



MORELAND COURTS NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER EVENTS

SEE THE NEXT TWO PAGES FOR MORE EVENTS

**SUNDAY
DEC 17 2-6 PM**

Celebrate the spirit of the season with free and festive activities!

PHOTOS WITH SANTA CLAUS	LIVE HOLIDAY MUSIC	CLEVELAND READS BOOK GIVEAWAYS
GINGERBREAD DECORATING	HOLIDAY CHARACTER MEET & GREET	SHAKER SQUARE MERCHANTS
CRAFTS & HOLIDAY STORY TIME	HORSE DRAWN WAGON RIDES	CLEVELAND CITY DANCE OPEN HOUSE

SHAKERSQUARE.COM/EVENTS

Join us in Shaker Square’s public space to celebrate the holidays! Get a family photo with Santa, create fun crafts, and listen to live holiday music!

For more information about activities at Shaker Square, you can go to this [link for the current Shaker Square newsletter.](#)

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**BECK CENTER FOR THE
ARTS SENNEY THEATER**

**CLEVELAND MUSEUM
OF NATURAL HISTORY**

SHAKER HEIGHTS PACK WALK

DECEMBER 1-30, 2023

DECEMBER 21, 2023

*OCTOBER - MAY: 10:00 AM
JUNE - SEPTEMBER: 9:00 AM*

**Joseph and the Amazing
Technicolor Dreamcoat**

**Think & Drink with the
Extinct: Winter Solstice**

A free community dog walk at Horseshoe Lake. We meet every Saturday morning near the historical marker on South Park Blvd.

CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN, FROST: AN ICE-CAPPED GARDEN EXPERIENCE

OPENS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH THROUGH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

Hours

Tuesdays, Wednesdays: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays: 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Sundays: noon – 5 p.m.
Mondays: Closed

Admission

Nonmembers

Weekday: Adult \$23 / Child (ages 3-12) \$16
Weekend: Adult \$26 / Child (ages 3-12) \$18

Members

Weekday: Adult \$10 / Child (ages 3-12) \$7
Weekend: Adult \$12 / Child (ages 3-12) \$9

**THE MALTZ MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE, THE GIRL IN THE DIARY:
SEARCHING FOR RYWKA FROM THE LODZ GHETTO**

OCTOBER 25 – APRIL 28, 2024

**THE GIRL
IN THE DIARY**
SEARCHING FOR RYWKA FROM THE ŁÓDŹ GHETTO

ON VIEW OCTOBER 25 – APRIL 28, 2024

MALTZ MUSEUM
Respect for All Humanity

GALICIA JEWISH MUSEUM
Created by the Galicia Jewish Museum
Kraków, Poland

ART EXHIBIT: THE ARCHIVE

Cleveland Public Library, Main Library, Brett Hall, 325 Superior Avenue

**Exhibit Hours: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (Monday – Saturday)
Main Library, Brett Hall | 325 Superior Avenue**

Experience an immersive art installation by world-renowned artist Rebecca Louise Law. Law’s artworks are created by preserving natural materials and reconfiguring them into otherworldly designs. Her most well-recognized artworks are comprised of thousands of flowers, individually sewn and suspended. Viewers are invited to navigate through them, discovering the diverse forms, colors, and textures of each specimen.

The Archive is comprised of over 500,000 botanical objects, including flowers, pinecones, seed pods, and other items. Over 50,000 of these were donated by local businesses and individuals from Northeast Ohio. The others are repurposed from past projects that took place in Chicago, Illinois, and Jacksonville, Florida. These natural materials are suspended from an 18-foot-tall timber frame constructed of Douglas fir beams, filling nearly 44,000 cubic feet of space within the Library’s historic Brett Hall.

Karamu House Theatre

PERFORMANCES TAKE PLACE AT THE JELLIFFE THEATRE AT 2355 E. 89TH

Langston Hughes’ “Black Nativity” (Dec. 1-17, 2023) at the
Allen Theater at Playhouse Square

“Breakfast at the Bookstore” (Jan. 26-Feb. 18) at the
Jelliffe Theatre, 2355 E. 89th St.

We spotted this critter from our window flitting from branch to branch on the back-line tree behind the West Tower. Clearly a hawk, but what kind of hawk? After consulting a few neighborhood experts, consensus remained questionable. Please cast your vote and share your reasoning, if you like, at editor@morelandcourts.com.



photo by Eric Schreiber



photo by Eric Schreiber

MIKE BLACK

BY JEANNE SOMERS

For Mike Black, February 2024 marks the completion of his 39th year at Moreland Courts. That makes Mike our longest-serving staff member. During his long career here at Moreland Courts, Mike has played a supporting role in the lives of multiple generations of Moreland Courts residents.

For his entire tenure, Mike has worked as a valet. He served as the supervisor of valet services for many years. Currently his 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM schedule starts with fifteen “take-outs” for residents who regularly want their cars brought from the garage to their desired locations. In bad weather, that number inevitably increases. Mike also responds to daily calls for valet service, as they are received by the Security Office. Although most of those service calls are for car deliveries, they also include requests for assistance with such things as groceries or luggage.

Other significant parts of Mike’s daily routine are the monitoring and maintenance of safe, clean conditions in both the East and West Garages. So please know, Mike is watching your bay to make sure it is free of clutter or anything else that may pose harm to your car. He keeps his eye on everybody’s tires and will alert you if tire pressure is low. When a car wash is requested, it is likely that Mike will be the man to do it. If your battery dies, Mike can jump start your car. If you are away for an extended period and so desire, Mike will start your car and take it on a short drive around the property to ensure your vehicle is ready to go when you return.

Mike Black was born and raised in Cleveland, the seventh in a family of ten. That childhood might explain Mike’s strong work ethic. In his family, everybody must do his or her share of the work! Mike and his wife, an inspector at the Middleburg Heights location of U.S. Customs and Border Security, have four daughters. The oldest is a nurse at the Cleveland Clinic. The two youngest are twins and are both graduates of Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio. One of the twins works as an admissions counselor at Kent State University. The other is a manager at Bar Louie in Toledo. Mike’s middle daughter graduated from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio and works as an admissions counselor at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Mike is a proud grandfather as well, with a fourteen-year-old granddaughter and two grandsons, ages seven and six.

For a long time, Mike has been an avid Cleveland Browns fan, with season tickets that were passed down from his father. In his free time, he enjoys hiking and fishing, particularly in the national parks. Mike has no specific retirement plan currently. When he does decide to end his extraordinary stint at Moreland Courts, he looks forward to more time at his favorite fishing hole. When that time comes, his experience and good stewardship will be sorely missed here at Moreland Courts.

SECURITY THOUGHTS AND DEVELOPMENTS

BY PAUL STROUD, GENERAL MANAGER

Security is of considerable concern due to recent events including a break-in and an apparent attempted break-in that was thwarted by our security team. There have been very few incidents like this over the years. A sudden uptick is usually indicative of a particular group who have come into the neighborhood orbit. We know of two arrests being made, one of whom looks like the person who broke into Building 12 on November 16. We are pleased with the response of the Cleveland Police Department, despite their severe shortage of officers in the 4th District.

We hope that these incidents will not become a pattern, but we are taking action to improve our security envelope nonetheless. Prior to these events Security Chief Karl Batson, Jr. had recommended additional training for the security staff. Karl has established a strong leadership presence in our Security Department. He has worked hard to grow and improve the security and valet staffs. Residents have noticed the impact of his efforts.

Karl, together with the Management team, is investigating additional electronic detection systems that will alert security to any irregularity involving doors and windows. We are also planning upgrades to our aging security cameras and security desk monitoring systems; more up-lighting and down-lighting along the Shaker Boulevard frontage; mobile surveillance in addition to foot patrols throughout the night; and perhaps providing free coffee to police in the security office. During this period of examination, we are seeking advice from individuals and vendors experienced in these matters.

On the Moreland Courts Condominium Association website, there is a Document Library section with many types of documents and records for your review and use, including a Resident Help Desk section, where you will find information about security. This information is also located in the general security document you were provided when you acquired your unit. If you would like a copy of this document, please contact the office and we will provide it to you.

BOARD NOTES DECEMBER 2023

BY KATHLEEN HICKMAN, BOARD PRESIDENT

All of you have received news of the results of the budget process and the resolution for 2024, including thanks to the committee that worked on it. Treasurer Benoy Joseph and the members of the budget and finance committee considered the budget line by line (and there were a lot of lines), checking numbers from the past five years, budgeted and actual amounts for 2023, and any situations that would affect income or expenses for 2024. The result is their best prediction, but we all know that reality sometimes does not conform to plans. So, there is also built-in room for maneuver. It is a process that they take seriously, and devote thought and time to it, for which we should all be grateful. The work of the committee is facilitated by Paul Stroud and Mildred Brooks who organize and present the data. Importantly, it is, according to the auditors, not only orderly but also accurate. Of course, all this information is available to residents at the office and online at the website.

I am writing this on a Sunday and notice in [The Plain Dealer a column](#) in which HOA (Home Owners Association) rules are decried as “tyrannous” (it seems Christmas lights and leaf blowers were at issue). Certainly, communal living arrangements may not be an attractive situation for everyone – apparently not for writer Ted Diadiun. Fortunately, there are lots of other options available, so one size does not have to fit all. I personally take exception, though, to use of the word “tyrannous.” Condo governance seems to me to be the most local of democratic institutions. At Moreland Courts, each year, two or three board members (all owner residents) finish their service on the board (there are term limits) and owners elect two or three others from their ranks to replace them. The board deals with the ordinary business of overseeing operations and maintenance (for instance, crafting the budget). For changes that are extraordinary or fundamental (for example, changing the bylaws) a vote by owners is held. To me, that seems a long way from tyranny. Certainly, one might think specific policies or decisions are short-sighted or ill-advised sometimes, but tyrants are not to blame. In January, the process for electing new board members will begin and newly elected board members will take office after the annual meeting in early May.

More immediately, we have the usual stresses (holiday lights?) and pleasures of the end of year celebrations. May they be much more pleasurable than stressful for us all, and may we enjoy a very happy and hopeful new year.

FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST

BY JEANNE SOMERS

The winter season is accompanied by decorating, cooking, and entertaining, as well as the increased use of fireplaces and space heaters. Unfortunately, all these items create more opportunities for residential fires. The following checklists highlight both holiday and year-round fire hazards and offer fire prevention tips. Information for these guidelines was obtained from Karl Batson Jr, Moreland Courts Security Chief, and is drawn from the following additional sources:

- The Cleveland Division of Fire
<https://www.clevelandohio.gov/city-hall/departments/public-safety/divisions/fire>
- Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of State Fire Marshal
<https://com.ohio.gov/divisions-and-programs/state-fire-marshal/state-fire-marshal>
- Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Fire
<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/>

Space Heaters

- Make sure the heater you are using carries a safety certification label from an independent testing organization such as Intertek (ETL) or Underwriters Laboratory (UL).¹
- Place your heater on a hard, level, nonflammable surface and at least three feet away from combustible materials such as bedding, curtains, and furniture.
- Make sure your heater has an anti-tip device and a safety shut-off.
- Plug the heater directly into a receptacle outlet; do not use an extension cord or shared power strip.
- Do not leave your space heater on overnight.

Smoke Alarms

- Install smoke alarms inside all bedrooms.
- Test your smoke alarms once a month by pushing the test button.
- Replace all alarms that are 10 years old or older.
- If you are hard of hearing or if you remove your hearing aids to sleep, consider purchasing a strobe alarm.
- The Cleveland Division of Fire (216-361-5535) participates in the American Red Cross Operation Save-A-Life, which provides free smoke alarms, batteries, and installation to elderly and low-income residents of Cleveland.

Electrical

- Have enough electrical outlets in every room to avoid the need for multiple attachment plugs and long extension cords.
- Never use an extension cord with a major appliance. It can overheat and cause a fire.
- If you use extension cords, make sure they are the correct wire gauge and electrical load for your purpose. (There is an easy to understand “Extension Cord Basics” at Menards.com).
<https://www.menards.com/main/store/20090519001/assets/images6/buyinguides/extensioncords/responsive/ExtensionCordBG.pdf>
- Do not lay extension cords under rugs.
- Use light bulbs that match the recommended wattage on the lamp or fixture. (*Editor’s note: LED light bulbs can produce the same amount of light as incandescent bulbs using much lower wattage and producing far less heat. LED lights have a higher margin of safety.*)
- Check to make sure there are heat controls on all electric appliances.

Holiday Electrical

- Inspect holiday lights before using.
- Discard strands with frayed or pinched wires.
- Choose decorations or artificial trees that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Do not place decorations or wrapping paper close to a heating source.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree.
- Turn off all holiday lights before you go to bed or leave your home.

Cooking (#1 cause of residential fires)

- Keep your kitchen stove, including the oven and the broiler, clean of grease and paper products.
- Stand by your pan! The leading factor contributing to ignition in confined home cooking fires is unattended equipment.
- Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove so no one can bump them or pull them over.

- Extinguish a small kitchen grease fire by turning off the heat and covering the flames with a metal lid or metal cookie sheet. *(Editor's note: Consider having a fire blanket in the kitchen. There are many manufacturers. [Here is one popular brand](#). Moreland Courts also provides fire extinguishers in the common spaces a few steps away from every unit, usually in the stairwell. Know where your nearest extinguisher is located and know how to use it. You can consult security for instructions.) If the fire is not immediately extinguished, call Moreland Courts Security (216-751-1101).*

Housekeeping

- Keep exits, stairways, and hallways clutter-free.
- Keep closets and storage areas clear of rags, paper, and other combustible materials.
- Clean the lint filter after every use of the clothes dryer. Failure to clean is the leading factor contributing to the ignition of dryer fires.
- Inspect and clean the inside of the clothes dryer's exhaust tubing and outside lint traps as needed.

Fireplaces

- Have your fireplace cleaned and inspected once a year.
- Equip your fireplace with a metal fire screen.
- Make sure flammable objects are at least 3 feet away from the fireplace opening. Install a carbon monoxide detector. ¹

Matches, Candles, and Smoking

- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.
- If you do use lit candles, set them on noncombustible surfaces, with plenty of space around them and well away from combustible materials.
- Always extinguish lit candles when you leave the area.
- Keep matches and lighters away from other sources of heat.
- Make sure matches are fully out before disposing of them.
- If you are a smoker, have a large, noncombustible ash tray in every room.
- Absolutely never smoke in bed.

Action in Case of a Fire

- In the case of a fire, call 911 and Moreland Courts Security (216-751-1101). ²
- Have a landline or cell phone with a charger, a flashlight, and a whistle near your bed so you can call or signal for help if trapped by smoke or fire.
- Have an escape plan appropriate to your needs and abilities. For example, plan for quick access to necessary items such as medications, glasses, wheelchair, scooter or cane.
- If trapped in a room because of smoke, heat, or flames, stay in the room with the doors closed and, if possible, place a wet towel under the door.

- If your clothes catch fire: Stop, Drop, and Roll. That is, drop to the ground, cover your face, roll over or back and forth to put out the fire. If you are a bystander, grab a rug, blanket, or fire suppression blanket (available from Walmart, Home Depot, Amazon at various prices) and extinguish the flames.
- Use a portable fire extinguisher only if you have been trained by the fire department or Moreland Courts personnel.

¹ *If you are in the market for a new smoke or a carbon monoxide detector the “[Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detector Buying Guide](#)” from Consumer Reports provides good information on purchasing, installing and maintaining both smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.*

² *A small white fire detector panel is located in the vestibule of each building. When this device is triggered by smoke it will emit a beeping sound, while alerting both the City of Cleveland Fire Department and Moreland Courts Security personnel to the location of the fire. Security will respond immediately by going to the location and to meet the Fire Squad. In the case of false alarms, Security coordinates with the Fire Department to disarm and reset the detector.*

REMINDER

Hey there! If you're experiencing any issues in your unit, do not hesitate to let us know by submitting a formal work order request. This can be done on the Moreland Courts web site.

Alternatively, there are paper requests available at the front desk. We want to make sure we take care of any problems you may be facing, so please do not rely on word-of-mouth requests - they often get lost in the shuffle.

REMINDER

PLEASE BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS!

Do not allow STRANGERS into the building as you are coming in or out.

REMINDER

Drivers, please be aware of residents crossing the BACKLINE!

**THE MORELAND COURTS
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

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The Newsletter Committee takes responsibility for the content of the newsletter.

Questions and comments can be addressed to editor@morelandcourts.com

Holiday Party 2023



C.J. Catering

photo by Eric Schreiber







