

South euclid

Fall 2020

magazine

**SOUTH
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ROAD TO
RECOVERY
AND
RENEWAL**

**Road Levy Issue #48 Renewal
Information: Pages 6-7.**

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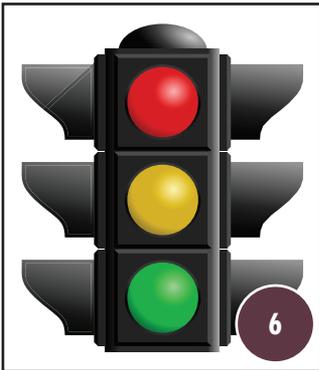
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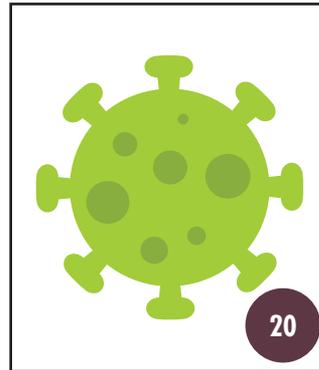
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 Georgine Welo

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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!

Interested in Advertising in South Euclid Magazine?

Make sure to schedule your advertisement for the Winter 2020 issue. Call Sherry Tilson at 216.342.5204 for more information.



DEAR FRIENDS:

As the weather begins to turn and the green of summer transforms into the rich autumn colors of fall there is still time to get outside and enjoy the fresh air, our parks and warm sunny days.



Mayor Georgine Welo
216.381.0400

The last months have certainly been trying as we've adapted to this once-in-a-lifetime pandemic that has changed how we live our daily lives. But throughout these trying times, your unwavering support and strength has shined brighter than any cloud that has hovered over our community and our country during these past months.

Our "new normal" now includes hand sanitizers, along with facemasks and neck gaiters, which

have become a necessary new safety and fashion accessory. Our dining rooms and kitchen tables have been turned into offices so we can work from home and parents have scurried to ensure their children can learn remotely. Visits with many of our family and friends now occur virtually using FaceTime, Skype, Facebook and Zoom, and we socially distance – six feet apart – when we do venture outside of our homes.

During this pandemic, our Police and Fire Departments have continued to protect us as we walked this unfamiliar path, and many businesses in our community have had to close their doors, or limit their hours, resulting in job losses and lost wages. Sadly, some of our neighbors have endured the heartbreak of loved ones who were sickened or fell prey to this horrible virus.

Throughout the pandemic, we have also worked to better understand the importance of diversity in our community, and many of us have taken positive steps to better listen and learn from those in our community who have been victims of systemic racism and discrimination in our society.

In late June, hundreds of us (including our Police Chief and members of our police department) donned our facemasks in the middle of the pandemic and came together from across political, economic, generational and racial landscapes to march for an end to discrimination and systemic racism in our society. While we have made progress toward racial equality, we recognize there is still a lot of work to be done, and it is incumbent upon all of us to continue to listen, learn and take necessary action.

The tolerance, patience and overwhelming kindness that has surrounded us in South Euclid through these many tough months has been heartwarming. Witnessing the many acts of kindness among strangers and genuine concern for others has been moving and uplifting. South Euclid proved to be "All-In" and we dug-in together – as one talented, tireless team.

So, here's to you, Team South Euclid! We are a diverse group of nearly 22,000 exceptional people from all walks of life who celebrate goodness, demonstrate kindness and compassion, and help make our hometown a better place to come together and thrive.

Thank you for rising up to face these challenges and make our world a better place to live, work and play.

*Stay safe and healthy.
With gratitude,
Georgine*

Quick Notes from the Mayor:

Have you filled out your Census? There's still time, please go to www.2020Census.gov and take five minutes to complete your census.

Are you going to Vote From Home? If so, please go to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections website at www.boe.cuyahogacounty.gov and request your Vote By Mail application.

The 2020 Road Levy is on the November 3rd Ballot for another five-year renewal as Issue 48. Passage of the Levy **will not** raise your taxes. This important Levy has been approved every five years for the last 40 years and is dedicated to the critical repair of our roadways! For more information go to Pages 6 and 7 of this magazine.

Are you in need of assistance from pandemic-related job loss? Visit Page 23 in this magazine if you are in need of rental and/or foreclosure assistance and Page 20 for

information about staying safe during the upcoming holiday season. If you are a senior looking for help, please contact our Community Partnership on Aging at 216.291.3902 and visit Page 18.

Fall Leaf Pickup will continue (as weather allows) through December 15th. Please place leaves on the tree lawn and not in the street. Beginning the first week in November, the Service Department will provide a message with information on what areas they will be picking up the following day. Please call 216.281.0402 after 4:30 pm daily to hear the message.

Sign Up For Our Emergency Notification System: Visit www.ready.cuyahogacounty.us to be notified via voicemail or text message of neighborhood emergencies. Also, sign-up for our e-newsletter by visiting our homepage at www.cityofsoutheuclid.com.



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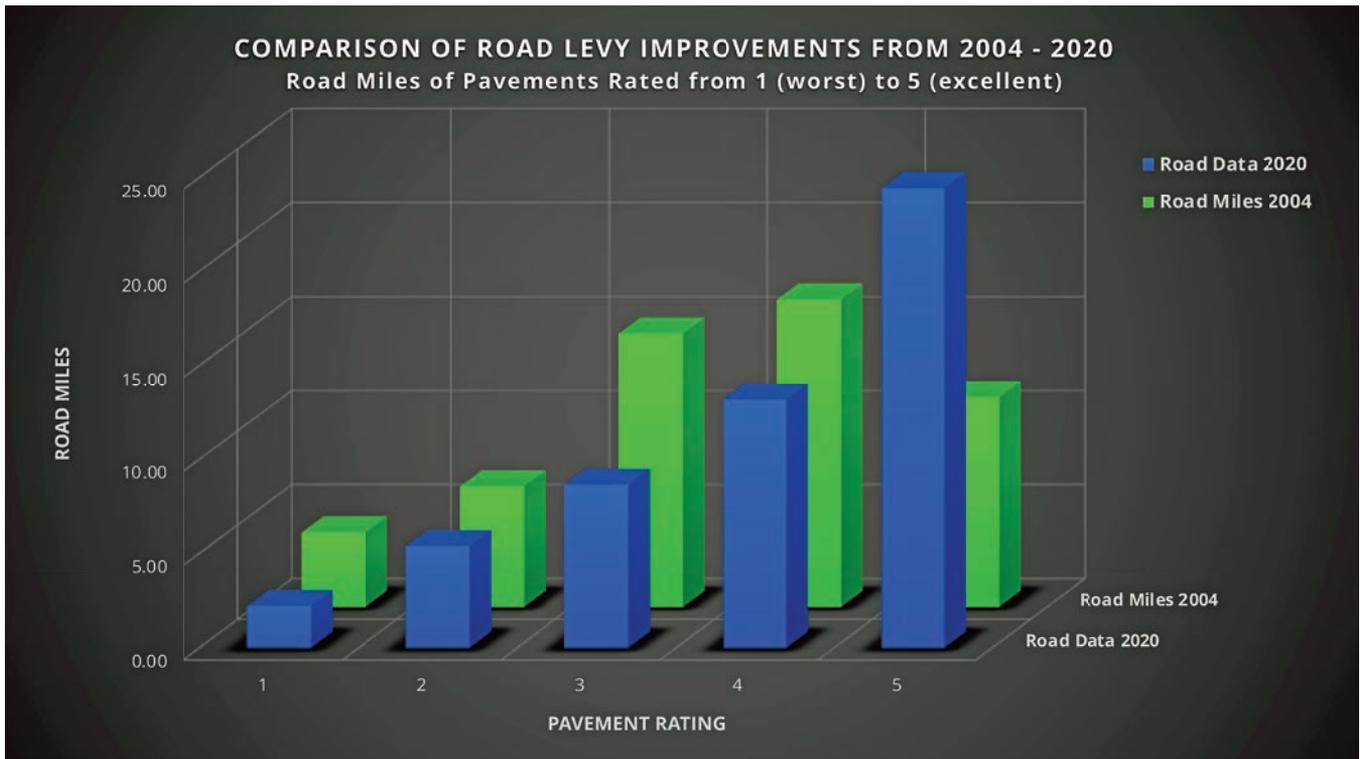
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ISSUE #48: 2020 ROAD LEVY INFORMATION PAVING OUR WAY TO A BETTER FUTURE!



We all appreciate driving on smooth roadways, and every five years since 1980, South Euclid residents have voted to renew the road levy that allows our aging streets to be maintained, repaired and replaced.

The City’s Road Levy (which generates about \$1 million annually) will be up for renewal on November 3 as Issue #48. If approved, the Road Levy Renewal will not increase your taxes and 100% of the funds are dedicated exclusively toward repairing and resurfacing our streets and underlying infrastructure.

Why do we need the Road Levy?

Our current road improvement program has resulted in significant progress since 2004. However, as an inner-ring suburb, we have some of the oldest streets, sewers and underlying infrastructure – some over 100 years old – and as a result, we are “playing

catch-up” every year to maintain streets currently in good condition and find creative ways to reconstruct those streets in critical need of repair.

What does the Road Levy generate and how much does it cost me?

The Road Levy generates approximately \$1 million annually and costs the average homeowner about \$78 a year. This investment not only helps keep our roadways in safe condition, but also works to maintain your housing values and attract new residents and businesses. Because the Road Levy is a renewal, it will not increase your taxes.

On November 3, residents will be asked to renew the five-year Road Levy (Issue #48 on your ballot).

The levy is a renewal and will not increase your taxes.

Why is passage of the Road Levy so important?

The continuing revitalization and maintenance of our infrastructure is one of the most important factors contributing to the health and vitality of our community. These repairs serve to beautify streets, increase property values, maintain safety and serve as a catalyst for neighborhood and home revitalization projects.

The Road Levy ensures that there are dedicated funds each year to maintain and replace our streets – even during economic downturns. For example, while many communities canceled road repair programs this year as a result of the pandemic and loss of tax dollars – because of your ongoing support of the road levy we were able to continue our road program and repave several streets in 2020.

What is the process for rating our streets and decision-making to prioritize repairs?

The process for deciding street repair is based on an Ohio Department of Transportation rating system that is updated yearly. Decisions are also based on project cost and the availability of matching grant dollars from other sources.

Every year, the Service Director and City Engineer inspect every street within the City to ascertain the condition of our roadways. Based on the inspection, the street is assigned a coded rating from 1 (Critical) to 5 (Excellent).

The factors considered in assigning a rating include the age and condition of the surface, riding quality, frequency of repairs, integrity of street curbs, structural condition of the pavement, and, especially on concrete streets, the condition of the pavement joints. In addition, the amount of traffic on the street is taken into consideration based on reports from the Police Department's Traffic Commissioner. Below is a breakout of each street condition designation:

- 1. Critical: Road requires complete replacement or total rehabilitation.** Pavement surface has numerous areas of contiguous surface deterioration, evidence of extensive structural failure, broken or missing curbs, numerous joints exhibiting severe deterioration.
- 2. Poor: Some areas of road require rehabilitation and repair, plus resurfacing.** Pavement surface has numerous surface spalls, pavement cracking, evidence of structural failure, some missing joint deterioration.
- 3. Fair: Road requires minor repairs and some resurfacing/patching. asphalt surface is nearing the end of useful life.** Pavement surface has some deterioration. Ride quality is affected and the pavement exhibits minor structural distress.
- 4. Good: roadway requires scheduled maintenance, crack**

Issue 48: 2020 Road Levy Information, Facts & Figures

- 100%** your support of our 5-Year Road Levy since 1980!
- 150 lane miles** of roadways
- 140 miles** of sidewalk
- 130 miles** of sanitary & storm sewers
- Over \$30 million** invested in Road & Infrastructure Repairs since 2004
- 70%** Percentage of Streets Rated Good or Excellent in 2020 (compared to @ 52% in 2004).
- \$78** Average cost per homeowner, per year for the road levy.
- about \$1 Million** generated annually by the Road Levy to repair your roads and resurface your streets
- Zero. Zilch. Nada.** The amount your taxes will increase if the Road Levy is approved.

For more information about the Road Levy, Upcoming Projects and Ratings for every residential street in South Euclid visit www.cityofsoutheuclid.com/roads.

- sealing and surface treatment.** Road surface exhibits minor cracking and the riding surface is not adversely affected.
- 5. Excellent: Roadway requires scheduled maintenance, including minor crack sealing several years after completion.** Road is in nearly new or nearly new condition.

How can I find out the condition of my street and history of repairs?
 Further information regarding our road programs, including the 2020 Comprehensive Street Ratings, please visit the "Roads Page" on our website at www.cityofsoutheuclid.com/roads.





John Bruening's Pulp Fiction

By Carlo Wolff

John Bruening would like to fill a shelf, maybe three, with his books. He writes all day as a marketing specialist at Lincoln Electric, where he has worked for six years. At night, his focus is fiction, where his imagination can run free. He has produced two novels. Many more are in his head.

The South Euclid resident looks back on a career of close to 35 years, from mainstream newspapers to alternative weeklies to public relations to technical writing. For the past five years, the John Carroll University communications graduate has been a standard bearer for pulp fiction.

"South Euclid has been a great place to raise a family," he says. "The housing is affordable, and Bexley Park and the pool were valuable neighborhood amenities when our kids were younger. I also enjoy the diversity – not just racial and cultural, but also economic and even commercial. The city's leadership seems to be supportive of small businesses and other

entrepreneurial ventures that might not have a chance elsewhere."

Bruening's day job includes being editor of ARC Magazine, a twice-yearly Lincoln Electric corporate publication. In addition to assigning and monitoring all of its editorial content, he writes a good deal of it himself. He's a journalist to the bone, and even in his fiction, he's a stickler for detail.

After his wife, Mariah, son Jack and daughter Jessica, pulp is Bruening's great love. His affection for the popular genre comes through clearly in his books starring the resourceful and rugged Jack Hunter, "Midnight Guardian: Hour of Darkness" and "Midnight Guardian: Annihilation Machine," published, respectively, in 2016 and 2019.

"If I don't run out of time, breath or oxygen, I'll keep doing this as long as I can," says Bruening. "I would like to see two or three series, each rooted in a period of historical significance. I'm talking about those moments in history when we were in a precarious place with

everything up for grabs."

Bruening's appetite for the dramatic, even the lurid, comes from his father Paul, an electrician who worked for the New York Central Railroad in the Collinwood Railroad Yards from the 1940s to the 1960s. "Dad went to Collinwood High, barely graduated, and went to work with his father," Bruening says. "When my dad was growing up in the '30s and '40s, he was reading pulp fiction by Edgar Rice Burroughs, Doc Savage, Alexandre Dumas, Robert Louis Stevenson, Amazing Tales, and The Shadow. He spent a lot of time in the movie house watching westerns; he loved the Lone Ranger. I was a young kid in the '70s and he was still talking about this stuff."

His father never tired of pulp fiction stories of dashing heroes, dazzling dames, and improbable derring-do. No wonder Bruening invented the intrepid Jack Hunter. Armed with technology that was state-of-the-art in its time, Bruening's hero battles homegrown and offshore nemeses in the two Midnight Guardian books.

Hunter, his brother, the villains and those alluring ladies in distress are a natural outgrowth of growing up in Euclid: “I’m reading a bunch of comic books, listening to pop music, watching a lot of TV, and he’s telling me about all these,” Bruening says of his dad’s pulp appetite. “And that all sort of gets baked into my DNA. By the time I’m 18, I know more about that stuff than any other kid my age.”

The Bruening method

The Midnight Guardian books drive hard, captivating the reader from the start. There’s a reason: Bruening is a kind of classicist – his books reanimate an old genre – who tends to follow the classic, three-act structure. In the first quarter, he establishes the world his characters live in, ending it with something momentous. In the second act, which consumes half the book, he depicts a series of struggles, challenges and obstacles. “By the end of that, your protagonist is in the worst possible place, his back against the wall,” he says. “The last 25% is about how the hell he or she gets out of that situation and resolves all the conflicts established in Act 2. ‘The Odyssey’ follows that structure. If you look at some of the greatest movies ever made, they follow that structure.”

Where he spent seven years writing Midnight Guardian I, Midnight Guardian II took two-and-a-half. Jessica and Jack are teen-agers, and his parents have passed, so there’s more room and time for the fiction on which Bruening spends a good 10 hours a week. The work is paying off. He’s going worldwide, if primarily in a virtual way.

Bruening tracks his social media feedback, noting “in my haste to brag about the small handful of readers who

have checked in from around the world (England, Scotland, Australia, Nicaragua, Alaska), I failed to mention the many others from right here in the continental U.S.” He has garnered praise from all over the Midwest, Colorado, California, New York, New Jersey, Maryland and D.C. (Are there no pulp fans in New England?)

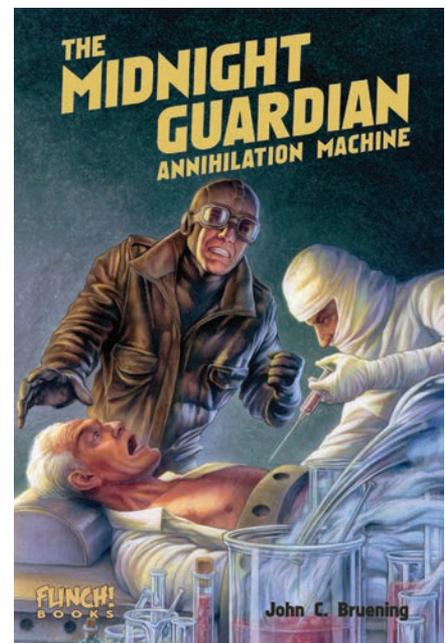
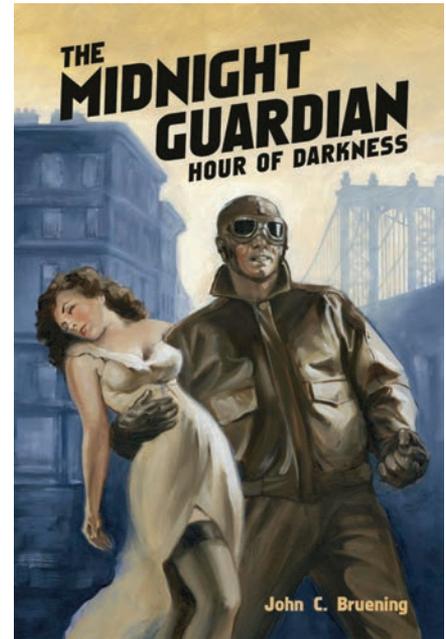
“I have been read in Central America, Scotland, and Australia,” he says. “Do I have a national profile? I would think I’m moving in that direction. I’m half of a two-person, small press operation, Flinch Books. My partner Jim Beard and I are Flinch Books. He’s in Toledo. We used to show at Pulpfest every summer; it used to be in Columbus and now it’s in Pittsburgh. I do all my own publicity, all my own marketing, and I pay for the cover illustrations, the cover design, the page formatting. If I don’t do it myself, I pay for somebody who does.”

The long view

Not only is Bruening working on a third Midnight Guardian book, he’s pondering another series; Bruening doesn’t just write books, he creates worlds. He anticipates writing five or six Midnight Guardian books that bring the story into the latter part of World War II. The other series would be set in the Cold War era, and there may be overlap between the two. “You may encounter minor characters in the current series that figure more prominently in the next series,” he says.

Is there a decade in which he would have liked to live?

“To me, the best stories emerge in times and places where the world and humanity were in a precarious position,” Bruening says. “Given that, I would say the 1940s were one of the most pivotal decades in history, at least modern



history, so to witness that would be pretty amazing.”

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Susan Petrone's Power of Words

By Carlo Wolff

Spring was busy for Susan Petrone, a dedicated writer who knew early on that words were her medium and storytelling was her love. "The Heebie-Jeebie Girl," her third novel for The Story Plant, a small company that publishes independent fiction, came out in April. Petrone already is working on a fifth novel. "A Body at Rest," her first, was published by Drinian Press in 2010.

Petrone, who lives with "one husband, one child, one cat, and two dogs," discovered her talent for communication as a student at a venerable Catholic school in Cleveland Heights, where she grew up the youngest of six children. It didn't hurt that her parents were creative. Neither mom nor dad ever steered her away from imagination.

Petrone grew up in Cleveland Heights. Her father was a music teacher, her mother a writer; mom and dad wrote the Mr. Jingeling shows. They also wrote a musical based on "The Confessions of St. Augustine." Growing up in the Petrone household normalized creating art, Petrone says: "Nobody ever said I should go make yada yada," she adds, noting her brother, Mike, has been playing jazz piano as a professional since he was 14.

Petrone works at home, and her surroundings matter. "I've lived in South Euclid since 2001," she says. "I like the city because of its location as an inner-ring suburb – it's close to a lot of places we frequent – but it still has a surprisingly high amount of green space and wooded areas."

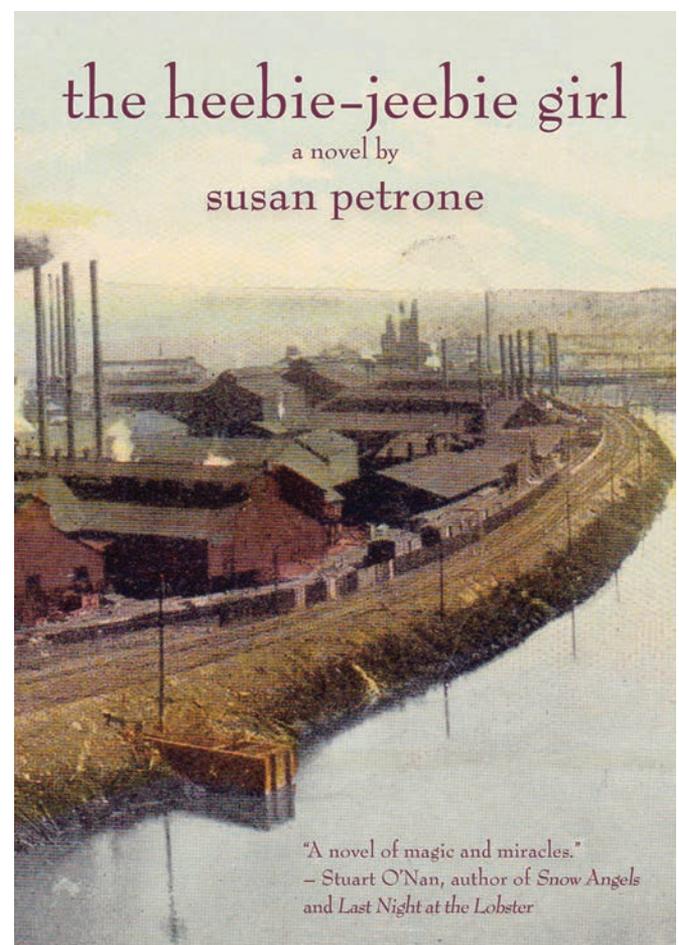
The power of words

"I knew I wanted to be a writer when I was 11," says Petrone, who recently won an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award for fiction. "When our parents sent all of us to St. Ann School – I guess I'm still culturally Catholic – I wrote an essay. I learned to write for an audience, and my teacher, who was the meanest nun, really liked it. My teacher showed it to the principal, and she really liked it. It was the first time in my life that I realized something I had written could have an effect on other people. That's a hell of a lot of power for an 11-year-old."

"I did the six-year program for undergrad, starting at St. John's College in Annapolis," she says, laughing. "Later, I transferred to Ursuline College, where my mom managed the bookstore. I graduated with a degree in humanities ('a degree in ambiguity'), then volunteered in the Netherlands for two years for the International Fellowship of Reconciliation. Then I went to graduate school, getting a master's degree in English, with a concentration in creative writing, from Cleveland State University. I did some writing for CoolCleveland between 2008 and 2012, but I'd rather make things up than write down what actually happened."

Learning the craft

Petrone was something of a loner as a teen. "In high school, I



hung out at Dobama Theatre a lot; I wanted to be a playwright," she recalls. "I'd rather not be on stage. I'm not that good at it." She worked crew at Dobama, drawn there, perhaps, because "of what was going on in my house with my parents writing for Mr. Jingeling." And Dobama was conveniently nearby.

"I learned things from running lights at every performance of every production. I had no life. I wasn't hanging out with other kids, I was hanging out at the theater. What I realize now is if you're watching the same show 20 times in a row and following the script to find your cue for a light, you learn a lot about dramatic structure and character development. That was an education in itself"

The little time she spent around Heights High, "I hung out with the punks and the burnouts. I was also with the Heights Singers, so I kind of floated. I don't know if I'm ambitious but I think I was too smart for my own good."

What was most important to her was hanging out at Dobama; Don Bianchi, one of Dobama's founders, always said your input needs to match your output, she notes.

Graduate school at Cleveland State also shaped her world.

The family influence

"The Heebie-Jeebie Girl" takes place in 1977 in Youngstown, where both of Petrone's parents came from. "Mike and I were born in Cleveland, all the other kids in Youngstown. All my family was there, so for the big holidays we'd hang out with my dad's parents. 'The Heebie-Jeebie Girl' is really about my mom's side of the family; I played with the timeline." Fiction plays with facts.

Youngstown Sheet & Tube closed in 1977, "pretty much the death knell" for the city; the company employed 5,000. To chill the atmosphere even more, the Great Blizzard of 1978 slammed Northeast Ohio late that January.

"I remember the blizzard," Petrone says. "We were living in Cleveland but all my relatives were still in Youngstown. My paternal grandfather had retired from Sheet & Tube by then. My mom's father died in the early '50s; he had been blackballed by Republic Steel for being a union organizer. Sometime in the '80s, one of my cousins played the lottery daily, picking the number with such success that her aunt and my grandmother won a lot of money. My great-uncle called my daily-lottery-number-picking cousin the 'heebie-jeebie girl' because she picked so many winning daily numbers. It seemed like a good title for the book."

It's also her only novel to be based on a historical incident. "Throw Like a Woman" reflects her love of baseball, but it's grounded more in ambition and aspiration than in fact. Which, you could say, also colors "The Heebie-Jeebie Girl," whose heroine can make things move with her mind.

"I love baseball," says Petrone, who used to play in a wood bat pickup league Sunday nights. "I got the idea for 'Throw Like a Woman' when I was out on my bike on Chagrin River Road when

somebody cut me off. There were no other cars on the road; there was no reason. I pedaled as fast as I could in that crazy adrenaline-fueled burst of rage ... I thought if I could channel my rage I could catch up really fast. It wasn't that much of a mental leap to imagine analogues, like throwing a baseball really fast."

Or to conjure the tale of Hope, the "heebie-jeebie girl" who runs on magic— and spreads it.

Visit Petrone's website at www.susanpetrone.com for more information, including upcoming virtual events.

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Afi Scruggs' Fueled by the Blues

By Carlo Wolff

Afi-Odelia Scruggs is a reporter and musician who worries about how investigative journalism can survive, let alone prevail, in an atmosphere of disinformation. Despite that skepticism, her curiosity, versatility and anger drive her to tell the truth, whatever medium suits it best.

As a newswoman, Scruggs covers issues of social justice. As a musician who plays clubs Saturday nights and church services Sunday mornings, she's fueled by the blues and fascinated by the history of African-American music. As a resident of South Euclid since 1995 (she loves all the nearby grocery stores), she wonders when creativity will kick in to unify and enhance the Cleveland area. She has been observing it for some time.

Scruggs arrived at The Plain Dealer in 1993 from the Dayton Daily News, where as a police reporter, she saw only the seamy side of the city, giving her what she fears is a permanent distaste for Dayton. She left the PD in 2001. The Nashville native suggests that what happened with her in Dayton may be in play for her here.

"I've been here longer than I lived in my hometown," Scruggs says. "I keep trying to leave. Cleveland's blessing is its curse."

Cleveland has tons of beautiful resources, the diversity is astounding, the people are very loyal, and they have a strong sense of place. The problem is they have a strong sense of place, so everyone is niched in their neighborhoods."

Members of the creative community are similarly stuck, "and trying to build bridges across the niches is almost impossible here."

The area's population loss is worrisome and problematic, the chronic, corrosive poverty in Cleveland undeniable; no amount of boosterism can mask it. "You can't have a third of your city living in poverty and expect that your city is going to be healthy."

Teaching at an elementary school on Parmalee Avenue off St. Clair Avenue, just west of East 102nd Street, brought that lesson home. "I was working in schools as a teacher-artist at what used to be Empire Computech; the building was as old as my grandmother, and I saw the population of the school just drop, drop, drop. I was in that school from about 2004 to 2009 (when the school closed). I went to Barack Obama's inauguration with the kids.

"It was surrounded by declining properties. There was some attempt to renovate and revitalize some of the houses, but if you go down the street now, there's nothing. I've gone down a

couple of them, and I knew people were in those houses. You can't have that going on."

Becoming a truth teller

Scruggs graduated from the University of Chicago in 1975 with a degree in Russian. She earned her doctorate in Slavic linguistics from Brown University in 1982. She taught that subject at the University of Virginia in Richmond for a year, but academia wasn't for her.

"You get a job, then you get another job, so you kind of drift, you're applying for jobs. At that time there was a certain window, and if you didn't get picked up you had to wait for the next window." Scruggs tired of the instability.

"I started looking for something creative that I felt I could work in, and if I was unemployed I wouldn't have to wait 18 months," she says. "I was trying to choose between photography and writing, and writing had the least overhead. All I needed was a pencil and paper, whereas with photography at that time I would have had to have a camera, film and chemicals, and set up a darkroom."

For a time, she freelanced news releases for the Virginia Tourism Corporation, the state's tourism arm. Sexism and racism shut down her attempts to join a monochrome Richmond advertising agency full time. And she played music. She's been taking piano lessons since she was 6, learned gospel at 16, and started playing bass 10 years ago.

Her musician side came into valuable play in the '80s, when a powerful newspaper in the deepest South sent her to Chicago to interview blues musicians with Mississippi roots. Scruggs had seen the blues switch from a black music to a white music when she attended the University of Chicago.

"Blues is no longer a genre," says Scruggs. "Now it is a subset of rock, and in that, the marketing of blues has changed, because blues was historically a response to oppression. I didn't really understand that until I went to work in Mississippi in the '80s. That was my first regular newspaper job, at The Clarion-Ledger in Jackson. You could write about blues in New York—as long as it was about Mississippi. One of the projects that I pitched was how the blues went from a black music to a white music.

"We didn't realize how good we had it back in the day. The paper sent folks to South Korea to cover the Olympics in 1988 because there were Mississippi athletes. They had all this money left over they had to spend." Today, in the shadow of the internet, the very survival of newspapers is in question.

Local interests

As recently as the '90s, a newspaper was viewed as the source of record. "Now we don't have an organ of record,"

Scruggs says.

"One of the things that has happened is that as that whole structure has been dismantled, we lost local journalism, which I always thought was the heart and soul of journalism. I tell people I didn't know how important a sewer story was until I got a house. I didn't care about any of this other stuff, I wanted to know who was fixing my storm sewers. Now, people find their news off of Facebook, with its algorithms, and the smaller stuff is gone. All the arguments are about big stories."

Scruggs writes for Eye on Ohio, an investigative news site at eyeonohio.com, and for Scene, a weekly news magazine. Last year, she did a six-month stint at WCPN-FM, Cleveland's public radio station.

She also is part of a journalism collaborative between the Plain Dealer and WKSU-FM, the Kent public radio station. The topic they're probing is eviction rates. "I don't know what form those stories are going to take," says Scruggs. "I know I'm working on them," she says.

"The big issue is, how are you getting your product to your audience? As a musician, that's something I have to think about constantly. That has really changed my mindset in terms of how I approach journalism. I'm a lot more audience-driven. As a musician, you're clear you're selling a product. You have to know your market." And there has to be one—at least. ✍

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COOKING #1 CAUSE OF HOME FIRES

BE SURE TO
STAND BY
YOUR
PAN



PUT A LID
ON STOVETOP
FIRES

Serving Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen

By Scott Sebastian, Fire Inspector

October 4-10, 2020 is Fire Prevention Week. In the United States, the first Presidential proclamation of Fire Prevention Week was made in 1925 by President Calvin Coolidge in remembrance of the Great Chicago Fire that occurred from October 8-10, 1871. This large fire destroyed roughly 3.3 square miles and left more than 100,000 residents homeless. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for the last 95 years, has announced "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen" as this year's theme. Over the last ten years national fire incident data has shown that 51% of home fire and fire injuries are the result of cooking fires.

This trend is found in South Euclid with 57% of our fire responses being cooking-related! The majority of the fires involve the use of the kitchen cook top. NFPA explains that nationally ranges and cook tops account for 63% of home cooking fires and 79% of cooking fire injuries. (Ahrens, 2018)

"Stand by your Pan"! Educate youth about fire safety in the kitchen.

Due to the pandemic, many of you are working from home and your children are also going to school from home. As a result, youth are cooking in the kitchen more than ever-preparing snacks, heating up food, cooking for younger siblings, and cooking for children they are babysitting.

With inexperience, youth have left food unattended or become distracted, which has resulted in an increase in cooking fires. This is why you want to "Stand by your Pan" with these simple steps:

- Never start cooking a meal and leave it unattended – especially if you are using grease, cooking oils, or high temperatures. NFPA reports that two-thirds of home cooking fires begin with the ignition of cooking materials like grease, fats, and cooking oils.
- Keep combustibles like oven mitts, food packaging and towels away from your stove top.

What do I do if my pot/pan catches fire?
If a pan of food does catch fire, carefully slide a lid over the pan and then turn off the burner. Be sure to let the pan cool before taking off the lid.

- Never pour water on a grease fire, it will



result in a large fire explosion that will do extensive fire damage to the room.

- According to the NFPA, 15% of home cooking fire deaths are the result of clothing ignitions. When cooking it is best to wear tight-fitting clothing or short sleeves so your clothes will not catch on fire. Baggy clothes or dangling sleeves can easily brush over a hot burner and catch fire. If your clothing catches fire, STOP what you are doing immediately, DROP or lower yourself to the floor, and ROLL over and over to put out the flames. Do NOT run if your clothes are on fire. If you are burned, use cool water or ice to cool the burn. If the burn is severe, get medical help right away.

Our message to you is to "Stand by your Pan" and call us at 911 in an emergency. It is our recipe for safety while cooking. 🍴

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 17, 2020

Community Shred-It Event

9 am – Noon

Drive-Up & Drop Off at South Euclid City Hall



Friday, October 23, 2020

Drive-Thru Pumpkins in the Park

5pm-7pm @ Bexley Park

Limit 2 pumpkins per car

Pumpkin will be loaded into your car, so you do not need to get out. Kids are still encouraged to dress up in costume for the ride to the park. There will be free fall tote bags for all.

Enter Bexley from the Wrenford Road side and drive to the circle in front of the pool house.

Sponsors: Giant Eagle & Marc's



Friday, October 23, 2020

Drive-In Movie Night

7pm

Nightmare Before Christmas

Suggested donation of \$10 to benefit Rock the Block, will include free popcorn.

Individually wrapped fall treats and beverages will also be available for purchase.

Special thanks to Garfield Memorial Church for providing the equipment to make this event possible. Supported by South Euclid MyCom.

Halloween Trick or Treat

As of publication, City Council is still considering local and regional public health guidance on Halloween trick or treating, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Please visit www.cityofsoutheuclid/halloween for updated information and public health guidance on trick or treating this season.

Stay in the Know during Emergencies:

Sign-up to be notified via phone or text during emergencies at www.ready.cuyahogacounty.us.

Sign-up for South Euclid's e-newsletter on our homepage at www.cityofsoutheuclid.com.

Advertising Opportunities Available in South Euclid Magazine

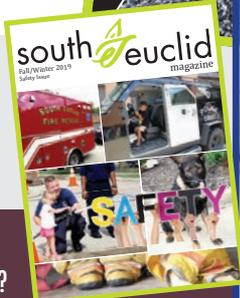
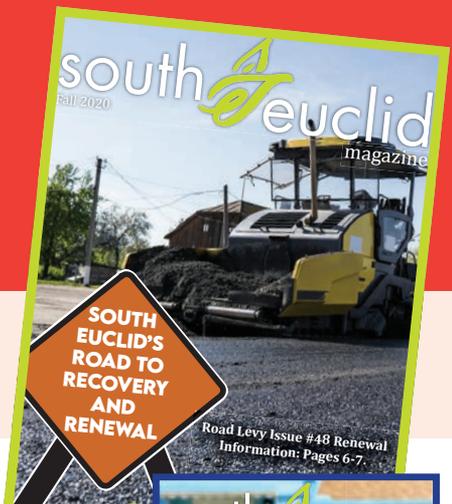
Upcoming Winter Issue:

December 21, 2020

2021 Schedule

3 issues – Dates To Be Determined

Call Sherry Tilson, Project Coordinator at 216-342-5204 or email stilson@cjn.org to book your ad space.



Also Inside:
Addressing Issues of Race & Policing (beginning on Page 4).
COVID-19 Pandemic Resources (beginning on Page 5).



HRCC Members.....Did you know your eligible for a 15% Discount on all South Euclid Magazine ads?

Be sure to mention this when you call to schedule your ad.



Business Profile:

LT SQUARED, VIRTUE STYLE STUDIO & COVENANT ARMY!

With LT Squared, Covenant Army, and now Virtue Style Studio, the Stringers are quickly becoming anchors along the Mayfield Road Corridor.

Glenn and Laeh Stringer met at Cleveland Heights High School in 1989, but they did not speak to each other often despite having a class together. Glenn was on the basketball team and Laeh was a statistician for the team. Glenn was Laeh's favorite player on the team, but she never told him. It was not until 15 years later that they began to date after seeing each other at their church. They have now been married since September 2009.

Glenn and Laeh are also entrepreneurs and own three businesses in South Euclid. The building at 4147 Mayfield Road serves as the home to LT Squared and Covenant Army, and the newest business, Virtue Style Studio. Laeh and her twin sister Leah started working in their father's office in South Euclid and as they expanded, they decided to keep their business in South Euclid by leasing their own storefront.

LT Squared

LT Squared (named after twin sisters Laeh Tamara and her twin sister Leah Tamera) is an African-American, female-owned business formed in 2002 when one of their friends wanted unique wedding invitations and could only find "cookie cutter designs" in stores, so Laeh went to work designing specialized invitations for the wedding. Their friend loved the invitations and allowed them to put their contact information on the back, which brought a lot of attention to their designs from others looking for new and unique designs. In addition to creating

custom invitations, LT Squared also offers graphic design services, including a "scented division" with customizable triple-scented products varying from candles, hand sanitizer, room sprays, shea butter, to fragrances.

With their motto, "Whatever you have in mind, we can design," LT Squared has created custom invitations and products for birthdays, weddings, retirements, baby/bridal showers, bar/bat mitzvahs, graduations and memorial services. They also provide business services with the creation of business cards, fliers, invoices, postcards, posters, CD labels/covers, stickers and more.

LT Squared has been voted the #1 company on Fox 8's Hotlist as the best invitation company in the Cleveland/Akron area for the last seven years.

Covenant Army

Glenn started **Covenant Army**, a covenant lifestyle clothing brand, in 2007. Laeh designed the first logo when they were dating. Originally, the line started as a Christian brand, but the message has progressed over the years. The current tagline for Covenant Army is "Commit to your Covenant" and the designs focus on living a positive lifestyle. Glenn is passionate about ministry and fashion and Covenant Army has allowed him to combine the two.

Glenn and Laeh enjoy being able to work together. When Glenn was starting his business, Laeh taught him how to use Photoshop and design software. Initially, Glenn had a stand selling his products at LT Squared; as his business expanded, he moved his business into the same building. "As our relationship grew, our businesses grew together as a brand as well."

Glenn and Laeh value customer service and therefore they are constantly working. "We call the office our first home, not our second home, because we spend more time here than we do at home." In addition, Laeh has a home office which allows her to work at home as well. She makes most of the designs in the office, but makes the fragrances at home.

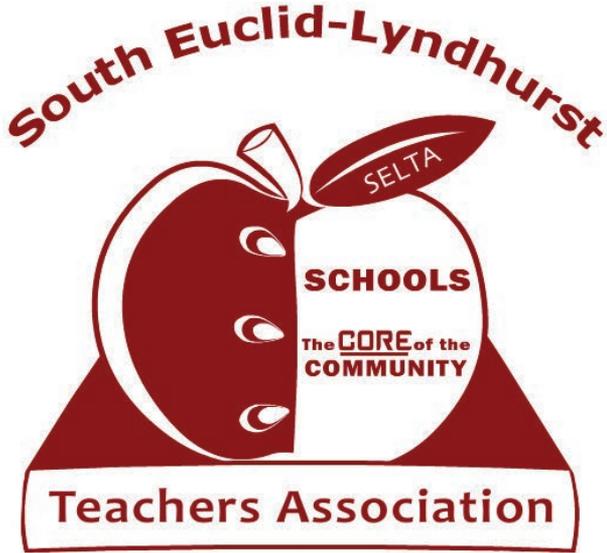
Virtue Style Studio

The Stringers have continued to grow in South Euclid, as Laeh has recently opened a third business, *Virtue Style Studio*. Virtue Style Studio is located in the storefront next to LT Squared and is a full service hair salon. When the previous salon closed and the space became vacant, Laeh saw an opportunity for additional business growth.

Creating Work/Life Balance

Glenn and Laeh have a wonderful addition to their family, their loving three-year-old son, Logan. Where they would spend most of their evenings and late nights at the office, they now manage that time being actively involved at the early learning center he attends during the day and spending quality family time together. He is an answered prayer through their 8 year battle with infertility. As a family, they enjoy taking walks in nature, going to museums and trampoline parks, visiting the farmers markets to teach him agriculture and finding new and adventurous ways of learning. ✍

For more information, visit www.LTSQUARED.com.



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News from the Community Partnership on Aging

On August 20, 2020 Governor Mike DeWine announced that Senior Centers could reopen on September 21. Subsequently, the Ohio Department of Health issued guidance with mandatory and recommended protocol to ensure that reopening is safe. What does that mean for Community Partnership on Aging (CPA) and our activities for you, our participants?

Our decision to resume some activities in the South Euclid Community Center is based on a number of factors including:

- Local decisions concerning opening municipal buildings to the public.
- CPA's ability to meet the mandatory requirements for reopening set forth in the Ohio Department of Health guidelines.
- Facility readiness including sanitation procedures in place, physical layout to accommodate safe distancing, and display of appropriate signage.

Reopening in a Phased & Cautious Manner

CPA is working on extensive plans to reopen in a phased, cautious manner to ensure the utmost safety for staff, volunteers and you, our treasured participants. As of now, programs will remain outdoors until early November, at which



time they will be moved indoors if the community centers are able to accommodate them. Podiatry will resume in limited locations in October – please call the main office (216-291-3902) to verify or check the October newsletter and our website for the most up to date information.

Although our on-site program offerings are limited by the requirement to physically distance participants, our on-line offerings are growing and can be accessed on Facebook, Zoom, or YouTube. Staff and volunteers are ready to help you get on line to participate-again, give us a call and we will help you (albeit remotely!) to jump on the internet. Would you like to volunteer to be a technology mentor?

Please call Marilyn at 216-291-3903 and sign up – our goal is to get as many participants as possible using technology to stay in touch with the world – your help is always welcome!

Senior Lunch Program

As of this time, in-person community lunches are still on hold; however, our drive-thru lunch pickup will continue through the winter. Don't forget that Chef Mary Beth creates delicious homemade food for the LunchBox program and Café dinners as well as other special events again, information is available in the newsletter or on-line.

COVID-19 Scam Watch

Finally, COVID-19 presents scammers with new ways to run old scams. For instance, have you heard about the COVID-19 “contact tracer” scam? It's when a con artist calls pretending to be a contact tracer and asking you for your Social Security number or a payment for its tracking services. Authentic contact tracers never inquire about those things.

If you get questionable calls, hang up. Or don't answer unknown numbers in the first place. If you are unsure, call our social work team at 440-442-2628 or the County's Scam Squad at 216-443-7035. ✍

Community Partnership on Aging is here for you. Please call us at 216-291-3902 or email me at sattinw@communitypartnershiponaging.org.

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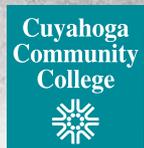
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COVID-19 RESOURCES: KEEPING SAFE DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

As the fall and winter months approach, many of us are beginning to plan for holiday celebrations. The federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) offers the following considerations to help protect individuals, their families, friends, and communities from COVID-19.

There are several factors that contribute to the risk of getting infected or infecting others with the virus that causes COVID-19 at a gathering or holiday celebration. In combination, these factors will create various amounts of risk, so it is important to consider them individually and together:

- **Community levels of COVID-19:** Higher levels of COVID-19 cases and community spread in the gathering location, as well as where attendees are coming from, increase the risk of infection and spread among attendees. Family and friends should consider the number and rate of COVID-19 cases in their community and in the community where they plan to celebrate when considering whether to host or attend a holiday celebration. *Information on community levels of infection in Cuyahoga County can be found at www.ccbh.net.*
- **The location of the gathering:** Indoor gatherings generally pose more risk than outdoor gatherings. Indoor gatherings with poor ventilation pose more risk than those with good ventilation, such as those with open windows or doors. If weather permits, please consider outdoor gatherings, such as holding your gathering in a sunroom area of your home, porch (even your garage), where ventilation will be better.
- **The duration of the gathering:** Gatherings that last longer pose more risk than shorter gatherings.
- **The number of people at the gathering:** Gatherings with more people pose more risk than



gatherings with fewer people. *In Ohio, gatherings at a household or family residence should be limited to close friends/family and are recommended to be 10 visitors or less.*

- **The locations attendees are traveling from:** Gatherings with attendees who are traveling from different places pose a higher risk than gatherings with attendees who live in the same area. Higher levels of COVID-19 cases and community spread in the gathering location, or where attendees are coming from, increase the risk of infection and spread among attendees.
- **The behaviors of attendees prior to the gathering:** Gatherings with attendees who are not adhering to social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart), mask wearing, hand washing, and other prevention behaviors pose more risk than gatherings with attendees who are engaging in these preventative behaviors.
- **The behaviors of attendees during the gathering:** Gatherings with more preventive measures, such as mask wearing, social distancing, and hand washing, in place pose less risk than gatherings where fewer or no preventive measures are being implemented.

Keys to Staying Safe

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wear masks in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- Use social distancing (stay at least 6 feet away from others).
- Practice good hygiene (wash hands often and before eating) and wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds when you get home.
- Limit the number of people handling or serving food.
- Limit contact with commonly touched surfaces or shared items.
- If attending a gathering, bring supplies to help you and others stay healthy— or example, masks (bring extra), hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, and drinking water.
- Outdoor areas with ventilation are better than indoor areas.

For more information, visit the following resources:

Cuyahoga County: www.ccbh.net
Ohio: www.Coronavirus.Ohio.gov
Federal: www.cdc.gov 



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HRCC advocates for social justice in all aspects of business and our communities. We are committed to building positive relationships within the minority community and supporting minority-owned businesses demonstrating that inclusion benefits all businesses and our local community.

HRCC is committed to fostering an inclusive culture of different individuals through the uniqueness they bring, encouraging respectful dialogue, exploration of diverse ideas, topics, showing respect for all and encouraging open collaboration and communication.



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A Seller's Market in South Euclid!

South Euclid real estate is a hot commodity these days.



A decade ago, when housing sale prices throughout the region had dropped to dismally low levels, it would have been hard to imagine that we would find ourselves in a seller's market in 2020. In spite of a global pandemic, or perhaps because of it, 2020 has been a record year for home sales in South Euclid and throughout the region. Fueled by low interest rates, mortgages can be had for under three percent as a fixed rate, and with more people working from and sheltering at home, there has been great demand, as people seek more space and better livability. The first-time homebuyer market has been especially strong—a segment of the market where South Euclid has always shined.

In the past six months, average sale prices have climbed from \$110,775 to \$132,348, a 17% price increase. At

the time of this writing, there are less than 40 homes available for sale in South Euclid. Properties that have been recently renovated or updated are resulting in multiple offers above asking price, usually on the first day they are offered. Even homes without updates are selling quickly, with the amount of time properties are on the market before they're sold decreasing 24% over the last 6 months to 54 days. 307 homes have sold in the last six months.

"It's an insane growth trajectory. We don't see this happening everywhere in Northeast Ohio. The demand is so high that the supply can't keep up," says Keller Williams Realtor, Coby Socher, whose Socher Team has consistently been a top producing Realtor group in South Euclid, and has sold \$35 million in real estate in

the region this year. In addition to selling real estate, Coby and his wife Sharon have purchased and renovated five homes in South Euclid with great success. Recently, he renovated and resold the home at 2121 Campus Drive for \$225,000; and has a pending sale on Laurel Hill which is listed for \$350,000 and received multiple offers. Socher believes South Euclid's star continues to rise. "Investors have fixed up the houses and the neighborhoods look really good. Residents take pride in their homes. South Euclid is close to great shopping, close to (Interstate) 271, and an easy commute downtown, so it's a great choice for homebuyers."

"I think South Euclid is the most forward-thinking, environmentally conscious community in the area, says Realtor Amanda Pohlman. Pohlman's

team at Keller Williams is another top performing Realtor group in our area, having sold \$29 million in real estate in Greater Cleveland this year. Adds Pohlman, “The South Euclid market has rallied so well over the last few years. We love what the city has done to create such a great sense of community. Everyone knows that affordability is number one. South Euclid offers great affordability and the variety of architecture and price ranges of homes available is very attractive.”

Pohlman, who specializes in helping clients market their homes to attract buyers, has consistently sold South Euclid real estate for a number of years at higher price points than average. “The South Euclid market has come alive. Most homes for sale are getting multiple bids and under contract in less than a month,” said Pohlman.

According to Coby Socher, one of the most frustrating things he is seeing in the

market are the cash investors who send postcards and call local homeowners to negotiate a quick cash sale, usually for bottom basement prices. According to Socher, these investors often downplay the market and convince sometimes desperate sellers to sell for low prices. The investor makes a few upgrades and then sells for top dollar. “Always call a Realtor to get an idea of the market value of your home,” said Socher. “Even if a seller doesn’t want to make updates, there are still ways to get a higher sales price than what most cash investors are likely to offer,” explains Socher.

Both Realtors agree that curb appeal is key, as well as choosing a Realtor who knows the area. Coby Socher’s advice to those thinking of selling is to “start with landscaping and exterior and work your way in. Paint should be in good condition, the floors should be nice and make sure carpet is not stained.” Those who have renovated and updated their

homes have a distinct advantage in this market. If you have not renovated your kitchen or bath, now would be a great time. There are loan programs with very favorable terms like the County sponsored HELP and Heritage Loan Programs that are available through Key Bank branches in South Euclid and throughout the region.

Housing Director Sally Martin cautions that “even though we are seeing an amazing bounce back of our housing market, we need to remember that 90-day mortgage delinquencies are still much higher than average. If residents are struggling to pay their mortgages, there are forbearance programs and non-profit housing counseling agencies ready to help. For some homeowners who are in over their heads, this may be an ideal time to sell and find a more affordable housing option.” ✍

Home Repair Lending & Grant and Education Programs available to South Euclid Residents

Heritage Home Loan

The Heritage Home Loan program, which is offered through the Cleveland Restoration Society, is available in South Euclid once again! This program provides low-interest financing for home repairs and access to free technical assistance from their staff of experts. Specializing in homes over 50 years old, the Heritage Home Program will assist homeowners every step of the way with a project. Even if you don’t want or need a loan, free technical assistance is always available to residents. The program is also open to rental property owners.

Currently, the Heritage Home Loan is available through Key Bank and Third Federal Savings and Loan branches. Interest rates are as low as 1.4% with a repayment term of between 5 and 15 years. Loan amounts can be \$3,000 to \$150,000. To find out more, contact the

Cleveland Restoration Society at 216-426-3116.

HELP Loan

The Cuyahoga County sponsored Housing Enhancement Loan Program (HELP) offers home repair and remodeling funding for three percentage points below normal bank rates. Key Bank and Huntington Bank participate in the program. For more information, stop into a Key or Huntington Bank branch or contact Cuyahoga County at 216-443-2149.

One South Euclid offers a neighborhood grant program for exterior home repairs. Check out www.onesoutheuclid.org for more information.

Other Home Repair Help

There are non-profit agencies throughout the county that offer home repair assistance depending on situation

and income. Some grant funding may be available. For more information, contact the following organizations or check out their websites. These agencies also offer foreclosure counseling, budget and financial empowerment programs, as well as HUD-approved home buyer counseling services:

Community Housing Solutions:

216-231-5815

CHN Housing Partners: 216-574-7100

ESOP: Specializing in housing counseling, senior accessibility repairs, and offering a senior zero-interest small dollar loan, and a senior loan program for delinquent property taxes: 216-361-0718

Home Repair Resource Center:

Home repair classes open to South Euclid residents. 216-381-6100. ✍



South Euclid-Lyndhurst
Schools: 216-691-2000

Back to School: Pandemic Edition

DEAR SOUTH EUCLID COMMUNITY:



Linda N. Reid

The 2020-2021 school year began unlike any other, and notwithstanding the current unprecedented educational environment, the SEL Schools was prepared to deliver the best education possible while keeping students and staff safe. This article will share a variety of important updates with the community regarding the upcoming school year and demonstrate a new normal of constant change that has emerged, and will

likely remain, into the foreseeable future. As always, the SEL Schools extends gratitude to our school family, for their ongoing patience, support, and flexibility.

School formally began for students on Tuesday, September 8th in a remote environment and will run through at least the end of the first quarter. Teachers and staff began on Monday, August 24 in order to begin preparing for the nuances associated with remote learning. Throughout the summer months, the administration diligently worked to ensure the highest standards for students and staff in a remote environment. An SEL teacher will be assigned to students and will work with them on a daily basis. This will occur at all grade levels. Despite the remote nature of learning, all materials utilized will be based on SEL Curriculum and Pacing Guides. Our technology department has done a fantastic job supporting the remote platform that students and staff are using. Daily attendance for students is required and taken. In addition, the grading policies, standards, and classroom practices of the traditional classroom will remain firmly in-place.

This decision for the start of the 2020-2021 school year was based upon the guidance from the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, which on Thursday, July 30, issued a recommendation that all schools within its health jurisdiction begin the fall remotely "due to the elevated health risk posed to students, staff and family members." With new and varying guidance emerging

on a routine basis from a host of public health, educational and governmental entities, the need for continued flexibility, patience, mutual support, and respect is paramount.

The flexibility with which the South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools has been required to operate has been aided by a specialized and specific funding source made available to help school districts make additional purchases during these times. Earlier in the year, the State distributed Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security dollars. Referred to as C.A.R.E.S. funding, these dollars were given to school districts to help prepare for the 2020-2021 school year. The alternative funding provided by the C.A.R.E.S. Act has helped us purchase online learning curriculum for students in Grades K-12. Additional Personal Protective Equipment (P.P.E.) has been acquired as well with C.A.R.E.S. funding, including hand sanitizer dispensers, face shields and the purchase of Schoology, the District's Learning Management System. Rounding out the district's purchases with C.A.R.E.S. funding are extra Chromebooks for students and staff, cameras for all the classrooms to assist with live lectures and archive video. The SEL Schools thanks the State of Ohio for providing this extra funding.

The SEL Schools thanks the community for their input and support. Parents are to be commended for their participation earlier this summer in a comprehensive survey that asked for feedback regarding educational concerns during the coronavirus period. As we have witnessed, a constant climate of 'change' is upon us, and we ask for your continued collaboration and patience to be prepared at a moment's notice to pivot in a new direction. As the 2020-2021 school year unfolds, the health and safety of our students, teachers, staff, and community remains our first priority. We will continue working collaboratively to provide optimal support to our students and to meet all of their diverse needs. Thank you for your continued encouragement of our students, staff and district. Go ARCS! ✍️

Sincerely,
Dr. Linda N. Reid, Superintendent of Schools

Councilwoman-at-Large Susan Hardy

This past winter two students from Brush High School spoke at our regular city council meeting. They addressed the importance of Issue 32, and the impact it would have on them. I want to take a moment to say thank you to the residents who helped pass Issue 32. The school levy was an important one for our community.



Susan Hardy

As the legislative branch of our local government, city council's important responsibilities include approving a budget and approving ordinances and resolutions that make our city a better place to live, work, and play. The best way to fulfill this responsibility is to receive input from you. We read every email and listen to every voice message. We pay attention when you address us at council meetings. We weigh the pros and cons of proposed ordinances and other issues affecting our city at committee meetings that

take place before our regular council meetings, where a final vote is held. All members of our community are invited to attend both committee and council meetings.

It is common in the emails I receive as a member of the council for residents to inform me how long they have lived in South Euclid. While it is wonderful to see so many long-term residents invested in the betterment of their community, there is no long-term residential requirement for expressing your opinion or giving feedback to council. All points of view are important to making legislative decisions. Like the two young Brush gentlemen mentioned previously, you do not have to be old enough to vote for your ideas to matter. The more diversity in voices and opinions, the better we can make our community.

Council-At-Large, Susan Hardy: 216-780-0238

Councilwoman-at-Large Channel Elston

Hello! I am honored to introduce myself as your new Councilwoman-at-Large, replacing Councilman Gelfand who retired in June!

I have lived in South Euclid since 2015 and am excited to have the opportunity to serve my neighbors. My goals are simple: Engage, Educate and Empower.



Channel Elston

One of my first community outreach efforts was organizing a "We Vote We Count" event on Saturday September 26, 2020 at St. John Lutheran Church. Even though the event has passed, you can still do your part to ensure that everyone completes their 2020 census, registers to vote and requests their vote by mail applications. Go to www.2020census.gov to take the Census and www.boe.cuyahogacounty.gov to register to vote and get your vote by mail ballot!

My passion for public service is rooted in my desire to help others. These last six months have been a challenge for us all. From Covid-19 and its effect on the economy, to the demands for racial justice and inclusion. Now more than ever, we must work together toward not just a better city, but a better world.

One of my favorite quotes is "compassion without action is just observation". So, let's do our part and instead of accepting the things we cannot change, changing the things we cannot accept. You are always welcome to contact me. If you are interested in being a part of my email list, please email me at celston@seuclid.com or call me at 216-502-2037.

Council-At-Large, Channel Elston: 216-502-2037

Councilman Joe Frank: Ward 2 and President of Council

The nights are getting longer, the air is getting cooler and the election season is getting near. It is our right, as protected and fought for, to participate in the process of electing our leaders and to have our voice heard. I am proud to live in a nation that has a nonviolent revolution every 4 years and that the people have a voice. It is our duty to exercise that voice and to fulfill the hopes and dreams of the people who fought for our rights.



Joe Frank

ROAD LEVY

Our Road Levy is up for renewal this November. Thanks to your support, our levy provides funds to repair our roads throughout the city. Over the next few years, our city will be responsible for several very large projects that require our participation. Leveraging our participation will allow millions of dollars of road and sewer improvements to our city. I ask for your support for this levy to allow us to continue to invest in our infrastructure. School is back in session. Our SE-L School Board also faced the challenge of virtual classrooms and I applaud their efforts. In this uncertain time, our children need us now, more than ever. With that being said, I urge your support to the School Levy and our continued investment in our children.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Our summer of Covid-19 has led us to the fall. So many things have changed in South Euclid since mid-March when our world changed, perhaps forever; due to a virus that impacted the world. Our "normal" summer of BBQ in the back yard, going to ball games and relaxing by the pool was suddenly stopped. Vacations were cancelled and schools were closed. Businesses in South Euclid were suddenly limited or unable to provide their goods and services the way they had designed their business to do. Restaurants were perhaps the most impacted. I am proud of the resiliency of our businesses and I applaud the new businesses that have opened in our city. I ask you to support our local businesses as they fight to stay in business.

CITY SERVICES

Our City Services and Safety Forces have been challenged as well, with City Hall closed, employees working from home and having limited access to resources. Though it all, we have continued to provide the services that this City needed. Our department heads were also challenged to work with the Mayor to find ways to trim expenses. I am proud how our administration and staff have come together to meet our challenges in the uncertain and unprecedented period in our history.

Ward 2 Council Joe Frank: 216-246-5614

Councilman-at-Large Justin Tisdale

I often hear "my vote doesn't count, so why vote?" In today's elections, it is even more imperative that people take this false statement and realize that your vote does matter. Not only does it matter, it is a Constitutional right afforded to you that should be exercised every year.



Justin Tisdale

Every four years, we hold very important Presidential elections, and every four years, we hear the same results, less than 60% of eligible voters turned out to vote. In non-presidential years, the percentage can reach as low as 40%; however, when I watch American Idol, The Biggest Loser, The Voice, Survivor or any other reality TV show voting numbers are at an all-time high.

To put things into perspective, there are people who do not have the opportunity to vote in free elections like we do. There are people around the world who would love to be able to vote out their dictators to live in a free democratic society that we live in. Even though our society may not be perfect and it is not equal for all – the one thing that separates us from many other countries is the fact that we have the ability to change our leadership, change the direction of the country, and change the future for our children.

So, when election day comes, please exercise your right to vote!

Council-At-Large, Justin Tisdale: 216-965-4242

Councilwoman Ruth Gray: Ward 1

I want to thank you all for doing your absolute best to comply with the Stay at Home Order. Please be reminded that Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. I urge every citizen who is 18 years of age to exercise your right to vote. Voting is a fundamental power that we have in making decisions about our elected representatives and issues that impact our day to day life. It is imperative that we all have a plan to ensure we vote. In Ohio, the last day to Register to vote is October 5. Early In-Person voting begins the first week of October. Secure an absentee ballot and mail it in as early as you can or at least by October 27. You can track your ballot request at www.VoteOhio.gov. Know where your polling location is. In Ward One, the Polling location is at the South Euclid Methodist Church, 4217 Bluestone. Go Vote!



Ruth Gray

Due to COVID19, the city of South Euclid stands to lose a significant portion of the funds it needs to operate. It is estimated that every person not counted in the census represents a loss of approximately \$1,800 per person. 100% participation from South Euclid residents will guarantee thousands in federal funding, create jobs, provide housing, prepare for emergencies, and repair our roads. Your response determines how government resources are distributed for the next 10 years. Let us make sure that we all are counted. Census 2020 Be Counted!

Be a part of our plan to make us better! You are invited to attend the Mayfield/Green Virtual Town Hall Meeting to share a vision for the future of Mayfield and Green Road, also known as Downtown South Euclid, on Wednesday, October 7th at 6pm. Call Michael Love at 216-691-4205, for more information.

The City of South Euclid has two new businesses - Clean Express Auto Wash, 4363 Mayfield Road. It is located at the site of the former Walgreens. For their first month, they gave away their signature CLEAN-est Wash- \$18 value in exchange for a monetary donation to the Center for the Arts Learning. And Milkyway Restaurant located at 1976 Warrensville Center Road. Their specialty is kosher pizza and they also offer a full breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Support local businesses!

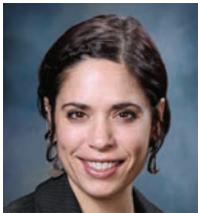
The Ward One Community Meeting will be held Thursday, October 22 at 6:30 p.m. The link to the virtual meeting will be posted on the South Euclid website. Be Informed!

If you need additional information, please contact me at ruthgray50@gmail.com or 216-926-4960.

Ward 1 Council Ruth Gray: 216-926-4960

Councilwoman Sara Continenza: Ward 3

Hello Neighbors! WOW! 2020 has been quite the year for us all! I know the changes that have been happening have been difficult for many. I want you to know that you are not alone. There are many resources available to you and your family. Dial 2-1-1 to reach the United Way First Call For Help hotline to receive guidance on a large variety of issues.



Sara Continenza

Also, as Recreation Committee Chair, I have been working hard to combat the lack of activities for adolescent youth in our community. I am honored to work with two phenomenal young ladies on cool initiatives in Bexley Park, in partnership with the City, Bexley Community Group and OneSouthEuclid. Nia Guess, a Girl Scout, has chosen her project to be building a rain garden in Bexley Park! The garden will be across from the community garden, and will

not only beautify the space, but help our watershed and teach our community about the importance of native habitats. Also, under the leadership of a local young poet, Raja Freeman, we are raising money to revitalize the Bexley pump track to allow for skateboarding and other activities. Please support her fundraising campaign at: <https://ioby.org/project/pave-bexley-pump-track>.

I am honored to help guide these two amazing young ladies as they lead improvements to our park and our community. We could always use involvement in our Bexley Community Group - please reach out to get on our mailing list. We offer Zoom meetings now! Thanks for your support!

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. I send out regular updates about events, legislation, resources and news. 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: 216-816-1577

Councilwoman Jane Goodman: Ward 4

In this year of political and social upheaval, I have never been more grateful to live in a racially diverse community where for years we have worked as a city and as individuals to make a place where people are good to each other. As we approach the holiday season at a distance, with masks in place, I know we'll find creative ways to celebrate. We'll figure it out. We always do. And we'll be a better community having gone through this together.



Jane Goodman

As I recently observed the Jewish High Holy Days, I was reminded that they represent a how-to guide to life in three chapters: let go of the past, make amends, and appreciate what the earth provides. Rosh Hashanah, the new year, is when we hit the reset button and are reminded that the past doesn't have to be a harbinger of the future. We can chart a new, better, course. Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, comes next, a chance to right old wrongs, say we're sorry to those we've hurt, and come into

the new year with a clean slate and a promise to be better. Finally, Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles, when we recreate the shelters our ancestors made while wandering in the desert after exile from Egypt and give thanks for the fruits of the land at harvest's end.

So, as the plague goes on, as we face our prejudices, as the climate heats up, and while the world seems filled with rancor, we can ask the "better angels of our nature," as Lincoln put it, to step up. The world doesn't just happen to us, we create it. Let's start a new story. Let's make amends. Let's appreciate the beauty of leaves changing to gold. And, above all, let's VOTE.

Ward 4 Council Jane Goodman: 216-291-0442

Municipal Court Judge Gayle Williams-Byers

SOUTH EUCLID MUNICIPAL COURT ACCESSIBILITY DURING COVID-19

We are all living through what, for many of us, is the worst economic and social crisis of a lifetime. However, as we continue to navigate through it together, please know that the South Euclid Municipal Court and its staff are here for you.



Judge Gayle Williams-Byers

Pursuant to the July 27, 2020 Administrative Order (linked here for the full version of the Order <http://southeuclidcourt.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/semc-executive-order-2.0-7-27-20.pdf>) the South Euclid Municipal Court has been, and continues to be, performing all Court operations virtually and successfully. Although no in-person filings are currently accepted, you may still file any matter with the Court by fax at 216-381-1195, email at info@secourt.org or through regular U.S. mail at South Euclid Municipal Court, 1349 S. Green Road,

South Euclid, OH 44121.

You may also contact the Court with questions regarding your case including, traffic, criminal or civil matters or even to request a virtual hearing using our WebEx platform. To complete this request, email the South Euclid Municipal Court at info@secourt.org or call the Clerk of Courts office at 216-381-2880 ext. 298. Regarding payments of any type, please contact the Court for instructions and information. Please note that fine payments or case filing fees are not accepted by the South Euclid police department.

Above all, please stay safe and vigilant about commonly recognized pandemic protocols, including frequent hand washing and sanitizing, social distancing and mask wearing in public places. We can get through this together!

Judge Gayle Williams-Byers: 216-381-2880



The Destination School Community

The SEL Schools Thanks the Community for their Patience, Flexibility, Feedback and Support

The 2020-2021 School Year Began Remotely... and Successfully!



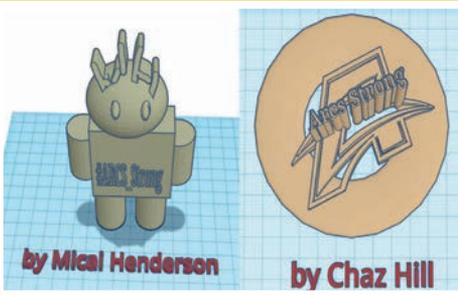
Memorial students and staff engaged in constructive remote learning. Staff identified creative ways to motivate students during unprecedented times. Students were rewarded with encouragement, and in some cases, incentives. As we start the 2020-2021 School Year, students and staff will do their best to make Remote Learning a positive experience.



Staff members at Memorial Junior High created a Virtual Spirit Week so that Arc Pride could be on full display among our school family members, despite remote learning.



As part of an effort to incentivize students to remain accountable to their schoolwork during the ordered school closure period, Memorial students were nominated by their teachers and visited during remote learning with rewards for a job well done. Great job to all! Way to help keep students motivated during such unprecedented times.



6th graders at Greenview Campus applied their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) skills under the guidance of Mr. Kijinski to create a 3-D TinkerCAD design celebrating SEL's unity even while learning remotely.



Greenview Campus STEM students recently learned about Artificial Intelligence (AI) through the creation of artistic PoemPortraits using "AI" technology provided by Google Arts & Culture in collaboration with a local artist.



With the Invention Project, Greenview 4th graders were asked to build a container that could float, while containing another "sinkable" object within it... all using recyclable materials!



During remote learning, students at Adrian Elementary School completed online lessons, including STEM Lab activities, that promoted hands-on participation in nature.



Sunview students received online instruction and then used creativity and innovation to develop critical thinking projects and problem solving activities.



The first-grade team at Rowland Elementary School recently created a heartwarming video to remind teachers and students that though they may be apart, they are still a school family that cares for each other.

Remote Learning is Positive Learning! GO ARCS!

Menstrual bleeding: Should you be concerned?



Cara King, DO
Cleveland Clinic
Hillcrest Hospital

Talking about periods is often a taboo subject that leaves women wondering “Is this normal?” Periods can vary in duration and saturation; they normally last from two to seven days and can be light to

heavy. If your period is consistently lasting longer, becoming heavier, or you’re bleeding in between periods, you may want to have a medical evaluation.

“It’s normal to have some fluctuation when you first begin menstruating and as you near menopause. If you have severe, long-term changes in between, it’s a good idea to find out what your body is telling you,” says Cara King, DO, a surgeon who specializes in gynecological needs at Cleveland Clinic Hillcrest Hospital. Vaginal bleeding after menopause is never normal and should be evaluated.

Conditions that may cause heavier bleeding include:

- Fibroids
- Infection
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Endocrine issues

- Cancer
- Endometrial polyps

Dr. King says these types of issues require immediate medical attention. Your gynecologist will order tests to pinpoint the cause of irregular or heavy bleeding.

Treatment options include:

- Medications
- Minor surgery (ex. fibroid or polyp removal)
- Hysterectomy

Healthy women can often use birth control or non-hormonal options to lighten or stop the flow altogether or may choose to simply change feminine products more regularly.

“Women shouldn’t have to be afraid to leave their house when they’re menstruating. A medical diagnosis and treatment can give them the freedom to live their lives every day of the month,” says Dr. King.

For your safety and convenience, we are offering in-person and virtual appointments with Women’s Health specialists. Call 216.444.6601 or visit ClevelandClinic.org/WomensHealth.

New gastroenterologist at South Pointe Hospital.



Elliott Borinsky, MD

Elliott Borinsky, MD, has joined Cleveland Clinic Digestive Disease & Surgery Institute, which offers in-person and virtual appointments.

To make an appointment with Dr. Borinsky at Cleveland Clinic South Pointe Hospital, call 216.444.7000.

Cleveland Clinic Children’s: Nationally ranked in 10 of 10 pediatric specialties.



Cleveland Clinic Children’s earned national recognition from *U.S. News & World Report* in 10 out of 10 specialties in the 2020-21 edition of “Best Children’s Hospitals” making us the

only hospital in northeast Ohio nationally ranked in all 10 children’s specialties:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Cancer (17) | • Neonatology (14) |
| • Cardiology & heart surgery (15) | • Nephrology (35) |
| • Diabetes & endocrinology (44) | • Neurology & neurosurgery (25) |
| • Gastroenterology & GI surgery (12) | • Orthopedics (26) |
| | • Pulmonology (32) |
| | • Urology (23) |

“We are incredibly honored to be recognized by *U.S. News & World Report*,” says Karen Murray, MD, Chair of Cleveland Clinic Children’s. “This is a reflection of the dedication, compassion and hard work of our caregivers to provide the best high-quality care to our patients and their families. While COVID-19 has transformed our world and the healthcare industry, it has not and will not impact our mission to continue to provide world-class care.”

Quality and safety have always been a priority at Cleveland Clinic Children’s. We now have even more safety precautions at every location, so all you need to worry about is the health and wellness of your child. Learn more about the steps we’re taking to keep you safe at ClevelandClinic.org/Coronavirus.

For an appointment with a Cleveland Clinic Children’s pediatrician or pediatric specialist, call 216.444.KIDS. Cleveland Clinic Children’s offers in-person and virtual appointments.

Top neurological services offered at convenient locations.

Cleveland Clinic’s Center for General Neurology provides care and offers treatment for a wide range of neurological disorders.

- Best in Ohio for neurological care.
- Convenient community locations.
- Virtual appointments available.
- Your safety is our top concern.

Learn more about the steps we’re taking to keep you safe at ClevelandClinic.org/Coronavirus.

For an appointment with a neurologist at Hillcrest and South Pointe hospitals, call 866.588.2264.



Our goal remains the same – we care for everyone. And safety is our top priority.

From extra safety measures at all locations, to virtual visits with our specialists. We’re here for you.

Visit ClevelandClinic.org/Access

