

THE PLAIN DEALER

Community News Briefs

Thursday, September 27, 2007

NORTHEAST OHIO

Study to examine services

Do we spend extra money to maintain a patchwork of municipal governments, all providing the same services? Researchers will find out. The Center for Governmental Research, Inc. of Rochester, N.Y., will compare the Akron, Canton, Cleveland and Youngstown areas to less fragmented parts of the country. The Fund for Our Economic Future will pay up to \$100,000 for the \$175,000 study. Other contributors include the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber, Greater Cleveland Partnership and the Samuel H. and Maria Miller Foundation. The Fund for Our Economic Future is a group of more than 100 philanthropists, charities and other organizations trying to revive Northeast Ohio's economy.

LYNDHURST

Gym opens in Legacy Village

The Gold's Gym at Legacy Village will hold its grand opening party 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday. It's the second Gold's opening in the Cleveland area; the Crocker Park Gold's Gym opened last March. The new Gold's, on the site of what once was the Home Depot Expo store, includes state-of-the-art cardio equipment. The facility also includes an indoor pool, a children's workout area with basketball court, racquetball and basketball courts for adults, and a cardio cinema room. Admission is free. For information, call 216-516-9865.

CLEVELAND

Foundation awards \$5 million

The George Gund Foundation announced quarterly grants Wednesday that target everything from fighting blindness to promoting responsible lending and books for Cleveland school children. Almost \$2.3 million went to the Maryland-based Foundation Fighting Blindness. The Cleveland State University Foundation received \$284,400 for the Cleveland Schools Book Fund, to establish library collections in the every Cleveland school serving kindergarten through third grade. Other grants included \$120,000 over two years to the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio to promote fair lending practices for low-income people; \$200,000 to Case Western Reserve University's Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development; \$120,000 to EcoCity Cleveland for Greater Ohio to promote smart growth policies; and \$70,000 to Cleveland Public Theatre. For a complete list of grants, go to: gundfdn.org.

Event targets suicide prevention

The fourth annual Into the Light Walk, benefiting the Suicide Prevention Education Alliance, will be Sunday at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, with registration beginning at 6 p.m. The alliance works to educate people about adolescent depression and how to prevent suicide. For more information, go to: helppreventsuicide.org.