On behalf of staff, volunteers and partners of WOVU 95.9FM, Our Voices United, we would like to wish you a happy holiday season and happy New Year! As we wrap up 2018, we would like to share with you a few updates.

WOVU 95.5FM radio station concluded its fall broadcasting class and graduated sixty participants who are now on the airway. The next class is scheduled to start in March 2019. Residents interested in broadcasting are invited to register and attend this training. More information will become available in the upcoming months.

This winter season, WOVU 95.9FM radio station has replaced its twenty-three foot tower with a 150 foot tower covering the city of Cleveland and extending into the inner-ring suburban neighborhoods. Listeners beyond this boundary can catch WOVU 95.9FM programs at www.wovu.org. WOVU 95.9FM’s program guide is also now available on the website. Note: the daily schedule may change without notice.

For more information about the radio station or these updates, call the radio station’s request line at 216.271.0959 or the office line at 216.342.2963.

-Jae Williams

This winter, BBC will have a highly talented young architectural professional on staff to help advance major development projects, thanks to the generosity and partnership of national organization Enterprise Community Partners.

Through a highly competitive national competition, BBC was one of four organizations awarded a two-year fellow from the Enterprise Rose Architectural Fellowship program. The fellowship, in accordance with Enterprise’s mission to create opportunity for low- and moderate-income people through affordable housing in diverse, thriving communities, places early-career architectural professionals with nonprofit community organizations throughout the US. The organizations gain design expertise on staff, while the fellows have the incredible opportunity to learn more about the real estate development process and progress meaningful community projects.

As part of the application process, BBC was required to submit a list of projects on which we envisioned our fellow could work. We proposed four “signature projects” – major developments born from our 2014 master planning process that will be transformative to our neighborhoods, city, and region.

More specifically, our fellow will manage efforts to transform the Kingsbury Run valley and Marion Motley Playfields into a sixty-acre metropark; lead planning to redevelop Cedar Avenue into the bustling street it was in its heyday; support the development of sixty units of senior housing at the corner of East 79th Street and Kinsman Road; and help ensure that businesses that locate along the upcoming Opportunity Corridor are designed in a manner that welcomes and embraces the community.

BBC is the first organization to twice serve as a host in the nearly twenty-year history of the Rose Fellowship program. Previously, we shared Erick Rodriguez with Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization between 2014 and 2016. Our 2019-2020 fellow will be hosted exclusively by BBC.

The next issue of The Community Connector will provide an introduction to our fellow, who will begin working with us after the New Year holiday. For more information about the fellowship, visit enterprisecommunitypartners.org.

-Jeffrey Sugalski
RESOURCES

Every season brings an opportunity to make needed repairs to your home. Below are three home repair programs offered by BBC for the Kinsman, Central and Buckeye neighborhoods. Please note that each of these programs may require applicants to qualify based on income, age, occupancy, and/or other criteria. For more information on these and other programs that may be available, contact Larry LaPrade for Kinsman and Central and Chevante’ Kimbrough for Buckeye at BBC at 216.341.1455.

HOME REPAIR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Through the support of the McGregor Foundation and Ohio Department of Developmental Services, BBC is able to assist residents with our Home Repair Assistance Program (HRAP). Through HRAP, low- to middle-income residents in need of interior and exterior repairs to their home may be eligible for help. BBC administers all phases of the program, including writing of job specifications, identification and hiring of a suitable contractor, supervision of repair work, and closing. To be eligible, program applicants must:

• own and occupy your home in the Kinsman, Central, or Buckeye neighborhoods;
• meet household income guidelines and;
• request a home repair that meets BBC and the State of Ohio’s definition of decent, safe, and sanitary.

HOME WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) is available free of charge to eligible households to help both homeowners and renters to reduce utility bills, make homes more comfortable for occupants, and keep families safe and healthy.

HWAP entails a variety of repairs and improvements to heating systems, including the installation of insulation, general tune-up of furnaces, and safety and health testing. Many houses built prior to the 1970’s lack insulation, which keeps heated air from escaping homes in the winter and cold air from entering interiors, and vice versa in the summer. Additionally, HWAP contractors ensure that furnaces are working efficiently and are not emitting carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that can lead to serious health impairments and even death. If necessary, furnaces will be replaced free of charge.

To be eligible to participate, applicants’ household income cannot exceed $15,315 for a one-person household. For each additional member of the household, add $5,220 to determine the maximum income limit. The program is open to both homeowners and renters. Residents can only receive HWAP services once every ten years.

FURNACE REPAIR PROGRAM

Experts recommend that homeowners have a qualified heating professional inspect their furnace and heating system prior to the beginning of the winter season every year. A routine inspection can ensure that your furnace works efficiently and may even save your life by detecting health and safety hazards! BBC will offer our Emergency Furnace Repair Program to qualified income eligible seniors who own and occupy their homes in the Kinsman, Central and Buckeye neighborhoods. Seniors must be at least 60 years old, and income cannot exceed $24,750 for a one-person household or $28,300 for a two person household. BBC can accommodate only a limited number of seniors this year so assistance will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

Whose name is on the deed to your home? Not sure? Burten, Bell, Carr Development, Inc., in partnership with The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland and Slavic Village Development, can help you answer this question. If your name is not on the deed to your home, you may face problems later. Only a person who is a titled owner can perform important actions like:

• Negotiating a payment plan for back taxes,
• Accessing repair funds, and
• Selling or transferring the property.

Sometimes residents live in the home of a deceased relative and fail to transfer the property out of the deceased owner’s name. Resources are now available to assist individuals who need to address title problems. If you are the titled owner of your home, there are also resources available to help you plan for the future. A Last Will & Testament and Transfer on Death Affidavit can help you protect your property and preserve it for future generations. If you’d like to learn more about solving a current title problem or planning to prevent title problems in the future, please call the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland at 216.861.5019.

--Sherita Mullins

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Resources Available to Address Problems with Property Records

Burten, Bell, Carr Development, Incorporated

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  General Manager, WOYU 95.9FM
- RODNEY RICHMOND
  Contracted Operator, Neighborhood Landscaping Enterprise
- LYNN NEYLAND, JR.
  Contracted Property Manager, Comucopia Place

visit bbcdevelopment.org for full list of staff
BBC Welcomes Dawn Mayes to the Staff

BBC hired Dawn Mayes, a Cleveland native, as the new Director of Neighborhood Planning and Engagement for the Buckeye neighborhood. Dawn has an interesting background of experience which includes Architecture, Urban Design, Graphic Design, Art, and Community Outreach. She has a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies from Florida A & M University and a Masters of Architecture & Certificate of Urban Design from Kent State University. She is also a veteran of the Army Reserves! She is excited to obtain a position which engages with the community on a regular basis as well as impact it through community planned design. BBC welcomes Dawn to the staff. Please say hello to her when you see her in the neighborhood.

NEW YOUTH MUSIC PROGRAM in the Kinsman Neighborhood

Did you know that students involved in instrumental music show significantly higher levels of math proficiency by twelfth grade? Studies have shown that there are many benefits to youth learning to play musical instruments such as: enhanced academic skills; increased I.Q. and improved memory; strong social skills and character; discipline; relieved stress; a sense of achievement and lastly, the music played makes others happy.

Kinsman resident and HEAL Ambassador Robert Lucas is precisely aware of the benefits of youth playing musical instruments. This lead him to start the Kingdom Builder Music Academy for youth ages eight and up in the Kinsman neighborhood. Through this program, youth are provided with the following:

- instruction on how to play various instruments;
- instruction on how to read music;
- opportunities to perform at various events; and
- an opportunity to develop skills that will aide them in obtaining a music scholarship to college.

Music classes started in the fall and will continue throughout the school year. Classes are held at East Technical High School, 2439 E 55th Street, band room #100A. Classes are on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3pm to 5pm. Youth interested in participating in this music program should contact BBC at 216.341.1455 or Program Manager Robert Lucas at 216.271.0379.

Ward 5 Residents PUSHED to the Polls in the Midterm Election

This past election season, BBC partnered with Cleveland VOTES and #GOTV to register voters, get voter commitments, and transport voters to the Board of Elections for early voting. All summer long, and up until the voter registration deadline, we canvassed the community. Our efforts focused on promoting the importance of voting, educating on ballot issues, and the voting experience.

Through our efforts we registered 102 voters, and gained 294 Pledge to Vote cards. Through your efforts, mid-term election voter turnout in Ward 5 increased from 17% in 2014 to 25% in 2018 (according to unofficial results). We urge everyone in the community to continue exercising their civic duty to vote, and to encourage family, friends, and neighbors to do the same.

We look forward to being involved in promoting voter awareness in the future. If you have ideas or suggestions on how we can continue to reach people in the community, please do not hesitate to contact BBC at 216.341.1455.

–William A. Willis

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–William A. Willis
BoxSpot Grand Opening in Spring 2019

Construction is currently underway at the intersection of East 81st Street and Kinsman Road for the BoxSpot. The BoxSpot is an open-air market where a variety of small businesses will provide needed goods and services. BoxSpot will be home to JB Grill, Kandy Kupboard, Our Favorite Things Boutique, Kidz Style Lounge, Women on the Go, Mr. Officials T-shirts and ISpecz Eyewear. Stay tuned to BBC’s website and social media for the grand opening date in Spring 2019.

Free Income Tax Preparation

Tax season begins in January! Don’t pay outrageous prices for tax preparation. Get your income tax returns prepared for FREE at BBC and keep more money in your pocket. Call 2-1-1 to schedule an appointment. To volunteer as a tax preparer call Omelia Thornton at BBC 216.341.1455.

For information on any of our programs, call us at 216.341.1455. Follow BBC on Facebook and Twitter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 20</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>WOVU 95.9FM Meet and Greet</td>
<td>WOVU 95.9FM Radio Station</td>
<td>7202 Kinsman Road, Suite 102</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 24</td>
<td></td>
<td>CMSD Winter Break Starts (students return to school on January 8th)</td>
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<td>Jan. 12</td>
<td>12pm</td>
<td>Ward 5 Club Meeting</td>
<td>Vocational Guidance Services</td>
<td>2235 East 55th Street</td>
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<td>Jan. 17</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>WOVU 95.9FM Meet and Greet</td>
<td>WOVU 95.9FM Radio Station</td>
<td>7202 Kinsman Road, Suite 102</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 19</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)</td>
<td>Cornucopia Place</td>
<td>7201 Kinsman Road, Suite 103b</td>
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<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>7pm</td>
<td>4th District Police Comm. Relations Meeting</td>
<td>Covenant Comm. Church of Clev.</td>
<td>3342 East 119th Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td>5PM</td>
<td>Carnegie TLCI Public Meeting</td>
<td>PNC Fairfax Connection</td>
<td>8220 Carnegie Avenue</td>
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<td>Jan. 29</td>
<td>7pm</td>
<td>3rd District Police Comm. Relations Meeting</td>
<td>3rd District</td>
<td>4501 Chester Avenue</td>
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<td>Feb. 9</td>
<td>12pm</td>
<td>Ward 5 Club Meeting</td>
<td>Vocational Guidance Services</td>
<td>2235 East 55th Street</td>
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<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>WOVU 95.9FM Meet and Greet</td>
<td>WOVU 95.9FM Radio Station</td>
<td>7202 Kinsman Road, Suite 102</td>
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<td>Feb. 22</td>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>Family Literacy Night</td>
<td>George Washington Carver STEM</td>
<td>2200 East 55th Street</td>
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<td>Feb. 26</td>
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<td>3rd District</td>
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<td>Feb. 27</td>
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<td>4th District Police Comm. Relations Meeting</td>
<td>Covenant Comm. Church of Clev.</td>
<td>3342 East 119th Street</td>
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Thank You