Larry Domin

This year’s winter seemed endless, but on this, the first day of spring, the view outside my window gives me hope. Patches of blue have appeared on the white ice covering the lake, and I’m sure I saw a few green sprouts poking their heads from out of the ground. Crocuses, daffodils and tulips will soon be in bloom, and the robins are coming home to roost. A pair of house finches has once again chosen pots of boxwood on our patio trellis in which to build their nests. Maybe I won’t say it too loudly lest I scare away the warming breezes, but I do believe we’ve made it!

Another beautiful spring in Bratenahl is beginning to burst forth, a welcome event after the extremes of this year’s season of snow. By the time you receive this issue, it will be May, and the fullness of spring will be upon us. Take some time to walk along Lakeshore Boulevard to take in the feast of colors in the flowers in bloom and the trees leaved in sun-dappled green. Welcome back the singing birds and the blue lake waves. Say hello to neighbors you may not have seen since last fall. Open the windows and let the fresh air in. The sun shines and the earth is made new, so give yourself the joy of savoring the sweetness of spring here in the beautiful Village of Bratenahl.

In Memoriam

We extend condolences to the families of these village residents who have passed away:

Louinia Mae Whittlesey
William Miskoe
Dorothy “Sis” MacNab
Dr. Robert Benyo
Johanne Irish
Gus Gonzalez

Congratulations to Oliver and Laura Zeltner on the birth of their son, Louis Edward, on January 22. He joins brothers Gus, 7, and Theo, 4, and grandmother Elene, all of Bratenahl.

Support The Foundation

You can help the Bratenahl Community Foundation by either volunteering to assist us with our various projects as a “Friend of the Foundation”, and/or donating tax deductible funds.

Mail to: Bratenahl Community Foundation, c/o One Bratenahl Place, Front Desk, Bratenahl, Ohio 44108-1155

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*Certified Elder Law Attorney (CELA) by the National Elder Law Foundation.

As a Certified Elder Law Attorney, I have devoted my career to defining, promoting, and protecting the legal rights of older adults, and of persons with mental and physical disabilities.

Elder Law
Estate Planning
Asset Protection
Medicaid Planning
Guardianship
Long-Term Care Options
Special Needs Planning

Attorney Janet L. Lowder
Bratenahl Resident

Bratenahl Village
Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt

Was held on Saturday, April 12, 2014
at the Bratenahl Community Center

Published by the Bratenahl Community Foundation
Featured Artist: Jennie Jones

Jennie Jones was born in Denver, Colorado. She attended the Layton School of Art in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the Colorado Springs Fine Art Center and was graduated from Northwestern University with a BA in art history. She was on the education staff of the Milwaukee Art Center for 11 years and was an active art volunteer during her several moves to Milwaukee, Chicago, Boston and Detroit. Arriving in Cleveland in 1978, she established her own photographic studio in 1983. Her work was juried into the bicentennial book, Images From The Heart in 1996. She published two books of her work on Cleveland in 1986 and 1991. Recent projects include Paradise in the City, Cleveland Botanical Garden in 2005, A Place Apart, Bratenahl, Ohio in 2007 and Surgeon – Craftman: Lawrence Knight Groves, M.D. in 2008. She is well known for her architectural photography including the construction of TRW, Inc., Tower City Center, Key Tower, Gateway and the Cleveland Botanical Gardens. Her images have appeared in World Architecture, Inland Architect, Forbes and Fortune Magazine as well as local publications. She has participated in many group and one-man shows and was juried into the 1993 May Show. Her work is in numerous private and corporate collections including Progressive, The Cleveland Clinic and University Hospital. She received the 2003 Golden Achievement Award for the Arts from the Golden Age Centers. In December of 2006 she was given an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree from Cleveland State University. In 2009 she donated her entire collection of some 22,000 Cleveland images to the Cleveland State University Library, Special Collections. She served on the Board of the Cleveland Arts Prize and the Cleveland Institute of Art. Jennie Jones is a juried member of the Artist Archives of the Western Reserve. She served on the national board of ASMP and is a life member. Her life's work was published in 2011 by Orange Frazer Press as a coffee table book, Cleveland Inside Outside. She is the lead photographer for a celebratory book to announce the completion of the Cleveland Museum of Art project and their 100th Anniversary. The publication will be released in May of 2014.

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Come See Amazing Notes from the Cleveland Museum of Art

Christine Domin
Walking Tour (continued) Gallery 223
Modern European Painting
Pablo Picasso and Fernand Leger

It’s remarkable how life imitates art – or is it the other way around? The main story in the news for weeks has been the disappearance of Malaysian Airlines Flight 370. Catastrophic aviation events, though extremely rare, both fascinate and horrify us. People fly all day, and everyday, for granted a safe journey. Back in 1920, Fernand Leger created a painting mirroring his wonder and confidence in modern machinery. Take a look at his painting The Aviator, hanging in this gallery. The subject is an airplane. Brightly colored geometric shapes mimic the whirring propeller that allows the miracle of flight. It looks like a giant jigsaw puzzle under the control of a slickly confident pilot, comfortable that technology will work together in well-oiled, synchronized harmony...

Until it doesn’t

We may never know what happened to Flight 370. Experts believe it crashed into the waters of the Indian Ocean. Now that hope of rescue for the plane has been lost, the coverage has turned to the bereaved relatives. Pablo Picasso provides the visual shorthand of what these grieving people are feeling. On the north wall of this gallery hangs an enormous, vertical painting done entirely in shades of drab, blue-grey entitled La Vie (Life) and painted during Picasso’s somber Blue Period. The enigmatic scene shows an old woman, holding a sleeping infant in her arms. Across from her stands a young couple, arms entwined, with expressions of unfathomable loss on their faces. Elsewhere, crouching figures bury their heads in their hands. The mood is gloomy, full of a nameless sorrow that hangs over the whole canvas. Artists believe Picasso was responding to the personal tragedy of a friend’s suicide, but the painting has taken on an allegorical quality. In the heartbreak these figures convey, each of us recognizes a time, a moment, when we, too, were weighed down by loss or felt the pain of separation – the price we pay for “la vie”, for life on this planet. In giving us the visual logos of tragedy, Picasso’s art has provided a companion for those moments of loss we all must face.

In 1964, Skeeter Davis gave musical voice to what we see in La Vie:

Why do the birds go on singing?
Why do the stars glow above?
Don’t they know it’s the end of the world –
It ended when you said goodbye.

On view at the Cleveland Museum of Art through May 25
Van Gogh Repetitions through May 18
Our Stories: African American Prints and Drawings through June 8
Treasuries on Paper (CMA prints and drawings through June 29
Beijing: Photographs by Lois Conner

The Bratenahl Historical Society
Johanne A. Irish was born on March 6, 1930 in Utica, NY., the daughter of Virgil D. Allen and Margaret Wight Allen. After high school, Johanne became a sociology major at Lake Erie College, an all-girls school, and while there met Charles F. Irish Jr., an arboriculture student attending Ohio State University, and an amateur midget race car driver. After graduating college, Johanne got a job working at the Cleveland Clinic in the eye department, and Charles “Bud” Irish went off to fight in the Korean War. After Korea, Bud returned home injured, having lost an eye, and his dream of becoming a professional race car driver was lost forever. Eventually Bud contacted Johanne and asked to get together for old times’ sake. They were married in 1955.

Soon Johanne was giving birth to children, and the new Irish family included two sons and two daughters: Tim (1956), Margaret (1959), Charles Ill(1960), and Elizabeth (1963). In November of 1963, the young Irish family moved to Bratenahl, at the corner of Lakeshore Blvd. and Garfield Lane, into what had been a carriage house of the old Cottingham Estate. The Irishes, including their children, spent decades working hard to convert this old storage facility into a beautiful estate.

A group in Bratenahl was formed to keep the Bratenahl school system separate from the Cleveland City Schools. It was called the Bratenahl Residents Action Committee, or BRAC, and Johanne served as its first president. In 1966, she was elected and re-elected as a Bratenahl councilwoman, and she spent countless hours on the phone and in meetings with mayors Bill Klein and Dick McKeon, and city engineer Seymour Weiss.

Bud died in 1999, and Johanne’s last term as councilwoman ended in 2002. A few years later, Johanne become active in the reorganization of the Bratenahl Historical Society and was its treasurer until her death.

Johanne died February 14, 2015. She is survived by her four grown children, all married, and 8 grandchildren, one deceased. Her energy, enthusiasm, sense of humor, stubbornness, and hard work were legendary. Her legacy in the village of Bratenahl will long be remembered.

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Obituary: Johanne Irish
CLEVELAND: “CHANDELIER CITY?”

Jeanne Emser Schultz

Remember past Cleveland slogans: “The Forest City.” “Best Location in the Nation,” “Cleveland’s a Plum” and “Cleveland Rocks”? While those descriptions are now mothballed in favor of the new branding (‘This Is Cleveland’), don’t be surprised if, by default, we are soon referred to as “The Chandelier City!”

May 2nd PlayhouseSquare “dazzled the district,” officially unveiling four welcoming gateways, colorful digital marquees, news boards, tickers, improved district lighting and a spectacular 48 ft. sign atop the Cowell & Hubbard Building it with 900 LED bulbs that shouts “PlayhouseSquare!!!” Not since spring of 1921, when four of PlayhouseSquare’s historic theaters debuted within a mere 96 days, has PlayhouseSquare seen such transformation.

But the piece de resistance is the dramatic General Electric Chandelier…20 feet tall, boasting more than 4200 crystals (each crystal requiring 20 minutes to be strung by hand) and suspended 44 feet in the air above Euclid Avenue overlooking the theaters. Having now set a Guinness Record as “the world’s largest outdoor chandelier,” look for the soon-to-be-iconic site to become a major tourist photo opp. (One local gal has already hired a photographer to shoot her engagement photos with the chandelier and PlayhouseSquare sign as background.)

Taking this grandiose district improvement plan to completion was no easy task. Ask PlayhouseSquare’s Vice President of Facilities & Capital, Tom Einhouse, who traveled to Montreal to oversee the chandelier creators meet the challenges of wind, notes, “We are taking a cue from Disney…they regularly power the flatter surface for their webbed feet, and PlayhouseSquare will use stainless steel wiring, would create a more weatherproof fixture. Testing also revealed that in lieu of using actual “crystals,” strands to the design, helping to stabilize the chandelier in heavy wind. Heating the chandelier was first considered, but dropped for reasons of the new branding (“This Is Cleveland”), don’t be surprised if, by default, we are soon referred to as “The Chandelier City!”

Outside,” the GE Chandelier now echoes the grandeur of the “inside” of PlayhouseSquare’s historic venues. The boarding up of the Ohio, State, Allen & Palace theaters in the ’60s found some of the original chandeliers sold to other venues or “lost.” The theaters’ restoration required many grand chandeliers to be purchased….some from the shuttered Hippodrome Theater, some from Pittsburgh’s Ertlanger Theater. Fortunately, the five original chandeliers in the Palace Lobby (made of Czechoslovakian crystals on solid brass) had remained untouched.

While the giant LED Playhouse Square sign, gateways and GE Chandelier are the “wow factors”, they are elements of a larger package for added neighborhood vibrancy and foot traffic. Those elements have included the opening of several new eateries to serve the district as well as the long-desired residential aspect. The latter was realized last summer as the Hanna Annex Building at E. 14th and Prospect welcomed its first occupants to 106 rental units…all of which rented before the building even opened, and currently boast a wait list.

This new district design for PlayhouseSquare has been in the works since the early ’90s, with the redesign of Star Plaza one of the earlier completed projects. The idea of a chandelier somewhere in the district was tossed around from year-to-year, but only became a serious consideration a year ago.

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Village People: Dr. Ted Westbrook, staff neurologist at University Hospitals and Bratenahl resident.

Christine Domín

1. When did you know you wanted to become a doctor?

I always knew from the time I was a child that I wanted to help people. But the piece de resistance is the dramatic General Electric Chandelier…20 feet tall, boasting more than 4200 crystals (each crystal requiring 20 minutes to be strung by hand) and suspended 44 feet in the air above Euclid Avenue overlooking the theaters. Having now set a Guinness Record as “the world’s largest outdoor chandelier,” look for the soon-to-be-iconic site to become a major tourist photo opp. (One local gal has already hired a photographer to shoot her engagement photos with the chandelier and PlayhouseSquare sign as background.)

2. How did you happen to pick neurology as a subspecialty of medicine?

I was a radio ham as a teenager, and as a result neurology made a lot of sense to me. It was another, but different wiring diagram to apply to the clinical situation facing the doctor and the patient.

3. Did any other careers cross your mind?

Electrical engineering, newspaper reporting (I have read the NY Times since age 12 and was editor of my high school newspaper), foreign service officer, and professional historian.

4. Why did you pick medicine?

It is a tremendously satisfying area as you can be a lifelong professional student, and, as a result can help people, contribute to the patient’s comfort and enhance the knowledge of the next generation of doctors. I always knew from the time I was a child that I wanted to help people. But the piece de resistance is the dramatic General Electric Chandelier…20 feet tall, boasting more than 4200 crystals (each crystal requiring 20 minutes to be strung by hand) and suspended 44 feet in the air above Euclid Avenue overlooking the theaters. Having now set a Guinness Record as “the world’s largest outdoor chandelier,” look for the soon-to-be-iconic site to become a major tourist photo opp. (One local gal has already hired a photographer to shoot her engagement photos with the chandelier and PlayhouseSquare sign as background.)

5. You are going to retire in December. Won’t you be bored?

Never! I have too many interests.

6. Such as?

Reading history and political science, photography, music, art, travel, and learning not to be afraid of those short irons. Maybe I can find 10 strokes in 18 holes around the green! Think Big!

7. A Renaissance Man!

Early in life I realized that learning is fun. Education is a lifelong pursuit. Reading is a journey in new ideas. I have had a life-long interest in German history, politics, and culture, and why such great contributors to the world’s culture went so far astray politically and humanistically from 1933 to 1945. What prevents or enhances its happening again and in other cultures? I considered majoring in German history, but in my college the area required full immersion to a degree similar to that needed in medicine. History became a hobby.

8. Why Photography?

I enjoy capturing the beauty of nature in unique ways. Bratenahl and Cleveland are a great source for pictures, seeing something in a different light and way as to make it an artistic statement.

9. And Music?

My father was a great influence on my love of music. I own a couple of hundred CDs that were not yet available in his time. He said to ‘check out Mahler’, and I did. I love him to this day. Richard Strauss is a favorite, but so are composers like Dvorak, Wagner, Schnittke, Mozart, a large opera collection, and many more modern composers. While not religious, I find religious music to be glorious and exhilarating.

10. And you were a sailor?

As a family we raced a 21-foot keel sailboat that I rebuilt in my back yard in Cleveland Heights, and my wife, Susie, was great crew. We then had a 34-foot Tartan sloop for several years. I have spent a large amount of time on the water and was an oarsman in college on an undefeated crew three years running. I rowed again at Herley in 2010 in an old man’s exhibition boat with six of us from the original crew. I still have a rowing machine in my apartment, and I think that it has kept me alive and well longer.

11. What are the biggest issues facing healthcare in the United States today?

It is incredible that the United States does not have universal health care system as do all of the other leading nations of the world. Illness should not expose people to bankruptcy, and we need to have continuous coverage, not employer-based insurance that evaporates when the patient becomes disabled. Exorbitant costs, an inefficient and uneven delivery system, and greed are issues that bedevil healthcare and make the present system of delivery unsustainable. It is a fractured mess that we don’t fully appreciate, given our access to excellent care and facilities in the Cleveland area.

12. What brought you to Bratenahl?

I had an epiphany with a paint brush, had had enough of house maintenance and threatened to go back to New York! Bratenahl with its wonderful views of the water, its green space, its location, and many other more modern composers. While not religious, I find religious music to be glorious and exhilarating.

It will be fun.

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It will be fun.
Bratenahl
BYGONE

LOCH HAME
Bill Beckenbach

Liberty Emery Holden acquired the old Charles Bratenahl farm in 1892 in an unusual transaction. It was purchased from William Gordon the day after Gordon acquired the property from A. W. Fairbanks. The Holdens summered in a frame home on the property before deciding to convert it into their in-town residence. Redesigned by Charles Schweinfurth, the sandstone-clad 34-room manor house was completed in 1896. The house was built to accommodate the Holdens’ seven children, five of whom elected to follow their parents out to the country. The Holdens had spent $500,000 on the construction of the Tudor House. The Holden home was razed in 1956 to accommodate the Nike missile base.

Liberty Holden was born June 20, 1833 on a small farm in Raymond, Maine. He was a member of the Mayflower Society and the Sons of the American Revolution and took great pleasure in tracing the growth of the Holden family in America from its earliest days in the mid seventeenth century. A two-volume genealogical register of all Holdens who could trace their ancestry back to the original settlers in the New World was eventually commissioned.

After two years as superintendent of Tiffin Ohio schools, Holden moved to Cleveland in 1862 to study law and invest in real estate. Mineralogy studies occupied much of his spare time in order to acquire an understanding of the mining business. In 1873 he began investing in mining properties, iron in the Lake Superior region and silver in Utah.

Holden purchased the Plain Dealer from William W. Armstrong in 1885. After buying out the Herald in association with the Leader the morning Plain Dealer was launched.

Holden also owned the Hollenden Hotel and was largely responsible, as president of the building committee, for the construction of the Cleveland Museum of Art and its adjacent setting of Wade Park and Rockefeller Park. Holden was president of the Union Club of Cleveland, and Mayor of Bratenahl Village.

Holden died August 26, 1913 in Mentor, Ohio and was buried in Lake View Cemetery. His widow moved to California. Holden Thayer.

The following list covers the actual sources referenced in the text:


EDWINS Restaurant at Shaker Square
French menu and dining with a cause
Mary Ellen Carney

When EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute opened its doors at Shaker Square Nov. 1, 2013, it would not only be the opening of a chic new dining spot with classic French cuisine, but also the culmination of a dream for its founder, Brandon Chrostowski.

The accomplished chef, sommelier and former GM of L’Abattoirs, has created a new gem in the Cleveland dining scene. He has also created a learning environment for previously incarcerated citizens returning to the community. EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute is a non-profit with a mission to give those returning citizens a foundation in the hospitality industry, while providing a support network necessary for successful re-entry to life outside prison.

EDWINS is equal parts learning academy and bright new dining venue serving classic French food combined with a mid-western sensibility. The menu boasts such classics as steak au poivre with green peppercorn sauce, salad nicoise and, of course, crème brûlée for dessert; but there’s also some wonderful culinary departures, such as a rabbit pie with a parmesan and prosciutto crust, roasted venison with chestnuts, spatzle, and braised cabbage and a salad of mixed field greens with warm McKenzie Creamery goat cheese, figs, pears and a champagne vinaigrette.

The vibe in the newly refurbished space, is sleek and sophisticated with a Parisian style, yet still welcoming and without pretense. Walls in deep blue slate, vintage art nouveau posters, lush suede banquettes and a cozy fireplace all make you feel like you’ve just stepped off the Rue Chambon for a quick bite after shopping.

This new establishment is an unlikely mix of classic cuisine, top-tier table service, and a very worthy social cause. EDWINS is the only white tablecloth restaurant in the country to employ formerly incarcerated employees in the kitchen and the “front of the house” for service. The endeavor is supported by a host of local foundations and donors who believe in EDWINS’ mission. That includes Social Venture Partners, The Abington Foundation, The Fowler Family Foundation, The Cleveland Foundation and St. Luke’s Foundation.

EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute is located at 13101 Shaker Square Cleveland, OH 44120; Telephone 216-921-3333; www.edwinsrestaurant.org
Around The World In Two Weeks
Nancy Goble
I feel like I have been on a world tour. The International Film Fest had 185 films from 68 countries. There were movies about family life, there were documentaries, films about environmental issues, animal habitat, and sexual preferences, just to name a few.
I saw a Venezuelan movie "The Longest Distance", it was a film on family issues. After some films, there was a discussion time. One of the main characters was present for this movie; and he made the story so personal about the country he loved. He talked briefly about all the problems that Venezuela is now facing.
Now after seeing the movie, we all fell in love with his country. We were all in tears.
The movie "Fragile Trust: Plagiarism, Power and Jayson Blair" was a documentary about the New York Times. There are many who read this newspaper religiously. They might remember the name Jayson Blair and how he single-handedly could have brought this paper down. He was a young talented, respected name Jayson Blair and how he single-handedly could have plagiarized from other reporters. The top two directors were released as well as Jayson. And there were many questions available. As Ted and I were waiting for the ceremonies to begin, we were talking to a proud mom. Her son wrote "The Saxman" and liked Maurice's story so much that he quit his job three years ago to work on the film.
The crowd erupted when "The Saxman" won its category, and the director came up on stage. Maurice also came up on stage and thanked his dad who had been a professional jazz player. He played "Take Me Out to the Ballgame". The crowd erupted again.
Another winner for the evening was the director of "Matt Shepard is a Friend of Mine." This movie told the story of the 1998 murder of Matt because of his sexual preference while in college and all the work that was done to pass the Congressional Hate Crime and Prevention Act. Matt's parents were there on stage, and his dad said a few words about forgiveness and acceptance. Everyone had tears in their eyes. No better way to end the 38th Cleveland International Film Festival.

Some New Books at the Cleveland Public Library
Patricia Lowrey
FICTION:
The Accident by Chris Pavone
An intelligent and fast-paced thriller from the author of The Expats.
Still Life with Bread Crumbs: a novel by Ann Quindlen
An engaging tale of a broked, 60-year-old New York woman living in a cabin in the country.
An Officer and a Spy: a novel by Robert Harris
A master of suspenseful historical fiction returns with a fresh treatment of the infamous Dreyfus Affair.
A Star for Mrs. Blake: A novel by April Smith
A lovely, tender story of five mothers who travel to France to visit the graves of their sons who were killed in WWI.
Delicious!: A novel by Ruth Reichl
Former restaurant critic and editor of Gourmet magazine has written her first novel. A small but pivotal part of the story takes place in Cleveland.

Non Fiction:
The Smithsonian's History of America in 101 Objects
by Richard Kurin
A master of suspenseful historical fiction returns with a fresh treatment of the infamous Dreyfus Affair.
The Triple Package: How Three Unlikely Traits Explain the Rise and Fall of Cultural Groups in America
by Amy Chua and Jed Rubenfeld
A provocative sociological study exploring the idea that certain groups that possess the traits of a superiority complex, insecurity, and impulsive control achieve higher levels of success than others.

How to Be the World's Smartest Traveler (and Save Time, Money, and Hassle)
by Christopher Elliott
Lots of great travel advice from a real expert.
PROGRAMS AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER

Club 55
Third Tuesday of every month at 10 am

Yoga
Sundays and Monday 10 am
Wed eve @6:30 pm

Pottery
Tuesdays at 6 pm

Knitting
First and third Tuesday of the month 5-8 pm

Weight Room
Open daily

Internet Café
Open daily

Zumba Classes
Tuesday and Thursdays 6-7:30 pm

NEW COMMUNITY CENTER HOURS
New hours for the Community Center are as follows:
Monday-Friday 11am to 8:30 pm
Saturdays 9 am to 5 pm (except for special events)
Sundays  Closed (except for special events)

NOTE:
Club 55 events held on Tuesdays at 10 am will continue at the regular 10 am time slot
Yoga classes will continue at the regularly scheduled time slots
ZUMBA CLASSES BEGINNING IN APRIL (Tuesdays and Thursday 6-7:30 pm)

Join Cassandra Davis and friends the first and third Tuesdays of the month for a social evening of knitting. Beginners and seasoned knitters all welcome. For more information contact instructor Cassandra Davis

Bratenahl Fireworks Will Light Up the Sky
Thursday, July 3rd / Raindate- July 5th

Mark your calendars for Thursday, July 3rd for the annual Independence Day celebration. There will be live music, food and kiddie rides. Don’t miss this great Bratenahl tradition. Look for your free food coupons, which will be mailed out to everyone. Coupons will be on the back of the event flyer.

Anyone wishing to walk or ride bikes in the parade is welcome.

CALLING ALL KIDS… Don’t forget to decorate your bikes and ride them in the parade. Dress up your dogs and bring them along too!

Bratenahl Community Center, 10300 Brighton Road

MILEAGE AFFAIRS

Bratenahl Parks & Recreation Department

Bratenahl Community Center, 10300 Brighton Road

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The View from Village Hall

Mayor John Licastro

As spring blooms grace our beautiful community, we can all breathe a sigh of relief in having survived one of the worst winters in Ohio history. Although hard hit, we managed to avoid some of the worst storms. Nonetheless, we are all ready for nicer weather.

The interaction that Bratenahl has with various public entities often goes unnoticed. We have a weekly dialogue with the City of Cleveland, with whom we have a fire protection and EMS contract. Mayor Frank Jackson and I also have a personal rapport.

ODOT has two projects in Bratenahl. One is the Eddy Road bridge replacement, which will be complete in October of this year. The other is the resurfacing of Lakeshore Blvd at the east end of the Village.

NEORSD has the “Big Dig” underway, which is constructing underground tunnels to collect polluted storm water for treatment before being discharged into Lake Erie. This project is causing a major headache for our east end residents. We must monitor the activity daily.

First Energy has an electrical substation at the end of Colt Road. The upgrade of this station played a major factor in how we avoided any power outages over the winter. It took two years of interaction to complete this project. We are on a first-name basis with most of the hierarchy of this company.

Dominion East Ohio Gas, Cleveland Police, the Cleveland Division of Water, Allied Waste, Cuyahoga County officials and The Board of Elections are also entities with which we have interaction on a regular basis. As Chairman of the Northeast Ohio Mayors and City Managers Association, I am involved with Mayors across the region and with the Ohio General Assembly, both State Representatives and Senators.

All of the above is done as a matter of due course and for the betterment of Bratenahl.

In closing, a quick note on dissension. Our country was built on the right to dissent. We acknowledge various points of view. All we ask is that the truth is spoken with respect for one another. To quote John Lennon, “But when you talk about destruction, don’t you know that you can count me out…” The effort it takes to attack and tear down can also be channeled into an effort to be constructive and helpful. Passion can take manifest itself differently. Let’s take that shared passion and work together to make Bratenahl a better place to live.

We hope to see you at our meetings. I close, as always, with the refrain from Bratenahl’s school song:

…but she is the best, the very best, all Hail to Bratenahl!

The Bratenahl Community Foundation extends an invitation to the Mayor and all Village Council members and committee chairs to submit articles. Those that are received are published unedited in the Lamplighter as a community service. The views, positions and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Foundation.

Public Improvements Committee Report

Mary Beckenbach

The $3,000,000.00 project for the noise barrier replacement on I-90 in the Village of Bratenahl, including the proposed new noise barrier on the bridge over East 106th Street, is scheduled to begin in March 2016 and conclude in October 2016. The project extends from East 140th St. to the DCMA property at the western end of the Village. The material will be a buff color fiberglass with a ten-year warranty from ODOT. ODOT will repaint the fiberglass panels every 15 years. The current posts are a minimum of 10 feet below ground for support and will remain to support the new panels. The portion of the posts above ground will be covered by fiberglass to match the panels. The other element of the project is to replace the concrete wall structure at the end of Coit Road so that the Village has a uniform appearance.

In 2001 the need for the sound wall was apparent to those who lived in Bratenahl. The sound from the Shoreway was extreme, but there weren’t enough homes to have ODOT pay for the installation. Haskell homes were constructed after the 1970s and following the I90 construction. Although Haskell Homeowners were affected by the sound, the development was not considered because of the ODOT date of construction requirement for a sound wall. Several petitions were signed by the residents urging ODOT to erect the sound wall to no avail. After exhausting all options, Council and then Mayor McKeon opted to erect the sound wall at Village expense. Not only was sound mitigation a concern, but then Mayor Campbell of Cleveland had presented a plan to turn the Shoreway into a boulevard and open the cut off streets. That, if it had happened, would have opened Coit Road south-bound into Cleveland.

The current cost to the Village for the Coit Road replacement has been estimated at approximately $225,000.00. We have two years to plan and financially prepare for this sound wall replacement expenditure. If the Village were to wait and replace the concrete wall with the proposed fiberglass installation at a later date the cost born by the Village would be substantially more. The Mayor’s office is planning to investigate the possibility of a low interest loan for the Coit Road wall replacement. The Public Improvements Committee has been discussing this project with ODOT for 3 years. Five of six members of Council are pleased with the proposed project and are looking forward to our continued working relationship with ODOT.

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Public Safety Committee Report
Jim Pufferenberger, Chair

Nothing is more important to our unique community than the safety and the security of its residents, its employees and most certainly our Police Force. Although an outstanding Department with accomplished leadership, it is imperative we provide them with the tools to safely, efficiently and effectively carry out their duties. It is equally important that we attract and retain, as with any entity public or private, the best personnel we can.

To that end, in the short three-month period since the beginning of the year, the Public Safety Committee (now consisting of Mary Beechenbach, Marla Murphy and myself) has addressed a number of challenges and opportunities. The Committee unanimously supported the purchase of new body cameras for each officer that can record the surrounding environment and activities of suspected perpetrators, even when the officers are out of their vehicles, in order to more effectively document criminal activity and expedite convictions. These cameras have been deployed and you will notice them as our officers make their rounds in the Village. Some new body armor was supplied by a grant secured by the Police Department.

Finally, the Committee has reopened discussions begun some time ago regarding the placement of security cameras at strategic locations in the Village. Committee members unanimously agreed, as experienced by surrounding communities, this project has the potential to solve crimes more expeditiously, improve safety and provide residents and visitors the impression of a higher level of security in line with our efforts to more effectively market the Village of Bratenahl. Although an early proposal was deemed by the current Committee to be too expensive, the Department and the Committee continue to look for more cost effective options. The Public Safety Committee will typically meet the first Tuesday of each month and I invite all interested parties to attend and participate. Watch for postings for alternative and special meeting dates and times.

Because fiscal responsibility is paramount, the Committee recommended and Council approved an ordinance requiring reimbursement of certain expenditures should a police employee separate within a short time period after training. This is a policy adopted from that of many area municipalities.

Finally, Eighty New Trees Are Here

We can now breathe a sigh of relief that every compromised right-of-way tree (142 in all) has totally left town! Thanks to Jason Knowles, our urban forest consultant, each and every tree in the public right-of-way was inspected and removed if it was dying, diseased or decaying. Stumps were ground, and wood chips are stored at the Service Department and earmarked for another STC project this spring.

Finally, Eighty New Trees Are Here

We are so appreciative of the Mayor and Council for approving additional funding so we can plant 80 new shade trees throughout the Village this spring. Not only are they diverse and some very unique for our urban forest, they were selected specifically for underwire plantings, no wire plantings, and sandy or clay soil structures. Also, because so many people love to walk in the Village, special care was taken to select flowering trees as well.

Have a Tree Question?

After contacting the Shade Tree Commission, we all discussed options for improving the particular location by their lakeside home. Based on their appreciation of trees and wanting to keep consistency along the right-of-way, they offered to purchase and plant a fifteen foot London Planetree platanus X acerifolia. Installation was last October and with the generous donation we were able to create a new restricted fund. The Board of Commissioners wishes to thank Karl Miller of the Village of Bratenahl for the continued “greening” of our urban canopy.

Because fiscal responsibility is paramount, the Committee recommended and Council approved an ordinance requiring reimbursement of certain expenditures should a police employee separate within a short time period after training. This is a policy adopted from that of many area municipalities.

As a new council person, a startling revelation to me was the fact that, in certain areas of our community, Police personnel encounter “dead zones” where they may be out of radio contact even while, for example, performing a traffic stop as a result of an outdated radio system. This is very obviously unacceptable and places our officers in unnecessarily unsafe conditions. As a result, an effort is underway by the Department in cooperation with Council, to secure funding, potentially through Federal Government support, to replace personal Police radios for all of the officers within the village.

The Bratenahl Shade Tree Commission is pleased to announce the national Tree City USA award was once again given to our Village for the fifth consecutive year. The organization recognizes those communities that have a sound urban forestry management program, a tree board and other specific parameters. If you have not noticed, a vibrant Tree City flag hangs under Old Glory in front of Village Hall.

Tree Fund Donation

One of our newest residents noticed an area on their tree lawn that had a decayed stump and very little curb appeal. After contacting the Shade Tree Commission, we all discussed options for improving the particular location by their lakeside home. Based on their appreciation of trees and wanting to keep consistency along the right-of-way, they offered to purchase and plant a fifteen foot London Planetree platanus X acerifolia. Installation was last October and with the generous donation we were able to create a new restricted fund. The Board of Commissioners wishes to thank Karl Miller of the Village of Bratenahl for the continued “greening” of our urban canopy.

Finally, All Those Trees Are Gone

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About the Lamplighter...
Contributions from the community welcomed and appreciated!
Please email BCFLamplighter@gmail.com for schedule. 400 words or less.
Photos also welcome.
The mission of the Lamplighter is to publish an informative and reliable community
newspaper to inform Villagers of community events, examine issues, encourage
participation in community affairs and promote positive achievements.

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Lamplighter Advertising Rates

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Non-profits - 50% discount, please discuss with Advertising Coordinator - Nancy Goble
Discount 10% if pre-pay 4 editions (1 year)
All ad space must be approved by the Advertising Coordinator in order to ensure availability of space.
Payment must be received at least 2 weeks prior to anticipated publication.
Mail payments to Nancy Goble, Ad Coordinator, 77 Haskell Dr, Bratenahl, OH 44108. For questions please call Nancy (216.681.0026) or email: tnngoble@gmail.com.
Once space is approved, please send final ads to jim@murphygroup.com.
Technical questions - please call Jim Murphy: 216.226.5331.

Prices are for camera-ready ads. Ads sent via email as digital PDF, jpeg, and tiff files are simply placed into the publication at the size purchased.
Ad design is available at an additional cost, privately, through Jim Murphy - call to discuss and to get pricing: 216.226.5331.

Light Up The Night Dance Party
Was held at the Bratenahl Community Center Gym
Saturday, March 1st
Richard Anthony Inc. and Absolute Contracting Inc. have been in business over 20 years. Eighteen of those years of service has been dedicated in working for the village of Bratenahl/Service Department and its residents.

We have been the company of choice for those clients who are looking for:

- Custom Estate Entrances
- Erosion Control and Hydro Seeding
- Irrigation (Water Smart Systems)
- Landscape Designs and Creative Installation
- Outdoor Lighting
- Stone Work (Patios, Walkways & Bridges)