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96th YEAR NO. 32

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019

PHONE: (216) 441-2141 • EMAIL: NNEWS1923@AOL.COM

FREE

Garfield Council moves sewer rate hike on to second reading

By Ellen Psenicka

At its regular meeting Monday night, Garfield Heights Council had first reading on an ordinance that would increase the sanitary sewer rate from \$1.70 to \$2.20 per lineal front foot within the city beginning January 1, 2020.

The legislation notes that there is a sizable deficit in the Garfield Heights sanitary sewer account and the sewer rate increase seeks to eliminate that deficit. It also notes that once the deficit is eliminated the rate increase will be used for capital improvement purposes unless an expenditure is approved by the city.

Mayor Vic Collova said if the city does not raise the rate Cuyahoga County officials will, and it would go from a 50-cent increase to a \$1 increase under the county plan.

Collova said the city was running a \$1 million deficit in its sewer fund and there was "no choice whatsoever" but to pass the rate hike.

Councilman Eugene Glenn made a motion to submit the sewer rate hike to the voters, but there was no "second" to the motion so it "died on the floor," as stated by Council President Matt Burke.

A first reading was also held on an ordinance for the issuance and sale of notes, not to exceed \$2,100,000, to pay costs of improving streets and roads in the city.

Both ordinances will be put out for a second reading at a subsequent meeting.

The following legislation was passed at Monday night's council meeting:

- Accepting Northeast

Ohio Public Energy Council Energized Community Grants for 2019;

- Changing the city's position of activities assistant to activities coordinator, at no increase in pay;

- Requesting the cooperation of Cuyahoga County in the resurfacing of the Garfield Heights portion of Canal Road;

- Applying for a grant through the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation for fire safety equipment, including bulletproof vests, for the city's fire department;

- Commending the Top Ten students of the 2019 Garfield Heights High School graduating class, most of whom were present at the meeting.

Events coming up

Mayor Collova said the city's Memorial Day parade will be back down Turney Road on Monday, May 27, now that the street has been repaved. The parade will step off at 10 a.m. and will be followed by a ceremony at the Veterans Plaza at the Civic Center. Anyone wishing to participate, make a monetary donation or learn more details can contact Jennifer Newrones, 216-624-8802, newronesjennifer@sbcglobal.net; or Jason Blake at 216-338-7883, jake5585@yahoo.com.

Councilman Mike Nenadovich encouraged everyone to participate in the Souper Bowls for Hunger event, sponsored by the Garfield Heights Kiwanis Club, this Thursday, April 25, at Garfield Heights High School. Tickets are \$10 for a light supper and handmade ceramic bowl made by GHHS students. All proceeds will benefit local food pantries.

During the Comments by Citizens portion of the meeting, a Euclid man announced a program on the human trafficking of children being held on Saturday, May 4, at Christian King Assembly, 12700 Broadway Ave., Garfield Heights. Contact Councilman Michael Dudley for more information.

EASTER FUN IN NEWBURGH HTS.



The Village of Newburgh Heights held its annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 13th in the Community Room at Newburgh Heights Village Hall. The Easter Bunny arrived via fire engine for the parade and egg hunt. Three children found special golden eggs, which they redeemed for Easter baskets. The winners are shown here, from left: Mariah Gains, Giovanni Gains and Jaden Campbell.

Vacant home catches fire

The Cleveland Fire Department responded to a vacant house at 8002 Dorver Ave. just before 1 a.m. on Friday, April 9.

There were no injuries, according to Lt. Mike Norman, public information officer for the Cleveland Division of Fire. The damage estimate is about \$15,000. Cause of the fire is under investigation.

Polish Constitution Day parade Sunday down Fleet Avenue

Events commemorating the 1791 Polish Constitution, the world's second oldest constitution, begin this Friday, April 26, and climax Sunday with a parade down Fleet Avenue in Slavic Village at 1:30 p.m.

At 6 p.m. this Friday, there will be a celebration with the children of Cleveland's Polish schools as they come together to share their music and talents at the Polish American Cultural Center, 6501 Lansing Ave. This event is for children only.

All are welcome Saturday to an evening of classical music at 7 p.m. with pianist Dr. Konrad Bienienda and violinist Konrad Kowal at a free concert at the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus, 3649 E. 65 St., Cleveland. At dusk Saturday the downtown Terminal Tower will be lit with white and red, the national colors of Poland.

The 1:30 p.m. parade Sunday will kick off from E. 50th and Fleet Avenue and conclude at E. 65th and Lansing Avenue, with a performance by Cleveland's Polish folk dance groups. Breakfast and dinner will be available at the Polish American Cultural Center and music in the evening by John and Mark Szleszynski.

Employee shot during armed robbery at Little Caesar's on Harvard

Last Friday, April 20, at about 9:50 p.m., officers responded to a report of an armed robbery at the Little Caesar's at 7310 Harvard Ave. in Cleveland, according to the police report.

When police arrived, they observed a trail of blood near the front door and sidewalk, several shell casings, bullet fragments and a black garbage bag. Employees reported that three men came into the store wearing face masks and pointing handguns at them.

Officers viewed video footage of the incident showing that one of the men grabbed a male employee and pulled him to the registers, according to the report. The suspect used his hand and fingers to form the shape of a gun and pointed it into the employee's back.

The employee pulled a gun from his waistband and began to shoot at the suspects, according to the police report. The suspects ran to the back of the store, using the female employees as human shields and returned gunfire. The male employee was shot in the left arm. He then exited through the front of the store, and the suspects exited through the rear. One of the suspects was seen limping with a possible gunshot wound to his left leg.

(Continued on Page 2)

Employee shot

(Continued from Page 1)

The male employee drove himself to MetroHealth Hospital. Officers learned another man had arrived at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center with gunshot wounds to his legs. He was later transferred to MetroHealth.

Officers spoke to the male employee at the hospital. He said the suspect whispered to him that he had better open the register. He said he was afraid for his

life, which is why he decided to pull out his firearm. He said he shot three to four times and ran out of the store in an attempt to lure the suspects from the store. He then hid behind his vehicle, which was parked east of the store.

The employee said he saw the suspects run from the store and heard one of them say, "He shot me!" They ran north on East 74th Street and disappeared from his line of sight.

Police made contact with the man who had gunshot wounds to his legs, according to the report. He said he was shot during a dice game in the area of East 79th and Woodland Avenue outside of an apartment complex but was vague about the details.

The male employee's firearm was found in his car, which was parked in front of MetroHealth Hospital, and taken for evidence. It had four spent shell casings and one live round in the cylinder. Police also took the clothing worn by the man with gunshot wounds to his legs for evidence. They also have video footage of him being dropped off at St. Vincent's.

1-year-old fatally shot in Cleveland

On April 20th at approximately 6:20 p.m., officers responded to an address in

the 14200 block of Rexwood Avenue in Cleveland near the Garfield Heights border for a shooting incident involving a 1-year-old male victim, according to Cleveland police. The child was transported from the residence to MetroHealth Medical Center for treatment. He was pronounced deceased at the hospital.

At this time detectives are investigating the possibility of an accidental shooting with the suspect being a person inside of the residence.

Members of the homicide unit responded to the scene. The matter remains under investigation.

50th wedding anniversary



Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Sulik

The children of Ronald and Mary Sulik happily announce their parents' 50th wedding anniversary. Ronald and Mary were married on April 26, 1969, in Garfield Heights, and currently reside in Parma. They are blessed with five grandchildren and many lifelong friends. They enjoy day trips and will be celebrating their anniversary with a two-week cruise including stops in Finland, Estonia, Norway, Germany and Russia.

Slavic Village to host Arbor Day Block Party

Slavic Village community members are invited to help plant trees at an Arbor Day Block Party this Saturday, April 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the new Fullerton School, 3900 E. 75 St.

Advance registration is requested. Register online at <http://www.wrlandconservancy.org/events/> or call 216-515-8300 to reserve your spot.

In addition, this year Reforesting Slavic Village is partnering with the Arbor Foundation to offer free trees to residents in Slavic Village through the Cleveland Community Canopy program. Residents of 44105 and 44127 zip codes can receive a tree to plant in their yard at no cost by visiting www.arborday.org/cleveland or calling 216-515-8300. The trees will be distributed at Fullerton School on Saturday, April 27, during the Arbor Day Block Party.

Reforesting Slavic Village partners include Americorps, ArcelorMittal, Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland, Councilman Anthony Brancatelli, Broadway P-16, City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability, City Year, Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Cleveland Central Catholic, Cleveland Metroparks, Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative, Cuyahoga Community College, Holden Forests and Gardens, Slavic Village Development, Third Federal Foundation, Western Reserve Land Conservancy, Bartlett Tree Service, Davey Tree and Youth Opportunities Unlimited.

From the courtroom...



Hearing set for Brundage

A hearing is scheduled on May 28 at 10 a.m. for Scott Brundage, a Garfield Heights man seeking to withdraw his guilty plea in a sexual assault case involving seven young girls.

Brundage previously pleaded guilty on April 2 to one count of rape, a felony of the first degree; three counts of gross sexual imposition, felonies of the third degree; and two counts of gross sexual imposition, felonies of the fourth degree, according to Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh.

However, during sentencing on April 9, Summit County Judge Mary Margaret Rowlands said Brundage sent her a letter saying he was coerced by his attorneys into pleading guilty, according to James Pollack, director of communications for the Summit County Prosecutor's Office.

The court granted his counsel's motion to withdraw, and Brundage now has new counsel.

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SLAVIC VILLAGE

Local police highlight importance of impaired, distracted driving prevention

By Danielle Toth

Every day almost 30 people in the United States die in drunk-driving crashes — that's one person every 48 minutes. Distracted driving is also dangerous, claiming 3,166 lives in 2017 alone.

While these statistics, the most recent provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), highlight the national impact distracted and impaired driving can have, it is an important issue at the local level as well. April is both Distracted Driving Awareness Month and Alcohol Awareness Month, so many communities are focusing on distracted and impaired driving prevention.

It is illegal in Ohio to drive with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or above. A first-time Operating a Vehicle Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs (OVI) conviction results in license suspension, a mandatory minimum 72 hours in jail and a fine of about \$250 to \$1,000. Penalties increase for subsequent convictions. It is illegal to drive with any amount of a controlled substance, such as marijuana, cocaine or heroin, present in the driver's blood.

A new distracted driving law went into effect in Ohio last October broadening "distracted" driving to include activities not necessary for driving, such as eating or adjusting the radio, and increasing fines to \$100 or completion of a distracted driving course. It's a secondary offense, meaning when police pull the driver over for something else, they can include an additional citation for distracted driving.

In Bedford police have arrested 125 people for OVI from January 2018 to present, according to Chief Martin Stemple. There were 13 distracted driving citations in the same time period.

In 2018, Cuyahoga Heights arrested six people for OVI and cited seven people for distracted driving, according to Deborah Reiger, administrative assistant to the chief and police services for the Cuyahoga Heights Police Department. So far in 2019, the village arrested three people for OVI and cited three people for distracted driving.

Brian Sturgill, Cuyahoga Heights police chief, highlighted distracted driving in the March 2019 village newsletter, saying, "Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April is a united effort to recognize the dangers of and eliminate preventable deaths from distracted driving. We all should know by now that cell phones, dashboard touchscreens, voice commands and other in-vehicle technologies pose a threat to our safety. The consequences of those distractions are not worth the convenience they offer."

The Garfield Heights Police Department made 114 OVI arrests in 2018 and 54 so far in 2019, Chief Robert Byrne said.

Byrne said that while everybody probably agrees that distracted driving is dangerous, most are probably guilty of checking a cell phone while driving.

"Parents should serve as a good example for their children; if you don't want them looking at their phones while driving, don't look at yours," Byrne said. "Shutting it off when in the car or placing so it is not accessible is a good idea. If absolutely necessary, drivers should pull over to text or read a text."

The Independence Police Department has made 11 OVI arrests so far in 2019, according to Mary Cox, office coordinator for the Independence Police Department. It made 43 OVI arrests in 2018. Seventeen people were cited for distracted driving violations from 2018 until the present.

In Maple Heights, officers have arrested 31 people for OVI so far this year. Last year, the department arrested 118. The city does not have a way to track distracted driving statistics, Sgt. Chris Swope said.

In Newburgh Heights, officers made 58 OVI arrests in 2018 and 19 so far in 2019, Chief John Majoy said.

"I have been teaching OVI enforcement since 1997, and our agency takes a proactive approach to this," he said, adding that the village conducts OVI checkpoints with the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

The Valley View Police Department made 29 OVI arrests in 2018, according to Chief David Niro. Officers have made seven OVI arrests so far this year.

To prevent drunk driving, the NHTSA recommends people plan a safe, sober ride home before they begin drinking. Those who drink should not drive for any reason. Call a taxi, ride-sharing service or sober friend instead. Additionally, people should ensure those who

have been drinking do not get behind the wheel. Take the person's keys and help him or her arrange a sober ride home. And those who see an impaired driver on the road should contact local law enforcement.

To prevent distracted driving, the National Safety Council recommends engaging in activities that take focus off the road prior to driving. This includes programming a GPS system, accessing playlists, engaging in voice-to-text and using apps on phones and in vehicle entertainment systems. Drivers should also be aware that even features such as hands-free calling can be distracting.



- Personal Injury
- Medical Negligence
- Criminal Law
- Drunk Driving/DWI
- Wills & Trusts
- Probate Estates
- Workers' Comp
- Wrongful Job Termination

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THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Maple Heights accepts more than \$1.1 million in funding for water main projects

By Judith Goldsworth

Maple Heights Council passed two resolutions at its meeting last week to accept more than \$1.1 million in funding awards from the Cleveland Water Department for water main replacement projects in the city.

One of the resolutions accepts \$752,032 from the Cleveland Water Suburban Watermain Renewal (SWMR) program fund, and directs City Engineer Ed Hren to begin preparing plans, bid specifications and cost estimates for the Hollywood Avenue Water Main Replacement Project, from Maple Heights Boulevard to Waterbury Avenue, and to advertise for bids.

The other resolution accepts \$365,061 from the SWMR fund, also authorizing plans and specs and cost estimates, for the Mapleboro Avenue Water Main Replacement Project, from the former West Boulevard to Clement Avenue.

Council also passed a resolution authorizing a change order for Terrace Construction Company, Inc., to increase the contract by \$185,541.46 for the Milan and Harlan Drive Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project in the city. This is in addition to the original project cost authorized in September 2018, in the amount of \$314,157.50.

The resolution states that the city engineer had recommended that additional work be performed to alleviate future blockages and sewer overflows in the severely deteriorated sanitary and storm sewers on Milan Drive and Bellview Street.

Trees approved for pocket park

Council passed a resolution authorizing Blackwell to enter into a contract with Zscape LLC to install trees purchased by the city at the Lee-Libby "pocket park," at the northeast corner of the intersection. The city previously received a \$50,000 2018 Cuyahoga County Community Development Supplemental Grant to pay for the project.

The cost to install 28 Ivory Silk lilac trees at the park is \$7,426, which will be covered by the county grant, according to the legislation. Zscape submitted the lowest and best bid for the project, the resolution stated.

Bill passed for adult day care center

Council passed an ordinance amending a section of the city's codified ordinances to only permit "Day Care Center, Adult" as a conditionally permitted use in the Broadway Corridor Overlay District.

Blackwell and other city officials have advised council "that in the interests of safety and economic development, it is best for the city to remove child day care centers as conditionally permitted uses in the Broadway Corridor Overlay District, given the vacant store fronts and buildings, traffic, congestion, neighboring commercial businesses, and lack of adequate safe outdoor play areas," the ordinance states.

A resolution enacting a temporary moratorium on enforcement of a section of the city's codified ordinances requiring interior point of sale/property maintenance inspections on last week's agenda, which was in the Housing and Economic Development Committee, remains in that committee, Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella stated.

Also at the meeting, at the request of Councilwoman Edwina Agee, council presented a special proclamation to Service Director Tony Ciresi, who was appointed to his position in 2017.

"Mr. Tony Ciresi has been a dedicated employee of the city of Maple Heights Service Department since 1994, as evidenced by a strong work ethic, personal integrity and honesty," Agee said.

"We the council of the city of Maple Heights, on behalf of the residents of our districts, hereby proclaim Tony Ciresi to be an exceptional employee and service director of the city of Maple Heights and thank him for his hard work," Agee said.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the **Planning Commission** of the City of Bedford will hold a **Public Hearing** on **Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 6:00 P.M.** in the Council Chambers of Bedford City Hall, 165 Center Road to consider that the Council of the City of Bedford, Ohio hereby declares the rezoning of properties described on the attached zoning map of the City of Bedford herein as follows: (Codified §1921 – (Ref: Reg C 1st Rdg – 4/15/19, Newspaper Ad – 4/17/19, PC Public Hearing – 5/21/19, Reg C 2nd Rdg – 6/3/19 – 3rd Rdg 7/1/19) – (Amended – 4/15/19)

• Ordinance No. 9683-19 rezoning property described herein from “B-3” to “M-U” classification located at Northfield & Rockside Roads (811-23-001 / 811-23-002 / 811-24-001 / 811-24-002 / 811-24-003 / 811-26-001 / 811-27-001 / 811-27-002 / 811-27-004 / 813-01-001 / 813-01-002 / 813-02-002 / 813-02-003 / 813-02-004 / 813-03-006 / 813-03-007 / 813-04-061 / 813-04-062 / 813-04-063)

• Ordinance No. 9684-19 rezoning property described herein from “B-3” to “R-4” classification located at 22800 Rockside / 22737-69 Rockside / 22850 Rockside / 300 Bartlett (813-02-001 / 813-03-002 / 813-03-004 / 813-03-005)

• Ordinance No. 9685-19 repeal Ord. #7914-07 Chapter 1939 “B-3” replacing with Chapter 1939 entitled “M-U”

Lorree Villers, CMC
Clerk of Council
Planning Commission Secretary
Submitted: April 11, 2019 / April 16, 2019
Published: April 17, 2019 / April 24, 2019

Garfield Hts. Fire Department to begin annual flushing

On Monday, April 22, the Garfield Heights Fire Department began its annual flushing and inspection of the 1,300 fire hydrants in the city. The department will perform the work Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

depending on the weather. It should take about eight weeks to complete. The work will begin in Ward 1 and end in Ward 7.

Some residents may experience rusty water, which is normal. The city encourages residents to check to see if their water is rusty before drinking, doing laundry or cooking. If the water is rusty, residents should not use any water, including flushing toilets, for one hour. After one hour, start at the lowest level of the home (laundry tub) and turn on cold water until it runs clear. Then turn the water off and proceed to the next level of the home. Follow the same steps until each level flows clear.

If laundry is accidentally washed and becomes discolored, do not dry it. Rewash the clothes immediately using a heavy-duty detergent after the water runs clear. Do not use chlorine bleach. If the rust is still not removed, try a commercial rust remover.

Please call Sandy at the Garfield Heights Fire Department at 216-475-4053 with any questions.

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List of Meetings for May 2019

Monday, May 6, 2019	Council Work Session - TBD Regular Meeting - 8:00p.m.
Tuesday, May 7, 2019	Planning Commission (if needed) Work Session - 5:30p.m., Regular Meeting - 6:00p.m.
Wednesday, May 8, 2019	Southeast Area Law Enforcement (SEALE) Board of Trustees Meeting (if needed) Work Session - 10:00a.m. Regular Meeting - 12:00p.m.
Monday, May 20, 2019	Council Work Session - TBD Regular Meeting - 8:00p.m.
Tuesday, May 21, 2019	Planning Commission (if needed) Work Session - 5:30p.m. Regular Meeting - 6:00p.m.
Monday, May 27, 2019	City Hall Closed - Memorial Day Parade
Tuesday, May 28, 2019	Board of Zoning Appeals (if needed) Work Session - 6:30p.m. Regular Meeting - 7:00p.m.

It should also be noted that the Board of Building Standards and Appeals, Civil Service Commission, Bedford Arts and Cultural Board, Bedford Historical Preservation Board, Assessment Equalization Board, Public Hearings, Planning Commission, Animal Appeals Board, Board of Zoning Appeals and Tree Board meet **as needed**. Notification of these meetings will be posted at the five most public places in the City per **Ordinance No. 8461-09**.

All Meetings will be held at Bedford City Hall, 165 Center Road, Bedford, Ohio 44146. For agendas please go to www.bedfordoh.gov or call Lorree Villers, Clerk of Council, at 440-735-6510.

Lorree Villers
Clerk of Council

NN: 4-24-19

INVITATION FOR BIDS

SEALED BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE MANAGER OF THE CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO, AT HIS OFFICE, 165 CENTER ROAD, BEDFORD, OHIO UNTIL 12:00 NOON E.S.T., ON THE 9th OF MAY 2019 FOR THE FURNISHING OF:

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BIDS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED ON THE BID FORMS PROVIDED IN THE BIDDING DOCUMENT AND SHALL BE ENCLOSED IN AN OPAQUE SEALED ENVELOPE PLAINLY MARKED ON THE OUTSIDE THEREOF "LIQUID FERRIC CHLORIDE PROPOSAL" AND SHALL BEAR THE NAME OF THE BIDDER.

COPIES OF THE BIDDING DOCUMENTS WILL BE ON FILE FOR INSPECTION AND MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CITY HALL, 165 CENTER ROAD, BEDFORD, OHIO.

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MICHAEL S. MALLIS
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BEDFORD, OHIO

Adv: The Neighborhood News
4-24-19 & 5-01-19

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Community police reports

Garfield Heights

Robbery

On April 9 at about 1:50 p.m., officers responded to the 13200 block of York Boulevard for a robbery report. The resident stated he walked outside around the back of his garage and saw an unknown male about 18 to 20 years old standing there. The resident tried to run away, but the man brandished a silver handgun from his hoodie pocket and told him to stop. The man went through the resident's pockets and stole about \$1,500 cash, then ran through the backyards and traveled east onto Maple Leaf Drive. The man was described as black, about 6 feet tall wearing a camouflage jacket, black hoodie, blue jeans and white shoes.

Drug use

On April 8 at about 8:30 p.m., officers responded to the Giant Eagle parking lot on Transportation Boulevard for a report of suspected drug use. The caller said she parked next to a car with Texas license plates and observed several parties "shooting up" drugs into their arms.

Officers spoke with a man and woman seated in the back seat of the car. They stated they were not using drugs and were simply waiting for two other parties to return to the car. The officer observed heavy needle markings on the arms and hands of the woman. He also noticed torn cigarette butt filters, commonly used for filtering heroin wash prior to injecting drugs, on the seat and floorboard areas. There was also suspected marijuana residue on the floorboard of the driver's seat. The man and woman were

breathing heavily and their hands were shaking. They were also chain-smoking cigarettes.

The driver of the car the suspects were in approached the officer while he was speaking with the man and woman. The driver denied knowledge of drug activities. He began to reach for his pockets and took a bladed stance. Officers advised him not to place his hands in his pockets, but he reached for a knife in his pocket. Officers advised him not to touch it or he could be possibly shot. The driver then complied. He had an active warrant with the Bratenahl Police Department and was immediately placed in handcuffs and seated in the rear of a patrol car.

The man and woman were asked to exit the car. The woman admitted to using heroin several hours prior. During an inventory of the vehicle, an officer found a plastic bag containing suspected methamphetamines, as well as a hypodermic needle and digital scale. Inside the trunk of the car an officer located a pill bottle with suspected crack cocaine, one blue case containing several hypodermic needles, a metal spoon with burned residue, metal smoking pipe and one nasal NARCAN dose. The driver admitted that the methamphetamines were his and that he had purchased them in the Akron area.

The vehicle was confirmed stolen with the Grand Prairie Police Department in Texas.

Package theft

Police reported package thefts from the following:
• 5100 block of E. 112 Street • 13000 block of Forestdale.

Burglary

• On April 14 at about 12:40 a.m., officers responded to the 12100 block of Havana Road for a report of breaking and entering at the residence. The caller said she returned to her residence after being gone since about 11 a.m. and found the black sliding door open. Officers

secured the residence and found no one inside. However, the home was ransacked with drawers and closets emptied. The resident stated that five flat-screen televisions of varying sizes were stolen, two laptops, a tablet device, Pandora bracelet and \$700 cash. Officers located a basketball shoe-style footprint on an air conditioning unit on the south side of the home. The window adjacent to the unit was open and there were fresh finger/glove markings on the window.

Theft from vehicle

Police reported thefts from vehicles from the following:
• 9400 block of Bohning Drive • 12000 block of Crest Avenue • 12000 block of Granger Road • 8800 block of Garfield Boulevard • 4600 block of E. 93 Street

Independence

Assault

On March 20 at about 6:10 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Bob Evans on Rockside Road for a report of a fight in progress. Dispatch stated that two employees were fighting in the kitchen with one man possibly in possession of a firearm. While en route, dispatch updated to say that one of the men left through the back door.

Officers arrived at the location and detained the employee in the parking lot at gunpoint. They then spoke to the second male, who said the two employees verbally argued and had parted ways when the second man assaulted him from behind. The men engaged in a physical confrontation until employees separated them and one of the men left. A fellow employee said he witnessed the altercation and that the man in the parking lot was the aggressor. Police arrested him and found 22 Xanax pills in his pocket during a pat down. He did not have a valid prescription. The man was charged with felony drug possession and assault.

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Death Notices

CATHY LOU DITTY

Cathy Lou Ditty passed away April 19, 2019, at age 69. Beloved companion of John McGuire. Loving mother of Paul, Richard, Trula, John, David, Holly Cochran and daughter-in-law Donna Cochran. Cherished grandmother of many. Dear sister of Roger, Jeff, Cindy, Judy, April, Pam and the late Eddie Ditty. Family and friends are welcome Friday, April 26, 2019, from 4 to 8 p.m. at Bican Bros. Funeral Home, 5215 Fleet Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44105, where services will be held on Saturday at 11 a.m. Interment Riverside Cemetery.



Newburgh Hts. Council news

The Newburgh Heights police officer involved in a rollover crash on Independence Road March 31 will return to the force the last week of April, Chief John Majoy reported at the April 16 Village of Newburgh Heights Council meeting.

The officer, Robert Veverka, a 12-year veteran of the department, was attempting to catch up to a speeding car about 11 a.m. when he struck a patch of ice. The cruiser slid to the right side of the roadway where it struck a parked vehicle and rolled several times, Majoy said. It came to a rest in the yard of the residence at 3599 Independence Rd. in Cleveland.

The cruiser he was driving was a total loss, Majoy said. The driver of the speeding car has not been located, the chief said.

Also at the village council meeting, council placed several ordinances on second reading:

- Enacting Codified Ordinance Chapter 763 entitled Cigarette and Tobacco Vendors to change the age at which cigarettes may be purchased from 18 to 21.

- Authorizing the mayor to enter into a letter agreement with OHM Advisors for general construction services in the amount of \$10,000 in connection with the 2019 Village of Newburgh Heights construction projects, and declaring an emergency

- Awarding the Harvard Avenue West Gateway Construction contract to C.A. Agresta Construction for the

base bid amount of \$93,427, recognizing the month of and declaring an emergency September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, and •A resolution to promote prostate cancer awareness by declaring an emergency

Blackwell gives update on Rockside water main break

By Judith Goldsworth

Maple Heights Mayor Annette Blackwell gave an update earlier this week on a large water main break on Rockside Road and Pennsylvania Avenue that occurred on Wednesday, April 10. The break resulted in a portion of Rockside Road being closed while repairs to the water main and the roadway are being done, necessitating detours in the city.

The water main break is very near the Maple Heights-Bedford border, and also near the busy intersection of Rockside Road and Broadway Avenue in Bedford. According to Blackwell the goal is to get the repairs done thoroughly but also as quickly as possible to have the roadway reopened to traffic.

"The rupture of the Cleveland Water Department 30-inch main on Rockside Road occurred behind the abutment of the west approach to the Rockside Road bridge, over the Norfolk and Southern Railroad tracks," Blackwell said in a statement released Monday. "The bridge is maintained by the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works and county bridge inspection teams spent last week assessing the area at the break to determine the extent of the damage to the bridge approach slab, abutment, backwall and superstructure," she added.

Blackwell said this assessment was completed on Thursday, April 18, and showed no damage to the actual bridge structure or to the backwall and abutment. The inspection did reveal that the water main break caused significant undermining to occur beneath all of the lanes, eastbound and westbound, beneath the bridge approach pavement areas.

Blackwell stated that concurrent with the bridge inspection, Cook Paving & Construction, under contract to the Cleveland Water Department, conducted its own testing to determine the actual extent of the undermining that occurred as a result of the water main break.

"Once the results of the testing report are reviewed, the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works and the Cleveland Water Department will coordinate with Cook Paving and Construction to determine the best method to repair the pavement areas, with the goal of restoring one lane of traffic in each direction as soon as possible," Blackwell stated. A target date for this is expected to be available sometime this week, she stated.

More NN 'Freebies' offered

The Neighborhood News has free tickets to give away for local events published in its weekly edition. Stop in to The Neighborhood News, 8613 Garfield Blvd., Garfield Heights, and enter to win.

The latest Freebies being offered is two tickets for any performance of the Garfield Heights High School Theatre Department's production of "The Addams Family," a new musical comedy. Remaining dates are April 26 and 27, at 7 p.m., and April 28, at 3 p.m. in the Garfield Heights Center for the Performing Arts, 4900 Turney Rd. Deadline to enter is Wednesday, April 24.

2019



Garfield Heights National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

The citywide prayer gathering will be held at Garfield Heights United Methodist Church, 4977 Turney Road, Garfield Hts., Ohio 44125
Host Pastor, Daniel Drew

All are welcome to attend, participate & fellowship

Theme: Love One Another (John 13:34)

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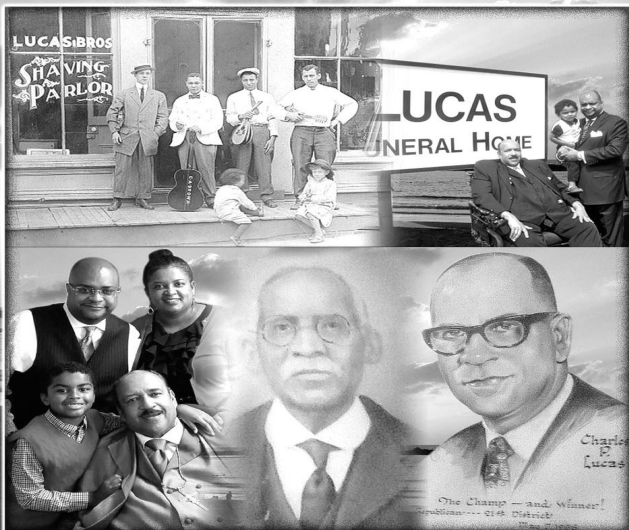
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