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95th YEAR NO. 01

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017

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Open house at Womankind

All are welcome to an Open House at Womankind's new location, 5350 Transportation Blvd., Suite 18, in Garfield Heights, on Thursday, Sept. 28, from 3-8 p.m.

Learn about Womankind and the free prenatal and maternal services it provides. Light refreshments served. For more details, call 216-662-5700 or visit womankindcleveland.org.

STUDENTS VISIT G.H. SENIORS



Ambassadors from William Foster Elementary School visited with senior citizens at the Garfield Heights Civic Center earlier this month to share with them why they enjoy being students in the District. Approximately eight 5th grade students accompanied Principal Sean Patton and Guidance Counselor Jowell Gray on the annual visit with 40 senior citizens. The seniors have come to fondly enjoy this visit by William Foster Elementary students, which has been going on for the past five years each September.

Suspect sought in Bedford Hts., Maple Hts. bank robberies

Banks in Bedford Heights and Maple Heights were robbed moments apart on Monday, and the Cleveland Division of the FBI believes the same man is responsible for both robberies, according to FBI Special Agent Vicki Anderson.



Suspect

On September 11th, around 1:15 p.m., the Chase Bank at 5435 Northfield Rd. in Bedford Heights was robbed by a suspect who provided a demand note to the teller and displayed a semi-automatic handgun, according to Anderson. The suspect made off with an undisclosed amount of cash.

Moments later, what is believed to be the same suspect robbed the Dollar Bank at 5180 Warrensville Center Rd. in Maple Heights, Anderson said. He again made off with an undisclosed amount of cash.

The suspect is described as a black male in his late 30's, approximately 5'7" to 5'9" tall, 180 pounds with a scruffy goatee.

The suspect is believed to have driven a red, four-door sedan and may be responsible for at least five robberies in Northeast Ohio, Anderson said.

Tips can be provided to the Bedford Heights Police Department, 440-439-1234; the Maple Heights Police Department, 216-662-1234; or the Cleveland Division of the FBI, 216-522-1400. Tips can remain anonymous. Reward money is available for information leading to the successful identification and prosecution of the individual responsible.

Police say teen killed in crash after G.H. robbery

One of the suspects in a Garfield Heights bank robbery died last week in a car crash in Maple Heights after allegedly fleeing the scene of the robbery, according to a press release from Garfield Heights Police Chief Robert Byrne.

Garfield Heights police were called to US Bank, located at 5695 Turney Rd., last Thursday morning, around 9:15 a.m., for an armed robbery. This is the second time the bank has been robbed in under a month. Bank employees said two suspects came into the bank with guns and demanded money. The employees complied and released an undetermined amount of cash, according to Byrne.

Officers soon after located a suspect vehicle near Turney and Granger roads in Garfield Heights. Officers attempted to stop the vehicle which then fled the area. While weaving through police cruisers in an attempt to get away on E. 138th St., the suspect vehicle struck two police cruisers and continued to flee. One of the officers was injured and treated at Marymount Hospital and one police K-9 was taken to The Family Pet Clinic for observation, Byrne said. The officer and K-9 have since been released and are doing fine, according to police.

The suspect vehicle continued on Granger Rd., drove through a red light at the Broadway intersection, and struck a vehicle on Libby Rd. near Baraona's Bakery in Maple Heights, according to a police report. The suspect vehicle then lost control and hit a utility pole on the passenger side, the report continued.

Dreshawn Hopkins, 18, of Cleveland, and a 17-year-

old male from Swanton, Ohio were immediately placed under arrest and taken to MetroHealth Medical Center for non-life threatening injuries, Byrne said.

A third suspect, Gabriel Bendter, 17, of Cleveland Heights, was taken to Marymount Hospital where he was pronounced dead. Police said Bendter was the front seat passenger in the getaway vehicle and had a large amount of cash in his pockets. A gun and a backpack filled with cash were also found in the back seat, according to police.

A fourth person from the car that the suspect's vehicle hit on Libby Rd. was also taken to Metro for non-life threatening injuries, according to Byrne.

Libby Rd. between Lee Rd. and Broadway was closed for nearly three and a half hours after the crash, from about 10 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.

Officers determined Hopkins had been the getaway driver of the vehicle, which had been stolen out of Cleveland, according to Lt. Robert Petrick with the Garfield Heights Detective Bureau.

Hopkins will be charged with murder, felonious assault, aggravated vehicular homicide and vehicular manslaughter, aggravated robbery, felonious assault on a police officer and other charges, according to court records.

The 17-year-old is being charged by juvenile prosecutors with the following: murder, aggravated robbery, felonious assault on a police officer, failure to comply, grand theft motor vehicle, involuntary manslaughter and felonious assault on a civilian, according to Petrick.

Cuyahoga Hts. Council okays new hires in police, fire departments

The Village of Cuyahoga Heights Council met last Wednesday, Sept. 13, and passed a motion to approve the appointment of Jeff Heintz as a full time fireman and the appointment of James Ludi Berysz as a full time police officer for the village.

An ordinance was passed to authorize the service director to direct the construction of a parking lot on the site of a demolished home for about 12 vehicles on East 49th Street for the use of nearby residents.

Also approved was the purchase of a 2017 Ford F550 4x4 Chief XL ambulance from Penn Care, Inc., at a cost of \$198,275.00.

An ordinance to prohibit multi-unit self-storage facilities in the village was also okayed by council.

Police investigating shots fired in Maple Heights

The Maple Heights Police Department received numerous calls of shots fired in the area of Catherine St. and Raymond St. on Sunday evening, around 11:45 p.m., and learned a home in the 5100 block of Catherine St. was the location of the shots fired, according to a press release from MHPD.

The residence was occupied and unknown assailants fired numerous rounds into the house. An adult male and female in the house sustained gunshot wounds,

according to the press release. They were transported to area hospitals for medical treatment. No one else in the residence sustained any injuries.

The Maple Heights Police Detective Bureau is investigating the case.

Anyone with information related to this case is urged to contact the Maple Heights Detective Bureau at 216-587-9624 or Detectives@mhpd-ohio.com.

Information can also be supplied to Crime Stoppers: call 216-252-7463, text TIP657 plus your message to 274637, or submit information online at www.25crime.com.

Federal anti-fraud effort to provide seniors with new Medicare cards without SS#

U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) announced the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will issue new Medicare cards to seniors without Social Security numbers to help protect seniors from fraud and identity theft.

Brown led efforts starting in 2008 to remove this sensitive information from Medicare cards. CMS will be mailing new cards in April 2018, and will replace all cards by April 2019. Currently, seniors' Social Security numbers double as Medicare ID numbers, putting this information at risk, according to a news release from Brown's office.

"Seniors are advised to carry their Medicare cards wherever they go – this puts them at risk of having this card and their Social Security number land in the wrong hands," said Brown. "We must do everything we can to protect Ohio seniors and this is a simple way we can do it."

In April 2015, the Senate passed the Medicare and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015, which included Brown's provision to remove Social Security numbers from Medicare cards. Brown first introduced bipartisan legislation to remove Social Security numbers from Medicare cards in 2008 with his Republican colleague, former Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK).

The Social Security Administration (SSA) reminds citizens on its website not to "routinely carry your Social Security card or other documents that display your number" in order to prevent identity theft. However, the federal government itself has ignored this warning, the news release stated, by issuing millions of Medicare cards that display Social Security number-based Health Insurance Claim Numbers on the front of cards.

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Blood donation opportunities

Individuals in parts of the country unaffected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma are encouraged to give blood or platelets to help ensure a sufficient blood supply at one of the following local donation opportunities:

Independence

- September 27th, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at American General, 6200 Oak Tree Blvd.

- September 27th, 1-5 p.m., at Sterling Talent Solutions, 4511 Rockside Rd.

All blood types are currently needed. Donation appointments can be scheduled by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in.

BLACK WALNUT FEST



Saturday, October 14, 2017
10:00am to 5:00pm
at the
**Garfield Heights
Historical Society
& Museum**
5405 Turney Rd.
Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125



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5841 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights 216-475-4040

Golden Ager's Grapevine

Grandmother's Club

The Grandmother's Club will meet Thursday, Sept. 21, at 11:30 a.m. at Cuyahoga Heights Village Hall, 4863 E. 71 St.

Prizes **PUMPKIN CONTEST**
Games BRING YOUR OWN CARVED PUMPKIN!
Raffles **APPLE CIDER**
Music by the AirChiefs



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Black Walnuts **MUST** be used in the recipe. Only Amateur Bakers can compete in the contest. Please check the category you are applying for: Cakes Cookies Breads Pies

Baker's Name _____
Address _____ City _____
Baker's Phone No. _____
Recipe Name _____

Please bring Bakery to the Garfield Hts. Historical Museum by 10:00am on October 14, 2017. Please submit the whole recipe on a separate recipe card. **Mail application by Sept. 30th, 2017** to: Garfield Hts. Historical Society, 5405 Turney Rd., Garfield Hts., OH 44125

For more information, Call 216-475-3050 Website: ghhist.org and we are on Facebook



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COMMUNITY SHRED DAY

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23, 2017
9:00 AM - NOON

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Letters to the Editor

Gordon comments on CMSD report card

To Friends & Supporters of CMSD:

This morning (Thursday, Sept. 14), the Ohio Department of Education released report cards for each Ohio school and district. As you might expect, the headline for CMSD is that we have not yet met Ohio's learning standards for our students.

While we are far from where we need to be, there are several pieces of positive news on our report card that I want to share:

- Our K-3 literacy score increased by 13.70 percent over the prior year, raising us from an F to a C on this indicator. This means that more than twice as many K-3 students moved from off-track to on-track compared to the year before.

- In grades 4 through 8, we saw gains in English and math exams in nearly every grade. In several of those grades, our gains were larger than estimated state averages. While that doesn't mean that our students are yet performing at the same level as their statewide peers, it does mean we are making some progress in closing that important gap.

- In our high schools, we have increased our graduation rate by another 2.8 percent to a new District record high of 71.9 percent. While this is still an F on the state report card, this represents a 19.7 percent increase in our graduation rate in just six years.

While there are positive gains of which we can be proud, our report card also has some very sobering news:

- Only 79.6 percent of our third grade students met the promotion requirements of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee. This is a 5.7 percent decrease from the prior year. While I realize that the state increased the passing score by 10 points, which impacted promotion statewide, all of us know that being a sound, competent reader by third grade is vital for the future success of every child, and it is imperative that we aggressively address and improve this indicator in the year ahead.

- We earned an F in our Value-Added scores in each measured category – Students with Disabilities, Lowest 20 percent, Gifted and Overall. While I realize Value-Added remains an elusive measure, it is nonetheless considered the state's best measure of how much growth our students achieved compared to their peers statewide. Fs indicate that, in general, our students didn't grow as much on average as their state peers.

- Our graduation rate is still far below the state standard, even with our progress. And this year we fully implemented the 2018 requirements, which increase our challenge.

While I am disappointed with the performance that was reported today, I remain confident that we are moving in a direction that can take our gains to scale for all our kids.

As I have stressed to our educators, who are as committed as I am to making that happen, it has probably never been more important nor more urgent to move aggressively forward than it is today. Without our committed educators working cooperatively with our supportive Cleveland community to positively impact the academic achievement of Cleveland's children, they simply have no fair chance.

Thank you for your continued support of CMSD and The Cleveland Plan reforms that drive our work, and for making education a priority in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District.

Sincerely,

Eric S. Gordon, CEO

Cleveland Metropolitan School District

Community Gardens searching for new leaders

Two of Slavic Village's community gardens are available, through an application process, for those looking to take on a community or market gardening project in 2018.

After losing key gardeners in past years, the Union and Willow gardens are searching for committed leaders to utilize and maintain each space. A community garden will receive resources and assistance from OSU Extension, is available to all gardeners, and plants are consumed or donated, whereas a market garden is private and intends to sell their produce.

Those interested in applying for either garden should email joel@slavicvillage.org at Slavic Village Development or call him at 216-429-1182, ext. 107.

Free women's health event

A free Women's Health and Fitness Event presented by the Cleveland Clinic will be held Tuesday, Sept. 26, from 5-7 p.m. at the Cleveland Fleet Branch Library, 7224 Broadway Ave.

Cleveland Clinic Women's Health providers will be on hand to discuss a variety of preventative measures that women can take to be proactive and age healthily.

Participants are invited to take part in complementary blood pressure and BMI screenings, chronic disease education, relaxation techniques, balance and stability assessments, physical fitness and nutrition recommendations, herbal teas and more.

The event is free to everyone but registration is requested by calling 216-312-5640 or emailing jameysj@ccf.org.

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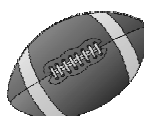
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- Probate
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- Evictions
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- Personal Injury

Death Notices

SHARON STUCKO, 70, of Cleveland, passed away September 16th.

She was the beloved daughter of John Jr. and Lois (nee Stemple). Loving sister to Joyce Feichtmeier, John III (Virginia) and Michael. Aunt to Laurie Jones and many others.

Ms. Stucko was a 1967 graduate of South High School. Visitation will be this Thursday, Sept. 21, from 4-8 p.m. at Fortuna Funeral Home, 5316 Fleet Ave. in Cleveland, with closing service at 7:30 p.m. Interment private.

MARILYN L. LAKATOS (nee Sanna), 69, of Maple Heights, passed away on September 17th.

She was the beloved wife of the late Thomas F.; loving mother of Thomas (Eden), Joseph, Daniel (Jennifer) and Michele Ledger (Arthur); dearest grandmother of Kayla, Tyler, Natalie, Justin, Dylan, Tommy, Jake and Madison; cherished sister of Joanne Verner; dear cousin and friend to many.

Arrangements were handled by Ferfolia Funeral Home, 356 W. Aurora Rd. in Sagamore Hills, where visiting hours will be Thursday, Sept. 21, from 2-8. Funeral services will then be held at the funeral home at 10 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 22. Interment in All Saints Cemetery.

MARJORIE L. BROWN, a long-time resident of Bedford, passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 20, at The Heritage of Hudson nursing home after a lengthy illness. She was 90.



Marjorie (Marje to her friends) was born April 30, 1927 in Akron, Ohio to Joseph and Louise (Dilley) Brown. The family, including older brother Richard Brown, moved several times, settling in Delaware, Ohio, where Marje attended Ohio Wesleyan University and became a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. There she also met Robert (Bob) Brown, her future husband and love of her life. They were married in October 1949 and moved to the Cleveland area where they raised three children.

Marje was a devoted wife and mother to her young family, later becoming a full-time substitute school teacher. She was also active in Christian education at the Bedford United Methodist Church (now Hope UMC). In retirement, Marje and Bob enjoyed spending winters in Florida and helping with grandchildren. Marje was

especially close with granddaughter Jenna Seme, who predeceased her earlier this year. Marje also enjoyed writing poetry and penned rhymes on many subjects including most family members and friends.

Marje is survived by her children, Bruce (Sue) Brown; Nancy (Joe) Seme and Tom (Kathleen Gormley) Brown; and grandchildren David (Valerie) and Michelle Brown, Eric and Drew Seme, and Joseph, Kit, and Owen Brown. She was preceded in death by her parents, brother and husband.

Marje was interred at Crown Hill Memorial Park in Twinsburg on August 23rd after a private graveside service. A celebration of her life will be held on Saturday, October 14, at the Hope United Methodist Church, 71 Center Rd. in Bedford, at 10:30 a.m., followed by a luncheon served at the church.

Memorial donations honoring Marjorie L. Brown may be directed to the Akron General Visiting Nurse Service in recognition of their caring and compassionate support during her final struggle. The family also wishes to thank the many staff members of the Heritage of Hudson who provided care and attention to Marje during her stay there.

ROBERT LEON PODWOSKI, 77, of Maple Heights, passed away on September 4.

He was the loving son of the late Elizabeth and Floyd Podwoski; dearest brother of Judy Sago (Bob), and Linda Reed of Oklahoma City; dear uncle of Pamela Bennett, Becky Nemec, Stacey Matthews and Scott Reed; dear great-uncle of Kayleigh Nemec, Josh Nemec, Wyatt Reed, Owen Reed and Sam Matthews.

Mr. Podowski was a U.S. Army veteran who was devoted to his family and dearly loved by his sisters, nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were handled by Ferfolia Funeral Home and services were held at Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church. Inurnment in Resurrection Cemetery, Valley City.

Independence public meeting

A public meeting regarding the future of the old middle school property in Independence and the Brecksville Road Streetscape project has been scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 20, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Independence Civic Center, 6363 Selig Dr. Residents are encouraged to attend and present their views.

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Community police reports

By Amber Weisbarth

(The following information was obtained from filed police reports, police dispatch logs and police department email updates.)

GARFIELD HTS.

Aggravated Robbery

A resident of the 9400 block of Grand Division Ave. told police he was washing his car in the driveway on September 17th, around 11 a.m., when he saw two males running towards him. He said both males pointed a gun at him and demanded that he give them his keys, but instead he ran into his house and locked the doors. He said the males fled eastbound and got into a vehicle parked on Grand Division then drove northbound on Turney Rd. A witness be-

lieved a second vehicle was also involved in the attempted robbery. Police were unable to locate the suspects/vehicles.

Criminal Damage

A fireman at Fire Station 2 on E. 131st St. reported to GHPD that it appeared someone tried breaking into the station between September 12th and 15th. Police noticed damage to the station's door frame and door lock, however no entry was made.

Weapon Offense

Police were dispatched to a home in the 12900 block of Grannis Rd. on September 17th, around 9:40 a.m., for a report of shots fired. When police arrived they learned a 17-year-old boy had fired a gun several times after arguing with family members. Police

found three bullet holes in a bedroom window and three projectiles inside the room. Outside on the grass, police collected two shell casings. Inside the boy's room, police found a box of ammunition, marijuana and drug paraphernalia, and brass knuckles, all of which were collected as evidence. The teen admitted he fired the gun but said he was only trying to scare everyone and did not intend to shoot anyone. The teen was arrested and charged are pending through juvenile court. He was taken to Juvenile Detention Center.

MAPLE HTS.

Suspicious Person

An employee of a day care center on Granger Rd. called police on September 15th, around 3:15 p.m., and said a suspicious looking man had been in front of the day care with a video camera. She said she went to confront him but he got back into his car and left the area. A short time later, she saw the same man and

vehicle parked across the street. She said it looked like he was hiding in the bushes and still had the video camera pointed at the day care. She again went to confront him, but he left in his vehicle. She called police, who searched BMV records and believe they have identified the man. They requested notification if the man is seen again around the day care center.

Theft

•A resident of the 14500 block of James Ave. called police on September 16th, around 5:35 p.m., and said a young man stole an Amazon package off her front porch. She watched the male run southbound on E. 146th St. and open the box. Once he realized kitty litter was in the box, he dropped it and left the area. The caller believes there were four males involved. Officers searched the area for possible suspects with negative results.

•On September 17th, around 1:15 a.m., a woman

called police and said she was robbed by two males who were helping her and a friend change a flat tire in the 5000 block of Warrensville Center Rd. She said her car broke down and two males helped them change her tire. She gave them each \$20 as a thank you, but then one of the males opened the passenger side door and stole her backpack, which contained her purse, make up bag, money and other items. The males then ran westbound on Maple Heights Blvd. Police searched the area for the suspects with negative results.

St. Hyacinth meeting

The regular meeting of the Hyacinth Block Club for residents of the St. Hyacinth area will be held Wednesday, Sept. 20, at 6 p.m. at Elizabeth Baptist Church, 6114 Francis Ave., Cleveland.

Donations of new socks, mittens, hats and personal

items appreciated. There will also be a 50/50 raffle.

For more information call 216-315-4593 or email: johnr@slavicvillage.org.

Answers to Wed., Sept. 13, 2017 Puzzle #9

SOLUTIONS ACROSS	SOLUTIONS DOWN
1. Til	1. Tala
4. Beth	2. Ibis
8. Adam	3. Loci
12. ABO	4. Barer
13. Apio	5. Episodes
14. Raga	6. Tic
15. Licorice	7. Hoos
17. Eton	8. Arenas
18. Asides	9. Dateline
19. Sine	10. Ago
21. Eros	11. Man
23. Salad	16. Odes
26. Sirs	20. Isis
29. Decisive	22. Serer
31. Ore	24. Aver
32. Ceres	25. Deem
33. Nee	26. Sows
34. Walruses	27. Iran
36. Berm	28. Relocate
37. Snoek	30. Cesarean
38. Rase	32. Cuke
40. Caen	35. Reason
42. Ramose	36. Bema
46. Haas	39. Sarda
48. Operator	41. Nose
50. Alto	43. Otic
51. Scad	44. Soap
52. IAA	45. Eras
53. Glen	46. Hag
54. Etna	47. All
55. CPS	49. Pct

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Woman recognized for work in Bedford PD's Safe Passages program



Sara Lloyd, Treatment Liaison Coordinator for the Bedford Police Department's Safe Passages Program, is shown above receiving a certificate of appreciation from the Bedford Lions Club King Lion Bill Astalos. Lloyd spoke about the work she does in the program at a recent Lions Club meeting.

Sara Lloyd, Treatment Liaison Coordinator for the Bedford Police Department's Safe Passages Program, recently received a certificate of appreciation from the Bedford Lions Club after speaking about the work she does in the program. She and SEALE Narcotics Detective Brian Sara spoke at a recent Lions Club meeting and discussed how the opioid epidemic is affecting the community.

The police department launched Safe Passages in April 2017. The program is aimed at getting people suffering from addiction to opiates such as morphine, heroin, oxycodone and hydrocodone the help they need, instead of putting them in handcuffs.

As Treatment Liaison Coordinator, Lloyd assists with initiating contact with the program participant, completes intake paperwork, determines appropriate placement for the Safe Passages program participant and has direct contact with in-patient treatment providers.

"For almost 10 years now I've loved my job here at Bedford Police Department, but being involved in this program gives me a purpose and a feeling of fulfillment that I am doing my part and giving those suffering from addiction a chance to change their lives," said Lloyd.

Lloyd is a 2005 graduate of Garfield Heights High School. She started working at Bedford PD in February 2008 as a police/fire/

covery from addiction, come to the Bedford Police Department, 165 Center Rd., Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., and ask for help. Bedford PD will facilitate entry to treatment and act as part of a necessary support system.

Call Sara Lloyd at the Bedford Police Department, 440-232-7600, to learn more.

CERT meets

The Garfield Heights Community Emergency Response Team will meet next Wednesday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m. at the Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd. A speaker will talk on human trafficking.

Contact CERT Director Sheila Roman for more information, 216-513-2561.

Bedford police seek Circle K robbery suspects



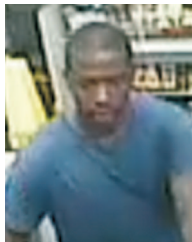
Suspect #1

Two men rode their bicycles to the Circle K located at 1480 Broadway Ave. in Bedford early Tuesday morning, around 3:30 a.m., and robbed it, according to the Bedford Police Department's Facebook page.

The post alleges that a man in a white t-shirt bought a drink at the register and a second male in a blue

t-shirt shoved the employee at the counter and took about \$90 out of the register. Both males then fled on their bikes towards Forbes Rd., according to a police report.

Anyone with information about either suspect is asked to call the Bedford Detective Bureau at 440-232-3408.



Suspect #2

Fish fry at St. Andrew's

St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church, located at 16029 Maple Park Dr. in Maple Heights, will be serving fish fry dinners from 4-7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 22. For carryouts, call 216-475-9365.

EMS dispatcher and now works in the Bedford Police Records Department.

"Recovery is possible and I am committed to helping anyone that is ready to take that next step. It's true what they say - that if you do what you love you'll never work a day in your life," she said.

Bedford PD was also recently awarded a grant from the Attorney General's office to create a Quick Response Team for overdoses. Bedford PD is partnered with Newburgh Heights, Berea and Olmsted Township police departments for the grant.

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