

The Neighborhood News

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99th YEAR NO. 45

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2022

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

FREE

Repeal of ban on traffic cameras in Garfield Heights to go to voters

By Ellen Psenicka

At its meeting Monday night, Garfield Heights Council passed emergency legislation to submit to voters in the Nov. 8, 2022 General Election the question of whether to repeal the charter's ban on photo-monitoring traffic devices in the city.

Currently the charter forbids any traffic law photo-monitoring devices for enforcement of traffic laws unless a law enforcement officer is present at the location of the device and personally issues the ticket to an alleged violator at the time and location of the violation.

The Garfield Heights Charter Review Committee has recommended to council the repeal of the ban.

Also passed by council to submit to the electorate on Nov. 8, is a proposed amendment to the Garfield Heights Charter providing for the mayor to serve as the public safety director.

Other legislation passed included:

- Purchasing from Altec Nueco, LLC a used 2015 Freightliner Forestry bucket truck for the service department at a cost not to exceed \$132,000;

- Jointly applying, with Cuyahoga County and the cities of Cleveland, East Cleveland, Euclid, Cleveland Heights and Parma, for the 2022 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. If the grant is received, the city will purchase a barcoding system for labeling and managing evidence and two ballistic entry shields for the police department;

- Establishing the Municipal Court Traffic Camera Revenue Fund. The villages of Newburgh Heights and Walton Hills both issue traffic camera citations which may result in civil actions being filed in the Garfield Heights Municipal Court. It is required that a fund be established for the court to manage the revenue generated from traffic camera citations;

- Establishing the OneOhio Opioid Settlement Fund, Number 224, within the city's budgetary fund structure as required by state law. Law Director Tim Riley said the amount Garfield Heights will receive is minimal, about \$4,000;

- Hiring OHM Advisors to provide economic development/planning services to the city for 2022, 2023 and 2024 in addition to its role as city engineer. Noreen Kuban will continue in her position as Economic Development Director but has opted to cut back on her duties and the compensation she receives from the city;

- Requesting grant funds from the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Program for the E. 126 St. and Wolf Creek Interceptor Relocation Project and for the Antenucci Boulevard Reconstruction Project;

- Levying special assessments to the county auditor to be collected on the next tax collection for the cost of garbage and refuse collection and lot maintenance.



BRILLIANCE BASH!

Here's a couple of new school enrollees who attended The Brilliance School Back to School Bash last Saturday on the grounds of the tuition-free neighborhood school on Penfield Ave., Garfield Heights. Children and families of all ages had fun at the event. Activities included bouncy castles, face painting, henna tattoos and an ice cream truck. Photo courtesy of The Brilliance School

Trial begins of man alleged to have caused four deaths in Slavic Village

The trial of Armond Johnson, 29, who is accused of shooting and killing a female victim, 25, inside her residence near E. 63 St. and Fleet Ave., in Cleveland's Slavic Village on July 8, 2019, was set to begin Monday, Aug. 8, in the courtroom of Judge Timothy McCormick.

After the shooting, Johnson then allegedly set the house on fire and fled the scene. The victim's children, one age six, who is also Johnson's son, and the other age 2, were inside the residence and died as a result of the fire. He also is accused of shooting and killing a man, 35, in a vacant field adjacent to the residence.

The Cleveland Police and Fire departments responded to the scene, where the victims were pronounced deceased. On July 9, Johnson was arrested by CPD.

He was indicted on the following charges: 14 counts of aggravated murder, four counts of arson, two counts of felonious assault, two counts of aggravated burglary, two counts of child endangering, two counts of having weapons under disability, one count of kidnapping and one count of tampering with evidence. This is a capital case.

Deadly crash on Turney

Last Sunday, Aug. 7, Cleveland police reported a three-car crash on Turney Rd. near Grand Division Ave., that left a woman dead and a man injured.

Police said the three cars involved in the accident were a 2018 Infinity QX60 driven by an unknown person, a 2009 Hyundai Sonata driven by a 59-year-old female, and a 2009 Chevy Cobalt operated by a 26-year-old male with a 24-year-old passenger.

The Infinity was traveling northbound on Turney Rd. being pursued by Garfield Heights Police, CPD reported. As the Infinity passed Grand Division Ave., it sideswiped the Hyundai, crossed over the double yellow lines and struck the Chevy before coming to rest. The driver of the Infinity fled the scene.

The driver of the Hyundai was transported by EMS to Marymount Hospital, where she was pronounced deceased. The passenger of the Chevy was transported by EMS to MetroHealth for treatment for a broken knee.

Garfield Heights police issued a media release saying that on Sunday, Aug. 7, at 4 a.m., a GHPD officer observed the Infinity SUV traveling at a very high rate of speed south on Turney Rd., without any registration on the vehicle. GHPD said it made an abrupt U-turn near the officer and began traveling north on Turney. The officer activated his overhead lights and siren but the Infinity increased its speed and fled from the officer.

A few seconds later the Infinity struck two other vehicles just north of Grand Division in Cleveland. The driver of the Infinity, GHPD said, fled on foot and has not been located. The Infinity was stolen out of Brookpark and a loaded firearm was recovered.

The Cleveland Police Accident Investigation Unit is handling the crash and Garfield Heights detectives are continuing the investigation regarding the driver of the Infinity.

Maple Hts. to hold series of Town Hall meetings

Maple Heights Mayor Annette Blackwell invites residents to a series of Maple Heights Town Hall meetings to discuss proposed road repairs in the city and delinquent municipal taxes. Several meetings are scheduled at two locations so residents can choose the most convenient time and place to attend. The meetings will be held on:

- Aug. 12, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Dunham-Turney Plaza Police Substation;

- Aug. 16, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Maple Heights Library's large meeting room;

- Aug. 18, 5:30-6:45 p.m., Dunham-Turney Plaza Police Substation;

- Aug. 24, 5:30-6:45 p.m., Maple Heights Library's large meeting room;

- Aug. 26, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Dunham-Turney Plaza Police Substation;

- Aug. 30, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Maple Heights Library's large meeting room.

OSHA fines proposed for Family Dollar stores in Maple Hts., Columbus, for ignoring workplace safety hazards

One of the nation's largest discount retailers continues to expose employees to the risk of injuries by flagrantly ignoring workplace safety regulations, this time with hazardous conditions found at two Ohio locations, in Maple Heights and Columbus, according to an Aug. 1 media release from the US Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Since 2017, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration and state OSHA programs have conducted more than 500 inspections at Family Dollar and Dollar Tree – operated by their parent company, Dollar Tree Inc. – and found more than 300 violations. During these inspections, OSHA routinely found exit routes, fire extinguishers and electrical panels dangerously obstructed or blocked; unsafe walking-working surfaces; and unstable stacks of merchandise.

Following the Ohio inspections, OSHA proposed penalties of \$1,233,364 for multiple violations.

“Family Dollar and Dollar Tree stores have a long and disturbing history of putting profits above employee safety,” said Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health Doug Parker. “Time and time again, we find the same violations – blocked or obstructed emergency exits and aisles, boxes of merchandise stacked high or in front of electrical panels and fire extinguishers. Each hazard can lead to a tragedy.”

On Jan. 31, 2022, OSHA initiated an inspection following an employee report of unsafe conditions at the Family Dollar store on Dunham Rd. in Maple Heights. The agency issued citations for one repeat violation and four willful violations, with proposed penalties of \$685,777.

Two weeks later, OSHA opened an inspection on Feb. 10, 2022, in response to an employee complaint of water leaking through the ceiling causing wet floors and ceiling tiles on the floor at the Lockbourne Rd. store in Columbus. As a result, the agency proposed \$547,587 in penalties for one serious and one repeat violation, and four willful violations.

In both inspections, OSHA found hazards related to obstructed egress, unstable stacks, inaccessible electrical equipment and fire extinguishers, as well as trip and fall hazards caused by water, carts, boxes, trash and merchandise spread throughout walking-working surfaces in the retail areas and storerooms.

The company has 15 business days from receipt of its citations and penalties to comply, request an informal conference with each of OSHA's area directors, or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

More Ohioans now eligible for state utility assistance program

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine last Wednesday announced that more Ohioans are now eligible for electric and natural gas assistance from the Ohio Department of Development and Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO).

Gov. DeWine signed Executive Order 2022-12D, on July 27, which authorizes the Ohio Department of Development to work in partnership with PUCO to implement emergency rules that increase the income threshold for Ohio's Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP). The threshold will change from the current 150% of the federal poverty level to 175%. The Ohio Department of Development has jurisdiction over PIPP for electric service, and PUCO has jurisdiction over PIPP rules for natural gas service.

“With the rising costs of commodities, Ohioans are finding it harder to pay their utility bills,” said DeWine. “By expanding eligibility for utility assistance programs, more Ohioans will get the help they need to pay their bills and keep their homes cool in the summer and warm in the winter.”

PIPP helps eligible Ohioans manage their energy bills year-round. Utility payments are based on a percentage of the monthly household income and are consistent year-round. Customers that make their payments on-time and in-full may have the balance of their bills eliminated.

An overview of available energy assistance programs can be found on the governor's website. PIPP eligibility, enrollment and other assistance program information is available on the Development's website or by visiting energyhelp.ohio.gov.



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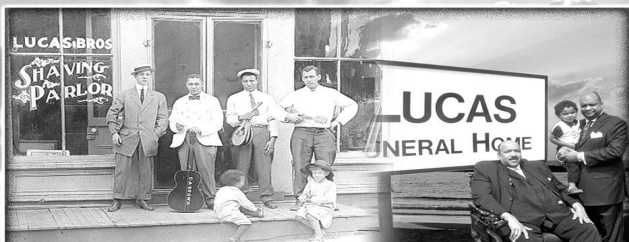


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The Neighborhood News accepts

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 5:00 p.m.

For further information and pricing, email The Neighborhood News at: nnews1923@aol.com or call us at 216-441-2141.

LIBRARIES PLAN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Bedford (Bedford Heights/Oakwood Village) Branch Library

Here are some of the **FREE** programs for August 2022 at the Bedford Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, located at 70 Columbus Rd., Bedford, Ohio 44146. For more information, or to register for any program, please call 440-439-4997.

Free Summer Lunch - 18 & younger

Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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

Pressed Flower Art - Adults 18 and up

Saturday, August 13, 11 a.m.

This program will teach you how to make beautiful dried pressed flower art. Each design will be uniquely your own and framed so you can take home. This craft will be made with pre-dried colorful flowers, but you will learn the techniques of how to dry fresh flowers on your own at home and useful ways to make other designs. This event will be in person. **MUST REGISTER**

Chapter Book Champs - Grades 3-5

Monday, August 15, 6:30 p.m.

Join us for activities & a book discussion about: "Shiloh" by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. Registration will close one week before the program. If you like to attend after registration closes, please call the Bedford branch at 440-

439-4997. This event is virtual. **MUST REGISTER**

VolunTEENs - Mobile Food Pantry Assistance (Grades 6-12)

Wednesday, August 17, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Have fun, make friends and earn volunteer hours while helping us with our mobile food pantry! Volunteer credit hours will be awarded to teen participants upon request. If you have additional questions about this program, please contact the teen librarian at the Bedford Branch. **MUST REGISTER**

Mobile Pantry - Free, fresh produce distribution

Wednesday, August 17, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Cuyahoga County Public Library is collaborating with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank to distribute free, fresh produce to those in need. This event will be held rain or shine. Each family will receive produce for free, loaded into their vehicle. First come, first-served basis, adults of any age, zip code, income level. Each vehicle can have up to 4 "families" (for example, single individuals riding together). Vehicles preferred over walk-ups, for safety reasons.

Resource Closet - 18 & younger

Friday, August 19, 12-1:30 p.m.

Youth ages 18 and under can get **FREE** resources such as cleaning supplies, laundry supplies and personal hygiene supplies. Provided by MyCom. One youth per family, while supplies last.

Teen Crafternoon - Grades 6-12

Tuesday, August 23, 3 p.m.

Drop-in this summer to craft with your fellow teens. **MUST REGISTER**

African American Book Discussion

Attend In-Person or Virtual - All Welcome

Thursday, August 25, 7 p.m.

August Title: "Island Queen" by Vanessa Riley. You can

attend in-person or virtually. To attend via ZOOM register online for this program. "Born into slavery on the tiny Caribbean island of Montserrat, Doll bought her freedom and that of her sister and her mother from her Irish planter father and built a legacy of wealth and power as an entrepreneur, merchant, hotelier and planter that extended from the marketplaces and sugar plantations of Dominica and Barbados to a glittering luxury hotel in Demerara on the South American continent." **MUST REGISTER**

Afternoon Adult Book Discussion

Wednesday, August 31, 2 p.m.

Attend our August monthly book discussion - this month we're reading and discussing the inspiring and uplifting "Harry's Trees" by Jon Cohen. Copies of the book will be available at the Bedford Branch one month before the date of the discussion. "34-year-old Harry Crane, lifelong lover of trees, works as an analyst in a treeless US Forest Service office. When his wife dies in a freak accident, devastated, he makes his way to the remote woods of northeastern Pennsylvania's Endless Mountains, intent on losing himself. But fate intervenes in the form of a fiercely determined young girl named Oriana. She, too, has lost someone — her father. And in the magical, willful world of her reckoning, Oriana believes that Harry is the key to finding her way back to him. As Harry agrees to help the young girl, the unlikely of elements — a tree house, a wolf, a small-town librarian and a book called "The Grum's Ledger" — come together to create the biggest sensation ever to descend upon the Endless Mountains, a golden adventure that will fulfill Oriana's wildest dreams and open the door to a new life for Harry."

The Neighborhood News
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Community police reports

(All information is preliminary and subject to change pending investigation.)

CLEVELAND

Shooting

On Aug. 5, at 10:38 p.m., in the 3600 block of E. 63 St., a 26-year-old female was the victim of gunshot wounds to the arm, leg and stomach. EMS transported victim to MetroHealth Medical Center.

Bomb Squad Call Up

On Aug. 6, at 12:56 p.m., the Bomb Squad was called to the 3000 block of E. 55 St., in connection with a device

exploding. A 38-year-old male was transported by EMS to MetroHealth.

GARFIELD HEIGHTS

Criminal Damage – Auto

On July 30, an officer responded to the 10200 block of Granger Rd. for a report of criminal damaging. The complainant told police she was watching out for her neighbor while she was out of town and she noticed that day around 6 a.m. that someone had damaged the entire passenger side of the neighbor's Chevy Sonic. According to people in the complex there were three males dressed in white hanging out in the back parking lot by the car around 9:30 p.m. the night before. They left the area in a blue vehicle. Police said there have been a rash of attempted car thefts and catalytic converters stolen from the parking lot in the complex recently.

Weapon Offense

On July 28, Garfield Hts. units were dispatched to the area of E. 86 St. and Reed Ave. for a report of shots fired. Officers found eight 9mm shell casings in the street on Reed, just east of the intersection of E. 90 St. Officers closed the intersection and canvassed the area for injured parties or witnesses. An E. 93 St. resident told police her son was accused by unknown parties of shooting up the accusers' house. Her son was arrested by GHPD a few days earlier on a warrant and is in county jail. Witnesses described the shooter as a black

male around 18 years of age, thin and wearing a grey hoodie. Others said the suspect appeared to be shooting toward the E. 93 St. woman's home. Police found a fresh bullet hole in a garage door panel and in the siding at the back of her home. She believes the shootings were in retaliation against her son.

Fire/Smoke/Explosion

Dispatch received a call on Aug. 1, at 12:08 p.m., that a home in the 10900 block of Plymouth Ave. was on fire and there was oxygen in the house. GHFD received mutual aid from Maple Heights, Valley View and Cuyahoga Heights. By 12:19 p.m. everyone had been evacuated from the home. CEI and Dominion East Ohio Gas were notified and will send out crews. By 12:27 p.m. the fire had been put out. The Red Cross was notified and will be assisting those displaced. A male driver was upset he was not able to get to his residence in the 10800 block of Plymouth Ave. due to the nearby fire. He was verbally abusive to the officer blocking traffic. Valley View Fire Chief Ken Papesh advised that he, along with another fire truck, were not able to get to the scene of the fire for mutual aid due to this person blocking their way, causing a distraction with the officer. The officer issued a summons to him for misconduct at an emergency.

Burglary

On Aug. 3, shortly before midnight an officer responded to the area of E. 131 St., near Granger Rd., for a female who had fled from a home invasion. She was located at the intersection of E. 135 St. and Granger. She said her house on E. 135 St. was broken into by armed males and that gunshots were fired. She said she fled the home where she lived with her brother but did not know the address. She also said she didn't know her brother's last name, refused to recount her story further and was uncooperative. An officer located the house on E. 135 St. and talked with a male at the door of the home. He verified that multiple subjects had entered the premises and fired several rounds into the interior of the home. Police cleared the home and checked on a possible foot trail behind a neighboring house headed north.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

By order of the Council of the City of Maple Heights, sealed bids will be received by the Purchasing Agent, at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137, until **12:00 Noon, local time, on the 25th day of August, 2022** for the "HANSEN-WATSON-RAYMOND ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT" in the City of Maple Heights, Ohio, NO FAXED COPIES ACCEPTED.

The bid documents, specifications and drawings may be examined without charge online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com. To become a Registered Bidder, documents, specifications and drawings must be purchased at either www.cvelimited.plancycle.com, SE Blueprint at 2035 Hamilton Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 or SE Blueprint at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411 Akron, OH 44311 at the cost of \$100.00 + tax and delivery which includes bid registration, one hard copy set of the bid package and one complete set of pdf files. Additional sets of bid documents can also be ordered online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com or by emailing seblue@seblueprint.com, calling 216-241-2250 or visiting an SE Blueprint location.

Each bidder is required to furnish with its proposal, a Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond in accordance with Section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. Bid security furnished in Bond form, shall be issued by a Surety Company or Corporation licensed in the State of Ohio to provide said surety. Each bid must be made upon the Proposal Form provided in the set of specifications and must be accompanied by a bank check or cashier's check drawn on a solvent bank in Cuyahoga County in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount bid, or a bid bond in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the amount bid, as a guarantee that if said bid is accepted, a contract will be entered into and a Surety Bond satisfactory to said City in an amount equal to 100% of the total bid will be furnished. Checks shall be made payable to the City of Maple Heights, Ohio.

Each Proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experiences on projects of similar size and complexity. The owner intends and requires that this project be completed no later than November 30th, 2022.

Bids will be opened and read at the time and place stated above. Those who submitted Proposals or their representatives are invited to attend.

All contractors and subcontractors involved with the project will to the extent practicable use Ohio products, materials, services, and labor in the implementation of their project. Additionally, contractor compliance with the equal employment opportunity requirements of Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 123 is required.

Bidders must comply with the prevailing wage rates on Public Improvements in Cuyahoga County and the City of Maple Heights, Ohio as determined by the Ohio Department of Commerce, Bureau of Wage and Hour Administration, 614.644.2239.

The right is reserved to accept any bidder, to reject any or all bids, and to waive informalities should it be deemed to be in the best interests of the City of Maple Heights to do so.

Bids are to be submitted in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Purchasing Agent. Sealed bids must be marked, "HANSEN-WATSON-RAYMOND ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT"

Tinita Tillman
Finance Director
Maple Heights, Ohio

PUBLISHED: **The Neighborhood News**
August 10, 2022
August 17, 2022

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

By order of the Council of the City of Maple Heights, sealed bids will be received by the Purchasing Agent, at Maple Heights City Hall, 5353 Lee Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137, until **12:00 Noon, local time, on the 25th day of August, 2022** for the "2022 Concrete Roadway Repair Program" in the City of Maple Heights, Ohio, NO FAXED COPIES ACCEPTED.

The bid documents, specifications and drawings may be examined without charge online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com. To become a Registered Bidder, documents, specifications and drawings must be purchased at either www.cvelimited.plancycle.com, SE Blueprint at 2035 Hamilton Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 or SE Blueprint at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411 Akron, OH 44311 at the cost of \$100.00 + tax and delivery which includes bid registration, one hard copy set of the bid package and one complete set of pdf files. Additional sets of bid documents can also be ordered online at www.cvelimited.plancycle.com or by emailing seblue@seblueprint.com, calling 216-241-2250 or visiting an SE Blueprint location.

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Each Proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experiences on projects of similar size and complexity.

Bids will be opened and read at the time and place stated above. Those who submitted Proposals or their representatives are invited to attend.

Bidders must comply with the prevailing wage rates on Public Improvements in Cuyahoga County and the City of Maple Heights, Ohio, as determined by the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, Wage and Hour Division, (614) 644-2239.

The right is reserved to accept any bidder, to reject any or all bids, and to waive informalities should it be deemed to be in the best interest of the City of Maple Heights to do so.

Bids are to be submitted in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Purchasing Agent. Sealed bids must be marked, "2022 Concrete Roadway Repair Program"

Tinita Tillman
Finance Director
Maple Heights, Ohio

PUBLISHED: **The Neighborhood News**
August 10, 2022
August 17, 2022

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BBQ

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WINGS

DIPPING

COOKING

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It's the
"GOOD STUFF!"

Street repair program legislation hits roadblock in Maple Heights

By Judith Goldsworth

A resolution authorizing a contract for the 2022 Roadway Repair Program in Maple Heights failed to get approved at last week's council meeting although it was initially thought to have passed.

Council's vote on the road resurfacing legislation approving a contract with Specialized Construction, Inc., at a cost of \$988,270, was 4 yes-3 no, after Council President Ron Jackson voted "yes" to break a tie vote.

However, Law Director Frank Consolo, who was not present at last week's meeting, later reviewed the voting results, and according to information provided to The Neighborhood News, determined that a super majority of five votes, not four, was needed for any passage of the legislation, so the road repair legislation failed to pass.

District 2 Councilwoman Toni Jones, District 3 Councilman Timothy Tatum and District 4 Councilwoman Dana Anderson voted for the resolution, while District 1 Councilman Stafford Shenett, District 5 Councilwoman Tanglyn Madden, and District 7 Councilwoman Edwina Agee voted against it. District 6 Councilman Richard Trojanski did not cast a vote, having been excused from the meeting.

Had it passed with five affirmative votes, the resolution would have allowed Mayor Annette Blackwell to enter into a contract with Specialized Construction after council passed previous legislation approving the road repair program itself at a special meeting in June.

At that meeting, City Engineer Ed Hren presented the results of an exhaustive study that he and his staff had recently conducted on the condition of every single street in the city to determine which streets to repave, with the assistance of an Ohio Department of Transportation Paving Condition Rating program.

The resolution passed in June authorized Hren to prepare plans and specs and go out for bids for this year's phase of the program, which is expected to cost about \$3 million total, over the course of 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Madden, who explained at previous meetings that she was not against the road resurfacing program itself, reiterated last week that she did not feel District 5's streets, and in turn its residents, were fairly represented in this year's repair program, resulting in her "no" vote.

(Continued on Page 7)

Big Summer Picnic

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21ST
12PM - 4PM
GARFIELD HEIGHTS CIVIC CENTER

Music • Food • Family Fun

POOL ADMISSION 3-8PM FREE FOR RESIDENTS
(\$5 FOR NON RESIDENTS)

Featuring

- Cleveland Metroparks NatureTracks
- Stuff the Bus School Supply Drive
- Dr. Awesome and his Bubble Palooza
- Magic Show
- Rocking Robots
- Olu Manns and Heartbeat Afrika Drums
- Stellar Acrobatic Dance Academy
- Teresa's Pizza
- Classic Cuisine

And more!



www.garfieldhts.org

August 1, 2022

JOB TITLE: Finance Director

DEPARTMENT: Finance

REPORTS TO: Mayor

STATUS: Full time, exempt



POSITION SUMMARY

- Prepares/oversees the preparation of the Annual Tax Budget, the Annual Appropriation measure, all major financial reports and subsequent amendments in accordance with the governing laws.
- Monitors city fiscal activity for financial position and trends, including comparing actual revenue with estimated revenue, and comparing actual expenditures with budgeted expenditures.
- Oversees the competitive bidding process and the purchasing function. Helps execute and is party to all purchases contracts issued by the city, including purchase orders.
- Responsible for management of the city's cash and investments. Oversees depository agreements and collateral in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code.
- Manages and purchases legal investments that will maximize return and minimize risk.
- Ensures that all money due to the city is collected or in the process of collection. This includes all tax revenue, special assignments, enterprise billings and other receivables. At times, may have to prepare special assessments.
- Manages the issuance and payments of city debt in accordance with applicable laws.
- Obtains general liability, property, auto and professional liability insurance.
- Works with and assists auditors with the state required audit. Provides documentation, audit evidence and explanations to them during their audit.
- Consults with staff, government, and the business community on a variety of financial issues of concern to the city, as well as participating in joint activities and problem solving.
- Participates in most City Council meetings, Finance Committee meetings and other meetings to represent the city's fiscal interests.
- Establishes procedures pursuant to governing the laws for all fiscal activities and transactions to ensure compliance with applicable Federal, State and local laws.
- Solves or participates in the solving of Financial Department problems. This includes payroll, utility billing, accounts receivable, accounts payable and inquiries by other governmental agencies.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Fulfills supervisory responsibilities in accordance with the organization's policies and applicable laws. Responsibilities include interviewing, recommending, and training employees; planning, assigning, and directing work, appraising performance, reward and discipline of employees; addressing complaints and resolving problems.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelors' Degree or equivalent in Accounting or Finance from a four-year (4) college or university, and eight (8) years of progressively responsible related experience in a municipal/public accounting position and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Must be able to maintain annual Treasurer of State certification.
- Must be eligible to be bonded by the City.
- Ability to read, and interpret documents such as safety rules, operating and maintenance instruction, general business periodicals, professional journals and technical procedures, or governmental regulations. Ability to draft routine reports and correspondence. Ability to speak effectively.
- Ability to work with mathematical concepts such as discounts, interest, commissions, proportions, percentages, area, circumference, and volume. Ability to apply concepts of basic algebra and geometry.
- Ability to solve practical problems and deal with a variety of concrete variables in situations where only limited standardization exists. Ability to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral, diagram, or schedule form. Ability to recognize potentially unsafe conditions and behaviors and correct them in a positive and appropriate manner.
- Must possess a valid State of Ohio driver's license with an acceptable driving record.
- Must be eligible to work in the United States.

Applications are available on the City's website at www.cityofgarfieldhts.org Department/Human Resources. Forward a completed, signed City employment application, resume and (3) references to jsowers@garfieldhts.org or:

City of Garfield Heights
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NN: 8-3-22 & 8-10-22

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Trinity Trio' leads Cleveland Guardians RBI Softball team to World Series in Vero Beach

MLB RBI stands for Reviving Baseball in the Inner Cities and its World Series is taking place this week at Jackie Robinson Training Complex in Vero Beach, Florida, Aug. 8-13.

The "Trinity Trio" from Trinity High School in Garfield Heights, is there hoping to help their girls softball team, the Cleveland Guardians RBI, to a World Series Championship, led by Trojans Head Coach Alec Burke.

She is also receiving help from fellow Trojans, 2020 alum and former RBI player Lexi Dusek, and current rising senior Raven Hurley, an infielder for the RBI squad.

RBI has served approximately 2 million young boys and girls since its inception, is administered by Major League Baseball and provides baseball and softball opportunities for children ages 5-12 who can move to the age 13-18 baseball and softball divisions as they grow older.

It currently serves youth in over 200 cities worldwide. Major League Baseball and its clubs have designated more than \$40 million worth of resources to their RBI program, and all 30 clubs support RBI leagues.

"Many of these kids can't afford to join an expensive travel team so RBI gives them the opportunity to play more competitively and almost experience life as a major leaguer without the financial burden," said Coach Burke.

"I was fortunate enough to pitch in the World Series title game in 2016 against the Dominican Republic, and had an amazing experience, so I wanted to come back and coach for a program that gave so much to me. Some of my best friends to this day are teammates and coaches of mine from RBI," Burke said.

The "Trinity Trio" helped this year's Guardians squad go undefeated in Chicago and win the Central Region Title, knocking off teams from Chicago, Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Detroit on their way to being one of just eight teams left standing to compete for the World Series title.

"Representing the city of Cleveland is a unique experience," Coach Burke said. "It makes you feel like you are playing for something greater than yourself, especially when your hometown means as much to you as it does to myself and these girls."



Shown above are the "Trinity Trio," from left: Cleveland Guardians RBI Head Coach Alec Burke, Lexi Dusek, '20, and Raven Hurley, '23.

State Rep. Shayla Davis may be entering State House District 18 race

On Monday, Aug. 1, State Rep. Shayla L. Davis received notification from the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections that she has enough valid petition signatures to enter the race for State House District 18 on the Nov. 8 ballot. With the Board's verification of her petitions, she is attempting to enter the race as a nonpartisan candidate. It will be up to the Board of Elections to determine if she qualifies as nonpartisan.

If she makes the ballot she will face Darnell Brewer (D) and write-in candidate Shalira Taylor (R) in the Nov. 8 general election.

Davis was appointed to her current House District 11 seat in Feb. 2022. The newly constructed District 18 includes Garfield Heights, Maple Heights, all of Cleveland Wards 2 and 4, and portions of Cleveland Wards 1, 5, 6 and 12.

She is a former councilwoman for the city of Garfield Heights, having also worked in several other positions in federal, state and local governments.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Police Substation and the MH Library

Maple Heights Town Hall Meetings

A 1:15 Hour Discussion

Free & Open to the Public

Friday Aug. 12 10:30-11:45am Dunham-Turney Plaza Police Substation	Tuesday Aug. 16 10:30-11:45 am Maple Heights Library, large meeting room	Thursday Aug. 18 5:30-6:45 pm Dunham-Turney Plaza Police Substation	Wednesday Aug. 24 5:30-6:45pm Maple Heights Library, large meeting room	Friday Aug. 26 10:30-11:45am Dunham-Turney Plaza Police Substation	Tuesday Aug. 30 10:30-11:45am Maple Heights Library, large meeting room
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RBI Cleveland Guardians World Series Game Schedule

Tuesday, Aug. 9 vs. Hoboken at 9 a.m., vs. Harrisburg at 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 10 vs. Miami at 8:30 a.m.

Double elimination starts at 11:45 a.m.

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FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION, (Garfield Hts. Only)

Saturday, Aug. 20, 10am-Noon, Inside

The Rock Community Church, (9403 Garfield Blvd.), will have a food pantry distribution for Garfield Hts. residents only (income limits apply) on Saturday, August 20, from 10am-Noon.

We will be inside the building with an expedited distribution with some choice of product. 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. Pantry will be CLOSED DURING SEPTEMBER and will reopen on October 15.

THE ROCK COMMUNITY CHURCH

Street repair program hits roadblock in Maple Heights

(Continued from Page 5)

Shenett expressed similar concerns about the need to have some of the worst streets in the city repaired as part of this year's project.

Blackwell replied that her administration worked very closely with Hren and his staff, "and he shared his expertise following the ODOT ratings. This was done through a process, a formula," she said.

Blackwell emphasized that because of ODOT's program that was used to determine which streets in the city were most in need of repair, there was no bias involved in the final result.

She said she understood the frustration of council members and residents, adding, "We are doing the best we can, based on the information given to all of us, and (Hren) gave us expert recommendations. So as difficult as it is, I would like to move forward with this, consciously, and start to really address the road program."

Two new homes to be built on Hansen

In a move that Planning and Development Director Joe Duffy stated was "exciting" for both the developer and the city, council approved a resolution authorizing Blackwell to enter into an agreement with FLT Construction LLC of Cleveland, Fawzi Samiallah, applicant, to sell two city-owned vacant lots at 20806 Hansen Rd. and 21206 Hansen Rd., in District 6, for the construction and sale of a single family, owner-occupied home on each property.

FLT Construction had advised Blackwell and Duffy of plans hoping to purchase the lots, currently in the city's Land Bank. In turn, Blackwell will sell the lots to FLT, "with the developer required to build the homes within 360 days of title transfer, and to make the following minimum improvements: the homes must be an owner-occupied single family, have at least 1,300 square feet,

three bedrooms and two baths," according to the legislation.

The fair market value of the properties is \$750 per lot as determined by the Cuyahoga County fiscal officer. An estimated sales value of the new houses is \$250,000.

Stafford Park Fitness Trail contract approved

Council also passed a resolution at last week's meeting for the city to enter into a contract for the Stafford Park Fitness Trail Project, Phase 2, with Nerone & Sons, Inc., at a cost not to exceed \$131,675.

The city was awarded a 2021 block grant in the amount of \$150,000 by the Cuyahoga County Department of Development to help fund the improvements at the park, including demolition of abandoned facilities and structures and construction of a new trail to link the fitness station network.

"The asphalt trail will be constructed in the vicinity of the ballfields, which are about to be demolished, and link the fitness stations that were purchased and recently installed under a separate Ohio Department of Development grant," Hren stated in correspondence to council.

Among the legislation placed on second reading at the meeting was an ordinance to amend the codified ordinances regarding composition of council committees. Proposed change in the legislation: "Council members who have committed to a committee must wait until all council members have joined a committee before they select another committee to join."

Announcements

Human Services Director Linda Vopat stated that the annual Communitywide Garage Sale in Maple Heights will be held September 8-11. Residents can pay \$5 for a permit and have their garage/yard sale listed in advertis-

ing, to be done by the city. Information will also be available on the city's website: citymapleheights.com. Permits can be picked up at the Maple Heights Senior Center, 15901 Libby Rd., she stated.

There will be a Shred Day on Saturday, Sept. 10, from 9 a.m.-noon at St. Andrew Eastern Orthodox Church, 16029 Maple Park Dr., Vopat stated. Residents may bring unwanted paper products for disposal at the event, which is funded by a Cuyahoga County grant.

DeWine announces state grant awarded to MHPD

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine last week announced that the Maple Heights Police Department is one of 16 local and state law enforcement agencies which will receive a total of \$5.7 million in grant funding to help prevent and solve instances of violent crime. The award for MHPD is \$216,237.

DeWine is awarding the grant funds as part of the sixth round of the Ohio Violent Crime Reduction Grant Program. As part of this program, \$28.7 million has already been awarded to 99 Ohio law enforcement agencies to date. A total of \$58 million will be awarded as part of the grant program overall.

"Law enforcement agencies have created innovative and strategic initiatives to prevent and disrupt crime across the state," said DeWine. "Each agency's needs may be slightly different, but they share a common goal of creating safer communities, and my office is proud to support them."

A significant amount of the \$5.7 million in this latest round of grant funding will go to the Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS) which will receive \$1,230,038.69 to create a violence reduction program to proactively prevent juveniles from absconding from DHS parole supervision and to quickly locate any youth who violates the terms of their release.

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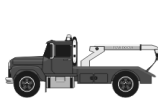
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NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE

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YARD SALE

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Classifieds continued on page 9



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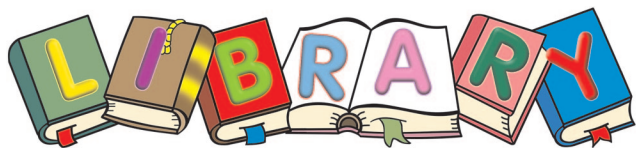
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Collapsible Used
 4000 Lb. Capacity





SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Garfield Heights Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library

Here are a few of the **FREE** programs available at the Garfield Heights Branch Library, 5409 Turney Rd. Call 216-475-8178 to register or for more information.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Innovation Center Orientation Learn about the equipment and policies of the Innovation Centers throughout Cuyahoga County Public Library. Attending this orientation allows users to utilize the Innovation Centers throughout the library system. Upcoming date: Wednesday, August 17, 7-8 p.m. Registration required.

Excel 4 Learn how to use some of the advanced functions available in Excel, including lookup, logical functions, pivot tables and conditional formatting to analyze data. Excel 3 is a prerequisite. Monday, August 15, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Registration required.

CHILDREN and FAMILIES

Chess Club School-age children are welcome to join us for chess club to learn how to play the game or improve their skills. Thursdays at 4 p.m., beginning September 1. Registration required.

Baby Club Join us for a five-week club for caregivers and children ages birth to 35 months. Thursdays, beginning September 1, at 10 a.m. Registration required.

Giving blood may get you free gas for a year!

Did you know about 62% of the US population is eligible to give blood? But only about 3% do. By making an

appointment to help save lives with the American Red Cross in August, donors can keep supplies from falling to shortage levels. Platelet donors are especially needed now. As a thank-you, all who come to give Aug. 1-31 will be automatically entered for a chance to win gas for a year, a \$6,000 value. There will be three lucky winners.

Everyone who comes to give blood or platelets in August will also receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. Some restrictions apply. Schedule an appointment to give using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, by visiting RedCrossBlood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

Local donor opportunities

Garfield Heights

8/16/2022: 12 - 5 p.m., Marymount Hospital, 12300 McCracken Road

Independence

8/22/2022: 1 - 7 p.m., Independence Community Center, 6363 Selig Drive

Garfield Heights City Schools



First Annual

BACK TO SCHOOL KICK-OFF!

Tuesday August 23, 2022
4:00 PM - 6:30 PM



Garfield Heights High School
4900 Turney Rd,
Garfield Heights, OH



Richard D. Reynolds, Ph.D.
Incoming Superintendent

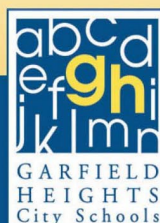


Please join us for games, refreshments, information for families, activities, and school supplies.

** while supplies last **

School Starts August 25th!

For more information visit our website:
www.garfieldheightscityschools.com



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*Actual monthly payment for above example is based on 252 month term and is \$16.09 at a fixed APR of 2.99%. Rates effective as of 8/26/21 and are subject to change. Fixed APR is 2.99%. Homeowners insurance required. Flood insurance required, if applicable. Maximum LTV 85%. Minimum loan amount \$1,000. Maximum loan amount \$9,900, 21 year term. A Third Federal Home Repair Loan is available as a first or second lien on owner-occupied primary residences and can be the only HELOC on your property. \$3 annual fee and \$30 minimum monthly payment. Must originate loan to get gift card. Borrowers must meet certain income, geographic and other requirements to qualify. Product features subject to change without notice. ©2021 Third Federal.