



# South *Euclid* magazine

Fall 2018

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**Mayor**

Georgine Welo

**2018 City Council**

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Jason Russell, Council President Pro-Tem, At-Large  
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Joe Frank, Ward 2  
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Jane Goodman, Ward 4  
Ruth Gray, Ward 1

**Editor**

Keith Ari Benjamin  
Director of Community Services

South Euclid Magazine is a quarterly publication of the City of South Euclid. We are looking for interesting South Euclid people and places to profile in upcoming issues. If you have any story ideas, please share them with us by contacting Keith Benjamin at 216.691.4234 or kbenjamin@seuclid.com.

Special thanks to resident Jean Nadeau for her editing and proofreading expertise!

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Mayor Georgine Welo  
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# Welcome to the fall edition of South Euclid Magazine!

## Ensuring Fiscal Responsibility

Our role as public servants is to work to improve the lives of the people we are working for and protect the places we call home. In South Euclid we have worked together as a community to weather the recessionary storm, housing and foreclosure crisis and major funding cuts from the State of Ohio. But local governments like South Euclid are still nursing a hangover from the recession, continuing funding cuts from the State and rising costs to provide critical city services.

Because of the constant cuts to our funding we have only been able to maintain services, and not look at long-term and quality-of-life investments that we need to keep South Euclid moving forward in a positive direction – with better services that keep and attract new residents.

Over the years we have come to residents to help fund temporary, “Band-Aid” approaches in the hopes that the State would reverse their reductions and return Local Government Fund dollars to South Euclid and all Ohio cities.

Unfortunately, the Governor and State Legislature have made it very clear that those funds will not be returning, and as a result, we need to find a more permanent solution to solidifying our tax base so that we can keep South Euclid a great place to live, work, play, raise a family and retire.

## About the Issue 94 Income Tax Levy

Continuing difficult financial conditions pose challenges to local governments to continue levels of service with reduced resources. This is why we are asking residents to consider Issue 94, a .05% income tax levy this November to help ensure that we can maintain your excellent city services and finally begin long-term planning on how we can reinvest and revitalize our parks, public properties and key commercial corridors.

This is the first time we have asked residents to consider an income tax increase in over 12 years – and it is critical to keeping South Euclid and your housing investment strong and stable (The proposed increase will not impact retirees and those receiving pensions and social security).

If the levy is successful, we will be able to take more permanent steps to plan for future critical community

**City council and the administration take our fiduciary responsibilities very seriously and understand that we must deliver our residents the core services and quality of life programs we all need to reside in a safe, healthy and vibrant community.**

investments, and hopefully even be able to eventually phase out the three-year Safety Levy. Please see pages 6-9 for more information about the upcoming Issue 94.

## Transparency and Our Open Checkbook

City council and the administration take our fiduciary responsibilities very seriously and understand that we must deliver our residents the core services and quality of life programs we all need to reside in a safe, healthy and vibrant community. We have also been transparent in making sure that residents have access to how we are spending your tax dollars, which is why the City’s checkbook is online and all residents have easy access to see how we are spending your hard-earned tax dollars. Please visit [www.southeuclid.ohiocheckbook.com](http://www.southeuclid.ohiocheckbook.com) at any time to see how your tax dollars are being spent.

Local government accountability is not about politics. No matter our political affiliations, in our small suburb we all have a responsibility to be fiscally responsible and accountable to the citizens we serve. As your Mayor I promise that we will continue to keep South Euclid a safe, healthy and great place to live, raise a family and own a business. By working together, being innovative and implementing new best practices, South Euclid will remain a community where we can all come together and thrive.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me at [Mayor@SEuclid.com](mailto:Mayor@SEuclid.com) or 216-381-0400 if you have any questions or suggestions to make our home a better place to live, work and play!

***Have a safe, happy and healthy holiday season and best wishes for a great new year!***

***With gratitude,  
Georgine***



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## OHIO'S CUTS ARE HARMING COMMUNITIES

Cuts by the State of Ohio to the local government fund and estate tax have plagued Ohio's municipalities for the past 8 years, leaving local governments in a constant scramble to reduce costs in order to break even.

Adjusted for inflation, local governments across Ohio have lost \$1.2 billion in annual funding for essential services such as schools, emergency services, road maintenance, and parks. Many cities and towns across the State have had to resort to increasing local taxes to fund their programs.

South Euclid is no exception to these financial woes.

"It hasn't made things any easier for sure," explained Mayor Georgine Welo. "These reductions came at the worst possible time. The people of our community come first, so we've taken major steps to make up for cuts while protecting the services all

of us depend on."

Cuyahoga County has been hit hardest by the budget cuts. County services took big losses from cuts to business and property taxes. Larger cities lost more than smaller ones, and many of them including Cleveland, Toledo, and Dayton have already increased income taxes to compensate.

Municipalities such as South Euclid are now faced with the choice of cutting services or increasing taxes to maintain those services. Layoffs would, of course, create even more economic struggles to communities like ours, and city officials are doing everything they can to avoid that situation.

Regardless of the source, it is painfully clear that Ohio's local governments, including South Euclid, simply need more money to sustain the services that their residents care most about. ✍

---

## CREATING LONG-TERM FINANCIAL SECURITY WITH ISSUE 94

Cuts by the State of Ohio, the national economic crisis and skyrocketing costs have crippled many municipalities across Ohio. South Euclid is no exception. In order to overcome these challenges, we have been forced to reduce staffing, cut expenses and postpone replacement of aging equipment and building repairs. Up until now it has worked.

Unfortunately, today our community finds itself with only two choices. The first, drastic steps to offset our losses including harmful cuts to vital services such as police, fire, and EMS — or the second, a long-term solution that will create financial stability that strengthens all city services, improving the quality of life for every resident.

Issue 94, a payroll tax measure supported by the Mayor and all of Council, is the option that will give us the long-term stability we need. Issue 94 is a half-percent increase in the payroll tax to generate sustainable revenue to fund the City's needs for years to come. Current tax credits remain untouched and many residents will be unaffected because Social Security, pensions, investment earnings, alimony, disability, and unemployment benefits are all exempt.

The decision to place the measure on the ballot was not an easy one, but after years tightening our belts, additional cuts

that will harm vital services are not an option. We have avoided an increase in the payroll tax for over 12 years and it is clear a long-term solution is desperately needed. Without one, the only option left is cuts to services that residents should not be forced to live with, including potentially slower emergency response times, poorer road conditions and delayed maintenance of facilities.

"This is an amazing community and we want to keep it that way," explained Mayor Welo. "People work hard and our city must be able to work hard for them. Protecting our residents is first and foremost. This measure will create the financial security we need to strengthen our entire community."

Issue 94 will also help strengthen the tax base with support for programs and initiatives that improve housing and attract new residents and businesses to South Euclid. This combined with overall financial security will make it possible to avoid another levy and potentially even phase out the existing safety levy in 2023.

City officials will be conducting a series of town hall events by phone and in person so that residents will have a chance to ask questions and learn more about the measure. Information is also available online at [www.cityofsoutheuclid.com](http://www.cityofsoutheuclid.com) or by calling 216.381.0400. ✍

Find out more about Issue 94 at [www.cityofsoutheuclid.com](http://www.cityofsoutheuclid.com)  
and click on "Income Tax Levy Information."

## WHAT ISSUE 94 DOES

Issue 94 protects and strengthens all city services, while creating the financial security needed to move our community forward. Many residents would be exempt from Issue 94, since it doesn't affect social security, other retirement income, investment earnings, disability, unemployment benefits or alimony. People who work here, but live somewhere else, will also have to pay their fair share.

### How does Issue 94 benefit me?

All of us rely on the vital and often life-saving services the city provides. The strength of those services has been placed in jeopardy by the extensive state budget cuts. Issue 94 protects and strengthens those services so they are always there when we need them most.

Also you may have noticed the potholes and slower road repairs...our challenging winters certainly don't help, but many repairs have been postponed as a direct result of the budget cuts that Issue 94 is designed to overcome. Issue 94 provides

the funding needed to make South Euclid commutes smoother sailing.

Senior programs are important, but budget cuts have made it difficult for the City to provide the breadth of services we deserve. Issue 94 makes it possible to strengthen those services and help our seniors get the care that they need.

The quality and efficiency of our services depends on having the right equipment for the job. Issue 94 makes it possible to secure new equipment, police, fire and EMS vehicles, as well as much needed service department vehicles like garbage collection trucks and snow plows.

And don't forget about the parks! Whether you are looking to take a dip in the pool with the family, walking the dog or just enjoying the City's beautiful fall foliage, it's important to recognize how much of a positive impact our South Euclid parks have on our daily lives. Issue 94 provides the funding we need to properly maintain our parks for everyone to enjoy. ✍️

## ISSUE 94 Q&A

### Why do we need it?

Communities like ours have been struggling to overcome the State of Ohio's massive cuts to the local government fund and the estate tax. The impact of these cuts has only been made worse by skyrocketing expenses, the 2008 recession and foreclosure crisis that slammed our property values. City leaders have done all they can to protect services in spite of these hits. Up until now it's worked. They've been able to avoid a payroll tax issue for over 12 years. They've tightened their belts and balanced the budget, but unfortunately costs keep going up and nothing more can be cut without harming the services we depend on.

### What has the City done to tighten its budget?

City leadership has worked together to overcome the State's cuts and balance the budget. They have reduced the workforce, cut operational costs, increased the efficiency of all departments, and postponed much-needed capital improvements and equipment purchases. They have also been working to find new and innovative ways to improve our community in order to attract and retain new businesses and residents.

### How will it be used?

Issue 94 provides much needed financial security, prevents harmful cuts and strengthens all of our services. It's a long-term solution that will be used to strengthen our police, fire, EMS, speed up road repairs, expand serious service programs and boost our housing and economic development efforts.

### What about the safety levy and other taxes?

From state cuts to the recession and foreclosure crisis, South Euclid has been forced to overcome some of the most difficult times. In spite of it all, the City has been able to avoid a payroll tax increase for over 12 years. With Issue 94 the City will have the long-term financial security it needs to begin phasing out the safety levy and potentially eliminate it entirely by 2023.

### How will seniors and those dependent on retirement, alimony, disability, unemployment benefits and investment income be affected?

Social Security, pensions, investment earnings, alimony, disability and unemployment benefits are not subject to income taxes.

### What happens if the measure doesn't pass?

City leaders can place the measure on the ballot, but ultimately voters have the choice. If Issue 94 doesn't pass, the City will not have the revenues it needs, and will be forced to make tough choices. These include considering reducing the current income tax credit, privatizing services like trash removal that would be paid by residents, and across-the-board service cuts. These are likely to impact safety response times, road repairs and park maintenance, limit many services, prevent needed improvements to city buildings and postpone replacement of aging safety and service vehicles. Additional staff cuts will likely need to be made. ✍️



M Y T H V S . R E A L I T Y

# Debunking the Top Misconceptions about South Euclid

Don't believe everything you hear about your City. Know the facts.

Some people have the wrong idea about South Euclid. While we face many of the same challenges as other first-ring suburbs, South Euclid is thriving and continues to evolve and grow in exciting ways.

It's time to share the facts and set the record straight. We've debunked some of the top myths about South Euclid with a healthy dose of reality.

1

MYTH

"Property values are sinking and all that's here are little bungalows."

REALITY

Yes, like many cities in Northeast Ohio, South Euclid had to nurse a housing crash hangover. However, property values are on the rise, and housing stock ranges from big, century-old farmhouses and tudors, to charming 2-bedrooms. Oh, and those little bungalows... They're awesome.

- 55% increase in median sales prices over the past five years
- 80% of homes are owner occupied
- Over \$50 million in property renovations since 2010, impacting 1,000+ homes

2

MYTH

"Our Schools are not what they used to be."

REALITY

Test scores and state rankings aren't meaningless, but they can be misleading, especially when you dig into the political and socioeconomic nuances of the state's testing system. Here's what those "report cards" don't tell you:

- 4-year Graduation Rate of 88%
- The SEL Schools earned a letter grade of 'B' in Gap Closing, a metric which demonstrates how well a District is meeting performance expectations
- 25 'Career-Ready' technical programs offered through EXCEL-TECC
- 14 Advanced Placement Courses
- SEL students are the next class of CHANGEMAKERS. Many grads seek college programs specializing in social justice. Read the stories at [selexperienceproject.com](http://selexperienceproject.com).

3

MYTH

"Our population is older."

REALITY

While age is just a number and gray hair is en vogue, there's a new wave of millennials fleeing downtown to plant roots in South Euclid. Why? Affordability, green space, walkability and work proximity.

- 37 = median age of residents and getting younger
- Nearly every neighborhood is only 1-2 blocks from a park
- 5-15 minutes = the average commute to downtown and major employers like the Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, Eaton, CWRU and CSU

4

MYTH

"South Euclid isn't as safe as it used to be."

REALITY

According to the evening news, no city is devoid of crime. Unfortunately, crime happens everywhere, but the numbers are on our side.

- 2 minutes or less = average response time for priority 911 calls
- The majority of offenses are related to crimes like shoplifting, which, unfortunately, is common in communities with major retail centers
- The city invests in safety through its Youth Police Academy, Citizens Police Academy, Canine Unit, Diversion Program and multi-jurisdictional SWAT team

5

MYTH

"The city is full of empty storefronts."

REALITY

Economic vitality doesn't happen overnight, but the outlook is brighter than ever. Businesses, both big and small, are back and here to stay.

- Over \$100 million in commercial investment since 2010
- \$30,000 in grants awarded to businesses for storefront renovations through One South Euclid in 2018
- The Mayfield Road Corridor is over 88% filled with active businesses
- The Cedar, Warrensville & Green Business Districts are 91% occupied

SOUTH EUCLID  
**\$150 million  
of residential  
& commercial  
investment  
since 2010**  
KNOW THE FACTS

## POWERED BY THE SUN:

# Nick Zielinski lets the sun shine in

Nick Zielinski's home on South Belvoir Boulevard may be a mid-century ranch, but functionally, it is a modern, highly efficient green home. Since purchasing the property in 2015, Nick has made various improvements to the property, but in the summer of 2018, he worked with Yellow Lite Solar to convert most of his energy consumption to solar. On July 19, the large solar array installed on his roof was completed and became operational.

Nick has had a passion for green living for years and purchased his first electric car in college. Now 37, the busy health-care professional wanted to remove himself from the power grid as much as possible. Nick decided that the time was right, given that he was still able to access the Obama administration tax incentives available for a solar conversion.

According to Yellow Lite, the Energy Investment Tax Credit (ITC) provides a 30% tax credit discounting the entire purchase price of a solar array system. The credits apply both to roof installation and ground installation. The tax credits can be claimed even if the solar array is financed rather than paid for up front, but the solar panels must be fully installed in the year that the credit is claimed. The 30% tax credit will be in effect until the end of 2019, when it will begin to be reduced over the subsequent years.

"Although I spent \$30,000 on the system, I'll be getting \$9,600 back through the tax credit," said Nick. To finance the project Nick used a HELP Loan — a County sponsored home improvement loan program that provides low-interest loans to county residents for home repair and improvements. He mentioned that although he didn't use it, Yellow Lite has a 20-year financing option with 0% down.

An app on Nick's phone provides real time data on his power usage



and the efficiency of his array, which changes throughout the day depending on available sunlight. Nick estimates that the investment will have paid for itself in savings within 10 years. Yellow Lite estimates that average residential installations have a payback of eight to 10 years. Business installations typically have a five to seven year payback.

South Euclid is a member of the Northeast Ohio Advanced Energy District, an energy special improvement

district established by the First Suburbs Development Council in 2010. According to Executive Director Jennifer Kuzma, the program now offers commercial and industrial property owners in participating cities the ability to finance energy improvements including solar arrays through special property tax assessments for 20-25 years with no upfront costs. She said that plans are underway to make the program available to residential



property owners in the next calendar year.

A bi-directional meter was installed on the side of Nick's garage. One meter shows Nick's power consumption and the other meter shows his power production. Excess power is sold back to the power company for a credit on Nick's bill. Since installing solar, Nick's typical electric bills vary between \$10 and \$20 per month. "I

have high power usage since I have an electric car that's plugged in for hours every day," said Nick.

Nick, originally from Pennsylvania, came to Northeast Ohio after graduation when he obtained a job as a Physician Assistant in spine and orthopedics. He previously lived in Mayfield Heights, but when searching for a home to buy, fell in love with the property on South Belvoir.

Nick explained his reasons for choosing South Euclid as a place to call home. "The backyard is what sold me. It's so peaceful and perfect for entertaining. Even though this is a fairly busy street, you would never know it. The neighbors are all so wonderful, and the community is welcoming and inclusive. I love living here and have no plans to leave." ✍️

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## 216 FITNESS:

# The Gym Where Everybody Knows your Name

In 2012, Lisa Dunn got sick. Years of working long hours running Revive, her fair trade retail store on Lee Road, left her with little time to take care of herself. Finally, during an intense period of storm cleanup following Hurricane Sandy, she collapsed. A battery of medical tests revealed nothing conclusive. Her doctor told her that the stress of her lifestyle was compromising her health. She knew she needed to make a drastic change.

Lisa hired more staff, reduced her work hours, and made the commitment to join a gym. It's a decision that would change her life. At age 40 and brand new to working out, she had no idea where to start. Like many, she jumped on the elliptical and treadmills, then tried the resistance machines. Almost immediately, Lisa began feeling dramatically better and decided to learn everything she could about the benefits of exercise. She read multiple library books on strength training for women and pieced together a basic strength-training program. "I felt unstoppable, like I was taking a superpower drug," Lisa recalls. "I knew I would never go back to the old tired, weak, sickly me."

To take it to the next level, and safely learn strength training form, she sought the assistance of trainer Timothy Cavender. Timothy, who has a degree in Exercise Physiology from Cleveland State University, gave her scientific answers to her questions of how strength training had changed her life so dramatically. "We were having in-depth discussions about exercise physiology because I was so hungry for more information," Lisa laughs "I almost felt guilty taking up so much of his time." Soon, Timothy encouraged her to become a trainer herself. In 2015, she became an ACE certified personal trainer. Before long, she had closed her store and, working as a team,



they rapidly built a devoted client base at the Cleveland Heights Community Center.

As their following grew, the two considered the option of starting their own gym. The idea of having complete control over the quality of the personal training they could offer was very appealing. In 2017, they created a business plan and began

looking for space. The former 7-11 store at Mayfield and South Belvoir had been vacant for several years, but only recently had become available for lease. They found the South Euclid site ideal to meet the needs of their clients. They opened the doors of 216 Fitness in November 2017 with 45 clients.

"We wanted to create an inclusive, empowering and welcoming environment for people who might find an ordinary gym intimidating or overwhelming," said Lisa. 216 Fitness focuses on small group and individual personal training that they refer to as functional strength training. In a 45-minute session, clients receive a full body workout that gets results for strength, cardiovascular health and weight loss. The coaches teach each client how to perform the exercises safely and effectively to maximize their results. Tim says: "Each workout is fun and unique. Many clients say coming to 216 Fitness is the best part of their day."

For those with mobility limitations, exercises are modified and adjusted to meet those needs, making the gym an ideal place for people who might need special assistance to avoid injury. "We pride ourselves on providing a customized and highly effective workout for our clients," said Timothy.

Meghan Radford had both of her knees reconstructed when she was 19. Now 35, she had a difficult time finding a trainer who understood her unique needs. When she saw 216 Fitness open its doors, she decided to take a chance and try it. "Every trainer there takes the time to modify the exercises for me and to correct my form when needed. I've never felt so safe in a workout. I'm much stronger now and finally have balance. I work two jobs and I know if I need to, I can easily switch the day or time of my workout. It's so flexible. I also love that it's around the corner from my house. I can walk there. You can tell that this gym is Lisa's and Timothy's baby. They genuinely want everyone to succeed and get results," said Meghan.

Sherry Greenberg, a South Euclid resident who joined 216 Fitness right after it opened, said that her reasons for joining the gym are varied. "They know me, they modify exercises to meet my needs, and I feel comfortable there. I can't say that about other gyms I've been to. There is no judgment or competition. I also love that it's in South Euclid, five minutes away from my house. I'm feeling better than I have in years. Even though it might seem expensive at first, I'm getting results, so it's worth it."

At 6 a.m. on a recent Thursday, the gym was full of regulars. Even though most of the clients admit that they would usually still be in bed, the atmosphere was congenial and upbeat. Words of encouragement are often heard followed by plenty of high-fives among the group. "I thought I could never find the time to come to a gym, especially this early, but I find that I have more energy and feel better all day for having done the workout. From the first day I walked through the doors I felt welcomed and included," said South Euclid resident and 216 Fitness member, Sally Martin. Dan Hidalgo, the trainer who works the 6 a.m. time slot, knows all the clients by name and is familiar with any modifications that might be needed and proactively offers modification options for each exercise. In addition to the workout, members share news about their weekend activities and other personal updates. "It's the gym where everyone



knows your name. The fact that people are looking forward to seeing you and catching up on what's happening makes it harder to hit snooze and stay in bed instead of showing up. I know that when I push myself hard, there will be a group of people cheering me on," said Sally.

Rates begin at \$99 a month for two sessions a week. A one-week free trial is available for those wishing to test the waters. "We reached our 100th member last month, and we look forward to more growth," said Lisa. "We love South Euclid because it's an inclusive and welcoming place, just like our gym."

To sign up for a free trial or to find out more, contact 216 Fitness at 216-532-3348 or online at 216fit.com. The gym is at 1415 S. Belvoir Boulevard. ✨

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# faces & places

## STILL CUTTIN' IT!

By Bess Rhoades

At an age when most people dream about retirement or sitting on the porch talking with a friend, Percy Anderson is still out mowing lawns and beautifying South Euclid – and he loves it!

Turning 90 next year, Percy can be found donning his snappy navy-hued button-down work shirt and pants, well-worn baseball cap and thick cotton gloves even when the temperature soars. In fact, you might see his personal work rig parked on your street.

This senior is a well-equipped professional. He drives a black Chevy S-10 truck. In tow is a fine Cub Cadet riding mower, along with a smaller mower, an edger and a blower. But you won't find an assistant in the passenger seat. He handles his business, Anderson's Lawn Care, all by himself.

This isn't his first gig. A native of Tamo, Arkansas, Percy was raised with his eight brothers and sisters on a farm where his father sharecropped. He learned young to wrangle the mule-pulled plow up and down the rows of corn and cotton. In the 1940's, his father and his brother moved to Ohio after his mother died, securing work in the corrugated container business. In 1949, he hopped on a Trailways bus and made the switch, too.

As Percy puts it, "My father got me a job in that corrugated factory, and I worked there for the next 40 years." When he "semi-retired" in the 1980s at a young 63, he set his sights on something he really wanted to do: "Pushing snow in the winter, and landscaping in the summer," he declared. And that's what he's been doing ever since. "Being raised on a farm gave me a love for the outdoors."

When I asked him about his customers, Mrs. Lockett came to mind. Some 20 years ago, he was cutting grass for her neighbor, a firefighter who had suffered a stroke and needed lawncare. That's when he met her, and she has been his customer ever since. "She's one of my best customers, and she pays better than most."

Nearly every day, when he gets a little time between jobs, Percy loves to hang out with his Lebanese-American buddy, Paul Abounadar. Abounadar owns and operates South Euclid Auto Repair on Greenvale. For years, this unlikely duo has shared stories and quips, and even love for the guard dog, Ratchet, that lived on site. Ratchet slept on a special old couch that Paul put out for him years ago. Eventually, it became so old and dirty that it was thrown out. Percy made it his business to find another couch for Ratchet and bring it by.

That's just the kind of man he is. He is always doing something good for people, and he seemed a bit saddened when I asked him about the greatest change he's seen in his lifetime: "Nowadays, people only care about themselves." That's never been Percy's issue. He loves to help the neighborhood kids who need their bicycle tires pumped, or need some encouragement; he has always served at his church; and he could never count the hours he has spent giving away time or parts to help someone out with a project or fixing their tools or equipment.

My husband, a pastor, asked Percy where his kindness and respect came from.

"From my parents, I guess. Back in the day, you would always say



"Good morning, Mother, Good Morning, Father, and yes, sir and yes, ma'am." It was just polite. He continued, "One time, some city bucks asked me why I always said 'Yes, sir' to white people. I told them it is not a matter of color, it is how I was raised. You treat all people with respect."

Percy and his wife, Marian, moved to South Euclid in 1984 and have lived in the same house since that time. He survived a bout with cancer 18 years ago. One of his two children lives nearby; the other lives in Bedford. He has two grandchildren.

What guides his life? "God is my all in all. I can't do anything without Him. He wakes me up, He gives me strength and health and opens my eyes. I want to take what He gives me and use it and be satisfied. I think if we don't do that, He will take what you have and give it to someone else who will be satisfied with it. I just hold on to Jesus' hand – no one else can do for you what He can do for you."

I asked him what he will be doing at 100: "Well, that's 10½ more years! If I am still healthy and able, I'll still be cutting grass. But by then, it might only be my own yard." ✍️



Percy with neighbor Bess Rhoades



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COME TOGETHER & THRIVE

# Our Neighborhoods are *Thriving!*

## An Inclusive & Welcoming Community

South Euclid is a friendly and welcoming community with neighbors who care about each other. Our residents find that living in South Euclid is a smart financial decision because owning an attractive, well-maintained, and reasonably priced house means that homeowners have more disposable income to travel the world, engage and invest in hobbies, and have a life that isn't limited by being "house poor".

South Euclid has bounced back from the housing and foreclosure crisis. Since 2010, over \$50 million has been invested in South Euclid's housing stock, with over 1,000 homes—more than 10% of the city's housing stock—having been fully renovated during that time. From brand new homes to century homes, South Euclid has a home to fit every lifestyle and budget. An investment in a home in South Euclid is sure to appreciate in value, and represents a smart lifestyle choice. You get more "bang for your housing buck" in South Euclid than anywhere else in the area.



**YOU GET MORE  
"BANG FOR  
YOUR HOUSING  
BUCK" IN SOUTH  
EUCLID THAN  
ANYWHERE ELSE  
IN THE AREA**

## South Euclid Housing Values Continue to Climb

Over the past six years, median housing prices in South Euclid have increased by 54.5%. With double digit increases year over year, the South Euclid housing market is gaining impressive momentum! Median housing values ended 2017 at just under \$90,000 and are continuing to climb. The number of days properties spent on the market decreased 27% between 2016 and 2017, going from 140 days to 102 days. Inventory levels have decreased, indicating that South Euclid is becoming more of a seller's market. Fully renovated homes are snapped up quickly, often for full asking price. Demand for these units exceeds supply, making these properties highly sought after by homebuyers. Nearly 80% of all housing in the city is owner-occupied.



**Median Housing  
Prices up 54.5%  
in six years**

One South Euclid, our city's community development corporation, enhances quality of life in the city by facilitating the construction of new homes and the renovation of existing homes in the city, through the Build, Grow, and Thrive Residential Resale Program. One South Euclid also offers grant opportunities annually to residents and community groups to make needed home repairs, assist seniors with grass cutting and snow plowing, and to support neighborhood and storefront beautification efforts, and other special events, making South Euclid an even more special place to call home.



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[cityofsoutheuclid.com](http://cityofsoutheuclid.com)



OneSouthEuclid

[onesoutheuclid.org](http://onesoutheuclid.org)





## Location, Location, Location!

One of the biggest advantages of living in South Euclid is our close-to-everything location. Virtually every amenity, including a wide variety of retail, healthcare, and restaurants are within walking distance. Over \$100 million in commercial development has taken place in the city since 2010, which includes three new retail/restaurant developments and a diverse range of new businesses! University Circle, Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, and other major employers are just a short bus ride away. Our neighborhoods feature sidewalks and homes with charming architectural diversity. Outdoor recreation amenities include nearly 60 acres of public parks, eight community gardens, a community pool and splash-park, the east side's only dog park, and the stunning Cleveland Metroparks Euclid Creek Reservation.

Our community is home to Notre Dame College and next door to John Carroll University, making it a college town for all

**\$150 million**  
of residential  
and commercial  
investment in the city  
since 2010

ages. Community events are held throughout the year, including Rock the Block, the city's signature outdoor music festival, Harvest Fest, celebrating the city's community gardening program, a Memorial Day parade, an annual Garden Walk, and many other family-oriented seasonal events. South Euclid is home to Mercury Theatre Company, a professional theater troupe with performances held throughout the year.

The House of Swing, one of the oldest operating jazz music venues in the region, is located in our Mayfield-Green business district. Our community is also home to the Museum of American Porcelain Art, housed in the historic Telling Mansion, the only museum of its kind in the country. The many cultural amenities of University Circle and downtown Cleveland are just a short drive away.



### CLOSE TO EVERYTHING!

- UNIVERSITY CIRCLE
- CLEVELAND CLINIC
- UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS
- NOTRE DAME COLLEGE
- JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY
- LOCAL AND NATIONAL RETAIL
- CLEVELAND METROPARKS
- MUSEUM OF AMERICAN PORCELAIN ART
- MERCURY THEATRE COMPANY
- POOL/SPLASH PARK
- COMMUNITY GARDENS
- DOG PARK

## Top Notch City Services and Schools

Our residents enjoy strong city services and responsive safety forces. In an emergency, our first-responders are on the scene quickly, providing award-winning and exceptional service. For the fifth year in a row, the South Euclid Police Department was awarded the Community Traffic Safety Platinum Award by the American Automobile Association (AAA) for the department's work and initiatives in the area of traffic safety. This is AAA's highest award. Our Fire Department's average response time for emergency medical response calls and fires is five minutes or less. Through hundreds of hours of training annually, our first responders are ready, willing, and able to respond quickly to any emergency situation.

The city continues to innovate and work collaboratively with other cities to create efficiencies that maximize the value of residents' tax dollars—providing the best possible services to residents at the least cost. The City has received the Auditor of State Award annually in acknowledgement of our superior financial record keeping and accountability.

Residents are primarily served by the South Euclid Lyndhurst City Schools. A portion of the southwestern side of South Euclid is served by the Cleveland Heights/University Heights School District. Both school districts provide exceptional learning opportunities and enrichment activities for students of all grades. Tours are happily provided to residents or prospective residents of all school buildings upon request. Hearing what parents and students have to say about our schools provides the best insight into the school climate. We invite you to visit [www.selexperienceproject.com](http://www.selexperienceproject.com) to read about the outstanding students and graduates of our SEL School District.

# South Euclid's Fabulous GardenWalk!

By Jim Lawless

South Euclid's two-day gardening event in June attracted more than 400 visitors with a bouquet of ideas, delighting folks with natural innovations, sometimes even mixed with the gardener's own artistic creativity.

The second-annual South Euclid GardenWalk featured variety for every garden taste bud. Reactions to the 48 individual gardens, a 21-acre nature reserve, a nine-mile wetland, eight community gardens, three pocket parks and the Sanctuary on the Green were sometimes even lavish.

"An explosion of creativity," "fudge for the eyes," "a cornucopia of green ideas" were but a few of the positive reactions from visitors. One local woman nestles stained glass among perennials, while another combines her own paintings with a carved totem pole acting as a fountain among flowers and plants.

The diversity is what caused Howard Simon, of Lyndhurst, to praise the GardenWalk. "I have been to many and this compared quite favorably. The gardens were remarkably nice. I was really quite impressed. It surprised me that South Euclid had so many beautiful gardens.

"Even more so was the development of the nature preserve behind Walmart. That is a great achievement for the city. They turned (seven



acres of) the old Oakwood golf course into this area," Simon said.

The developer of Oakwood Commons, First Interstate Properties, donated the land. It is designed as a nature preserve for birds and wild life, as well as walking trails for humans. The wetlands are adjacent to the Sanctuary on Green (Road), a combination of wood sculptures, a garden and the land behind it, which are the wetlands.

The GardenWalk included a profusion of individual expressions of neighborhood creativity, ranging from a crush of gardens along Berwick Lane to an isolated Japanese garden, which induces meditation.

Another enthusiast is Louise Gerlak, of Cleveland Heights, a long-time gardener herself. "I thought the garden walk was at least comparable with the best of those I have seen if not better." She said she was particularly impressed with Pam's garden, a pocket park, done by Pam and Jim O'Toole, which "has so much soul."

That garden features a concrete walkway winding in and around perennial-filled park filled with a variety of seating options. In front, there is a free library, a small book-house with books of the readers' choosing.

She was also delighted with the 10 gardens on Berwick Lane, "There were so many gardens with beautiful flowers, not like a show but that reflected personal taste. I was amazed this year that there were so many new gardens, so fresh and interesting."

"These gardens will generate a lot of interest and cause other people in the area to make their own gardens."

Karl Cepull, won the farthest traveler, coming from Atlanta. He said he had never been on a garden walk and was happy to have been in the Cleveland area, when the South Euclid walk was going on.

"This is my first and it was a lot of fun," he said. He said he spent his whole walk on Berwick and found so many people so nice, they never left. "My wife got a plant from Marge Koosed, president of the South Euclid Garden Club. She took it home and it is doing quite well."

Donna Zachary, who chairs the GardenWalk, said she is delighted attendance increased this year and hopes for more visitors and gardens next year, June 8 & 9. She said those who might want to join the GardenWalk can call Marge Koosed at 216-291-2774 or email [contact@gardenwalksoutheuclid.com](mailto:contact@gardenwalksoutheuclid.com).

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## DECEMBER



**Sunday December 2, 2018**  
**Holiday Lighting Ceremony**  
 4:30pm-6:00pm  
 City Hall

Thank you to all  
 48 residents who  
 participated in this  
 year's Gardenwalk!

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police & Fire Emergency: 911  
 Police (Non-Emergency):  
 216-381-1234  
 South Euclid City Hall:  
 216-381-0400  
 South Euclid Community Services:  
 216-381-0400  
 South Euclid Community Center:  
 216-291-0771  
 South Euclid Economic Development:  
 216-381-0400  
 South Euclid Service Department:  
 216-381-0402  
 South Euclid Building & Housing:  
 216-381-0400  
 South Euclid Municipal Court:  
 216-381-2880

SELREC @ YMCA (Recreation):  
 216-691-2246  
 Community Partnership on Aging:  
 216-291-3902  
 South Euclid-Lyndhurst Branch County  
 Public Library: 216-382-4880  
 SE Juvenile Diversion Program:  
 216-691-4252  
 Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA):  
 440-526-0900  
 Cuyahoga County Fiscal Office:  
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 Cuyahoga County Board of Elections:  
 216-443-3298  
 First Call For Help: Dial 211



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## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ON AGING NEWS CPA's Season of Gratitude

It's that time of year when we begin thinking about everything we have to be thankful for. Although it's nice to count our blessings on Thanksgiving, being thankful throughout the year could have tremendous benefits on our quality of life. An "attitude of gratitude" can:

**Improve our physical health:** Grateful people experience fewer aches and pains and they report feeling healthier than other people, according to a 2012 study published in *Personality and Individual Differences*.

**Lighten our mood:** Robert A. Emmons, Ph.D., a leading gratitude researcher, has conducted multiple studies on the link between gratitude and well-being. His research confirms that gratitude reduces a multitude of toxic emotions, ranging from envy and resentment to frustration and regret.

**Make us more patient:** Research from Northeastern University has found that people who felt grateful for little, everyday things were more patient and better able to make sensible decisions, compared to those who didn't feel very grateful on a day-to-day basis.

Here at CPA, we are grateful to have the opportunity to bring so many programs and events to you, including:

- Our 40th Anniversary Party on November 10 – Come for the chili – taste six different recipes and vote for your favorite – and then stay for the party. This all takes place beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the beautiful Hilton Gardens Inn in Mayfield Village. Treat yourselves to a fun evening out celebrating CPA's 40 years of service and support. Please call the office at 216-291-3902 for more information and to purchase your tickets.
- Our last bus trip of 2018 is "Christmas in Cleveland" on December 12 from 11 a.m. to 6:15 p.m.. We start with a



buffet lunch at Sokolowski's, then a tour of the Christmas Story House Museum, time to shop at the West Side Market and ending with a tour of the beautiful holiday lights of Public Square and Playhouse Square. Tickets are \$72. Please call Carolyn at 440-473-5138 to RSVP.

- December 14 is our next Learn N Go – We are combining a distance learning session on Women in Art in the morning with an afternoon trip to the Cleveland Museum of Art to see "Georgia O'Keeffe: Living Modern." The exhibit offers a unique look into the fascinating connections between the paintings, personal style and public persona of one of America's most iconic artists. Check in with Carolyn for more details at 440-473-5138.

Please visit our website for more CPA programs and services, [www.communitypartnershiponaging.org](http://www.communitypartnershiponaging.org) or stop by the office in the Community Center to catch the latest news. Happy Holidays! 🍂

# CARE

## TOOK MY BREATH AWAY



By Susan Speizer

“CARE” took my breath away  
 The program touched my heart  
 My first time watching the teamwork  
 Each volunteer doing their part  
 The “CARE” member was grateful  
 Her smile lit up her face  
 A proud woman is Tilly  
 Seeing her beautiful place!

**M**y first experience with the CARE Program really did take my breath away. I saw a lovely 87-year-old woman watching volunteers spruce up her landscaping and garage.

Evva, aka “Tilly”, watched in wonder as her shrubs were trimmed and her garage was organized. She spoke of being ancient and sad that she could no longer take care of her property. She could not do the things around her house that she enjoyed and gave her a sense of self-worth. Tilly wanted her neighbors to admire her home, her yard and herself. She wanted to feel like the “10” on the t-shirt she wore (Dudley Moore movie) and I think her spunky attitude did that for her. I enjoyed reminiscing with her about her father and the important values she learned from him: respect, kindness, sharing, appreciation, hard work, faith and courage. She worked hard as a medical technician and perhaps forgot that she had to be smart to be accomplished in her field of work. She is still smart, she asked for help! Perhaps the most important thing I learned after spending time with this spunky dynamo is that age sneaks up on all of us ... we need to prepare. Tilly’s husband passed and her daughter lives in another state. How is she able to stay in her home? It is with the help of wonderful and caring

people like the “CARE” volunteers.

She appreciated their respectful attitude as well as their interest in her opinion, needs and desires. Tilly felt that she added family to her South Euclid home and cannot thank them enough.

I then spoke to the CARE volunteers and asked them how they felt about volunteering. These were some of their comments:

- I meet the nicest people ... volunteers and CARE members.
- It makes me feel good to make others feel good. It is a win, win situation!
- I feel like I am giving back because I have asked for and received help.
- I am making deposits for future friends and family. One day we will need this type of assistance.
- I am proud of the people who ask for help ... they are brave not to let possible judgements interfere.
- I am just happy to help!
- The team was fantastic. They worked together for the first time and accomplished their goals.
- We worked like a family, like friends, like comrades.
- Tilly had most of the equipment we needed. She was happy that someone could use her beloved gardening tools to give her home



and landscaping a needed “facelift”.

- Seeing how a lovely 87-year-old woman was beaming, was my best reward.

“CARE” is a wonderful organization that enables our older neighbors to stay happy and safe in their homes. If they need home repair, maintenance services and a variety of other assistance ... “CARE” will care and help. There is a great need for those of us that are willing and able to join in this grand experience to take the first step and make a call to the CARE Program at 216-848-0594. You will feel the benefits for the rest of your life and your heart will thank you too! ✍

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# south euclid

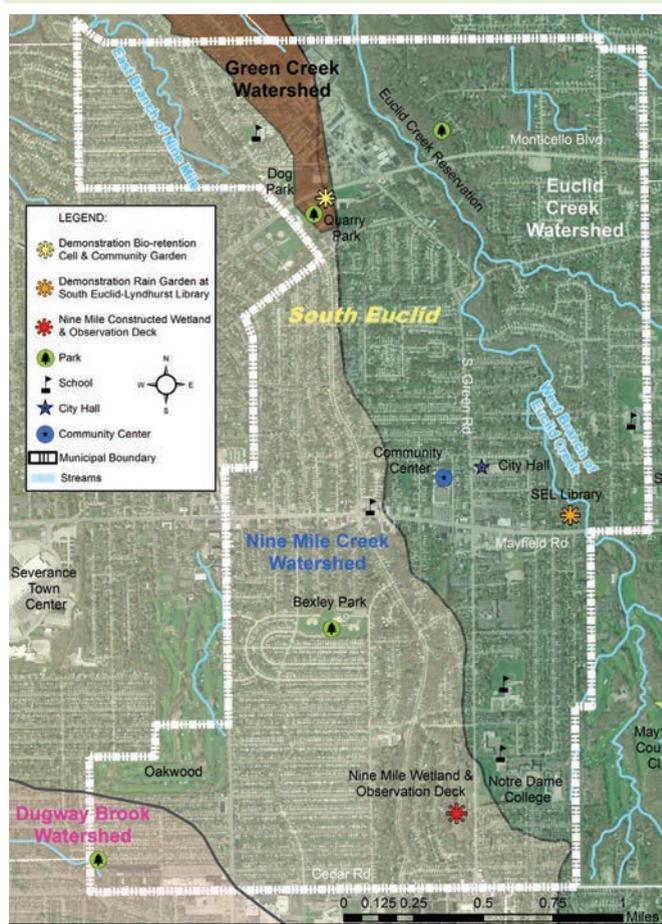
COME TOGETHER & THRIVE

## WATERSHED FACT SHEET

### South Euclid is in 4 watersheds

- Euclid Creek** drains an area of approximately 24 square miles from 12 communities in Cuyahoga and Lake Counties.
- Green Creek** drains an area of approximately 5 square miles from 4 communities in Cuyahoga County.
- Nine Mile Creek** drains an area of approximately 18 square miles from 7 communities in Cuyahoga County.
- Dugway Brook** drains an area of approximately 9 square miles from 7 communities in Cuyahoga County.

All 4 of these watersheds **drain directly** into **Lake Erie**, South Euclid's source of **drinking water**. Protecting your watersheds from runoff pollution also protects **Lake Erie** and **YOU**.

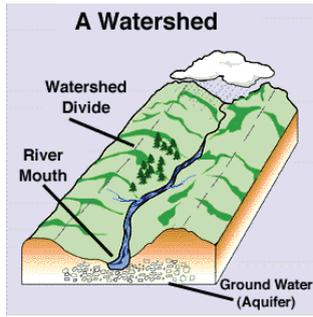


**Did you know?**

- South Euclid has 4.76 miles of streams aboveground with an estimated 3.61 miles of additional streams that have been channeled underground in pipes/culverts.
- As water moves across lawns, and hard surfaces into storm drains, pollution is picked up and sent untreated to creeks and rivers which eventually empty into Lake Erie.
- Vegetated surfaces, like rain gardens, help water soak into the ground which allows for natural filtration of polluted runoff.
- The rate of extinction for freshwater animals is 5 times greater than that for land animals.

**Only Rain Down the Drain!**

**What is a watershed?**... the land that water flows across or under on its way to a common body of water such as a stream, river, or lake. Our landscape is made up of many interconnected watersheds. Within each watershed, all water runs to the lowest point - a stream, river, or lake. What is a watershed? A watershed is an area of land that drains rain and snow to a common body of water such as a stream, river, or lake. Our landscape is made up of interconnected watersheds.



## We all live in a watershed!

### South Euclid within Euclid Creek Watershed

- South Euclid makes up 10.5% or 2.5 square miles of the entire Euclid Creek Watershed.
- 52% of South Euclid residents live within the Euclid Creek Watershed.
- A portion of the Euclid Creek Reservation runs through South Euclid.
- South Euclid contains several areas of commercial and light industry that have large areas of impervious (hard surfaces such as pavement) surfaces.

### South Euclid within Nine Mile Creek Watershed

- 92% of the land is developed.
- Water quality and aquatic habitat is severely impaired along most of Nine Mile Creek.
- Most surface water runs through culverts and is replenished by storm drains, creating significant urban runoff.
- Above-ground flow is primarily channelized and concrete-lined, and receives high nutrient loads.
- The majority of Nine Mile Creek is buried underground from its beginning near Cedar Road in University Heights to a channelized run north of Monticello and west of Belvoir Boulevard.

### South Euclid within Green Creek Watershed

- No watershed studies exist, but it is assumed that Green Creek has the same urban impairments as its surrounding watersheds.

### South Euclid within Dugway Brook Watershed

- South Euclid makes up 1.9%, or 1.7 square miles of the entire Dugway Brook Watershed.
- No watershed studies exist for this watershed.

## Major water quality issues

- Excess nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen, caused by urban pollution and fertilizers from gardens, lawn and turf maintenance.
- Low fish populations due to poor water quality as well as loss of habitat and manmade barriers (e.g. dams).
- After major storms, high intensity stream flow (called flashy flows) increases streambank erosion.
- Loss of green space and habitat surrounding streams that provide a buffer zone to filter pollutants and provide shelter/food for bugs and fish.



## How the CITY protects your water

- Picks up leaves in fall to prevent clogging of storm drains.
- Active member of the Euclid Creek Watershed Council.
- Works with Cuyahoga County Board of Health on all public health concerns.
- Offers household hazardous waste (and other) recycling programs for residents.
- Adopted Sensible Salting Resolution and is investigating salt alternatives.
- Has stream and wetland protection ordinance.
- Nine Mile Wetland constructed in 2008 — replaced the Langerdale Retention Basin (between Green Road and Belvoir Blvd. north of Cedar Road) with a built wetland to create naturally vegetated areas that will slow, hold, and filter sediment and pollutants from rain and stormwater.
- Incorporates storm water management and green building practices for Green Neighborhoods Initiative housing renovations.

## How YOU can protect your water

- Don't litter, and pick up litter where you see it.
- Keep grass clippings, paper and other waste out of storm drains.
- Report illegal dumping! Call the District hotline (216-641-3200) or the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (216-201-2000).
- Install a rain barrel and/or plant a rain garden.
- Pick up outside pet waste and put it in the trash.
- Reduce hard surfaces. Replace your driveway and walkways with permeable paving.
- Clean paint from brushes, rollers and pans in the sink.
- Wash your car on the lawn or at a carwash.
- Reduce toxic substance usage around your home and on the lawn and garden.
- Never put motor oil, antifreeze, pet waste or anything else in storm drains.
- Reduce your use of fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals on your lawn and garden.
- Keep your lawn 3 inches or higher to aid in water filtration.

**Get involved with your local conservation / watershed group and take part in keeping your watershed clean and healthy.**



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### Euclid Creek Partners

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(South Euclid is a Watershed Council member)

Friends of Euclid Creek

Cuyahoga Soil & Conservation District

### Euclid Creek Watershed Coordinator

Elizabeth Hizer

3311 Perkins Ave. Suite 100 • Cleveland, Ohio 44114

216-524-6580x16; ehizer@cuyahogawscd.org

Euclid Creek Website: [www.cuyahogawscd.org](http://www.cuyahogawscd.org)

Click on Services - Watershed Programs - Euclid Creek

south  euclid

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Cuyahoga  
Soil and Water  
Conservation  
District





## Your Destination School Community!

The South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools upholds as its top priority the responsibility of delivering an excellent, well-rounded education with outstanding instructors, in an academically stimulating, safe and secure environment.



Linda N. Reid

With a revised community-based strategic plan to chart our future success, the South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools is The Destination School Community because of the impressive academic and co-curricular accomplishments of our students and staff. Since the State Report Card offers a narrow, all-or-nothing rating scheme, districts and communities are identifying other important factors that recognize that clear academic

growth is taking place at all levels of education in the SEL Schools.

The SEL Schools must first offer its highest commendation to Charles F. Brush High School senior Rebecca Rossi, who recently scored a perfect 36 out of 36 on her ACT exam. This type of impressive academic accomplishment is the result of hard work, dedication, intelligence, and educational opportunities offered in the SEL Schools. Rebecca is planning to study veterinarian medicine and is still considering some of the most prestigious universities in the Midwest. Congratulations Rebecca, on such a notable achievement!

### State Report Card Grading

The SEL Schools made considerable gains across multiple areas of the State Report Card including Gap Closing, Graduation Rate, Algebra I and Gifted Programming. More specifically, in Gap Closing, a metric which demonstrates how well a district is meeting the performance expectations of its students, the SEL Schools earned the letter grade of 'B'. In the Performance Index measurement, the SEL Schools demonstrated clear growth, but not enough to raise the letter grade. In terms of Graduation Rate, the SEL Schools scored 87.8% for the four-year graduation and 88.1% for the five-year graduation rate, remaining above statewide standards, but still missing an increased letter grade

by less than 2 percentage points.

While the District remains dedicated to continual improvement by all standards, the community must also consider the tangible academic accomplishments and opportunities that are not measured in the State Report Card.

### Did you know?

- The 2018 graduating class of Charles F. Brush earned more than \$6 million in scholarships, awards and grants.
- Students at Brush High School can enroll in 14 Advanced Placement Courses, including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Art Studio and Calculus.
- In addition, our students have the opportunity to participate in 25 Career Technical Programs through EXCEL-TECC including Exercise Science and Sports Rehabilitation (ESSR), housed at Brush High School, and such programs as Medical Technologies, Visual Art and Design, and CADD Engineering Technology. These quality academic offerings prepare students with "future-ready" skills for college and careers.
- Such instructional opportunities are built upon more than 20,000 community service hours conducted by students in grades nine through 12, highlighting their character and commitment toward the greater school community.
- Beyond academics and community service, the SEL Schools features award-winning visual, creative and performing arts programs. On a yearly basis, selected individuals have earned regional, state and national recognition. These fine art opportunities along with S.T.E.M. (science, technology, engineering, and math) programs are offered to elementary students in laying the foundation of future success.

State Report Card grades do matter. However, they offer only a small glimpse into the accomplishments, milestones and achievements of students in the South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools. To view these accomplishments and more, visit our website at [www.sel.k12.oh.us](http://www.sel.k12.oh.us), like us on facebook and check us out on YouTube. Thank you for your continued support of SEL Schools. Go Arcs! ✍

## Councilman-at-Large Dennis Fiorelli Council President

In the City Magazine, Summer edition, "a note from..." I invited residents, who all matter so much, to contact me with your thoughts, comments and suggestions. I wish to thank the few residents that



Dennis Fiorelli

did contact me. I was glad to listen and respond, and hopefully to their satisfaction. You are always welcome to contact me if I may be of assistance. It is my pledge to listen and respond to the best of my ability.

As we near the end of 2018, seems like it was just 2017 and we were celebrating the Centennial. South Euclid has accomplished much as is well documented throughout this publication and on the City website, and also visible by walking, driving, shopping, and just

living or visiting in our community.

With 2019 fast approaching, I will ask you to renew a New Year resolution to be a good neighbor, and resolve further to continue to work together, embrace diversity, and teach and educate our children by our positive example.

We have so much to be thankful for! It is indeed an honor and privilege to serve as your City Council President.

I wish you a very happy and joyful Holiday Season.

**President, Council-At-Large  
Dennis Fiorelli: 216-269-8730**

## Councilman-at-Large Jason Russell

Summer always seems to take forever to arrive and leaves us too soon. As we transition from summer to fall, the leaves begin to turn colors and daylight hours become shorter. With this



Jason Russell

transition comes the beginning of school.

As always please drive safely and slowly as children are back to their morning and evening commutes to our schools. Let's all do our part to help ensure safe routes to schools. (That includes shoveling sidewalks in the winter.)

Don't forget, Election Day is November 6. I won't try to persuade you to vote for a particular candidate or issue, but rather it's my reminder of the importance of exercising

your right to vote. No matter the candidate, issue, or cause you support, it is essential that you vote! Vote early and vote often. Maybe not the often part, but you can vote early. You can already request an absentee ballot be mailed to your home or you can vote in person at the Board of Elections when early voting begins on October 10. Sure, we are voting for a Governor and U.S. Senator, but there are many other local issues and offices on the ballot including judges. Be sure to vote the entire ballot. The decisions made by these local office holders have a tremendous impact on your life. Voting absentee is great way to be able to review your ballot and research all the candidates and issues to help inform your decision. Join me in voting by November 6th

**President Pro-tem, Jason Russell: 216-242-6442**

## Councilman-at-Large Marty Gelfand

On September 26, 2018, South Euclid City Council held a first reading of Ordinance No. 24-18, legislation which would regulate motorized scooters such as the Bird Scooters which were



Marty Gelfand

dropped in Downtown Cleveland on August 10 of this year. Bird, one of the companies making and marketing the scooters, agreed to remove the scooters from Cleveland at the request of the mayor while Cleveland agreed to work out motorized scooter regulations there.

Motorized scooters such as Bird and Lime are being used in cities around the country and the world, including New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Denver, Minneapolis, Paris, and many other similar and smaller cities. The companies "drop" them and users may rent them with the companies' apps as they would use other transportation apps like Uber and Lyft.

South Euclid Ordinance No. 24-18 includes prohibiting operation by persons under 12, prohibiting operation in the street, restricting use on private property, banning gasoline powered scooters from streets, sidewalks and city property, banning passengers, and permitting the parking or standing of the scooters on sidewalks without impeding pedestrian traffic.

The scooter ordinance was referred to the Safety Committee, which I chair. The committee will meet on October 22, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall to discuss the ordinance. The public is welcome to attend and encouraged to voice their support, opposition, or suggestions for amending the ordinance. Constituents may also contact me at mgelfand@seuclid.com or at 216-932-1216.

**Council-At-Large, Marty Gelfand: 216-932-1216**

## Municipal Court Judge Gayle Williams-Byers

### How does a case get to the United States Supreme Court?



Judge Gayle Williams-Byers

The U.S. Supreme Court alone gets to decide which cases it will hear. While almost 8,000 new cases are filed with the U.S. Supreme Court every year, only about 80 are actually heard and decided by the Court.

The Supreme Court will consider only cases where at least four of the nine justices vote to grant a "writ of certiorari," a decision by the Supreme Court to hear an appeal from a lower court. "Certiorari" is a Latin word meaning "to inform."

Anyone wishing to appeal the ruling of a lower court must file a "petition for writ of certiorari" with the Supreme Court. If at least four justices vote to do so, the writ of certiorari will be granted and the Supreme Court will hear the case. If four justices do not vote to grant certiorari, the petition is denied, the case is not heard, and the decision of the lower court stands.

In general, the Supreme Court grants certiorari or "cert" agreeing to hear only those cases the justices consider important. Such cases often involve deep or controversial constitutional issues. In addition to the about 80 cases that are given "plenary review," meaning they are actually argued before the Supreme Court by attorneys, the Supreme Court also decides about 100 cases a year without plenary review. In addition, the Supreme Court receives over 1,200 applications for various types of judicial relief or opinion each year that can be acted upon by a single justice.

**Judge Gayle Williams-Byers: 216-381-2880**

## Councilwoman Ruth Gray: Ward 1

The Ward One Meeting will be held Tuesday, October 23, at Inner Healing Church Ministries, 800 S. Green Road, South Euclid, OH 44121, at 6:30 p.m. Come learn more about the proposed income tax increase, the Human Rights Commission and what's happening in our city.



Ruth Gray

Tuesday, November 6 is the final day to vote. Locally, you will be asked to vote on the proposed 2.5% Income Tax Levy. There are many judicial seats on the ballot. We will also be voting on our next Governor, Attorney General and Secretary of State. Proposed Issue One will reduce penalties for crimes of obtaining, possession and using illegal drugs if approved. Your Vote is your Voice. It's important that we cast our vote by November 6.

Community Partnership on Aging will celebrate its 40th Anniversary. Join the celebration on Saturday, November 10 at the Hilton Garden Inn, 700 Beta Drive, Mayfield Village. Contact Teresa Grida @ gridat@communitypartnershiponaging.org. Tickets are \$40.

Neighborhood Housing Services Home Repair Loan Program is available to help homeowners help with rehab projects up to \$30,000. For more information call 216-458-4663. Smaller grants are available through One South Euclid. For more information, call 216-381-0400.

Have a safe Holiday Season!

**Ward 1 Council Ruth Gray: 216-926-4960**

## Councilman Joe Frank: Ward 2

As Chair of the City's Finance Committee, the most important thing to the City is the stabilization of our finances. With new commercial development and some residential home values improving, things are starting to look up. Cedar Center will soon be complete with the opening of Planet Fitness. However, the rising home values will not be realized in time to secure our City's future now. That is why I supported putting the Income Tax Levy on this November's ballot. The time for the Citizens of South Euclid to decide on the direction they want the City to take as a path to the future is in our hands. In the past, short term fixes have been used to keep the status quo in the city. We were able to avoid layoffs of safety personnel with the Safety Levy and were able to maintain



Joe Frank

our city streets with the Street Levy, causing us to return to the citizens and ask for renewals. City Hall and the Community Center desperately need repair. The long term solution is why I support the passing of the Income Tax Levy to secure our long term future, enable us to add Fire, Police and Service personnel to improve your city. We need to act to expand our ability to fix and improve our streets and to create capital improvement plans, Community and Economic development funding and continue to improve and lead our city into the place where families and businesses want to come. Columbus has left this in our hands; the time to act is now. Please join me in supporting this levy!

**Ward 2 Council Joe Frank: 216-246-5614**

## Councilwoman Sara Continenza: Ward 3

### Pride in My Community

I have enjoyed living in South Euclid since 2011 when I first moved here. I love the diversity, openness and kindheartedness of our neighbors, our walkability, our amenities such as community gardens and OneSouthEuclid, and our location. While we have things to work on (more local businesses, more activities for our youth to take advantage of, etc), I have never been more proud to call South Euclid home. For one, I have been given a lot of positive feedback so far by residents for my service on Council, for which I am very appreciative. Also, every time someone contacts me with questions or concerns, the departments responsible for the issues in question respond in a matter of hours. Our City's departments



Sara Continenza

and safety forces are some of our best assets! In fact, when I was canvassing, this was one of the main reasons why our neighbors love living here. So, THANK YOU to all who work so hard to keep everything functioning smoothly and safe, even with the budget crisis our community currently faces. We all worked hard to come up with the best plan to bring more revenue into our community so we can do even better for our residents...read about the tax levy on November's ballot, starting on page 6.

Also, a big thanks to everyone who supported our Bexley Bash Concert Series this summer! I would like to thank our amazing committee, under the leadership of Laura Smith, Chair of the Bexley Community Group, Secretary of the South Euclid Democrats, and Democratic Precinct Leader for 4B, for her hard work helping to bring this all together, along with passionate residents, community partners and City personnel. We are so excited to bring another series next year to our Park. Please let me know if you are interested in being involved so we can make this event better yet!

If you would like to be a part of my email list please email me at FriendsOfSaraC@gmail.com, or call me at 216-816-1577 (please note this is a NEW NUMBER). Also, don't forget that NextDoor.com is a wonderful social network for neighborhoods, and is totally free to join!

**Ward 3 Council Sara Continenza: 216-272-2046**

## Councilwoman Jane Goodman: Ward 4

As member of a National League of Cities advocacy committee I travel to Washington a few times each year (not paid with city funds,) joining officials from across the country to talk to Senators, Congresspersons, policy makers, and their staffers about how their decisions affect our residents. Cities are expected to shoulder more of the burden for maintaining infrastructure and services, while federal laws preempt our ability to make decisions about how our city works, or how we pay to keep services intact.



Jane Goodman

For example new small cell wireless control boxes soon will be clustered on poles all over every city. The state, and now the feds, say we can't stop it, and if they have their way we won't be able to charge for the use of our rights of way or tree lawns. That means that the franchise fees that amount to about the cost of one police officer's salary will go away, we'll lose street trees that provide benefits and maintain property values, and our main streets will look worse than they already do.

This is the kind of thing I fight against on your behalf. And we fight to keep your ability to deduct state and local taxes, to keep community development block grants that have paid for infrastructure improvements, and to keep and expand federal grants that have paid for police and safety forces.

You may be paying less in federal taxes, but you're getting less from them, too. We're in this together. I'll fight. You vote.

**Ward 4 Council Jane Goodman: 216-291-0442**

# SOUTH EUCLID LYNDHURST SCHOOLS



***Students in the South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools have earned impressive achievements. Please read below to learn more!***



A summary of the Excellent Achievements in the South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools.

- ⚡ The Charles F. Brush High School Class of 2018 earned nearly \$6 million in total scholarships, awards and grants.
- ⚡ 14 Advanced Placement Courses are available for students at Charles F. Brush High School, including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Art Studio and Calculus.
- ⚡ More than 25 Career Technical Programs are available to high school students through EXCEL-TECC including, Exercise Science Sports Rehabilitation (ESSR), housed at our very own Brush High School, as well as Medical Technologies, Visual Art and Design and CADD Engineering Technology.
- ⚡ Nearly 20,000 hours of community service were completed by students in the South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools last year alone in Grades 9 through 12.
- ⚡ Staff and students shape an award-winning fine arts program, earned regional, statewide and national recognition for the SEL Schools, combined with a comprehensive performing arts option that includes Orchestra, Vocal Ensemble and Jazz Band.
- ⚡ The Varsity Football Team and Boys Varsity Basketball Team cinched the 2017-18 Western Reserve Conference prompting nearly a dozen student-athletes to earn college scholarships.
- ⚡ The Arc Fit Complex, a state-of-the-art health and wellness facility at Brush High School, provides students with professional grade workout equipment and resources, including a full-time Wellness Coordinator.
- ⚡ Student leadership organizations are widely promoted, including Student Congress, National Honor Society and Robotics Club at Brush, National Junior Honor Society at Memorial, National Elementary Honor Society at Greenview and MAC Ambassadors at each Elementary Building.
- ⚡ Memorial Junior High School offers high school credit for Algebra, Geometry, Physical Science, World Language, Physical Education in addition to quality Gifted Services K-8.
- ⚡ The SEL Schools hosts a 1-to-1 mobile device platform, meaning all students in our District have access to their own exclusive mobile technology for the purpose of supporting and enhancing a personalized learning experience.
- ⚡ Innovative Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Labs, (S.T.E.M.) have been installed at each of the K-6 buildings in the SEL Schools.



**South Euclid  
Lyndhurst Schools**



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