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99th YEAR NO. 06-7

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2021

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FREE

Cleveland buys old South High from CMSD for safety forces training center

Cleveland Ward 12 Councilman Tony Brancatelli, as chairman of Cleveland Council's Development, Planning and Sustainability Committee, announced that yesterday the city approved the purchase of the building and property of the former South High School, 7415 Broadway Ave., from the Cleveland Metropolitan School District to be converted to a safety forces training center for police, fire, EMS and Explorers. This also includes leasing back six classrooms to CMSD as part of their "Say Yes" career path training for public safety.

"This is an exciting opportunity to repurpose this school which has been closed for a decade," Brancatelli said. "It is 250,000 square feet on over 11 acres of land," he continued. "The city has already bonded \$5 million for improvements for Phase 1 and will allocate additional funds for future phases of development.

He said that as part of the redevelopment of this space, the city will open the South High School gym to the public as part of the programming at Stella Walsh Recreation Center. Officials are further exploring the re-use of the former library and auditorium wing of the school,



Brancatelli explained, for the Cleveland Public Library and Broadway School of Music and the Arts. Stella Walsh Rec is already in the city's Capital Plan for a significant multi-million dollar renovation.

Brancatelli further said the city is excited to have this property become a training center for the safety forces since it will help in recruiting, provide a local facility instead of trainees having to leave the city for extended periods of time and provide a state-of-the-art training facility.

"I am also excited that having hundreds of safety force officers in our community will also add additional vitality to our neighborhood," he noted.

Annual Czech Holiday Fair Saturday at Bohemian Hall

This Saturday, Nov. 13, Sokol Greater Cleveland will host its annual Czech Holiday Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway Ave., featuring imported Czech and Slovak items including garnets, ornaments, linens, crystals and more.

The Czech culture will also be celebrated with traditional Czech holiday foods, homemade bakery, strudel, dumplings and other tasty treats including Czech beer also available for sale. It's the perfect way to celebrate the rich history of Czechoslovakia while supporting Sokol Greater Cleveland in a way that allows the organization to continue providing social and fitness opportunities for its members for many years to come.

Built in 1896 as a community hall to accommodate the cultural, social and educational needs of Czech immigrants in their newly adopted country, Bohemian National Hall still continues to serve new generations and carry on the history and traditions of the Czech and Slovak people today.

This organization boasts a tight-knit group of members of all ages bonded by these Sokol traditions. But it has felt the financial strain that many have felt these past 18 months. All are invited to Saturday's Holiday Fair that typically helps the group to generate revenue for continued operations.

VETERANS DAY



BEDFORD

The annual Veterans Day Ceremony will be Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 11 a.m. at Veterans Park in downtown Bedford followed by another short ceremony at the Bedford Cemetery on Broadway. The Bedford Veterans Memorial Day Committee sponsors the ceremony. The Bedford VFW Post 1082 will raise the flag. Veterans are invited to share their service experiences.

CLEVELAND

A special Veterans Day recognition ceremony will be held inside the Rotunda of Cleveland City Hall. Following the ceremony will be the 3rd annual Cleveland Veterans Day Parade beginning at 12:45 p.m. in front of City Hall at 601 Lakeside Ave. The parade will proceed east on Lakeside to E. 9th St., south towards Superior Ave., west towards Roadway Drive, north toward Rockwell, west to Ontario, north to Lakeside Ave. traveling east and ending at City Hall. The parade offers Clevelanders the opportunity to show their support for brave individuals who have served their country.

GARFIELD HEIGHTS

A Veterans Day Service will be held on Thursday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m., at the Garfield Heights Veterans Plaza Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd. All are encouraged to attend and honor our military veterans. Social distancing and masks recommended. There will be a Veteran's Day Ceremony at the Honor Roll in front of Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 11, city officials stated. All are welcome to attend.

INDEPENDENCE

The city of Independence honored residents who served in the military during the 2021 Veterans Day Lunch at the Civic Center on Friday, November 5, 2021. Mayor Gregory P. Kurtz welcomed the veterans and shared reflections on the bravery and courage of all military men and women who have served. Councilman Jim Trakas, who is a captain in the Ohio Military Reserve, was the guest speaker. Independence resident Bob Law displayed his collection of WWII military memorabilia at the Civic Center.

The city also retired 39 Hometown Hero banners. The Hometown Hero program honors fallen service members, veterans and active-duty service members. The banners recognize the military men and women who have given so much of themselves to serve our country. Each banner is displayed around the city for two years. At the end of each term, new banners for local military are put up.

MAPLE HEIGHTS

There will be a Veteran's Day Ceremony at the Honor Roll in front of Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Rd., at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 11. All are welcome.

Homicide on Goodman

On Nov. 2, at approximately 1 p.m., Cleveland police officers responded to the 8100 block of Goodman Ave., for a man shot. On arrival, a male, age 19, was found on the sidewalk with a gunshot wound to the abdomen/back. Officers administered aid to the victim until the arrival of EMS, which continued care and transported the victim to MetroHealth Medical Center, where he was pronounced deceased. He was later identified, according to Cleveland 19 News, as Aminjas Shomo of Olmsted Falls.

Members of the Homicide Unit responded for investigation. Preliminary information indicates that the victim was shot by an unknown person and then was heard yelling for help. No arrests have been made. Anyone with information is asked to contact investigators at 216-623-5464. Anonymous information can be provided by calling Crimestoppers at 216-25-CRIME, and a cash reward of up to \$5000 may be available.

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41 TURKEY

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Vaughn elected council president in Garfield

The newly elected Garfield Heights Council met for the first time Monday evening and elected veteran Councilman Tom Vaughn as council president and Ward 5 Councilman Jason Blake as president pro tem.

Passed were two pieces of legislation, one authorizing the sale and disposal of city equipment no longer needed for municipal purposes, and the other entering into a two-year Motor Vehicle Registration Audit Agreement with Darlene M. Pride, governmental affairs consultant, to conduct audits of certain Ohio Bureau of

Motor Vehicles records.

In other council activity, Vaughn called a City Council Work Session in Council Chambers at the Garfield Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Rd., for Tuesday, Nov. 16, at 7 p.m.

Topics for discussion will include: Committee Assignments, Working of the Calendar, Clerk of Council Candidates, Review of Rules of Council, Scheduling Meetings and Review of the City Charter. The next regular council meeting

will be held Monday, Nov. 22.

Police Chief gives update on homicides

Garfield Heights Police Chief Mark Kaye announced at Monday's council meeting that suspects have been identified and warrants issued for their arrests in three recent shootings in the city. He said the suspects identified in the shootings at Turneytown and Bonkers are being sought, and the suspect identified in the Grannis Ave. homicide is incarcerated in another location and "we're almost 100% sure we have identified him as the suspect."

St. Monica Craft Fair coming November 27th

The St. Monica Christmas Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, Nov. 27, 2021 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in St. Benedict School at St. Monica Parish, 13633 Rockside Rd., in Garfield Hts. Admission is \$1 per adult. There will be a wide variety of crafters and vendors for great holiday shopping. And Santa will be making an appearance between 10 a.m. and noon. Delicious food and hourly craft raffles. Limited vendor space is available.

Please email: stmonicarespectlife@gmail.com with any questions. Masks are strongly encouraged for all vendors and attendees. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available at all entrances to the fair.



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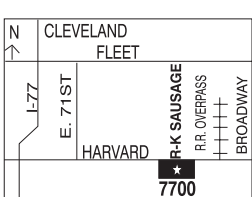
The Rock Community Church, (9403 Garfield Blvd.), will have a food pantry distribution for Garfield Hts. residents only on Saturday, November 20, from 10am-Noon. We will be inside the building with an expedited distribution with some choice of product. Turkeys will be available (limit 1 per family).

Numbers and sign-up sheets will be distributed at the parking lot entrance starting at 8:00 am.

Masks will be available but not mandatory. Please have photo ID available and a pic of the ID for those you will pick up for.



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Kiszka/Hurka - \$4.29 lb.
Horseradish -
White or Beet Red - \$2.59 each
Pierogies - \$6.50/bag
(Sauerkraut, Sweet Cheese,
Potato, Potato & Cheese
Apple, Apricot and Prune)

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Death Notices

LORIA LENARDUZZI



(nee Neri), age 92, beloved wife of the late Elio; loving mother of John (Barbara Paulson), Lonnie (Linda), Larrie (Marie) and Paul; devoted grandmother of Lily, Steven and Laura; dearest daughter of John and Palmira (nee Roman) (both deceased). The best testament of our mother's life is how she is remembered by her close and loving family

both near and in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, by her many dear friends, as a member of the Garfield Heights Historical Society and Museum, as a volunteer at Jennings Center for Older Adults, and by her many friends at St. Rita apartments. Family and friends are asked to meet at St. Therese Church, 5276 E. 105th St., Garfield Heights, OH 44125, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, November 13, at 11 a.m. VISITATION AT CHURCH ONE HOUR PRIOR TO MASS (10-11 a.m). Inurnment Calvary Cemetery at a later date. Funeral Mass at St. Therese Church can be viewed on the Golubski Deliberato Funeral Home Facebook page.

SUSAN MOSCIBROCKI

Susan Moscibrocki (nee DeBlasis), age 98, passed away Nov. 2, 2021, at home with her family at her side. Susan is survived by her two sons, daughter, four granddaughters, two great-granddaughters and multiple nieces and nephews. Susan was preceded in death by her mother and father, husband and by three sisters and two brothers.



As a devout Catholic, Susan devoted her life to her family, neighbors and friends. During her childhood Susan loved participating in baseball games with her brothers, was a lifelong walker, baseball and Cleveland Indians fan and ultimately, at age 91, once threw the first pitch at an Akron Rubber Ducks baseball game. While a young woman, Susan supported the war effort as a factory worker during WWII.

Susan spent her last years at Elmcroft of Medina Assisted Living, and her family wishes to thank Elmcroft for the loving care and assistance they provided, and Dr. Shobha Khandelwal and Nurse Practitioner Jen Graham for their wonderful care of Susan during those years.

A private Mass of Christian Burial was held on Friday, Nov. 5, 2021, at St. Monica Catholic Church in Garfield Heights. Care for Susan was entrusted to Carlson Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, 3477 Medina Rd., Medina, Ohio. Online condolences at www.carlsonfuneralhomes.com

Submit your Community events to The Neighborhood News via Email: nnews1923@aol.com

Letters to the Editor

Blaine Griffin voted CLE Council president

Ward 6 Councilman Blaine Griffin was recently voted Cleveland City Council President effective January 2022 by a unanimous vote of city council. Councilman Griffin, a former resident of Ward 12 and now representing a portion of Slavic Village, looks forward to the challenges ahead. All re-elected council members, as well as newly elected members including Ward 12 Councilwoman-elect Rebecca Maurer, wisely voted to use the council "Unit Rule" in electing Council President Griffin.

Ward 12 Councilman Tony Brancatelli



Shown above, from left, are newly elected Cleveland Council President Blaine Griffin, outgoing council president Kevin Kelley and outgoing Ward 12 Councilman Tony Brancatelli.

Marcella Kleis

Mom, it's been three years, November 10, 2018. I love you and I miss you very much. You are my guardian angel. I miss and love you mom and dad. Love, Your daughter Sharon Rest in Peace



Sokol Greater Cleveland 43rd Annual Saturday, November 13th 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Holiday Fair

Come Shop for Garnets, Costume Jewelry, Pottery, Crystal Ornaments and more!

Plus Arts and Crafts! 4939 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, 44127

Authentic Czech Food and Beer for sale!

Dinners and light fare will also be offered.

Contact Mary Jo McCarthy at: maryjomccarthy@yahoo.com for more info

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

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

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Email information to: nnews1923@aol.com

THE MONTHLY MEETING FOR THE GARFIELD HTS. HISTORICAL SOCIETY ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 3021 HAS BEEN CANCELLED

Due To The Passing Of Long-time Member, **LORIA LENARDUZZI.**

The viewing and mass will be held at **St. Therese Catholic Church at 10:00am on Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021.**

We encourage all members to attend.

THE MEETING WILL BE RE-SCHEDULED FOR **SATURDAY, NOV. 20, 2021 AT 10:00 A.M.**



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Drawings will be held at each store at 12 noon, Thursday, November 18. **Participating stores should call their winners names immediately to The Neighborhood News (216-441-2141) to check for duplicate winners.**

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Unforgotten

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BENNY BACK AT G.H. ICE RINK



Benny the Skating Dog was back in Garfield Heights last Friday and Saturday after missing his annual visit last year as the pandemic closed recreation centers and cancelled gatherings.

After a Friday morning practice session, the talented pooch was at the city's ice rink to skate with the children in the Learn to Skate program Saturday, as well as with a Sled Team with skaters using adaptive equipment. Benny was a hit with the kids, as always, and hopes to make a return visit next year.



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The Neighborhood News

Bibb big winner in Cleveland mayoral race; Maurer narrowly defeats Brancatelli in Ward 12

The November 2nd General Election has come and gone in Greater Cleveland, leaving a fresh set of faces, and some not so fresh, serving on city councils, school boards, mayors of area cities and suburbs and as judges of municipal courts.

Newcomer Justin Bibb will take the helm as mayor in Cleveland, and incumbent mayors Stan Koci in Bedford, Matt Burke in Garfield Heights and Jack Bacci in Cuyahoga Heights will all continue to head their respective municipalities.

Ward 12 in Cleveland's Slavic Village lost a 16-year veteran councilman in Tony Brancatelli as he was narrowly defeated by lawyer Rebecca Maurer, head of the Ward 12 Democratic Club and a resident of the Forest City neighborhood.

The following are the unofficial election results in The Neighborhood News readership area. The mail-in ballots were only partially counted when this tally was published.

BEDFORD

Bedford Municipal Court District (vote for not more than 1): Michelle L. Paris (10,024)

Member of Council at Large (Mayor): Stan Koci (1142), Greg Pozar (447)

Member of Council Ward 1: Sandy Spinks (220), Denise Zingale (143)

Member of Council Ward 3: Victor Fluharty (182)

Member of Council Ward 5: Jeff A. Asbury (184)

Member of Board of Education (vote for not more than 3): Anthony A. Akins, Sr. (2267), Brandon Lipford (1949), Sharyn Macklin (2020), Joseph V. Mestnik (1515), Danielle M. Turner Birch (2428)

CLEVELAND

Member of Council Ward 12: Anthony Brancatelli (1486), Rebecca Maurer (1558)

CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS

Mayor: Jack M. Bacci (205), Dave Domzalski (60)

Member of Council (vote for not more than 3): Todd Bloam (164), Matthew J. Schoeffler (125), Robert W. Unger (162), David Volek (132)

GARFIELD HEIGHTS

Mayor: Matthew Burke (2404), Shayla Davis (1605)

Member of Council Ward 1: Stacey Collier (317), Barbie C. West (234)

Member of Council Ward 2: Charles F. Donahue, Jr. (306)

Member of Council Ward 3: Jason D. Seither (230), Mark Smith (207)

Member of Council Ward 4: Avery Johnson (404)

Member of Council Ward 5: Jason X. Blake (375), Haziel B. Robies-Feeney (116)

Member of Council Ward 6: Clifford Kelley, Jr. (367), Frank T. Tagliarini (289)

Member of Council Ward 7: Tom Vaughn (518)

Member of Board of Education (vote for not more than 3): Nichelle N. Daniels (1765), Millette King (1029), Heather Morrison (1653)

INDEPENDENCE

Member of Council at Large (vote for not more than 7): John Digeronimo (1446), David S. Grendel (1475), Kyle Kaiser (741), Thomas Narduzzi (1212), Kenn Synek (1166), Anthony L. Togliatti (1448), Jim Trakas (1314), Dale A. Veverka (1295), Chris Walchanowicz (1279)


Member of Board of Education (vote for not more than 3): Ron Bernstein (1152), Lynne Laski (1231), Carrie Sears (1317)

MAPLE HEIGHTS



President of Council: Imani Capri ((807), Ron Jackson (1619)

(Continued on Page 8)

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Election Results 2021

(Continued from Page 7)

Member of Council District 1: Stafford L. Shenett (344), Valerie Walker-Isom (224)

Member of Council District 3: Christian Ostenson (130), Timothy F. Tatum (141)

Member of Council District 5: Tanglyn M. Madden ((147), Shirley Merritt ((146)

Member of Council District 7: Edwina K. Agee (345)

Member of Board of Education (vote for not more than 3): Alonzo Blackwell (1132), Sherria Granger (606), Rosalind Moore (1306), Connie Rosemond (1117), Tina Stafford-Marbury ((1124)

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From Garfield Heights Ward 3 Councilman Jason Seither (Navy Veteran) and Retired Ward 3 Councilman Michael Nenadovich (Navy Veteran) and Family

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Charter Amendments

Shall Article I, Section 4 of the Charter of the Village of Cuyahoga Heights be amended to replace the Village Clerk with the Village Chief Fiscal Officer as it relates to the authority to utilize the Village's Sewer User Charge Fund?

Yes - 171 No - 77

Shall Article II, Sections 1, 1A, 1B, 2, 3, and 4 of the Charter of the Village of Cuyahoga Heights be amended to eliminate the elected office of Clerk of Council?

Yes - 159 No - 90

Shall Article V, Section 4 of the Charter of the Village of Cuyahoga Heights be amended to permit appointments in the Fire Department and Police Department may also be made by lateral transfer in accordance with established legislation?

Yes - 178 No - 64

Proposed Charter Amendment City of Garfield Hts.

A majority affirmative vote is required for passage.

Shall Section 41 of the Charter of the City of Garfield Heights be amended to provide that the rate of compensation for members of the Police and Fire Divisions of the Department of Public Safety shall be no less than the average that is paid to the members of the Police and Fire Divisions in suburban cities with a population of ten

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thousand (10,000) or more whose boundary lines are contiguous to the City of Cleveland?

Yes - 3060 No - 720

Shall the Zoning Map of the City of Garfield Heights be amended to change the classification of PP# 543-13- 014 located at 12501 Rockside Road, and PP# 543-12-001 located adjacent to the west of 12501 Rockside Road, from their present classification of U-4 (Retail/Commercial) classification to U-11b (Industrial Park) classification?

Yes - 2622 No - 1028

Proposed Charter Amendment City of Maple Heights

A majority affirmative vote is required for passage. Shall Article III, Section 4 and Article V, Section 8 of the Charter of the City of Maple Heights be amended to provide that the Mayor shall hold no other public employment, and to allow the Mayor to hold private employment so long as such employment does not conflict with the duties of Mayor?

Yes - 1755 No - 740

Shall Article IV of the Charter of the City of Maple Heights be amended to eliminate the requirements that the salary of all elected officials be fixed at least one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the date set for the Municipal election for the terms beginning on the next succeeding first day of January, and that such salary cannot be changed during such term?

Yes - 1765 No - 699

Shall Article VII, Section 3 of the Charter of the City of Maple Heights be amended to provide an alternate meeting date for the swearing-in of newly elected officials if the original date is a legal holiday, and to provide notice of special meeting dates by electronic transmission?

Yes - 2126 No - 335

Shall Article VII, Section 17 of the Charter of the City of Maple Heights be amended by deleting it in its entirety because the Service Director and Service Department are no longer solely responsible for determining the manner of making public improvements, and reserving Section 17 for future Charter provisions?

Yes - 1560 No - 820

Shall Article VII, Section 18 of the Charter of the City of Maple Heights be amended to allow the Mayor to designate a representative to sign contracts?

Yes - 1103 No - 1354

Shall Article XIX, Section 5 of the Charter of the City of Maple Heights be amended by deleting in its entirety to remove its limits on the use of photo monitoring devices for the enforcement of traffic law violations?

Yes - 1093 No - 1363

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Maple Hts. Council approves creation of 'Peace Garden' at Stafford Park

By Judith Goldsworth

In an effort to memorialize all those who have lost their lives to violence in Maple Heights, city council, at its meeting last week, approved the creation of a "Peace Garden" at Stafford Park, and acknowledged a recent homicide in the city, that of a 14-year-old boy.

The Peace Garden, a triangular-shaped plot of land, will be located between the baseball diamonds and the forested area and behind the concession stand, southwest of the large parking area of the park, and will be maintained by the city.

Mayor Annette Blackwell said that the park was initiated by former Councilwoman Sharri Thomas "as a remembrance of the deaths we have endured as a city... and tragically, it is violence that often killed them."

In his report to council at the meeting, Police Chief Todd Hansen spoke on the death of Sha'Shawn Anderson, 14, of Cleveland, who was shot in the lower back on Adams Street, near the Family Dollar store on Broadway Avenue, at 3:45 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 1. Anderson, who was found lying on the ground, was transported to

MetroHealth Medical Center for treatment, and died a short time later from his injuries.

A large group of juveniles was seen running from the scene of the shooting, with several running into a house on Adams Street, witnesses told police.

According to the police report on the incident, two juvenile males, ages 12 and 13, who were found in the Adams Street house, were arrested and taken to the

Cuyahoga County Juvenile Detention Center, where they remain in custody. Anderson and the two juveniles in custody were all students at Milkovich Middle School in Maple Heights, police stated. A somber Hansen stated that in the month of October, Maple Heights police had taken 10 guns off the street, "But obviously, we didn't get the one this week that did the deed... so it's a tragic week for everybody." (Continued on Page 13)



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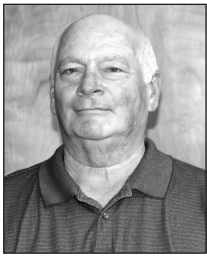
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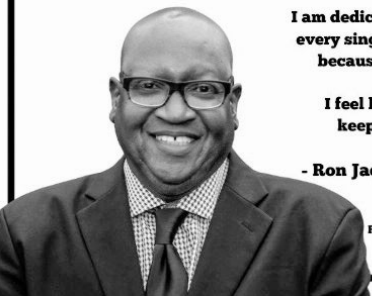
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- Ron Jackson, Council President

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Ribboncutting held for Opportunity Corridor; thoroughfare to open this week

Ohio Department of Transportation Director Jack Marchbanks, Cleveland Mayor Frank G. Jackson, Cuyahoga County Executive Armond Budish and local stakeholders joined together last Wednesday, Nov. 3, for a ribboncutting to celebrate the impending opening of

the new Opportunity Corridor Blvd. specifically designed to revitalize the neighborhood. At one time, the area of Cleveland between I-490 and University Circle was known as the "Forgotten Triangle" due to the lack of economic activity.

three construction sections and succeeded. The department's unprecedented outreach effort was to spend 20% - \$41.9 million - of all construction costs with new, small and disadvantaged businesses. As of September 30, more than \$70 million of the \$207 million construction costs have been spent with disadvantaged businesses.

Additionally, 38,500 hours of work on the project was to be completed through the on-the-job (OJT) training program. This program gives participants hands on experience working on the job with experienced workers. As of September 30, OJT participants worked more than 49,000 hours.

This project created opportunities for northeast Ohioans and businesses that will continue to benefit the region for years to come, noted ODOT officials.

"For too many years these neighborhoods and those who call them home have been bypassed by opportunity," said ODOT Director Marchbanks. "Now we're bringing opportunity right to their front door. For a lot of residents, this opportunity is a career, not just a job."

(Continued on Page 11)

My name is Mrs. Janie Allen. I am speaking on behalf of a group of concerned residents in District 6. There are many false accusations as to why this recall is being brought against Councilman Trojanski. The factual reasons as follows:

WHY RECALL COUNCILMAN RICHARD TROJANSKI

1. This recall petition for Councilman Richard Trojanski is based on his failure to responsibly discharge the duties of the office of District 6 Councilman in the City of Maple Heights, Ohio.
2. His inherent behaviors and lack of action makes him unworthy of the office he holds.
3. Councilman Trojanski's continual nonfeasance, misfeasance and malfeasance are contradictory to the needs and concerns of the residents.
4. Some examples of the above concerns are:
 - A. Councilman Trojanski's scant and/or rude communication towards District 6 residents.
 - B. Failure to respond to residents' concerns, public resident ridicule and heavy involvement against his current colleagues in other districts when District 6 concerns and needs are not being met or addressed.
 - C. His lack of Safety Committee meetings for which he is the Chairman in a city that has recently experienced increased violence especially in District 6 is another expressed reason quoted by residents.

VOTE YES TO **RECALL** COUNCILMAN **TROJANSKI**

Paid for by a group of concerned citizens in District 6

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine and his wife, Fran, had planned to attend but were forced to cancel when they were exposed to COVID-19 by two of the governor's staff members.

The purpose of the Opportunity Corridor Project, as noted in a media release from ODOT, is to improve the transportation system and support planned economic development. To accomplish this a new boulevard has been constructed between I-490/E. 55 St. to E. 105 St. in University Circle. The new 35-mph boulevard-type road includes traffic signals, new pedestrian and bicycle paths, tree lawns, landscaping and vehicular, pedestrian and rail bridges.

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Ribboncutting held for Corridor

(Continued from Page 10)

Development along the Opportunity Corridor Blvd. has already started with new businesses and existing businesses expanding. Nearly one-billion-dollars has been invested or is in development within a quarter mile of the boulevard in the last five years.

“The Opportunity Corridor gives us the opportunity to spur investments, jobs and real estate developments in neighborhoods where they otherwise wouldn't have happened,” said Cleveland Mayor Frank G. Jackson. “I want to thank former Governor Kasich, Governor DeWine, ODOT and all our state and local partners for their dedication to this project and helping ensure that Cleveland contractors and local residents can participate in and benefit from its success.”

Funding partners for the project include Federal Highway Administrator (FHWA) during the project development phases and the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission (OTIC), city of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency (NOACA), and Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) for the construction.

The OTIC funding for the project was an innovative plan that included leveraging monies from future revenues of the Ohio Turnpike. This innovative funding program helped to break ground sooner and costs for the project came in \$74 million less than the 2013 FHWA cost estimate of \$331 million.

“I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the planning, design and construction staff who worked on the Opportunity Corridor project,” said John Picuri, District 12 deputy director. “It's because of these hardworking men and women that this important project was able to come to fruition.”

Opportunity Corridor Blvd. is expected to officially open to traffic late next week. Minor work will continue through June 2022 including striping, landscaping, bridge painting, minor asphalt work and bridge work, which will require various lane restrictions.

Construction timeline

Section 1 reconstructed E. 105 St. from Quebec Ave. to north Chester Ave. through a joint venture by McTech Corp/Perk Company Inc., for a bid amount of \$20,969,780. Construction was completed in fall 2017.

Section 2 constructed a new roadway from E. 93 St. to Quebec Ave. Value-Based Design-Build contract was awarded to the Great Lakes Construction Company for a bid amount of \$35,328,000. Construction was completed in fall 2018.

Section 3 constructed a new roadway from I-490/E. 55 St. to E. 93 St. Design-Build contract was awarded to the Kokosing Construction Company for a bid amount of \$150,858,250. Construction began in fall 2018 and all work is expected to be complete in June 2022.



A ribboncutting for the new Opportunity Corridor was held last Wednesday, Nov. 3, along Opportunity Corridor Blvd., west of the E. 55 St. overpass. Among the dignitaries speaking to the crowd before the ceremonies were Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson, inset upper left, and County Executive Armond Budish, inset, upper right. Other officials on hand were ODOT Director Jack Marchbanks, NOACA Executive Director Grace Gallucci, ODOT District 12 Deputy Director John Picuri, ODOT Ohio Turnpike Corridor Administrator Myron Pakush and Kokosing Construction Regional Manager Todd Lezon. Photos by Elena Psenicka

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Maple Hts. Council approves creation of 'Peace Garden' at Stafford Park

(Continued from Page 9)

Hansen said police are working with grief counselors and the schools, and more officers are patrolling near the school. Hansen stated that the two juveniles in custody both have been charged.

Hansen thanked all those who assisted police with the investigation. "There was a lot of help that day," he said, "from people in the neighborhood who stepped up and gave us information and helped us get to the bottom of things very quickly. So it was all wrapped up that day, basically, which was through the help of the community."

Other legislation

Several other pieces of legislation on the agenda were approved at last week's meeting, including the following:

- A resolution authorizing Blackwell to enter into a Member Community Infrastructure Grant Program Agreement with the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) for the Southwest Sewer District Sewer Repairs, Phase 2, in the city. The NEORS agrees to pay Maple Heights an amount not to exceed \$292,320, on a reimbursement basis towards the project costs.

- Another resolution authorizing Blackwell to execute an agreement with the NEORS for Community Cost Share Program Funds in the amount of \$100,000, for the Lee Road and Mustang Drive sewer repairs, including fixing broken, damaged and cross connected storm and sanitary sewer pipes. This will fulfill Ohio EPA permit requirements.

- An ordinance for the city's contract with Waste Management of Ohio, Inc., for residential solid waste collection, disposal and recycling Jan. 1, 2022, through Dec. 31, 2026, with the option for two one-year renewal periods. Waste Management, which currently provides the city's trash collection services, submitted the lowest and best bid, the legislation stated.

- An ordinance enacting a new chapter of the Codified Ordinances, titled "Mobile Food Service Operations," which will regulate food trucks and similar operations.

- An ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the city, in a principal amount not to exceed \$7,115,000, to refund a portion of the city's Outstanding Various Purpose Im-

provement and Refunding Bonds, Series 2010.

- A resolution to sell an unimproved city-owned residential lot at 19505 Longview Ave. to an adjacent property owner for use as a side yard.

- An ordinance to enact new legislation to create a cost-sharing program with private property owners for the removal of dead, diseased or damaged trees and those whose roots have impacted sidewalks and sewers from tree lawns, remained in Finance Committee for further discussion.

Resident speaks in support of Trojanski

Dunham Road resident George Grisin spoke during the Citizen Comments portion of the agenda in support of District 6 Councilman Richard Trojanski, who is facing a recall election on Tuesday, Nov. 23.

Trojanski, who for many years has publicly declared his openly gay status as a member of Maple Heights Council, has also stated in response to the recall, "This is a personal attack against me. It's also deeply rooted against me because of my sexual orientation, yet smoothly crafted by my previous opponent and her followers."

Grisin commented, in Trojanski's defense, that he wanted to be a character witness for the beleaguered councilman. "He does his job, with love and purpose for this city. I have to speak with the utmost admiration for that aspect."

Reports/Announcements

Human Services Director Linda Vopat stated that mammograms will be made available from the Taussig Cancer Center at the Maple Heights Senior Center, 15901 Libby Rd., on Friday, Nov. 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The mammograms are free for those without insurance, she stated, adding that insured individuals are asked to bring their insurance cards. For an appointment, call 216-346-8511 or go to www.CCF.org/CancerCommunityOutreach.

Vopat also thanked the Giant Eagle Foundation for their donation of \$3000 towards the Maple Heights Food Pantry.

Trojanski said he and Councilwoman Dana Anderson, along with Castle High School, will be hosting a Free Coat

Giveaway on Sunday, Nov. 20 from 10 a.m.-noon at 5130 Warrensville Center Rd. Other winter clothing items are also being given away.

Economic Development Director Patrick Grogan-Myers reported that a public hearing for residents to give feedback on potential Community Development Block Grant and Community Development Supplemental Grant applications will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 17, at 6 p.m. at the Maple Heights Senior Center. The meeting will also be broadcast via Zoom.

Community Police Reports Garfield Heights

Theft

- On Oct. 22, officer responded to Burger King, 4869 Turney Rd., for a breaking and entering report. A manager related that at about 1:20 p.m., that day, she went into the office and found that a register till containing \$1,520 in cash was missing from the office safe. Security video showed that at 1:49 a.m. a man wearing a white shirt with black hood pulled over his head and face gained entry into the building. He is seen going directly to the office and into the safe. He took money from the safe and left the building. Manager advised to follow up with the Detective Bureau.

(Continued on Page 15)

Exclusively Skin opens in Garfield Heights

Dr. Tracy Ringo is pleased to announce that Exclusively Skin, specializing in the treatment of skin diseases, has opened up in Garfield Heights at 9565 Midwest Ave., Suite C.

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Dr. Ringo is a Cleveland native who graduated from Bedford High School and was inducted into the Bedford High School Hall of Fame in 2003.

She is in the Ohio Army



Dr. Tracy Ringo

National Guard and is the first African American female to reach the rank of Colonel. She celebrates 30 years of service this year.

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Community Police reports

(Continued from Page 13)

•On Oct. 25, a woman reported to police that on Oct. 12, between 1 and 1:15 p.m., a UPS package was stolen from the back porch of her Plymouth Ave. home. The package contained boots valued at \$300.

Aggravated Robbery

On Oct. 26, at 11:22 p.m., officers were dispatched to Applebee's at 9225 Vista Way for an employee robbed at gunpoint in the parking lot. He said he had been serving a couple in the restaurant and they began to talk about buying and selling shoes, which interested the server. He arranged to meet the male customer at his car to look at shoes. When the server walked up to the car, the male pulled out an "AR style gun" and put it to his neck after demanding all his property. The server gave the male his iPhoneXR, his black work pants (off his body), his black work shoes (off his feet) and a total of \$976.37, \$700 of which belonged to the server and \$276.37 to Applebees. The suspects then left in an unknown direction. Security camera footage to be reviewed. Detective Bureau to follow up.

Weapon Offense

On Oct. 27, about 10:11 p.m., police responded to the area of Granger Rd. and E. 102 St., for reports of numerous shots fired. The caller said the shots were coming from a back yard on Granger. The officers suspected the residence to be a home in the 10200 block of Granger Rd. because of its previous violent call history. They went to the house but a man they saw inside refused

to answer the door. Meanwhile a car pulled into the driveway and police attempted to speak with the driver, who put the car in reverse, almost striking one of the officers. Police then grabbed the driver's arm and escorted him from the vehicle. While checking his driving status through the BMV, police found the suspect was under suspension. While conducting an inventory log of the vehicle, police located a loaded 9mm handgun with an extended magazine loaded with 15 live rounds plus one in the chamber under the driver's seat. The suspect was placed under arrest and taken to GH Jail for processing. At that time it was unknown if he was the person discharging the firearm in the initial call. He was being held with no bond for improper handling of a firearm in a motor vehicle and would later be issued a traffic citation for driving under suspension.

Robbery - Forcible Purse-Snatching

A female victim spoke to an officer at police headquarters on Nov. 3, in regard to a robbery occurring earlier in the day. She told police she was in the driveway of her mother's residence in the 11700 block of McCracken Rd., about 3 p.m., assisting her mother to the car to take her to a doctor's appointment. An unknown male ran up to her and grabbed the purse hanging from her arm. The suspect broke the strap of the purse and was able to flee eastbound on McCracken with the victim's purse. She said it is a medium-sized blue Gucci purse containing her wallet with her driver's license and bank card which she has canceled.

Disturbance

On Nov. 6, at 9:42 p.m., Garfield Heights units were dispatched to Bonkers bar, 5147 Turney Rd., for a report of a disturbance. The caller said there were several people fighting the bar's security guard. When police arrived they saw several parties actively fighting in the middle of Turney Rd. There was also a large crowd coming out of the bar. Several more officers arrived on scene and those

fighting began to disperse. The security guard advised that he was attempting to remove three females from the bar per the request of staff when they began to fight him and the struggle began. He said the women hit him and spit on him. They were still outside the bar screaming and causing a disturbance, stating that the security guard attacked them. Witnesses told police the women had initiated the fight. The report noted that the females were all highly intoxicated. Officers tried to gather information from them on the alleged assault but they were extremely belligerent, loud and refused to answer questions. They continued to shout and get into the officers' faces. After multiple warnings, which two of the females ignored, they were placed in handcuffs and escorted to a police cruiser. The third female did listen to police and left the area with no further incident. The other two women were taken to Garfield Heights jails, turned over to staff and booked on disorderly conduct. The security guard and one of the women indicated they wish to pursue charges. Report to be forwarded to the city prosecutor for review.

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Your most important work though has been with people; listening to their ambitions, needs and desires, and then doing your utmost to help.

You've had assistance, of course, most notably from Gail, who's been your life-partner throughout this journey.

We respect and admire you, Tony, and wish you nothing but the best in the future ... Your loving family