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99th YEAR NO. 01

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

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FREE

GHHS Class of '51 holds 70th Reunion Man accused of 1987 murder of Garfield Hts. teen Barbie Blatnik dies of cancer a month before trial

By Ellen Psenicka



Shown in the photo are members of the 1951 graduating class of Garfield Heights High School at their 70th reunion last Wednesday at Slyman's in Independence. Bottom row, from left with ladies' maiden names in parentheses: June Jacobi (Nemec), June Kish (Talboo), Marion Miller (Seitz), Mary Ann Miller (Croyle), Carol Sharp (Wanat). Middle row: Miriam Rahe (Bohning), Lucy Scaglione (Dulik), Helen Crudele (Reilly), Dorie Roller (Gabor), Betty Marrek (Gallagher). Top row: Phil Albano, Warren Johnson, Ed Foley, Gene Montowski, Bob McVoy (Class of 1949), Anthony DiSalvo, Mickey Gerbasi, Don Wem. Photo by Elena Psenicka

The Garfield Heights High School Class of 1951 held its 70th Class Reunion – yes, **70th CLASS REUNION!** – last Friday, Sept. 17, at a luncheon at Slyman's restaurant in Independence. Eighteen classmates showed up for the festivities, as well as Bob McVoy, who actually graduated in the 1949 GHHS class, now an energetic 91-year-old.

McVoy is a member of the Garfield Heights High School Athletic Hall of Fame, he said, having played for the Bulldogs' baseball, football and basketball teams.

Local residents of a certain age may remember McVoy from the Turneytown Bowling Alley, which he bought after high school and ran for 40 years.

Several members of the 1951 class got nostalgic as they munched on corned beef sandwiches and talked about hanging out after classes at a "burger joint" called The Campus, which was across the street from the old high school on Turney Rd.

One of the ladies mentioned that, although the high school had a cafeteria, she and her friends always packed their lunches every day, wrapping their sandwiches in old Garfield Heights Leader newspapers, a weekly which had started publishing in 1946, just a handful of years before the Class of 1951 graduated!

All the classmates chatted away happily at Slyman's last Wednesday, catching up on what's been going on in their long lives. By about 2:30 p.m., with lunch over and leftover boxes in hand, as well as red long-stemmed roses for the ladies, the group started leaving the restaurant and promising to keep in touch with their old friends and looking forward to their next reunion.

Primary Election makes way for Nov. 2's 'top two'

The votes have been counted in local races in The Neighborhood News readership area among those running for office in the Sept. 14th Primary Election.

Cleveland mayoral candidates Justin Bibb and Kevin Kelley will vie for Cleveland's top job in November. In Cleveland City Council's Ward 5, Delores Gray will face Richard Starr, and in Ward 12, Tony Brancatelli is up against Rebecca Maurer.

In Garfield Heights, Matt Burke will challenge Shayla Davis for the mayor's job, and in Garfield's Ward 6, it will be Frank Tagliarini versus Clifford Kelley, Jr.

These candidates and those not required to run in the primary because only one other person was running against them will face off in the November General Election.

A Cleveland man accused in the 1987 murder of a 17-year-old Garfield Heights girl whose strangled body was found dumped near Blossom Music Center in Cuyahoga Falls has died of cancer, as reported in the Akron Beacon Journal last month.

James Zastawnik, who lived on Indiana Ave. in Slavic Village at the time of the murder, was scheduled to go on trial for the death of Barbara Blatnik next month, according to media reports.

Zastawnik, 69, who was free on a \$35,000 bond and living with a relative in Mogadore, the Beacon Journal reported, died Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2021; he was ill and receiving hospice services.

On Dec. 20, 1987, Cuyahoga Falls Police responded to O'Neil Rd. near Blossom Music Center for a report of a female whose body, later identified as Barbara Blatnik of Garfield Heights, was found in a wooded area. Blatnik was last seen alive the night before when she was dropped off by a friend at the corner of Warner Road and Grand Division in Garfield Heights, around midnight.

Detectives investigated countless leads throughout this 30-year cold case, according to the Cuyahoga Falls Police website.

Last August, the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department asked the Bureau of Criminal Investigation to conduct additional tests on DNA found under Blatnik's fingernails to generate a more complete genetic profile of their suspect.

Zastawnik was arrested in May 2020 for Blatnik's murder based on new evidence provided through advancements in DNA technology.

The Porchlight Project provided funding to the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department to help get the needed DNA testing that was done to close this case.

When a loved one goes missing, friends and neighbors show their support by keeping their porch light on. The Porchlight Project, according to its website, was formed to lend special help to cases of abduction and murder that have gone cold. They provide free private investigative services, funding for DNA testing, and media support for a few new cases every year.

Listed as police liaison for The Porchlight Project is former Garfield Heights police chief Robert Sackett.



James Zastawnik

Bedford Council OKs police raises

By Judith Goldsworth

Bedford Council passed two ordinances at its meeting Monday night approving contracts to give incre-

mental raises over three years to patrol officers and to sergeants and lieutenants on the city's police department.

The city completed its negotiations with the officers on both contracts on Wednesday, Sept. 15.

City Manager Mike Mallis said that the previous collective bargaining agreement (CBA) expired at the end of 2020, "so we've been negotiating throughout this year for the years 2021, 2022 and 2023."

He specified that the raises

over the three-year period in the contracts are 2% for the first year, 2.5% for the second year and 2% for the third year.

Additionally, there were increases in insurance provisions as well, Mallis stated.

Water, sewer rate ordinances

Placed on first reading were three ordinances dealing with water and/or sewer rates for 2022, as well as provid-

(Continued on Page 2)

Bedford Council OKs

(Continued from Page 1)

ing a rate reduction in water and sewer rates for disabled individuals and senior citizens next year.

Finance Director Frank Gambosi said the legislation, if passed at a future meeting, would not raise the water rates in 2022, and the wastewater sewer rates would go up by 4%.

The city would also provide a 30% discount in water/sewer base rates to Bedford homeowners who are age 65 or older or declared 100% totally and permanently disabled, according to the rate reduction ordinance.

Motions on agenda

There were three motions on Monday night's agenda, two of which were passed by council. One of them was to

accept the Planning Commission's decision to accept the request for the rezoning and lot split of a parcel in the Solon Rd. area, as well as the rezoning of the existing rear portion of an adjacent parcel on Solon Rd. from residential to industrial use.

Law Director John Montello offered an amendment to the motion, approving the building of a mound and landscaping "similar in size, quality and nature" as an existing mound on the property, which was also approved by council.

Also passed was a motion accepting the Planning Commission's decision to accept Fluent Solar of Lindon, Utah, representing Michael and Kelsey Haggerty, of Powers Rd. in Bedford, who have requested a zoning permit to install a roof mounted solar photovoltaic system on the southwest and northwest side of their dwelling.

Announcement

Councilman Vic Fluharty said he and Councilman Don Saunders will hold a Ward 3 and 6 meeting at City Hall on Monday, Sept. 27, from 7-9 p.m.

MCIP provides funding to member communities and eligible political subdivisions for sewer infrastructure rehabilitation, replacement and improvement projects that address water quality and quantity issues. These issues adversely impact human health and the environment and are mitigated through cost-effective sewer infrastructure projects.

Since the program's inception in 2016, the Sewer District has awarded \$47,192,996.87 towards 72 public sewer infrastructure improvement projects. MCIP grants in municipalities in The Neighborhood News readership area this funding round include:

Garfield Heights (\$2,339,259.10): Midwest Neighborhood Phase 5

Maple Heights (\$292,320): Southwest Sewer District - Sewer Repairs Phase 2 (design)

Newburgh Heights (\$1,554,348): 20s Neighborhood Sewer Separation

"Failing septic systems, sewer flooding, sanitary sewer overflows and common trench sewers contribute to poor water quality throughout our region," said Frank Greenland, director of Watershed Programs. "This program provides a vital funding mechanism to assist with needed repairs and new sewer infrastructure while protecting and improving the region's water resources."



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Jeff Bodziony, Pastor

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Maple Heights, Ohio
(216) 662-0370

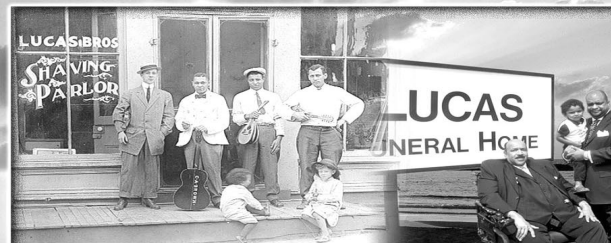

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Community calendar

Warner Rd. Block Party

A Block Party will be held this Saturday, Sept. 25, from noon to 2 p.m., at Cleveland Community Friends Church, 4509 Warner Rd., Cleveland. The party is free for the surrounding community.

The festivities will include a free cookout including hot dogs, soft drinks and snacks. There will also be a Bounce House and face painting for the kids.

Free Community Meals

Free monthly Community Meals (take-outs) return to The Lutheran Church of the Covenant, 19000 Libby Rd., Maple Heights, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. the fourth Thursday of every month. Drive your vehicle to the back of the church and your food will be brought out to you. The next free community meal will be held Thursday, Sept. 23. For questions, call Mary at 216-924-6096.

Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch meeting

The Garfield Heights Ward 7 Block Watch, sponsored by Councilman Tom Vaughn, will meet Tuesday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m., at St. Monica Church's pavilion off Rockside Rd. Nonperishable items for the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry would be appreciated. All are welcome. For more information contact Gail at 216-662-9213.

Garfield Hts. Community Awareness Meeting

A Community Awareness Meeting for Garfield Heights Wards 5 and 6, hosted by Clifford Kelley with Mayor Matt Burke, will be held on Thursday, Sept. 30, at the Garfield Heights branch library, 5409 Turney Rd., at 6 p.m. Police Chief Mark Kaye will address safety issues. Community updates will also be discussed as well as economic development in the city.

Everlasting Covenant Ministries (ECM)
has partnered with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank

We are looking for Volunteers

Starting October 2021, our servant ministry invites you to join our team to help feed God's people.

For further details, please contact Lucille:
lucillegedeon@currently.com or phone: (216) 375-7338

Everlasting Covenant Ministries (ECM), 6060 Turney Road, Garfield Heights • Phone: 440-497-6897
Email: everlastingcovenantministries@gmail.com • Rev. Lisa H. Jarrell, Pastor



ST. ANDREW'S FRIDAY FISH FRY DINNERS

Dine-in on Friday, Sept. 24, 2021
Serving 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Future dates this year are: Oct. 8, Oct. 22, November 5, 19; December 3, 17.

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Questions? Call Mary,
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Future 2021 dates:
September 23
October 28



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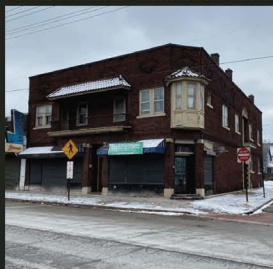
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Cleveland Council votes to use federal funds to develop citywide broadband network

Cleveland City Council held its regular meeting Monday night, Sept. 20, and authorized the city to set aside a share of its federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act to develop a city-wide broadband network. The city is committing \$20 million to the project, though additional funds from other sources are needed.

The Covid-19 emergency has highlighted the importance of universally available, high speed, reliable and affordable broadband coverage. People rely on the internet to participate in a variety of activities, including remote education classes, healthcare and employment, down to ordering food or getting tickets for entertainment activities.

Recognizing the need for this connectivity, the U.S. Treasury Department is allowing American Rescue funds to be used to make necessary investments in broadband infrastructure.

Council also authorized the city to enter into agreements with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank to financially assist with the food banks' capital improvements at its new center on Coit Rd. and its existing facility on South Waterloo Rd. The city has committed to paying \$5

million from federal funds it will be receiving through the American Rescue Plan Act and council will discuss whether additional funding in the future is warranted.

A number of economic development projects were authorized including:

- Entering into agreements with Northeast Ohio Hispanic Center for Economic Development to provide assistance – through loans and grants – for the CentroVilla25 Project to develop the W. 25th St. and Clark Ave. area. CentroVilla25, a collaborative effort between MetroHealth, the Hispanic Business Center, Hispanic Alliance and Metro West Community Development Center, is developing the W. 25th/Clark area as the economic and cultural center of the Latino community in Greater Cleveland. The stretch south of Clark to MetroHealth contains several vacant buildings and empty land.

- Authorizing the director of Economic Development to enter into a loan agreement with Fairfax Renaissance Development Corp., to provide economic development assistance to partially finance the development of the Innovation Square mixed-use neighborhood project lo-

cated on the west side of E. 105th St. and other associated costs necessary to redevelop the property.

The project will consist of 80 units (20 studios, 44 1BRs, and 16 2BRs). Of those, 56 units (70%) will be market rate and 24 units (30%) will be workforce housing. Along with the neighboring development of the Meijer grocery store, this will be the first attempt to develop market-rate and workforce housing at scale outside of the downtown, University Circle and Near West Side markets.

- Authorizing the director of Economic Development to enter into a loan agreement with the Levin Group to provide economic development assistance to partially finance the development of the former Blanket Mills building on Fulton Rd. and other associated costs necessary to redevelop the property.

LEGAL NOTICE

The City of Maple Heights is inviting bid proposals for Residential Waste Collection and Recycling Services within the City of Maple Heights, Ohio. Bid Documents can be obtained from the office of the Law Director located at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Rd, Maple Heights, OH 44137 or on the City of Maple Heights website at <https://citymapleheights.com>

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on Friday, October 1, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. in Council Chambers at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Rd, Maple Heights, OH 44137.

Bids will be received at the office of the Law Director located at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Rd, Maple Heights, OH 44137 until 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 and will be opened publicly and read aloud at that time in Council Chambers. Bidders must submit one (1) original, two (2) duplicate copies, and one (1) electronic copy of its Bid in one sealed envelope clearly marked "RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION, DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING SERVICES BID." Bids will be valid for 180 days after the Bid opening date.

Each Bid must contain all Bid Forms and be accompanied by separate Bid Bond payable to the City of Maple Heights in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the first year Bid price as security that, if the Bid is accepted, a Contract will be entered into with the City of Maple Heights in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Form of Contract contained in the Bid Documents.

The Bid Bond will be returned when the Contract has been executed by the Successful Bidder, or when any Bid is, or all Bids are rejected. The City of Maple Heights reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids and waive any non-conformities or irregularities contained therein.

Published: The Neighborhood News
September 22, 2021 and September 29, 2021

CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO

List of Meetings for October 2021

Monday, October 4, 2021	Council Work Session - TBD Regular Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 5, 2021	Planning Commission (if needed) Work Session - 5:30 p.m., Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Monday, October 11, 2021	Wards 2 & 5 - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 13, 2021	Southeast Area Law Enforcement (SEALE) Board of Trustees Meeting (if needed) Work Session - 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting - 12:00 p.m.
Monday, October 18, 2021	Council Work Session - TBD Regular Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 19, 2021	Planning Commission (if needed) Work Session - 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 26, 2021	Board of Zoning Appeals (if needed) Work Session - 6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

It should also be noted that the Board of Building Standards and Appeals, Civil Service Commission, Bedford Arts and Cultural Board, Bedford Historical Preservation Board, Assessment Equalization Board, Public Hearings, Planning Commission, Animal Appeals Board, Board of Zoning Appeals and Tree Board meet as needed. Notification of these meetings will be posted at the five most public places in the City per Ordinance No. 8461-09.

All Meetings will be held at Bedford City Hall, 165 Center Road, Bedford, Ohio 44146. For agendas please go to www.bedfordoh.gov or call the Clerk of Council, at 440-735-6510.

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NN: 9-22-21

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OLD FUSE BOX? Call Mike

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Fuse Box Troubles?

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We Install New Breaker Boxes! We Upgrade Meter Services!

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Sal's

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SINCE 1975

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Shivers says... "Better call Sal an easy name you know and can trust in your home..."

LIVE Representatives 24/7



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We Service All Makes and Models

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ANYTHING to do with improving your home - WE CAN DO IT!!

Free Estimate

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Carbon Monoxide Protection Free Estimates **(216) 240-0673**

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PAINTING VERY, VERY NEAT! EXPERT IN PLASTER & DRYWALL REPAIR & WATER DAMAGE OTHER REPAIRS No down payment required • 30 Years Experience **TED STONE** Senior Discounts **216-299-5560**

Community police reports

It was determined that the toddler had walked out of his mother's bedroom, which has a walk-out porch on the second floor. An officer observed that the door to the house from the porch was open and there were two large gaps in the railing around the porch several feet wide.

Due to the jurisdiction being unclear in this incident, the report was completed for departmental information and will be assigned to the appropriate office pending resolution of jurisdiction.

Cleveland

Shooting: Sept. 14, 10:23 p.m., Marathon Gas, 7310 Broadway Ave. 19-year-old male suffered gunshot wound to the left leg below the knee. Transported to MetroHealth. Suspect identified, no arrests.

Overdose: Sept. 19, 9:35 a.m., 4200 block of Turney Rd. Female victim of overdose conveyed to Marymount Hospital.

Injury to Person: Sept. 19, 7600 block of Jeffries Ave. Three-year-old boy jumped out of second story window. EMS conveyed him to MetroHealth.

Shootings: Sept. 19, 6:02 p.m. 6700 block of Worley Ave., playground area. Three victims of gunshot wounds, ages 14, 15 and 19. Suspects are two males on foot, no arrests. Victims transported by private auto to Cleveland Clinic.

Garfield Heights

Assist Cleveland EMS

On Sept. 19, about 4:15 p.m., GHPD units responded to the 7600 block of Jeffries Ave., to assist Cleveland EMS for a report of a 3-year-old boy who fell out of a window. While EMS transported the boy and his mother to MetroHealth Medical Center, GHPD officers spoke with residents and gathered further information. A juvenile female said she was watching her younger siblings while their parents were out and left the toddler in an upstairs bedroom to watch television while she went downstairs to prepare food for the other children. Shortly after she got downstairs, there was a knock on the front door and she saw the little boy crying for help stating he had fallen out of a window and that his stomach hurt. His sister immediately called 911.

*Do You Know Where Your
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We KNOW. That Is Why
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**Blessing
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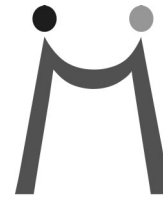
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12215 GRANGER RD.,
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216-581-3540

**Marymount Child Care Center
is now enrolling children**

3 to 5 years of age

We offer

**year round full day programs
from 6:30 am - 5:30 pm**

*Marymount Child Care is a State of Ohio
Three Star Step Up To Quality Award Winner.*

Call for additional information.

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OH LIC. #26535 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

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• SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT
CALL R. GRENDZINSKI
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RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
NEW HOT WATER TANKS
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GAS LINES REPAIRED & INSTALLED
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or Email: nnews1923@aol.com

Business Directory Deadline: Fridays 5pm

From the Mayor's Desk



By Maple Heights Mayor Annette Blackwell

Maple Hts. welcomes all

I was heartbroken and saddened by the violence that unfolded last month and has taken hold in Afghanistan, as I am sure you were, too. If ever there is a time for us to come together and work for peace, this is the time. Working for peace does not begin with actions of diplomats in faraway places, it begins here at home.

Daily we are reminded that we are all called to be women and men for others, caring for one another, loving one another and doing unto each other as you would have them do unto you. Putting these words into action is hard, requiring us to overcome fear and prejudice; putting these words into action is just.

I remind myself of this calling to be women and men for others as American citizens. Afghans with Special Immigrant Visas, and other vulnerable Afghans were evacuated and are now seeking to build new lives here in the United States. It is all too easy to turn away our Afghan brothers and sisters out of fear of the unknown, but we cannot let fear overcome what we know is right and just. We must be ready to not only talk about love and compassion but also show it. We must welcome all with open arms, just as so many other communities across the United States have done, because that is not only our higher calling, it is the action that demonstrates love.

When the opportunity to welcome new residents comes, we must answer the call because new residents bring new life, new thoughts and new businesses into the community. The most recent Census shows our city grew by almost 700 people between 2010 and 2020 — the first time since 1970 — because we opened our arms and our hearts to new residents, new friends and new families. We are a stronger, more vibrant community because we opened our arms and hearts.

As the Cleveland region prepares to welcome people from all around the world, we will be working with our regional partners to welcome them with open arms and hearts. We will love both in word and in action.

Missing Garfield Hts. girl

Detective Rich Fogle of the Garfield Heights Police Department has requested the public's help locating a missing/runaway 13-year-old girl from Garfield Heights.

Asia Oliver-Henderson, about 5'4" tall and weighing 150 lbs., was last seen leaving her home on Maplerow Ave. about 9 a.m. on Sept. 11. She possibly left with an unknown party in a vehicle.

There is no description of what Asia was wearing or of the vehicle. Anyone with information on Asia's whereabouts is asked to call Det. Fogle at 216-475-5840 or email to: rfogle@garfieldhts.org.

MISSING TEEN

Garfield Hts., OH



Asia Henderson was last seen on Saturday, 9/11/21 around 9AM. It is believed she left in a vehicle on Maplerow Ave. and has not been seen since. Asia just moved here from Memphis, TN.

Height: 5'4
Weight: 140 lbs
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Age: 13

If you've seen Asia or know her whereabouts, please contact the Garfield Heights PD at 216-475-1234

ADDICT ADDICTION BAND

PLAYING AT LEONARD'S DOG HOUSE BAR & GRILLE
5504 HARVARD AVE., CLEVELAND

FLETCHER LITTLE'S
Birthday Bash!



Saturday,
September 25th
8 PM - 11 PM

City of Garfield Heights

OUTDOOR COMMUNITY FLEA MARKET

Saturday, Sept. 25, 9 am to 2 pm

The Garfield Heights Historical Society volunteers will be selling ice cream during the event.



at the Civic Center
5407 Turney Rd.

www.garfieldhts.org
Call 216-475-1100, ext. 2425 for information.

"For God and Country"

AMERICAN LEGION POST 309

15521 Broadway Ave., Maple Hts. OH 44137, 216-662-7768

PORK CHOP DINNER

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29, 2021

Serving from 3-7pm • Donation \$9.00/person • 50/50 Raffle 8 PM
(do not have to be present to win)

Menu includes: Breaded Pork Chop, mashed potatoes & gravy, peas & carrots, applesauce, corn muffin & dessert.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
DINE-IN OR CARRYOUT

ADVANCE ORDERS to reserve dinner. Call the Post: 216-662-7768

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The Neighborhood News

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ACT NOW!! SPACE LIMITED!

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