

### Bartending at 6:00PM

**Vince Grzegorek** is the Editor-in-Chief of Cleveland Scene, where he's been writing and reporting on local news and culture for more than a decade.

**Sam Allard** is the Senior Writer at Scene Magazine, in which capacity he covers politics, power and issues of social justice. He writes about movies when time permits. He's a graduate of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and the NEOMFA at Cleveland State. (Full Disclosure: He has been happily married to a Towards Employment employee for 3.5 years.)

For nearly 20 years, Douglas **Trattner** has worked as a full-time freelance writer, editor and author, covering topics such as food, drink, travel and culture for publications that include Food Network magazine, Wine & Spirits, Miami Herald, Tasting Table, and Eater. His work as coauthor of four Michael Symon cookbooks has twice landed him on the New York Times best-seller list, while his longtime role as Dining Editor of Cleveland Scene earned such awards as Best Food Writing and Best Critic.

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A highly regarded, hall-of-fame career broadcaster, **Flash Ferenc** was part of one of the most popular radio programs in the nation, the "Jeff and Flash Show" on WMMS Radio in Cleveland from 1973 through 1994. Many current programs on the airways still use that show as a foundation for their own formats. "We've seen a rapid consolidation in broadcast media in the past 10 years, and the result is the little broadcasters are gone; they have been sold off to the giants and the little guys have been written off. In fact, when was the last time you heard a talk show host slam the oil companies, the drug companies or the insurance companies? It doesn't happen anymore. That's where America's Work Force comes in – we're the little mouse that roared. We represent the workers." Flash began hosting America's Work Force in February of 1998, taking over full-time hosting duties six months later. As the son of a union steelworker, the importance of giving working middle-class families everywhere a "leg-up" through America's Work Force Radio has become a special mission for host Ed "Flash" Ferenc.

**Noelle Celeste** is the Director of Advancement at the City Club where she has been fundraising in support of civil, civic dialogue for two years. She works with a small, but mighty team to present more than 130 forums annually. When she's not busy making the world safe for free speech, she publishes the award-winning quarterly local food magazine, Edible Cleveland. Noelle is a self-declared "all city girl" who was born across from Edgewater Park, moved home from NYC to Ohio City in the late 90s, and now lives with her two kids, one very old dog, and her patient husband in Cleveland Heights.

### Bartending at 9:00PM

**John Taylor** is currently executive chef of Lock 15 and one of the featured chef's in Blooms online auction Toast to CLE Chefs. An Ohio native, graduate of Berea High School and graduate of Pennsylvania Culinary School he has over 20 years in the hospitality industry. John has won many awards - 2011 winner best chef "real men cook"; 5 clean plate awards; 2017 people's choice award and best restaurant for Jailhouse Taverne (executive chef). His food inspiration comes from "my Italian roots, my grandmother and my love of southern food." Married to Kelly Taylor, together they have 3 crazy wonderful, play sports together, and raise and advocate for saving pitties.

Lock 15 Brewing Co. was born at a Christmas party in 2010. Owners and cousins **Colin Cook** and Joe Karpinski celebrated with their family over the latest batch of Christmas Ale homebrewed by Joe. "One taste of that beer and I knew Joe would be brewing beer on a much larger scale, and I wanted to make sure it was with me!" Colin is on record saying. As co-owner, Colin has over 20 years in the hospitality industry from NYC to Philadelphia to Akron, and brings a vision and a mission to bring the latest food and beverage trends back to his hometown. Taste Colin's food and Joe's beers both created before your very eyes to offer an unmatched experience to the good people of Akron and beyond.

**Mark Nolan** was born in Cleveland and grew up in southeast Ohio. After graduating from Kent State University with a BA in Radio/TV Production, Mark continued his education through Mississippi State receiving seals of approval from both The American Meteorological Society and The National Weather Service. Mark can now be heard leading "The Majic Morning Show: Nolan, Malone & Kullik" on WMJI "Majic 105.7" Monday through Friday 5:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. After some

lunch and a nap, he heads over to the Cleveland 19 News studios where he sits next Romona Robinson and co-anchors the 4pm and 6pm news Monday through Friday. When Mark has a little free time, he can be found wrenching on one of his Harleys or better yet... Riding one.

**Jen Picciano** is an Emmy award-winning reporter for WOIO-TV, creator of the restaurant and cooking segment Cleveland Cooks, and the co host of the new video podcast Taste Buds. She is also the author of the food blog Cheftovers. Picciano is a native of Cleveland, and spent the last 10 of her 12 years with CBS 19 as a general assignment field reporter. She is active in the local food scene and is involved with the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland for several years. She resides in Mayfield Heights with her husband and her three children. You can usually find her with a pencil behind her ear and a mic in her hand, or an apron on.

**Amanda Harnocz** is the director of digital content at Cleveland 19 News with 11 years of experience in print, digital and television news. She has a coveted wooden spoon collection, shows her affection and gratitude for others with food and has a hard time trusting people who don't use real butter.

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**Rachel Dissell** has been a reporter for The Plain Dealer since 2002 where she focuses on the impact of violence against women and children and other social justice issues. She has written investigative pieces about Cleveland's response to sexual assault, teen dating violence, the juvenile justice system and, most recently, lead poisoning. Her work with colleague Leila Atassi spurred statewide changes into how rape kits are tested and has led to the reinvestigation of thousands of rape cases and indictments in 400 previously unsolved rape cases. In addition to numerous state and local awards, Dissell won the 2008 Dart Award for her nine-part series "Johanna: Facing Forward" which chronicled the life of Johanna Orozco, a Cleveland teen who was raped and shot by her ex-boyfriend. In 2011, Dissell was honored with End Violence Against Women International's first ever Media Excellence Award. The eldest of seven children, Dissell grew up in and around the poverty, drug use and social ills that often are central to the stories she covers. In addition to her journalism work, Dissell is a mentor to children aging out of the foster care system and participates in several therapeutic programs for children who have witnessed violence.

The Deal Guy **Matt Granite** is an Emmy-award winning bargain-hunter seen by millions of people every day. Matt hosts a live show for Amazon Studios out of New York City and is a proud content producer for YouTube. Matt also hosts a money-saving segment airing on ABC, NBC and CBS TV stations across the country including WKYC-TV in Cleveland. Matt splits his time between Toronto, New York and Northeast and is the proud first-time father of three month old Baby Mara.