

Andreoli Building Restoration



Tiffany and Anthony Andreoli have called Slavic Village home for over a decade. Purchasing their first home in the Warszawa area. Since that time, they have renovated over 6 properties, including a building on Fleet Ave.

In true rust belt fashion, the family dreamed of bringing new life to a commercial building where they could operate their own business. Searching for just the right site for many years, the couple finally found it in 5401 Fleet. This property had remained vacant and abandoned for over two decades. Because of the amount of damage, the building was slated for demolition. Slavic Village Development was able to get this building from foreclosure and provide it as an option, clearing tax delinquencies through the Cuyahoga County Land Bank.

The couple purchased the building in fall 2018. SVD worked with the Andreoli's to pull the property off of the demolition list, allowing them to get to work cleaning out debris from the building. Next, they began envisioning how the exterior would set the bar

high for other renovations along the street. Business Development Officer, Marilyn Mosinski worked with the couple to prepare for and anticipate questions from Local Design Review through the Cleveland City Planning Commission. Anthony's experience in construction provided the skills to oversee the rehabilitation from start to finish. The cost of the exterior project was over \$150k and this gem has really caught the eye of everyone that travels up and down Fleet Avenue.

This is a family who dreams big and makes progress through their action. They look forward to inspiring other stakeholders along Fleet Avenue and throughout Slavic Village to make an investment in improvements in their building. Thank you Andreoli family for your investment!

If you are interested in restoring your building and want to know what funds are available for your project please contact Marilyn Mosinski, Business Development Officer at marilyn@slavicvillage.org or call her at 216-429-1182x105.

Learning Pods Support Students

With the support of the Cleveland Foundation and MyCom, and in conjunction with the Cleveland

Metropolitan School District, funding for Learning Pods, temporary safe locations for academic support, was made available to Elizabeth Baptist Church, Community of Faith Assembly, Jones Road Family Development, the Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Ohio, and Open Doors Academy to serve over 170 Slavic Village students attending Mound, A.B. Hart, Miles Park, and Warner Girls Leadership Academy through December 18, 2020.

We are hopeful that funding for this work will continue and even expand to serve more students. In addition, the Slavic Village P-16, a MyCom Neighborhood, continues to bring our community partners together to develop and implement academic and enrichment supports for our families during this time. These supports may be in person or virtual.

To learn more about the education efforts in the Slavic Village neighborhood, email Natalie Friedl at natalief@slavicvillage.org to be added to our communications. (Photos thanks to Community of Faith Assembly)

Imagination Library Literacy Cooperative

FREE BOOKS for children from birth to age 5 available in our community as a gift from the Third Federal Foundation

Help us promote a love of books and reading among children in our community by spreading the word about this wonderful book gifting program that mails free, age appropriate, high quality books monthly to children's homes from birth to age 5. There is no cost or obligation to the child's family. It truly is a FREE GIFT!

To enroll children age 4½ years old and younger, visit the Fleet Library branch or enroll online at www.literacycooperative.org and click on the Imagination Library logo. Books will be arriving eight to ten weeks after registering. For more information, go to www.slavicvillage.org or contact Mahogani Graves at mahogani@slavicvillage.org.

Community Steward Update

The first year of the Community Steward program came to an end in October of 2020. While the first year was different than expected, the stewards continued their work in creative ways. One of these being Community Steward Mini Grant Projects. The stewards have organized different socially distanced (with COVID precautions in place) events and projects. Thank you to Joy Cummings, Tiffany Andreoli, Pat Shields, Mayia Allen, and Carlee Davenport for creating and carrying out some awesome projects!



The Community Stewards program started year 2 November 10th, with 22 stewards signing on for another full year of community outreach work; 12 returning and 10 new stewards. Due to COVID 19, the kickoff event was held virtually via Zoom.

The Stewards were able to meet one another and share a few stories from their favorite memory in Slavic Village to what they strive to accomplish this year. The Stewards will be receiving training in Racial Equity, Trauma Informed Care, Leadership Training, and a variety of additional topics related to the Eco District's three core pillars of Equity, Resilience, and Climate Change. Stewards will attend a majority of these trainings virtually, and will make sure any in person outreach work follows proper socially distanced and COVID 19 safety protocols. Make sure to keep an eye out for a steward in your neighborhood. If you have any questions about the community steward program, Contact Abby at AbbyS@slavicvillage.org or 216-429-1182 x106.



HOUSING

New Year. New Home.

Move-in-Ready Homes

Fully renovated Slavic Village Rediscovered homes feature all new electric, plumbing, furnaces, hot water tanks, kitchens, baths, flooring, and finishes throughout. Sales prices range between \$85,000 and \$95,000 and all homes come with a 15-year residential property tax abatement, making your mortgage payment more affordable than ever.



Contact Chelsea at 216-429-1182 x117 or chelseak@slavicvillage.org to learn more! View available homes at slavicvillage.org.

Lead Safe North Broadway

As you may have heard, the City of Cleveland has started the process of making rental properties lead safe. The City is asking rental property owners to make certain improvements to their units in order to make sure that they are lead-safe. To help with that effort, SVD is working with landlords and tenants to ensure rental properties meet the new City standards. SVD will be contacting tenants and landlords with available resources. The City will be inspecting all rental properties. Our goal is to help people pass those inspections and work together to

improve the health factors of our neighborhood's homes.

We have also started a 3-year housing project with a special focus area of North Broadway. The



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SLAVIC VILLAGE
Slavic Village Development
5620 Broadway Avenue, Suite 200
Cleveland, Ohio 44127

CIVIC CORNER

Welcome
Two of the Newest
Businesses
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Neighborhood!



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- Digital Photo Retouching
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Whenever your printing needs lead you - from brochures to sales and marketing materials, laser checks or specialty envelopes - make South End Printing your final destination. We've expanded our Graphic Arts division with new talent who can assist with all types of marketing materials. Business collateral, as well as signage. Here are some of the things we offer:

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Please visit www.slavicvillage.org for full event details.

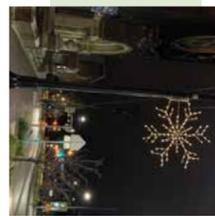
Need a Job, Need a Ride?

Get2WorkNow is program sponsored by Manufacturing Works, The Cleveland Clergy Coalition, and The American Association of Clergy and Employers (AAEC) that provides direct shuttle service from Cleveland's eastside neighborhoods to employers throughout Northeast Ohio.

We are currently providing rides to manufacturers all over the greater Cleveland area. These employers are hiring and we are helping them connect with candidates. Our initiative can help you find employment with reliable transportation to and from work. To learn more please contact T.J. McGowan at 1-216-588-1441, and he will follow up with you to discuss the opportunities with our manufacturing partners. We are grateful for the generous support of The Fund for Our Economic Future.

CIVIC CORNER

Thank you to
ENTERPRISE COMMUNITY PARTNERS
for Sponsoring This Year's Snowflake Lights!



There was a lot going on in Slavic Village during 2020. Even as a pandemic hit, the neighborhood was still able to show support for one another and provide a helping hand. Pictures include: PPE Give Away, Voter Registration, and Riversweep



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HOUSING (Continued)

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“Slavic Village Healthy Homes Initiative” has a focus on making every single home safe, warm and dry emphasizing lead and asthma related issues. This project is in coordination with University Settlement’s development of the former St. Alexis site on Broadway, known as The Rising. University Settlement is building their new offices and 88 new units of mixed income housing for residents, by 2022. Slavic Village Development prides ourselves on being a strong community partner with University Settlement and aim to expand the impact of their development beyond brick and mortar. This Healthy Homes Initiative kicked off in August, when our staff delivered over 200 outreach boxes to residents. Each box had masks, cleaning wipes and details about making your home lead and asthma safe. In addition, we will be having several outreach events over the next three years to assist residents with improving their homes. For additional information please contact Lynn Rodemann at lynnr@slavicvillage.org or 216-429-1182 x141

COVID-19 HOUSING RESOURCES

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) reduction in utility bills. 1-888-377-3774 and press 2.

Housing needs/homeless prevention:
Cleveland Housing Network Utility & rental assistance:
Utilities (216) 672-5555
Rental assistance: 1-855-377-7368
Eden services (homeless prevention and rehousing): (216) 961-9690

LEGAL ASSISTANCE:
Legal Aid new client intake at: 1-888-377-3774
Landlord-tenant and other rental issues can call the Tenant Information Line at: 216-861-5955

For the most updated information please call the resource help line at: 216-404-2590 or contact Lynn Rodemann at 216-429-1182 ext 141 for help or with program questions.

Trailside Slavic Village

Homes continue to be built at Trailside Slavic Village, with a fourth phase of construction taking place in Spring 2021. Developed by Third Federal Savings & Loan, and built by Knez Builders, these single-family, energy-efficient homes are priced at \$166,900, and boast 3 bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms. The strong sales of these homes is evidence of a housing market that is becoming healthier and the restoration of wealth to our existing homeowners.

We certainly welcome the new construction of 25 homes to date. But, more importantly, having 25 new and engaged households and families is a testament to the strength of our welcoming community.

If you or anybody you know would like to live at Trailside, please contact Devon Hall at 1-440-862-2265

Foreclosure Assistance

Starting in April, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas issued an emergency order suspending foreclosure proceedings until July 31st 2020 and Sheriff’s Sales until October. As those orders have expired and Sheriff’s Sales have resumed, Slavic Village homeowners continue to be at-risk of foreclosure, both in terms of mortgage and tax delinquency. This threatens to stall the incredible progress the neighborhood has made over the past ten years. For those facing hardship there are resources available both from Cuyahoga County and through private area

banks and non-profits. If your household has missed a mortgage payment, the first phone call should be to your bank. Many banks have instituted forbearance and refinancing options that will help area homeowners avoid foreclosure. If you are having difficulty contacting your lender or need additional assistance, your first phone call should be to ESOP (Empowering and Strengthening Ohio’s People) at: 216-791-8000. This is an organization that can assist you with applying for the Home Affordability Modification Program, which can lower your overall mortgage payment or negotiate directly with your lender or mortgage servicer.

Even if you own your home without any mortgage debt, some area households are at risk for tax foreclosure due to non-payment of property taxes or the inclusion of municipal assessments for past due water bills included on their tax bill. If you have received a notice from Cuyahoga County Treasurer’s Office regarding past due taxes, there are several options that you can access to save your home from foreclosure.

The first and most critical option is to contact the Cuyahoga County Treasurer at 216-443-7020 and request a tax payment plan. Tax Payment Plans will allow you to pay off a tax delinquency over time on a monthly basis so long as you also pay current taxes as they come due twice a year: once in July and once in January. In order to qualify for a tax payment plan, you must be able to pay at least 25% of the tax delinquency as a down payment.

In addition to getting on a tax payment plan, there are options available to homeowners to lower their overall tax bill that many area households are unaware of. One of the most basic ways to lower your tax bill is to claim the owner-occupancy credit. This tax credit is available to area homeowners who live and occupy their homes year-round as their primary residence. To apply for owner occupancy credit, call the Cuyahoga County Treasurer at: 216-443-7020.

Another way to lower your tax bill is to claim a homestead exemption. A homestead exemption acts to relieve a homeowner of responsibility for \$25,000 worth of property tax payments. A homestead exemption is available for households where the homeowner is at least 65 years of age, the homeowner is a disabled adult, or the homeowner is a surviving spouse of the former owner and at least 59 years of age. If you need assistance with completing paperwork, understanding your rights as a homeowner, or questions regarding special assessments added onto your property tax bill, you can contact the Cuyahoga County Treasurer at 216-443-7020, ESOP at 216-791-8000, or Slavic Village Development at: 216-429-1182. Please be sure to include your name, your address, and a brief description of your need when you call.

COVID Rights and Responsibilities for Landlords and Tenants

Since April, landlords and tenants have been in a tough place as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold: causing job loss, delays in service, increased child-care responsibilities, sickness, and a loss of income that has found both tenants behind in rent as well as landlords behind on their own bills, including mortgages and property taxes of rental units. The primary agreement in a landlord / tenant relationship is simple: the payment of rent in exchange for a place to live. However, while the tenant has the responsibility to pay rent, the landlord also has the responsibility to maintain the property in habitable condition. Even during a pandemic, it remains incredibly important for both landlords and tenants to understand both their rights and responsibilities are still enforced and enforceable

HOUSING (Continued)

under Ohio law. As with any contract relationship, it is always recommended that the terms of the contract are in writing.

A written lease protects both landlords and tenants by clearly stating exactly what the expectations are for both parties, and providing an orderly way to manage the terms and conditions of both the tenant’s period of time living in the unit (sometimes called “occupancy” or “possession”) as well as the landlord’s process for addressing repairs. The rights and responsibilities of a landlord - tenant relationship can quickly become complicated and break down when either or both parties to the agreement begin to take matters into their own hands in ways that are not legal. Although each rental situation can be unique, the following things are generally understood as required in all rental situations of residential property: 1) on-time rental payments by the Tenant; 2) timely property maintenance by the Landlord; 3) not using the property for illegal purposes, especially drugs and loud noise; 4) 24-hours’ notice by Landlord to enter the property except for emergencies; If you are a tenant living in the Broadway-Slavic Village area, you should note that by law in the City of Cleveland it is illegal for a landlord to retaliate against you for complaining about the condition of the property or calling for a City Building or Health Inspector to visit the rental unit. If, after making such complaints, the landlord tells you to leave the property, a tenant should immediately call the Legal Aid Society at 216-678-1900. If you are a landlord owning and operating rental property in Slavic Village, you should note that by law in the City of Cleveland and State of Ohio you have an obligation to evict a tenant if there is reason to believe the rental property is being used for illegal purposes, especially drug trafficking. If you believe your property is being used as a venue for illegal activity, contact an attorney immediately to discuss your options.

Finally, during the pandemic period the Centers for Disease Control has issued a federal order prohibiting move-outs from residential rental property if the tenant’s reason for non-payment of rent is due to loss of income as a result of economic hardship or the closing of business due to COVID-19. In order to be protected by this order, you must complete an affidavit and submit it to your landlord. Affidavits are available by calling the Legal Aid Society at 216-678-1900.

Nothing in this article should be construed as legal advice. If you are unsure about your specific rights or responsibilities in a landlord - tenant relationship, it is recommended that you speak to a lawyer. If you cannot afford a lawyer, the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland and Cleveland Housing Court offer free public presentations on landlord - tenant law throughout the year.

Rent Relief for Renters Still Available

Since the end of the eviction moratorium this summer, the Broadway-Slavic Village area has seen a rapid spike in eviction filings. This worrisome trend continues to highlight the gap between connecting local rental households to current COVID-related rental relief programs.

An eviction is filed in court if you have received a notice specifically from the Cleveland Municipal Court - Housing Division with a case number (2020 CVH XXXXXX) and a hearing date. This is called a summons. If you have received a notice from your landlord terminating your tenancy (sometimes called a 30-day notice) or a three-day notice to leave the premises, then your rental status may be in jeopardy but you may not have an eviction filed against you yet. If you have already received paperwork from Court with a case number and hearing date, then your first phone call should be to the Cleveland Legal Aid Society: 216-687-1900. By law in the City of Cleveland, all renters who have children where annual household income falls below the following line are eligible to receive free legal representation in evictions:

# Persons in Home	Income Line
1 (self)	\$12,760
2	\$17,240
3	\$21,720
4	\$26,200
5	\$30,680
6	\$35,160
7	\$39,640
8	\$44,120

If you have not received a court summons but you have received a 30-day notice or 3-day notice, or you are behind in rent due to job loss or illness and you are worried about losing your place to live, you should call 1-833-377-7368. This is the hotline for Cuyahoga County COVID-related rental relief. Current rental relief programs can generally pay up to three months’ worth of back rent owed. You can also apply on the internet at: cindhousingpartners.org/rentalassistance/.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2021 SVD State of the Neighborhood

The 2021 SVD State of the Neighborhood will take place via video on Facebook Live on Thursday, February 21st at 5:30p. We will cover the highlights of 2020 and preview what will take place in 2021 in our thriving and diverse neighborhood. You can join this public event at <https://fb.me/e/3XpKjHJDJ>. This link will also be shared via email and social media.

While this event normally is hosted by Third Federal Savings & Loan, this year’s event can be enjoyed in the comfort of your own home. However, we still welcome your questions! Please send any questions or topics that you would like addressed to Chris Alvarado at chrisa@slavicvillage.org. We will try to address as many of them as possible.

Small Grants, Big Connections

Slavic Village Development teamed up with University Settlement with support from Metro Health to host the SV Creative Connections: Building community in a time of challenge to help the Slavic Village residents stay connected during social distancing. Five grants for \$250 were awarded for letter writing campaigns, mask making, support for pets, and seed bombs.

We continue to support small groups and programs through the quarterly Friends of Slavic Village Grant Program (FOSV) and through another small grant program allocated to our community stewards.

The next round of FOSV applications will be due at the end of March and will be reviewed in mid-April 2021; these are for \$500. If you have any questions on any of the grants or if you want to apply, contact Susan at Slavic Village Development at susang@slavicvillage.org or 216-429-1182 x132.



Reporting Human Trafficking in Your Neighborhood

Did you know human trafficking has been increasing over the past decade in Ohio? 450 human trafficking cases were reported in 2019; most of which for sex trafficking.

If you have a neighbor who may be the victim of sexual assault or forced sex work, they can call the Project STAR 24-Hour Hotline: 855-431-STAR (7827). Through its Project STAR (Sex Trafficking Advocacy and Recovery) program, Cleveland Rape Crisis Center provides specialized victim assistance, counseling, case

management, professional training, and a 24-hour hotline to survivors of sex trafficking in Northeast Ohio.

If you have seen a house that may be hosting human trafficking activities (forced prostitution, normally a pimp, potentially drugs etc), please report it to the Cuyahoga Regional Human Trafficking Task Force at 216-443-6085. They will send out investigators in plain clothes, set up surveillance, and obtain warrants, if needed. Their investigations are not quick as they have to build cases but are only possible with tips from residents.

Want to help spread the word? Reach out to Joe Linsky at joel@slavicvillage.org or 216-429-1182 x130 to get your own posters to post in your neighborhood.

Water Champions to Help Slavic Villagers Learn About and Save on Utilities

Did you know the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) has 776 miles of sewers and treats 90 billion gallons of wastewater annually? That’s a LOT of water. Maintaining our water infrastructure is costly, especially for a legacy city like Cleveland.

Building on the success of the Climate Ambassadors program, the Water Champions Program will have two community representatives connect residents to information about water infrastructure investments and programs while listening to community perspectives on water management decisions.

As a part of the Water Equity Partners, the two Water Champions will be performing outreach in 2021 in three Cleveland neighborhoods; one of which being Slavic Village. If you want to connect with them to speak at a block club or other neighborhood meeting, please contact Joe Linsky at joel@slavicvillage.org or 216-429-1182 x130.