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96th YEAR NO. 45

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2019

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

FREE

KIWANIS MVP HONORED



Larry Goodwin (center) was presented a plaque last Saturday at the annual Kiwanis Club of South East Cleveland golf outing at Washington Reservation in Newburgh Heights, for his tireless fundraising efforts benefitting the children of Slavic Village.

Goodwin, owner of Broadway Scrap Metals at 8202 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, is fundraising co-chair for the SE Kiwanis and puts on its golf outing each year as well as heading several other sports-themed activities during the winter months.

Also shown in the photo above, at left, is club treasurer Dave Thomas and former club president John Shields, at right.

Indy Council approves Campus Life program, job retention grants

At its regular meeting July 9, Independence City Council passed an ordinance authorizing the city to enter into an agreement with Youth for Christ to coordinate and direct the Campus Life program for the 2019-20 school year.

The program combines healthy relationships with creative programs to help young people make good choices, establish a solid foundation for life and positively impact their schools, according to its website. Councilperson Dale Veverka opposed the ordinance, saying he does not support the fact that the city has increased its contributions to the program in the last two years. He said he was also uncomfortable with the religious connection.

"I think continuing to do this ... would put us in a position where any other group coming from any other particular direction would have excellent grounds to suggest that they could run a program in the schools and would expect to have our support, whether it be a Buddhist group, a different Christian group or whatever other kind of group," he said during caucus. "I am uncomfortable with the combination of the religious background and the bookkeeping questions we have and the direction and trend we are running as far as financing what was supposed to be a weaning process."

Councilperson Kathleen Kapusta said the program is secular and not faith-based.

"I would like to clarify that while the name of the program speaks to a religious component, our funding is directed to the very productive and student centered, non-religious aspects of this programming," she said during the meeting.

Council also passed legislation authorizing the mayor to enter into a job retention and creation grant agreement with cybersecurity software company Certified Security Solutions, Inc., dba Keyfactor, to retain operations within the city.

During caucus, Economic Development Director Jeremy Rowan explained that the company, which recently rebranded as Keyfactor, has been in the city for about 14 years.

(Continued on Page 4)

Suspect charged in S.V. quadruple murder is father of 2-year-old victim

Mayor Frank G. Jackson and Cleveland Police Chief Calvin D. Williams announced last week that aggravated murder charges were filed against Armond Johnson, 26, for the murders of David Cousin, Jr., 35; Takeyra Collins, 25; Armond Johnson, Jr., 6; and Aubree Stone, 2.

On Tuesday, July 9, officers responded to the 3700 block of East 63rd Street in the Slavic Village neighborhood for a report of a man lying in a field, according to police. While on scene, officers located the mother and two children deceased inside of the home next to the field. The home had also been set on fire.

The woman had been shot multiple times, and the children died from smoke inhalation, the medical examiner's office later determined.

Johnson was taken into custody the same day on an unrelated aggravated robbery warrant. Further investigation revealed him to be the suspect in the murders. One of the victims was Johnson's son. Officers will present additional facts to the grand jury relative to arson and possible additional charges, police said.

"I can't talk a great deal about the investigation," Cleveland Police Lt. Ali Pillow said during a news conference July 11. "What I can tell you is that we take seriously the crimes that happen in this community. We also take seriously charging individuals for these crimes. It is not lost upon us the fact that we are charging the father of one of the children in this crime, and I would assure you that we would have to be confident in our probable cause to charge the individual with this crime."

Pillow also confirmed that Cousins, who lived in a home in front of Collins, appeared to have accidentally encountered the suspect either entering or leaving the residence. He said investigators are still looking into the status of Johnson and Collins' relationship at the time of the crime but noted there was domestic violence history.

Johnson is being held on a \$5 million bond for one charge of aggravated murder, according to court records. He was also given a \$25,000 bond for his open aggravated robbery charge. A hearing is scheduled for July 25.

Police Chief Williams said during the news conference that the city offers counseling services through the Boys and Girls Club and recreation and resource centers for those who want to talk to someone.

Family, friends and neighbors of the victims held a candlelight vigil and balloon release July 11 to honor their memory.

"This is a horrible day but it is not going to define our community," Ward 12 Councilman Tony Brancatelli said. "It's the strength of our neighbors and our residents and the businesses here that we will continue to be strong and continue to support the families as they make their way through this."

Former Bedford teacher sentenced to six years

The former Bedford High School teacher and football coach accused of having a sexual relationship with a student was sentenced to six years in prison July 15, according to Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas records.

Sean E. Williams, 44, initially pleaded not guilty in February but changed his plea to guilty to four counts of sexual battery in June, according to court records. Williams will also be required to register as a Tier 3 sex offender every 90 days upon his release.

The case was originally filed in October 2018, and Williams resigned his position in February.

Boyas sold

Pete & Pete Container Services, Inc., headquartered in Garfield Heights, has acquired Boyas Excavating, Inc., owner of the largest privately held construction and demolition debris landfill in Northeast Ohio, according to a press release.

Founded in 1997, Pete & Pete offers solid waste management services, including roll-off and front-load container collection, hauling and recycling services to the residential, commercial and industrial markets.

Garfield police search for aggravated robbery suspect

On July 10 at about 12:15 p.m., Garfield Heights police responded to the area of East 126th Street and Granger Road for a report of an aggravated robbery.

The victim stated he was in the area selling a smart phone through the social media site OfferUp. The male buyer pulled a handgun on the victim and fled the area with the phone.

Officers were able to track the suspect to an address on East 126th Street and secured evidence of the crime through a search warrant.

They identified the suspect as 18-year-old Garfield Heights resident Jamie Wilson. Police secured arrest warrants for Wilson for ag-



Jamie Wilson

gravated robbery and kidnapping. He is not in custody at this time.

Anyone with information about the incident or Wilson is asked to call the Garfield Heights Police Department at 216-475-1234.

Swearing in for new law director in Cuyahoga Hts.

Ben Chojnacki was sworn in by Mayor Jack Bacci at the July 10 council meeting as the village's new law director.

Bill Mason, who previously held the post, had resigned to take a position in Cuyahoga County. Chojnacki is former assistant law director for the village.

Also passed last Wednesday was the following legislation:

- To accept bids from Anthony Allegra, Inc. for the Canal Road Pavement Improvement Project. The first is from East 71st Street to Granger Road and includes working with the Village of Valley View and the City of Garfield Heights in getting the project finished. The second is pavement reconstruction of Canal Road from E. 71st Street to E. 49th Street, which is all the responsibility of Cuyahoga Heights;

- To select HZW Environmental Consultants to provide the environmental compliance component to the Multipurpose Trail Phase 3A;

- To transfer two land parcels to the Cuyahoga Heights Community Improvement Corp;

- To accept the Alternative Tax Budget for Fiscal Year 2020;

- To accept the bid of M.L. Scott & Sons for work to be done on a garage pad as part of the Nicky Boulevard



Shown above is Ben Chojnacki, at left, with Mayor Jack Bacci. Chojnacki was sworn in as the village's new law director at last week's council meeting.

Storm Sewer Extension.

A communication was received from Cub Scout Pack 28 thanking Cuyahoga Heights Recreation Director Jason Deal for his assistance in making the pack's swim party on June 30 a success.

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Blocks can include: the church name, address, phone number, website and services.

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For more information or if you have any questions, call Mary at 216-441-2141 or e-mail: nnews1923@aol.com

Man suspected of killing baby arrested in Garfield

Members of the Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force (NOVTF) arrested Derrick Bass, 29, in the 13000 block of Oakpark Boulevard July 15. Bass was wanted for murder out of Pennsylvania.

On July 13, Bass was left at a home in East Huntington Township while the mother of the victim went to work. When the mother returned home, she found Bass, his two children and her 11-month-old child missing, according to a news release from the U.S. Marshals Service. She also noticed numerous electronics missing from her home. Later in the evening, her child was found unresponsive in a Pack 'n Play hidden under blankets.

The Pennsylvania State Police identified Bass as the suspect and issued a warrant for his arrest. They contacted the NOVTF to locate and arrest Bass. Members of the task force located and arrested Bass in Garfield Heights. He will remain at the Cuyahoga County jail until he can be extradited back to Pennsylvania to face charges of homicide, abuse of a corpse, theft, receiving stolen property and tampering with evidence.

"Within hours of police identifying a suspect, officers had him in handcuffs," U.S. Marshal Peter Elliott stated. "The reach of the U.S. Marshals Service is great, and no one will outrun that reach, especially those wanted for such heinous crimes as the murder of a child."

Anyone with information concerning any wanted fugitive can contact NOVTF at 1-866-4WANTED (1-866-492-6833). Tipsters may also anonymously text information by using the keyword "WANTED" and then typing the information to TIP411 (847411) or send a web tip at <http://www.usmarshals.gov/district/oh-n/index.html>. Reward money is available, and tipsters can remain anonymous.

Woman's decomposed body found in S.V. basement

A City of Cleveland subcontractor found a woman's dead body in the basement of a home in the 6000 block of Harvard Avenue near East 71st Street on July 15, according to Sgt. Jennifer Ciaccia, public information officer for the Cleveland Division of Police. The body was badly decomposed.

Members of the homicide unit along with the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office responded to the scene for investigation. The case was not ruled a homicide; however, the matter remains under investigation, she said. The cause of death has not yet been determined.

Jury convicts Clevelanders on robbery, firearms charges

A federal jury convicted two Cleveland men of brandishing firearms while robbing MetroPCS stores last year and shooting at an off-duty Cleveland police officer, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Ohio.

Shawn Ford, 20, and Charles Rogers, 24, were each convicted on multiple counts of Hobbs Act robbery and using firearms during a crime of violence, the office said. They are scheduled to be sentenced Oct. 9.

Ford and Rogers robbed the MetroPCS store at 10959 Kinsman Road on March 21, 2018, at 11100 Lorain Ave. on March 25, 2018, and at 5853 Broadway Ave., on March 27, 2018, and attempted to rob the store at 14701 Kinsman Road, also on March 27, 2018, according to the office.

Ford and Rogers fled from the Broadway store after taking about \$1,090 from the registers, as well as a customer's wallet containing \$1,000, according to court records. The customer was an off-duty Cleveland police officer, and he followed the suspects out of the store, identifying himself as a police officer and ordering them to stop. One of the suspects began shooting at the officer, who fired seven rounds in return. The suspects fled in a Chevrolet Equinox, according to court documents. Police later found spent 9 mm shell casings nearby.

About 30 minutes after the robbery, an officer saw a vehicle that matched the description of the suspects' vehicle about two miles from the store, according to court records. Police pulled the car over and noticed what appeared to be a bullet hole in the driver's side panel. They found a spent 9 mm round, blue latex gloves, a white powder that appeared to be cocaine, a box labeled "LG Aristo 2 - MetroPCS" and clothing that matched that worn by suspects in other MetroPCS robberies, according to court documents.

Police arrested Ford and Rogers for the suspected cocaine, according to court documents. It was later found the substance was counterfeit and not cocaine or another controlled substance.

Police also matched clothing worn during the robberies with clothing Ford and Rogers wore in social media photos and that police found during a search of Ford's home.

Rogers was wearing an electronic monitoring device with GPS capabilities on March 21, the date of the Kinsman Road robbery, according to court documents. The GPS placed Rogers in the vicinity of the Kinsman Road store a few minutes before the incident. Sometime later, the GPS device was either tampered with or removed from Rogers, according to court documents.

The Cleveland Division of Police and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives investigated the case with assistance from the Ohio Adult Parole Authority and the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Crime Strategies Unit.



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Indy Council approves Campus Life program, job retention grants

(Continued from Page 1)

It is looking into signing an eight-year lease on a 21,000-square-foot space.

"They are looking at a build-out budget of \$1,600,000," Rowan said. "About half of that is going to be covered by the landlord through tenant improvement allowances, leaving the company with a little

over \$800,000 to come up with out of pocket. In support of both the lease and their growth and the investment in real estate, I am asking that the city consider a job retention and creation grant."

The grant has an estimated value of \$88,000, which is completely dependent on the company's growth, he

said. For the first four years, it would be 60% of year-over-year growth, so each year there is a reset of the calculation point or the foundation. Because the grant is completely performance-based, it's very low risk to the city, Rowan said.

Council passed similar legislation with Champion ONE, a company that makes

different types of products that are used in fiber networks and is looking to grow into a more central 17,000-square-foot location on East Pleasant Valley Road with a three-year-lease. Rowan also recommended a relocation and job creation grant for the business with an estimated value of \$52,000.

Council also passed legislation:

- Approving the tax budget for the year 2020

- Placing nine unneeded and surplus city vehicles on the GovDeals online auction.

- Authorizing Change Order No. 1 to the engineering design services contract with Louis Perry & Associates, Inc. in connection with the Brettin Drive Improvements Project. This is for \$10,450 because the project needed a redesign due to its complexity, City Engineer Don Ramm said.

- Accepting the \$2,360,000 proposal of GPD Group for professional engineering services in connection with the Rockside Road/I-77 interchange ramp improvements.

- Authorizing an increase in the amount of funds allocated to the general construction engineering and inspection services contract with CT Consultants, Inc. for 2019 in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 and for a total contract amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Ramm noted that Fabrizio Trucking & Paving Com-

pany completed the Stage 1 concrete paving of the \$9,500,000 Rockside Woods Boulevard North Road and utility extension project. Additionally, the vast majority of the asphalt paving was completed on the Hemlock Trail project, and the overall project completion is slated for next month.

Lastly, Ramm said the department has received a high number of drainage complaints lately as a result of the record-setting rainfall in the last few months. He asked for patience as the department attempts to follow up with residents.

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NEW AND ENLARGED CHAPELS AND SEATING

JULY 24th is AMELIA EARHART DAY, birthday of the famous aviatrix who went missing over the Pacific on July 2, 1937.



In next week's July 24 issue, a series of articles will begin on the incredible true tale of four Garfield Heights men plus one who actually searched for Earhart and their amazing findings.

You Won't Want to Miss This!

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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GARAGE SALE

Garage sale - Saturday, July 20, 9-6. 4652 E. 104th St. & Robinson Ave. Nice things. Lots of misc. stuff.

Mega garage sale. 9am-3pm, 7/19 & 7/20 and 7/24, 7/25, 7/26, 7/27. 70 years of household items. Vintage. 6322 Sunset Dr., Garfield Hts.

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Classified Deadline

Mondays @ 5:00pm

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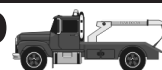
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Community police reports

Bedford

Disturbance

On July 8 at about 11:35 p.m., an employee of Automile Inn at 76 Broadway Ave. reported a woman trying to fight people. The woman was banned from the facility.

Theft

On July 8 at about 9 p.m., a woman reported that her son's bike was stolen from the Southeast branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library at 70 Columbus Road. An officer took the report.

Suspicion

On July 7 at about 6:30 p.m., a woman reported a porch light in the 80 block of Berwyn Drive was flicking on and off. She was unsure whether this was a distress signal. Police learned an Amazon Alexa device was causing the flicker.

Cleveland

Assault

On July 14 at about 1:40 a.m., police responded to the 6000 block of Broadway Avenue for an assault report. The victim stated she was walking to her vehicle in a parking lot when she saw multiple people come toward her with their phones out and flashes on, appearing to record her. Then multiple women began to assault her. She recognized three of the people. She was unsure how many times she was struck but had visible injuries to her nose, cheek and forehead. The women stole her purse then fled.

A man said he witnessed the fight and attempted to

break it up when another man assaulted him. He said the man struck him multiple times on his face. He had abrasions to his right eye and left side of his cheek. He was treated and released on scene with 11 minor injuries.

A third man also tried to stop the fight and was assaulted by a man. He did not know how many times he was struck but had jaw pain and a visibly bloody lip. He refused treatment.

Police requested that the detective bureau follow up.

Aggravated robbery

On July 8 at about 2:15 a.m., officers responded to the area of East 71st Street and Harvard Avenue for a robbery report. The victim flagged police down in the 7100 block of Harvard. His right eye was completely swollen, and his shirt was severely ripped. The man stated he was driving in the area when two juvenile females flagged him down. He pulled over because he believed they needed help. When he got out of his car, four juvenile males appeared and attacked him. They punched him in the face with closed fists and stole about \$200 in cash, his car key and his phone. They attempted to steal his car, but he fought them off. They then fled. Police used an app to track the phone to East 74th Street and Claasen Avenue. They then had the phone play a sound and heard it underneath a storm drain. Officers recovered the phone and returned it to the victim. Police requested that the detective bureau follow up.

Garfield Heights

Shots fired

On July 14 at about 1:40 a.m., police spoke with three women in the police department lobby who stated they were shot at near Turney Town. They said they were in the parking lot of Subway at 4984 Turney Road when a man pulled up behind them and said he felt bad about what was going to happen next. The women said they were looking for their friend, who had walked away after an argument. They went to leave the plaza but were stopped at the light. The same man and vehicle pulled up and pointed a gun out the window and fired several rounds at

them before driving away. They texted their missing friend as they drove to the police station and told her what happened. The woman said she was also shot and was near Marco's Pizza at 4791 Turney Road. Officers eventually located her on Turney Road at Greenview Avenue. She said she was uninjured and thought her friends were lying to her to get her to come back so she responded that she was shot. She stated she did not want to go back with them and was released. Officers did not locate any evidence of the shooting but spoke to a witness at the nearby Showcase Bar and Grille at 5015 Turney Road who said he saw the vehicle pull up and heard shots fired.

Robbery

On July 13 at about 5:15 p.m., officers responded to a disturbance in the Giant Eagle parking lot at 5744 Transportation Boulevard. Upon arrival, police saw an officer on the ground with an employee trying to handcuff an actively resisting suspect. Officers assisted in handcuffing and placing the suspect in the back of a patrol car. They noticed the employee had slight redness on the side of his face, and the officer had a bloody elbow and torn uniform. The officer said while working off-duty at Giant Eagle, one of the employees notified him that a man had shoplifted. He had bypassed the cash registers, exited the store and began loading items into his vehicle.

The officer approached the man for questioning and ordered him to stop; however, the man began walking away. The officer ordered him to stop again, and he began running northbound. The officer caught up to the man and grabbed him, but he began swinging his arms violently. The officer deployed his taser, which struck the man and caused him to fall. The taser had minimal effect otherwise, though, and the man got up and began running again. The officer tackled him and attempted to handcuff him. The employee tried to help restrain the man. Backup officers then arrived.

Giant Eagle provided an itemized receipt of \$270.59 in merchandise that was stolen. It was returned to the store. The officer and employee were treated and released on scene. The suspect was taken to Marymount Hospital, where he was treated and released into police custody. He was charged with robbery, theft and resisting arrest. The man also has a record of prior thefts and robberies.

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Gorgeous Grandma Day



~ ~ ~ July 23, 2019 ~ ~ ~

Barbara Krawczyk



Grandma Krawczyk is an awesome grandma and takes on a lot of responsibility in our family. She's the BEST! **From Kenny, Kyle , Kaitlyn, Brynn and Ellie**

Donna Newton



My grandma is incredible because she is always thinking of me, even when I'm not there. She loves telling me good stories on the phone and likes to celebrate every holiday with me.
From Flynn Caton

Dorothy Justice



Dorothy Justice lives by one name only - Grams! Her grandkids, great-grandkids and all the neighborhood kids agree - she is the BEST! **From Amy Stacy**

Kim Fedor



We love her because she always does nice things for us when we come to visit her from Fort Drum, NY. **From Rulynn, Jolynn, Danny and Ellie**

Ruby Herring



When Grandma Ruby was alive I never had a chance to tell her how much I look up to her. My grandma, aka teacher, was a sweet, kind and loving woman.
From Talisa Brown

Banae



Grandma is a blessing to our entire family and we love her very much.
From Nyla and Derek

Tara Wright



She's the best grandma ever and my best friend and I love her so much!
From NY'Ziir

Sophie Tonsing



She's a grandma to 5, and is beautiful inside and out - a loving and caring grandma.
From Rachelle Tonsing

Lucile Bango



From Lynn Bango

Babydoll McDaniel



My Grandma MiMi loves me more than anything. She is always so happy to see me and teaches me how to be a sweet baby.
From Sevyn Cottrell-Thomas

Kathy



Grandma is a wonderful person and a loving and caring grandmother.
From Noel

Marty



She took me and my sisters in and taught us the right way of life. She is always there for us and never lets us down.
From Toni

Katie Applegate



We had the most beautiful and amazing grandmother ever who taught us the meaning of family. Now we have the most beautiful guardian angel.
From your grandchildren

Colleen Zmina



She is the most amazing, selfless person I know. My grandma is gorgeous inside and out.
From your favorite grandchild

Rose Marie Pitts



Thanks for always being there for us. Love you!
From Leanna and Wade

Carole Krzynowek



I lived with my grandparents my whole life. Without them, there would be no me.
From Brandon

Diane Skerlec



My grandma is the best because she loves me. She likes to play Old Maid and Go Fish with me and makes me the best oatmeal and packs the best lunches!
From Ella Baciak

Alicia Golembiewski



Our Gorgeous Grandma!
From Sawyer and Devin Madden

Sue Beal



Grandma was such an incredible person. We lost her to cancer last September and she's our gorgeous angel now and will never be forgotten.
From Cameron Beal

Karen Kipfstuhl



She is the most kind and generous person I've ever met and makes the best homemade cheesecake and potato pancakes!
From Hannah Lesko

Lots of Grannies



This fun group of Garfield Hts. grandmas has 33 grandchildren between them. Left to right: Sandy Tonsing Schulte, Barb Seneski Taylor, Betty Buc Hoinke - seated with that group is Mary Ann Stepanski Wasinski and seated to the right is Sue McCartney Ventre, and Lana Knopp Campana. Standing behind them is Karen Blazey Niemczura.