bard High School Early College, makes the location of the community center ideal for these types of activities. There will also be space available during the day for different classes for adults such as financial literacy classes offered by local banks and the building can be used for meeting space when no programming is happening at the center.

## Inside this issue...

New afterschool programs.....	p.2
Youth reflection on "The EDGE" .....	p.2
Fall Calendar of Events.....	p.3
West Park Youth Resources .....	p.4
Teen Job Club for West Park.....	p.4
Little, free library opens .....	p.4
School directory.....	p.5
Lorain Ave. shopper.....	p.6
Rehab investment.....	p.7
Young professionals.....	p.8

## MyCom offers new programs to West Park pending funding

West Park is a proud member of the MyCom countywide youth development initiative. As the lead agency for the neighborhood, Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation partners with other youth serving organizations to provide high quality youth programming in the West Park neighborhood.

### New Programs for the 2015-2016 School Year:

**Fashion Club at West Park Library Branch** – Upcycle old clothes into unique fashions, learn basic sewing skills, and design your own styles. Show off your skills and creativity in a community talent show, and end the year with a field trip to a sewing studio to learn how to sew on a machine. For youth (boys are welcome, too!) ages 12 and up. 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, 3:30-5:00pm. **Registration is required. Forms available at West Park Library, Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation, and online at [www.bpdc.org](http://www.bpdc.org). Contact Vanessa at (216) 671-2710 for more information.**

**Homework Help and Mentoring at West Park Library Branch** – Get help with your homework, study for your tests, and play games with high school

students. Open to all elementary and middle school students. Thursdays 3:30-5:30pm at the West Park Library Branch. **Registration is required. Forms available at West Park Library, Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation, and online at [www.bpdc.org](http://www.bpdc.org). Contact Vanessa at (216) 671-2710 for more information.**

**Tuesdays in the Triangle** – Try something new on Tuesdays in the Triangle. Art, technology, dance and more. Tuesdays 4:00-5:30pm at West Preparatory Academy, for youth 10-14 years old. Snacks are provided. Registration is required. **Forms available at West Park Library, West Preparatory Academy, and online at [www.bpdc.org](http://www.bpdc.org). Contact Vanessa at (216) 671-2710 for more information.**

**West Park Youth Leadership Council** – High School students who live or go to school in West Park are invited to apply to be part of the neighborhood's Youth Leadership Council. No leadership experience necessary, just a desire to make the neighborhood a better place for youth and families! Meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month, 5:30-7pm at Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation. **Applications available online at [www.bpdc.org](http://www.bpdc.org).**

**Deadline Friday September 18th. Contact Vanessa at (216) 671-2710 for more information.**

### Returning Programs:

**America Scores Cleveland** – Soccer and poetry- the perfect combination! America Scores is located at R.G. Jones and Artemus Ward (participants must be students at these schools) for 3rd-8th grade students. **Contact America Scores at (216) 881-7988 for more information.**

**CMHA Riverside Park After-School Program** – Homework and enrichment activities for children in kindergarten-6th grade. Monday through Friday 2:30-5:30pm at the Riverside Park Estates Community Center. **Registration is required. Priority is given to CMHA residents. Contact Cookie at (216) 898-5695 for more information.**

**West Park Teen Job Club** – Do you have a plan for after high school? Do you know what you want to be when you grow up? Do you want to get a job and start earning money now? Join the West Park Teen Job Club to explore career opportunities, develop your skills, and learn how to get hired and keep a job. For youth ages 13 and up.

Wednesdays 4:30-6:00pm at Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation. **Registration is required. Forms are available at Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation and online at [www.bpdc.org](http://www.bpdc.org). Contact Vanessa or Ian at (216) 671-2710 for more information.**

### Art Classes with Art House, Inc:

**Day of the Dead Parade Family Workshop** - Children and their families will work together to create costumes they will wear in the parade held in the Gordon Square Arts District in November. Dates and location TBD.

**Printmaking** – Learn about the beauty and fun of printmaking in this 5 week class. Working with a professional artist, students will learn how to create mono and relief prints using a variety of inks and papers. For 2nd-3rd grade at R.G. Jones School 3:30-4:30pm. Dates TBD.

**Registration is required. Forms are available at Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation and online at [www.bpdc.org](http://www.bpdc.org). More classes will be scheduled for winter and spring. Contact Vanessa at (216) 671-2710 for more information.**

## The EDGE went on the road



I was a participant in the summer EDGE program of 2015. My experience was fun while also being educational. Our group participated in many activities that were very appealing to me. Going to the program occupied a lot of my spare time that I was surely wasting. Every Thursday and Friday our group would take field trips to many different places. We went on many college tours at many different universities. I favored those trips the most because it gave me a chance to think early about college. I was also fond of the train ride we took and the baseball game we went to.

I also loved the things we did at the school outside of our field trips. For example: Mr. Augusto Bordelois the art teacher who helped us paint the mural in the school hall; Mr. Max the computer programmer teacher; and the final performance we put on for the parents and staff. I also liked the garden ladies who helped us grow tomato plants. In fact, mine has grown a lot and that is surprising since it was probably the smallest one. The chess class was educational and helped me understand many instances about the game that I heard and saw on TV.

Overall, my experience of The EDGE summer program\* was fantastic and I do recommend it for all children. I also will participate again.

By Caitlyn Johnson

*\*Editor's note: The EDGE is an initiative BPDC and the United Way organizes afterschool at R.G. Jones. This summer, the Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers Association funded college and career exploration for 6th through 8th graders.*

*Caitlyn's final performance was an ensemble dance choreographed by Tom Evert and Mr. Augusto had youth create a mural of the school mascot, a rocket, in a starry space scene in the main hallway. Both artists came from the Center for Arts-Inspired Learning.*

*The program partnered with the West Park MyCom Summer College & Career Tours, which were field trips for teens through age 18. Students visited workplaces like the Cleveland Airport Marriott and Hyland Software, recently completed construction sites like the Heinen's downtown, and a myriad of post-secondary options from Polaris, to Tri-C Westshore, to Case Western University and as far as the College of Wooster.*



## John Marshall cont...

Mitchell has attended 3 high schools, 2 of them suburban and lastly Marshall in 10th grade. She never stayed long enough to put down roots and join a volleyball team, which she played in middle school, until she arrived at Marshall. Although her family moved to Parma, she wanted to stick with Marshall because of the opportunity to play volleyball and to have some consistency.

### Inside the JMH School of Civic & Business Leadership

Ashley's 9th grade sister, Bianca Molina followed her to Marshall from a charter grade school and is enrolled in the School of Civic and Business Leadership. Principal Sara Kidner leads this program and says the school will actively explore a diversity of career fields and she wants to bring professionals into the school and get the students into the community to explore their interests and things they may not have considered. Rising Star Coffee Roasters and PNC Bank have already stepped up to the plate to partner with students to start-up two student-run businesses in the school: a student-run coffeehouse and a student-run credit union, respectively.

### Inside the JMH School of Engineering

Arianna Smith heard about the new JMH from her old friends at Watterson-Lake School and her mother thought the JMH School of Engineering was the best available match for her daughter, but "we looked at the pro's and con's" of several schools and Arianna agreed after the analysis that it was her best available choice to be a veterinarian. "I love animals," Smith explains.

The 9th grader is excited for robotics, which she studies alongside Algebra. She was looking for a rigorous program and on the "pro's", she weighed,

"you're allowed to earn college credits for certain classes."

Her mother Neal says, "by them building this new school and having 3 schools in one...I heard they are competitive with John Hay and they are a college prep school." Her twin daughter attends the John Hay Campus, so she is interested in seeing how the schools compare in her own household.

Keona Simon, a freshman, is most interested in cheerleading. Ms. Wade, in biology, is her favorite teacher because "she helped me a lot and she's funny." Her most challenging class is mathematics and she plans on making video games in her math class. Of the neighborhood, she says, "It's cool. It's quiet."

### Unified with the Lawyer Legacy

Community and alumni are invited to three different opportunities to see the school from the inside, to meet the principals, teachers and students and celebrate the new John Marshall, a school that has been an anchor in the community since 1899. Some of the architectural features that were preserved from the previous building will be visible. Alumni merchandise and school merchandise will be for sale and light refreshments will be served at both open houses. The historic school will have an official ribbon-cutting and dedication on Sept. 24th in the morning at 10:30 a.m.. (See front page box)

Construction delays, bridge closures, and new traffic patterns could not keep over 1400 students from enrolling to attend the new, unified campus. Even with staggered arrival times and staggered dismissals, the foot traffic, vehicle traffic, and at-capacity bike racks prove JMH is off to a vibrant re-start.

# Calendar of Events

## September

**Early Primary & Special Election Voting has started.** Voter registration is ongoing. Vote in-person at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections at 2925 Euclid Ave. Call 216-443-VOTE (8683) for more info. The deadline for voter registration for the November 3rd General Election is October 5, 2015.

### Wii Gaming

Thursdays, Sept 3-Nov 26 at 4:30 p.m. Come for some video games on Wii U every Thursday! Play fun games such as Battle Brawlers, Mario Kart, Super Mario World, or Tekken in Rockport's Teen Rock room at Rockport branch library\*.

### Free-For-All Fridays

Fridays Sept 4- Nov 27 at 4:30 Every Friday is a fun day! Come to Rockport's meeting room for some down time and enjoy playing video games, use ipads, or rock out a beat on digital drums at Rockport branch library\*.

### Election Day; Primary & Special

Tues. Sept. 8 at 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Call 216-443-VOTE (8683) for more info.

### Be Well West Park

Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29 & Oct. 6 from 6-7:30 p.m. Join the Cleveland Clinic by walking and talking with a health professional every Tuesday through Oct. 6t hat Gunning Recreation Center at 16700 Puritas Ave. on the indoor track and take home a Tasty Tuesday recipe. This program's goal is to educate and inform adults on current health trends and serve as motivation for increasing fitness. Little prizes weekly with prizes for top 3 overall participants on October 6.

### No Bake Dessert

Wed. Sept. 9 at 4:30 p.m. Love desserts that are easy to make and are super delicious and healthy? Come and try your hand at making this delicious, no bake, pound cake and fruit parfait at Rockport branch library\*!

### Used Book Sale

Sept. 10 - Sept. 12 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at West Park branch library\*

### Family Yoga

Sept. 11 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*

### Teen Rock Art

Monday Sept 14 at 4:30 p.m. Calling all teens! Show your artistic side by creating awesome works of art on canvas and display them in our Teen Rock room! Express yourself at Rockport branch library\*.

**CMSD Parent open houses at all grade school buildings.** Sept. 16, 6-8:00 p.m. Call your school for details.

**CMSD Parent open houses at all high school buildings.** Sept. 17, 6-8:00 p.m. Call your school for details.

### Talk Like a Pirate Day Celebration

Thurs., Sept. 17 at 4:00 p.m. Pirate stories will be told, pirate crafts creating eye patch and parrot. Pirate Grog, cookies, and handouts about famous pirates and word games will be available at West Park branch library.

### Disney Movie: The Three Caballeros

Thurs Sept. 17 at 4:30 p.m. Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month! When Donald receives a magical collection of gifts from his Latin American friends, they become his passport to a fantastic musical journey with Jose Carioca, the parrot and Panchito Pistoles, the Mexican rooster. We will also serve snacks and refreshments at Rockport branch library\*.

### Pool Party/Apple Pick

Sept. 18 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*

### Mini Canvas Art

**Monday Sept 21 at 4:30 p.m.** Hey kiddos! Try your hand at painting a picture on a mini canvas then display your work of art in our book display at Rockport branch library\*!

### National Hobbit Day

Tues., Sept. 22 at 4:00 p.m. book display and crafts at West Park branch library\*

### Smart Board Fun!

Wed Sept 23 at 4:30 p.m. Come and Play some fun interactive games using our new Smart Board. It's fun, innovative, and educational at Rockport branch library\*!

### John Marshall High School ribbon-cutting and dedication

Thurs. Sept. 24th from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. 3955 W. 140th St.

**John Marshall High School community open house** Thurs. Sept. 24th from 4- 7 p.m. 3955 W. 140th St.

**John Marshall High School alumni & community open house** Thurs. Sept. 24th from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 3955 W. 140th St.

Refreshments will be served at both events. For more information contact BPDC at 671-2710 and ask for Ian.

### Parent's Night Out

Sept. 25 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*

### Grandparent & foster parent & parent social

Sat., Sept. 26 Find out more about an on-going group will be started especially for grandparents as part of the Cleveland Parent Support Network. Call Neighborhood Leadership Institute's Khalid Ali at 216-812-8700 for more details.

## October

**Fall Arts & Crafts (masks, decorate pumpkins)** Oct. 2 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*

### Free-For-All Fridays

Fridays Oct. 2- Nov 27 at 4:30 Every Friday is a fun day! Come to Rockport's meeting room for some down time and enjoy playing video games, use ipads, or rock out a beat on digital drums at Rockport branch library\*.

### Oct. 5

Deadline for voter registration for the November 3rd General Election. Call 216-443-VOTE (8683) for more info.

### Hyrule Warriors Anime Club

Tuesday, Oct 6, and Nov 3 at 4:30 p.m. If you love anime then this club is for you! Monthly Anime Club meetings are the 1st Tuesday of every month. Come in and talk about anime, read manga, do crafts, and watch anime movies. Meetings are held in Teen Rock room at Rockport branch library\*.

### Be Well West Park

Oct. 6 from 6-7:30 p.m. Join the Cleveland Clinic by walking and talking with a health professional this Tuesday at Gunning Recreation Center at 16700 Puritas Ave. for 44 laps on the indoor track and take home a Tasty Tuesday recipe. This program's goal is to educate and inform adults on current health trends and serve as motivation for increasing fitness. The top 3 overall participants will be awarded prizes this day.

### Used Book Sale

October 8-10 from 10am-5pm at Rockport branch library\*

### Fire House Visit

Wed., Oct 7 at 1:00 p.m. It's Fire Prevention Week and we are making sure that kids know what to do in case of a fire. Local firemen will talk about fire equipment and tools used to help aid them in fire emergencies at Rockport branch library\*.

### Pool party/Pumpkin Pick

Oct. 9 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*\*

### Cleveland Institute of Music Recital

Sat., Oct. 10 at 2:00 p.m. at West Park branch library\*

### Family Zumba/Costume

Oct. 16 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*\*

### Smart Board Fun!

Oct 21, at 4:30 p.m. Come and Play some fun interactive games using new Smart Board. It's fun, innovative, and educational at Rockport branch library\*!

### Halloween Party

Oct. 23 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*\*

### Disney Movie: Nightmare Before Christmas

Tues., Oct 27 at 4:30 p.m. This is the story of Jack Skellington, the pumpkin king, who decides to bring the magic of Christmas back to Halloween Town. Snacks and refreshments will be served at Rockport branch library.

### Happy Halloween

Thurs., Oct. 29 at 4:00 p.m. Halloween traditions will be discussed, scary tales will be told. Word games and handouts will be available at West Park branch library\*. Treats will be provided.

### Annual Neighborhood Summit

Wed., Oct. 28 6-8:30 p.m. Annual celebratory event with community group tables galore; neighborhood plans and progress on display; opportunities to get involved in your neighborhood; a complimentary light meal as supplies last; and raffles. Call Rachel at BPDC. org/annual-neighborhood-summit/

### Halloween Scavenger Hunt

Thurs., Oct 29 at 4:30 p.m. Mummies, vampires, and ghosts oh my! You're in for a spooky treat when you find the spooky clues hidden throughout the library\*! Beware at Rockport branch library\*.

### Trunk-Or-Treat

October 30th. Come to Jefferson Park, 13200 Lorain Ave. and collect candy from individuals or companies who 'adopt a spot' in the park. Once the kids are done going through a 'haunted park' they will take a wagon ride around the neighborhood followed by arts and crafts for the kids. Call Councilman Kazy at 216-664-2942 for more info.

### Movie Night/Halloween Movie

Oct. 30 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*\*

## November

### Day of the Dead Celebration

Mon., Nov 2. at 4:00 p.m. Learn about Mexican culture and make your own folk art at West Park branch library\*!

### Election Day

Tues. Nov. 3 at 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Call 216-443-VOTE (8683) for more info.

### Free-For-All Fridays

Fridays Nov. 6 - Nov 27. at 4:30 p.m. Every Friday is a fun day! Come to Rockport's meeting room for some down time and enjoy playing video games, use ipads, or rock out a beat on digital drums at Rockport branch library\*.

**First District Police Community Relations Awards** Thurs. Nov. 5 Honoring contributions of police and civilians with awards and a light meal; call Tammy at 216-664-6634.

### Family Flag Football

Nov. 13 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*

**Pumpkin Chunkin'** Nov. 16 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*

### Disney Movie: Pocahontas

Tues., Nov 17 at 4:30 p.m. Celebrate Native American Heritage Month! The tale of Pocahontas, the beautiful daughter of a native American tribal chief, who saves the life of English colonist John Smith in 16th century Virginia at Rockport branch library\*.

### African Trade Beads

Mon., Nov 23 at 4:30 p.m. Learn how to make a necklace or a bracelet by rolling colorful paper into beads. Give as gift or keep for yourself! In Teen Rock room at Rockport branch library\*.

### Smart Board Fun! Nov. 25 at 4:30 p.m.

Come and Play some fun interactive games using new Smart Board. It's fun, innovative, and educational at Rockport branch library\*!

### Parents Night Out

Nov. 27 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*

### Cleveland Institute of Music Recital

Sat., Oct. 10 at 2:00 p.m. at West Park branch library\*

### Day of the Dead Celebration

Mon., Nov 2. at 4:00 p.m. Learn about Mexican culture and make your own folk art at West Park branch library\*!

### Celebrating Native Americans

Thurs., Nov. 19. at 4:00 p.m. The culture and folklore of some Native American tribes will be presented. The story of the First Thanksgiving will be told. Handouts and treats will be provided at West Park branch library\*.

**Give a day of fun/Bring a friend pool party** Nov. 20 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*

### Cleveland Institute of Music Recital

Sat., Nov. 21 at 2:00 p.m. at West Park branch library\*

## December

**Daddy Daughter Dance** (donate item to Children Services) Dec. 4 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*

**Holiday Celebration** Thurs., Dec. 10 at 4:00 p.m. stories, crafts, and snacks at West Park branch library\*

**Mother Son Nerf Battle** (donate item to Y Haven) Dec. 11 from 6-8 p.m. at West Park YMCA\*

### Location details:

- **Rockport branch library**  
4421 W. 140th St.; 216-623-7053
- **West Park branch library**  
3805 W. 157th St.; 216-623-7102
- **West Park YMCA**  
15501 Lorain Ave.; 216-941-5410

## West Park Youth Resources

### Art & Performance

America Scores-poetry & spoken word	216-881-7988
Art House, Inc.	216-398-8556
Bellaire Puritas Development Corp./ West Park MyCom	216-671-2710
Brady Campbell Irish Dance School	216-926-4423
Center for Families and Children-RapArt	216-252-5800
Joyful Noise Music School	216-952-4398
Rockport Teen Center	216-623-7053
Schools As Neighborhood Resources	216-658-1360

### Academic

America Scores-writing enrichment	216-881-7988
Building Hope in the City	216-281-4673
College Now	216-870-8611
Learning Together Tutoring Program for Artemus Ward	216-920-7055
Riverside Park After-School program	216-476-4172
Rockport Branch Library and Teen Center	216-623-7053
Schools As Neighborhood Resources	216-658-1360
The EDGE at RG Jones After-School program	216-920-7143
West Park Salvation Army	216-252-3593

### Religious

Blessed Trinity Youth Ministry	216-671-5890
Second Calvary Baptist Church Youth Ministry	216-252-1050
St. Paul AME-Youth Ministry Programs	216-941-6767
U-Turn Ministries of Gateway West Community Church	440-941-4238
West Park Salvation Army	216-252-3593
West Park United Church of Christ Youth Group	216-671-7228
West Park Evangelical Friends	216-251-6976

### Employment

Bellaire Puritas Development Corp./ West Park MyCom	216-671-2710
Youth Opportunities Unlimited	216-566-5445

### Youth Leadership

Bellaire Puritas Development Corp./ West Park MyCom	216-671-2710
Boy Scouts	216-861-6060
Girl Scouts of NEO	440-233-6112
Operation StandUP	216-282-5822
West Park YMCA & Teen Center	216-941-5410

### Sports

All American Karate	440-331-0009
America Scores-soccer	216-881-7988
Cleveland Bombers	216-800-1823
Gunning Recreation Center	216-420-7910
Halloran Recreation Center	216-664-4187
Schools As Neighborhood Resources	
Valley Riding Inc.	216-267-2523
W. 130th Tri-League	216-476-8456
West Park YMCA & Teen Center	216-941-5410

### Other Offerings

Center for Families and Children-counseling	216-252-5800
Cleveland Metroparks	440-734-6660
Rockport Teen Center	216-623-7053
West Park Coalition Community Lab	216-941-5050
West Park Kiwanis school-based programs	216-252-1364
West Park Branch Library	216-623-7102
Hasani Management gardening program	216-245-5167

## West Park Teen Job Club Get skills to be job ready!

8th-12th graders welcome from all schools  
Wednesdays - 4:30pm to 6pm

Call Vanessa at 216-671-2710 ext. 218 to find out where  
we are meeting each week.

- Explore careers and get hands-on experience
- Get help with job applications, resumes, and interviewing
- Field trips to colleges, workplaces, and more
- Fun, new friends, and food!
- Past job club participants planned a job fair just for teens and most job club participants successfully were employed over the summer.



Here are teens meeting employers at the Summer Job Jumpstart job fair at Gunning Recreation Center.

## Little Free Library opens at RG



Robinson G. Jones welcomes the "Little Free Library" to our community, part of a global program encouraging the promotion of literacy, the love of reading and a sense of community. It is now installed at R.G. Jones's main school entrance on W. 150th Street. Proudly painted by our very own middle school students and parents, the Little Free Library is a "take a book, return a book" honor system, free book exchange where anyone in our school and community may pick up a book or two or bring a book or two to share. And, it's not necessary to return the same books. Everyone contributes to ensure there are always quality books inside the library. We asking for a par-

ent or a community member to take up the role of ensuring the library is always filled with books. We have plenty of books here at the school to last quite a while. If you are interested in this worthwhile position, please call Ms. Cotner at R.G. Jones, (216) 920-7143.



## West Park Elementary & Middle School Directory

Al Ihsan Islamic School	216-676-5006	Puritas Community Middle School	(216) 688-0680
Artemus Ward PreK-8	216-920-7055	Riverside School K-8	216-476-6800
Birchwood School	216-251-2321	Robinson G. Jones PreK-8	216-889-4071
Clara E. Westropp School PreK-8	216-267-3706	St. Mark School	216-521-4115
Douglas MacArthur Girls Leadership Academy Pre-K -8	216-267-5969	Valley View Boys Leadership Academy PreK-8	216-251-3876
Garfield Elementary PreK-8	216-920-7000	West Park Academy	216-251-5450
McKinley School PreK-8	216-251-4175	West Park Community School (Elementary)	216-688-0271
Menlo Park Academy	440-925-6365	West Park Community School (Middle)	216-251-7200
Newton D Baker School of the Arts PreK-8	216-252-2131	West Park Lutheran School	216-941-2770
Our Lady of Angels School	216-251-6841	West Preparatory Academy	216-772-1340
Puritas Community Elementary School	216-688-0680		

## West Park High School Directory

Bard High School Early College	216-838-9700	John Marshall School of Information Technology	216-838-6850
John Marshall 11th & 12th Academy	216-838-6000	St. Joseph's Academy	216-251-6788
John Marshall School of Civic & Business Leadership	216-838-6050	New Tech West High School	216-838-8700
John Marshall School of Engineering	216-838-6100		

### West Park schools show quality and demand

Congratulations are in order to the 7 tuition-free schools that the Cleveland Transformation Alliance (CTA) has rated highest in West Park: Douglas MacArthur Girls' Leadership Academy; Valley View Boys' Leadership Academy; Constellation School's West Park Community Elementary and Middle Schools and its Puritas Elementary School; Robinson G. Jones School; and Menlo Park Academy. MacArthur and Valley View were rated "high-performing" by the CTA and were named 2 of the top 5 tuition-free elementary choices in the city!

In West Park, private and public options, including charters, exist for youth of all ages to get an excellent education close to home. Although the new John Marshall High School Campus with 4 small high schools on-site and the Bard High School Early College campus have not received state test results yet because of their short school histories, we know that there was strong demand for all 4 schools and strong business support for the new schools at the Marshall Campus, before school even started. Bard's freshman class reached its

enrollment cap early and only had a dozen spots for 11th graders open during the summer. John Marshall's three thematic schools: Engineering, Civic and Business Leadership, and Information Technology all were found to be equally popular among students and the 11th & 12th Grade Academy exceeded roster expectations.

Ratings are one piece of the puzzle to consider when choosing a school and [www.ClevelandTA.org](http://www.ClevelandTA.org) has the ratings on all of the public and charter schools in the city and ratings from families to peruse before choosing which schools to research more before enrolling. The site needs parents, guardians, volunteers, and teens to submit reviews of the schools they have experience with in the neighborhood so that families visiting the site can get a grassroots opinion of how each school operates from the ease of a web search.

Families can also call 2-1-1, United Way's First Call for Help, for more information on CTA school ratings.

### The Neighborhood Education Committee (NEC) might be a good fit for you.

**Are you a parent of a school-aged child? A teacher? Someone who cares about education? Someone who cares about the role that schools play in our community and how neighbors relate to schools?**

The NEC is an independent community group in West Park, supported by BPDC through staff time and meeting space. It meets to discuss school issues; hosted sessions in which students, teachers and principals have met and talked to community members; organized a workshop on internet safety; and held gatherings to talk about construction plans for neighborhood schools which have been rebuilt. The committee includes parents and caregivers as well as others affiliated with churches and businesses, and citizens who care about what goes on in our schools.

### All are welcome.

**Usually 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm at BPDC's Mary Kaser Community Room at 14703 Puritas Ave.**

## Shop locally on Lorain

### From Ward 16 resident, Jean Birt-McMillen



Torch True Value Hardware on the corner of W. 137th and Lorain has been a tremendous assistance in many situations for me. From needing copies of my car or house keys made, to changing door handles, needing certain sized nails or screws for a job, or simply replacing screens. They always have whatever I seem to need. I prefer the small shop so I am not overwhelmed when I go looking for something and there is always someone willing to help me. Not like when I go to the major stores and have to spend half an hour waiting to find someone to help me.

I pride myself in shopping locally. I would have to say my favorite place to brag about is the West Park Shell Station on the corner of W. 140th and Lorain Rd. The owner Ernest LaManna Jr. will always greet you with a smile. The service is one of a kind. They go out of their way to explain maintenance requirements for me and I leave there feeling like I know a little bit more about taking care of my car.

If ever I have a certain taste for a wine or need help with a gift choice I know I can go to see Paul or John at Vinny's Beverage Store at the corner of W.136th and Lorain. The selection is immense and they have a wide range in prices. I myself am not a fan of beer but every time I take someone in with me that is they are amazed by the selection offered.

Editor's note:

*Lorain Ave. has new asphalt and the concrete work is mostly done. It will be finished on this end soon, and then the construction will move farther west next construction season. Please take the time to patronize our small businesses during the stressful time of construction and tell them how much you appreciate them.*

*Our streetscape will be beautiful with trees, flowers, new crosswalks, and more beautiful sidewalks, not to mention more bike amenities, bringing our street into the current century that values everybody's mode of transportation, their safety, and convenience. Let's help all of our neighborhood businesses see the finish line so that they can thrive on a new, friendlier street for everyone.*

## Youth at work with Y.O.U.



Tremayne Burton (top right) and Austin Casto (middle right) worked as camp counselors at Riverside Park Estates' summer program along with other with Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.). Y.O.U. also employed Samuel Nunoo (top left)

## Welcoming new principals

West Park is excited to receive an infusion of new, experienced leadership in the mix of Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) schools with 7 new appointments at 7 schools. Please extend a warm welcome to:



**Wendy Rose-Geiling:** Principal Rose-Geiling starts her first year as principal at Newton D. Baker School of the Arts (PreK-8) after two years as a Curriculum Instruction Specialist at Robinson G. Jones and she has 15 years in the district. Her motivation comes from wanting to "execute possibilities for Cleveland kids on a bigger scale as part of [CEO Eric] Gordon's plan and restore faith in the Cleveland schools."

"Our enrollment is up to 390, which is a 50 person increase" and she had no disciplinary actions for over a week. She continued that they are starting new integrated arts program with Center for Arts-Inspired Learning (CAIL) coming in to do curriculum lessons across all grade levels. The Music Settlement in University Circle will do integrated instrument lessons for the primary grades and a key staff member at Music Settlement even enrolled her child at Baker.

The principal was excited that: the dance teacher is back and will be teaching yoga; Michael Fields, a cinematographer will be working with 6-8th graders in entering a district-wide film contest that will integrate contributions from all grade levels; and that Ms. Sherwin is organizing a performance of "The Little Mermaid" for November or December.



**Dawn Imler:** Principal Imler actually started at Garfield School (PreK-8) in February as the assistant principal before starting this year as the principal. She likes the diversity in her student body and "wants to have parents of all cultures and backgrounds to feel welcome" and could use community members' gifts and talents to help translate materials, for one, and to help out, reflecting the diversity of her enrollment. She wants "to discuss their future ambitions with the students." She continues, "I wanted to be a police officer till I found out I'm afraid of the dark. I needed an occupational change! But I HAD an ambition, an aspira-

tion." She wants the community's help in bringing career exposure into the school and in receiving students: at diverse local workplaces on tours and on one-on one "job shadowing for a day" experiences. To meet these goals, she invites the outside community to join a new "parent advisory board" to share expectations for the school from the community and vice versa.

She describes as a "win" the fact that they were projected to have 472 students and therefore lose funds, but because of the marketing they did in the Spring through mailers to students at schools outside the district and activities like a Spring open house, they grew by 25% and now have 600 students and didn't have to cut any staff. The students mostly came from charter schools, so other CMSD schools did not lose students.

Another "win" she is happily anticipating claiming is after 6 years in this new building, their landscape is planning on being changed in order to accommodate more parking and create safer commuting for all students. She also is inspired to beef up the quality of engagement of fathers during the school's Cuyahoga County Father's Walk on September 17th beyond previous year's efforts.



**Chris Myslenski:** Principal Myslenski comes most recently as a principal from Paul Revere School in Cleveland, however he lived in this neighborhood as a boy living with his grandparents near Puritas and W. 174th St. He moved in 2nd grade after attending both Our Lady of Angels and St. Patrick grade schools.

He wants to "take Artemus Ward [PreK-8] to the next Cleveland be a school of excellence" with an "A" on the state report card for his school. He is excited about how highly engaged the parents and community are and how very diverse the community is. He said the "students appear ready to win" and that "staff has come together very well in a professional way."

They are "eager to go the extra mile to achieve our goals, staying till 7pm" some nights to work collaboratively to refine instruction and differentiate instruction for different learners.

Parent leader, Carol Doss, says: "Everybody is pulling together," as even she, as member of the school-parent organization (spo) has stayed till 7pm in committee meetings at the school.

**Cont. on page 8...**

## Investing successfully in homes

In the last 3 fiscal years, private investors have been working with Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation (BPDC) to maximize the occupancy rate in Ward 16 with 40 quality homes for purchase and for rent. One of those investors, Biagio Impala is a three-time customer.

Impala grew up in Old Brooklyn and worked in and around the neighborhood, and so he has a familiarity with the Bellaire-Puritas area. People call him all time to see if he can rent and he doesn't even advertise. "My current tenants must be recommending my properties," he says.

Starting out in the banking industry as a teller, he bought his first home, a double, and rented out half he did not live in. In his twenties, after that first taste of homeownership, he rehabbed 10 Old Brooklyn houses in his spare time.

"Homes of great value became incredible rehab investments" after the housing market crashed in 2008, he explains. The Old Brooklyn houses were great lessons in home repairs, but they also sold for profit, so he contacted the land bank that formed after the crash, who gave him the contact information for BPDC housing director, Toni Jones. Jones has sold 3 homes to Impala with specifications for quality repair on each.

Impala describes a love for the type of neighborhood where he grew up, where knowing your neighbors was a lesson in world cultures and community-living. He misses that sort of close community and found it in Ward 16.

The first home he bought was a house on Brookside, near the police station, so his dad could move out from his apartment and into a home. He has since purchased homes on Bellaire Road and W. 146th St. He is happy that the neighbors have been receptive and helpful; he never feels threatened, even working at night.

He appreciates the high standards that Director Jones gives individuals who want to rehab a BPDC property. He says it costs more money and takes more time. He recommends that if you "do a lot of the work yourself,... [it] makes the investment worth it. I'm doing about \$1000 of work on a bathroom, but it was all materials with no labor cost."

Now that he is established in his career and has a full family life, he does not have as much free time as his twenties, but Impala emphasizes, "If I didn't enjoy I wouldn't do it. That's my motivation. It's not the money."

## Jefferson Park rocked June 8th

The Friends of Jefferson Park pulled off two first-time events in one-day:

1.) Jumpin' at Jefferson, a celebration of basketball with a free youth clinic, cookout, and a teen tournament and



2.) the Inaugural Rock Around the Park Classic Car Show, with live music and these teal beauty winning.



## HOUSING FEEDBACK

I'm interested in:

- e-newsletter about housing
- rental opportunities
- buying a home in this neighborhood
- home repair fair
- taking a homebuyer classes
- volunteering as a Neighborhood Ambassador
- publicizing a story or person

Please contact me \_\_\_\_\_ about my interest(s) at:

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to: 14703 Puritas Ave., Cleveland, OH 44135

Celebrate our neighborhood in all its diversity!

Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation's

# Annual Neighborhood Summit

Wednesday, October 28, 2015  
6-8:30pm

- community group exhibits galore
- neighborhood plans and progress on display
- opportunities to get involved in your neighborhood
- a complimentary light meal will be served to the first 200
- raffles

14040 Puritas Ave., Fogarty Hall at Blessed Trinity Church  
Call Rachel at BPDC for more info or to volunteer or donate:  
216-671-2710 or  
[www.bpdc.org/annual-neighborhood-summit/](http://www.bpdc.org/annual-neighborhood-summit/)

## Clean & Green Trailer

Neighborhood groups can freely borrow the Clean & Green Trailer for neighborhood clean-up efforts, just like the Friends of Jefferson Park did in August right before the Rock Around the Park Classic Car Show. Here three neighborhood volunteers pose weeding the playground surface, and the trailer is shown parked in Jefferson Park awaiting its volunteer landscapers.

[www.npi-cle.org/cleangreen/](http://www.npi-cle.org/cleangreen/) or by calling CNP at 216-830-2770. The trailer is sponsored by Citizen's Bank, formerly Charter One.

If you'd like to join the Friends of Jefferson Park in the care and promotion of the park and the quality of life around the park, contact [FriendsofJeffersonPark@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofJeffersonPark@gmail.com) or call Rachael at 330-635-8047.

The trailer has landscaping tools and supplies for clean-ups and is reservable April through October through Cleveland Neighborhood Progress (CNP). Get more information at



## Get a financial professional in your corner!

Community Financial Centers (CFC) is a network of professionally trained coaches dedicated to financial empowerment by assisting clients to improve personal financial choices, create and execute short-term and long-term financial goals while also finding available resources to achieve their clients' goals.

Topics can include:

- student loan debt,
- budgets
- credit
- banking services, or
- living on a fixed income
- community resources and more.

Call Marne Piccolomini, a financial services manager, at 216-453-0497 to make your free appointment in our neighborhood today. CFC is a project of Cleveland Neighborhood Progress. Find out more at [www.communityfinancialcenters.org](http://www.communityfinancialcenters.org).

## Principals cont...



**Tiffany James:** Although she is returning to John Marshall from a start as principal at the swing site, the 11th & 12th Grade Academy that Ms. James was hired to lead is a new environment academically and physically, amid 3 other academies on the same campus, each with its own principal. She provides some continuity for students who are “returning” for the first time, to W. 140th from attending school at the swing site and the former 9th grade academy at Nathaniel Hawthorne.

In terms of school culture, she said it’s “been so great-with the kids-they’ve been so flexible with learning the new school schedules, and with the class sizes.” The school has moved from an 8 period day with 43 minutes per class to a 4 block schedule so that students take 4 classes each day at 83 minutes each, but every other day is a different set of 4 classes, 8 in total. It is referred to as an A/B schedule.

James is especially excited to host more athletic competitions with their new state of the art gym. She proudly reported the football team is doing well in scrimmages and the boys’ soccer team beat Bedford 3-2 away. She wants “to pack the house” for all the home games and events in the gym this year.



**Sara Kidner:** Principal Kidner brings three years of principal experience at Success Tech to the John Marshall School of Civic and Business Leadership. Previously, she designed the curriculum for the national Cristo Rey Network of Schools served locally at Saint Martin de Porres High School as its Work Study Director, training students in business internships at over 140 companies in Cleveland.

You can follow her on twitter @sarakidner and visit the coffeeshop her students will be opening on campus besides the student-run credit union. She is looking forward to “lots of service-learning, mentors, shadowing, and civic and business leaders helping present curriculum and career paths” during the school day. Her office will coordinate all the campus-wide community engagement and communications.



**Chelsey Cook:** Principal Kidner might be doing communications, but Principal Cook will be coordinating students from her school to do the website and do social media for at least her school as she is the principal of the John Marshall School of Information Technology (IT). Cook previously served as STEM Magnet Coordinator for the San Antonio district. Integrating her science teaching background, she planned and implemented the CodeHS program and earned recognition as not only the second largest, but among the best in the nation.

The School of IT will focus on computer science, which is to say on software knowledge, like “basic coding for things like phone apps and websites” and “bioinformatics, where students will learn about sequencing our genome.” She is offering SnapLab as an extracurricular where “students will work with representatives from the [Cleveland Museum of Art’s west side satellite,] Transformer Station to learn about visual literacy by using photography apps” and she is already partnering with NASA and Hyland Software for more enrichment and career awareness.



**Timothy Primus:** When asked what was a win has been so far, he answered “Opening day. It was perfect.” After being open more than a week, he thinks things are going “pretty good” so far and said: “We’re at capacity. Kids are coming back to Cleveland schools.”



The *Family Matters in West Park* is produced by Bellaire-Puritas Development Corp., a nonprofit serving West Park.

14703 Puritas Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44135  
www.bpdc.org 216-671-2710

Board President, Jackie Kreiger  
Executive Director, Bryan Gillooly  
Editor, Rachel Napolitano

## Young professionals put down roots

This June, for Cleveland Young Professionals Week, United Way of Greater Cleveland Young Leaders recruited young professionals from around Northeast Ohio area to West Park to establish a perennial garden with plenty of pollinator-friendly, native plants at Belleshire Avenue and Bellaire Road, near where Bellaire Road becomes Puritas Avenue. This done-in-a-day project beautifies the path of pedestrians, bus riders at that stop, users of the new bike lanes, and passing traffic. Landscaping Ideas donated their services preparing the land and will continue to mow the traffic island’s grass.

In other young professional news, Michael Schmit, president of the newly-formed West Park Young Professionals (WPYP), has succeeded in organizing the group, which had elections earlier this summer. The group moves its

monthly business meetings around different neighborhood establishments to explore local businesses. WPYP will be organizing opportunities for any young professional to join them in community service to the neighborhood and networking opportunities. They are currently investigating starting benefits and a membership structure to fund their group efforts.

Attendees have expressed pride in the many advantages to living in West Park as young professionals and want to communicate that to their peers in other communities. WPYP have a new logo that says “Connect Participate Strengthen” and will be printing t-shirts soon.

The best way to stay up-to-date with this new group is to follow them on twitter.com/WestParkYP or email the president at westparkyp@gmail.com.



Principal Primus brings 10 years of experience as a Technology Coordinator and Engineering teacher to his new position as Principal of John Marshall School of Engineering. Mr. Primus previously served the Durham Public School District in North Carolina as Assistant Principal before joining the Aspiring

Principal Program at CMSD where he was assigned to New Tech East.

About the School of Engineering, he wrote that students will take part in community service projects and “our art teacher will be working with teachers from Max Hayes to create art that can be displayed throughout the district.”

### I WANT MORE YOUTH/FAMILY INFORMATION

My family is interested in receiving news about:

- youth programs (arts, leadership, job prep, college or career exploration etc.)  
 neighborhood announcements

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

by  e-newsletter at this email: \_\_\_\_\_

by  mail at this address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please target information for youth with the birthdates of (mm/dd/yy)

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Please return form to: 14703 Puritas Ave., Cleveland, OH 44135