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96th YEAR NO. 44

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2019

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

FREE

Services this Friday for Ben S. Stefanski II

Ben S. Stefanski, age 81, died peacefully July 7, 2019, in the caring community of Jennings. Born in Cleveland on Flag Day, June 14, 1938, Ben was a dedicated patriot and community activist and oldest of Ben and Gerome Stefanski's five children.



Ben attended Gilmour Academy, graduated from Western Reserve University (CWRU) and earned his law degree from the University of Michigan. Over the course of his career, Ben was a banker, entrepreneur and public servant. At Third Federal S&L, he served on the board of directors and worked as a teller, branch manager and vice president. As utilities director for the city of Cleveland in Mayor Carl Stokes' cabinet, Ben facilitated the creation of the Regional Sewer District and passed a \$100M bond issue to clean up the Cuyahoga River and make Edgewater Park safe for swimming. As a result the Cleveland community is now celebrating clean water: Cuyahoga50.

Ben served in the Life Guard Society for George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, on the board of the Kosciuszko Foundation and was active in countless charitable organizations. Ben could often be found at the Polish Cultural Gardens planting and weeding, or watering

flowers or mowing lawns in Slavic Village.

Beloved father of Christina Stefanski and Ben Stefanski III (Heather); loving grandfather of Ben Stefanski IV, Luke Stefanski and Bridget Long; dearest brother of Abigail Stefanski, Marc Stefanski (Vanessa), Hermine Cech (deceased) (Joseph), Floyd Stefanski (deceased) (Kathleen); cherished uncle to many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes donations in Ben's honor to the Cleveland Cultural Gardens CCGF, 10823 Magnolia Dr., Cleveland OH, 44106 or <https://www.clevelandculturalgardens.org/friends-of-the-garden/>. Funeral Mass will be held this Friday, July 12, at 11 a.m. at the Shrine Church of Saint Stanislaus, 3649 E. 65th St. Cleveland, Ohio 44105. Reception following. Interment private, Calvary Cemetery. Please sign Tribute Wall at: www.schultemahonmurphy.com

Send in 'Grandma' photos!

National Gorgeous Grandma Day is July 23, so we're asking all those grandkids out there to email us a photo of your grandma along with a couple lines saying why you think she's so incredible! Email to: nnews1923@aol.com

We'll print her picture in the July 17th edition, free of charge. Email us her high resolution jpeg photo, sent as an attachment, and include her name and yours in the email so you can get full credit for your amazing choice in grandmas. Deadline for submission is Friday, July 12.

Deadline for property taxes extended

The deadline for the Cuyahoga County property tax collection has been extended to Monday, July 15, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

Due to Major League Baseball All-Star Game festivities, there will be numerous road closures and traffic pattern changes that will severely impact all access to the County Administration Building leading up to and through the game. These events will also impact mail delivery. All incoming mail postmarked by July 15 will be considered on time for collection purposes.

I-77 and I-490 ramp closures this week

Through Friday, July 12, the following ramps will be closed nightly between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. for bridge deck construction:

- I-77 north to I-490 west. The detour is Broadway Avenue north to I-490 west.

- I-490 east to I-77 north. The detour is Broadway Avenue north to East 30th Street to I-77 north.

Police continue probe into 4 deaths on East 63rd Street in Slavic Village

Police found four people dead - a man, a woman and two children - on East 63rd Street yesterday, Police Chief Calvin Williams said during a recent news conference.

Police received a call at about 8 a.m. of a man with a gunshot wound in an open field next to 3708 E. 63rd St., Williams said. EMS responded, and the victim was pronounced deceased on scene.

Officers continued to canvass the area and forced entry into a nearby home because they smelled smoke. Once inside, they discovered the woman and two children.

Police do not have any more details on the victims, such as names, ages or causes of death, and are still working to notify family members, Williams said. Officials found evidence of accelerants used in the home.

"Our hearts and condolences go out to these families that were affected by this," Williams said. "Right now, we're early in this investigation. We do have some persons of interest that we're trying to track down based on information that we re-



Police discovered a woman and two children dead inside a home in the 3700 block of East 63rd Street in Slavic Village (house shown in photo in front of van). A man was also found dead in a nearby field.

ceived here on the scene. There is nothing concrete, but our investigators right now are around the city checking a few folks and tracking those folks down to get what may or may not be their involvement in this."

Ward 12 Councilman Tony Brancatelli said the incident appears to be domestic violence.

"This is truly unfortunate," he said. "You can't get any more horrific than what you have when children get in-

involved in a homicide like this. But we have a strong neighborhood and a strong block club, and we'll get past this."

This incident remains under investigation. Officials urge anyone with information on the incident to call the Cleveland Division of Police's homicide unit at 216-623-5464 or 911. People can also provide anonymous tips to Crime Stoppers of Cuyahoga County at 216-252-7463.

Maple Heights votes to close city parks at dusk

By Judith Goldsworth

As part of an ongoing effort to deter crime at parks in the city, Maple Heights Council passed an ordinance amending existing legislation to close city parks in the evenings, at its meeting last week.

Mayor Annette Blackwell and Police Chief Todd Hansen "have recommended that for the safety and security of residents and neighboring property, that all city parks only be open between dawn and dusk," according to the ordinance.

The ordinance states, "City parks shall only be open between dawn and dusk, except for Cunwillow Park (aka Home Street Park), the D.A.R.E. Park on Friend Avenue, and Southgate U.S.A. Park on Glenwood Avenue, which will close at 8 p.m. or dusk, whichever is earlier."

Council also approved legislation directing Blackwell to

enter into a contract with Monte Construction in the amount of \$428,543.20, for the Krems Avenue Water Main Replacement Project at last week's meeting.

Last year, City Engineer Ed Hren applied to the City of Cleveland Water Department to fund the water main replacement project, under the Suburban Water Main Renewal Program (SWMR), and subsequently, the water department awarded Maple Heights nearly a half-million dollars for replacement of the water main on Krems, from E. 141 St. to E. 146 streets, according to the resolution.

Council passed a resolution last September, directing Hren to begin preparation of plans and specifications and to advertise for bids for the project, and on Thursday, June 27, the bids were opened and Monte Construction turned in the lowest and best bid, the legislation states.

(Continued on Page 3)

Garfield Heights Council passes 3 pieces of legislation

By Ellen Psenicka

Three pieces of fairly routine legislation were passed by Garfield Heights Council at its regular meeting Monday night.

An emergency ordinance amended a codified ordinance entitled "Use of Public Ways for Small Cell Wireless Facilities and Wireless Support Structures" to correct a typo in the original legislation.

Also passed was an emergency ordinance to amend appropriations for current expenditures for the city ending Dec. 31, 2019.

Finance Director Barbara Biro said this was to facilitate an increase in healthcare and "various accounts

that had to be realigned."

An emergency resolution adopting the tax budget of the city for the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2020, was passed, rounding out the evening's legislation.

At the meeting four Garfield Heights Auxiliary Police officers were promoted to the following ranks: Auxiliary Captain Jerry Domiano, Auxiliary Lieutenant Robert Kovach, Auxiliary Lieutenant Ken Krawczyk and Auxiliary Sergeant Anthony Kastelic.

In his report to council, Mayor Vic Collova reminded residents that the Senior Summer Concert Series will begin this Sunday, July 14, from 6 to 8 p.m. inside the Civic Center, and that the city's 100-year Birthday Bash is set for August 11, on the grounds of the Civic Center.

Police Chief Robert Byrne thanked the Marc's store in Garfield Heights for its donation of \$5000 to the GHPD's K9 program.

Service Director Tim McLaughlin said Kimble Recycling and Disposal was having a problem with contaminated recycling in Garfield Heights. He said he spoke with Kimble representatives who told him that if a resident's recycling bin is contaminated it will not be picked up and they will not pick it up later.

Red Cross blood donation opportunities this month

Following a difficult Fourth of July week for blood and platelet donations and ongoing challenges finding new blood donors, the American Red Cross now faces a blood shortage and has issued an emergency call for eligible individuals of all blood types to give now and prevent delays in medical care.

Businesses and other community groups organized about 450 fewer blood drives last week than during a typical week as people across the country celebrated the holiday with activities and travel, the organization said.

This led to about 17,000 fewer blood donations than needed for patients in a single week, causing the Red Cross to now have less than a three-day supply of most blood types available – and less than a two-day supply of type O blood – for patients. The organization needs at least a five-day supply.

Donors of all blood types, especially type O, are urged to make an appointment to donate using the Blood Donor app, at RedCrossBlood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Those interested in hosting a blood drive can learn more and sign up to sponsor a drive this summer by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/HostADrive.

Donors can attend these upcoming blood donation opportunities:

- July 10: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Crown Centre II, 5001 Rockside Road, Independence
- July 16: 2 to 7 p.m., Valley View Community Center, 6828 Hathaway Road, Valley View
- July 17: 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., Dave McCall Union Hall, 3421 Independence Road, Cleveland
- July 22: 1 to 6 p.m., Garfield Hts. Civic Center, 5407 Turney Road, Garfield Heights
- July 23: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Park Center Building I, 6100 Oak Tree Blvd., Independence
- July 29: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Independence Community Center, 6363 Selig Drive, Independence

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77N ramps at Harvard to close for 30 days Maple Hts.

Beginning Monday, July 15, at 5 a.m., the two northbound I-77 ramps at Harvard Avenue will be closed for a period of 30 days, according to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). This is for the removal and replacement of pavement on Harvard Avenue east of the highway and the upper portion of the ramps. Associated utility, drainage, traffic signal and sidewalk work will also be completed at this time.

I-77 northbound traffic destined for westbound Harvard will be sent to Pershing Avenue, as it has been since late March when the bridge was closed, where it will flip around onto I-77 southbound and back to Harvard, ODOT said.

I-77 northbound traffic destined for eastbound Harvard will be sent to Pershing Avenue, where it will turn right to Broadway Avenue. Traffic will then turn right to head southeast

on Broadway and continue back to Harvard.

Harvard Avenue westbound traffic will be detoured by turning right onto Broadway Avenue and proceeding to Pershing Avenue, where it will turn left to I-77. Traffic will enter I-77 southbound and proceed to Harvard.

There will be ground-mounted notice signs, supplemented by portable changeable message signs, on the roads this week to notify drivers of the impending closure.

(Continued from Page 1)

In correspondence to council, Hren stated that the earliest start date for the project was given as 15 days after the company was notified, adding, "The time of completion for the project was indicated to be 60 days. The project includes the use of an above ground water bypass."

An ordinance adopting the alternative tax budget information for the city for the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2020, and to submit it to

the Cuyahoga County Budget Commission was also approved.

After the Walgreens drug-store chain, known as Walgreens Boots Alliance Corporation, recently announced a proposal to close its location at 5264 Lee Road in the city, Council President Ron Jackson intro-

duced a resolution at last week's meeting "strongly encouraging" a meeting between city officials and the company's Senior Management Team to request that the store be kept open for the benefit of residents.

The legislation was placed on first reading for possible passage at a future meeting.

Man shot and thrown from car on E. 66 related to Old Brooklyn shooting

A 40-year-old man who was shot and thrown out of a black Ford Focus near East 66th Street and Consul Avenue July 6 was with two other victims who were shot and killed in Old Brooklyn, according to police.

Police arrived at the scene at about 2:45 a.m. and followed medics to MetroHealth Medical Center, where the victim was treated for his injuries.

While in the emergency room, he stated he was in a Dodge Durango with three others: one woman and two men, police said. He said one of the men shot the woman and the other man in the vehicle. He stated he was shot in the neck while trying to run away. He then stated he was forced into the Ford Focus and taken to East 66th Street and Consul Avenue, where he was kicked out of the vehicle.

Police responded to a shots fired call near West 47th Street and Henritze Avenue at about 2:30 a.m., according to Jennifer Ciaccia, public information officer for the Cleveland Division of Police. The victims were found inside of a Durango with gunshot wounds, and officers rendered first aid until EMS arrived. Both victims were taken to Metro and later pronounced deceased.

On scene, police learned that neighbors heard what they believed to be fireworks and then discovered the two victims in the Durango. One woman was taken to the homicide unit for interview. There have not yet been any arrests, and the matter remains under investigation.

Ben Stefanski II

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With the generous support of Ward 12 Councilman, Anthony Brancatelli, Slavic Village Development, Neighborhood Connections, East 63rd Block Club, Theodore Michols, Shannon Landscaping & Snowplowing, and many local volunteers and fans.

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Death Notices

James Oryl

James Oryl, age 62. Jimbo put up a good fight but unfortunately lost the battle. Loved husband of Amy (nee Meyers). Loving father of Christopher (Gina), Tracey Caine (Will) and Ryan. Cherished grandpa of Andy, Sylvia, Benjamin and Violet. Dear brother of Larry (Maria) and stepbrother of Robert Blonski (Janina) and Janice Olkowski (deceased); favorite brother-in-law of Rae Cavanaugh and Vicki Burkart; uncle, great-uncle and friend. Retired lieutenant of the Cleveland Police Dept. and Slavic Village Development’s Safety Coordinator.



Jim was known by folks throughout the neighborhood as a patient and gentle helper who frequently met with block clubs, business owners and residents throughout Broadway Slavic Village, providing assistance and acting as a

trusted liaison with safety forces. He cared deeply about this neighborhood that he served for decades. He enjoyed golf, animals, a wry joke, listening to the Tribe on the radio, and scratching his back against the door jamb of his office.

Services Saturday, July 13, 2019, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 6700 Lansing Ave., Cleveland, 44105 at 11 a.m. Friends received at the church from 10 a.m. until time of service. In lieu of flowers, memorials suggested to Immaculate Heart of Mary Church or any organization that helps animals. At Jim's request, there will be no other services. Instead, he asked that you meet with some friends, maybe play a round of golf and lift your glass in a toast to a life well-lived. Arrangements by Golubski Funeral Home.

Approval of Senior Transportation Connection legislation sparks controversy in Bedford

By Judith Goldsworth

Bedford Council's approval of legislation to enter into a contract with Senior Transportation Connection to provide rides for senior and disabled residents sparked a lengthy discussion about minority hiring and employment practices in the city, between officials and residents at the meeting last week.

Participation in the Cleveland-based transportation service, which serves 20,000 Cuyahoga County residents annually, according to its website, will afford senior and disabled residents in Bedford expanded transportation options, including not only shopping, banking, medical and other trips during regular weekday business hours, but also trips after 5 p.m. and on weekends.

The fare for trips during regular business hours will remain at \$1 each way, while fares for evening and weekend trips may be slightly higher, City Manager Mike Mallis stated.

Some residents felt that having the city utilize the services of STC, at a cost not to exceed \$40,000, was not fair to the current senior van driver, who is facing the loss of his job; also, that the action could be seen as going against the driver, a minority, and represented greater issues of minority hiring and employment in the city, they stated.

"He is losing his job, and this is a black mark on the city," one resident stated, adding, "I'd like to see the city do everything it can possibly do to keep that man; there's got to be a place for him in the city."

Mayor Stan Koci vehemently refuted any claims of discrimination against any existing or potential employees of the city, stating, "We have thought long and hard about this. We didn't just decide one day, 'Oh, let's do this.' Race has no issue in this at all."

Koci said Bedford had a long history of seeking minority applicants for city jobs, including placing advertisements in minority-targeted publications, visiting schools, colleges and hospitals to recruit people for the police and fire departments. However, he said, "They wouldn't even come to take the test."

Bedford will continue to seek minority applicants, Finance Director Frank Gambosi stated.

An American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees representative at the meeting said he strongly urges the city to find a full-time opportunity for the van driver in the city.

Yesterday, Mallis gave an update on the status of the senior van driver's position, stating, "Although this is a potential elimination of the position, this will not include elimination of the service provided to the seniors. It is our intention that the possible subcontracting of this position will improve the services provided to the seniors... this is kind of in the early stages, and we have not notified him (the driver) of the elimination of the position; we have not given a date."

Mallis further stated yesterday that city officials will meet with the union in the coming weeks to discuss the situation further, regarding any possible options, adding,

Attention Maple Heights backyard grillers, home bakers

In conjunction with Maple Heights Summer Fest on Saturday, Aug. 10, at Stafford Park, backyard grillers and home bakers will have a chance to show off their talents in the Rib Burn Off Contest and Baking Contest. Enter one or both; first, second and third place trophies will be awarded and each contestant will receive a goodie bag.

Registration fee for the rib burnoff is \$20, and \$10 for the baking contest. For more details or to register, call 216-587-5481 or visit: <http://www.citymapleheights.com/> Maple Heights residents only.

"I will say at this point that there is not an opening in the city."

Meadowbrook rezoning approved

Acting on its goal of continuing to attract new businesses to the city, council approved three pieces of legislation to change zoning uses of land around the Meadowbrook shopping center at Northfield and Rockside roads. All three ordinances, recommended by an outside planning consultant who was hired to study land use in the city and determine what properties could be rezoned to encourage new use and development, have been discussed by council and at a Planning Commission public hearing over the past several months.

Among other purposes, the rezoning is intended to facilitate development by Innovest Global, which announced plans earlier this year to open an almost 200,000-square-foot industrial operations center in the former Wal-Mart Supercenter, closed since 2016.

One of the ordinances will rezone properties at Northfield and Rockside from shopping center district to mixed use, while another ordinance will rezone properties at Bartlett and Rockside from shopping center to multi-family residential.

Work in city approved

Council passed an ordinance for the city to enter into a contract with Fabrizi Trucking and Paving for the Union Street Waterline Replacement, at a cost of \$1,256,258.55. This does not include construction inspection and engineering fees, not to exceed \$95,000, according to the legislation.

In an effort to address erosion and fallen trees and debris caused by the recent heavy rains, council approved an ordinance for a contract with Nerone & Sons for emergency repairs to the city's Waste Water Treatment Plant to begin stabilization of the Wood Creek bank.

The erosion came dangerously close to a 30-inch sewage line, and if that had collapsed due to the loss of support of the surrounding soil, two million gallons of wastewater, including sewage, could have ended up in the creek on a daily basis, Mallis said.

As part of the long-term solution for the Wood Creek stabilization, council passed a resolution for Mallis to apply for and enter into a cooperative agreement for emergency repair and construction between the city and the Ohio Water Development Authority to obtain a loan to finance the project.

Gambosi said the amount of the loan would be around \$900,000, based on costs and fees, and payable over 20 years. The proposed project is expected to begin this fall.

Announcements

Koci gave a presentation at the meeting recognizing Fire Chief Dave Nagy, Assistant Chief Shawn Solar and the Bedford Fire Department on achieving an Insurance Service Office (ISO) Class 2 rating, attained by only 4.2 percent of about 42,000 fire departments nationwide. A Class 1 rating is the highest any fire department can achieve, officials stated.

LEGAL NOTICE

Redi Storage, 17101 Rockside Road, Maple Heights OH, 44137, 216-662-6610 is hosting the following auctions on www.storagetreasures.com. Items to be auctioned off by whole unit. Friday, July 26th, 2019. Individual auction end times listed below.

Latanya Lee, 26 Northfield Rd., Bedford, OH 44146 and/or 4897 E. 95TH ST. UP, Garfield Heights, OH 44125, Unit #628, 5x10, Unit appears to contain: home furniture, dressers, shelves, totes, boxes, bags and Misc. items. 11:55AM, cash only, \$50.00 cleaning deposit.

John Watkins, 6397 Valley Ranch Dr., Maple Hts., OH 44137 and/or 309 W. Pharr Rd., Decatur, GA 30030, Unit #822, 5x18, Unit appears to contain: Household items, lamps, cable boxes and cords, foot rests, pictures, wine rack, bags, boxes and Misc. items. 10:00AM, cash only, \$50.00 cleaning deposit.

Newell Wickham, 14209 Brunswick Ave., Maple Hts., OH 44137, Unit #1124, 10x30, Unit appears to contain: Tool chests, vehicle luggage carrier, household furniture, yard/lawn tools, golf clubs, boxes, totes, bags, Misc. items. 12:00PM, cash only. \$100.00 cleaning deposit.

NN: 7-10-19 & 7-17-19

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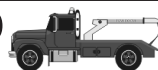
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Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, who light all roads, so that I can attain my goal. You who give me the Divine gift to forgive & to forget all evil against me & that in all instances of my life you are with me. I want this short prayer to thank you for all things, to confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you even in spite of all material illusions. I wish to be with you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine.

The person must say this prayer for 3 consecutive days, after 3 days the favor will be granted even if it may appear difficult. This prayer must be published immediately after the favor is granted without mentioning the favor. Only your initials should appear at the bottom.

M.D.**NOVENA TO SACRED HEART**

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past, I have asked for many favors; this time I ask you for this special one (mention favor). Take a dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your heart where your Father sees it, then in his merciful eyes, it will become your favor, not mine. Amen. Say this prayer, 3 times for 3 days and your favor will be granted. Never known to fail. Must promise publication of prayer.

M.D.

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Community police reports

Bedford

Disorderly conduct

On June 30 at about 3:45 a.m., officers responded to the area of Northfield and Forbes roads for a report of two women fighting in the middle of the southbound lanes of Northfield just north of Forbes. Both were intoxicated and issued a summons for disorderly conduct. One woman refused to leave the scene and tore up her summons. She was arrested for disorderly conduct, taken to jail and released when sober.

Suspicious activity

On June 30 at about 10:45 p.m., a caller reported a man pulling on car handles in the parking lot of Circle K at 1480 Broadway Ave. The caller said the man entered a woman's vehicle and took something but gave it back because he got caught. The man then left on foot. Police located the man in the 1300 block of Broadway after he fled through several backyards and took him into custody.

Cleveland

Shooting

On July 3 at about 5 a.m., police responded to the 9700 block of Miles Avenue for a report of a man shot. The victim said he was walking west on Miles from E. 100th St. when an unknown vehicle occupied by two people shot at him from the passenger side three or four times. He had a gunshot wound to the left side of his back and was taken to University Hospital for treatment. Police were unable to locate the crime scene, and the victim did not recall any other details.

Aggravated robbery

• On July 2 at about 8:30 p.m., officers responded to the 6400 block of Broadway Avenue for a report of a man robbed at gunpoint. The victim said he was driving a man he didn't know well from Elyria to Cleveland when the man pulled out a gun and robbed him of \$380 and his cell phone. He then left the area on foot and said he would leave the victim's phone in a bucket near where the incident occurred. He also threatened to kill the victim if he followed him. The victim said the man has pulled a gun on him and threatened him before but later said he only knew the man through a mutual friend and was giving him a ride home to be nice. Police located a bucket in the area of East 57th Street and Mound Avenue but were unable to open it.

• On July 1 at about 11:20 a.m., police responded to an auto sales lot at 7309 Union Ave. for a robbery report. The victim said a man came to the lot to sell his car. The victim said she had never done business with the man but that he had been sent by someone she knew. The two stepped outside so the victim could take pictures of the vehicle. She had \$750 in her back pocket from a previous sale. When she went to the passenger side of the vehicle, the man came from behind, grabbed her back pocket with the cash inside and pushed her into the vehicle. The victim turned around and grabbed the man's hands to stop him from taking the money. The man then grabbed her hands and ripped the money from her pocket. He ran around to the driver's side of the vehicle and began to drive away. The victim held onto the passenger side of the car but let go when it hit the gate while exiting the lot. As she walked back to the building to call police, the woman found the car's registration on the ground. Police ran the suspect's vehicle and discovered it was stolen. The victim confirmed the suspect in the vehicle theft was the suspect who had stolen her money. She said the business has cameras and footage would be available.

Garfield Heights

Fleeing

On July 6 at about 12:50 a.m., an officer observed four

motorcycles traveling west on Park Drive. One motorcycle had no license plate. The officer activated his overhead lights and siren and pulled up to the motorcycle in question. He made eye contact with the driver, who was not wearing a helmet. The officer ordered the driver to shut off and dismount the motorcycle. However, the driver tried to pull away. The officer again ordered the driver to stop and pulled the cruiser forward to block him from exiting. In an attempt to flee, the driver drove into the side of the cruiser. The suspect stopped, and the officer pulled in front of him and exited the vehicle. The driver then attempted to back up using his feet. The officer pulled the driver off the motorcycle and threw him to the ground. He was arrested for driving under suspension, no license plate, no helmet and fleeing and eluding. The driver complained of injuries to his left shoulder and left hip area. He was taken to Marymount Hospital despite no visible injuries.

OVI

On July 4 at about 3:55 p.m., police responded to East 114th Street near Wallingford Avenue for a report of a motor vehicle accident involving a car that had flipped over. Upon arrival, police saw a large crowd surrounding a Jeep SW that was on its roof in the 5000 block of E. 114th. The driver was still inside the vehicle and unable to move. The fire department arrived and removed the driver from the vehicle. She had red, glassy eyes and an odor of alcoholic beverage on her breath. She stated she had two draft beers. The driver was transported to MetroHealth Medical Center for treatment. An officer responded to the hospital and placed the woman under arrest for OVI. She agreed to submit to a urine test. She was also cited for failure to control and seatbelt.

Motor vehicle theft

On July 4 at about 1:50 p.m., officers responded to the 5000 block of East 88th Street for a motor vehicle theft report. The complainant said that at about 11 a.m., she left her apartment complex and her vehicle was parked in the parking lot. When she returned at about 1:45 p.m., the vehicle was missing. The woman was advised to contact her insurance company.

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Valley View to begin Canal Road improvement projects N.N. online

By Danielle Toth

At its regular meeting July 2, Valley View Village Council accepted the bid of Anthony Allega in the amount of \$525,455.75 for Canal Road pavement improvements. This is a joint project with Cuyahoga Heights and Garfield Heights to repair and improve the portions of Canal Road that run through each community, Mayor Jerry Piasecki said.

By percentage of the total pavement area to be improved, Valley View accounts for 34% of the total project, Cuyahoga Heights accounts for 34% and Garfield Heights accounts for 32%. The project includes areas of planing of the asphalt pavement and pavement resurfacing, areas of removal and replacement of the existing concrete pavement, reconstruction of catch basins, adjustment of castings, pavement markings and restoration of disturbed areas on Canal Road from Granger Road to East 71st Street.

Council also accepted the bid of Carron Asphalt in the amount of \$585,831.25 for the Canal Road and Ramps Repair and Resurfacing Improvements project. This project is separate from the three-community project and includes pavement repairs, adjustment of drainage structures and castings, planing of the pavement, pavement resurfacing, drive apron adjustments, pavement markings and restoration of disturbed areas of the Canal Road ramps from Canal Road to Alexander Road.

Council approved two or-

dinances accepting storm water management and access easements for 7500 Hub Parkway and 5650 West Canal Road, respectively. The village's storm water management ordinance requires that storm water management practices be located in any easement granted to the village. The village can access the easement for inspection, operation, maintenance and repair. However, Ferguson Enterprises is responsible for all inspections and maintenance of the storm water quality and management systems.

Council also approved an ordinance appointing Eric Sims to the position of part-time police officer in the Valley View Police Department. Sims retired from the department in May with 30 years of service.

"I'd like to welcome Eric back," Police Chief David Niro said. "He is a fantastic friend and officer. We were

both sworn in together in '89. The village will benefit from having him return as an officer."

Niro, who recently celebrated his one-year anniversary as chief, updated council on the village's transition to the Chagrin Valley Dispatch Center on June 26, saying it was seamless and successful. The village's police and fire departments transferred dispatch operations to the communication center, which serves 16 municipalities of the Chagrin Valley and greater Cleveland area. Valley View was previously part of a dispatch center located in Cuyahoga Heights that included Cuyahoga Heights, Brooklyn Heights, Newburgh Heights and Valley View.

The system has improved the village's safety services, Niro said, as now officers can self-initiate calls, such as vacation checks, and notify dispatch when they are

in route, at or cleared from a call. Fire Chief Ken Papesh said the fire department can read dispatch's notes in real time, meaning firefighters and paramedics are already getting ready for a call and sometimes out the door before they receive a formal notification.

"I want to thank both chiefs for seeing us through this transition," Piasecki said. "This is one of the most important things to happen in the village in a long time."

The fire department also conducted a full-time firefighter test to replace a retiree. The department received 16 applicants and hopes to select someone for approval at the September council meeting,

Papesh said.

Council approved an ordinance accepting the bid of Baumann Enterprises in the amount of \$17,375 for the demolition of 8903 Murray Road as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency-approved Flood Mitigation Assistance Program. The federal government pays 75% of the cost, while Valley View pays 12.5% and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District 12.5%. The demolition project will remove the home and create a green space within the flood hazard area.

Council will recess in August. The next regular meeting of Valley View Village Council will be Sept. 10 at 7 p.m.

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The Neighborhood News

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