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98th YEAR NO. 40

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2021

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FREE

Joe Lenart, GHHS academic and athletic standout, strives to be an 'honest man'

By James Crooks

Garfield Heights City Schools

Joe Lenart, a graduating senior in the Garfield Heights High School Class of 2021, has accumulated a storied career during his time as a Bulldog, including great successes in the classroom and a variety of accomplishments in his co-curricular pursuits. Yet all the while, he maintains a desire to simply reflect the lyrics contained within one of his favorite country music songs by Luke Combs, and to be "an honest man, and just be who I am."



Joe Lenart

After a turbulent past 12 months linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, the successes for Joe continued coming, affirming his quest to be an honest man and making for an exceptional career in our hometown school community.

Joe Lenart is a unique example of high achievement in the Garfield Heights City Schools. He has maintained a 4.0 GPA during all four years at the high school. He began taking Honors courses early on in his high school career, very much enjoying Advanced Placement Government, a course which helped him relate to current events in society, and Honors Physics, which enhanced his problem-solving skills.

Joe reflects on more than 12 years as a student in the Garfield Heights City Schools with pride and affection for his teachers. He first began in kindergarten at William Foster, and then over his academic and co-curricular journey, attended Maple Leaf Elementary School, the Middle School and graduated on Thursday, June 3, from GHHS.

He credits all of his teachers, proclaiming to remember a piece of wisdom each one had used to encourage him along the way. Joe was a member of this year's Academic Top Ten, maintaining one of the top ten highest grade point averages among the 270 graduating seniors. Joe was also a member of the National Honor Society for two years at the high school.

"The teachers in the Garfield Heights City Schools made a tremendous impact on me," said Joe. "From kindergarten through high school, the Garfield Heights City Schools instructors are top quality and truly care about the students."

Joe also credits high school Coach Jeff Papesh with helping to push him to strive for excellence.

When not achieving and succeeding in the classroom, Joe made excellent strides on the field of interscholastic competition. He was a starting pitcher for the Bulldogs this year, winning several games on the mound, and even

(Continued on Page 3)

Sentenced to 40 years for killing of elderly woman, rape of mentally disabled teen girl during series of Slavic Village home invasions

Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Michael C. O'Malley has announced that Cornelius Pames, 27, was sentenced to 40 years in prison for numerous crimes he committed in Cleveland's Slavic Village neighborhood between September and October 2018.

"This individual is a monster who terrorized Slavic Village during this three-week crime wave," said Prosecutor O'Malley. "We hope that this will bring a sense of closure to the victims and some tranquility to the residents of this neighborhood."

On August 17, 2018, Pames failed to report to his parole officer, which he had been ordered to do as part of post release control supervision for several prior convictions. In 2014, he was convicted of felonious assault in Lorain County. In 2013, he was convicted of burglary, theft and possessing criminal tools in Cuyahoga County. In 2008, he had juvenile adjudications for rape, aggravated robbery and kidnapping in Cuyahoga County.

On September 12, 2018, Pames and a female victim, 14, were at a Gertrude Ave. residence near E. 65 St., when he pushed her onto a bed, grabbed her shirt and repeatedly tried kissing her despite her resistance before she was able to push him off.

PIEROGI DASH IS BACK!



The annual Pierogi Dash in Slavic Village kicked off last Saturday and the virtual race "runs" through June 26th. Pictured here, at left, is Cleveland Council President Kevin Kelley flashing his numerous awards after finishing ahead of Ward 12 Councilman Tony Brancatelli, at right, for the 10th straight year.

The Pierogi Dash is a hybrid event for 2021, with one in-person day left, this Saturday, June 26, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Start is at Daisy's Ice Cream in Slavic Village for the 5K run and pierogi. For those who don't want to be part of a crowd, they can run a 5K course on their own, a destination of their choosing through June 27th to submit times. For more information and to register go to: <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Cleveland/SlavicVillagePierogiDash>

On September 17, 2018, two more victims, a 94-year-old woman and her 74-year-old daughter, were staying at a family member's Gertrude Ave. home while visiting from Honduras when Pames broke into the residence in the middle of the night. He physically assaulted both victims while they were sleeping and stole several items – including a cellphone, iPad, jewelry and cash – before fleeing the scene.

Officers with the Cleveland Division of Police and EMS responded to the scene and transported both victims to the hospital. The 74-year-old victim was treated for multiple injuries and the 94-year-old victim was pronounced deceased. The Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office ruled the victim's death as a homicide due to blunt force trauma to her head and neck. CPD's Homicide Unit investigated and linked Pames to the crime through DNA evidence he left on scene.

On October 1, 2018, another victim, 16, was finishing her schoolwork at her Park Ave. apartment near E. 74 St., when Pames broke into the residence in the middle of the day. He broke in using a crowbar, sexually assaulted the victim several times and threatened to kill her and her mother if she told anyone. Pames then duct taped the victim to a chair and stole several items – including two laptops, a set of car keys and a Kindle – before fleeing the scene.

CPD responded to the scene and the victim was transported to a hospital where a sexual assault kit was collected. CPD's Sex Crimes Unit conducted an investigation that connected Pames to the crime through DNA evidence from the kit as well as DNA collected from the duct tape left at the scene.

Pames was arrested by CPD on October 15, 2018. He previously pleaded guilty to the following charges: two counts of rape, one count of involuntary manslaughter, one count of attempted murder, four counts of kidnapping, two counts of aggravated burglary, one count of gross sexual imposition and one count of escape.

Pames was sentenced today to 40 years in prison. He will also be classified as a Tier-III sex offender, which requires him to register every 90 days for the rest of his life.

Overnight Canal Rd. closing

Canal Rd. under the I-480/Valley View Bridge will be closed for overhead construction Thursday, June 24, at 5 p.m., through Friday, June 25, at 10 a.m., for work on the bridge deck replacement.

G.H. Ward 7 Block Watch

The Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch, sponsored by Councilman Tom Vaughn, will meet Tuesday, June 29, at 7 p.m., at St. Monica Church's pavilion off Rockside Rd. Guest speaker will be Judge Deborah Nicastro. Trial size toiletry items for our troops would be appreciated. All are welcome. Call Gail for more info, 216-662-9213.

Cuy. Hts. Council update

At the June 9 meeting of the Village of Cuyahoga Heights Council, a permit was approved for Charter Steel to construct a new Black Bar Facility at 4300 E. 49 St. on their existing site. The village's Building Department had strongly recommended that this "highly valued project" be able to proceed.

The following resolutions were also given the green light:

- To continue participation in the Mill Creek Watershed Partnership;
- To execute an amended agreement with Cuyahoga

County for the resurfacing of Grant Ave. from E. 49 St. to E. 71 St.;

- To authorize a change order to the Nicky Boulevard Storm Sewer Extension and Slope Stabilization Improvements Project, Phase Two;
- To accept ownership of the property at 4617 E. 71 St.


Post 309 Meatloaf Dinner

American Legion Post #309, 15521 Broadway Ave., Maple Heights, will host a Meatloaf Dinner on Wednesday, June 30, serving from 3 to 7 p.m. Donation: \$9.

The dinner is open to the public and includes meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, salad, roll and dessert. Dine-in or carry-out. For more details, call the Post at 216-662-7768.

Submit Community events to NN via Email: nnews1923@aol.com

In Loving Memory



Helen Kosinski Malinowski
6/18/1921 - 2/24/2014

In Loving Memory of our sweet Mother and Grandmother on her 100th Birthday. We smile whenever we think of her!

With love and gratitude from her children and grandchildren

Community Police Reports

CLEVELAND

Shooting, June 14, 2:25 a.m., 4000 block of E. 64 St.
Shooting, June 14, 2:33 a.m., 3600 block of E. 57 St.

Homicide Investigation, June 14, 5:58 p.m., 5100 block of Dolloff Rd. Male, age 26, gunshot wound to the chest. Pronounced deceased at MetroHealth Medical Center. Preliminary investigation indicates that the victim was riding a bicycle in the area and was approached by another male in a vehicle. An argument ensued between the victim and the suspect, and the suspect shot the victim, according to Senior Public Information Officer Sgt. Jennifer Ciaccia. She said a person of interest has been identified.

Shooting, June 16, 3:07 a.m., E. 57 St. & Fullerton Ave.

(Continued on Page 7)



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GHHS standout Joe Lenart

(Continued from Page 1)

throwing a no-hitter in a contest against Euclid High School earlier this season. This impressive statistic, along with his hitting .600 this season and not striking out a single time in more than 65 plate appearances, was good enough to earn him the 2021 Lake Erie League Most Valuable Player award.

Over the years, he has been named Defensive Player of the Year as a freshman, the team's Most Valuable Player as a sophomore and expects to have earned high honors this season. He was team captain as a sophomore and this year as a senior. He earned four varsity letters in baseball during his time at Garfield Heights High School, along with one varsity letter in football and one varsity letter in Bowling. Joe was first team all-Lake Erie League in all three sports he played, baseball, football and bowling. His bowling team won the LEL Championship, and he was GHHS's lone district qualifier.

"The Garfield Heights City School District is so unique

because of the diverse students, teachers and school family," Joe continues. "Over my time in the school district, I have met a variety of people from varying beliefs, values and cultures which has helped me have a greater understanding of the world around me."

Despite the successes, Joe Lenart leads a humble life where he values honesty and hard work as important traits. He credits his family, including mother Lisa Copeland, stepfather, Darrel Copeland, and sister Maya Lenart, with helping to create a positive dynamic at home to support his many endeavors.

When not maintaining a part-time job at Fun-and-Stuff or Discount Drug Mart over the years, Joe has been an avid outdoorsman who enjoys hunting and fishing. This simple and honest life has produced big results for Joe.

While he is still considering his college options at the moment, Joe Lenart will undoubtedly continue pursuing excellence and making accomplishments, and all the while, remaining an honest man.

Washington Park Community School

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



The Washington Park Board of Directors will meet in regular session on June 24 at 5:30 pm. Meeting of the Newburgh Heights Community School Foundation will immediately follow.

N.N.: 6-23-21



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Legal Advertisement

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Garfield Heights ("Owner"), at the office of the Fiscal Officer, Garfield Heights City Hall, 5407 Turney Road, Garfield Heights, OH 44125 on the 15th day of July 2021 until 9:00am current local time for the:

"Multi-Street Reconstruction Phase V"

and will be publicly opened and read immediately thereafter. Each bid must contain the full names of the party or parties making the same, with an affidavit as to interested parties, and in the case of a corporation not chartered in Ohio, with a proper certificate that such corporation is authorized to do business in Ohio, and shall be accompanied by a Bid Guaranty Bond for the full amount (100%) of the Bid, in favor of the "Owner" or a certified check, cashier's check, or letter of credit pursuant to Chapter 1305 of the Ohio Revised Code, in the amount of 10% of the Bid, payable to the "Owner".

It is agreed that the bid guaranty shall be for the benefit of the "Owner" pursuant to Section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code if the undersigned fails to execute the Contract in conformity with the Form of Contract incorporated in the contract documents and furnish Bond and insurance certificates within ten (10) days after the notification of the award of the Contract to the undersigned.

1. Copies of the Contract Documents are on file at SE Blueprint, Plan Room and may be obtained at cost (1) online at www.ohm-bidderplanroom.plancycle.com, (2) in person at the SE Blueprint Akron Office, 540 South Main Street, Akron, OH 44311 or at the SE Blueprint Cleveland Office 2035 Hamilton Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114, or (3) via phone SE Blueprint Cleveland (216) 241-2250.

Please note that in order to be considered as a "responsive bidder" for this project, you must purchase a set of plans and bid documents, and follow all instructions provided. Bids from contractors who are not on the Plan Holders List will be disqualified.

The "Owner" reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities in the bids received, and to accept any bid which it deems most favorable.

The "Owner" is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against the handicapped.

Barbara A. Biro, Finance Director
City of Garfield Heights

Publish Dates: Neighborhood News
Week of June 20th, 2021
Week of June 27th, 2021

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Village of Cuyahoga Heights NOTICE OF EXAMINATION FOR FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC August 25, 2021

The Village of Cuyahoga Heights will be giving an open competitive, professional competency examination for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic on August 25, 2021 at 6:00 pm at 4863 E. 71st, Cuyahoga Heights Village Hall, upstairs. Beginning July 1, 2021, until August 16, 2021, applications for the test may be obtained at the Cuyahoga Heights Village Hall, 4863 E. 71st, Cuyahoga Heights, Ohio, weekdays between the hours of 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Every applicant must be a U.S. Citizen and be at least 18 years of age as of the date of the written examination. No person shall be eligible to take the examination if they are 37 years of age or older on the date of the written examination. All applicants must pass a professional competency examination. The professional competency examination will be on Cuyahoga Heights Fire Department SOG's and Medical Protocols, copies of both can be made available. To receive an application, you must have a valid Cuyahoga Community College Firefighters Physical Agility Test certificate with a validated passing time of 4 minutes and 30 seconds or less, submit a current copy of a valid Paramedic Certification, and have proof of successful completion in State of Ohio Firefighter Level 2 Certification Course. Medical and psychological examinations may also be required. The applicant must be in a physical condition capable of performing the physical functions required of a Firefighter/Paramedic. All information regarding requirements/restrictions for taking the exam will be included in the application packet, along with a copy of Cuyahoga Heights Cod. Ordinance 246, passed 09/2020. **Note only the first fifty (50) valid applications received by the Village on August 16, 2021, by 3:00 p.m. will be eligible to take exams.**

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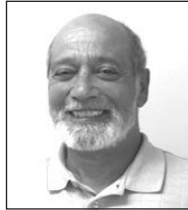
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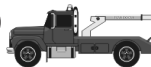
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CANCELLATIONS: Deadline for cancellations is 5 p.m. on Mondays. Save your cancellation number in case an adjustment on your bill is necessary. Ads placed for only one week cannot be canceled.

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G.H. Council votes to create Human Resources Dept., appoints HR director

By Judith Goldsworth

Garfield Heights Council, by a 4 yes-3 no vote, approved legislation at its June 14 meeting to create a Human Resources Department in the city, and appointed Jeannie Sowers to direct the new department at its first in-person council meeting in many months.

Mayor Matt Burke, who sponsored the legislation, co-sponsored by Council President Michael Nenadovich, stated in creating the department: "It is the mayor's desire to do the following: 1) create the Human Resources Department; 2) create the position of 'Human Resources Director' to serve within the Human Resources Department; 3) abolish the position of 'Human Resources Manager;' and 4) create the position of 'Payroll Clerk' to serve within the Human Resources Department."

The position of Human Resources Director will start out at a pay rate of \$71,328.19 annually, while the position of Payroll Clerk will start out at \$35,685.31 annually. Both will be classified as non-union pay positions.

Abolished by passage of the ordinance was the position of Human Resources Manager in the Finance Department, with a pay rate that started out at from \$61,144.51 annually.

Passed by 5 yes-2 no votes was an emergency ordinance also sponsored by Burke and co-sponsored by Nenadovich, ratifying Burke's appointment of Jeannie Sowers to act as the Human Resources Director for the city of Garfield Heights, during the period commencing June 14, 2021, "to serve at the pleasure of the mayor."

Passed unanimously at last week's meeting was a resolution to honor the memory of longtime resident David L. Mays, who passed away in April at the age of 79. Mays was highly active in the Garfield Heights community, including serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals and Tax Incentive Review Council for the city, and was also a member of the Community Emergency Response Team for many years.

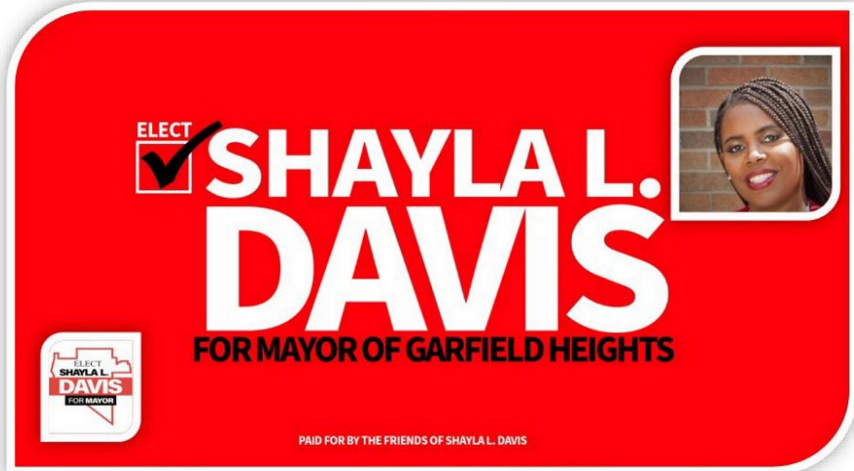
Mays, a native of Garrettsbend, West Virginia, moved with his family to Garfield Heights in 1954, and graduated from Garfield Heights High School. After serving in the Army from 1962 to 1969, he met his wife, Doreen, in 1970, and they were married in 1974, having two sons, Eric and Chad. The couple later became grandparents to Kajsja, Connor, Kai, Kevin and Meghan.

Also passed by a unanimous vote at Monday's meeting was a resolution sponsored by Burke and all of council commending resident Michael Clyde "for his bravery and heroic efforts in saving a life during a house fire" on E. 86 St. on Sunday, May 16.

And passed unanimously at the meeting was a resolution sponsored by Ward 5 Councilman Jason Blake and co-sponsored by Burke and the rest of council honoring outgoing Council Clerk Barbara Molin for her 18 years of "outstanding and dedicated service to the city of Garfield Heights."

Molin has served as the secretary of the Garfield Heights Home Days Committee, secretary and chair of Civic and Welfare of the Garfield Heights Junior Women's League, as well as the secretary to the Planning Commission, and has served as Garfield Heights Clerk of Council since 2003.

"Barbara will be retiring as of June 30, 2021, and is looking forward to traveling and spending more time with her family, especially her grandson, Lucas," the legislation states.



NOTICE OF CITY OF STRONGSVILLE APPLICATIONS FOR LATERAL TRANSFER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE DISPATCHERS

Applications and requirements can be downloaded from City of Strongsville website at www.strongsville.org, Human Resources Tab; or picked up at Strongsville City Municipal Offices at 16099 Foltz Parkway, Strongsville, Ohio, 44149. Applications, with all requirements, will be available beginning Monday, June 21, 2021. You must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and have a valid driver's license. Applications along with the required materials **must be returned in person, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. to the Civil Service Secretary at the Strongsville City Municipal Offices.**

The City of Strongsville is an Equal Opportunity Employer

NN: 6-16-21 & 6-23-21

NOTICE OF CITY OF STRONGSVILLE CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION FOR DISPATCHER

WRITTEN TEST
SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2021 AT 9:00 A.M.

Applications and requirements can be downloaded from City of Strongsville website at www.strongsville.org, Human Resources Tab; or picked up at Strongsville City Municipal Offices at 16099 Foltz Parkway, Strongsville, Ohio, 44149. Applications, with all the testing requirements, will be available beginning Monday, June 21, 2021. You must be at least eighteen (18) years of age on or prior to the date of the examination. Applications along with the required \$25.00 fee **must be returned in person no later than Friday, July 23, 2021 by 4:30 p.m.**

Test is limited to the **first 150** properly completed applications received by the City.

The City of Strongsville is an Equal Opportunity Employer

NN: 6-16-21 & 6-23-21

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HEY NEIGHBORS! LET'S COME TOGETHER!

BRILLIANCE SCHOOL COMMUNITY DAY JUNE 26TH

Join the Brilliance family for an afternoon of family fun! At this month's Community Day on June 26, you're invited to our campus, located at the historic St. Therese Parish School on Granger Road. Enjoy free food, professional face painting, a game truck, an ice cream truck, bounce houses, carnival games, and a raffle to make your Saturday fun for the whole family!

Principal Brian Hairston wants to meet you at the event.

As we get to know our new neighbors in Garfield Heights, we create a network of social support and joy that will support our scholars and fuel the community.

To all the moms, dads, and aunties, whether you have questions about the school or just want to share a laugh, the Brilliance family is here for you.



Brilliance Garfield's building is under renovation to prepare for our scholars' arrival in August, so we're bringing Brilliance to you! Meet Principal Hairston, a career educator dedicated to bringing out the best in every scholar. As a native Clevelander, Principal Hairston is prepared to meet and support every family in the Brilliance community.

"In my scholars, I see myself, my children, and my family. I constantly fight for those families and treat them like I would treat my own," Hairston said. He lives out this idea by connecting with families.

Brilliance is a high-performing, college preparatory school dedicated to the idea that all children are brilliant. We offer scholars a tuition-free, high-quality education. Scholars in grades PreK-8 will grow personally and academically because teachers and staff know that they are already brilliant.

Our hallways are silent but our classrooms are vibrant. Cheers, chants, and high-quality learning materials bring instruction to life. In this safe, bully-free zone, scholars can all demonstrate their brilliance. Experience the Brilliance atmosphere on June 26!



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