

FREE

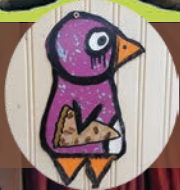


The

remonger

A Tremont Neighborhood Newspaper by and for Tremongers | TheTremonger.org

Where's
The Bird?
...Contest
on page 2



Marty Brass and
Appliance Replacement
for Asthma Sufferers
...page 5



St. Theodosius Needs
More Donor Support
...page 9



The Dick Tracy Wrist
Radio: a Memory
from Tremont Ave.
...page 10



INSIDE

Riff's Libations & Creations: A New Gallery-Bar Featuring Live Ticketed Events Draws a Crowd to the Corner of Jefferson and Professor



*"We wanted to expand to all forms of art and add ticketed shows. Our left, main wall is going to be resident artists featured quarterly. The other wall is going to change every month but showcasing newer artists and giving people around the neighborhood more of a chance."
...story on page 6*

TREMONSTER CONTEST: Where's the Bird?



Where's the Bird? Submit your answer to win a Fat Cats gift certificate.

If you think you know the mystery location of this issue's bird character, submit your answer:

Scan the this QR code,:

or mail to P.O. Box 6161, Cleveland, OH, 44101

or email to:

TheTremonter@TheTremonter.org.

If your correct answer is selected at random, you will be awarded our contest prize, which will be announced in the next issue of *The Tremonter*:

GRAND PRIZE: **\$25 gift certificate to Fat Cats!**

Submit your answer to win today!

Submit your answer to win a Fat Cats gift certificate:



Scan to enter! ...or email or snail mail!

We Have a Winner!

Announcing Last Issue's 'Where's the Bird' Contest Winner



Dear Kyle,

Thank you so much for your participation in The Tremonter's "Where's the Bird?" contest!

CONGRATULATIONS!

From a fishbowl containing correct contest answers only, your answer was selected at random: The bird mural location is the "Dining room of La Bodega [869 Jefferson Ave.]"

We are proud to forward your prize of a \$25 gift certificate to Fat Cats.

Yours,

~The Tremonter

Experience Tremont HISTORY

Tremont History Project Meeting
In-person and Virtual
March 15, 2024 @ 10:30 AM
Jefferson Branch Library

The Tremont History Project's mission is to research, preserve, and celebrate the rich history of our community. All are welcome!

tremonthistoryproject@gmail.com
www.tremonthistory.org



2510 Professor Avenue, 1943

This handsome 3 story building, with ground level retail and walk-up apartments above



Find us on Facebook

2601 West 10th Street | Tremont | Cleveland

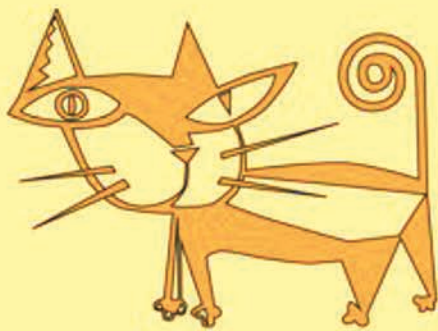
FAT CATS

Brunch
Saturday.....11 am to 4 pm

Lunch
Monday through Friday.....11 am to 4 pm

Dinner
Monday through Thursday.....4 to 9 pm
Friday through Saturday.....4 to 10 pm

Great food.
Cool drinks.
Hot spot.



(216) 579-0200 | fatcatstremont.com

Report lost pets to the Tremont Animals Lost and Found Facebook group!

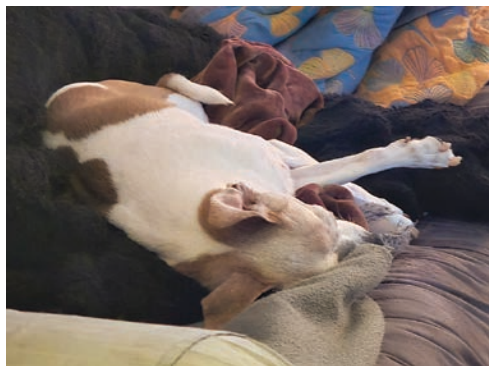
Search: "Tremont Animals Lost and Found" on Facebook



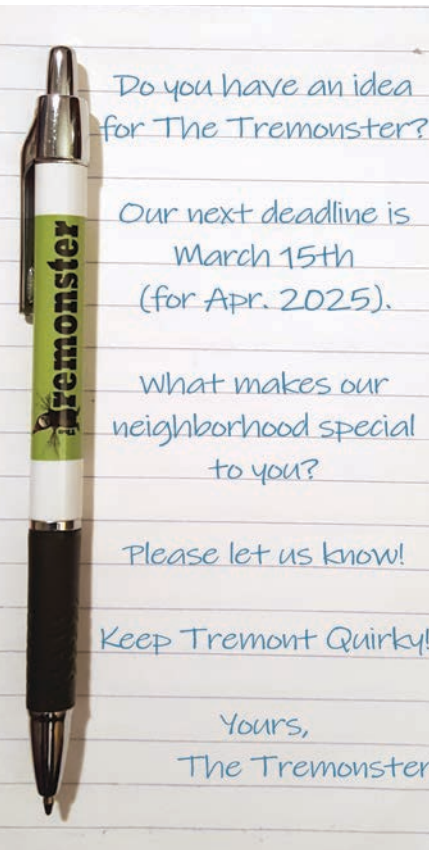
Donate to **St. Theo's Dome Fire Restoration**
Campaign:
sttheodosius.org



...or mail a check payable to:
"St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral"
733 Starkweather Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113



Submit to *The Tremonter*.



Submit to *The Tremonter*.



ADVERTISE in Tremont's Paper, The Tremonter

email: TheTremonter@TheTremonter.org

call: **216-772-0664**

Ask for our *seasonal specials, *digital advertising, and *discounts for Tremont businesses & organizations!

The Tremonter is a newspaper by and for the neighborhood of Tremont in Cleveland, Ohio. A Tremonter is anyone who loves our shared neighborhood of Tremont. Any Tremonter may submit content for consideration by the 15th of each month to:

TheTremonter@TheTremonter.org
P.O. Box 6161, Cleveland, OH 44101

Follow us @TheTremonter

The Tremonter TIP LINE: 216-772-0664 (voice or text)

Advertising/Marketing:
Marketing@TheTremonter.org

The Tremonter © Established 2011

5,000 copies of The Tremonter are published monthly and distributed in free stacks where Tremonters gather within a two-mile radius around Tremont.

Rich Weiss Publisher
Amanda Lloyd Managing Editor

Thank you to our Content Contributors:
The City of Cleveland,
Ken Scigulinsky, Keri November, Nate Stroempl,
Melanie Shakarian, Natasha Pogrebinsky,
David Witzke, and Bev Wurm.

Thanks to **Scott Radke**, for the contribution of our logo character for *The Tremonter*.

ScottRadkeArt.com

The Tremonter Mascot: Abbey

Our deepest thanks to the below for their vital assistance, advice, and support for *The Tremonter*:

Ricardo Sandoval, Bob & Nancy Holcepl,
Heather Haviland, Sherman DeLozier, Jill Petrak,
Donna Grigonis-Bailey, Rhonda Crowder,
Wayne Dailey, Sean Szczepinski Marco Gonzalez,
Joe Benny, Ken Harvey,
Aron Pilhoffer, Heather Bryant, Stefanie Murray,
Cole Goins, Emily Kelly, Richard T. Andrews,
denotes original content published by The Tremonter

Collision Bend Brewery Debuts The Word Double IPA, Inspired by The Sign Guy



Photo by Rich Weiss

Luke Purcell, Dave Witzke, and Chef Natasha Pogrebinsky celebrate the release of The Word Double IPA from Collision Bend Brewery, inspired by the public murals and artwork of the_sign_guy_1972 (Dave).

special report and video by *The Tremontster*

Luke Purcell, brewmaster and part-owner of Collision Bend Brewing Company (1250 Old River Rd, The Flats), was already familiar with Tremont’s most prolific muralist, David Witzke, aka ‘The Sign Guy’ (IG: [the_sign_guy_1972](#)), from many murals around Tremont and the Cleveland area including a fence mural Dave had painted at the Rocky River home of a couple of Luke’s close friends. “That was in my head, and I came to work downtown one day, and Alina, a banquet manager here, had one of Dave’s keychains—a little bird—I was like, ‘I love that guy! My friends have it on their fence.’”

That was when it struck Luke that a bird mural would work perfectly for Collision Bend’s local artist series (collaborating with, supporting, and promoting local Cleveland artists and causes).

Alina is a friend of Dave’s, and she was able to connect the artist with the brewmaster.

When Dave got the call from Luke about Collision Bend’s interest in collaborating on a beer for the brewery’s “artist line” of beers, Dave had no idea what he would do for a design.

“At first, I didn’t know what I was going to do. I have the bird doing so many different things.”

In the end, Dave settled on a patchwork blue bird holding up a heart in a colorful storm.

“He has patches—he’s a kind of rag doll: put together—so he’s been through a lot to get to where he is currently.”

“Dave and [our team] met and settled on this one which ended up being one of our brightest and best cans that we’ve ever done,” said Luke.

The collaboration resulted in the new beer from Collision Bend Brewery, “The Word Double IPA.”

What’s a double IPA? According to Luke, it’s “Just a little more alcohol... a little more of everything. The IPA is the most popular style in craft beer, and it has been for quite a few years now.”

Luke has been brewing beer for 30 years, and when he started brewing IPAs, “Nobody liked them.” Then, the public may not have been ready for the more flavorful beers.

But now, it’s become the most popular style in Collision Bend Brewery’s beer menu.

Chef Natasha Pogrebinsky sat down with Dave and Luke at Collision Bend to learn more about their creative collaboration.

Watch the full video interview by scanning this code:



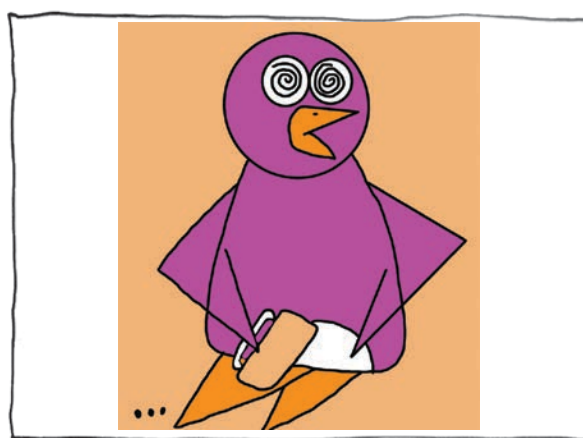
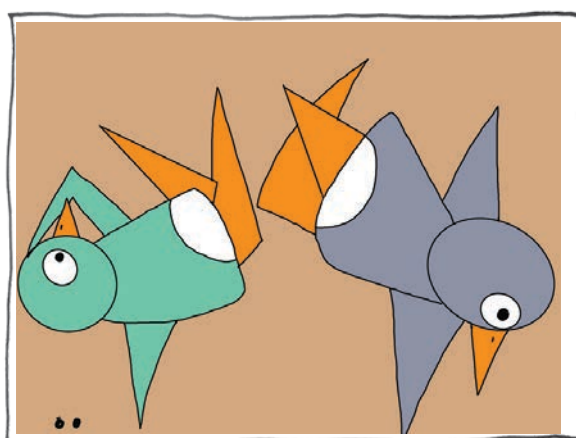
The Word Double IPA from Collision Bend rolling off the production line.

Photo courtesy of Collision Bend Brewing

The Adventures of Tremont and His Friends

Don't Pass out First (part 1)

The Sign Guy 1972 *David Witzke*



© 2025 David Witzke

Mayor Bibb Believes Block Clubs Should Play the ‘Right Role’ in How Cleveland Neighborhoods are Developed



Photo by Kevin Barre

Mayor Justin Bibb, held a Cleveland community media-only roundtable in February, which was live broadcast by host WOVU 95.9FM.

by Rich Weiss

On Thursday, Feb. 13, *The Tremonster* attended a Cleveland community media-only roundtable with Mayor Justin Bibb, which was live broadcast by host WOVU 95.9FM.

This community media roundtable was convened by Neighborhood Media Foundation.

The wide-ranging discussion included

questions for Mayor Bibb from Anne Ying Pu, *Erie Chinese Journal*; Pierre Bejjani, *Profile News Ohio*; Ronaldo Rodriguez Jr, *La Villa Cleveland*; John O’Brien, *Irish newsmagazine*; Rosie Palfy, *The Cleveland Observer*; Terricha Phillips, *Black Girl Cleveland*; Deepa Rau & Mahima Rao, *FICA/The Lotus*; Chuck Hoven, *Plain Press*; Richard T Andrews, *The Real Deal Press*; Ulysses

Glen, *East Side Daily News*; Ellen & Elena Psenicka, *The Neighborhood News*, and from me as publisher of *The Tremonster*.

The following is the question I asked Mayor Bibb and his response.

Rich: In general, developers in the city have always been motivated to evade the block club approval process for development projects, but in Tremont, it seems that new construction designs have been getting closer to approvals from Near West Design Review and the Board of Zoning Appeals without block club input, like 2915 West 14th St., which drew the ire of council rep. Kerry McCormack, who has asked how this development project got as far along the process as it did. Do you feel block clubs should play more of a role or less of a role in how Cleveland’s neighborhoods are developed?

Mayor Bibb: They need to play the right role. Let me tell you what I mean by that. I think community input and community engagement in any development project is essential. It is essential, and it is important that we facilitate the right role for block clubs to play. But they’re not the only voice, and I want to be clear about that. For a long time, this is one of the biggest complaints I’ve gotten as mayor: an impediment to our growth has been the bureaucratic red tape that exists for projects to get done in Cleveland. One of my instructions as mayor has been: ‘How do we streamline these processes where we have the right level of community engagement, the right level of community input from all stakeholders, but where one voice isn’t the main arbiter of yay or nay?’

In some cases, we’ve seen where a block club has outsized power, and progress is delayed. The reason I want to push back a little bit, Rich, is because it’s important that we have a pragmatic approach to how we think about development in Cleveland, and one of the biggest issues that I see right now in terms of progress in Cleveland—especially on the development side—is our processes are, in many ways, still too outdated for the kind of growth that

I want to see in Cleveland. So, I want to make sure we eliminate red tape where it exists but have the right level of community engagement where people feel heard, but one voice or one block club isn’t getting in the way of progress. I think they have a very important role, but so does city council, so does the Planning Commission, so does the Board of Zoning and Appeals. We have a very distinct continuum of oversight to ensure community voice is heard across the entire spectrum. Block clubs should play a role but the right role in the process.

Check out all Cleveland community media questions and answers on the full Feb. 13 Mayor Bibb Community Media Roundtable video (video recorded by *Video Needs LLC*) at NeighborhoodMedia.org or by scanning this code:



- WIDE VARIETY OF WINE & LIQUOR
- EXTENSIVE BEER SELECTION
- ECLECTIC & INNOVATIVE MENU
- CARRYOUT+DELIVERY

Scan code for menu:

- PRIVATE PARTIES
- INDOOR/OUTDOOR SEATING
- 9 HDTVs including 3 on the patio to cheer on your favorite teams!

Mon-Thu 11a - 11p
 Fri 11a - 12a
 Sat 10a - 12a | Sun 10a - 11p
 Sat & Sun Brunch till 3p

2207 W. 11TH STREET * TREMONT * 216.937.2288
southsidecleveland.com

The Elliot Plans Building and Parking Lot Upgrades



Photo by The Tremonster

The Elliot

Stephanie Ridgely from The Elliot (1415 Kenilworth Ave.), emailed with exciting upgrade news about the Tremont boutique wedding & event venue. The venue has always offered two aesthetically distinct and versatile spaces—their ballroom and their speakeasy-style Rosehip Room. Tremonsters have been hosting weddings, corporate gatherings, private parties, and many other celebrations since 2022.

The update included news on upcoming enhancements to the surface parking lot at the corner of Kenilworth Ave. and W. 14th St., and upcoming exterior and interior building work.

Parking Lot: As you may know, the adjacent parking lot was acquired by The Elliot at the end of 2024 and is now available for the use of our vendors, clients, and guests. We are currently in the process of:

- Adding a black aluminum fence around the perimeter of the parking lot.
- Filling cracks in the pavement.
- Striping parking spaces and directional arrows.
 - There will be two designated handicapped parking spaces next to the building. For the time being, there will be temporary handicapped parking signs in these spots during event days.

Complimentary overflow parking will still be available at Grace Center (2307 W 14th Street) for groups of 50+ and signs will be posted. Valet and shuttle service add-ons are available.

Doors & Hardware: We will be removing all of the existing dark bronze hardware and kickplates from the entrance doors and closets in The Ballroom and The Lobby and replacing them with satin brass bars and handles — offering a minimal and cleaner look.

As long as weather & supply chain permits, these upgrades should be complete by this May. Work will take place during the week as to not affect weekend events.

Follow The Elliot on Instagram (@theelliottcle) for updates!

Better Know Tremont West Development Corp.

Marty Brass and the TWDC-MetroHealth Appliance Replacement Program for Asthma Sufferers



Marty Brass, Housing and Program Manager at Tremont West Development Corporation



Photo by Ivan Radic CC BY 2.0

Gas stove burners have been found to emit harmful pollutants inside the home.

by *The Tremont*

Tremont West Development Corporation (216-575-0920, 2406 Professor Ave.) is partnering with MetroHealth on the Appliance Replacement Program, which aims to improve air quality in homes for residents with asthma in Northeast Ohio. The program seeks to help replace any gas stoves with induction range ovens for any Tremont households that have members who suffer from symptoms of asthma. If your household qualifies, the program will upgrade multiple appliances to help reduce indoor air pollution and track the impact on your health and home air quality—at no cost to homeowners, tenants, or landlords.

In Tremont, we can contact Marty Brass to apply for these upgrades for our homes (contact information listed at the end of this article). Marty Brass is the Housing and Program Manager at Tremont West Development Corporation (he's formerly the Community Engagement Specialist). He took a moment to discuss this program and more with *The Tremont* by phone. Marty said, "It's a good opportunity if anybody's interested." When people apply, he reviews applications and sets up home visits to make sure each individual project can go as smoothly as possible. "I think it's a great initiative. It's going to be good for health improvement, but if there's a resident who can't afford to get their electrical panel upgraded and they have asthma," Marty said there are other city and county programs that he can connect with Tremont residents to overcome these obstacles. "This could be a good opportunity to get both a new electrical panel and an induction oven that doesn't emit harmful pollutants inside your home."

As part of his Job, Marty does home condition surveys throughout the neighborhood (which amount to checking for minor code violations for anything from peeling paint to missing handrails, but also for major code violations like severely damaged roofs, collapsing porches, and missing gutters). Because the City of Cleveland has introduced recent programs that can help Tremont's senior citizens, Marty explained, "If I find out they're a senior, I send out an outreach letter."

Marty enjoys playing program "matchmaker" for Tremont residents. One of his favorite examples is a story from just this past autumn involving a new electrical panel. A Tremont senior responded to let Marty know his home needed a new furnace. "With that in mind, we filled out an application for the Cleveland Housing Network (CHN) Weatherization program. Through that program for eligible participants, CHN will make the home more weather-resistant and more sustainable in terms of their energy costs and usage," Marty explained. "Part of that program includes furnace replacement."

There's a big need for these kinds of services, citywide, and there are only so many contractors who can carry out these projects. This and several other factors can mean a fairly long wait after program application to receive approval notification and have contractors arrive. "We got the application in for him, and then we waited a few months," Marty said.

CHN approved the project, notified Marty and the homeowner, and quickly arranged a date to come over, inspect the house, and bring in an HVAC team to install the furnace.

When the HVAC team arrived, "They found the electrical panel wasn't up-to-date and our senior homeowner had to wait a little bit longer to get his furnace in." And winter was coming. Fortunately for our Tremont homeowner, Tremont West can help access the City of Cleveland's senior home repair program, and electrical panel upgrades are one of the eligible repairs.

Marty happily reported, "We were able to upgrade his electrical panel, he was able to get the furnace in, and his home is staying warm."

Late January's Arctic plunge pushed Cleveland temperatures to historic lows for an extended period. If you hear from TWDC Housing and Program Manager Marty (or if you need help with housing maintenance and repair resources), don't delay; contact Tremont West—there may be a program that can help.

It turns out Marty has a long history in and around the Tremont neighborhood. "After college, I was a bicycle mechanic

for many, many years. Before I started working at Tremont West, I worked at Joy Machines Bike Shop in Ohio City." Biking is a passion of Marty's. "You'll probably catch me on the trail if you're out there because I love riding my bike into work." He said, "I live a little bit further west, but it's great that in this area we have an amazing trail system and connection between our neighborhoods." But his history with Tremont goes back further than that. Marty recalled, "When I was younger and in college, on weekends if I just wanted to get away from school or from home I would go to Loop, work on my homework, have coffee, and go through some records."

As a youngster, our neighborhood spoke to Marty's interest in music. "I remember when Separate Reality records was on West 14th, and I would visit there a lot, talk to Gus, and sell some cassettes and records to him."

This thought transported Marty back to his band days: "Back in the day, some of my old projects...we've played at the Pat's in the Flats, down where it used to be." Marty reminisced, "I would say that's probably one of my first experiences with Tremont—going down there to see some shows."

If any Tremont homeowner (not just low-income seniors), needs assistance or information about housing maintenance and repair resources, don't hesitate to reach out to Marty at Tremont West. "I'm more than happy to talk and help you out to the best of my ability—reach out to me if you ever need any assistance...I would love to help." Marty can be reached at Tremont West or by direct email (martybrass@tremontwest.org), or at Tremont West: **216-575-0920, ext. 107.**

DOES SOMEONE IN YOUR HOME HAVE ASTHMA?

DO YOU HAVE A GAS STOVE?

Cooking on gas stoves is a major source of indoor air pollution and may worsen asthma.

You may be eligible for a new electric induction stove at no cost.

YOU MAY QUALIFY IF |

YOU LIVE IN:

- Akron
- Canton
- Cleveland
- East Cleveland
- Euclid
- Garfield Heights
- Maple Heights
- Newburgh Heights
- Warrensville Heights

SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS ASTHMA

YOU USE A GAS STOVE FOR COOKING

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

Participating in this project may reduce indoor air pollution and improve asthma symptoms.

THE PROJECT TEAM WILL

- Install new electric stove
- Install 240-volt kitchen outlet if needed
- Repair or install ventilation hood
- Ask you to complete an asthma questionnaire
- Measure indoor air pollution
- Review your utility bills

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Marty Brass, phone 216-575-0920 x 107, email martybrass@tremontwest.org

Riff's Libations & Creations:

A New Gallery-Bar Draws a Crowd to the Corner of Jefferson and Professor



Flossie and Sam Skelton, here pictured working behind the bar during a full house at Riff's Libations & Creations.

Photos by Rich Weiss

by *The Tremonster*

Last November, Riff's Libations & Creations (2418 Professor Ave.) co-owner-operators, Sam Skelton and Flossie, announced a new concept to open in place of the former Kaiser Gallery. At the time, they had a strong, shared vision of the gallery-bar they wanted to bring to Tremont.

Kaiser Gallery closed its doors and butcher paper covered the windows. The new project stayed cocooned until the transformed Riff's Libations & Creations space was ready to emerge a few months later.

In mid-February, when Sam and Flossie opened the doors to Riff's, they revealed colorful, immersive lighting, exposed brick pillars, red velvet drapery partitioning and shaping the room, a lengthwise, longer bar configuration, two front corner performance stages, and a ramen vending machine with fixings. They also proved Riff's can attract a crowd to Tremont for their Wednesday Night MASS stand-up comedy showcase. *The Tremonster* spoke with the co-owners not long before they debuted their new space.

Sam: "In renovations, we found exposed brick as we peeled back multiple generations through the wall. We found a renovation they did several years ago, then there was drywall from (probably) the fifties, and then behind that, there was plasterboard with wallpaper that was, I guess, from the twenties or earlier, glued straight to the wallboard. Oh, it was such a mess. I was like, 'I'm covered in dust. Everything's covered in dust.'"

Flossie: "It's been quite a whirlwind. This opportunity came on quick, I think

we've turned it around really quickly.

It was a really great space to make our own. Everything fell into place really beautifully for us."

Sam sees Riff's as a good fit for Tremont's art gallery scene.

Sam: "We wanted to expand to all forms of art and add ticketed shows. Our left, main wall is going to be resident artists featured quarterly. The other wall is going to change every month but showcasing newer artists and giving people around the neighborhood more of a chance."

Flossie: "We will have a very small but seasonally curated craft cocktail list, probably about six selections. And then we're going to have a ton of old man bottled and canned beer, lots of old man whiskies, lots of tequila. We want to be a real watering hole neighborhood kind of place, and this is definitely a shot and beer kind of neighborhood."

While Flossie and Sam are clearly close friends, they take their creative partnership seriously.

Sam: Flossie is 50/50 owner with me. I watched what Flossie was able to do at Bar Oni in the neighborhood. She worked there for a long time, and she managed it. The establishment was awesome, and she was my local friend bartender. When this opportunity came up, we had already talked about stuff."

Flossie: Oni really allowed me to dig my heels into this neighborhood, and that's how I met Sam. That's a really valuable connection. It's been pretty essential for my growth here, and I do miss that place. Riff's reflects a little of Flossie's Bar Oni history through its bright, inviting ramen vending machine and ramen bar.



Riff's new bar is set up in a lengthwise, longer configuration, now seating 14 people.



Sam Skelton checks on a bar patron at Riff's.

Sam: "You get to make your own ramen and deck it up with all the sauces we put out. You put your cash in or scan your card and it gives you a packet of ramen. We have 40 different ramens and then there's a ramen bar. You add hot water in the bowls we provide, and there's all sorts of hot sauces and stuff like that. You can make your own food, late-night. It's a fun concept—it's not like restaurant-style by any means."

Flossie: "At Bar Oni, ramen was something that I was always trying to get in that space. Corner 11 does great ramen, but I always felt like this neighborhood could use another ramen spot, and we wanted to allow for people to express themselves by adding all the toppings. It's such a fun idea. You pick out your ramen, add the hot water, let it steep, and pick all your toppings. You can put all your hot sauces in, and then just sit at the bar and chill out."

Sam: "Besides that, there are going to be the shows. We put in two mini stages. We have a new PA system. We expanded the bar. The bar seats 14 now...it's a cozy space."

Flossie: "We're actually planning something for Saturday, and we're going to be operating for a comedy show this Wednesday Night. Sam and I will both be behind the bar."

Sam: "We're keeping it open—like, 'This is our gallery-bar, we can do whatever we think we want art to be, getting rid of the snootiness, and expressing art in all forms.' We both agree on that and we're able to compartmentalize, work hard, and knock stuff out."

Riff's will carry over events from the former Kaiser Gallery like Tango Night and Drag Bingo. The new space comfortably seats 50, and they will regularly program intimate music sessions, spoken word, and a DJ Open Deck on Sundays. The new gallery opened with a bang: their weekly comedy showcase, "Wednesday Night MASS."

Flossie: "I'm really looking forward to seeing what our place in the neighborhood is going to be like."

Sam: "It's the best neighborhood in Cleveland to do it, I think, don't you? We owe that a lot to the early restaurant guys here. We had all the chefs here; they're almost gone now, besides Dante, but those were experiments for those guys. They were young then. I think that spirit continues in Tremont, and that's why I wanted to invest in a business here. I mean, seriously, it makes so much sense. And the really nice reception to art in all forms."

Flossie: "I'm a Cleveland native, so I've been coming to Tremont for a long time. I remember my dad taking us to the Christmas Story house the first year it opened. I remember eating at Lola when it was in Tremont and going to Tremont Scoops when it was still open. I know when Spotted Owl first opened that was a big thing with the United States Bartenders' Guild when I was part of it. I've been coming to this neighborhood for a long time and hanging out here. I'm glad to be active in the community now."

[Continued on page 7...]

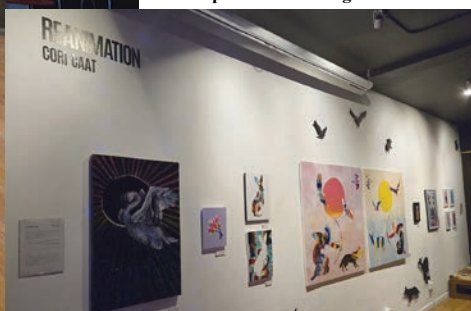


Sam Skelton, on Riff's front stoop in early February, before the butcher paper was removed to reveal the transformed gallery-bar.

Riff's Libations & Creations: A New Gallery-Bar Draws a Crowd to the Corner of Jefferson and Professor



Riff's performance stage and Red



Cori Caat and Sam Skelton plot out the installation of "Reanimation," Cori's studio art exhibit at Riff's.

Photos by Rich Weiss

[...Continued from page 6]

Studio artist

Cori Caat on her exhibit: REANIMATION

The Tremont arrived in time to see the first studio art exhibit installed at Riff's: "Ranimation" by Cori Caat. Cori sat down with us to share her perspective on Sam and Flossie's new Tremont venue.

Cori: "I've always been a fan of unconventional gallery spaces that take away that clinical, sharp edge. I love the opportunity to show art, but to make it a little more inviting to the common person, the people off the street walking in, not feeling intimidated to enter the space. Already it's so welcoming. It's got a living room vibe where you just want to hang out with your friends and discuss art. What a beautiful addition to



A segment of "Reanimation" a Riff's exhibit by Cori Caat.

this community. I think it was the missing piece of the puzzle. So many creatives in Tremont." We asked Cori to talk about the inspiration behind her work, which reflects a

theme of recognizable animal forms and icons imbued with striking color. **Cori:** "I'm constantly inspired by regional flora and fauna. That's a big part of my work. And I thought, 'What kind of mythology could I center this around?' And lurking in my consciousness was the goddess Artemis. I really like the duality that she presents, especially in this day and age and being both a protector and a huntress. I thought that was a really

exciting concept to work around. And I said, 'Let's build a world,' and there's going to be some floating silhouettes coming out of the wall, just creating a whole scene."



Wednesday Night MASS attracted a crowd to Riff's for stand-up comedy.



Riff's Libations & Creations invites creativity, imbibing, and conversation..



Comedian/co-producer Justin Golak

Comedian/co-producer Justin Golak on: Wednesday Night MASS

After a recent Wednesday Night MASS stand-up comedy event, Justin Golak, co-producer of the weekly Riff's attraction, shared his thoughts during a conversation with us by text. We asked Justin what it feels like to see Riff's filling up with Cleveland comedy audiences.

Justin: "It feels great! Riff's is a perfect comedy venue—a room that's easy to fill that feels great when it's packed. Effortless intimacy. Combine that with ownership that's artist-focused, dedicated, and hard-working, and you have the recipe for an incredible show. Riff's combines a cozy atmosphere with a high-quality tech setup for performance. Truly the perfect marriage of style and substance."

The Tremont asked Justin what makes Riff's Wednesday Night MASS unique from other opportunities to catch comedy in Cleveland.

Justin: "My co-producer, Cam Godfrey, and myself are completely focused on creating something special. As a Cleveland-native, I am well aware that the city has the second largest theater district in the country, has world-class art museums and galleries, and has a storied DIY and punk scene. The collective art IQ of Cleveland is special. And I don't feel that comedy in Cleveland has reached out to or actively challenged that consciousness. Cam and I are motivated to change that. We're putting on shows that are as tight and well-run as they are experimental and jarring. We're not looking to create something everybody

wants; we're looking to create something 50 people every other week need: rabid enthusiasm to imbibe unique, exciting, bristly comedic performances—and a lineup every show that is fully competent and excited to satiate that thirst."

Tremonters might take laughing for granted. We asked Justin if he thinks laughter is more important than people might realize.

Justin: "French philosopher Albert Camus believed that the inherent meaninglessness of existence created tension inside human beings, a species designed to seek meaning. He thought that the only solution to this was to choose to live regardless. Forgo the need for meaning and just accept existence on its terms and enjoy each moment despite its pointlessness. I think that macro mindset about an uncaring world can apply to the micro and how we all deal with a society that, irrespective of who's in power, cares less and less about us. MASS is not a town hall meeting and, despite the name and branding, is not a house of worship. We're not proposing solutions, formulating plans, or telling anyone that it's going to be ok. MASS is a comedy show. A place where we confront the weird, absurd, and ugly parts of our world and choose to collectively engage in a primal, guttural release in the face of it all. TL;DR Yes, laughing is good."



Natasha Pogrebinsky's Diaries of a Chef

Chef Natasha's Connection to Tremont: Past and Present



Chef Natasha

A special report by *The Tremonster*
Tremonters may not know you have a long connection with Tremont. Could you talk about your memories of and history with our neighborhood?

I came to Cleveland with my parents when I was nine years old. We are immigrants. I was placed in what used to be Tremont Elementary on West 10th St. into fourth grade. My little brother was placed into first grade there—his first school ever. I'll remember that day forever. We didn't speak English yet. Besides being dunked into a new, alien culture and way-of-life, the scariest part was not being able to communicate effectively. It's the most frustrating and terrifying experience when you do not understand what people are saying to you, what they want, and what they are asking of you. And no matter how much you try to express yourself with sounds and hand gestures, nobody can understand you either.

In addition, I had an overwhelming feeling of responsibility for my brother, who in my eyes was this little thing I had to

protect at all costs. I remember when we were separated into different classrooms. I was thinking, "I'm so scared and stressed and my tummy hurts, and he must be too, and I'm not there to hold his hand and tell him it'll be OK." Ultimately, of course, we were physically safe, the teachers and counselors took good care of us, and the fear and panic subsided. Regardless of the abrasive immersion process, I do look back on that time with a smile. It was a special school, a special building with great teachers and staff.

My parents became great friends with an artist named Johanna who owned the little garage at 2346 West 11th St. She had converted the garage into a ceramics studio, and upstairs she created a stylish, bohemian loft. I was obsessed with how cool this woman was. She was well known, loved, and respected in the community and was part of the '90s artist renaissance in Tremont. My parents would hangout upstairs, and I was downstairs playing with clay, making art, and peeking out at the little Tremont streets, busy with people going out to eat or off to the famous Art Walks.

By the time I was in college, my mom became a teacher at Tremont Elementary, and I loved to visit her on lunch breaks, visit my old classrooms, and say hi to my teachers. It means a lot to them; I strongly recommend it. It's a rewarding experience for all. Mom and I would take a walk over to the Civilization coffee shop on West 11th St. and share a panini with cappuccinos and a slice of cake. We'd talk about life, work, and laugh a lot. I still love to visit this place to pick up a local paper, say hello to the regulars, and hear some gossip. On the way back, we would take a stroll through Lincoln Park: those gorgeous giant trees, the park benches and

pathways reminding us just enough of the European life we left. It was comforting, reassuring, this is home now.

In the evenings and sometimes long into the night, I'd come back to Tremont to meet up with friends. Many nights were spent sitting around a few bottles of wine, planning protests, organizing art events, being young and wild. I met so many great people and made friends for life in those years, just sitting in cafés, restaurants, and bars in Tremont on Professor Ave. One of these local talents is my friend, Shawn Mishak, who still lives in Tremont and is a fixture in the local art and music scene to this day.

Tremont is also home to the Ukrainian Museum Archives on Kenilworth. In the late 1990s, my mom hosted a popular Ukrainian radio program "Dnipro" ...the podcast of yore. I loved watching her work. She brought me to the Archives often when she did her research. She was instrumental in reviving Ukrainian art projects and community engagement in cultural events like One World Day. A lot of these events, planning, and actions took place in or around Tremont, a historic home to the Ukrainian community. I've always been greatly inspired by her drive, always staying busy, always giving back to the community, even when we had so little ourselves. I could go on with stories of barbecues in Tremont back yards, the great finds at the Farmer's Markets, the fun times at the summer festivals, the Christmas stories at the Christmas Story house, and on and on...but then I'd go on for pages and fill this whole paper.

What do you remember about the first time you returned to Tremont after being away?

It's not just for starving artists

anymore. It felt a little bit like the Williamsburg neighborhood of NY from the early 2000s when the hipsters grew up and started building expensive new condos, jogging with their dogs or baby strollers, and working on their laptops in the many new options for coffee shops. It was good to see the neighborhood grow and thrive.

You've seen Tremont at many different stages and from a few different perspectives—what's your take on Tremont today?

The spirit of Tremont hasn't changed. It's still a melting pot of cultures; it's still the hub for artists and independent restaurants. It makes me happy to see that a place I loved as a kid, a young adult, and now is still going strong. For decades, Tremont has served as a uniquely supportive launching pad for small businesses. If a startup asked your feelings about opening a small business in the Tremont neighborhood, what would you say? It's a great location, it's touching all the pulse points from the West Side, to Downtown, to the East. Lean into the quirkiness of the neighborhood and its history to be unique.

Do you have any advice for Tremont, the neighborhood?

Keep the chains out and create more security at night. Protect Tremont's unique history and support independent businesses that thrive on community engagement. The empty storefronts need new life—let's fill those places with more galleries, shops, and bistros. I'd love to see a kid arriving to this neighborhood today and seeing it thrive and grow the way I did. I know Tremont will not disappoint, but it needs some help along the way.

Now Accepting Visual Artists Applications for the 2025 Tremont Arts & Cultural Festival

Hello NE Ohio Visual Artists:

The regionally acclaimed Tremont Arts & Cultural Festival, presented by Tremont West Development Corporation and Cleveland City Councilman Kerry McCormack Ward 3, Jasmin Santana, Cleveland City Councilwoman Ward 14, and Councilwoman Rebecca Maurer - Ward 12, is now accepting visual artist applications.

The 26th annual festival will take place Saturday & Sunday, September 20th (12 Noon – 5pm) & September 21st (12 noon – 5pm), 2025 in Cleveland's Lincoln Park. ***PLEASE NOTE; Festival hours in 2025 are changed to 12 Noon to 5 PM both Saturday & Sunday***

Community, cultural, and food vendor applications will open in early April 2025 through the Festival website: <https://experiencetremont.com/featured-events/tremont-arts-cultural-festival/>

Applications for exhibiting visual artists are accepted online in 15 categories: 2D Mixed

Media, 3D Mixed Media, Ceramics, Digital Art, Drawing, Fiber, Glass, Fine Jewelry, Leather, Metal (non-sculptural), Painting (Oil, Acrylic, & Watercolor), Photography & Digital Photography, Printmaking, Sculpture (Paper, Bronze, Clay, Metal, Stone) and Wood..

PLEASE NOTE: This is the second season of the application process (for visual artists) through ZAPApplication - ZAPP is the trusted application management and jurying system for hundreds of events.

To apply to the Tremont Arts & Cultural Festival as a visual artist, please visit: <https://www.zapplication.org/event-info.php?ID=13278>

Benefits to Artists Using ZAPP

- Using ZAPP® is free to artists
- can upload 1000 MB of digital images to their online, individual image bank
- Jurors see high-quality digital images of artists' work
- Artists can manage applications to

multiple shows through ZAPP®

- Other NE Ohio Shows accepting applications through ZAPP: Akron Art Expo, Arts by the Falls (Chagrin Falls), Art in the Village (Beachwood-Lyndhurst), Boston Mills Arts Fest, Cain Park Arts Festival, Lakewood Arts Festival, Berea Arts Fest, and Rocky River Fall Arts Festival – along with many others in Ohio and nationally

- Artists save money on postage and no longer have to mail slides or CDs of images
- Artists can access their ZAPP® accounts and image bank online from any computer with an Internet connection

- Artists only have to enter contact information into ZAPP® once

- Artists no longer have to complete multiple-page paper applications

- Artists receive email notifications with application status and other relevant information

- Artists' images and personal information are kept secure and confidential

The deadline for visual artist

applications is 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 12th, 2025.

There is a \$25 Application Fee for this show payable online thru ZAPP at time of application.

For more information visit the Tremont Arts Fest website at www.tremontartsfestival.com - or our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/tremontartsandculturalfestival> Each year visual artists apply for up to 100 booth spaces. Artists are chosen by a panel of art jurors in a blind jury process.

To apply online:

<https://www.zapplication.org/event-info.php?ID=13278> or scan this code:

Many thanks!



761 Starkweather Ave | (440) 941-5130

La Bodega
All that and a bag of chips

869 Jefferson Ave. | (216) 621-7075

St. Theodosius Needs More Donor Support for Restorations after 2024 Dome Fire



Fr. Jan Cizmar
Dean of Saint Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral

Father Ján Čižmár describes the complicated renovation process in a mini-documentary about the St. Theodosius fire and restoration.

Photo by Nate Stroempl

A mini-documentary tells the story of the St. Theodosius fire, the damage, the plans for restoration, and the need for more donor support (Gay Henderson Eyerman, producer, and Nate Stroempl, videographer/editor with Video Needs).

To watch a 90-second trailer, scan this code:



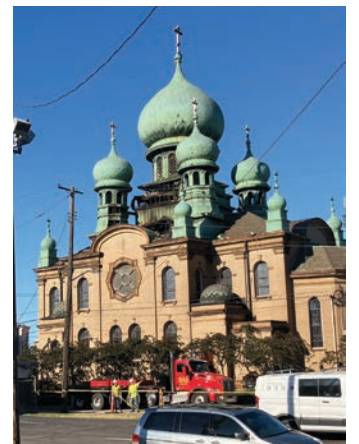
On May 28, 2024, a fire damaged St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral in Cleveland's Tremont neighborhood. Built in 1911, the cathedral is a spiritual home for parishioners, an anchor in the neighborhood, and an architectural treasure in Cleveland. The church is on the National Register of Historic places and is a quintessential piece of the Tremont neighborhood and beauty. Father Ján Čižmár continues his dedication to the church community while managing the restoration.

The cost of restoring the historic structure far exceeded payments through insurance. The Tremont community has rallied around the church in many ways. Perhaps the most creative has been Lucky's Café, which is selling T-shirts that have raised over \$15,000 for the fire restoration. Check out two different styles in the Lucky's Café online shop—scan this code:



By the beginning of March, the church had raised \$107,657.62 of their \$1 million goal—there are further obstacles ahead and work progresses day by day.

To donate to the restoration of the historic cathedral, please scan this code:



St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral immediately after the fire



Post 58 meeting March 22nd and Tattered Flag Drop-Off



Post 58 Membership meeting. Commander Terry Zacharyj, center.

by Tom Matia

Hello All,
Mark your calendars. Saturday March 22nd 1:30pm. Post 58 meeting at the Newburg Hts. American Legion 3935 East 42nd, north of Harvard. Deluxe pizzas and roasted chicken will be served. This has been our new hangout and home. Very clean, great gang, huge auxiliary. They do a lot and spend money to help veterans locally. They also have a mailbox-like container to retire old, tattered flags if you have any. If you're not a member of the A. L. I suggest you bring your DD 214 to our next meeting and join. You will receive a door entry card, and meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. 6:30pm They

also give you your vet cap free along with other benefits.

If you are a member of another A.L. but don't support it, you can transfer at the meeting. Quite a few of us 58ers have joined.

We will also be buying Post 58 Jackets for ALL our members that come to this meeting in order to get their size. This will be at no charge to the member. We may also consider wives if the body approves. This will be good promotion for Post 58 PLAV. We will also have a few new members to welcome.

Commander: Terry Zacharyj

Older, Wiser, Livelier, Seniors (OWLS) Cleveland Luncheon Meeting Recap



OWLS Cleveland held their Christmas party in December at Zion United Church of Christ.

Photos by Bev Wurm

by Bev Wurm

OWLS (older, wiser, livelier seniors) Cleveland ended 2024 with a Christmas party in December with a lunch of turkey, ham, cheesy potatoes, dressing, rolls, butter, and lots and lots of cookies. We had a white elephant gift exchange and cookie exchange.

Michael McDonald played guitar and shared a couple songs he wrote. We also played bingo. Cleveland Division of Police Commander Tim Maffo-Judd, Sgt. Thomas, and Officer Thomas joined in on the fun.

We did not meet in January but resumed February 12th for our Valentine's Day party. Our speaker was Ryan Popovic, Group Manager of Great Day Tours. Raffle baskets, door prizes, and a 50/50 raffle have returned as popular events for those attending.

Lunch included sloppy joes, sloppy Tom's, coleslaw, potato salad, coffee, tea, water, Valentine's heart cookies, and peach fluff for dessert.

Join us on March 12th from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm for our OWLS meeting at 2700 W. 14th St., Zion UCC Church, when we will celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We will feature two speakers: Emily Holt, from Cleveland Dept. Of Aging and Niki Stacks, owner of Fyzical Therapy and Balance. RSVP (216-310-6810) for lunch.



The OWLS Christmas cookie table was inviting and well-stocked.



The Post 58 Tattered Flag Dropoff is a mailbox-like container for worn flags.



Post 58 Membership will meet March 22nd at the Newburg Hts. American Legion 3935 East 42nd, north of Harvard.

CIVILIZATION
a café in the european tradition
 Where Tremont became known for coffee • West 11th and Kenilworth on Lincoln Park

Ken Scigulinski's Memories Of Tremont Avenue

The Dick Tracy Wrist Radio



Dick Tracy Wrist Radio

by Ken Scigulinsky

Usually, the drabness after the joy of Christmas had faded could be partially overcome by playing with my new toys. Unfortunately, the Christmas of 1946 was a total letdown for me because the toy that was the center of my intense interest turned out to be a big disappointment. I do not remember how I became aware that there was a toy Dick Tracy wrist radio being sold. Perhaps it was advertised on a cereal box or maybe I saw it while exploring the entire seventh floor of toys at the May Company. Although I had no idea how it worked or who I would communicate with, I just knew I wanted to be the first kid in the neighborhood to have a Dick Tracy wrist radio. The power of advertising had captured me. Here is the background of the wrist radio: On 13 January 1946, Chester Gould, the creator of the Dick Tracy comic book character, introduced the concept of a wrist radio. His idea emerged after visiting inventor Al Gross, who was a BSEE graduate of Cleveland's Case School of Applied Sciences (now a part of Case Western Reserve University). Gross gave Gould permission to use his concept of a miniaturized two-way radio in his Dick Tracy comic strip. The result was the introduction of Dick Tracy's two-way wrist radio. Worn on the wrist, it allowed two-way communication between Dick Tracy and his fellow police officers as they pursued criminals, often using technology to nab the bad guys. Needless to say, it was an unlikely concept in the 1940s, but it is now a reality with the ubiquitous Apple watch.

As she had done the past couple of years, my mother gave me money to purchase a gift for myself that she would then wrap as my Christmas present. She had given up on trying to guess what I might like and trusted me to buy myself something appropriate. I was an avid reader of Dick Tracy comics and had seen the two-way wrist radio employed in many episodes. So, when I knew a toy version of that invention was available, there was no doubt about what I would purchase. I traveled downtown to the May Company with five dollars to buy my gift. When I got home with my prized Dick Tracy wrist radio, I eagerly opened the box to examine the contents. After reading the instructions and conducting an inventory of the box items, I was shocked to discover that there was no two-way communication capability at all! What was actually being provided was a crystal set with a crystal, some wires, and the wrist radio as a speaker. What was displayed on the box was a very misleading cartoon, although it truthfully indicated "no batteries, no tubes and no electric." There was no way I was going to accept the deception, so I took my purchase back to May Company and received a refund. It is interesting that the store dealt with me, an eight-year-old kid, as they would deal with an adult – but my mother always taught me to be assertive, demanding fairness, crying if necessary. My sisters never seemed to tire of playing house with new Christmas dolls, and my mom occasionally wore the Evening in Paris perfume we bought for her at

the local drug store. She always gave us money for her "surprise" gift and specified where we could buy it. We repeated the routine every year. One of my dad's Christmas presents always quickly went up in smoke since he received a carton of Camel cigarettes. His other present, a necktie, would have to await a funeral or wedding before it was functional. The truly surprising and imaginative gifts usually came from my dad's brother and his wife who lived in Brooklyn and always visited us weeks after Christmas. I recall once receiving a box containing many sheets of outlined pictures along with paints, brushes, and some salt-like crystals. I would color the pictures then sprinkle the crystals on the paint while still wet. The dried product always looked impressive.

When winter storms brought sufficient snowfall, the outdoors took precedent over any toys that might occupy my attention. In preparation for winter, my Flexible Flyer sled had been retrieved from the basement we shared with the other tenants in our four-family dwelling on Tremont Avenue. The landlord had installed temporary wooden sides to the small porch that provided access to all four units—protecting entryways from the wind and snow. That porch was the place where I kept my Flexible Flyer, ready to go. All the neighborhood kids had Flexible Flyer sleds but of different lengths. Patented by Samuel Allen in 1889, the Flexible Flyer sleds came in odd lengths, attuned to the intended use. There were 39-, 43-, 53- and 64-inch sled lengths. Most of us had the small sizes, but one kid had the large sled that allowed three of us to sit for a downhill run. The Flexible Flyer had some unique features. The runners were grooved to prevent skidding on ice or snow, and they were weakened

in the middle, causing them to be flexible, bending sideways when the floating wooden crossbar was pushed left or right. Although the steering concept was the predominant feature of the sled, it never seemed to work adequately for me. We kids discovered the best way to steer our sled was to drag our foot in the direction we wanted to go. Want to go left? Drag your left foot. Interestingly, advertising for Flexible Flyers promised this: "Saves shoes, prevents colds, and saves Doctor's bills because you don't drag your feet in steering." But kids seemed to know what worked best.

The fluffy snow in front of our house regularly became compacted and dimpled due to many students tramping on it as they walked to Tremont School. As long as someone had not sprinkled ashes on their icy sidewalk for safety, we could pull each other along the snow-covered walkways. In the street, there was an opportunity for belly slamming but the surface was not always compacted enough. The big thrill was taking our sleds to the south end of W. 11th where the street steeply dropped and then continued to Clark Avenue. Later, the creation of I-490 totally obliterated that stretch of the street. The hill at that spot was perfect for sledding, either as a single or linking our sleds—feet into the front of a friend's sled, etc. Sometimes, there would be three or four sleds tandem linked for an exciting long downhill run. We stayed for hours after school, protected from the cold by long underwear, two sets of pants, four-buckle galoshes, heavy coats, and WWII leather pilot caps that covered our ears. It was an unforgettable period in my childhood.



Photo courtesy of Ken Scigulinsky

The Flexible Flyer From a 1912 Catalogue

New Independent Report Highlights Right to Counsel Keeps Clevelanders in Their Homes; Delivers Significant Economic Benefits for the Community

Melanie Shakarian, Legal Aid

Over the past five years, 13,285 residents asserted their right to counsel in Cleveland Housing Court through 4,517 cases – resulting in housing stability for many households.

This past week, United Way of Greater Cleveland and The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland delivered an independent evaluation to the City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County leaders, highlighting the success of Cleveland's Right to Counsel in eviction cases.

In the past year alone, from January 1 through December 31, 2024, Legal Aid assisted 3,034 residents in 1,051 eviction Right to Counsel cases. Last year, 80% of people who sought to prevent eviction or an involuntary move via Right to Counsel achieved their goal.

Stout estimates Legal Aid represented between 60% and 80% of all households in Cleveland that were likely eligible for Right to Counsel. Prior to

Right to Counsel, only 2% - 3% of all tenants had representation.

Stout also estimates that Cleveland and Cuyahoga County likely realized economic and fiscal benefits of approximately \$35.1 million from July 1, 2020, through December 31, 2024. During the same period, the total expenses associated with RTC-C were \$14.3 million, resulting in an estimated return on investment of approximately \$2.46 for each dollar invested in RTC-C."

"The City of Cleveland continues to lead by supporting a right to counsel for tenants facing eviction," says Colleen Cotter, Executive Director of Legal Aid. "Stout's recent evaluation confirms how our public-private partnership continues to create great outcomes for individuals and the community."

Stout's 2025 evaluation of Cleveland's Right to Counsel in 2024 resulted in updated insights including, but not limited to, how Right to Counsel:

- Prevents Evictions and Helps Tenants Achieve their Goals
- Identifies and Responds to Poor Housing Conditions
- Responds to an Eviction Crisis that Disproportionately Impacts Black and Female-headed Households
- Leverages Interventions, like Rental Assistance
- Creates Public Economic and Fiscal Benefits
- Promotes Access to Justice: Significant Increase in Eligible Tenants Who Accessed a Lawyer

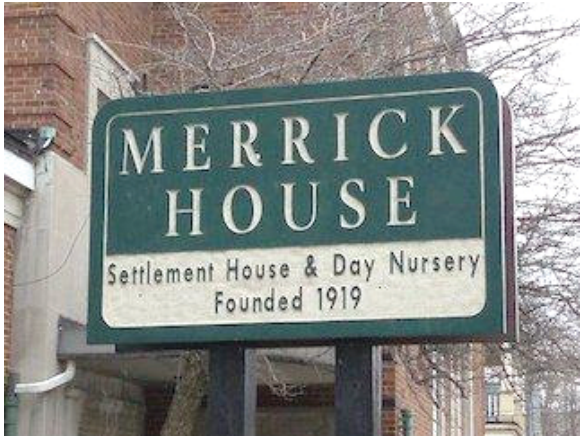
"As a proud partner in the Right to Counsel initiative, United Way of Greater Cleveland remains committed to supporting solutions that increase housing stability and economic security for families," said Sharon Sobol Jordan, President and CEO of United Way of Greater Cleveland. "We look forward to collaborating further this

year with City and County leaders on plans for the long-term sustainability of this important right."

Download Stout's full report and Executive Summary at FreeEvictionHelpResults.org.

About Right to Counsel Cleveland:
In 2019, Cleveland City Council passed Cleveland's Right to Counsel ordinance with a recognition that "a lack of legal counsel for low-income tenants with minor children during eviction cases is a violation of a basic human right." Through Cleveland Codified Ordinance 375.12, the city became the first in the Midwest and only the fourth in the United States to provide such a right. Launched on July 1, 2020, as a partnership between United Way of Greater Cleveland and The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, Right to Counsel Cleveland provides a right to free legal representation to eligible households under the ordinance.

Merrick House Now Recruiting New Board Members



needs of residents in Tremont and surrounding neighborhoods. With our MomsFirst program, we provide health education and support to pregnant women with the ultimate goal of helping them have a healthy baby in a county that ranks among the nation's highest infant mortality rates. Our inclusive and adaptable approach over the

adults. Wherever possible, Merrick House advocates for fairness and equality and works with residents to give them a stronger voice on various issues they are facing. We are actively creating change

and making a positive impact in our neighborhoods. If you are committed to Lifting Lives and Strengthening Communities, consider joining the Board of Merrick House.

Do you have a passion for your neighborhood and want to make a difference in the community? Consider applying to be a board member at Merrick House! Merrick House is a historic neighborhood center that is rich in history, culture, and tradition. For over 100 years, Merrick House has been an integral part of this diverse and resilient community, welcoming people to our neighborhood center and empowering them to reach their full potential. Originally built as a settlement house in the early 1900s, Merrick House honors its legacy BY creating an interconnected community of support. From infant child care and preschool to youth mentoring and recreation, we are continually reshaping our programs and services to meet the

years has helped to stabilize families, educate children, create leaders, and provide safe and healthy activities for the community. We are also proud to be a MyCom partner, a network of people in Greater Cleveland who believe youth development is the responsibility of all sectors of society. By engaging our youth, connecting them with caring and committed adults, and providing a variety of "out-of-school time" activities, we are helping them reach success and become confident young



Historic photo courtesy of Merrick House

Tremont Farmers Market Seeks Vendors and Farmers



Calling All Food Vendors & Farmers!
The Tremont Farmer's Market is gearing up for another incredible season (Tuesdays, May 20th – October 14th, 2025).

We're looking for food vendors and farmers to join us!

Whether you specialize in fresh produce, homemade goods, or delicious treats, this is your chance to share your products with the vibrant Tremont community.

Why join us?

Connect with a supportive, local community

Showcase your products to dedicated market-goers

Be part of one of Cleveland's favorite weekly events

Ready to apply?

Learn more about the Market and submit your application at this link: <https://tab.so/a36a7142>

or by scanning this code:



Tremont Tree Giveaway at Pilgrim Church April 26th, 10am-2pm

APRIL 26TH • 10 AM TO 2 PM
PILGRIM CHURCH • 2592 W 14TH ST

TREMONT TREES GIVEAWAY

Help grow our City's tree canopy by claiming a free tree to plant at home. Trees are free and available on a first-come, first-served basis to all Cleveland residents —no reservations needed!

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JULIE DAHLHAUSEN AT JULIEDAHLHAUSEN@TREMONTWEST.ORG 216-575-0920 X 101

-April 26th, 10am-2pm at Pilgrim Church
(The Saturday following Earth Day and Arbor Day)

-100 trees (small, medium, and large) to give away

- FREE, first come first serve

Drag Bingo at Riff's Libations & Creations

Drag Bingo

DUBBO Divas OF CLEVELAND

\$10 EVENTBRITE
\$15 AT THE DOOR

Sinhedonia *Peach*

RIFF'S, 2418 PROFESSOR AVE
7-9:30PM THURSDAY, MARCH 20



Bread and Roses Variety Show Hosted by The NEO Worker Center

NORTHEAST OHIO WORKER CENTER
2025 VARIETY SHOW
7PM \$25

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2025

THE ELLIOT 1415 KENILWORTH AVE
CLEVELAND OH 44113

BREAD FOR ALL AND ROSES TOO

The Elliot | The Rosehip Room
7-11 PM | Friday, March 28, 2025

The NEOWC is hosting their second annual fundraiser in The Rosehip Room at The Elliot on March 28th. Enjoy a variety show featuring local talent, a silent auction, and drinks available for purchase. *Please note -- a meal will not be provided at the event.* By attending the event you will be helping to raise funds for the Northeast Ohio Worker Center. The dollars raised for this event will help to pay for things like staff time to conduct wage theft intakes, connect workers to agencies and legal services so that they can get the money they are owed, and conduct community outreach.

The Squirrels by Robert Askins Opens at convergence-continuum on March 28



March 28 - April 19, 2025
Thursday-Saturday at 7:30 PM
Sunday at 3pm

Scurius, the patriarch of a family of gray squirrels, has collected enough nuts to last ten winters. When a group of starving fox squirrels begs him to share his hoard of food, animosity erupts into a ferocious war. THE SQUIRRELS is a boundary-pushing, darkly satirical look at wealth inequality in which no creature comes out unscathed

"The fast-paced 90-minute play... is a witty black comedy about a mixed-race squirrel family decimated by prejudice and greed. Writ large, it's an apocalyptic tale of America's cultural divide... [Askins] drops a thought bomb... about our responsibility for the destruction of the environment and for the care of one's fellow squirrel (and otherwise)."

—San Diego Union-Tribune.

"Crazy? Of course. Crazy is what Askins does. Charming? Yes, that too, and thought-provoking... THE SQUIRRELS offers an amusing tale that challenges assumptions about good and evil, power and tribalism. This is an experience like no other." —San Diego Local News.

"...an epic, an allegory, a tragedy and a cautionary tale all rolled into one." —Times of San Diego.

"THE SQUIRRELS is [an] allegory that launches salvos at current events, framed by a potential apocalypse... Beneath the satire, the play raises serious questions, in particular, why does inequality reign?"

—San Diego Reader.



Order Your Own Tremont Flag!

Artwork by Tremont Flag Design Contest Winner:
Natalie West



*Pole not included
*Please allow 2 to 3 weeks for delivery

Order your Tremont flag today by visiting *The Tremonster* web page
thetremonger.org/tremont-neighborhood-flag

or by scanning this QR code:

