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98th YEAR NO. 43

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2021

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

FREE

K-9 officer joins GHPD Bedford to fine railroads for stopping trains on tracks



By Judith Goldsworth

In an effort to address an issue which City Manager Mike Mallis said has been going on for some time, Bedford Council last week approved legislation to impose a \$1,000 fine per violation on railroad companies when their trains stop on tracks and stall traffic in the city, especially inhibiting safety vehicles from responding to emergency situations.

The legislation, which amends an existing ordinance, states: "No railroad company shall obstruct... a public street, road or highway by permitting a railroad car, locomotive or other obstruction to remain upon or across it for longer than five minutes, to the hindrance or inconvenience of travelers or a person passing along or upon such street, road or highway."

The legislation also states, as it did before, that at the end of each five-minute period of obstruction, "each railroad company shall cause such railroad car... or other obstruction to be removed for sufficient time, not less than three minutes, to allow the passage of persons and vehicles waiting to cross."

While circumstances "wholly beyond the control of the railroad company" are excluded from penalty, the provisions within the ordinance do apply to other obstructions, including those caused by stopped trains and trains engaged in switching, loading or unloading operations.

The amendment to the legislation states that whoever violates the ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, and will be

fining \$1,000. If there is a response by the police department or the fire department resulting from a violation of this ordinance, the railroad company may be charged a civil fee of \$1,000 per violation by the safety director, which will be imposed for hindering fire, ambulance and police vehicles' ability to respond to emergency calls in a timely manner.

If the fines are not paid within 30 days of the mailing of notice, the amounts will be placed as liens upon the property owner's taxes, in this case, the railroad companies, according to the legislation.

During his report at last

week's meeting, Mallis stated, "For the last few months we have had some significant issues with the railroads, specifically Norfolk Southern Railroad, stopping on the tracks. We have been working tirelessly trying to get this resolved

Construction news

Council passed a resolution that was added to last week's agenda requesting Cuyahoga County to proceed with resurfacing of Union Street, including construction and construction supervision of sanitary and storm sewer repairs, traffic sign upgrades, multi-use path and associated work within the city. Council had passed legislation a few

months ago to go ahead with the Union Street work, Mallis said, and in the time since, more funding had become available to be used towards sewer repairs.

Mallis said a small portion of the project came out of the city's budget to extend all the way over from Broadway to Broadway, instead of Broadway to Northfield. "There needs to be some substantial sewer repairs done, so we are going to be investing about \$320,000," he said.

"The good news is that last week we applied for funding through Issue 2, which is funding for large capital

(Continued on Page 3)

BENCH HONORS WINGENFELD



Pamela Janashak and friends are shown last Saturday at the dedication of a bench (inset) in memory of former Valley View councilman David Wingenfeld, who passed away Dec. 17, 2020 at Swan Farm.



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Red Cross urgently seeking blood donors

While donors across the country have rolled up a sleeve to give this summer, the need for blood and platelets remains crucial for patients relying on lifesaving transfusions. The American Red Cross continues to experience a severe blood shortage and donors of all blood types – especially type O and those giving platelets – are urged to make an appointment to give now.

To thank donors who help refuel the blood and platelet supply this month, all who come to give July 7-31 will

receive a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card via email and will also receive automatic entry for a chance to win gas for a year, a \$5,000 value. More information and details are available at rcblood.org/fuel.

Schedule an appointment to give blood or platelets by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

Local donor opportunities

Independence

7/26/2021: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Independence Community Center, 6363 Selig Dr.


US Bank to close one of its Garfield Heights locations

In a letter to customers dated July 9, US Bank at 5007 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights, said bank officials have made the decision to permanently close this branch office, which had been temporarily closed.

“Understanding that customers’ banking preferences and behaviors are changing, we continue to adapt how and where we operate,” the letter stated. “As a result, we have made the decision to close this location permanently.”

The US Bank branch at 5695 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights, will continue to remain open.

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION, (Garfield Hts. Only)
Saturday, July 17, 10am-Noon, Inside



The Rock Community Church, located at 9403 Garfield Blvd., will be having a food pantry distribution for Garfield Heights residents only on Saturday, July 17, from 10am-Noon. We will be transitioning back to inside the building with an expedited distribution with some choice of product. Numbers and signup sheets will be distributed at the parking lot entrance starting at 8 am. Masks will be available but not mandatory. Please have photo ID available.

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 Housing & Building Department
 3801 Harvard Avenue
 Newburgh Heights, Ohio 44105
 216-641-4654
newburgh-oh.gov

PUBLIC NOTICE
REHABILITATION OF THE PROPERTY
LOCATED AT 3881 E. 42 ST., NEWBURGH HEIGHTS

As one of the oldest communities in Cuyahoga County, the Village of Newburgh Heights possesses architectural features that are of both historic and aesthetic significance. It has been demonstrated in communities across the country that preservation of historic features and better coordination of architecture through tools such as architectural standards help to maintain property values and can enhance community identity and pride. Newburgh Heights is committed to preserving and protecting the Village's housing stock, increasing home ownership, and providing tools and opportunities to improve the quality of life around the community.

The Village of Newburgh Heights Community Improvement Corporation is happy to announce that they are now accepting applications from individuals with a passion for preserving older houses to rehabilitate a 1913 single-family colonial located at **3881 E. 42 ST.** The property is required to be owner-occupied.

Applications can be found online at newburgh-oh.gov or by calling the Newburgh Heights Housing and Building Department at 216-641-4654 or by emailing ajensen@newburgh-oh.gov. The office is available Monday-Thursday, 9am-3:30pm if more information is required.

An open house of the property will be held on Friday, July 30th from 9-11am and on Saturday, July 31st from 9-11am.

The deadline to submit an application for consideration is on or before August 16, 2021, by 5pm. Late submissions will not be accepted. Applicants must be available to attend a meeting of the Community Improvement Corporation to present a plan. Meeting date in August still to be determined. Applications may be emailed or mailed to the Housing and Building Department, 3801 Harvard Ave, Newburgh Heights, OH 44105.

NN: 7-14-21

Special Events!

Have a Special Event you want to Advertise?

E-mail Information to:
NNEWS1923@AOL.COM

Include Contact Name and daytime phone number.
 Call The Neighborhood News at 216-441-2141 for more information.

The Neighborhood News Advertising deadline is Mondays at 5:00pm

THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS ADVERTISING POLICY

All contents of advertisements are subject to publisher's approval. Publisher reserves the right to reject or cancel any advertisement, insertion order, space reservation or position commitment at any time.

Positioning of advertisements is at the discretion of the publisher except where a request for a specific preferred position is acknowledged by the publisher.

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CANCELLATIONS:
 Deadline for cancellations is 5 p.m. on Mondays. Save your cancellation number in case an adjustment on your bill is necessary. Ads placed for only one week cannot be canceled.

ERRORS/ADJUSTMENTS:
 Advertisers should check the first insertion of their ad. The Neighborhood News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Upon noting an error, the advertiser should call the Advertising Department at (216) 441-2141. Adjustments are made to the degree the error reduced the value of the ad. Publisher shall not be liable for any costs or damages if for any reason it fails to publish an advertisement.

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Bedford to fine railroads

(Continued from Page 1)

projects, and we were approved," Mallis said. "So we are going to get some funding for the city's portion of Union Street."

Council passed an ordinance at last week's meeting authorizing Mallis to enter into a contract with Vandra Brothers Construction Inc., in reference to the 2021 Road Improvement Program, to include the alternate bid for Nordham Drive repairs and resurfacing, in the amount of \$216,027.50, but not to exceed \$248,000, including construction inspection, engineering fees, remobilization and traffic maintenance.

Council approved an ordinance amending existing legislation authorizing Mallis to enter into a contract with Allied Door Systems LLC, for a second set of touch-free automatic doors at the east and west ends of the Ellenwood Recreation Center, at a cost of \$20,785.

Council also passed the following ordinances: to accept the proposal of J.D. Striping and Service Inc. for longline striping of streets in Bedford at a cost of \$24,965.50; to amend existing legislation to designate Huntington Bank, US Bank, PNC Bank, and First National Bank to be designated as public depositories for active and interim funds of the city for the period from Aug. 23, 2021-Aug. 22, 2026; and to amend the previous appropriations ordinance to make additional appropriations for current expenditures in 2021.

New officer sworn in

Mayor Stan Koci swore in Savannah Selden as the Bedford Police Department's newest officer at last week's meeting.

Council approved appointing Ceteria Williams to the Planning Commission, Bryon Hood to the Board of Zoning and Appeals, reappointing Lynette Speights to the Board of Zoning and Appeals and reappointing John Trzeciak to the Board of Zoning and Appeals.

Also approved was a motion to approve the Planning Commission's decision to accept a conditional use approval to Asia Love of Bedford Heights, to use existing tenant space at 633 Broadway Ave., Bedford, to provide makeup and skincare services to clients.

Police cameras installed

Mallis also referenced in his report council's previous support of the purchase of body cameras and dash cams for all officers and all vehicles in the city's police department. Legislation to purchase the cameras was approved by council earlier this year.

"The body cameras were installed about a week and a half ago, and last week we installed all of the dash cams," Mallis said. "I think it's good for the public, and it's good for the department, and thank you, council, for approving this as part of the budget process," Mallis stated.

Announcements

Hours at the municipal pool have been extended, as well as the Learn to Swim Program, Mallis said, encouraging interested residents to visit the city's website for more details.

The Bedford Rotary Club will be hosting a "Welcome Back" Rib Burn-Off in downtown Bedford the weekend of Friday, July 23, through Sunday, July 25, Finance Director Frank Gambosi stated.

The same weekend as the Burn-Off, the Bedford Downtown Alliance will host a "Christmas in July" celebration, on Saturday, July 24, Councilman Jeff Asbury reported.

Death Notices

Samuel Fye

Samuel Fye, age 84, passed away on Saturday, July 10, 2021, at his residence surrounded by his loving family. He was born on June 2, 1937.

He is survived by his loving wife, Nordean (nee Kelly); children, Debbie Kramer, Sam Fye, Jr., and Linda Hukill and Bryan Bartlebaugh.

Samuel was a loving grandfather, great-grandfather and loving brother to many. He was preceded in death by his son, Terry Fye and daughter, Cindy Fye.

Family and friends are welcome on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, from 5 p.m. until the time of closing prayers at 7:30 p.m. at Bican Bros. Funeral Home, 5215 Fleet Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44105.



BICAN BROS. FUNERAL HOME
5215 FLEET AVE. 641-9128
www.bicanbros.com

City of Garfield Heights
Outdoor Community Flea Market
Saturday, July 17, 9 am to 2 pm
at the Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd.

COST FOR SPACE is \$10 (Table provided) **or \$5** (Bring your own table)

The Garfield Heights Historical Society will be open for tours and volunteers will be selling ice cream during the event.

Registration forms are available at the Garfield Heights Civic Center and at www.garfieldhts.org. Completed forms should be returned with payment to Pat Salemi at the Civic Center. Call 216-475-1100, ext. 2425 for information.

Washington Park Community School
4000 Washington Park Blvd., Newburgh Heights, Ohio 44105, 216-271-6055

The Board of Directors Regular Meeting scheduled for July 15, 2021 has been postponed to July 22, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the school.

N.N.: 7-14-21

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Community police reports

Cleveland

- Shooting, July 4, 4:49 a.m. Gertrude Ave. & E. 57 St.
- Assault, July 7, 11:25 a.m. 6600 block of Sebert Ave.
- Stabbing, July 7, 6:33 p.m. E. 70 St. & Fleet Ave. 41-year-old male victim of stab wound to the arm. EMS transported to Metro.
- Burglary, July 7, 9:08 p.m. 6300 block of Fleet Ave.
- Shooting, July 11, 2:42 p.m., 3800 block of E. 57 St. 36-year-old male victim of a gunshot wound graze to the stomach. Transported to Metro by private auto.
- Burglary, July 12, 11:39 a.m., 6000 block of Park Ave.
- Assault, July 13, 5:07 a.m., 7100 block of Ottawa Rd.

GARFIELD HEIGHTS

Fire/Smoke/Explosion

On July 4, at about 9:46 p.m., fire and police responded to a home in the 9700 block of Park Heights Ave. for a house fire as a result of fireworks. The upstairs and downstairs units of the home had been vacated, police learned. The homeowner said that the neighbor in the 9600 block of Park Heights had lit fireworks which had struck the side of his home and caused it to start smoking, with an additional part of the fireworks landing inside his residence. The homeowner in the 9600 block of Park Heights admitted he lit the fireworks that accidentally struck the other home and was issued a court summons.

Robbery

On July 9, an officer was dispatched to the Subway restaurant at 12598 Rockside Rd., for a report of an armed robbery in progress. According to employees and witnesses, a male entered the Subway at about 1:45 p.m., and walked over to the cash register and ordered employees to open it and give him the money inside. After receiving the cash the suspect fled on foot in an unknown direction. Detective Bureau responded to scene. Owner of Subway working on obtaining surveillance footage.

Theft from Auto

•On July 10, police spoke with a complainant who reported that between 10 p.m. on July 9, and 9:25 a.m. on July 10, someone broke the front driver's window on her car parked in the 12300 block of Park Knoll Ave. and stole the firearm from her purse, a black Taurus G2 9mm. The gun was entered into LEADS as stolen.

•On July 10, police spoke with a complainant who stated that on that day, between midnight and 7 a.m., persons unknown entered his unlocked vehicle parked in the 5200 block of E. 126 St., and took his title, registration, insurance card and some CDs from the glove box.

Traffic Offense – Fleeing

On July 10, shortly before 1 a.m., an officer observed a grey Ford Fusion traveling north on Turney Rd. approaching Parkview Ave. without headlights on. He pulled the car over but as he approached it the vehicle fled. The police car pursued the fleeing car, which collided with a BMW on Broadway Ave. in Cleveland, near the Broadway/Miles/Warner intersection. Two males exited the Ford and took off west down Broadway. The BMW driver exited his vehicle while hysterically screaming, ran across the street and fell into the grass. He was not badly injured but was upset about his car being totaled and was taken to Hillcrest for care. One of the suspects was located under a bridge on Broadway Ave. An inventory of the suspect car included a black pistol, open bottle of

Patron, digital scale with residue and three small bags containing suspected narcotics. Suspect in custody booked into GHPD's jail held on trafficking drugs, improper handling of a firearm, obstructing official business.

Disturbance

On July 11, about midnight, officers responded to Applebee's, 9225 Vista Way, for a report of a disturbance. The restaurant manager told police a large group of people were fighting inside Applebee's and she asked them to leave, which they did. She told officers there were still several people remaining in the parking lot and she would like them off the property. They advised a female who was involved in the disturbance to leave. As all the officers were in the process of leaving the scene, the female reversed her vehicle, failed to yield and struck one of the police cruisers in the front left, causing damage to the headlight and wheel well. A passenger in the vehicle then threw a bottle of alcohol out of the front passenger side door. He was issued a summons for open container. The female was cited for driving under suspension – FRA.

Call Crime Stoppers with tips

Crime Stoppers encourages members of the community to assist local law enforcement agencies in the fight against crime.

Crime Stoppers provides an anonymous telephone number, Text Tips and Web Tips to encourage citizens to volunteer vital information helpful to law enforcement agencies. By offering anonymity and cash rewards for information leading to indictment or arrests, the program encourages otherwise reluctant callers to provide information.

The 24/7 hotline number, 216-252-7463, allows the caller to remain anonymous. The phone does not have a caller ID function and calls are not recorded.

Those with information can also text TIP657 plus your message to 274637, or can submit information online at www.25crime.com.

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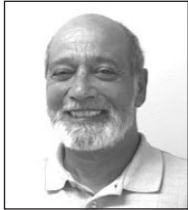
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WANT TO BUY

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COMMUNITY FLEA MARKET

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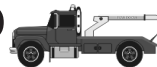
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'ROOMS TO LET' EVENT TAKES NEW DIRECTION THIS YEAR



The Broadway-E. 55th intersection in Slavic Village became an impromptu art exhibit last weekend as the business district became the backdrop for the stylings of over 40 artists participating and 15 musical acts performing, in conjunction with the annual Garden Walk throughout Cleveland. The exterior art will stay in place for up to two years and the interior art for about a month, stretching down Broadway from McBride to Blanche aves. The annual event is sponsored by Slavic Village Development and has attracted thousands of visitors to the area over the past seven years. *Photos by Elena Psenicka*

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Home repair resources available for Maple Hts. residents, director reports at council meeting

By Judith Goldsworth

Maple Heights officials are always working to make residents aware of home repair resources available to them, and also are working to make new home repair resources available in the city, Economic Development Director Patrick Grogan-Myers stated in his report to city council at its meeting last week.

He said the city is still taking applications for the 2021 "Paint The City" program, which offers residents the opportunity to receive a voucher for painting supplies.

Grogan-Myers said that more information about the program is available at www.citymapleheights.com/paintprogram/ or by calling the Department of Housing at 216-587-9032. Applications are available on the website, as well as the Building Department's customer service counter and the Department of Housing at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Rd.

Grogan-Myers also reported that the city partners with the Cleveland Housing Network Housing Capital to make home repair loans available to Maple Heights residents.

"The home repair funds have gone quickly, so there is a wait list of 13 applications - over \$200,000 in home repairs - waiting for additional funding. We will continue our advocacy work to support the funding of these very important programs," he said.

Housing market improving

"The city's housing market continues to out-perform recent months and years," Grogan-Myers stated, explaining that in June 2021 there were more than 40 buyers and sellers acting independently with a median sales price of more than \$80,000.

He said June 2021 was another strong month for permits

with the Building Department collecting almost \$67,800 in permit fees, registration fees and plan review fees, over \$9,000 more than was collected in June 2020, and over \$27,000 more than what was collected in June 2019.

A total of 178 building permits were issued last month, he said, with work under those permits valued at over \$3.8 million.

Hazelwood Ct. legislation approved

At last week's meeting, council approved legislation authorizing Mayor Annette Blackwell, on behalf of the Maple Heights Land Reutilization Program, to enter into an amended agreement to sell real estate with PIRHL Acquisitions, LLC, to construct Hazelwood Court, an age-restricted senior housing facility off Broadway Ave. between Dalewood and Waterbury aves.

Grogan-Myers stated that since the May announcement that the project had been awarded Low Income Housing Tax Credits, PIRHL has been hard at work to move the project forward. He said in the coming weeks public meetings will be announced to share details and drawings concerning the project to give residents an idea of what Hazelwood Court will look like.

Other legislation on agenda

Also passed by Maple Heights Council was a resolution authorizing a second change order for Metis Construction Service, increasing the contract by \$119,401.50 for the new Vestibule and Elevator Addition Project at City Hall.

In correspondence to council on the need for changes to the construction, City Engineer Ed Hren stated, "The good news is that the city was recently notified that it has been awarded \$150,000 under the 2021 Community

Development Block Grant Program and \$50,000 under the 2021 Community Development Supplemental Grant Program," to fund the additional work, which will include improvements in accessibility per the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Also approved was a resolution authorizing Blackwell to modify the grant agreement with the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) to provide funding for the construction of an outdoor fitness network with security cameras in Stafford Park.

The ODSA had approved the release of \$58,000 from its General Revenue Fund to be used for the "sprayground" at the city pool, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the city chose not to open the sprayground for the 2021 season. Subsequently, the ODSA approved modifying the grant agreement for the \$58,000 in funding to be used for the fitness network, including security cameras for the park.

Council also approved a resolution for Blackwell to enter into a Master Cooperation Agreement with Cuyahoga County for pavement preventive maintenance services on Warrensville Center Rd., an ordinance to adopt the alternative tax budget information for the fiscal year beginning Jan. 1, 2022, and a resolution requesting that the county fiscal officer advance taxes and assessments from the proceeds of tax levies for fiscal year 2022.

Two resolutions to sell unimproved city-owned residential lots to separate property owners on Rockside Rd. and Hollywood Ave., were approved by unanimous consent. The property owners stated their interest in using the properties as side yards.

A motion on last week's agenda by council to approve Law Director Frank Consolo's appointment of Marlene J. Ridenour as assistant prosecutor/assistant law director for the city was unanimously passed. Ridenour will replace Christine Londrico, who resigned effective at the end of this month.

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