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98th YEAR NO. 33

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021

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

FREE



See Pages 6 & 7 for Mother's Day Greetings and Special Ways to Celebrate

Every day is 'Mother's Day' at Womankind

By Ellen Psenicka

Have you ever received an empty baby bottle at church around Mother's Day to fill with spare change? Then chances are you've heard of Womankind, a maternal and prenatal care center on Transportation Boulevard in Garfield Heights.

But there are many who don't know about this organization which goes about its quiet work of helping mothers and mothers-to-be navigate the life-changing experience of pregnancy and motherhood.

Well, Mother's Day is this Sunday, May 9, and it's time to get the word out!

Womankind was founded over 45 years ago by Michele Rogers, R.N., who stated its mission so eloquently: "Some of the strongest women in the world walk through our doors and we are here to listen, care, offer support, to instill hope and to love."

All of Womankind's services are confidential, nonjudgmental and provided at no cost to its clients. These include: pregnancy test, prenatal care through 28 weeks of pregnancy, assistance with third trimester care and delivery, professional counseling, support services, childbirth classes, breastfeeding information, post-abortion counseling, assistance with Medicaid and WIC applications, maternity clothing, baby items and referrals for parenting classes, adoption and legal assistance.

Testimonials

Here are comments from a couple current clients of Womankind on what the organization has meant to them.

"Womankind was the place I needed when I had nowhere to go. I had no insurance and felt like I couldn't get the care I needed for my baby and I. I was able to receive prenatal care through wonderful doctors and nurses. I was also able to find

different resources in the community which was so important for mine and my babies future. It's a place for everything. You walk in feeling lost and walk out feeling accepted and loved." **Tia, prenatal client**

"I walked into Womankind after I just found housing and had nothing at all. I was living in a shelter with my two young children and I walked in needing many items. Not only did they provide my children with everything you could think of such as diapers and clothing, they helped me find the resources to receive furniture for my family. Womankind is an asset to the community and truly wants to help in any way they can." **Jennifer, support services client**

"This organization has great heart," said a former board member. "Never have they charged any client for any of their services. They are surrounded by volunteers who believe in the mission. I've never seen any organization use its resources so wisely."

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Womankind. Its new medical director, Dr. Kimberly Kraus, M.D., is a volunteer. Dave Bongorno is the organization's volunteer accountant, doing all the accounting, payroll taxes and more.

Womankind volunteers also include doctors, nurses, knitters, Lamaze coaches, baby clothes folders, receptionists and every kind of hard worker you can name. All working with Womankind out of love and compassion

Pandemic brings challenges

The ongoing pandemic has brought new challenges to Womankind staff and its clients. The annual baby bottle fundraiser, one of its chief avenues of support, didn't take place last year since no one was going to church. But it's back this year and with it the hope for much-needed revenue.

Even though the pandemic has brought its share of belt-tightening to the organization, Womankind Executive Director Maggie Lallo said, "Its doors were never shut and we continued to serve our clients with love and kindness."

"Through our baby item program, babies stayed warm through the winter," she said. "Through our prenatal clinic, pregnant women were able to receive high quality, prenatal care. Through our counseling and support services, clients were able to receive necessary assistance and have a sense of hope."

2020 by the numbers

Last year Womankind provided the following to its clients: **600+** prenatal medical visits; **1,500+** requests for essential material items; **105+** new clients (prenatal/medical, support services and counseling); **700+** volunteer hours provided by Womankind doctors, nurses and distribution volunteers.

Womankind spends an average of \$1,400 to cover the cost of care for one client, but a single donation can provide key essentials: **\$50** will provide diapers for one baby; **\$100** provides a safe place for a newborn to sleep; **\$200** will cover one prenatal appointment for a pregnant woman; **\$500** will cover all necessary items for a newborn baby, including a car seat, clothing, diapers and other essentials.

(Continued on Page 2)

Deadly shooting outside gas station in Slavic Village

One man is dead and another injured in shootings outside the Marathon gas station, at the corner of Fleet and Broadway aves., about 12:23 a.m. on Monday, May 3.

When police arrived they found a male, later identified as Marquel Cobb, 25, of E. 65 St., Cleveland, laying close to the sidewalk on Fleet Ave. Cobb had suffered multiple gunshot wounds to his torso and was taken to MetroHealth Medical Center, where he was pronounced deceased at 1:10 a.m.

While police were on scene, they learned that another victim, a 17-year-old male, had arrived at University Hospitals by private auto, stating that he had been shot at the same Marathon gas station.

The Homicide Unit is investigating the aggravated murder and felonious assault.

Statues at Ss. Peter & Paul destroyed by vandal

Three statues outside Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, 4750 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights, are in pieces and were completely destroyed by vandalism in the early morning hours of last Wednesday, April 28.

About 12:45 a.m., police were dispatched to the church, at the corner of Garfield Boulevard and Turney Rd., in reference to a male damaging church property. The pastor there, Fr. John Schneider, said he observed a male damaging one of the statues outside the church.

Police arrived and saw a man matching the description of the suspect walking north on Turney Rd. He was detained and told police he had some "anger" issue and needed to take out his anger, thus damaging the statue.

Fr. Schneider told police he had heard a noise coming from outside and saw a man damaging a statue. He told him to stop and confronted the suspect. The man asked the priest what he was going to do to him, and then told the priest he would kill him. The priest then called police.

He said he would contact the bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland regarding pressing charges in the

vandalism. Besides the one statue the priest had observed being vandalized, two others were damaged.



Shown above in happier times are the three kneeling statues which were destroyed by a vandal last Wednesday at Ss. Peter & Paul Church, along with the undamaged statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Photo courtesy of Bill Novak of the maintenance department at the church

Mother's Day at Womankind

(Continued from Page 1)

Wish List

Womankind relies solely on the generosity of individuals, organizations, foundations and corporations for funding. It is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and donations are tax-deductible within the guidelines of U.S. law.

On its Wish List of items to provide for the basic needs of their moms and babies are the following: gift cards in any amount (Giant Eagle, Amazon, Walmart, Target, Visa/Mastercard); new car seats for over 20 lbs.; New Pack n' Plays; postage stamps, toilet paper and paper towels; 13-gallon trash bags, HP laptop computer.

Please contact Alene or Maggie at 216-662-5700 to

arrange a time to drop off these items.

Of course, donations of cash, checks or credit card donations are always welcome. Visit the Womankind website at: www.womankind-cleveland.org.



Left to right are Womankind staff members Chemarra Bryant, Alene Kalista, Maggie Lallo and Nancy Pavlik.

Happy Mother's Day
RUTH VACCHER
Mom, Grammy

It has been 10 years since you became an angel. Mom, there's not a day that goes by that we don't thank God for all the memories that we have of both you and Dad. Happy Mother's Day! You will always be in our hearts the most wonderful Mother and Grammy. We wish you were both here to celebrate your day. I truly miss our mother/daughter good times together and all those memories remain in my heart.

5-2-11
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 Karen, Frank,
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WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021
6:00-7:30PM

Complimentary virtual event
 Register at unitedwaycleveland.org

G.H. clean up scheduled

Garfield Heights will be the site of a Neighborhood Clean Up from 9 a.m. to noon this Saturday, May 8, part of the annual RiverSweep event sponsored by Canalway Partners. Participants can pick up supplies at Garfield Culinary, 4803 Turney Rd., in the parking lot behind the building. To register for the event, visit www.canalwaypartners.com. For additional information, contact Pat Salemi, psalemi@garfieldhts.org, or 216-475-1100, ext. 2425.

SPECIAL EVENTS!

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 Questions? ... Call Mary at 216-441-2141

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CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS

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SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2021
9:00 AM - NOON

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Maple Heights Residents Receive a Free Jar Opener and/or Magnet (while supplies last)

Paper shred items only.
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Funds for this program provided through a grant from the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District

Cuyahoga County
 SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
 CuyahogaRecycles.org

Bedford officials discuss events in city this summer

By Judith Goldsworth

The city of Bedford is looking at the possibility of once again having some social events for residents and visitors this summer, while still following the guidelines imposed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, City Manager Mike Mallis said at council's teleconference meeting Monday night.

"We are working with a lot of our organizations and event coordinators," Mallis said, "so look for more information in the coming weeks."

One celebration returning this week is the first "First Friday" of 2021, which will be held this Friday, May 7, according to information from the Bedford Downtown Alliance announced by Mallis at the meeting. The event will take place from 6-8 p.m. in the Historic Downtown District, and a food truck, games for kids and other activities will be featured.

Regarding help for businesses in the city this year, Mallis said, "There is another round of restaurant revitalization funding, as the U.S. Small Businesses Administration did announce last week that they are going to be making funds available to restaurants, bakeries, bars, breweries, food trucks and different kinds of venues that have been impacted by the pandemic."

He said the funds were going to be made available through the American Rescue Plan Act, with more details available on the city's social media and its website.

As a public service announcement, Mallis said that the city had been notified that the railroad is going to be closing the crossings near West Grace and West Glendale on May 13, for about three to four days. "We are going to be meeting to discuss the posting of detour routes, and as we get more information we will post that on our website as well as social media," Mallis said.

Additional appropriations, wastewater plant contract approved

Council passed an ordinance at Monday's meeting to make additional appropriations for current expenditures in the city during 2021, as requested by Finance Director Frank Gambosi.

"A couple of items here are for police and fire with Bureau of Workman's Comp claims that we have been hit with fees for injuries," Gambosi said.

He also said funds would be used towards Union Street improvements, fixing the doors at City Hall and some extra increases in street improvements on Ellenwood Ave..

Gambosi said the Ellenwood waterline project was included in the ordinance, at a cost of \$376,000, and the city would be starting the water main study on Broadway Ave., as well as a No Feasible Alternative study for the wastewater treatment plant approved at a previous meeting, at a cost of \$198,990.

Also approved at the meeting was an ordinance authorizing Mallis to enter into a contract with Pelton Environmental Products to buy environmental products for maintenance and inventory of the ultraviolet disinfection system at the city's wastewater treatment plant, at a cost of \$14,038.38.

Pelton was the sole source distributor for the replacement parts needed for the equipment, Mallis added.

Local municipalities, nonprofits share in county tree canopy grant funds

In its second year of funding, Cuyahoga County will invest \$950,000 into its tree canopy by funding 25 projects for tree plans and tree planting sponsored by area municipalities, neighborhoods and nonprofits through the Cuyahoga County Healthy Tree Canopy Grant Program. This funding will spur the creation of 20 tree planting projects, five tree planning and planting projects and one new county tree nursery.

This innovative grant achieves an action identified in the county's 2019 Climate Change Action Plan through the annual contribution of \$1 million dollars for five years to revitalize the tree canopy in Cuyahoga County.

Over 4,000 trees will be planted during this second phase, which will bring the total number of trees planted across both rounds to over 5,400.

Local grant recipients in this second phase include:

City of Maple Heights - \$39,937.50 awarded for tree planting as part of the Dunham Road Greenway Tree Planting.

Slavic Village Development - \$32,190.39 awarded for planning and tree planting as part of its Reforest Slavic Village Part II initiative.

Tinker's Creek Watershed Partners - \$20,030.00 awarded for the Dunham Park Tree Planting. Dunham Park is a 49.9-acre park in Maple Heights managed by the Cleveland Metroparks.

Village of Newburgh Heights - \$50,000 awarded for planning and tree planting as part of the 2021 Newburgh Heights Reforestation Program.

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The Neighborhood News
 Since 1923 - Published every Wednesday
 Delivered in Southeast Cleveland, Garfield Heights, Newburgh Heights, Cuyahoga Heights, Independence, Valley View, Maple Heights and Bedford



CITY OF MAPLE HEIGHTS PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC NOTICE FOR OPEN POSITION

Applications for the City of Maple Heights Planning and Zoning Commission will be available to qualified Maple Heights residents beginning Wednesday, April 28, 2021 in the Clerk of Council Office, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio, 44137, to fill one (1) open position for the term expiring May 31, 2026.

The Planning and Zoning Commission consists of five (5) qualified electors of the City not holding any other official position in the Municipality, who have resided in the City not less than two (2) years prior to appointment, and who shall retain such residency during their appointed term.

Completed application forms are to be submitted only to the Clerk of Council Office, Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio, 44137. The deadline for submission of said applications is by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12, 2021. For further information, call the Clerk's office at (216) 587-9000.

Leonette Cicirella Johnson
 Clerk of Council
 City of Maple Heights

The Neighborhood News
 April 28, 2021
 May 5, 2021

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 PORK STEAKS \$2.99 LB.

Sale is subject to availability. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

Maple Heights launches 'Paint The City' program

By Judith Goldsworth

Beginning this week, the city of Maple Heights will be accepting applications for its 2021 Paint The City program, as approved by council at a recent meeting. The program supplements the cost residents normally pay to repaint the exterior of their home, by providing free vouchers to obtain paint, tools and other supplies.

Mayor Annette Blackwell stated, "This program is an important part of the city's efforts to ensure that the residents' choice to live in Maple Heights is a good investment for their family."

The program provides free vouchers for various tools, such as paint brushes, rollers, scraper, drop cloth and paint; however, no labor is included, city officials stated.

Residents who apply must meet basic eligibility requirements, including income guidelines, and participate in lead (as in lead-based paint) safety training.

Applications will be accepted beginning this week, and awarded on a first come, first serve basis, while funding is available, city officials stated, adding that additional information about the program, the income eligibility guidelines, and the application itself are available on the city's website at www.citymapleheights.com/paintprogram.

For further questions about the Paint the City Program, please contact the city's Housing Department at 216-587-9032.

It's not too late to sign up for G.H. T-Ball & Co-ed Softball for boys & girls

The Garfield Heights Recreation Department has extended the deadline to register for T-Ball and Co-ed Softball up to Tuesday, May 11. The office will be open late for your convenience on Monday, May 10, and Tuesday, May 11, from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Registration is being held at The Dan Kostel Rec Center, at 5411 Turney Rd. T-Ball is for ages 5-7 on or before July 1, 2020. Co-Ed Softball is for ages 7-15 on or before August 1, 2020. It is highly recommended that a 7-year-old has had at least one year in T-Ball.

Fees

Residents - \$40 + \$15 recreation ID card = \$55
 Non-Residents - \$70 + \$40 recreation ID card = \$110

Things to bring with you when registering

Birth Certificates required for ALL PLAYERS at the time of registration, whether your child has played before or not.

Two current utility bills are required for proof of residency for ALL RESIDENTS. We accept cash, credit, debit and checks with current ID (valid driver's license), and only a parent or legal guardian can register a child.

Office hours are subject to change without notice. Call 216-475-7272. You can check the city's web page at www.garfieldhts.org for details on all recreation center programs.

I-480 west partial closing

I-480 westbound just west of I-77 will be closed beginning Saturday, May 8, at 12 a.m. through 11 p.m. for pavement work in connection with the Valley View bridge work.

Detour will be I-77 north to I-490 west to SR 176 south to I-480.

I-480 westbound just west of I-77 will have various lane closures and short duration closures lasting no longer than 15 minutes on Sunday, May 9, at 12 a.m. through 12 a.m. Monday, May 10, for pavement work.

National Day of Prayer to be observed in Garfield Hts.

Garfield Heights residents, family and friends are invited to attend the annual Garfield Heights National Day of Prayer Observance on Thursday, May 6, at 10 a.m., at St. Therese Parish, 5276 E. 105 St., Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125.

Following the observance, bagged refreshments will be available in the Fellowship Hall at St. Therese.

Individuals who cannot attend are welcome to participate via the Garfield Heights website, www.garfieldhts.org or via Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ghohio>

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Death Notices

Information for death notices must be submitted by the funeral home handling the arrangements via email. Send information to: nnews1923@aol.com. Minimum fee is \$50 (up to six column inches). Notices larger than six column inches will be subject to additional fees.

Deadline to submit notices is Monday by 5 p.m.
 For further information And pricing, email [The Neighborhood News nnews1923@aol.com](mailto:nnews1923@aol.com) or call us at 216-441-2141.



THESE NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCHES WELCOME YOU

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 4977 Turney Road
 Garfield Heights, Ohio
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In Church and on Facebook Live
 Rev. H. Daniel Drew, Lead Pastor

Greater Holy Ghost Missionary Baptist Church
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Services 11:30 am Sundays
 Rev. Robinson Crenshaw, Pastor

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Msgr. Richard Antall
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Jones Road Church
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 (216) 883-8572
Sunday Service: 11:00 a.m.
Jeff Bodziony, Pastor

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Maple Hts. mayor plans diversity training for workers

By Judith Goldsworth

In the wake of several recent high profile cases involving police response to incidents in the area and throughout the country, Mayor Annette Blackwell is planning diversity training to promote "tolerance and inclusion" for employees of the city of Maple Heights, she stated at council's teleconference meeting Wednesday, April 21..

Blackwell, in her role as the city's safety director as well as mayor, said, "I will be putting on an in-service for the chiefs and the directors and will continue working closely with Police Chief Todd Hansen and the police department reviewing our policies about high speed chases, and all of those things that have brought so much pain to so many families and have been on the news stations for quite some time."

She said the diversity-advised training, which will be put on by a professional, is going to transfer to various employees that are reporting to Maple Heights directors and chiefs.

"I've heard some things that have been concerning to me, so it's important that I move forward in that discussion and bring that training to the city of Maple Heights," the mayor added.

Blackwell also reported that she and her husband were getting over COVID-19, and gave her deep thanks to all city personnel, officials and residents for their support and assistance.

Paint program passed

Residents of the city can now beautify their properties with the help of the city, after council passed a resolution at the April 21 meeting to approve the 2021 "Paint The City Program," authorizing Blackwell to award funding to eligible applicants.

Blackwell and Economic Development Director Patrick Grogan-Myers proposed the grant program, which starts this Saturday, May 1, "to provide owners who occupy their homes with financial assistance to repaint the exterior of their homes as a way to preserve and promote the curb appeal of homes in the city," according to the legislation.

The source of funding for the paint program is the Housing Reinvestment Grant Account in the city's General Fund. Property owners can purchase painting supplies with the help of the program. However, the application form was amended by Housing Committee Chair Councilwoman Toni Jones during passage of the legislation stating that colors chosen must be conducive to the city, meaning that paint colors used on houses as part of the program cannot be detrimental to the overall appearance of the neighborhood.

Maximum annual income guidelines for program eligibility range from \$42,600 for a one-person family to \$70,550 for a six-person family, and the following docu-



Honored by the Community Life and Education Committee at last week's council meeting for cleanup efforts in her neighborhood was resident Ariana Rich, shown here with her parents and District 1 Councilman Stafford L. Shenett, far right.

ments must be provided: proof of payment of property taxes; proof of household income for every household member over the age of 18; and proof of ownership of the property.

Council also approved two separate resolutions to sell vacant city-owned lots on Miller Ave. and Grant Ave. to adjacent property owners for use as side yards.

And council also passed a resolution to enter into a purchasing participation agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the cooperative purchase of rock salt for contracts awarded for the 2021 winter season.

Clean up resolution goes on first reading

A resolution introduced by councilmembers Dana Anderson and Richard Trojanski to designate Saturday, May 15, as "Maple Heights Cleanup Day" to prompt individuals to take greater responsibility for their local environment by creating cleaner parks, streetscapes and public spaces through litter removal and elimination, failed to pass on emergency at the meeting, placing it on first reading.

Anderson's amendment to the legislation, to make the third weekend of May every year be designated as an annual cleanup event in the city, was approved 5-1 (Councilwoman Edwina Agee dissenting, Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden absent).

Also placed on first reading was a resolution accepting \$475,448 in grant funding from the Cleveland Water Department Suburban Water Main Renewal Project Fund and authorizing City Engineer Ed Hren to prepare plans and go out for bids for the Libby Road Watermain Replacement Project, from Broadway Ave. to Lee Rd.

Another resolution placed on first reading at last week's meeting was to accept \$39,937.50 in a funding award from the Cuyahoga County Healthy Tree Canopy Program for the Dunham Road Greenway Tree Planting Project. The city is required to contribute 10%, or \$4,437.50 in local funding, towards the project for a total cost of \$44,375, if the legislation is passed at a future meeting.

An ordinance to help tenants impacted by the economic effects of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, known as "Pay to Stay" legislation, remained in the Housing and Economic Development Committee at Jones' request.

The legislation, which would enact a new chapter of the codified ordinances, would allow tenants to pay past due rent and late fees prior to an eviction filing, in the interest of avoiding homelessness and placing residents at increased risk of COVID-19 exposure. Committee members will discuss the ordinance before taking action on it.

Two young residents honored

As part of the Community Life and Education Commit-



Also honored at the meeting for beautifying his neighborhood was Maple Heights resident Kamryn Clark. Shown left to right are: Kamryn's grandfather, Jodi Beer; Kamryn Clark; District 3 Councilman Christian Ostenson; and Kamryn's mother and sister.

tee presentation at the meeting, CLEC Chairman Councilman Stafford Shenett, Christian Ostenson, Agee and other council members and city officials gave special recognition to two young residents, Ariana Rich of District 1 and Kamryn Clark of District 3, for their outstanding efforts in cleaning up and beautifying their neighborhoods.

"These are our city's future leaders," Blackwell commented.


G.H. Historical Society to hold in-person meeting

The Garfield Heights Historical Society, 5405 Turney Rd., across from the Garfield Heights branch library, will meet on Saturday, May 8, at 10 a.m. This meeting will be held outdoors, weather permitting, at the Veterans Memorial Plaza. Parking is available in the back lot.

GARFIELD HEIGHTS MEMORIAL DAY PARADE
 With honor and respect for the deceased veterans of all military conflicts, the city of Garfield Heights will host a Memorial Day Parade and Service on Monday, May 31. As we return to some sort of normalcy following a pandemic year, we will join together as a community to pay tribute to the men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice for democracy.
 The event is being organized by the members of the Memorial Day Parade Committee, who ask that each group planning to attend properly assess the risks involved with gatherings. Please pay attention to the guidance provided by the governor of Ohio. The city will assume no responsibility for the parade participants or the spectators along the parade route.
 For sanitation reasons, the distribution of candy, literature, or anything else, will be prohibited. Guidelines regarding safety, staging, spectators, etc. are being coordinated by the Memorial Day Parade Committee. All participants will be informed of the protocols.
 Anyone interested in participating in the parade can contact committee co-chairs Jennifer Newrones, 216-624-8802, newronesjennifer@sbcglobal.net; or Jason Blake, 216-338-7883, jake5585@yahoo.com.

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Garfield Heights Council President
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PERSONALS

NOVENA TO ST. JUDE May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be Adored, Glorified, Loved & Preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, help of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer for 9 days. Publish it, it has never been known to fail. Thank you St. Jude for prayers answered and favors received. **MARIAN AND JOE**

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PERSONALS

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. **L.O.**

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Statue of eagles installed at Pol-Am Cultural Center symbolizing link of Polish, American/history

A statue of an American bald eagle and Polish eagle was installed at the Polish American Cultural Center on Tuesday, April 27, in the Pope John Paul II Heritage Garden at 6501 Lansing Ave., in Slavic Village, leading up to the celebration last Sunday of Polish Constitution Day at the center.

The garden, dedicated in November 2018, has a circular brick walkway with 27 educational placards providing a



Shown above with the newly installed eagle statue during Polish Constitution Day festivities at the Polish American Cultural Center Sunday are, from left: Darek Wojno, executive director of the center, donors Diane and Nick Jarmoszuk and Eugene Bak, founder of the PACC.

century by century tour of the 1000 years of Polish history.

The statue depicts an American bald eagle and a Polish eagle joined together in flight, representing the historic relationship of the U.S. with that of Poland.

The eagles were sculpted by renowned Polish-American artist Andrzej Pitynski, who passed away just after he completed the piece. The statue was forged locally at Studio Foundry. A future dedication will be planned subject to the Covid pandemic health orders.

Ward 12 Councilman Tony Brancatelli, himself of Polish and Italian heritage, was on hand when the statue arrived.

"We are truly fortunate that sculptor Andrzej Pitynski was able to design this amazing piece before he passed and that it was able to be forged locally," said Councilman Brancatelli. "This is a very symbolic piece for the times we are in, having these two eagles joining wings together."

He also mentioned the great turnout for the Constitution Day festivities Sunday and the "fabulous ethnic food, music and readings from the speakers, followed by the beautiful celebration in the gardens."

LIBRARIES PLAN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Here are the programs for May 2021 at the Southeast Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, located at 70 Columbus Rd., Bedford. For more information or to register for any program, please call 440-439-4997.

Kids Café - 18 & younger, Monday-Friday, 3-4 p.m.

Kids ages 18 and under can get a free grab-and-go lunch provided by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, while supplies last.

Homework Mentors - K-8th grade, Monday-Thursday (school days), 4-6:30 p.m.

Need homework help? Homework Center coordinators at the Southeast Branch are available to answer students' academic questions.

Zoom Virtual Storytime (Family) - Caregivers and their children ages 0-5, Tuesdays, May 18, May 25, 6:30 p.m.

Rhymes, songs, fingerplays and stories. A meeting link will be emailed to registered participants approximately one hour prior to the start of the program. Staff will be available for help with connecting to Zoom and technical issues beginning 15 minutes prior to the program. You will need a device with audio and/or video and an internet connection to join. **MUST REGISTER.**

Virtual Baby Club: Birth - 35 months with parent/caregiver, Thursdays, May 6, May 13, May 20, 10 a.m.

Come for a virtual five-week Baby Club for caregivers and children ages birth to 35 months. Boost your baby's brain through play! Connect with your baby and other families and get answers about your growing child. Siblings welcome. Parents ages 18 and older who register to participate in Baby Club will be entered into a sweepstakes to win a \$529 college savings award from Ohio's 529 Plan, College Advantage, for their child. Read the sweepstakes rules. A meeting link will be emailed to registered participants approximately one hour prior to the start of the program. If you have questions about registering for this program, please contact a librarian at the Southeast Branch at 440-439-4997. **MUST REGISTER.**

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Community Police reports

GARFIELD HEIGHTS

Aggravated Robbery

On April 19, shortly after midnight, officers were dispatched to the 13400 block of Mapleleaf Dr. in reference to a stolen car. A woman told police she was sitting in her car when three unknown black males got out of a car and two of them approached her car with guns pointed at her. They ordered her out of the car and then took off in it fleeing north on E. 135 St. A short time later police found the stolen vehicle unoccupied with its doors open in the area of Bangor and E. 132 St. A security camera in the area had shown two black males running through the 13100 block of Woodward Blvd. towards Turney. Police set up a perimeter in the area with the assistance of an Independence K-9, other police agencies and the Chagrin Valley Drone Unit. Suspects were not located.

MVA Injury

On April 26, about 3 a.m., police responded to a motor vehicle accident in the 10200 block of Plymouth Ave. GHFD and squad were assisting a man trapped inside a vehicle that was flipped on its driver's side. The owner of

a Ford pickup truck that was parked on the street said the driver struck his truck causing the other man's car to flip on its side. Fireman assisted the victim out of the vehicle through the rear trunk. He told medics in the squad and police that he blacked out because he was drunk. Police noticed a strong smell of alcohol coming from the vehicle and found several empty alcoholic beverage containers as well as an open bottle of tequila inside. The man was taken to MetroHealth Medical Center and asked to give a urine sample, which he refused to do. He was issued citations for driving under suspension, failure to control, reckless operation, OVI and OVI refusal.

Vehicle Lockout

On April 30, about 10:30 p.m., officers were called to the 13100 block of Christine Ave. for a two-year-old locked in a car. When they arrived they saw no one in the car. The owner of the car said dispatch must have been mistaken. Dispatch verified the woman caller had stated she had "locked my baby in the car." When presented with the evidence, the woman responded, "So what's the problem?" The woman was issued a summons with a mandatory date to appear in Garfield Heights Municipal Court.

Body Found

On May 1, shortly before 10:50 p.m., police were dispatched to a home in the 13400 block of York Rd. for a report of a 41-year-old man possibly deceased. GHFD squad responded to the scene and checked for signs of life. The man was pronounced dead at 10:56 p.m. No foul play was suspected. The deceased man's niece had called police when she went to check on him and found him

laying unresponsive in his bedroom. She said he had suffered from a mental deficiency and would not eat or drink. The body was transported to the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office.

G.H. rally to stop violence

A "Stop the Violence Rally" will be held on Saturday, May 8, at Holy Spirit Church, 4341 E. 131 St., Garfield Hts., from 4 to 6:30 p.m. For information contact Ward 1 Councilman Mike Dudley, Sr., 216-324-7661.

Call Crime Stoppers with tips that can be anonymous

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.

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50th wedding anniversary

Phillip Lee Newton and Donna Marie (Mikula) Newton of Garfield Heights are celebrating 50 years of marriage! Phil and Donna were married on May 1, 1971, at St. John Byzantine Catholic Cathedral in Parma, with a reception at St. Michael's Hall on Union Ave., Cleveland.



Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Newton

The couple moved to Garfield Heights soon after, and still live on Park Heights Ave. today. Phil and Donna raised two daughters, Diane and Linda.

Donna has been employed with the Garfield Heights City Schools for 36 years and will retire this July. Phil, now retired, served in the

U.S. Air Force and turned his technical skills into a career within IT that spanned 40 years with Hitachi and other Fortune 500 companies.

Bedford High shooting victim dies from injuries

A Bedford High School student, Royce Hamilton, 18, shot in the head the afternoon of Monday, April 26, on McKinley Ave., died Friday from his injuries, as confirmed by the Cuyahoga County medical examiner and Deputy Chief Rick Suts of the Bedford Police Department.

University Hospital Bedford Medical Center contacted the Chagrin Valley Regional Dispatch Center April 26, to report a male gunshot victim had arrived at the Emergency Room, according to Deputy Chief Suts.

Officers learned that Hamilton was brought in with a gunshot wound to the head. They were able to locate the vehicle he was transported in and spoke to the other occupants. The victim was a front seat passenger. The other parties reported that he exchanged words with a male walking on McKinley Ave. That male produced a firearm from his waist band and fired three shots into the vehicle, Suts noted in his media report. One round struck the victim in the head. None of the other passengers were struck.

Police said a 16-year-old male known to the victim was

arrested a few hours later with a handgun still in his pants.

Both males attended Bedford High School, Suts said, and were familiar with each other. He said the shooting did not happen on school grounds and does not appear to be related to anything at the high school. Bedford Police are continuing to gather information and evidence

Phyllis Cleveland resigns council seat; Gray to represent CLE's Ward 5

Delores Gray has been appointed to represent the city of Cleveland's Ward 5 following the resignation last week of 15-year council veteran Phyllis Cleveland, who stepped down effective Monday, May 3, citing health issues.

Ward 5 includes the neighborhoods of Central, Kinsman, Midtown and part of downtown and North Broadway/Slavic Village. Councilwoman Gray will be finishing out Councilwoman Cleveland's current term, which expires January 1, 2022. She will have to run for election in November 2021 for a full four-year term.

Gray is a graduate of East Tech High School and has stayed active as an East Tech Alumni Board member for more than 30 years. The alumni association raises money to award college scholarships to students.

**FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION, (Garfield Hts. Only)
Saturday, May 15, 10am-Noon, drive-thru**



The Rock Community Church, located at 9403 Garfield Blvd., Garfield Heights, will be having a drive-thru food pantry distribution for **Garfield Heights residents only** on **Saturday, May 15th from 10am-Noon.**

The Neighborhood News

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**Drive-Thru and Walk-Thru
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Thursday, May 6 from noon-7pm

*(7409 Fleet Avenue entrance between
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<https://www.metrohealth.org/covid-19/covid-vaccine>

or by phone at **216-778-6100**

Eligibility: You do not need to be a current MetroHealth patient. Doses of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine will be administered by MetroHealth medical staff to those aged 16+. Those who are 16 and 17 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Follow up second dose appointments will be made on the day of the first dose.

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