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96th YEAR NO. 37

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019

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

FREE

TOP STUDENTS AT BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL 4 injured in Broadway-Slavic Village shooting



Bedford City Schools announced its top students for the 2019 graduating class. From left to right are valedictorian Ashleigh Griffin, Cierra Boone, Amina Niasse and Cardiair Lyons. These students are all graduating summa cum laude. Congratulations, graduates!

Four people were injured in a shooting that occurred in the 9500 block of Cardwell Avenue, in the Broadway-Slavic Village neighborhood on the border of Garfield Heights on Thursday, May 16, at about 10:35 p.m. Officers arrived on scene to multiple victims lying in the street. They administered medical care until medics arrived, who transported two victims to MetroHealth Hospital.

Police interviewed a third victim with a gunshot wound to the leg. He said he was walking home on Cardwell Avenue when he heard gunshots and was struck in his lower left leg.

Witnesses reported they saw a silver truck drive by with someone shooting out of the rear driver's side window.

Police went to the hospital and were unable to speak to one of the victims because she was being treated for a gunshot wound to her side/back. The other victim, who suffered gunshot wounds to his elbow and side torso, was unable to provide additional details.

While police were there, a juvenile arrived at the hospital with gunshot wounds to the inner thigh stating he was also shot on Cardwell Avenue. He heard gunshots and ran, then was taken to the hospital by his mother. The incident is under investigation.

M. H. continues focus on repairs at Stafford Park

By Judith Goldsworth

Maple Heights Council and the administration continue to focus on ongoing improvements at Stafford Park, as a resolution authorizing Mayor Annette Blackwell and City Engineer Ed Hren to apply for a Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) grant for the park's parking lot was approved by council at its meeting last week.

Council's approval is the latest action in efforts to give the city-owned Mayville Avenue park a facelift. Legislation to accept a \$50,000 Cuyahoga County Department of Development Supplemental Grant towards "the repair, renovation and reopening" of Stafford Park pool and authorizing Hren to begin preparing plans and specifications and start seeking contractors was accepted by council last month.

The pool has been closed to swimmers for the past several years due to financial issues, and the funds will go towards rehabilitating the facility with the goal of reopening it to residents in the future. The work would not be completed in time for this year's pool season, however, city officials have stated.

Land transfer

A resolution passed by council last week authorizes Blackwell to transfer a residential property at 20012 Hansen Rd., off Warrensville Center Road just south of I-480, owned by the Maple Heights Land Reutilization

Program, to Slavic Village Development Corporation (SVDC), for the Maple Heights Home Ownership Program.

Other property transactions were also on the agenda, as council approved an ordinance authorizing the city Land Reutilization Program to accept the titles of three parcels of land obtained through the Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation (CCLRC).

The CCLRC has agreed to acquire the three tax delinquent parcels of vacant land on Williams Street, Raymond Street and Gardenview Drive.

The CCLRC will then transfer the parcels to the city's Land Bank for their redevelopment, according to the agreement between Maple Heights and the county. As listed in the county records, the properties will be tax exempt, according to the legislation.

A second similar ordinance passed at last week's meeting authorizes the city's Land Reutilization Program to accept the title to a parcel of land on the corner of Maple and Beech Avenues in the Granger-Libby area, also owned by the CCLRC.

Vacant property fine

Legislation to amend the city's ordinances to require an annual filing of notice for vacant properties and annual payment of notice fees and establishing a pen-

(Continued on Page 2)

CANAL FISHING FUN



The annual Metroparks Children's Fishing Derby was held last Sunday at the Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation in Cuyahoga Heights on a beautiful, summer-like day. The canal was stocked with trout and catfish, luring the young anglers to try their luck and compete for prizes.

Photo by Jerry Seppelt

SEE MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCES ON PAGES 6 & 7



M. H. continues focus

(Continued from Page 1)

-alty was placed on first reading and sent to the Housing/Economic Development Committee, Council Clerk Leonette Cicirella stated.

The ordinance proposes a \$250 fee for notice of a foreclosed, forfeited or vacant property, and the notice would have to be filed annually on a form to the city.

Filing of the notice and payment of the \$250 fee "shall be done on or before March 31 each year," and any person failing to file the notice of vacant property within 10 days would be charged a late filing fee of \$750, the proposed ordinance states, adding that failure to file the notice would result in a violation and a fourth degree misdemeanor.

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.

On the Freebies list is two tickets to the Sokol Summer Exhibition on Sunday, June 2, at Oddfellows Fresh Air Camp in Glenwillow, plus two duck dinners at the Sunday Sokol Dinner from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 23, at Bohemian National Hall. Deadline to enter is May 30.

Also on the Freebies list is two tickets to the Buckeye Country Superfest on June 8 at Ohio Stadium in Columbus, featuring George Strait, Blake Shelton, Chris Janson and others. Deadline to enter is Thursday, May 30.

Winners will be notified by phone and are limited to one winning entry every six months. Stop in today during normal business hours and enter the drawings!

Neighborhood News office closed for Memorial Day

The Neighborhood News offices at 8613 Garfield Blvd. in Garfield Heights will be closed this Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day.

Deadlines for advertisements and news items for next Wednesday's edition will be extended until 12 noon on Tuesday, May 28.

The staff and management wish all our readers a safe and happy Memorial Day weekend. And let us never forget the meaning of the holiday and those brave men and women who gave given their lives in the cause of freedom.

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Battaglia, Joseph
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Bushi, Joseph
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DiFrancesco, Oliver
Dillon, Robert
Glembocki, Daniel
Golembiewski, Jerome
Guise, Jr., Walter



Heba, Matthew
Hetman, Charles
Hummel, Gregory
Kansy, Dennis
Nalepka, Joseph
Nickell, Gene
Regal, Howard
Smith, Charles
Sprungl, Donald
Thomas, Norman
Vrtis, James

On this Memorial Day, we remember—with solemn pride and gratitude—all the brave men and women whose sacrifices have provided us with the precious gift of freedom.

*We dedicate this space to those who served us with honor
whom we have been honored to serve this past year.*

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Thursday, 10:00AM - 7:00PM
Friday, 10:00AM - 4:00PM
Saturday CLOSED



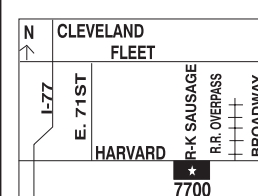
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Air conditioned camp sessions for 1-7 graders will
be held at Cleveland Central Catholic High School's
Ironmen Center, 6550 Baxter Ave. in Slavic Village

QUESTIONS? Call Mrs. Parry at 216.692.1733

Garfield district presents 'State of the Schools'

By Danielle Toth

Superintendent Terry Olszewski and Treasurer Allen Sluka presented the annual Garfield Heights State of the Schools presentation on Thursday, May 16, in the lobby of the Center for the Performing Arts.

Finances

Sluka spoke first on the district's finances, saying that 61% of the district's funding comes from the state, while the other 39% comes from local revenues.

Of the local revenues, 71.6% comes from residential property tax (Class I). Only 24.1% comes from commercial property tax (Class II) and 4.3% from public utility personal property tax. This means the district relies heavily on homeowner taxpayers, Sluka said.

With 61% of the district's total revenues coming in from the state, the upcoming biennial budget plays an important factor in the district's financial stability, he said. Currently the governor has proposed a budget, and the Ohio House has passed a budget bill (House Bill 166). The Ohio Senate will now pass its own bill and a committee comprised of both House and Senate members will reconcile the differences. The bill then goes back to the governor for his signature. It must be signed by June 30 to go into effect on July 1.

In terms of expenditures, the Garfield Heights City School District spends 63.4% on instruction, 13.6% percent on administrative costs, 12% on building operations and transportation, 8.1% on pupil support and extracurriculars and 2.9% on staff support, such as continuing education.

Sluka also pointed out that the district is fourth last in the county in terms of expenditures per pupil. This means the district is a good steward of taxpayer dollars, Sluka said, because it is living within its means and not overspending.

However, in his five-year forecast, Sluka predicts expenditures will increase as revenue remains flat.

This school year the district received higher-than-expected revenues from CityView taxes and delinquent tax collections. This will not happen every year, he said.

Business services

Sluka, who is also in charge of business services for the Garfield Heights City School District, said the district has made many updates in the past year. It replaced all lights at the high school (including the performing arts center) and middle school with LED lights. It also installed a new backup generator at the middle school and built a four-bay maintenance garage at the board office in conjunction with the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center construction class.

The district soon plans to begin construction on a transportation center off Garfield Boulevard, Sluka said. The drawings have been completed and approved by the city's planning commission and zoning board. The district is working on finalizing the overall budget costs.

Garfield Heights City Schools also provides free breakfast and lunch for all kindergarten to eighth grade students, a "breakfast after the bell" program at the high school for students who arrive late and an after-school snack program at both the high and middle schools. This year it received the Champion of Breakfast Award from The Ohio School Breakfast Challenge Partners.

Schools

Piggybacking on Sluka's information about breakfast


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and lunch programs, Olszewski said the district served 304,898 breakfasts this year. This includes 282,093 free lunches. It also served 352,665 lunches, of which 319,351 were free.

The district provides 2,600 Chromebooks to students, as well as 600 iPads, 600 desktops and 53 laptops, Olszewski said.

He highlighted the range of academic opportunities in the district, including AP and Honors courses at the high school level and the LETRS program at the middle school level. There are also many extracurricular programs throughout the schools, including several bands and choirs, 18 high school varsity sports, 15 middle school sports, a community service organization and the theatre department.

Olszewski said the district places an emphasis on positive behavior reinforcement with a program called Positive Behavior Intervention Supports, or PBIS. Each school takes a different approach to the program, but all reward good behavior in some way.


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Local girl to play lead role in Cleveland Modern Ballet's "The Little Mermaid"

The Cleveland Modern Ballet, Northeast Ohio's fun and inclusive ballet school, will be putting on a pop ballet, The Little Mermaid. The Hans Christian Anderson fantasy-adventure story will come to life on the stage at Bedford High School on June 7th and June 8th. Ariel, the little mermaid princess, will be portrayed by Garfield Heights resident, Atira Caton. The 13 year old, 7th grader, has been a dance student at CMB for the past 4 years. She has performed in CMB's annual Nutcracker ballets, as well as dancing in several of their previous pop ballets.

"The Little Mermaid" will entertain audiences both young and old. Dancing to movie classics such as "Under the Sea," as well as current pop hits like "Issues" by Julia Michaels, a good time will be had by all!

The Cleveland Modern Ballet, conveniently located at 4640 Richmond Rd. in Warrensville, is owned and operated by Jenni Hankey. "Miss Jenni," as her students call her, attended the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Arts, received both academic and dance scholarships to Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA, and earned a degree in Architecture from Ball State University, where she also minored in Technical Theater. She is currently a company member with North Pointe Ballet.

"The Little Mermaid" pop ballet will be performed on:

Friday, June 7th at 7:00 PM
Saturday, June 8th at 2:00 PM
Bedford High School Auditorium
481 Northfield Rd.
Bedford, OH 44146

Tickets can be purchased at the door on the day of the performance, or at: clevelandmodernballet.ticketleap.com



Student Atira Caton (left) with Cleveland Modern Ballet's Artistic Director, Jenni Hankey.

Indy council honors clerk, passes construction legislation

By Danielle Toth

Independence City Council recognized Clerk of Council Debi Beal at its regular council meeting on Tuesday, May 14.

Beal has been with the city of Independence for 15 years, beginning her career in the building department as the secretary to the planning commission, board of zoning appeals and architectural board and transitioning to clerk of council in May 2012.

In the past two years, she has made a commitment to become a certified municipal clerk by attending Ohio Municipal Clerk Institutes, Athenian Dialogues and educational classes. Now that she has achieved certified municipal clerk status, Beal is pursuing her master municipal clerk certification.

"I think I speak on behalf of all members of council in saying that Debi is a constant professional, a fantastic worker," Vice Mayor Dave Grendel said as he presented her with a plaque. "Debi does a fantastic job. We are very fortunate to have Debi as our clerk of council."

Council also recognized Chelsey and Kevin Repicky and their son, Drew, who suffers from apraxia, a rare neurological motor speech disorder that makes it difficult for him to speak. Mayor Anthony Togliatti declared May 14 Apraxia Awareness Day, coinciding with the national awareness day. Kevin Repicky is an Independence patrolman and school resource officer.

Council passed several pieces of legislation, many for construction and improvement projects around the city. These include:

- Accepting the proposal of GPD Group for the Brookside Road/Bramley and N. Bramley Road improvements construction management and inspection services contract in an amount not to exceed \$399,275.
- Authorizing the mayor to enter into a utility easement, retaining wall easement and temporary construction easement agreement with AAA East Central for permanent parcel no. 561-23-011 in connection with the city's intended expansion and construction of Rockside Woods Boulevard North to access electricity, gas, water and communication lines.
- Authorizing the bid of Digioia-Suburban Excavating for the Brookside Road/Bramley and North Bramley Road improvements project in an amount not to exceed \$5,413,935.35.
- Authorizing the mayor to enter into a community cost-share agreement with NEORS for \$1,359,397.50 reimbursement in connection with the Brookside/Bramley improvements project.



Independence Clerk of Council Debi Beal, center, received a plaque for achieving municipal clerk status. She is pictured with Independence Mayor Anthony Togliatti, left, and Vice Mayor Dave Grendel, right.

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Neighborhood Pets hosts group dog walks for training, socialization

Warmer temperatures are finally here, and if you've had cabin fever, you can bet your dog has, too.

Neighborhood Pets, a Friends of the Cleveland Kennel-sponsored outreach and resource center for low-income Cleveland residents on E. 65th Street, has brought back its group dog walks and behavior classes for summer 2019.

The walks began earlier this month - just in time for National Pet Month. Additionally, this year the center responded to popular demand by increasing the frequency of the walks from every other week to every week.

Anyone is welcome to participate in the group walks, which take place very Saturday from noon to 1 p.m. at Washington Park, 3875 Washington Park Blvd, Newburgh Heights. The walks start in the parking lot of the Arborview Picnic Shelter. A dog trainer attends the event several times a month to give professional advice, and dogs learn leash manners and obedience

skills. Dogs must be on a secure leash and collar, and only one dog per handler is allowed. In the event of inclement weather, the walk will be canceled.

"We have seen huge progress with the dogs that regularly attend," said Ashley Malaney, client services manager at Neighborhood Pets. "The consistent exposure to other dogs, new people and behavior support allows for a lot of learning in a casual and safe environment! We discuss the dogs staying safe distances away from each other, leash walking tips, clicker training and much more. The dogs and members both benefit from the social outing."

Slavic Village resident Susan Tomblin started attend-

ing the walks last summer. She said she got her dog, a 3-year-old pit bull named Lola, about two years ago and started going to Neighborhood Pets for services like shots, nail clippings and grooming. She heard about the walks during her visits and she's glad she did.

"The walks have really benefited her just with the additional training that she gets," Tomblin said.

For those new to walking their dogs, Malaney says to find good walking equipment, such as a martingale collar or easy walk harness and a quiet park.

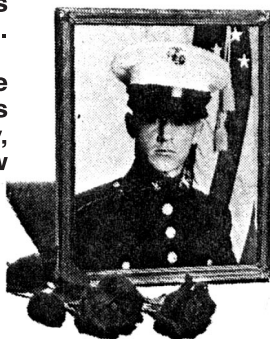
For more details on Neighborhood Pets or the dog walks, call 216-505-5853 or email info@neighborhoodpetscle.org.

Because the memory will live forever.

Over the years, we have had the privilege of serving the families of many veterans.

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REMEMBERING WITH PRIDE...

On Memorial Day, our nation pauses to honor the men and women who gave their lives for our country. Because Memorial Day traditions have a special meaning for us, we in the funeral service also pause to rededicate ourselves to our chosen profession. We are proud to provide a service that honors those who have gone before.

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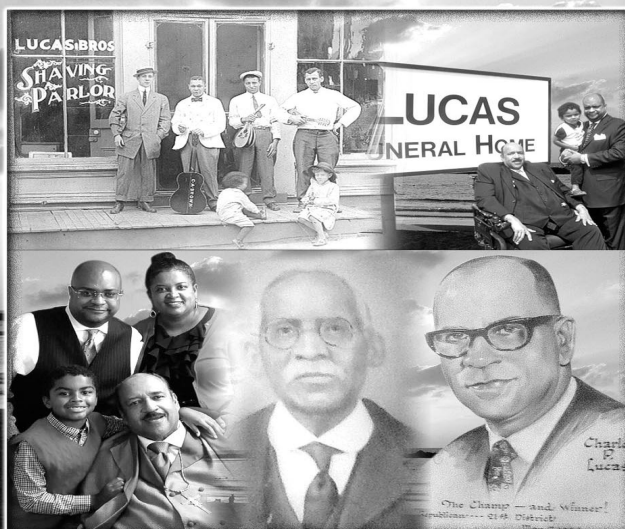
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BEDFORD

The Bedford Memorial Day parade will be Monday, May 27, at 10:15 a.m. The parade begins at Bedford City Hall, 165 Center Rd. Ceremonies will be held at Bedford Public Square on Broadway and conclude at the Bedford Cemetery on Broadway.

The Bedford Memorial Day parade was formed shortly after the Civil War. This year’s speaker is Martin L. Flask (Navy). A special presentation on the 75th anniversary of D-Day will be by Bert Zahn. The Ohio Motor Pool will provide historic vehicles from WWII in the parade. All veterans, especially WWII veterans, are invited to attend and march in the parade.

For further information or to participate, contact Mike Guyer, Memorial Day chairman, at 440-773-2835.

All parade participants, parade watchers, friends and families are invited to St. John Funeral Home, 923 Broadway Ave., Bedford, for its 50th annual hosting of food and fellowship after the parade. The menu will feature hot dogs with venison chili, donuts, chips, pretzels and beverages. Serving starts when the parade ends.

CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS

The parade steps off in Cuyahoga Heights at 10 a.m. from Klima Gardens enroute to the war memorial at Village Hall, 4863 E. 71 St., where the Memorial Day Service will be held.

GARFIELD HEIGHTS

Garfield Heights will honor those who have lost their lives in service to the United States with a Memorial Day Parade and Service on Monday, May 27. The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at Maple Leaf School, 5764 Turney Rd., and end at the Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd., where a service will be held at the Veterans Plaza. Refreshments will be available following the service.



William Armstrong

Parade grand marshal will be U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant (ret.) William Armstrong. His awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. Armstrong has been a member of the American Legion since 2001 and is currently the adjutant for Garfield Heights American Legion Post 304.

<p>As America celebrates Memorial Day we honor those who have given their lives for our freedom.</p> <p>Mayor Trevor Elkins and Family Village of Newburgh Heights</p> 	<p>Mayor Annette M. Blackwell</p> <p>City of Maple Heights</p> 	<p>Ralph J. Perk, Jr., Kelli Perk and the entire Perk family</p>	<p>GOLUBSKI FUNERAL HOME Cleveland: 216-341-0940 Parma: 440-886-0200 <i>Established 1913</i></p>	<p>Proud to honor those who served</p> <p>12648 Rockside Road Garfield Heights, OH 44125</p> 
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<p>On this Memorial Day we honor the men and women who died in American wars. Let us never forget.</p> <p>Cleveland City Councilman Tony Brancatelli</p>  <p>www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-12</p>	<p>MATRIX III Income Tax Service, LLC 5258 Transportation Blvd., Garfield Hts. *EXPERT YEAR ROUND SERVICE Call 216-332-SAVE "Our Phone Number Says It All"</p>	<p>GIANT EAGLE CITY VIEW 5744 Transportation Blvd. 216-662-8419</p>	<p>Bank Smart. Live Better. ThirdFederal SAVINGS & LOAN 1-800-THIRD-FED</p>	<p>BROADWAY SCRAP METALS AND RECYCLING Larry Goodwin Owner 8202 Broadway Ave. 216-341-8400 broadwaymetals@gmail.com</p>
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INDEPENDENCE

Memorial Day Services will be held in Independence on Monday, May 27, at the Soldiers Memorial on Public Square. Gather on the Square at 9 a.m. with services beginning promptly at 9:30 a.m.

A parade to Maple Shade Cemetery will take place immediately following the services. After a short graveside ceremony, all are invited to stop by the Independence Drug Mart for a hot dog cookout and enjoy the music of the Independence High School Marching Band. Proceeds of the cookout will benefit the band.

MAPLE HEIGHTS

On Monday, May 27, the City of Maple Heights will hold its 82nd Memorial Day Parade and Service honoring the brave men and women who gave up their lives protecting and defending our country.

The parade will line up at Stafford Park off Libby Road at 9:30 a.m. and step off promptly at 10:15 a.m., go west on Libby Road and pass in review on Lee Road, and then on to the Honor Roll at the Veterans Memorial by City Hall for the services. Honor guards from three area veterans' organizations and marching bands will be participating.

All veterans, current military members and parents of those in the military are welcome to march in the parade as well as those with classic cars or military vehicles.

Fred Malec, 67-year resident of Maple Heights, U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, 35-year member of American Legion Post 309, 40-year member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and past commander of VFW Post 2079, will be parade grand marshal.



Fred Malec

NEWBURGH HEIGHTS

The parade, organized by American Legion Post 627, kicks off at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 27, from Washington Park Community School, McGregor and Washington Park Blvd. A wreath-laying will be held at the USS Maine Monument and short ceremony in front of the American Legion Memorial in Washington Park.

VALLEY VIEW

A Memorial Day parade will be held in Valley View at 11 a.m. on Monday, May 27, with the parade beginning on Donald Avenue and services at the Village Hall.



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Community police reports

Cleveland

Arson

On May 14 at about 9:20 p.m., officers responded to an arson and assault report from a woman at Gas USA on Harvard Avenue. When they arrived, the victim

yelled and pointed at a man and said, "That is the guy who set my house on fire!" The woman said she saw her house on the 7200 block of Alice Avenue was on fire and noticed the man running from it. She followed him to the gas station, where she called police. She stated

that she had cell phone footage of the man setting her house on fire but could not provide it at the moment because her phone wasn't working. No one was in the home during the fire.

Officers spoke with the suspect, who said the woman followed him to Gas USA and got in his face, saying, "You burned my house down." She then struck him on the left side of the face near the lip area. He had a bloody lip and swelling on the left side of his face and was transported to Cleve-

land Clinic Main Campus. While there officers discovered he had a baggie of marijuana in his pocket.

A fire arson investigator arrived at the hospital to speak to the suspect, who admitted to setting the house on fire. He said he lit a napkin and threw it into a baby stroller. He then headed north on East 71st Street. The woman saw him walking as she arrived home, saw the fire and followed the suspect.

Garfield Heights

Motor vehicle theft

On May 13 at about 12:15 p.m., officers responded to a motor vehicle theft complaint in the 12000 block of Valley Lane Drive. The complainant said his white 2016 Dodge was missing from the parking lot of the building where he had parked it the previous evening. The theft

occurred between 6 p.m. May 12 and 8 a.m. May 13. The car was located in the backyard of a vacant home in the 11000 block of Granger Road. It was locked with the key fob in the passenger area of the car. There was heavy damage to the passenger door and window. The car was released to the owner.

Theft

On May 13 at about 4:15 p.m., police responded to Dave's Supermarket at 4948 Turney Road for a theft complaint. They spoke to employees, who said female juveniles entered the store and placed two bags of merchandise at customer service. They then went up and down the aisles with a purse, placing items inside. An employee confronted them in the produce department and requested to search the purse. The girls ran toward the exit, but the employee grabbed the purse, which fell to the ground. The girls left the merchandise and

exited the store. The value of the items was \$37.49.

Officers apprehended two of the girls on E. 94th Street and two on E. 95th Street. They contacted their guardians to pick them up. Charges are pending through the youth bureau.

OVI


• On May 15 at about 8 a.m., police received a call that there was a blue BMW in the grassy area of I-480 East between Granger Road and Broadway Avenue. An officer observed the vehicle in a flooded area. There were tire marks entering the center median from mile marker 22.6. The vehicle continued westbound, coming to rest near mile marker 22.4.

The officer observed a man in the driver's seat who was unresponsive and had shallow breathing. He also observed a strong odor of marijuana. The officer requested medical assistance. The driver received Narcan and was transported to Marymount Hospital.

During the inventory search, police found a plastic baggie containing 4.52 grams of marijuana. The man refused to provide a urine sample. He was charged with OVI, failure to control and possession of marijuana.

• On May 7 at about 11:30 p.m., an officer observed a silver Chevy Uplander with a temporary tag traveling east on E. 131st Street toward Broadway Avenue. The vehicle stopped at the red light in the center lane with its left turn signal on. When

(Continued on Page 11)



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Community police reports

(Continued from Page 8)

the officer pulled up behind the vehicle, it activated its right turn signal, made an improper right turn from the center lane and traveled west on Broadway. The vehicle also had a defective muffler emitting excess noise.

The officer stopped the vehicle just west of Henry Street. The driver cracked the window but would not lower it further. He requested the reason for the traffic stop, and when informed he became verbally combative. He refused to provide a license or identification card. He also searched for his cell phone after being asked to keep his hands in plain sight and began recording the officer. The officer informed him that the incident was being recorded by his body-worn camera.

The driver eventually rolled down the window, and the officer smelled a strong odor of alcoholic beverage on or about his person and an odor of marijuana. The man also had red, watery eyes and slurred speech.

The officer requested backup, and additional units arrived. The driver was placed under arrest, and the two passengers were asked to exit the vehicle and then released. Officers discovered several cups of an orange liquid that smelled of alcoholic beverage as well as two plastic bags containing suspected marijuana. They also located a digital scale with marijuana residue and an open bottle of cognac that was about 1/4 full.

The driver was transferred to the city jail. He continued to refuse to identify himself and refused a breath test. Officers identified the owner of the vehicle but were unable to contact her. After being advised that he would be taken to the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office where he could be identified via fingerprints, the man then provided his identity by saying he was "speaking on behalf of"

his name. Officers learned he was on parole and did not have a driver's license. He had also been charged with several violent crimes in the past. The man was charged with OVI, obstructing official business and no driver's license. He was cited for turning at intersections and faulty exhaust. He was issued summons for possession of marijuana, marijuana paraphernalia and open container.

Assault

On May 12 at about 12:45 a.m., officers responded to the Food Mart/Gas USA at 4561 E. 131st Street for a report of an assault in progress. Upon arrival officers saw several people outside the store. They spoke to an employee, who said a man entered the store but did not have enough money to pay for his items. Another employee told the man to leave the store as he could not purchase the items. The man then became upset and knocked shelves over, destroying property. The man left and the employee went to the back of the store.

Several moments later, the employee heard a disturbance at the front of the store. When he went up front, he saw his coworker on the ground unconscious and bleeding from the head. Witnesses said they saw the man push past the employee as he tried to lock the doors. They saw a verbal altercation but did not view the physical assault. They only saw the man destroy property and flee the scene.

Also on scene, a man and son said they pulled up to the store and saw the man fleeing eastbound on Saybrook Avenue. The man said it was his other son, whom they suspect is using narcotics and had been involved in another robbery. They said they would contact police if he returns home.

The injured employee was taken to Marymount Hospital for treatment. He does not recall the incident as he completely lost consciousness. He suffered a severe lac-

eration to his forehead above his left eye, a swollen face and several bruises and scratches to his body and arms.

Surveillance camera footage will be examined when it becomes available.

Fleeing

On May 16 at about 8:15 p.m., an officer on patrol observed a white Chevy sedan make a left turn to travel west on Christine Avenue but fail to yield to a pedestrian crossing within the crosswalk. The vehicle slammed on its brakes, and the girl had to jump forward to avoid being struck. The officer followed the vehicle onto Christine and activated his emergency lights and sirens. The driver initially stopped and pulled to the side of the roadway but then lunged forward, stopped and began to accelerate, fleeing the scene. The officer pursued the vehicle west on Christine, south on E. 126th Street and east on Rexwood Avenue. It ran the red light at East 131st Street and Rexwood Avenue, nearly striking a car. The vehicle stopped and the front passenger exited the car and fled south on foot through a backyard in the 13000 block of Rexwood.

The officer remained with the vehicle, taking the driver and rear passenger into custody without incident.

An Independence K9 unit arrived to track the suspect who fled. Officers located a semi automatic pistol magazine with 16 live 9mm bullets inside but lost the track.

The driver was arrested and cited for failing to yield to a pedestrian, failure to comply with a lawful order, reckless operation and red light. The rear passenger was released.

The driver said he does not formally know the man who fled. He sometimes buys marijuana from him, knows him as John and said he had tattoos on his neck.

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Ward 12 names Senior of the Year

G.H. Ward 7 block watch meeting

Richard Krzynowek has been named Cleveland Ward 12 Senior of the Year for Senior Day festivities through the Cleveland Department of Aging held yesterday at Cleveland Public Auditorium.

A proud Cleveland resident, Krzynowek can be found with clippers in hand at Ye Olde Clip Joint on Fleet Avenue in Slavic Village. He has two sons, Christopher and Scott, and six grandchildren.

Krzynowek was born in 1943 and attended St. Stanislaus High School, graduating in 1962. He studied at Cleveland Barber College and later served as CEO and executive of Slavic Village Association at its inception in 1978. He was also responsible for planning and executing the Slavic Village Harvest Festival in 1980 and 1981 and started the Fleet Merchant's Guild, a community engagement group.

Additionally, Krzynowek organized the Polish Constitution Day parade for two years, raising funds to install Polish and American flags along Fleet Avenue. He eventually became parade chairman. He received a proclamation from the state of Ohio for his community efforts.

Krzynowek has served as a



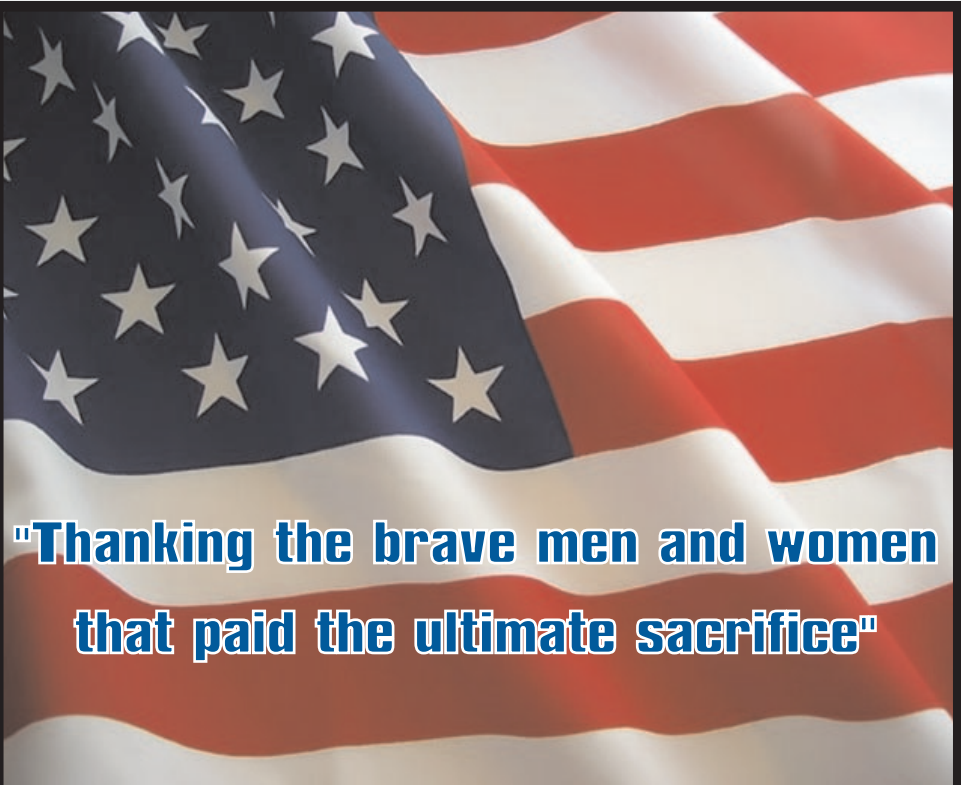
Richard Krzynowek, center, receives a proclamation from the state of Ohio presented by Mayor Frank Jackson, right, and Ward 12 Councilman Tony Brancatelli.

school crossing guard at the Fleet Avenue bridge for nearly 20 years. He is also an independent broadcaster for WHK 1420.

"Rich has been a Fleet merchant for a long time and has a wonderful history of being involved in the community, as well as representing the Polish community on the radio with Prime Time Polkas with his wife Sharon," Ward 12 Councilman Tony Brancatelli said.

The Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch will meet at Maple Leaf School on Monday, May 27, at 9:15 a.m. to walk in the Memorial Day Parade. The regular meeting will take place on Thursday, May 30, at 7 p.m. at St. Monica's outdoor pavilion off Rockside Road.

Guest speaker will be Wendy Walters from the Garfield Heights C.E.R.T. program. Trial size toiletry items for our troops would be appreciated. All are welcome. For more information contact Gail, 216-662-9213.



Hope to see everyone at our annual Memorial Day parade and service at 10:00 a.m.

GOD BLESS AMERICA!



Cuyahoga Heights Mayor Jack M. Bacci and Family

They were missed then.
They're missed now.

Now is the time we especially remember those who served for our country. They fought to make a better world for the rest of us, and we will never forget them.

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